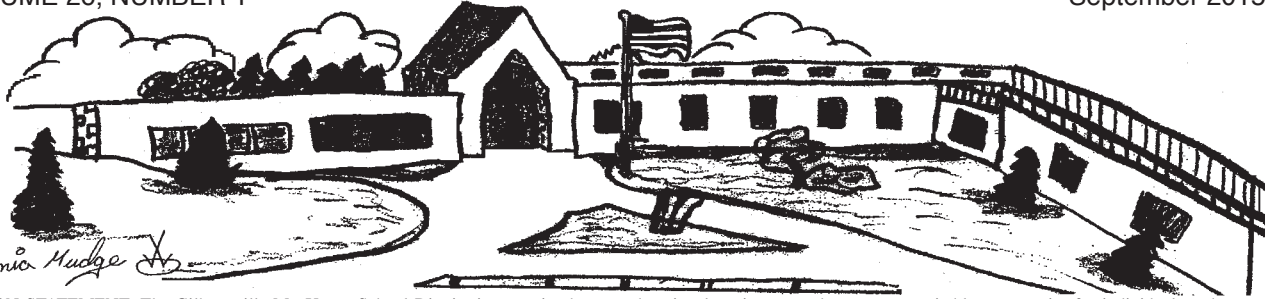


# GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

September 2015



MISSION STATEMENT: The Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District is committed to an educational environment that assures equitable opportunity for individuals to become College and Career Ready and ultimately, responsible, productive members of society. We will encourage individual excellence in students of all ages that they may gain a lifetime enthusiasm for work and learning.

## A Message from the New Superintendent



I would like to welcome everyone back to school. The past seven years have been very rewarding for me serving the GMU school community as MS/HS Principal and more recently, PK-12 Principal and Director of Special Education. I am excited this year to continue serving the GMU school community in the role of Superintendent and Director of Special Education. As Superintendent,

I will keep what is best for our students at the forefront of all decisions I make. This includes instructional and extracurricular programming decisions as well as budgetary and facility needs. I am committed to supporting programs which will provide our students with an education that allows them to remain competitive in both career and college options upon exiting High School.

My husband and I, along with our three daughters, have been, and will continue to be, longtime residents in this District. It is with great dedication and RAIDER pride that I will serve as the new Superintendent of the Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District. I look forward to working together with our Board of Education, students, parents, teachers, and staff in the 2015-2016 school year and for many years to come.

Respectfully,  
*Annette D. Hammond*, Superintendent

## A Special Thank You

If you have not already heard I have made the decision to retire from education after a 35 year career. My official retirement date is September 8, 2015. As the Superintendent of Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD I have been blessed to work with a great group of board members, leaders, teachers and support staff who have the best interest of our students as a priority.

These have been tumultuous times in education with numerous reforms on top of tough economic times. The past seven years have been challenging, but I feel the District—with the help of the entire school community—has offered our students the opportunity for a great educational experience.

I will miss the students at GMU immensely and wish all of them the best of luck in the future. Our students have been given the tools and experiences to become college and career ready for the future. I have thoroughly enjoyed watching them display their numerous talents in the arts, the classroom, and the athletic fields. As our Alma Mater tells us, I ask that each student work “to do their best to reach success: It’s all at G-M-U!”

Thank you for all your support and I wish everyone the best of luck.

—*Glenn R. Hamilton*,  
GMUCSD Superintendent  
September 1, 2008-September 8, 2015



The GMU Drama Club proudly presents

## Beauty and the Beast

November 6 and 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday evening, November 5, is  
Senior Citizen Preview at 6:30 p.m.  
Suggested donation: \$5.00 admission

## Board of Education Highlights

At the reorganization and regular meeting held on July 7, the Board:

- Made appointments and designations for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Heard the Superintendent and Administration provide the following Positive Highlights:
  - The Awards Ceremonies and PK & K-5 Moving Up Ceremonies were successful and were well attended.
  - Baccalaureate was hosted by Rev. Brandi Carver at Mt. Upton United Methodist Church. Thank you to Rev. Carver, Rev. Funke, Rev. Piedmonte, and Deacon Steckline for their services.
  - Graduation was excellent. Congratulations to the Class of 2015!
  - GMU Marching Band played in Gilbertsville's 4th of July parade. The band was smaller than usual but sounded great.
  - Summer school started smoothly that day.
  - The PK-12 Principal reported on the June 2015 regents results.
  - Mark Hanrahan from Matthew Bus discussed leasing of buses.
- Public Comment: Local support for GMU exploring solar energy.
- Accepted CSE/CPSE recommendations.
- Approved CSE/CPSE Membership and Alternate Chairpersons for the 2015-16 CSE/CPSE/504 meetings.
- Accepted bread, milk and ice cream bids.
- Appointed a social studies teacher.
- Appointed a teacher aide.
- Approved summer school staff, substitutes, substitute nurse, and advisors for the 2015-16 school year.
- Approved a long term leave.
- Approved a long term substitute.
- Accepted two resignations.
- Accepted a retirement.
- Appointed a bus mechanic.
- Adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

