



Green Wave Nation

December Newsletter

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"The Greenfield Public School District is a place where every child is supported on their path to success."

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Principal's Message

GHS Families!

We had a great time on the day before our Thanksgiving Day break, with our annual Turkey Trot and Lip Sync traditions, but with a new addition this year, watching our Unified Basketball team play against Frontier in another beautiful display of positive school culture as we all enjoyed this wonderful community event together! I was so proud of our students, both in the stands and on the court, and I look forward to this month as we continue to have opportunities to celebrate school spirit as we gear up for the winter break, and hopefully we'll see you out at one of our many upcoming events!

Thanks,
Mike

GPS Reading Challenge

Dear Green Wave Nation,

We're excited to announce the return of the Greenfield Public Schools (GPS) Reading Challenge, in partnership with the Springfield Thunderbirds! After last year's success, we're bringing it back from Thanksgiving through Tuesday, January 6, 2026, to continue inspiring our students to discover the joy of reading. This year's challenge again allows all GPS students to earn a free ticket to the Thunderbirds hockey game on Saturday, January 24, 2026!

How It Works

Students will receive reading logs before the Thanksgiving break. All that students need to do is read for 20 minutes a day, 20 times between Thanksgiving and January 6, 2026. Those who complete the challenge and submit their reading form to school on January 6, 2026, will earn a free ticket to the game.

Kick-Off Event: Turkey Trots with Boomer

On Wednesday, November 26, the Thunderbirds mascot, Boomer, will visit each school to help kick off this challenge.

Why This Matters

Encouraging a love of reading is a key priority for GPS. Improving literacy skills is at the heart of our district goals, and this partnership offers a fun and meaningful way to incentivize our students to build healthy reading habits.

Additional Details

- **Tickets:** To receive their free ticket, the student's name and parents' contact information must be legible on the reading form. Once forms are submitted, the Thunderbirds will reach out to families via the email provided with a link to purchase tickets. All students must be accompanied by at least one adult.
- **Transportation Support:** Building principals will be reaching out to families to determine transportation needs and provide aid, as necessary.

This is an incredible opportunity for our students to improve their literacy skills while enjoying the excitement of a live hockey game for free. Thank you for supporting this initiative and encouraging your students to participate. Let's get reading, Green Wave Nation!

Sincerely,

Stephen Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

[Info Sheet](#)

[Reading Log](#)

A reminder that I cannot give medications (including cough drops and most topical treatments) to students who have not returned their yearly health forms for 2025-2026. This was in the school packet sent home at the start of this school year. Please return this form ASAP if you have not already! Aside from giving me permission to treat students, this is the primary way we gather information about their health conditions and concerns. The school nurse should act as an extension of primary care providers; the more information we have on hand, the better picture we have of your child's health and the better care we can provide.

Asthma tends to get worse this time of year! If your child has asthma, please make sure they have an updated prescription and signed parental/guardian consent in the nurses office. An inhaler in a labeled box should be sent to the nurses office. Students with permission can self carry after a quick and painless review session with the nurse. Please email me at allmic1@gpsk12.org for consent forms. Thanks for your compliance with district and state policy!

Sickness policy: There is no longer a specific policy if you test positive for Covid. However, as in all cases, students are asked to stay home with fevers (100.4 or higher) until fever free for 24hrs without fever reducing medication. Masks are always available in the nurses office. If you are unsure about whether or not your student should come to school during any illness, you can always contact me.

I hope you have a safe and healthy holiday season!

Allyson Michal, RN- GHS School Nurse

allmic1@gpsk12.org

Office: 413-772-1350 ext 1137

Student Council

What a busy month for the student council. We held our lock-in on Friday, Nov 21-22. Students stayed up all night prepping for the pep rally, attending student-led mini workshops and doing a lot of self-reflection. The prep paid off and the pep rally was a smashing success. Thank you to all students and staff who helped with lip syncs or the unified basketball game.

December brings ugly sweaters, staff appreciation breakfast and volunteer opportunities. Students will be helping the cookie event at GMS, helping with Jingle Fest and planning the rally for Dec 23.

