



Welcome Back!

Granby Bears

August 2023

Administration's Welcome Message

Dear Granby Memorial High School Students and Families,

We hope you are enjoying these remaining weeks of summer. With the 2023-2024 school year just a few weeks away, we look forward to welcoming our new and returning students and families, from Granby, Hartford and Hartland on **the first day of school, Tuesday, August 29, 2023.**

Below, you will find updated back to school information that can also be found on the [HS website calendar](#). We look forward to seeing you at Open House on Thursday, September 7, 2023.
Go Bears!



Mike Dunn, Principal

Julie Groene, Assistant Principal (Administrator for Grades 10 & 12)

Kimberly Calcasola, Ed.D., Assistant Principal (Administrator for Grades 9 & 11)

We are a small town high school with a global vision, welcoming students from three unique communities of Granby, Hartford and Hartland. Our Vision is that each and every Granby Bear will graduate as a Resourceful Learner, Effective Communicator and Positive Contributor in preparation for success in a dynamic, interdependent world. We strive to widen minds, hearts and horizons, remove barriers to opportunities, and support each and every learner to achieve high standards and demonstrate our Curiosity, Perseverance, Integrity, Involvement and Respect.

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL at a Glance

Week of 8/28/23				
Mon - 8/28/23	Tues - 8/29/23	Wed - 8/30/23	Thurs - 8/31/23	Fri - 9/1/23
Freshmen Orientation	First Day of School Early Release	Early Release	Full Day of School 8: 35 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Full Day of School 7:35 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
7:30 to 10:30 a.m.	7:35 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	7:35 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	*PLC 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.	
7:30 - 8:15 a.m. Brief Parent/Guardian & Student Presentation 8:15 - 10:30 a.m. Student Orientation	Students dismissed at 12:10 p.m.	Students dismissed at 12:10 p.m.	Students arriving at 7:30 a.m. will report to any of the supervised study hall locations; <i>cafeteria, community gym, or media center (library)</i> until 8:30 a.m. First period begins at 8:35 a.m.	
Buses depart at 10:35 a.m.				
*Every Thursday is late arrival for Students (unless noted otherwise) – Every Thursday morning from 7:30-8:30 a.m. is PLC (Professional Learning Communities) for teachers to meet and work collaboratively on goals they set out each year to increase student achievement. School transportation still runs a regular schedule and students are encouraged to take the bus at their regular scheduled time. The supervised study hall (SDA) locations reserved for students during PLC are the cafeteria, community gym, or media center (library). This is a great time for students to complete any school work missed or needed. If your student does not use the regular scheduled school transportation provided on this day, it is up to the parents/guardians to provide transportation arrangements to ensure that your student arrives at school on-time for their first period class.				

Student Schedules

Student Schedules for 2023-2024 will be visible in PowerSchool starting Friday, August 11 **after 2:00 p.m.** Students are encouraged to review and print out their schedules. Any question or concerns should be addressed by making an appointment with your students counselor. School counselors will return on **Monday, August 21**. To schedule an appointment, students should call Ms. Caruso in the guidance office at (860) 844-3014 #4 or email her at carusoj@granbyschools.org.

GMHS Counselor Caseloads 2023-2024

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Ms. Bragg	A - F	A - E	A - G	A - F
Mrs. Toomey	G - O	F - M	H - M	G - N
Mrs. Nisbet	P - Z	N - Z	N - Z	O - Z

Upcoming Events for August & September

AUGUST:

- 28 - Freshmen Orientation
- 29 - First Day of School / Early Release
- 30 - Early Release

SEPTEMBER:

- 4 - No School / Holiday
- 7 - Open House
- 14 - Sr. College Planning (AM - In Person)
- 14 - Sr. College Planning (PM - Virtual)
- 19 - School Pictures
- 25 - No School / Holiday
- 27 - Early Release / PD Day



Freshmen Orientation

Mandatory for all incoming 9th graders

When: Monday, August 28, 2023

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

7:30 - 8:15 a.m. - Brief Parent/Guardian & Student Presentation

8:15 - 10:30 a.m. - Student Orientation

Where: Auditorium

Parents/Guardians will need to provide transportation to the high school; Transportation home will be provided by the school.

A brief parent/guardian and student presentation will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Parents will be dismissed at 8:15 a.m. **Students will stay** for orientation and will be bused home **at 10:30 a.m.**

During orientation students will receive a copy of their schedule, and will have the opportunity to follow their schedule to familiarize themselves with classes, meet other freshmen, meet teachers, and reconnect with peers. In addition, students will meet upperclassmen who will help make the transition to the high school successful.

Open House

Open House will be held Thursday, September 7 at 6:30 p.m. HS Auditorium. After a brief presentation, parents/guardians will follow your student's class schedule for the remainder of the evening.

Students will receive a printed class schedule during Advisory on Wednesday, September 6 (the day before Open House). Please remember to bring their schedule with you.

