



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy 2020 to all the Families and Students of GHS! --

December was a busy month for the students of GHS. Clubs, Sports, Music, and Theatre events were occurring across the board. Thank you to all Vendor Volunteers for your work and of course, the chair people of Christine Stellick, Carol Rennolds, Amy Ahern, and Cindy Alworth for organizing the Vendor by purchasing stock, creating a volunteer schedule, and keeping the Vendor in order. Finals treats, organized by Amy Belloli, were handed out for all the students to enjoy. Thank you for all your hard work.

A special thank you goes to the Post Prom committee of Tiffany Hughes, Julie Ford, and Lisa Bova, as the creative ideas are being hatched for this year's Post Prom. If you are interested in volunteering, the Post Prom committee is in need of additional chairs for a number of their committees. Please contact Tiffany Hughes at tiffany.hughes@ucf.edu for more info.

We want everyone to remember that it is never too late to sign up to help as a volunteer in PTO. The simplest way to sign up is to email Candy Bengson at pcbengson@gmail.com.

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GENEVA HIGH SCHOOL
VIKING VESSEL

JANUARY 2020



Geneva High School PTO Online



Geneva High School Online



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(Continued from page 1)

Candy organizes the General Volunteer committee which will send out signups. You are welcome to pick and chose to volunteer on the committees that interest you. You can also check out PTO volunteer opportunities by clicking on the drop-down tab under PARENT on the GHS website. We welcome your involvement in GHS PTO. Thank you for your time and for helping your student treasure their time at GHS and the many opportunities available to your student.

The next PTO Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9th at 7:00pm. We encourage you to attend. If you can't attend but have questions please feel free to contact any PTO Board member.

Sincerely,

The PTO Board:

Martha Harrison, PTO President

Chrissy Swanson, Treasurer

Carolyn Potosnak, Secretary

Advisors: Candy Bengson, Deb Dickinson and Julie Gearhart

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Scavenger Hunt at GHS

Little Vikings Preschool, ran through GHS's Child Development and Early Childhood Education classes, celebrated the holidays together on their last day of the semester.

As a part of the celebration, the children completed a Polar Express Scavenger Hunt in the library. Led by the ECE students, the children explored every part of the library searching for hidden clues - and adding little gifts to their stocking along the way.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all enjoyed the holiday break. January is a very busy month here at GHS. But there's an event in early February that I hope you will put on your calendar and consider taking advantage of:

Mr. Adam Russo will present, "We Must Teach our Kids to Fail" at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Auditorium on Wednesday, February 12th. More detailed information will be forthcoming.



All GHS students will hear a message about resiliency from Mr. Russo during the school day on Wednesday, February 12th.

Generosity of GHS Students, Faculty and Staff

It is often said in today's world that we need to remember the "reason for the season" during the holidays. I am proud to say that again this year many of the students and staff at Geneva High School definitely prefer to give during the holidays than receive. Listed below are the donations made or service projects completed by our students and staff in 2019:

- The **Geneva High School LEO Club** and our **Music Department** partnered with the Geneva Lions Club for their eighth annual *Pancake Breakfast with Santa*.
- The **LEO Club** also created a Thanksgiving Basket of Blessings for a needy family through Tri-City Family Services.
- The **GHS Horticulture classes** donate all of the lettuce grown in the greenhouse to the Northern Illinois Food Bank.
- The **GHS Key Club** partnered with the Tri Cities Salvation Army and rang the bell at many locations around town and during the Christmas Walk.
- The **DECA Club** helped the Rotary club with a fall cleanup on Thanksgiving morning also did a fundraiser with Rotary for Polio Eradication.

- **National English Honor Society** makes locker "stockings" for Viking Pals and stuffs them with treats each week. They also give gift cards to the Ronald McDonald House at CDH for kids to pick from the "gift room." They also support the Lazarus House throughout the year.

- The **GHS SADD Club** selected two children from Harrison Street School's Angel

Tree (where families in need list items they need such as winter clothing, shoes, coats, etc.) and they bought the listed items to be given to the children.