## Confidential Toll-Free Line

Troop C of the New York State Police reminds people of the creation of the toll-free line for the confidential reporting of potentially dangerous situations in the 16 school districts of the DCMO BOCES. This system, housed at Troop C Headquarters, is answered by a machine, which is regularly checked by police officials. This system is not designated for callers reporting an immediate threat; such calls should be reported to "911" or other appropriate emergency service providers. The phone number is available on posters placed in the school districts and also through school district publications.

## Elementary News

With September comes the beginning of a new school year, new goals and challenges, new friends, and the renewal of old friendships. How exciting all of it can be! By now, all students received their teacher assignments on their report card prior to the summer or in August with a letter and supply list from their teacher.

On the first day of school, your child will be bringing home a Student Information Form and the Student/Parent Handbook. Please read through the handbook with your child(ren), complete the forms, and return them to the office by Monday, September 14.

**Bus note change:** *No changes to busing may be made after 1:30 p.m. each day.* If you need to make changes to your child's busing after 1:30 p.m., you must arrange the change on your own based on the child's scheduled drop off location. We cannot allow changes after this time because it has become a safety issue in the past and keeping all of our students safe is our priority. Thank you for your understanding with this. Please fax any changes or drop a note off to the Main Office before 1:30 p.m. on the day of the change. Preferably bus note changes will be brought to school with your child no later than the morning of the change. Please make sure your bus note includes the following information: the child's full name, regular bus number (or animal), the full name of the person whose house they are going to (i.e. Jane Doe; *not* Aunt Jane) and that bus number or animal or street address.

**TIPS:** Start the school year off right—Set up a quiet time and place for your child(ren) to do homework and set a bed-time for your child(ren) that allows them to get at least eight hours of sleep a night. Get a routine set up that includes asking your child(ren) about their school day, looking at their agenda/homework folder/Friday folder for homework assignments and notes and other information from the school or your child's teacher. And please, don't hesitate to call the teacher with any questions.

The teachers, support staff and I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year. Together, we will share the rewarding venture of providing your child(ren) with a quality and exciting educational program. I hope your child enjoys the upcoming school year and meets it with a great deal of success!

I would like to strongly encourage communication between parents and the school; your child's success and attitude toward school improves with the increase in communication between parents and teachers.

—Mrs. Annette D. Hammond, Superintendent

## Grades 7-12 News

I am hoping that everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer and that students and staff are energized and ready for a great school year.

Schedules were mailed in August, so if a student feels s/he needs to make adjustments to his/her schedule, s/he may call the Guidance Office to set up a time to meet with Mrs. Wilcox.

### Some reminders for parents at the start of the school year

- Each student will receive an agenda book on the first day of school.
- Please look at what your children are wearing before leaving the house for school, so that you can make sure their choice in clothing meets dress code expectations. These expectations are outlined specifically in the hand-book.
- Send your child to school with a note if they arrive late, are leaving early, or have been absent. Having a note will ensure that your child has an accurate attendance record. These notes must be written and signed by a parent/guardian and must have a reason for why they are late, leaving early, or were absent. If a reason is not included in the note, students will be marked with an illegal absence. Students also need a note if they are not taking the bus, or if they are riding the bus with a different student or if they are being picked up by someone other than their parent.
- The first day of school is on Wednesday, September 9 and students will need to be in their first period class by 8:00 a.m. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

I am looking forward to another great year of partnering with parents and community members in supporting the education of our students.

# Welcome Back Students and Staff!



## News from the Guidance Office

### WELCOME TO THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome to our new students, new families and returning students and families. We look forward to a busy and exciting year. Middle and High School students should have received their schedules in the mail and will need to bring them to school on our first day.

We'd like to remind you that the Guidance Office provides important information and services to our students, families and community members. Please feel free to call the Guidance Office (783-2207, ext. 141) with questions regarding student enrollment, academic advisement, career planning, financial aid, scholarships and counseling services available to students and their families.

We encourage students and families to *get involved*. GMU offers many opportunities for involvement in clubs, music programs, sports and extra-curricular activities. We encourage parents to attend informational meetings, parent/teacher conferences, scheduling sessions, family nights and sports and music performances.

Please help us by encouraging your son or daughter to take academics seriously and to seek assistance from teachers, counselor and parents when needed. When we all work together, we help our students to have a successful 2015-2016 school year and prepare them to be career and college ready.

