

GERMANTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

123 Main Street, Germantown, New York 12526-5338

August 25, 2022

Dear Germantown Elementary families,

Hello! I hope this letter finds you well and that your summer has been restful. We have been busy preparing for this Fall and are excited to welcome our learners back . I have outlined some significant things to note for the upcoming weeks to help smooth the transition from summer to the school year.

Superintendent's Conference Day / No School First Day of School / Early Dismissal / No CAP Tuesday, September 6th Wednesday, September 7th

PreK and K - 11:20 dismissal / Grades 1 - 12 11:25 dismissal

Elementary (PreK - 6) Open House

Tuesday, September 13th

AIS Parent Meeting 5:30; All Classrooms 6-7pm

Get to know our team this year 😊

We are excited to welcome many new and familiar faces to our team this year!

Casey Britton
CSE Teacher

Emma Brooks
Teresa Cavanaugh
Heather Christiana (Mabb)
PreK Teaching Assistant
Kindergarten Teacher

Annie Kane-Horrigan ENL Teacher

Lucy Henry PreK General Aide

Kristen Hoffman Grade 4 Teaching Assistant
Leah Martin Attendance Aide / Greeter
Micaela Morrison CSE Teaching Assistant
Kylie Pudney Grade 1 Teaching Assistant

Susan Schuhknecht Kindergarten Teaching Assistant

Jennifer Tanner Grade 4 AIS Teacher

Cheryl Werner Library Media Specialist / Long-term substitute

Sierra Wessel CSE Teaching Assistant

Arrival and Dismissal

Much like last year, we will open our front doors for arrival at 7:45 and ask that all students arrive no later than 8:00. If you are dropping off your child(ren) and need time to unbuckle students from car seats, we ask that you park in the parking lot to allow yourself that unhurried time. We always have staff at the front door to greet students and walk them into the building. Parents are asked to say their goodbyes at the entrance and our staff will be certain to help each child get to their classroom and meet their new friends

7:45am Doors open for student arrival.

7:45-8:00am Breakfast is available in the cafeteria for Grades 3 – 12. Breakfast will no longer

be served in the classrooms this year, except for our primary students.

For students not riding the school bus at dismissal, we ask families to form a vehicle queue along the Main Street entrance sidewalk. We will provide name cards to be placed on dashboards, so that we can radio for a student to be brought out to the car by one of our staff members. We ask all adults to remain in their cars while they wait for their child. Should you need to pick up a younger and older student, please park and walk up to the entrance for dismissal.

2:35 Pre K and K student released to families picking up.

2:40-2:55 Grades 1 – 6 students released to families picking up. Please have children picked up

no later than 3:00.

2:50-2:55 School buses depart.

Breakfast and Lunch

We will resume charging for meals this school year. Breakfast price is \$1.00, Elementary Lunch is \$2.00. I encourage you to visit our website for further information Food Services | Germantown Central School District (germantowncsd.org). Grades 3-12 are offered breakfast in cafeteria from 7:45-8am. PreK -2 students will have breakfast in the classroom, as in the past years.

CAP - Clipper After-School Program

Our after-school program, once again under the experienced direction of Mrs. Janet Crawford, is available to all district children at a reasonable cost. Information and registration forms may be found on our website (https://www.germantowncsd.org/). Completed applications may be sent to the attention of the elementary office.

Mental and Physical Health Curriculum

This school year, our PreK-4th grade students will continue their social emotional learning within their general classrooms. Their instruction will be delivered by our Social Worker, Mrs. Grzeskow (PK-2) and School Psychologist, Dr. Miller (3rd-4th). Our 5th and 6th grade students will receive the same course, but with Physical Health added. This instruction will be provided by our School Counselor, Mrs. Schassler, and our district's PE/Health teacher, Ms. Hapeman.

PTSA

Our PTSA is planning a robust calendar of student and family activities for this year, and we welcome your involvement in any way possible. Join our GCSPTSA Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/GCSPTSA/) to find out more about events and meeting dates.

Parent Portal and Current Information

We encourage you to visit the Parent Portal on our website. It will prompt you to update your contact information and will give you the opportunity to view your child's absences and report cards.



Safety Protocols

Safety planning is an on-going part of our work. We are currently installing new cameras around the building and exploring new initiatives to strengthen the safety of our children and staff. We will communicate new protocol as they occur. Our goal is always to keep our students and staff safe, while ensuring forward learning.

Again, I heartily welcome your conversation and positive input throughout this coming year. Let us always keep our students the primary focus of our work together.

Warmest Regards,

Beverly Meagher Elementary Principal

Germantown Central School District

2022-2023 Elementary School Goals

<u>District Goal 1</u>: Provide a Safe, Inclusive, Welcoming Environment for All:

Continue to implement the NY State Standards, District and School Safety Plans, Codes of Conduct, and the Dignity for All Students Act. By doing this, we will create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment that affirms the richness of all students, and empowers students as agents of the school community, while reducing barriers to full participation in district activities.

Elementary Goal: Integrate Mental Health resources to ensure the wellness of all school community members.

<u>District Goal 2</u>: Promote Community Engagement:

Continue to expand and improve communication with parents and community members, by increasing the use of social media channels and promoting respectful, proactive, interactive, and meaningful dialogue.

Elementary Goal: Communicate with transparency, consistency, and timeliness.

Elementary Goal: Grow community participation and outreach.

District Goal 3: Strengthen and Implementation of Innovative K-12 Curriculum:

Continue the development and implementation of an innovative curriculum that supports the NYS Learning Standards, GCSD Vision of Literacy, personalized learning, and includes a deep examination of the ongoing cultural and language diversity and represents multiple perspectives. This curriculum will engage students to think analytically and creatively in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and STEAM so that they are prepared for college, career, and global citizenship.

Elementary Goal: Prepare faculty for NYS Science and Social Studies Learning Standards

Elementary Goal: Prepare faculty for 2024 and beyond NYS 3-8 Math and ELA CBT testing

District Goal 4: Re-Establish Pre-Pandemic School Routines

Continue to modify organizational rules and procedures as may be required based on science, and medical necessity, with the goal of normalizing student routines and interactions. To do this, we will seek guidance from and collaboration with NYSED, NYSDOH, and CCDOH, and continue to apply our guiding principles of safety first, diversity of the program, equity, and transparent communication

Elementary Goal: Increase proficiency levels in both Reading and Math for all students PK-6.