



Best Buddies ...

By: The Granby Chapter of Best Buddies



What are we all about?

The mission of Best Buddies is to establish a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).



GMHS Best Buddies History

- The school originally had a Best Buddies Club
- Last year, we decided to make a Best Buddies Chapter with the international organization
- Amelia and Chelsea were the founding members and subsequently made President and Vice President
- They recruited their friends and peers to be peer buddies for the group and so our journey began...



Different groups we work with

Leo Club:

- Junior Lions club
- It is a community service club that puts on a Christmas Party that we went to



Cheerleading:

- Varsity sport
- Occasionally cheers for Unified Basketball
- Jake, one of our buddies, is a cheerleader as well

Unified Basketball:

- Joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team
- Many of our buddies are on the team



Apple Picking

Location:

- Clark Farms

What we did:

- Picked apples
- Ate apple cider donuts and apple cider
- Played corn hole



Halloween Party

Location:

- Mr. Gotberg's classroom at the high school

What we did:

- Carved pumpkins
- Played blookits
- Listened to Halloween music
- Pumpkin scavenger hunt
- Ate candy

Friendsgiving

Location:

- Cooking classroom at the high school

What we did:

- Cooked the food
- Listened to music
- Ate a Thanksgiving meal along with dessert



Chapter Holiday Party

Location:

- Mrs. Hects room and the hallway

What we did:

- Painted ornaments
- Decorated a tree
- Ate cookies



Leo Club Holiday Party

What we did:

- Danced to Holiday music
- Saw a magic show
- Ate lunch and ice cream
- Santa visited
- Opened presents

St. Patrick Day Party

Location:

- Mrs. Davids room at the high school

What we did:

- Listened to traditional irish music
- Went on a scavenger hunt to find our 'pots of gold'
- Ate pizza and treats



Bowling

Location:

- Spare Time in Windsor Locks

What we did:

- Bowled
- Ate dinner



Best Buddies Enchanted Ball

Location:

- Aqua Turf, Southington CT

What we did:

- Ate lunch and dessert
- Attended an awards ceremony
- Danced on the dance floor
- Took pictures in the photo booth





Future Events

- Spring Egg Hunt at the high school on 4/5
- Annual Friendship Walk Fundraiser at Dunkin' Donuts Park on 5/1
- Best Buddies End of Year Celebration at Antonio's on 5/15
- Best Buddies Meet and Greet at the high school with the incoming buddies on 5/17



Future Goals and Next Steps

- Recruit more underclassmen to the club as peer buddies
- Spread the message about the chapter in the school community
- Weekly activities



Thank You!

Any Questions?