- The **WISE Club** (Women's Empowerment Club) conducted a drive for toiletry items and used purses to give to mutual ground, the shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- The **Social Studies National Honor Society** collected donations and food to create meal baskets for local families in our school district. These baskets included all the food necessary for a large family holiday meal and a gift card to a local grocer for a meat/refrigerated portion of the meal.
- Our **GHS Marketing class** will be presenting a check from the Pizza Challenge to the Thirst Project, as chosen by the students in the class.
- The **GHS Student Council** went shopping and provided almost \$3,000 in gifts for families in need in our school.
- The **GHS FCCLA** donated household supplies to the Lazarus House.
- The **GHS PLP** (Peer Leadership Program) hosted and organized Cocoa Cram to provide an opportunity to study for finals with cocoa, treats and therapy dogs. They helped the SADD club with Red Ribbon Week by volunteering and organizing a food drive for the Food Pantry at Chapel Street Church.

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- The **GHS Child Development class** and **Little Vikings PreSchool** collected 95 canned goods that were donated to a local food pantry.
- The **Educators Rising Club** collected 2,250 books for Bernie's Book Bank.
- The **GHS Speech Team** volunteered their time and collected donations for the Batavia Access Toy Drive this holiday season.
- The **Girls Soccer Program** assisted with the Batavia Access Toy Drive, and made fleece tie blankets that were donated to Marklund Hyde Center in Geneva for kids and adults with development disabilities.
- The **GHS Instructional Program students** and staff rang the Salvation Army bell for the 15th year in a row.
- **Two GHS Staff members** are the co-chairs of the Batavia Access Toy Drive. They service families in Batavia and Batavia Township. This year they serviced over 120 families and around 550 children who received toys, books, games, a puzzles, hats, gloves or mittens. They were assisted this year by Megan Owens, soccer coach and teacher, Holly Heinrich, teacher, Kathy McDonald, GHS receptionist, Kelly Hesselbaum, social worker (and her students), Janet Meeks and Ame Kazmer, teachers (and their students).
- The **GHS faculty, staff and administration** contribute to a Holiday Giving fund every year. This year the contributions were donated to the Lazarus House and the Geneva Community Chest.

I am sure there were other projects that I'm not aware of. I am extremely proud to be associated with such generous and giving students and adults at Geneva High School.

Please read the rest of this "Viking Vessel" for lots of important and helpful information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (630) 463-3805 or at trogers@geneva304.org.

Sincerely,

Tom Rogers, Principal

Geneva Community High School

Geneva HS Tiekings



GHS Personal Learning Choices (PLC) on Thursdays

Second Semester: January thru May 2020

Every Thursday will begin with a PLC period, which stands for Personal Learning Choices. This period will begin at 7:40 and will last until 8:25. Buses will run on the same schedule as they normally do. First hour will then begin at 8:30 with slightly shortened periods for the remainder of the day. The school day will still conclude at 2:45.

During the PLC period, a variety of opportunities will exist for students to enrich their learning, collaborate with their peers, receive extra help on assignments in various tutoring centers, and participate in different activities. In addition to these choices, there will be some required sessions for specific groups and grade levels held during the PLC time. Attendance will be taken at these mandatory sessions and consequences will be issued for unexcused absences. The dates of these required sessions as well as additional information are included in this document.

Personal Learning Choices available each week:

Math Tutoring	EE134	Study Hall	Library
Writing Center	A101	Study Hall & Breakfast	Cafeteria
World Language Tutoring	A107	Silent Study Hall	A105
Science Tutoring	1E216	Open Gym Basketball (open to all)	Contest Gym
PLC Test Makeup Center	CC154	PE Makeups	Weight Room
Technology Help Desk	Library Office	Detention	EE193

Required and Optional PLC opportunities January-May 2020

WHEN?	WHO?	WHERE?	WHAT?
January 9 th , 2020	All Juniors	Auditorium	Required: PSAT score interpretation and how to prepare for the April SAT. Please bring your charged computer.
January 16 th , 2020	All students	Community Room	Optional: Interested in test driving a career? Attend this session to learn more about the Job Shadowing Program offered through the GHS Career Center. This session will cover the details and how to get started!
	All students	Commons	Optional: Stop by the Commons for free hot chocolate and a chance to win an Amazon gift card at the "Chocolate is Hot, Bullying is Not" anti-bullying event sponsored by the DECA Club.
	Freshmen & Sophomores	Counseling Office	Optional: Drop in Questions & Answers about course selections for next year. Stop by and ask any questions that you have!
January 23 rd , 2020	All Freshmen	Auditorium	Required: Signs of Suicide, Part 1
	All Juniors	Community Room	Optional: Information session about the Senior Internship. All juniors are invited to learn about how this course can help them senior year in their career search and provide great opportunities for the future!
January 30 th , 2020	Enrich & Empower students	Auditorium	Required: Regular Meeting
	Freshmen & Sophomores	Counseling Office	Optional: Drop in Questions & Answers about course selections for next year. Stop by and ask any questions that you have!
February 6 th , 2020	NO PLC TODAY due to Young Hearts for Life Heart Screening. School begins at 7:40.		



