

GMS/GHS Board Report September 2025

Middle School & High School Board Update - We've had a busy start to the 2025-26 school year!

READ Act Compliance

Sally Weidt, Literacy Lead contracted via NESC, was in our building recently to work with multiple staff via direct meetings and classroom observations. She met with middle school special education staff, observed and met with our 6th grade teachers, as well as some of our High School English/Language Arts teachers. She will continue to work with our staff as we implement the READ Act.

Field Trips Taken

Our 5th grade classes took their annual field trip to Camp Bluewater last week. Students love this trip and have numerous opportunities to build community and engage in healthy risk taking challenges that encourage them to grow and develop adaptability & resiliency.

Our seniors recently attended a college fair in Grand Rapids. They were able to interact with everyone from college and trade school representatives to recruiters from the armed forces. They also had a chance to learn about financial aid for postsecondary education and meet with advisors from the area. Students reported once again having a great experience with this brief, but impactful experience.

Mr. Potter traveled with his forestry students to the Future Forest Stewards Event at the North Star Expo and Itasca County Harvest Site. They were able to learn about heavy equipment management, connect with forestry careers professionals, and have an overall exceptional experience learning about forestry and related careers.

On Wednesday, September 17, students participated in Youth Mental Health Day at the Discovery Center. The event provided an important opportunity for students to learn about mental health, practice coping strategies, and connect with local resources available in our region. It was a meaningful day of learning and support for our students.

Prepared for First Staff Inservice

We plan to make the most of our first staff inservice day next week with our revamped calendar this year having removed PLC time on Wednesday and now allowing us three full days to work on Professional Development with certified staff. After a brief staff meeting to start the day, staff will engage in using last year's MCA data and Fastbridge testing data from the past few weeks to reflect on student reading levels and related needs for successful classroom instruction. Our NESC literacy lead Sally Weidt will be on hand to assist staff with this evaluation and to suggest appropriate strategies for implementation to support our students where gaps exist. In the afternoon, members of our Instructional Leadership Team will be working with staff on implementing our ***Portrait of a Graduate***, focusing specifically on how all members of our teaching faculty can help students develop skills around citizenship and collaboration across all of our content areas & classrooms. We'll conclude the day with a focus on planning for Indigenous People's Day and making connections to honor American Indian students and people groups in all of our learning spaces.

Instructional Items

The Tech Math course is off to a strong start, with students applying foundational math skills like fractions and measurement to real-world career areas. We began with forestry, attending the Future Forest Stewards event and using concepts such as trigonometry, unit conversions, and statistics to calculate wood volume and conduct a mock timber inventory. As the course continues, we'll expand into other high-demand fields like construction, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and automotive, connecting math to hands-on applications and employability. A key need moving forward is bringing in more local experts to share their knowledge and strengthen the link between classroom learning and industry practice.

Our student broadcasting class has completed two shows so far this school year, with each broadcast highlighting both school culture and student voice. Weekly themes have included an *Ojibwe Word of the Week* alongside focuses such as **Respect the Vibe** (respect and social awareness), **Flex Your Grit** (adaptability and resilience), and **Brainstorm Boost** (creativity and innovation). Themes have been chosen to align with SEL standards. It has been a joy to watch students take ownership of the program and let their personalities shine. Special thanks to Sue Oien, Brandon Trybovich, and Megan O'Toole for their work behind the scenes to make these broadcasts possible.

Homecoming Underway

We are in the midst of homecoming week...always one of the best at GHS! Our pep club, under the direction/leadership of Adrianna Goodrich, has selected a theme of Raiders in Wonderland, a spin off of Alice in Wonderland. In line with the theme, there was a croquet tournament held Monday night in Longyear Park & last evening an "Alice in Wonderland" themed escape room in our multi-purpose room. There is an annual favorite in the "Beefcake Volleyball" game happening tonight in the Karen Tomberlin gym. We'll have a homecoming parade tomorrow afternoon featuring floats from each of the classes and some student groups. Finally, the week will culminate with our coronation on Friday morning and the homecoming game being played Friday evening in Nashwauk.

Activities Fair

Greenway High School recently hosted its 2nd Annual Activities Fair, giving students the opportunity to explore the wide variety of clubs, organizations, and athletic programs available. From art club, robotics, music, theater, and 4H to football, volleyball, golf, track, cross country, and more, students were able to learn about ways to get involved, build connections, and discover new interests. We are proud to offer so many opportunities for students to engage beyond the classroom and find their place to shine at GHS.

Fall Sports Updates

Our Raider Volleyball team is having an excellent season to this point. They won our home John Peterson tournament earlier in the month, went 3-1 in a tournament at Crosby-Ironton, and had a 13-3 entering this week. Senior Ava Johnson recently had an outstanding career moment, securing her 1,000th kill in a match at home vs. Chisholm. Our Titan Football team won at home to start the season against Hinckley-Finlayson and had a gritty road win over Crosby-Ironton in Week 3. The two wins in four weeks make for the first multi-win season we've had and the team has played with excellent heart and tenacity to this point. Our GNK Cross Country teams continue to have strong seasons, competing well in numerous big meets and beating scores of bigger schools. In particular, our girls team continues to maintain a top-5 state ranking and was recently in the top-15 of the Maroon Race at the Roy Griak Invitational hosted by the University of Minnesota.

Activities Ticketing

The GoFan ticketing platform has been a successful addition to this point in the year. Ticket takers have grown accustomed to the system and students, staff, and even the majority of our seniors are now used to using their passes to attend both football and volleyball games this Fall. While we have a "cashless preferred" ticketing policy, and we are still allowing cash ticket sales, but to this point about 2/3 of sales event after event have shifted to electronic ticketing and sales.

GMS/GHS Students of the Month

5-Liam Finken
6-Charlotte Smith
7-Kyleigh Stram

8-Indigo Bergman
9-Nicholas Daoust
10-Rowan Boorman

11-Johnathan Stolp
12- Jenise Smith