

COMMUNICATOR

September, 2009

Genesee School District Vision

The Genesee School District will be the top achieving district in Genesee County where all students will be prepared to be contributing members of their communities



A LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT ...

Welcome to a new year!! It is always great to start a school year. Sports begin, the kids are fired up, the teachers are excited and the parents are ready. The custodians have done a great job with the summer clean up. I want to encourage everyone in the community to attend our 2nd annual "Welcome Back Celebration" on Thursday, September 3rd. This event will combine open house for the elementary school, the junior high and the high school along with our first home football game.

This year we will continue to strive to reach our school district vision, which is:

The Genesee School District will be the top achieving school district in Genesee County where all students will be prepared to be contributing members of their communities.

The four goals we have been working on to achieve this vision are:

1. Increase our MEAP scores until 90% of our students are proficient on the language arts and math tests.
2. Maintain and increase our student population 3% each year
3. Increase community involvement
4. Build stronger co-curricular and fine arts programs and have 70% of our students participate in these activities

New initiatives we are implementing this year include:

1. Free breakfast for all students, funded by state and federal hot lunch programs.
2. A free, grant funded, before and after school program for elementary students from 7:00-8:00 in the morning and after school until 5:30.
3. Intensive yearlong staff training for teaching writing at the elementary level.
4. Professional Learning Communities to enhance instructional collaboration
5. Implementation of our new curriculum guides
6. Changing our Title 1 program to address school wide needs

Please encourage your child to become involved in school sports, music, clubs or other activities. Participation in these programs will create wonderful memories of their school experience and increase their circle of friends. Research shows that involved students do better academically.

Welcome to all of the new families and returning families-lets have a great year!

WELCOME BACK CELEBRATION AND OPEN HOUSES



The faculty at Genesee School District would like to welcome students and parents to the 2009-2010 school year. On Thursday, September 3rd Haas Elementary School and Genesee Jr./Sr. High School will host open houses from 3:30—6:30 p.m. All students and parents are invited to attend the open houses and then join us at the football field for the opening game of the season. Our Genesee Wolves will host Atherton with a 7:00 p.m. kick-off. We are planning to have other activities available for the younger students such as a bounce house. Students will be admitted to the football game free of charge ("free" coupons will be handed out at the open house) **if** accompanied by a parent.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

President: Gary Galbraith
 Vice-President: Eladio Quintanilla
 Secretary: Daniel K. Eashoo
 Treasurer: Fred Hinz
 Trustees: Roger Haas
 Wayne Blossom
 Brian Simons

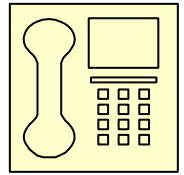
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES

The Genesee School Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month (exceptions noted *) at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center. Community members are welcome to attend. The following dates are for the 2009-2010 school year. If any dates are changed the new dates will be posted.

August	19	February	17
September	16	March	17
October	21	April	21
November	18	May	19
December	16	June	23*
January	20		

PEOPLE TO CONTACT AT GENESEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

During the school year questions may arise concerning Genesee school activities. In order to get in touch with the person who can best help you, please keep these names and telephone numbers on hand.



- Superintendent's Office – Jeff Rohrer.....591-1650
Secretary – Jill Simpson
- JH/HS Principal's Office – Richard Carsten.....591-1450
Secretary – Denise Powell
- Elementary Principal's Office – Joseph Perrera...591-2101
Secretary – Cindy Coughlin
- Athletic Director's Office – Ken Foyder.....591-2120
Secretary - Penni Fender
- Special Services Office – Kelly Davis.....591-1649
Secretary – Debi Wilcox

Meet the Coaches

The Genesee Athletic Program, in partnership with our Athletic Boosters Club, is sponsoring a "Meet the Coaches Night" on Monday, August 24, at 7:00 p.m. Even if you don't have a student currently playing football, cross-country or volleyball, come and meet our fall and winter coaches. If you just have questions about our athletic program, we will be here to discuss any of our athletic programs.