### COLLEGE INFORMATION

Fall is a great time for juniors and seniors to visit colleges. I encourage students and families to visit campuses they are interested in applying to. Choosing the right college may be one of the most important decisions a young adult makes. In addition to open house programs, many campuses offer campus tours, admission interviews, overnight stays and the opportunity to meet with faculty, staff and coaches. Contact the admissions office at the college or university that you are interested in visiting or view the college website for information about fall programs.

### SAT and ACT Dates

Seniors who have not taken the SAT or ACT yet or who want to raise their previous scores should register for an October exam.

		Registration	
<u>Test</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Website</u>
SAT	10/3	9/3	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
ACT	10/24	9/18	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>

—Heather Wilcox, Guidance Counselor

## 2015-2016 Fundraising Calendar

### September

- 1 Safety Patrol ..... Steel drive begins
- Class of 2017 ..... Sunglass sale begins
- SADD ..... Flocking sales begin
- Elem. Student Council .... Produce sale from GMU garden
- 19 Class of 2016 ..... Pancake breakfast
- Class of 2017 ..... Community BINGO
- 28 Chorus ..... Cherrydale Farms sale  
until October 8

### October

- 13 Safety Patrol ..... As the Crow Flies candle sale
- 16 HS Student Council ..... Blue and Gold Dance
- 30 Class of 2017 ..... Junior Carnival
- Class of 2018 ..... Chinese Auction at Jr. Carnival

### November

- 1 MS Student Council ..... Save Around catalog sale
- 2 Class of 2016 ..... Krispy Kreme sale until November 13
- 6, 7 Musical ..... Admission and ad sales
- 6 SADD ..... BBQ chicken sale
- 7 SADD ..... Scrappy Saturday
- 13 Class of 2019 ..... MS/HS Dance
- 19 Class of 2018 ..... Outer Banks Popcorn sale  
until December 3

### December

- 1 Elem. Student Council .... Holiday items sale: all month
- 5 Safety Patrol/Elem SC .... Kid's Day Out
- 14 SADD ..... Candy cane sale until December 18
- 23 Class of 2017 ..... MS/HS Dance

### January

- 16 Drama ..... Coffee House Cabaret

### February

- 12 Band ..... GMU's Got Talent
- 19 SADD ..... Sweetheart Dance

### March

- MS Student Council ..... Jungle Bean coffee sale
- 12 SADD ..... Scrappy Saturday
- 18 Spanish Club ..... MS/HS Dance

### April

- 1, 2 Drama ..... Admission and ad sales
- 1 SADD ..... BBQ chicken sale
- 22 HS Student Council ..... Spring Dance

### May

- Safety Patrol ..... May Day celebration
- NHS ..... Hanging basket sale
- Elem. Student Council .... Bottle drive
- Elem. Student Council .... Bake sale
- 4 Class of 2017 ..... Run-a-thon
- Class of 2019 ..... Bottle drive
- 21 Class of 2017 ..... Prom
- SADD ..... After Prom Party

## No Child Left Behind

Our Student Support Services Department, following the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, continues to provide academic, remedial and social/emotional support to *all* students. This support is directly linked to our Academic Intervention Services (AIS) and Response to Intervention (RTI) which includes extra in-class help provided by teachers and/or aides, learning centers, after-school programs, scheduled AIS or RTI, counseling and intensive individualized instruction. In addition, Student Support Services provides special education and 504 interventions as needed and required.

As outlined in the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School is committed to providing our students with highly qualified educators. We appreciate and applaud initiatives aimed at recruiting and maintaining trained professionals and we continue to seek out the best teachers and support personnel to serve your children. If you are interested in learning more about our District's excellent staff, we welcome your inquiries. You may request the following information via the District Office about your child's teacher and/or paraprofessional:

- whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived;
- the Baccalaureate Degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field or discipline of the certification or degree; and
- whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you have any questions about our programs, feel free to call Annette Hammond, at 783-2207 any time for more information. Please join us on October 8 at the PK-12 Open House. PK-6 is from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and 7-12 is from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the High School Library for information.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

## 2015-16 Bus Routes

**Bus 46—Shark:** Leave school at 7: 15 a.m.; to Mt. Upton Old Route 8 N; State Hwy 8 S to village of Mt. Upton intersection, to State Hwy 51, on to school

**Bus 51—Butterfly:** Leave school at 7: 05 a.m.; to Co Rd 18; Lafayette Park, Co Rd #33, Crandall Hill; Co Rd 37 to village turn around; Depot Street, on to school

**Bus 52—Bear:** Leave school at 6: 50 a.m.; to Cty Rd 4, Murphy Rd.; Taylor Rd.; Coon Cross Rd.; Lobdell Rd., Cty Rd 5; to Sylvan St.; Commercial Street; Marion Avenue, on to school

