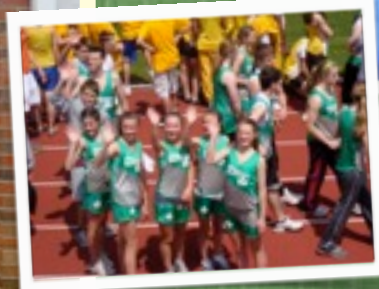


Geneseo Middle School

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2011



Welcome Back

Welcome back to another great year at Geneseo Middle School. The staff is excited at the opportunity to work with your child. We anticipate great things this year and know this year will be a safe, fun, and productive school year.

We strive to provide a safe environment for students. As such, we want to keep parents informed of some of our safety precautions. To begin with, Brian Harper, the school district liaison officer, has retired. This year, I am pleased to announce that Officer Ray Cotty will be the police liaison. Officer Cotty's time is split between the middle and high school. Although a large portion of this time

is spent through the high school and their activities, we are proud to be able to use his services within our building when possible.

The Geneseo Police Department also uses a drug dog and allows us to use this service. The Geneseo drug dog has been through our building before and will be seen this year occasionally patrolling our building to ensure it is safe and drug free.

To help us continue to provide a safe environment, please be cautious when entering and leaving Geneseo Middle School. Drop students off in appropriate areas away

from vehicles and please watch for pedestrians.

Once again, we look forward

Need Help?

Even the strongest families will struggle from time to time. If you ever have a family situation you need advice on or help getting school supplies, please call our guidance office at 945-0506.

to a great school year and thank everyone for their help in keeping our school safe.



You can follow us on Twitter. This service allows you to get short, quick updates on the web or on your phone.
<http://twitter.com/GeneseoMS>

Notes and Announcements

Check Out the Website

Please refer to the Geneseo Middle School website for announcements. We will have all announcements posted to this site. Through the announcements link, parents can stay current, and students can review announcements they have forgotten or missed.

Also available through our website is the GMS calendar. This calendar keeps students, parents, and staff current on what is happening in and out of the building. We try to keep this as current as possible. If there is an event that is not posted to this site, please contact the office and we will make sure to help keep you better informed.

PTA

If you have not had a chance to join PTA, I urge you to please consider joining this fantastic parent organization. The PTA has several different roles that members can play. These dedicated parents and volunteers do an amazing job helping to heighten the educational opportunities of our students. You can join the PTA by contacting Jill DePauw at the Middle School.

New Staff

GMS is pleased to announce several new and dynamic teachers to our building this year.

Mr. Monier - 6th Grade Math

Mrs. Hamer - 7th Grade Art

Mrs. Neumann - Special Education

Mr. Kashner - Dean of students

Teaming

At Geneseo Middle School, we follow the middle school philosophy. This philosophy has several components. One of the key components to being a middle school is teaming. Teaming is a core of teachers (typically math, science, English, and social studies) who have a common body of students. These teachers meet regularly about their curriculum, common practices/expectations, and student issues. Please take the opportunity to visit with your child's team of teachers when convenient.



"It's okay to fail, but it is not okay to give up."

This is a phrase one might think would come from a great coach, politician, or other historical figure. In reality, this quote came from a twelve year old student. These words ring true to everyone involved in a child's education. When we give up on a child, or allow a child to give up on themselves, we have done worse than failing.

Upcoming Dates

August 31st - School Photos

September 5th - Labor Day (no school)

September 8th - School Board Meeting

September 20th - Hour Early Dismissal

September 25th - Harvest Music Festival

September 30th - Hour Early Dismissal



Visit www.geneseoschools.org to reach the middle school website. A link to the calendar is located through this website.

Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228

209 SOUTH COLLEGE AVENUE • GENESEO, ILLINOIS 61254 • (309) 945-0450 • FAX: (309) 945-0445

www.geneseoschools.org

Dr. Joni L Swanson
Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Jack B. Schlindwein
Director of Operations

Mr. Scott D. Kuffel
Superintendent

August 8, 2011

Dear Village of Atkinson Parents/Guardians:

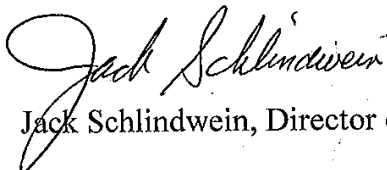
Please disregard the letter dated August 1, 2011 regarding bus stop locations in the Village of Atkinson.

For the 2011-2012 school year, there will still only be one "in-town" pick-up and drop-off location for bus riding students. The bus stop will be located on the **NORTH side of the City Park (W. Center St.)**. There will still be a crossing guard located on the corner of Route 6 and State Street. Students living on the south side of Route 6 should cross at this location. There will no longer be a bus stop location behind the old high school.

This one, centrally located bus stop, will provide a safer area that has a shelter to protect the students from the elements. When students exit the bus at the end of the day at the City Park, they should immediately go under the shelter area and wait there until the buses have left the area. This helps to insure a safer exit for the buses. There should be NO parking on the north of the park.