Place: Genesee Football Field (inclement weather—media center)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy! Refreshments (hot dogs, chips, soft drinks) will be served.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE AND ORIENTATIONS

Students and parents are invited to attend the 2009-2010 "Open House and Orientation" scheduled for Thursday, September 3rd. Staff members will be eager to greet students, talk about summer activities and provide a synopsis of the curriculum to be covered this school year. During the orientation students will be completing emergency contact forms, handbook verification forms, Internet user agreements, picture order forms, C252 survey forms and they will also receive a student planner. Please bring emergency numbers with you. We will also highlight changes in the student handbook, attendance policy and students will receive their locker assignments. All schedule changes need to take place by Sept. 3rd. There will be no changes once school starts. The program will begin at the following times:

Seniors and juniors report to the junior high gymnasium at 3:30 p.m.

Sophomores and freshmen report to the junior high gym at 4:30 p.m.

Eighth and seventh grade students report to the junior high gym at 5:30 p.m.



BUS STOP POLICY

PARENTS- Please remember – during the first two to three weeks of school bus times may vary. Also, some bus stops may change due to attendance. Please note that the first bus run through Camelot Villa and Indian Hills Park will pick up high school students only. The second bus run through Camelot Villa will pick up elementary students. In Indian Hills Park there will be two buses at the same time, one traveling through the front and one traveling through the back, picking up elementary students.

Genesee School District-School Bus Policy #712

Beginning July 1, 1999, students are to be picked up from the same location each day. Following school, students who use school transportation are to be dropped off at the same location each day. The address where the student is picked up and dropped off need not necessarily be the same. Example: a student may be picked up at the same address each morning and dropped off at a different address after school, but these addresses may not vary.

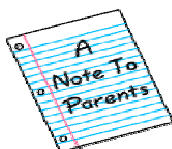
A request for a variance in the policy must be requested in writing at least a week in advance and must be for at least a one-week period. The request forms are available in the superintendent's office and may be picked up during normal business hours.

MEDIA RELEASE DENIAL

Throughout the school year, we record school activities using photography or videotape. These images are used for school and district publications, our website, future cable television and news releases.

If you **do not** wish to have your child recorded and/or photographed, please contact the Superintendent's Office **in writing** with the following information: parent/guardian's name, child's name and grade.

Superintendent Rohrer
Genesee School District
7347 N. Genesee Road
Genesee, MI 48437-0220



Please understand that by filing this request your child's picture and/or name will also be omitted from the following:

Yearbook	Honor Program
Athletic Programs	Honor Roll Listing

This also includes any activities your child participates in and might receive recognition.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GENESEE STUDENTS

Ten members of Genesee's 2009 graduating class will be attending college this fall with scholarships awarded by our school community. The following is a list of the recipients:

Jack P. Haas Scholarship

Shana'e Clark – University of Michigan Ann Arbor

Thomas Huggler/Alumni Scholarship

Kaylee Kubik – Baker College Owosso

Dorothy L. Baker Scholarship

Carrie Jean – University of Michigan Flint

Chris A. Cuneaz Memorial Scholarship

Chester Little – Michigan Tech

Natalie Slattery Class of '08 Renewal – Kettering University

Kasey Simons, Class of '07 Renewal – Kettering University

Karli Powell, Class of '06 Renewal – Grand Valley State University

Genesee Power Station Scholarship

Hillary Claburn – Saginaw Valley

Genesee Lions Club Scholarship

Brandon Eddy – Saginaw Valley

Genesee Lioness Scholarship

Joseph Dion – Mott Community College

Mott Foundation Scholarship

Megan Kirley – Mott Community College

Linda Hinz Memorial Scholarship

Erica Coppy – Baker College

Doug Best Memorial Scholarship

Corey Alexander – Mott Community College

Fall Sports

It's not too late to sign up! If you are interested in playing football, volleyball or cross-country, please contact the athletic office at 591-2120. Practices have already begun, however you can still play. The coaches are Brad Brown (football), Monique Coulman (volleyball) and Mike Ribant (cross-country).

Don't miss out!!

CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM

The staff at Genesee High School has developed a credit recovery program to help struggling students stay connected with school and complete their education. The program uses EPIC courses that have been modified to meet our local curricular standards. EPIC is an on-line learning platform. If you would like additional information regarding this program please contact the high school office at 810-591-1450 or a link is provided on the district website.

PARENTWEB

Would you like to check on your son's/daughter's attendance? Look at his/her report card or transcript? You can with your computer, by using the ParentWeb link on Genesee's web page www.geneseeschools.org. Attendance is available for all grades, while report cards are available only for grades 7-12.