**Bus 53—Cat:** Leave school at 7: 00 a.m.; to Mt. Upton Hill, Cty Rd 37; Keach Rd., Upper High Bridge Rd., Phillips O'dell Rd., Blower Rd; Miller Rd., White's Hill Rd.; Shumway Hill; to State Hwy 8, on to school

**Bus 56—Deer:** Leave school at 6: 55 a.m.; to High Bridge Rd., Phillips O'dell Rd., Rockdale Rd., Camp Meeting Rd., Fred Smith—Creek Road; State Hwy 8 S to Old State Route 8: north on State Hwy 8, on to school

**Bus 58—Bunny:** Leave school at 6: 55 a.m.; to Herb Lilley Hill Rd., Wilber Cross Rd.; Lulu Coon Rd., Wilber Hill Rd., Butternut Rd., Townline Rd., Shaw Brook; River Rd., Village of Gilbertsville, Spring St., on to school

**Bus 57—Puppy:** Leave school at 7: 00 a.m.; to Oregon Halbert Hill Rd.; Copes Corners Rd., Rod and Gun Club Rd., Nelson Rd., Opperman Rd., Musson—Erwin Rd., Copes Corners Rd., Dunhams Rd., Copes Corners Rd., on to school

**Bus 59—Star:** Leave school at 7: 00 a.m.; to Back River Rd.; Lockwood Hill; Jesse Rogers Rd., Fisk Hill; Cty Hwy 1 S to French's Turnaround; Cty Hwy 1 to State Hwy 8 N, State Hwy 8, on to school

**Bus 62—Duck:** Leave school at 6: 55 a.m.; to State Hwy 8; Pochy Rd., Shelley Rd.; Cty Hwy 10; Bell Hill Rd.; Clarence Musson Rd.; Mill St., Frog Harbor; Marion Ave., on to school

**Bus 65—Cow:** Leave school at 7: 05 a.m.; to Cty Rd 4, Dunhams Cross Rd., Coye Brook Rd., State Hwy 51 North of village, Hilton and Vine St., Maple and Elm Street, on to school

**Bus 54—Bird:** Prentice Gorge Rd., to Maple St., Sylvan St., Baker Rd. and on to school

If you have any questions regarding your child's bus number or pick-up times please feel free to call the Bus Garage at 783-2207, ext. 115 or 783-2275.

## School Opens September 9.

### Please Drive Carefully!

*Remember: It is against the law to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing!*

## Athletic Director's Notes

As I spent time this summer cleaning out shelves and such, I ran across a book that I found interesting. *Life's Playbook for Success*, put out by the GTE Academic All-American Hall of Famers. I'd like to share an excerpt from it.

"Discipline and diligence are up there on the list. But one of the most important qualities of many really successful people is humility—if you have a degree of humility about you, you have the ability to take advice, to be coachable, teachable. A humble person never stops learning."  
—Todd Blackledge

—Nancy Estabrook, Athletic Director

## Emergency Procedures

All school districts in the State of New York are required to comply with the Commissioner's Regulation 155.13 which requires written annual instructions to parents, students and staff regarding District emergency management plans. The complete plans are on file in each Principal's Office and are available to parents, students and staff at any time.

The object of emergency planning is to anticipate problems in dealing with natural and man-made disasters. Depending on the kind of intensity of this disaster, the school may be required to carry out any of the following procedures:

- A. School Cancellation
- B. Evacuation
- C. Early Dismissal
- D. Sheltering

Sheltering and early dismissal or *go home* drills are held at least once a year. Parents will receive an advance announcement of these drills via a newsletter at least one week prior to the drill.

It is important to note that emergency procedures may be carried out without advance notice. Children may be coming home to either empty homes or locked doors. Parents must make contingency plans with their children to go to the home of a neighbor if the children require supervision. A note has been sent home to all elementary parents requesting a copy of this plan.

Emergency information will be broadcast over the following radio stations: WKXZ, WCDO, WDOS, WSKG, WZOZ, WDLA, WDHI, WIYN, WBKT, WHWK, WAAL, WWYL, WLTB, and school closings will also be broadcast on News Channel 34, WBNG-TV, WUTR/WFXV, and YNN TV as well as, on our website [www.gmucsd.org](http://www.gmucsd.org), [facebook.com/gmucsd](https://facebook.com/gmucsd) and [evesun.com](http://evesun.com).

If you have questions concerning any of the above information, please contact the Main Office at 783-2207, ext. 103. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Memo from the Health Office

Call the attendance clerk at 783-2207 to report absence and follow up with note.

If child is ill, fever, vomiting/diarrhea, keep him/her home until symptom-free for 24 hours.