February 13 th , 2020	All Sophomores	Various – will be posted	Required: Career Panels – Listen to a panel of professionals as they speak about their careers and the advice they have for GHS students. An email will be sent to you in January asking which specific career sessions you would like to attend.
	Juniors & Seniors	Various – will be posted	Optional: Career Panels – Listen to a panel of professionals as they speak about their careers and the advice they have for GHS students. An email will be sent to you in January asking which specific career sessions you would like to attend.
February 20 th , 2020	All Sophomores	Various – will be posted	Required: Career Panels – Listen to a panel of professionals as they speak about their careers and the advice they have for GHS students. An email will be sent to you in January asking which specific career sessions you would like to attend.
	Juniors & Seniors	Various – will be posted	Optional: Career Panels – Listen to a panel of professionals as they speak about their careers and the advice they have for GHS students. An email will be sent to you in January asking which specific career sessions you would like to attend.
February 27 th , 2020	NO PLC TODAY due to half day Parent Conferences. School begins at 7:40.		
March 5 th , 2020	Regular PLC Choices		
March 12 th , 2020	Enrich & Empower students	Auditorium	Required: Regular Meeting
March 19 th , 2020	All Juniors	Various	Required: Signs of Suicide, Part 2
March 26 th , 2020	All Juniors	Community Room	Optional: Naviance Tools. Join us as we outline all of the career resources Naviance has to offer. Please bring your charged computer.
April 9 th , 2020	All Juniors	Auditorium	Required: Countdown to College/Post HS Planning
April 16 th , 2020	Enrich & Empower students	Auditorium	Required: Regular Meeting
April 23 rd , 2020	All Seniors	Auditorium	Required: Senior Class Meeting regarding Graduation
	Sophomore last names: A-Binetti Close-Downing Gervino-Hellstrom Sorensen-Liamanadi Migo-Pagonis Riani-Slagle Twitty-Youman	Band Room EK269 Choir Room Orchestra Room J245 B126 Community Rooms	Required: College & Career Research Orientation. How do I narrow down my choices for a college major and potential careers? Please bring your charged computer.
April 30 th , 2020	Sophomore last names: Blade-Clark Drexler-Gartrell Herdigon-Kelly Lohdell-Meyer Pantano-Randi Sofiak-Turnbull	EK269 Choir Room Orchestra Room J245 B126 Community Rooms	Required: College & Career Research Orientation. How do I narrow down my choices for a college major and potential careers? Please bring your charged computer.
May 7 th , 2020	All Juniors & Seniors	Centennial Gym	Required: Spring Safety Presentation
May 14 th , 2020	All Seniors	Cafeteria	Optional: Senior Celebration Pancake Breakfast. All seniors are welcome and are encouraged to wear their college or career-related attire.
May 21 st , 2020	All Freshmen, Sophomores, & Juniors	Various	Required: Locker Clean Out and Textbook Return (students may also return books after finals)
May 28 th , 2020	NO PLC TODAY due to End-of-Semester Assessments. School begins at 7:40.		

Please note that additional presentations and options may be added to this schedule; any such changes will be communicated to students and parents, and the most updated copy of this schedule will always appear on the GHS website. There are a few Thursdays, such as half days and final exam weeks that PLCs do not meet; these dates are noted on the PLC schedule. Additional information regarding PLCs at Geneva High School is available on the Geneva High School website.

