



GEORGIA ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
4416 Ethan Allen Highway  
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478

Principal pK—4  
Principal 5—8

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September. 22, 2021

Dear GEMS Families, It was another great week observing our students and staff at work. Outdoor learning activities, middle schoolers supporting our Elementary students, and opportunities for children and adolescents that are outside the norm. We have seen the resiliency of all, the extreme efforts to explore and try new things, individual growth both academically and socially/emotionally, while most importantly, seeing laughter and smiles. Our students are amazing!

Below are reminders and events that are upcoming:

**Substitutes Needed!** - Our school has a **CRITICAL** need for substitute teachers this year. If you are able to substitute, even if only on a limited basis, please contact Jen in the front office! **524-6358** or at **[jfollensbee@fwsu.org](mailto:jfollensbee@fwsu.org)**

**Middle School Morning Drop-off** - We have opened the lower lot as a Middle School drop-off point for families dropping students in grades 5 through 8 only. Students will need to walk up the sidewalk the length of the building to enter the Middle School Entrance. Families with students in both elementary and middle school should continue to follow the drop-off loop. **Students should not be dropped off at this space until 7:50!**

**Busing:** As we move further into the school year, we want to remind parents that our busing option is available to families. Many of our buses are operating with far fewer students, especially in the mornings. If your needs change, please contact the front office so we can make and communicate changes to Terricel and assign specific seats to students and family members.

**Early Dismissal on Wednesdays-** The following dates have been set for early dismissal from school @ 1:00. Thank you for your flexibility in your family's daily schedule. This allows us to look deeper into student assessments and to plan accordingly for every individual providing them "What they need" Here are the dates for early dismissal: **09/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/08, 01/12, 01/26, 02/09, 03/09, 03/23, 04/06, 05/04, 05/18**

**Middle School Lockers:** As we have gotten into the routine of using lockers efficiently, we will begin to allow students to lock their lockers starting on Oct 1st. Students that bring their own locks from home will need to bring the lock to Mrs. Wieland to keep a record of their combination in the event we need to access a locker for safety reasons. Please read the section Lockers in our school handbook.

**School Pictures:** Order forms have been sent home this week.

Tuesday, 09/28	Wednesday, 09/29	Thursday, 09/30	Friday, 10/01
Pepin AM	Farmer	Howrigan	Dattilio
Sweet AM	Hendrickson	Morse	Matas
DeVarney AM	Heth	King	Moulton
Leclair	Sullivan	Crepeau	Young
Lee	Lambert	Mrs. Demar	
MacKenzie	Sikorsky	Guralnick	
Alarcon	Mandigo	St. Peter	
Mr. Demar	Clark	Gray	
Hardy	Sarnowicz	Pepin PM	
Coppenrath	Lagace-Hazeltine	Sweet PM	
	Metayer	DeVarney PM	

**Open House Curriculum Night:** Open house is for Parents/Guardians only (No kids) and we require all to sign in & masks no matter your vaccination status to keep us safe. The open house will start at 6:00 p.m. in the library and end by 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Grade	Date
7th Grade	Mon., Sept 27th

Thank you to all parents who have already attended this week!

**Health Updates:** FWSU School Nursing Newsletter [“What to do if your child feels sick”](#)

**GEMS Calendar: A Look Ahead**

Mon., Sept 27	Tues., Sept 28	Wed., Sept 29	Thurs., Sept 30	Fri., Oc1
<b>7/8 G Soccer and 7B Soccer Game</b> Home v Enosburg  <b>7th Grade Open House</b> (Library @ 6:00)	<b>Picture Day!</b>  <b>7/8 G Soccer and 8B Soccer Game</b> @ Sheldon	<b>Picture Day!</b>  <b>Early Release Day</b> (Dismissal @ 12:45)	<b>Picture Day!</b>  <b>Cross Country</b> @ St. A City <b>7B Soccer Game</b> Home v FNESU	<b>Picture Day!</b>  <b>5/6 G Soccer</b> Home v. Fairfield
Mon., Oct 4	Tues., Oct 5	Wed., Oct 6	Thurs., Oct 7	Fri., Oct7

Best,

Julie Conrad and Steve Emery  
Georgia Elementary and Middle School Principals