Congratulations to the winners of the lip sync

5th place - 8th grade

4th place - 11th grade

3rd place - 9th grade

2nd place - 10th grade

1st place - 12th grade



Key Club

Key Club ran a Food Drive for 2 weeks in November and was able to collect a huge number of items! Our guidance department helped coordinate getting the food to several GHS families for the Thanksgiving break. Key Club led the morning activities for our annual Turkey Trot including the race, games, hot cocoa, and raffle prizes. We have several service opportunities coming up in December including bell ringing and a family dinner for the Salvation Army, a gift wrapping station during Jingle Fest, and assisting with the Giving Back Together Toy Drive.

Athletics

Congratulations to Elderina Cecunjaian and Jack Laurie for achieving all state soccer honors. Congratulations!

Winter athletics starts Dec 1st. Check out Arbiterlive for all schedules! GO WAVE!

French Club

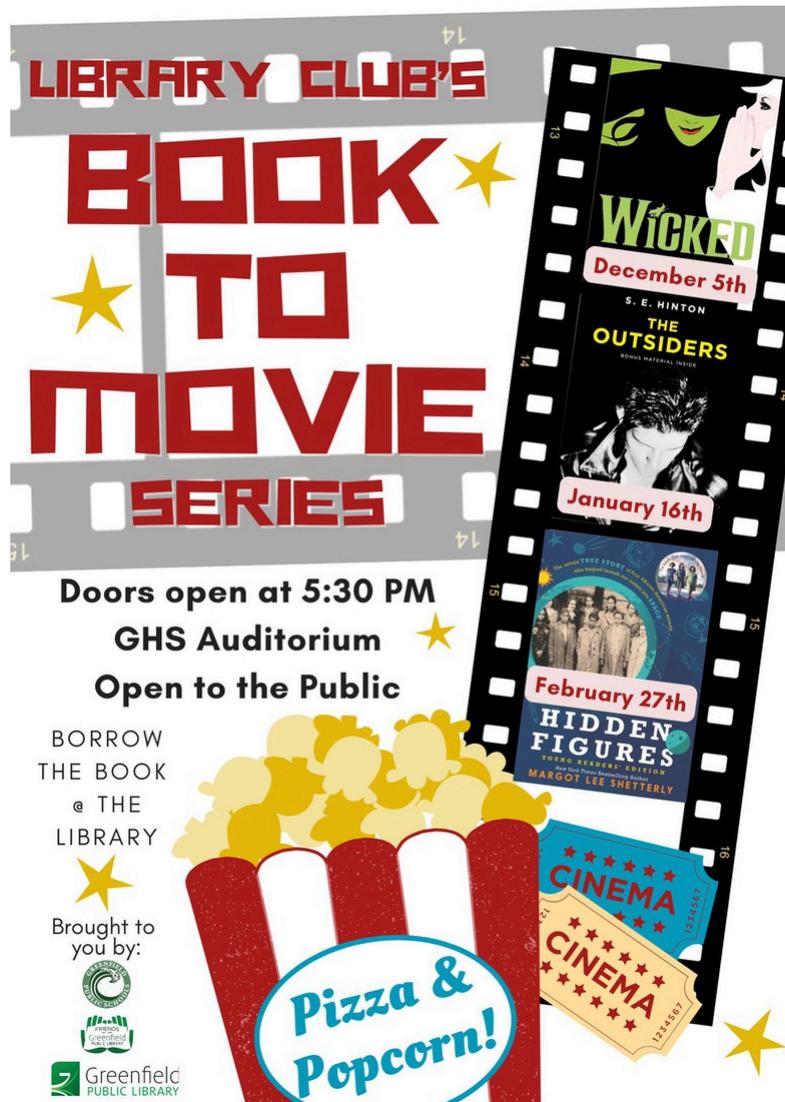
French Club Winter Coffeehouse will be this Thursday, December 4th from 6-8pm in the GHS auditorium. We welcome students, families, and community members to attend this talent show featuring performances from students and staff! Admission is \$5 for students and \$10 for adults and directly supports the French Club activities and our trip to France in April. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided with admission. We hope to see you there!