Senior College Planning

Senior College Planning Sessions are on Thursday, September 14 - The **morning session** is **in-person** from 7:30 a.m. - 8:25 a.m. in the Auditorium, and the **evening session** is **virtual** from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. *the link will be sent out at a later date.* Seniors attendance is **REQUIRED** for one of the sessions. Parents/Guardians should plan on attending a session as well.

IMPORTANT Back to School Links (CLICK *BELOW TO ACCESS LINKS*)

Suggested Back to School Supply List ►

The list is compiled to offer suggestions to students as they prepare for the new school year. Teachers will share if specific supplies are needed in a course within the opening days of school.

Required Back to School Student Forms ►

Please complete by August 29, 2023 the first day of school. If you need assistance accessing forms, please contact techsupport@granbyschools.org

High School Meal Prices / Free & Reduced Meals Application ►

One FREE breakfast meal per school day is available to ALL students. All students eligible for free & reduced meals will receive one lunch meal per school day free of charge. All others will be required to pay for lunch. GMHS Lunch \$3.50

SchoolMessenger Text Alert Sign-Ups ►

For emergency and weather related delays and closing school notification, sign-up for text alerts to your mobile phone (for all Parents, Guardians and GPS Staff Members).

School Nurse / Health Resources / Documents and Forms ►

*All new students and 11th grade students must have a current physical on file with the nurse prior to the first day of school.

Granby Memorial High School Website ►

Student Handbook ►

2023-2024 Calendar (Even/Odd) ►

Bell Schedules ►

A Must Know!!!

✦ **Bus Transportation** - is managed by Central Services and provided by CREC Transportation Solutions. **If you need to change your student's transportation requirements due to a move, please call Central Services directly at 860-844-5253.** For all other busing questions or concerns, please call CREC Transportation Solutions directly at 860-509-3783. **Bus route lists will be e-mailed to you directly by the end of the day on August 18,** if do not have access to e-mail or do not have an email on file, please call Central Services.

✦ **Parking for Seniors** – Seniors who have completed the application process and have received their parking pass can begin parking on the first day of school, **Tuesday, August 29 (*unless noted otherwise*)**.

✦ **PLC Every Thursday / Late Arrival for Students (*unless noted otherwise*)** – Every Thursday morning from 7:30-8:30 a.m. is PLC (*Professional Learning Communities*) for teachers to meet and work collaboratively on goals they set out each year to increase student achievement. School transportation still runs a regular schedule and students are encouraged to take the bus at their regular scheduled time. The supervised study hall (SDA) locations reserved for students during PLC are the community gym, cafeteria, or media center (library). This is a great time for students to complete any school work missed or needed. If your student does not use the regular scheduled school transportation provided on this day, it is up to the parents/guardians to provide transportation arrangements to ensure that your student arrives at school on-time for their first period class.

✦ **Attendance** – Daily and on-time attendance at school is expected of all students. Please review the attendance policy in the [student handbook](#). To report an **absence**, an **early dismissal** or **late arrival**, please email GMHSAbsent@granbyschools.org or call the attendance line at 860-844-3014 #2 and leave a clear detailed message. As a courtesy to parents, if your student is absent from school and we have not yet heard from you, you will receive a personal phone call requesting the reason.

✦ **Communication Sources for School Events** – **Communication between school and home** occurs through both our weekly email updates and quarterly Newsletter to families. To ensure that you are receiving our updates and important information, **please review and confirm that your email address is current and on file.** **Communication to students** is communicated directly to your students' granby gmail account, and through our daily morning communication announcements. For your convenience, our daily morning communication announcements to students are also posted on our website homepage under "**Daily Bulletin**", while on the homepage you can also view our "**Events Calendar**" for any current or upcoming scheduled school events.

✦ **The Student/Parent Portal** – is an online resource which lists student assignments and grades. This online grade book is updated regularly by the classroom teacher and should be checked on an ongoing basis by both you and your student. Questions related to postings on the portal should be directed to the classroom teacher via email. If you do not have an account, please call the main office at 860-844-3014 for assistance in creating an account.

✦ **Student ID Cards / Picture Day** – New photos & Student ID Cards will be taken on School Picture Day on September 19. Student ID Cards will be distributed with your students 2023-2024

school picture upon receipt.

✦ **Appointments/Visitors/Drop-off Zone** – All scheduled or non-scheduled appointments require checking in at the main office. For first time visitors you will be asked for your driver's license to be scanned in order to obtain a visitor's badge. Once in the system, you will just need to provide your name and a visitor's badge will be printed out for you. If you need to drop something off for a student/staff/nurse/department, please ring the buzzer to gain entrance to the vestibule where our "Drop Zone" is located. Please label anything being dropped off with the recipients' name. For your convenience, writing supplies are provided on the table.



GRANBY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

54 N. Granby Rd / Granby, CT / 06035 / (P) 860-844-3014 (F) 860-844-3026

Mike Dunn, Principal

Kimberly Calcasola, Ed.D., Assistant Principal

Julie Groene, Assistant Principal, Director of School Counseling