To login you will need:

ID + Student ID number

PIN = last 4 digits of student social security number

If you don't know your child's student number contact:

Jr/Sr High Office at 591-1450

Haas Elementary Office at 591-2101

Having troubles with the website contact:

Library/Media Technology Office at 591-3111

GRADES K-12 NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

If you live in the Genesee School District and have children of school age you can still register for school. To sign-up for kindergarten through sixth grades the elementary school office is located through the entryway nearest the flagpole in the west-side parking lot. To register for seventh through twelfth grades the junior/senior high school office is located through the three-door entrance off the north parking lot. The offices will be open from 8:00-3:00. Please bring the following with you:

Your child's birth certificate

Immunization (shot) record

Social Security Card

Two proofs of residency (signed lease or mortgage agreement, Consumer Energy bill, phone bill or sewer bill)

Questions? H.S. Office 591-1450 Elementary 591-2101

2009-2010 Class Officers and Student Council Officers

The following is the list of officers for the 2009-2010 school year:

SENIOR CLASS

President: Brianna Smith

Vice-President: Katrina Blevins

Secretary: Joselyn Pethers

Treasurer: Steven Elliott

JUNIOR CLASS

President: Brooke Stanton

Vice-President: Megan Henry

Secretary: Hillary Bacon

Treasurer: Danielle Girodat

SOPHOMORE CLASS

President: Austin Sigourney

Vice-President: Andrew Wilson

Secretary: Nate Ostrander

Treasurer: Alyson Freeman

FRESHMAN CLASS

President: Joe Nagengast

Vice-President: Sarah Harrington

Secretary: Tekoah Hewitt

Treasurer: Nick Chema

Student Council Officers

President: Samantha Wager

Vice-President: Garrett Cook

Secretary: Stephanie McCain

Treasurer: Tom Jean



School Begins
September 8th
2009



COMING ATTRACTIONS



August	18,19 19 24	Kindergarten Vision/Hearing Screening School Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. – Library Meet the Coaches Night 7:00 p.m. Football field
September	1,2,3 3 8 11 13 14 25	K – 12 Professional Development Open House 3:30 – 6:30 K - 12 First Day of School K – 12 (full day) Picture Day Lions Club Bar-B-Que Band Instrument Sale Elementary Fund Raiser Kick-Off

GENESEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

7347 N. Genesee Road
P.O. Box 220
Genesee MI 48437-0220

Phone: 810-591-1650

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**GHS is on the web.
www.geneseeschools.org**

Home Of The Wolves

HAAS ELEMENTARY REMINDERS FOR 2009-2010

Recess Policy – All students must go out during outside recesses. The only exception to this rule will be a letter from a physician. Students are to dress for the weather. Please do not send notes asking for your children to stay inside.

Medication – If your child needs to have medication during the school day, we must have a note from the physician attesting to this. We will not give out any medications without this note. Besides prescription drugs, this includes aspirin, Tylenol and cough medicines. Please see the student handbook for the exact policy.

Dropping off/picking up students before and after school – Please **DO NOT** use the bus driveway. This is for buses only. Traffic in the school parking lot is one way, traveling from south to north. Please drop students off at the cross-walk area ONLY. Students that are being picked-up after school will be in the gym and will be released after the buses have left.



PLEASE observe and obey all posted traffic signs for the safety of our students!

Picking children up during the school day – Parents must stop in the office first before picking their child up from the classroom. This is for your child’s safety. There will be no exceptions.

Absences – All absences must be documented. Please call the elementary office at 591-2101 to inform us of your child’s absence. If a call is not made, a written excuse must be sent with your child upon his/her return to school.

HAAS ELEMENTARY FALL FUNDRAISER

Haas Elementary’s annual fall fundraiser will kick off on Friday, September 25th. Once again the PTO is counting on your loyal support. Midland Fund Raising products will be sold by students in grades K-6 to raise funds for PTO sponsored projects. These high quality products are reasonably priced and offer something for almost everyone. The ending date for this fundraiser is Monday, October 5, 2009.



HAAS ELEMENTARY PTO

The PTO is a nonprofit organization whose objectives are:

- ⇒ Promoting a closer relationship between the school and the home.
- ⇒ Sponsor financial aid for Haas Elementary School where a special request is made.
- ⇒ Represent Haas Elementary in Genesee School related activities.
- ⇒ Keep the public informed on new legislation and policies related to education.
- ⇒ To serve as a sounding board for Administrators, Educators and Parents.