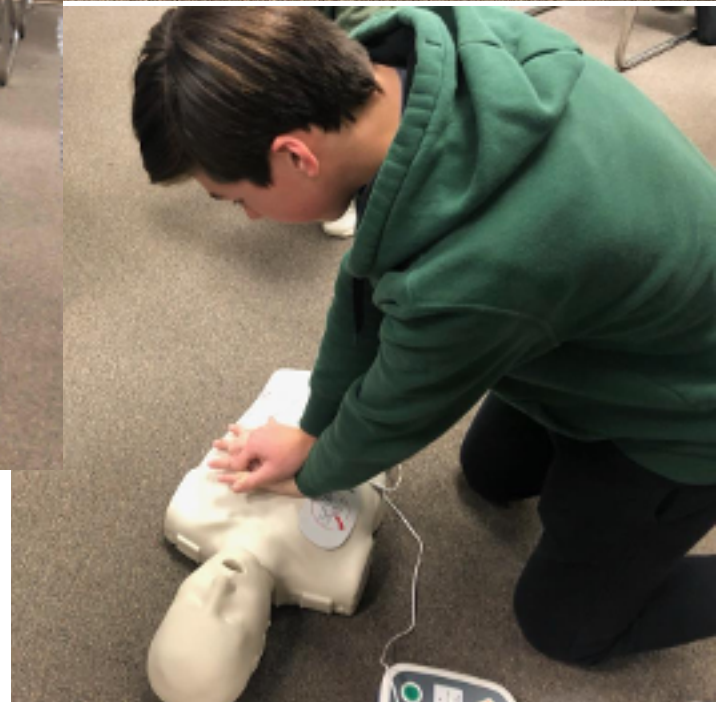
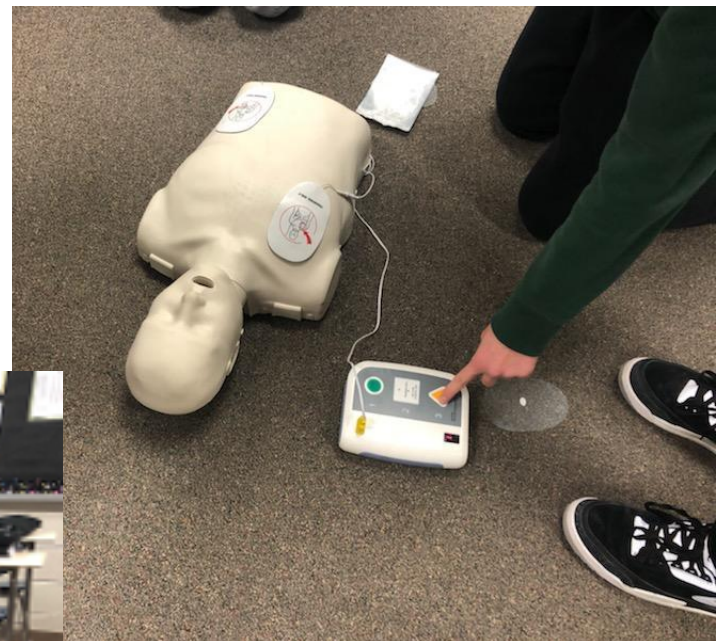
Updated 1/2/20

Sophomore Health Class

It is an exciting time in sophomore health. The students are getting certified by the American Heart Association in adult, child, infant CPR, AED and basic first aid.

The certification takes approximately two weeks of practice. They practice effective compressions and breaths. CPR consists of 30 compressions and 2 breaths for every age level. The depth and hand placement do change depending on age. They practice on adult manikins as well as infant manikins. They learn how to handle conscious and unconscious choking.

One of the most important components they learn is using an AED. During the first aid portion, they practice many other skills such as epi-pens and stopping bleeding. The certification is good for two years and they will leave this course with a course completion card from the American Heart Association.



Notes From the Deans' Office

- Second semester parking was due December 20th . Parking fees must be paid prior to parking in the assigned lot. New parking assignments began January 6th. Students risk losing their spot if the fee isn't paid.
- Please remember to check the PLC calendar for second semester.
- Please ask for medical notes when you child visits the doctor, dentist, or orthodontist. We will code the absence as medical and it will not count against the attendance totals.

Geneva Girls Basketball State Farm Player of the Week



The Player of the Week award recognizes Geneva players who have made an outstanding contribution to that week's girls' basketball games and demonstrated the ideals of the Viking Girls Basketball program. The State Farm Player of the Week award is made possible by the donation from Agent Bill Nelson of commemorative basketballs custom-printed for the Vikings' 2019-2020 season. Nelson, a resident of Geneva, has been an agent in St. Charles since 1997. To learn more, visit www.billnelsonagency.com.