- If your child has an illness absence of more than three days, a *doctor's note* is needed upon return.
- If student is injured or ill and cannot participate in gym, a note from a doctor stating *no gym* is needed for specific amount of time. The doctor must also write a clearance note for a student to return to gym.
- If child becomes ill during school hours, he/she is released by the School Nurse, who will make the appropriate contact with the parent/guardian. Students may not use their cellphone or other means to contact parents directly, but should do so through the School Nurse. The parent/guardian or emergency contact person must sign the student out at the front desk. Students cannot be released to anyone other than those listed on The Student Information Form. For students who drive themselves to school and become ill, at the discretion of the School Nurse, a parent/guardian will be contacted to obtain permission for this student to drive self home.
- If your child is injured in school or at a school-sponsored activity, and medical treatment is necessary, contact the School Nurse immediately, submit claims to your own Health Insurance provider, then submit proof of payment of claim or denial to the Business Office. The school only covers the cost not covered by your own insurance.

### Tips for Healthy Teeth

Many things influence a child's progress and success in school, but one of the most important is his or her health. Children should be healthy in order to learn; however, children with cavities are not healthy. Cavities are preventable, but sadly they affect more children than any other chronic disease (California Dental Health Association).

All teeth are important and need proper care. Even baby teeth are important; they are not just teeth that will fall out. Children need their teeth to eat properly, talk, smile and feel good about themselves. Children with cavities have difficulties in some or all of these areas. Cavities may also affect a child's ability to pay attention and learn at school, if the child is in pain. Tooth decay is an infection that does not heal and can be painful if left without treatment. If left untreated, adult teeth may be permanently damaged.

Here is important advice to help your child stay healthy:

- Visit dentist twice a year (or as suggested by your dentist)
- Choose healthy foods for the entire family
- Brush at least twice a day (Use fluoride if suggested by MD.)

- Limit soda and candy. These contain a lot of sugar which causes cavities and can also contribute to weight problems.

I hope this information is helpful to you in ensuring good dental health for your child/children.

Thank you for your cooperation in these health matters.

—Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse

## Mandatory Health Screenings

The District's School Health Services program supports your student's academic success by promoting health in the school setting. One way that we provide care for your student is by performing the health screenings as mandated by the State of New York.

During this school year, the following screenings will be required or completed at school:

### VISION

- Distance acuity for all newly entering students (including PK) and students in kindergarten, grades 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 10.
- Near vision acuity, hyperopia and color perception screening for all newly entering students (including PK).

### HEARING

- Hearing screening for all newly entering students (including PK) and students in kindergarten, grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 10

### SCOLIOSIS

- Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for all students in grades 5-9.

### HEALTH APPRAISALS

A physical examination including Body Mass Index and Weight Status Category Information is required for all newly entering students and students in PK or kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, 7, and 10 (this may be done by your private Health Care Professional or done here by Karen Adams, FNP, starting in September). Please notify the Health Office if you prefer to have your student's physical done at school. If we do not receive notification of a private physical being completed or a current one is not on file, the student will be automatically placed on the appointment list for a school physical. You will be notified of the time and date.

### DENTAL CERTIFICATES

A dental certificate is *requested* for all newly entering students (including PK) and students in kindergarten, grades 2, 4, 7 and 10.

A letter will be sent home if there are any findings on the screening done at school that need medical follow-up. Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

—Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse

## Gilbertsville and Mt. Upton Senior Citizens, You're Invited!

Gilbertsville and Mt. Upton senior citizens are cordially invited to join us on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The cost of lunch is \$4. The September menu is included in this newsletter.

If you have any questions, please call 783-2207, ext. 122. We look forward to seeing you!

## Changing School Meal Requirements

### Some of the New Requirements Include

- Increasing the amount of fruits and vegetables
- Reducing the sodium in meals over the next 10 years
- Setting calorie limits for the first time
- Increasing the use of whole grains

Students will now be required to have ½ cup of fruit or vegetable on their tray for it to count as a full reimbursable meal. We offer a large variety of fruits and vegetables daily to give students more options in the hopes that they will choose fruits and vegetables that they enjoy.

### What Are We Doing

- Sandwiches are served on whole grain rolls.
- Pasta served is whole grain enriched.
- Milk that is available is low-fat or fat-free.
- Main dishes continue to meet sodium requirements.
- Dark green and orange vegetables are served on a daily basis.
- Beans have been incorporated into some of the recipes and menus.
- Veggie bars are available every day that include romaine lettuce and spinach, legumes, carrots, and other fresh fruits and vegetables.

### How Can You Help?

We have faced challenges meeting these requirements on a very tight budget. Our school meals team is working hard to make healthy enjoyable changes for our students. The school nutrition program needs the support of parents to succeed! Parents can support this effort by encouraging your child to give the healthier meals a try, joining your child for lunch and talking about the healthy options, or simply introducing your child to these healthy changes at home. You are your child's primary role model, when they see you choose healthy foods they are more likely to choose them as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Martha Dibbell at [mdibbell@gmucsd.org](mailto:mdibbell@gmucsd.org) or at 783-2207, ext. 122. We are here to help!