If you have any questions, please call the Geneseo Unit Office at 945-0450. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jack Schlindwein, Director of Operations

cc.: Pinks Bus Service
Village of Atkinson

To: Parents and Staff
From: Jack B. Schlindwein, Director of Operations
Re: Integrated Pest Management
Date: August 2011

A state law, which went into effect August 1, 2000, requires implementation of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to pest control in schools. A major part IPM is to minimize exposure to pesticides in the school environment. We have implemented policies and procedures to assure that.

The law requires the least aggressive method of pest control when it comes to the use of chemicals. Non-threatening pests are not automatically confronted with pesticides. Monitoring, baiting, and removal of the source of the attraction to the pest are the first response actions.

Chemical treatment for pests will only occur when other methods have failed, and the pests remain a threat. Chemical treatment will only take place "after hours" and only in areas where needed. Typical areas for treatment are maintenance areas, kitchen, and restrooms where food and water attract the pests. If required, treatment would be with EPA approved chemicals. All monitoring, baiting, and treatment is recorded in a log book which is kept in the office of each building.

The following is a schedule of when each building is inspected as part of the Integrated Pest Management program.

School Building	Day of the Month	Time
Northside Elementary School	2 nd Tuesday	4:15 PM
Southwest Elementary School	2 nd Tuesday	3:45 PM
Millikin Elementary School	2 nd Tuesday	3:15 PM
Rock River Alternative School	3 rd Tuesday	3:00 PM
Unit Office	3 rd Tuesday	2:15 PM
Geneseo H. S. & Athletic Facility	3 rd Tuesday	3:30 PM
Geneseo Middle School	4 th Monday	3:15 PM

The law also requires notification to parents and staff members if chemical treatment will take place. Parents may request to be notified if there would be chemical treatment of the school buildings or grounds. Forms are available at the office in each school building or on the District's webpage at www.geneseoschools.org.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the Integrated Pest Management Policy in the Geneseo School District, please call the Unit Office @ 309 - 945-0450.

HEALTHFUL FOOD AND BEVERAGE OPTIONS FOR SCHOOL FUNCTIONS

At school functions (parties, celebrations, meetings, etc.), healthful food options should be made available to promote student, staff and community wellness. Examples of nutritious food and beverages that are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans are listed below.

- *Raw vegetable sticks/slices with low-fat dressing or yogurt dip
- *Fresh fruit wedges - cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon, pineapple, oranges, etc.
- *Sliced fruit - nectarines, peaches, kiwi, plums, pears, apples, mangos, etc.
- *100% fruit or vegetable juice
- *Frozen fruit pops with fruit juice or fruit as the first ingredient
- *Dried fruit - raisins, cranberries, apples, apricots
- *Single serving applesauce or canned fruit in juice
- *Trail mix (dried fruit and nuts)
- *Dry roasted peanuts
- *Party mix (variety of cereals, nuts, pretzels, etc.)
- *Pretzels or reduced fat crackers
- *Baked chips
- *Low-fat muffins
- *Granola bars
- *Graham crackers
- *Mini bagels
- *Bread sticks
- *Fat-free or low-fat pudding cups
- *Ice cold water

This list is not inclusive and meant only to provide parents and school staff with guidance for healthier food and beverage choices.

Geneseo Community School District 228 Football Guidelines

In an effort to continue to make Geneseo High School football games enjoyable and safe for all spectators, the following guidelines for students in attendance are used at all home football games. Elementary and middle school students must be accompanied to the game by a parent/guardian or responsible adult.

Geneseo High School Student

Geneseo High School Students have several options for enjoying home football games.

1. GHS student section and bleachers are located at the north end of the stadium and in the north end zone.
2. GHS students are permitted to watch the game along the fence by the high school student bleacher section located in the north end.
3. GHS students may sit with their parents

Middle School Student Spectators

Geneseo Middle School students attending home Geneseo High School football games have two options for watching the game.

1. Geneseo Middle School students may watch the game while seated with their parent/guardian or responsible adult.
2. A bleacher in the south end zone will be provided specifically for Geneseo Middle School students to enjoy the game. Parents/guardian may drop off and pick up students from this section at any point during the game. It is important to note that students seated in the section will be allowed to leave for ten minutes at the conclusion of each quarter to access restrooms and concessions. Students are then to come back to the middle school section or remain with parent/guardian.

Elementary School Student Spectators

For the safety of elementary students and spectators, Geneseo elementary students are to remain within the presence of parents/guardian during all football games. This includes trips to the restroom and concession stands. Running, tackling, and other horseplay is not allowed as it causes a safety hazard to others in attendance.

Guidelines for All Spectators

Regardless of grade level, all students are expected to follow simple rules of proper sporting event attendance.

- No loitering around areas of the stadium unless in your proper designated area.
- Spectators are not allowed to bring into the stadium skateboards, bikes, rollerblades, and balls into the stadium. Other items are subject to the approval of administration.
- Students need to understand that a safe and orderly environment promotes a better football experience for all fans. Thus, it is important that all students comply with all rules and requests made by administration. Failure to do so will result in removal of the student from the stadium.
- The PTA will provide the concessions for your benefit. No open containers back packs or coolers will be allowed at Bob Reade Field.