PTO meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm in the elementary teachers’ lounge. Our meetings are open to the public and free babysitting is provided for those in attendance. We welcome anyone who wishes to attend!

New School Hours

Genesee Junior/Senior High School	7:40am—2:25 p.m.
Haas Elementary School	8:05am—3:10 p.m.
AM Kindergarten	8:05am—11:17p.m
PM Kindergarten	11:58am—3:10p.m



YOUNG 4’S/KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Haas Elementary is still taking registrations for Great Start Readiness Program (Young 4’s) and Kindergarten. If you live in the Genesee School District and have children of school age you can still sign up for school. To register come to the elementary school office located through the entryway nearest the flagpole. For more information call the Elementary office at: 591-2101. Bring with you the following:
 Your child’s birth certificate
 Immunization (shot) record
 Social Security Card
 Two proofs of residency (signed lease or mortgage agreement, Consumer Energy bill, phone bill or sewer bill)
 Income Information



21st Century CLC Grant brings August Adventure to Haas

Genesee Haas students enjoyed 2 weeks of learning at the Ligon Outdoor Center and classroom enrichment programs during the month of August through the 21st Century CLC Grant. This federal grant will provide before and after school programs to the students throughout the school year. Students in kindergarten through the 6th grade will be able to participate in not only academic programs but also enrichment programs that focus on nutrition, fitness, fine arts, life skills and problem solving. Look for more information on the 21st Century Programs this fall.

Hearing and Vision Screening

Reminder: Kindergarten hearing and vision screening is August 18th and 19th in room 320 from 9:00-3:00. If you have any questions please call Haas Elementary at 591-2101.

Student Designs Bean Label

Michelle Noyce won a competition between art students at Genesee High School by designing a bean label for a Vassar farm. Her label will be put into production this year! Congratulations Michelle!!

Seat Time Waiver

Genesee High School is part of a consortium of districts in Genesee County that applied to the Department of Education for a seat-time waiver for students. The seat-time waiver was approved allowing students in special circumstances the opportunity to take on-line courses from home instead of attending school all day. If you are interested in pursuing this option, please contact the principal's office at 810-591-1450.

Band Instrument Sale

Where: Genesee H.S. Band Room
When: Monday, September 14 from 6:00—8:00 pm

Come buy, sell or trade instruments!

Technicians from Shems's will be here to offer advice on buying instruments. Amanda Rodman will also be here to answer your questions about flutes.

This is a great opportunity for you to sell your instruments at no cost to you. You will set your own price. It's time to get those instruments out of the closet and into the hands of a student who needs them!

CAMPBELL'S LABELS & VG'S RECEIPTS

Haas Elementary is again saving Campbell's product labels, VG's receipts and Kessel's receipts. Campbell's labels may come from any of the following:

1. Swanson TV dinners, pot pies and canned goods
2. Mrs. Paul's Fish Products
3. Pepperidge Farm Products
4. Prego Spaghetti Sauce
5. Campbell's Soups
6. Franco American Products



The VG's and Kessel's receipts are used to help purchase computer equipment and software. Thanks for your continued support of these programs.

Bleacher Work Day

For the past two years the Genesee Athletic boosters have been raising money to improve the track and football stadium bleachers. Wood decking and floorboards will be replaced with aluminum. The seats will be covered with a hard colorful plastic material. Handrails will be added. Eventually fencing along the seats will be replaced. Although the fundraising is still going on, the athletic boosters will be making these improvements before the first home varsity football game. Supervised volunteer labor will be used to complete the work. Volunteers are needed on August 29th at 9:00 a.m. at the field. If anyone has any questions they can contact Kim Schempf 810-423-4211. Lunch will be provided for anyone who comes. It will be a fun experience for all!

Football Game at CMU

On Saturday, October 24th the Genesee Varsity Football Team will travel to Central Michigan University to play Baldwin. The Genesee School District is planning to take as many spectator buses as possible. Students and community members will be able to sign up to ride the buses one week prior to the game. A tour of CMU will be scheduled for participants riding the buses. Please come out and support the wolves!

Special Education Project Find Annual Notification

The Genesee School District provides special education programs and services in conjunction with the Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) for eligible students 3 to 26 years of age, including resident children who are attending private schools, are homeless, or are suspected of being disabled and in need of special education supports and services even though they are advancing from grade to grade. These services are provided so that students may better participate and learn in classroom settings. Special education follows regulations and policy written in Part B of IDEA 2004 (federal law) and the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education. If you suspect your child may have a disability and be in need of special education services, please contact Kelly Davis, Special Services Director (810) 591-1649 for more information.