Week 1 (Dec 2)

VIKINGS SWEEP THANKSGIVING TOURNAMENT; PALMER NAMED INAUGURAL STATE FARM PLAYER OF THE WEEK

The Geneva Vikings Girls Basketball team had at least five reasons to be thankful this Thanksgiving. They won all five of their games at the Burlington Central Thanksgiving Tournament, including a tight one against their host and top competitor from last season Burlington Central. A major contributor to their great season start was junior guard Kate Palmer. Palmer, who wears #3, averaged 15.6 points, five steals per game and 3.4 rebounds in the Burlington Central Thanksgiving Tournament. For her efforts, Palmer was chosen as the very first State Farm Player of the Week for Geneva Girls Basketball by the girls varsity basketball coaches. It also earned her a spot on host Burlington Central's All-Tournament team.

"Kate is coming off a tremendous sophomore season, earning herself all-conference and all-area honors in her first year on varsity last year," commented Geneva Head Coach Sarah Meadows after the game. "She put in the work this summer to get better in all areas of her game."

Meadows presented Palmer with a custom 2019-2020 Player of the Week basketball.



Geneva Girls Basketball

State Farm Player of the Week

Week 2 (Dec 9)

BLACKMORE HITS MAJOR FREE THROW MILESTONE AND EARNS STATE FARM PLAYER OF THE WEEK HONOR

Capping off a two-game week scoring 13 and 23 points respectively, guard and forward Lindsay Blackmore continues to add to an amazing career at Geneva High School. Blackmore hit her 1,000th point at the free throw line during Saturday's win against Wheaton Warrentville South High School. Lindsay started the week with 13 points and six rebounds during the team's winning game against Sycamore High School on Thursday. Blackmore, who wears #32, was chosen as the second regular-season State Farm Player of the Week for Geneva Girls Basketball by the girls' varsity basketball coaches.



"Lindsay's athleticism at the point of our diamond press really disrupts other teams," declared Geneva Head Coach Sarah Meadows after the game. "She is the leader of our team. What she does, everyone follows. It is fun to watch!" Meadows presented Blackmore with a custom 2019-2020 Player of the Week basketball.

Week 3 (Dec 18)

THREE IS LUCKY NUMBER FOR GENEVA FORWARD WROBEL WHO WAS NAMED THIRD STATE FARM PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Zosia Wrobel is stepping into her own this season on the basketball court. The Geneva sophomore sank three 3-pointers during last Saturday's conference match-up against St. Charles North on the Sears Centre's longer court. Wrobel, who wears #12, came up huge for her team scoring 16 total points in Geneva's eighth straight win. As a result, she was chosen as the third regular-season State Farm Player of the Week for Geneva Girls Basketball by the girls' varsity basketball coaches.

"Zosia has come in much stronger and is just maturing as a player after putting in the extra work this summer," commented Geneva Head Coach Sarah Meadows after the game. "We told her it was go time this year and she has owned that, doing a nice job on both ends of the court." Meadows presented Wrobel with a custom 2019-2020 Player of the Week basketball.





The Senior Breakfast is six months away, but planning has already begun! Although the event is sponsored by the PTO, the venue, catering, A/V equipment rental and other costs add up quickly. To keep the breakfast affordable for our students at just \$5.00 per ticket, we are asking for donations from our families to offset some of the cost.

If you would like to make a donation through the Webstore, [click here](#), or go to geneva304.org, select Webstore, and search for Senior Breakfast Donations. If you prefer to donate by check, please send your donation to the GHS Main Office in an envelope marked "Senior Breakfast Donation."

Ticket sales will begin online in April and sold during lunch periods in May. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Senior Breakfast Committee Members. Thank you for supporting the Senior Class of 2020!

Jennifer Main: jenmain@sbcglobal.net

Jennifer Smith: jenniferlsmith321@gmail.com

Amy Fuller: amyfuller75@gmail.com

Maria O'Keeffe: maria.okeeffe@edelman.com

Candy Bengson: pcbengson@gmail.com

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GHS Presents:
COLLEGE NIGHT

Hosted by the Counseling & Advising Department

6:30-8:30PM

Geneva High School

January 29, 2020

An event for sophomore and junior students and parents to learn about everything college!

Representatives from Butler University, Eastern Illinois University, University of Kentucky, North Central College and Waubensee Community College will be in attendance to share their expertise.

We hope you can join us!

Geneva High School PTO

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Geneva High School

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Send photos, announcements,
and news
to the Viking Vessel
Email vikingvessel@gmail.com
by the 15th of each month.