—School Meals Coordinator

## Flamingo Flocking!



Have you ever seen flocks of pink flamingos gathering in the yards of your friends and neighbors? You can send the flamingos to roost in any private yard in the GMU school district.

A large flock (12) can migrate for \$15 or you can choose a small flock (6) for \$10.

The flock can be sent anonymously or with the sender's name included. The birds will stay for a short time before they mysteriously move in the darkness to another yard.

Remember, if you flock someone you may be flocked back in return! Flocking insurance can be purchased to prevent the pink birds from appearing on your lawn for only \$10.

The flamingos are friendly, but may only be removed by GMU SADD Club members.

### Flamingo Flocking Order Form

Name of Flocking Victim

\_\_\_\_\_

Friend's Physical Address

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special instructions/house description/directions

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Large Flock (12 birds) \$15

Small Flock (6 birds) \$10

Your Name\*

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*You MUST include your name and phone number

I DO NOT want my friend to know I ordered the flamingo flocking!

I NEED flocking insurance: \$10 enclosed!

*Please return with payment to any GMU  
SADD member or GMU Main Office.*

*Checks may be made payable to GMU SADD*

## School Tax Collection Notice

School Tax Collection for the Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District will begin on September 1. Tax payments can be paid either by mail to: GMU School Tax Collector, 693 State Highway 51, Gilbertsville, NY 13776, or in person at the GMU District Office as follows: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Taxes can be paid without penalty through October 1. Beginning on October 2 through November 2, a 2% penalty will be added and from November 3 through November 9, 3% will be added. After November 9, all unpaid taxes will be returned to the County Treasurer. School taxes are then re-levied with an additional penalty and payable with the Town and County Tax that you will receive in January of 2016.

Thank you.

## GMU Breakfast Program

The Gilbertsville Mt. Upton Central School meals program offers breakfast to all students in grades PK-12 in the cafeteria from 7:45 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. daily. We offer a variety of items which include breakfast sandwiches (sausage or ham, egg and cheese on a bagel or english muffin), egg and cheese breakfast burritos, oatmeal, cold cereal, muffins, an assortment of bagels with toppings, scrambled eggs, fruit, juice and milk. These options vary daily. The paid price for breakfast for PK-12 is \$1.25. Your approved application for free or reduced meals includes breakfast. If you qualify for reduced meals, the cost of breakfast is \$.25.

It's a fact: eating breakfast at school helps children learn. Studies show that children who eat breakfast at the start of their school day have higher math and reading scores. They have sharper memory and show faster speed on cognitive tests. They have broader vocabularies. They do better on standardized tests. They focus better and behave better.

Eating breakfast at school has health benefits, too. Children are less likely to be absent. They're less likely to see the school nurse and less likely to be overweight. They eat more fruit, drink more milk and consume a wider variety of foods.

We would like to encourage our students to join us for breakfast each day. If you have any questions please call Martha Dibbell, 783-2207 ext. 122 or email [mdibbell@gmucsd.org](mailto:mdibbell@gmucsd.org). Thank you for your support of our program.

## From the School Meals Program

The GMUCSD School Meals Program offers breakfast and lunch daily to students providing them with the nutrition necessary for healthy growth of their minds and bodies.

The menu is published monthly in the school newsletter. The cost of breakfast is \$1.25 for students PK-12, lunch is \$1.85 for PK-6 and \$2.05 for students in grades 7-12. You may prepay for your child's meals by sending either cash or a check, payable to *GMU School Lunch Fund*, and the money will be placed in your child's account. The costs per week are as follows: Breakfast for PK-12: \$6.25, lunch for grades PK-6: \$9.25 and grades 7-12: \$10.25.

I would encourage you to file an application (included in this newsletter or available from school) for a free or reduced lunch. If your child qualifies for reduced meals, the cost is \$.25 for breakfast and \$.25 for lunch or \$1.25 per week per meal.

Snack and a la carte items are also at a price range of \$.50-\$1.00. You may wish to place additional money in your child's account for purchasing these items. Please fill out the form below to allow your child to charge items other than lunch to their account and return the form to Martha Dibbell, School Meals Coordinator. **Students must have money on their accounts to be able to charge milk or snacks.** If your student owes \$10 in charges, they will be placed on a cash only basis for all food purchases. This includes breakfast and lunch. Thank you for your continued support of our program. If you have any questions, please contact me at 783-2207, ext. 122 or email me at [mdibbell@gmucsd.org](mailto:mdibbell@gmucsd.org).