Early intervention services are also available for infants and toddlers, birth to 3 years of age who exhibit developmental delays. If you are concerned that your infant or toddler is not progressing the way he/she should, please contact Kelly Davis, Special Services Director (810) 591-1649 or Jennifer Lee, GISD, Principal of Early Childhood Programs and Services, (810) 591-4883.

SKIP Recruitment

Attention All Families: The SKIP to a Great Start program at Genesee School District is currently accepting enrollment of families with children ages 0-5. SKIP is a FREE parent-child program with no qualification to join. When you enroll your child(ren) in the SKIP program you can come to any of our events. As a SKIP family you'll experience such things as: Free books, arts & crafts, fun family events, free field trips to places such as: the zoo, water parks, playgrounds, and library. Older siblings are welcome to attend all summer events. If you are interested in enrolling your child(ren) or have any questions please contact Angie Moore—Skip Coordinator @591-8004.

New Program! Before and After School Activities

What: Before and after school program for Haas Students
For Who: Haas Elementary Students
When: Mornings 7:00-8:00 and afternoons approx 3:15-5:30
Days: Monday-Thursday
Cost: It is **Free** through a grant
What is it called?: The 21st Century Learning Center program
When does it start? September 21, 2009
How do I register? Look for information coming home with students or look at our school website

Will the program operate each week? Yes it will run the entire school year and in the summer

What will students do in the program? Students will participate in art, music, drama and physical activities. There will be a focus on reading, writing and math.

How do I get more information? See our website and watch for flyers coming home with students.



BACK TO SCHOOL AND BACK TO BREAKFAST!

Genesee School District is starting the school year and every student's day with breakfast. What's different this year from past years? The district is providing Universal **Free** Breakfast district-wide beginning on September 8th. When Universal Free Breakfast is offered, breakfast is available to all students at no charge. Why universal breakfast?

- ⇒ Students who participate in Universal Free Breakfast tend to have improved attendance, less tardiness, increased test scores and improvement in the quality of their diet.
- ⇒ This program provides a meal for students who cannot afford the cost of a reduced or full price breakfast

Breakfast for grades K-6 will be served from 7:35-8:00
Breakfast for 7-12 will be served from 7:15-7:35

The federal and state hot lunch program will cover a great majority of the cost. This program is part of a statewide initiative to improve academic performance by making sure students start each day ready to learn by eating a good breakfast.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Again this school year Mrs. Klink is accepting your empty inkjet and laser printer cartridges for recycling. The money the library media center receives from the recycling of the cartridges goes into helping the technology upgrades for the school. For more information about this program, please contact Mrs. Klink at 591-3111.



HEAD START

Attention Parents!

Need A Free Preschool For Your Child?
Head Start is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year for our preschool and Early Head Start Program for pregnant moms and children age 0-3 years of age.
Head Start offers: morning and afternoon sessions and a home-based program.
Head Start is a family focused preschool program designed to provide positive learning experiences for the entire family!
Please call the GCCARD Head Start office at 235-5613, if interested.

TRAFFIC AND NOISE ENFORCEMENT

To inform those members of the community, who will be using the school parking lot, there are traffic laws to be obeyed. There is a speed limit of 15 miles per hour for all motor vehicles driving upon school property. Furthermore, the following lanes of traffic are designated "one way" during the hours of 7:30 am—4:00 pm:



Entrance from Rogers Street must exit Genesee Road
Entrance from Genesee Road must also exit Genesee Road

No motor vehicles may be parked on school property, except for attending events, after the hour of 11:30 pm. A fine of \$25-\$100 will be imposed for violation of these laws.

GENESEE MENTORING PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS



The Genesee School District will be continuing the mentoring program this year for elementary students. If you like to listen to children reading, then we need you for ½ hour a week. You will be reading with the same child each week and become an important link in this child's future. Grandparents and grandchildren are the perfect match. The only requirement is a love of interacting with children. We need men and women for this program. An orientation is being held on Thursday, August 27 at 9:00 am in the library for all who would like to participate. For more information call LaRene Klink at 591-3111 or Sherry Azelton at 810-631-6382.

Mark your Calendars!
The **Genesee Homecoming** will take place on Friday, October 9th, 2009
Watch for more information in the October Communicator!