



GLOBAL EXPERIENCE
MAGNET SCHOOL

October 8th, 2024

Introducing Our Speakers



Hello! My name is Mairi. I have been attending GEMS since the 6th grade. I am an active participant in NHS, Student Council, and other school clubs.



My name is Atlas. I've been attending GEMS for 5 years. I am in Student Council and Ceramics Club. I love researching math and science related topics.

Introducing Our Speakers



My name is Ayla and I've been at GEMS since 9th grade. I attend Student Council, Ski Club, and other school activities.



My name is Rayanna Davis. I have been attending GEMS since the 6th grade. I am apart of Student Council/President, Ski Club, Volleyball, Soccer and Track.

New Additions To GEMS

Principal: Mrs. Curley-Colon

Social Studies teacher: Dr. Gold-Thomas

Mathematics teacher: Ms. Carter

Special Education: Dr. Lee and Ms. Cox



GEMS College Road Trip

Follow-up from last year: GEMS high school students had an incredible opportunity to visit 7 different colleges throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. This experience allowed students to expand their understanding of the diverse range of colleges and universities available.



GEMS College Road Trip

This year: GEMS students in grades 9-12 will have the chance to travel and visit colleges along the East Coast once again. A student survey was conducted to identify which colleges students are most interested in, with early results suggesting a focus on New England schools. The GEMS College Road Trip is unique because the colleges we visit are chosen by the students, with votes tallied and scored. To prioritize those closer to graduation, votes from 11th and 12th graders carry more weight than those from 9th and 10th graders.

GEMS Road Trip!!!

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Attention 9th-12th Graders:

We're excited to announce that we're starting the process of planning our college road trip, and we want to visit the schools you want to see! Please fill out the Google Classroom form to share which colleges you'd like to visit. Since this will be an East Coast trip, you can choose schools from Maine down to Maryland and Washington, D.C. (Please **do not** include schools in Connecticut, as we're planning day trips for those.)

Let your voice be heard and help us plan an amazing college tour!

This form is automatically collecting emails from all respondents. [Change settings](#)

Name *

Short answer text

Current Grade *

- 9th
- 10th
- 11th
- 12th

What are your top five colleges that you want to see? Be sure to number your choices, and write the name of the college, the city, and the state. *

You can name anywhere from Maine to Maryland. No Connecticut schools!

Long answer text

Newly Designed Technology and eSports Room



LEVELING UP: GEMS LAUNCHES ESPORTS PROGRAM

By Jeff Gillberto
GEMS Technology Teacher and
eSports Coach

During the 2022-2023 school year, Global Experience Magnet School received state grant funds through the Regional School Choice Office (RSCO) to enhance after-school programming and athletics at the school. With these initial planning funds, GEMS launched a shortened spring program to explore students' interests in various sports and enrichment activities. The insights gained during this trial paved the way for significant investments for the 2023-2024 year, allowing GEMS to expand its ski pro-



gram, upgrade fitness equipment and add multiple after school sports. These funds also allowed the school to plan and construct the highly anticipated eSports room.

The newly renovated eSports room took over a year to plan and was built over the summer months. When students returned to school this year, they were excited about what they found. GEMS eSports room received a full upgrade, featuring new furniture, LED lighting, reworked electrical systems, and 12 high-performance gaming PCs. Additionally, the room was equipped with an Xbox Series X, a PlayStation 5, and multiple Nintendo Switches. The new space will also serve as the

school's Technology classroom. Equipment for eSports will be utilized and integrated into technology curriculum, allowing GEMS to expand its technology education offerings.

"To see all the planning and work put into this program come to life at GEMS is amazing. Students are extremely interested and we are currently at capacity for eSports. I am excited to see the benefits for our students moving forward" said Principal Laura Curley-Colon.

The addition of eSports at GEMS allows students a unique opportunity to develop essential skills that go beyond gaming. eSports fosters critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, and adaptability, all of which are key compo-

ponents of the Bloomfield Portrait of a Graduate. By engaging in competitive gaming, students learn to analyze situations quickly, strategize with their teammates, and adapt to changing environments—skills that will benefit them in both their academic and professional settings. These attributes make eSports a valuable addition to GEMS, aligning perfectly with our commitment to preparing students for success in a rapidly evolving world.

Currently, students in grades 6 through 12 are competing against each other in games like Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, Rocket League, Mario Kart 8, NBA 2K, and Minecraft. The school plans to expand the program to include competitions against other schools, both within Connecticut and across the country shortly. As the program grows, the school also hopes to introduce additional games, including Madden Football, Valorant, and even online chess.

"eSports at GEMS has quickly become one of our most popular and impactful programs and we look forward to seeing it continue to grow," said Rich Michaud, GEMS Intramural and Athletic Advisor.

As GEMS expands the eSports program, the school remains dedicated to fostering student growth through new opportunities and advanced technology. The introduction of eSports highlights GEMS's commitment to preparing students for success in both digital and real-world environments. With exciting plans ahead, the future of after-school programming at GEMS is bright.

Student Athletes Participating at **BHS**

—Volleyball



Cross-country



Football



Open Gym



Soccer

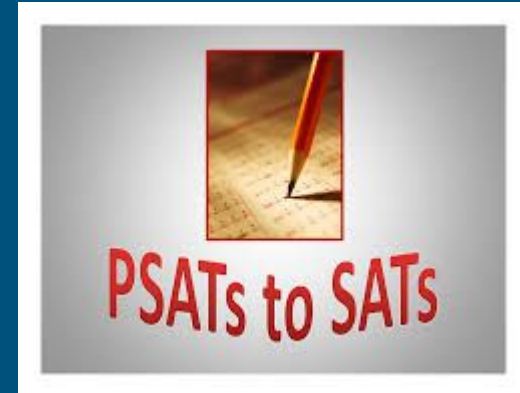


New Ski Gear



Upcoming Events

- SAT/PSAT October 23rd
- 6th Grade going to the CT Science Center
- 7th Grade visiting the Basketball Hall of Fame
- Voting for student council representatives



Thank you!

