September 2021



Welcome Back !!!

I hope you all had a terrific, safe and healthy summer holiday. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year. I am so delighted that you are a part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and your excitement as we kick off the 2021-2022 school year.

Our highly skilled and dedicated staff have already been working hard at planning and preparing for our students. Our enthusiastic office team is

DATES TO REMEMBER:

<u>SEPT 14</u> PICTURE DAY

<u>SEPT 17 & 20</u> STRONG CONNECTIONS

<u>SEPT 30</u> TRUTH & RECONCILATION DAY (NO CLASSES)

registering new families, ordering needed materials, and updating student files. Our school librarian has been working hard getting our library ready for the thousands of books and resources that will be signed out this year. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent a significant amount of time over the summer thoroughly cleaning the facility. We currently still have some work being done on our gymnasium roof. Students and staff can expect to be back in the gym in the coming weeks.

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome the following teachers to GVS: Dwayne Penner (Tech Ed. & Wood Working), Olga Serdeschni (Grade 5 & Movement), Matthew Hoskins (French & Social Studies), Daphne Krentz and Marie Schreimer (Grade 5). GVS is also excited to welcome back Emily Scalm to our team of EAs.

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the upcoming school year. Your commitment to ensuring that Green Valley School remains a celebrated and successful school is definitely inspiring to watch and to be part of. We eagerly look forward to working with students and families again.

It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. To our new students and families, GVS would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to our school community. Please know that we are here to help make your child(ren's) transition to GVS as smooth and as enjoyable as possible. Despite some of the potential challenges that could lie ahead of us, I know we will make this school year one of growth, achievement and fond memories for all our students.

Kindest regards, Angela Burtnack-Schinkel Principal

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parents are asked to verify their emergency contacts in Parent Portal. Please call the school if emergency contacts need to be updated. In the event a child needs to be sent home due to illness, please ensure that you have provided sufficient emergency contacts.

WATER FILLING STATIONS

As a reminder students are not allowed to use the water fountains. Rather, parents are asked to make sure that their child brings a plastic water bottle to school. The water bottle can be filled at the water refill stations.

SCHOOL FEES

All SY program/school fees will be entered on September 23, 2021 after all course changes have been made and **must be paid by September 30, 2021.** Chromebook Insurance must be paid in full by September 17, 2021. MY program/school fees will be charged to your students account on September 17 and **must be paid by September 22, 2021.**

GRADE 7-8	GRADE 9-12
Human Ec/Tech. Ed \$30.00	Wood Working/Construction \$45.00
Band Instrument Rental. \$150.00	Food and Nutrition \$45.00
Art \$20.00	Band Instrument Rental. \$150.00
	Art \$30.00
	Chromebook Insurance. \$20.00

STRONG CONNECTIONS

On Friday, September 17 and Monday, September 20, 2021, GVS will be implementing Hanover School Division's Strong Connections program with our grade 5-8 students. Strong Connections is designed to enhance the beginning of the year with each student. The

activities done during Strong Connections are not tests, but rather they are tasks to help teachers get to know our students better and how they learn in order to best plan for their instruction early in the school year. The format for Strong Connections also provides an opportunity for teachers to extend and consolidate their understanding of each child through the one-on-one interview times, and help build a strong foundation for a positive relationship between the child and the teacher. To find the date your child(ren) are to attend school for Strong Connections. login into Parent Portal for that date.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

It is important to look after our mental health. Some basic strategies include 7-9 hours of sleep each day, healthy eating, regular exercise and taking part in activities that give joy. Please call, email or stop by and talk to Mr. Cam Gerbrandt if you want more specific strategies to help your mental health. If we all look after ourselves and help look after each other, we can all thrive. On our school website, under the "Parents" tab, is a link to the Counselling Blog. It has many brief articles on mental health. Check it out.

SY COURSE CHANGES

High School Students have until September 17 to change first semester courses. After September 17th, students may not change courses that are in semester 1. Students are allowed to change second semester courses now as well. The deadline for changing semester 2 courses will be February 17, 2022.

GRAD MEETING

We will be having a in-person Parent Grad meeting on Thursday, September 23 at 6:30 pm in Green Valley's gymnasium.