Please allow \_\_\_\_\_  
to purchase items in addition to his/her breakfast or  
lunch and charge them to his/her account.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

—School Meals Coordinator





## Consent to Release Free or Reduced Price Eligibility Information

School officials may release information that shows that my child/children are eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk to the following programs. I understand that the information will only be provided to the program(s) checked.

(Check the box next to the program area(s) you wish to release information to)

- Federal health programs such as Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
- State or federal programs such as the Youth Summer Work program or the Educational Talent Search Program.
- Local health and education programs and other local programs that provide benefits such as free textbooks or school supplies, free band instruments, or reduced fees for summer school or driver education.
- Community programs such as holiday baskets, summer arts and playground programs.

I understand that I will be releasing information that will show that my child/children are eligible for free and reduced price meals. I give up my right to confidentiality for the program(s) checked.

Child/Children  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am the child’s parent/guardian for whom the application was made.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

If you receive food stamps or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), you may receive a letter in August from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance that will simplify the process for your child or children to receive free meals or milk at school.

Take or send the letter to Martha Dibbell at Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Central School so that your children will receive free meals or milk without you having to complete an application.

**You will receive only one letter. If you lose it, it will not be replaced.** If you do not return the letter to the school, you must fill out the Free and Reduced Price Application in order for your children to get free meals or milk.

Call 783-2207, ext. 122 or email [mdibbell@gmucsd.org](mailto:mdibbell@gmucsd.org) if you have any questions. Thank you.

—School Meals Coordinator

## Families in Temporary Housing Situations

Dear Student/Parent:

Students in temporary housing situations are eligible for free school meals. Homeless students and their families **do not** need to complete a free meal application. Instead, the school district’s McKinney-Vento Liaison can give the students’ names to the food service director.

- Are you living in a temporary location?
- Are you sharing the housing of another person because you lost your housing, or because of economic hardship, or for another similar reason?
- Are you sleeping in a car, a park, bus/train station, or campsite?
- Are you staying in a motel, a hotel, a shelter, or another temporary location?

If you answered *Yes* to any of the questions above, please talk with your school district’s McKinney-Vento Liaison. You might not have to fill out the free meal application.

Your liaison is Annette Hammond, Superintendent, and she can be contacted at the following number: 783-2207, ext. 140 to find out whether you or your children are eligible to get free meals without an application.

If you need contact information for a liaison in a different school district, or if you would like more information about the rights of a student in temporary housing, please visit [www.teachs.org](http://www.teachs.org).

**A Compact for Student Success  
Gilbertsville - Mount Upton Central School District  
A Student/Parent/Teacher/District Agreement**

**In order to ensure all students' success in Gilbertsville - Mount Upton Central School, all parties agree to the following:**

Student	Parent/Guardian	Teacher	Gilbertsville - Mount Upton Central School
Go to school on time every day.	Make sure my child is on time and attends school on a regular basis.	Provide student-centered instruction aligned with NYS CCL standards.	Support high quality instruction aligned with NYS CCL standards.
Go to school prepared to learn, with materials needed and homework assignments completed.	Support and monitor completion of homework and study time.	Maintain high expectations for all students in an encouraging and supportive manner.	Support and acknowledge achievement.
Review the results of progress reports and take an active role to improve my school performance.	Review my child's progress reports and follow up as needed.	Report to parents, teachers, and students on an ongoing basis about students' progress.	Clearly inform parents of NYS CCL standards, assessments, and student performance.
On a daily basis, give my parent(s)/guardian(s) all notices and information I receive.	Actively communicate with my child's teacher via, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Conferences</li> <li>➢ Open Houses</li> <li>➢ Monitoring agendas or homework folders</li> <li>➢ Written communication</li> </ul>	Actively communicate with parents via, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Phone calls</li> <li>➢ Positive post cards</li> <li>➢ Conferences</li> <li>➢ Email</li> </ul>	Provide opportunities for parental involvement and communication via, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Community news letters</li> <li>➢ Community bulletin board</li> <li>➢ News paper</li> <li>➢ Letters home</li> </ul>
Complete work as assigned, ask for help when needed, and utilize time and resources wisely.	Provide a quiet place for my child to study, read, and complete homework.	Provide a structured, well-managed classroom that invites learning.	Provide a safe, structured environment, and adequate time in which students can learn.
Stay on task and positively and actively participate in classroom learning.	Encourage my child to do his/her best.	Provide high quality instruction based on best practices and encourage each student to do his or her best.	Provide supervision, staff development, assistance, encouragement, and materials that best meet the needs of all students.
Be a positive role model for other students.	Be a positive role model.	Be a positive role model.	Foster and celebrate positive role models.
Show respect for all others by following student/parent Code of Conduct, classroom rules and procedures, and by being a good citizen.	Show respect for all others by following student/parent Code of Conduct, adhering to school policy, and by being a good citizen.	Show respect for all others by following the teacher handbook, adhering to and enforcing school policy, and by being a good citizen.	Foster and show respect for the school community by enforcing school policies.

# GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON DISTRICT CALENDAR

## 2015-2016 School Calendar

September 2015						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Staff 17 Students 16

October 2015						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Staff 21 Students 20

November 2015						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Staff 17 Students 17

September  
 7 Labor Day - No School/Offices Closed  
 8 Staff Development Day/No School Students  
 9 First Day for Students

October  
 09 Staff Development Day/No School Students  
 12 Columbus Day - No School/Offices Closed

November  
 10 Half Day - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 11 Veteran's Day - No School/Offices Closed  
 25-27 Thanksgiving Recess - No School  
 26-27 Offices Closed

December 2015						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Staff 17 Students 17

January 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Staff 19 Students 19

February 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Staff 19 Students 18

December  
 23 Half Day for Students  
 24-28 Offices Closed  
 24-31 Christmas Recess - No School

January  
 1 New Year's Day - No School/Offices Closed  
 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School  
 26-29 Regents Exams

February  
 1 Staff Development Day/No School Students  
 15 Presidents' Day - Offices Closed  
 15-16 Winter Recess - No School for Students

March 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Staff 22 Students 21

April 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Staff 16 Students 16

May 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Staff 21 Students 21

March  
 10 Half Day - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 11 Staff Development Day/No School for Students  
 25 Good Friday - No School/Offices Closed

April  
 5-7 ELA State Tests Grades 3-8  
 13-15 Math State Tests Grades 3-8  
 25-29 Spring Recess/No School for Students

May  
 25 Science Performance Test (Grades 4 & 8)  
 30 Memorial Day - No School/Offices Closed

June 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Staff 17 Students 17






July 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Staff 16 Students 16

August 2016						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Staff 21 Students 21

June  
 1 Regents (Algebra II Common Core)  
 6 Science Written Test (Grades 4 & 8)  
 14-22 Regents Exams  
 21-23 PK-5 Dismiss at 11:00 a.m.  
 23 Regents Rating Day  
 25 Graduation

-  Half Day of School for Students
-  No School - Recess/Holiday
-  No School for Students - Conference Day
-  Regents/State Exams
-  Offices Closed

### Student Days

Sept	16	Feb	18
Oct	20	Mar	21
Nov	17	Apr	16
Dec	17	May	21
Jan	19	June	17
	89		93

Total Student Days **182**

### Staff Days

Sept	17	Feb	19
Oct	21	Mar	22
Nov	17	Apr	16
Dec	17	May	21
Jan	19	June	17
	91		95

Total Staff Days **186**

**GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

**ECRWSS  
BOXHOLDER**

**Calendar of Events**

**September**

- |    |   |    |  |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1  | BVS vs. Morris  | 19 | NY Pizzeria Girls' Varsity Soccer Tournament @ UV<br>BVS @ Charlotte Valley Tournament                               |
| 4  | BVS vs. Milford<br>GVS @ Milford  | 21 | PK-12 Picture Day<br>Fall Sports Picture Day<br>Auditions for 5-7 Musical, 3:00-5:00 p.m.                            |
| 7  | <b>No School—Labor Day, Offices Closed</b>  |    | BMS @ Milford<br>GMS vs. Milford   |
| 8  | <b>No School—Superintendent's Conference Day</b><br>BVS @ Schenevus<br>GVS vs. Schenevus                  | 22 | Auditions for 5-7 Musical, 3:00-5:00 p.m.<br>BVS @ Edmeston<br>GVS vs. Edmeston                                      |
| 9  | <b>First Day of Classes</b>   | 24 | Auditions for 5-7 Musical, 3:00-5:00 p.m.<br>BMS @ RS<br>GMS vs. RS  |
| 10 | GVS Downsville Tournament   | 25 | Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.<br>BVS vs. CVS<br>GVS @ CVS   |
| 11 | BVS vs. RS<br>GVS @ RS  | 26 | Community Celebration Day at GMU<br>GMS vs. Morris<br>BMS @ Laurens, 10:00 a.m.<br>BVS @ Charlotte Valley Tournament |
| 12 | ACT<br>GVS Downsville Tournament  | 28 | BMS vs. Franklin<br>GMS @ Franklin   |
| 15 | BVS @ Worcester<br>GVS vs. Worcester<br>Board of Education Meeting, D104, 7:00 p.m.                       | 29 | GMS @ Unatego  |
| 17 | GVS @ Sharon Springs<br>GMS vs. Unatego   |    |  |
| 18 | Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.<br>BVS vs. Sharon Springs<br>NY Pizzeria Girls' Varsity Soccer Tournament @ UV |    |  |