Drama Club

We had a successful run of three performances of *Nightfall: Stories by Edgar Allen Poe* in a black box format in mid November. Auditions are happening on December 15th for our spring play, the children's book classic, *The Secret Garden*. We hope to see more students audition for this family friendly presentation that will welcome the spring when we present it at the end of March.

Library Club

- Library Club is hosting a series of Book to Movie events again this year, starting this Friday, December 5th with *Wicked* (part 1). Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for pizza and popcorn and the movie will begin at 6 p.m in the GHS auditorium. The novel and graphic novel versions of the book are available at the library for anyone who would like to read along. This event is free and open to the public. Many thanks to Greenfield Public Library for co-hosting this event and generously providing pizza.



Library

Green Wave Reads' Reader of the Month: [Spencer Corbeil](#)

By Jessica Pollock, GHS Librarian

This month for Green Wave Reads, I spoke with Spencer, an 11th grader who loves horror and queer books. Spencer is a member of several clubs at GHS including Green Room's LARP and Gamesmithing, Spectrum, and Library Club. Spencer was a presenter at this year's Comic Con where he presented about sharks, something he learned to love when his grandmother introduced him to books on marine life and cryptids when he was young. He is currently reading *Bury Your Gays* by Chuck Tingle, which is a horror story where the main character, a Hollywood screenwriter, is pressured to kill off a gay character. When he refuses, he realizes he is in danger when his horror movie characters come to life. Spencer likes to read in his room or in the "weird corner in the library behind the booth." His favorite book of all time, *Nothing Tastes as Good* by Luke Dumas, hasn't been officially published yet as he read the "advanced readers copy." This thriller is about a guy who takes a new weight-loss drug that has "killer" side effects that include intense cravings

and lost of stretches of time. His least favorite book is *The Summer I Turned Pretty* because it seemed to him like a very basic premise with no real turning point, but he apologized to Mr. Leaper who apparently loves this book series. The teacher who had the most impact on Spencer's own reading was Mr. Brody who liked to read similar things to Spencer and gave him good recommendations. He said, "Mr. Brody got me into graphic novels even though I hated them originally." To close our highlight of Spencer, I will share the book he would most like to recommend to others: *Compound Fracture* by Andrew Joseph White, which he described as "a really good western thriller with trans representation." Thanks for being our Reader of the Month, Spencer, and keep reading!



AV Club

After a one year hiatus, AV Club is regrouping. We have 10 members. Meetings are once a week on Mondays from 2:15 to 3:15. So far students in the club are engaging in taking photos and video of school events.

Spectrum Club

After much deliberation, the Spectrum Club has adjusted its schedule to hold meetings every other Wednesday. The members have expressed greatest interest in crafting and social justice, and so we will be dedicating some time to being creative together, while also scoping out causes on the local, state, and national levels to see how we can best spend our energy. At our December 10th meeting, we plan to decorate windchimes and discuss fundraising.

Trivia Team (formally As Schools Match Wits)

We continue to practice twice a week during lunch in the fishbowl on Tuesday and Thursdays. We have several seniors for our matches but are looking for younger students to join. Our scheduled ASMW filming is on Saturday January 24th with the air date TBD.

Mosaic/Students of Color Club

The club has been meeting weekly on Thursdays and are getting to know each other. We held a group bonding meeting to create our new sign for our name "Mosaic". We are organizing members for the April dodge ball tournament and are planning another bonding meeting on December 18th in which we will be decorating cookies together.

Crochet Club

We will start our macrame plant hangers this Friday, Oct 31 in the Art Room 2007. All are welcome and there is no cost. Members of Art Club last year are welcome to join us and use the art supplies available. We hope to see you!

Artspace

Artspace has announced their arts programming for the fall with info available here:

[After School Arts Program](#)--THURSDAYS! Doors are open 2:15-5:15pm, for Teens 13-18yo

[Classes, events and workshops](#) Schedule

[Financial Support](#)--Artspace offers 50% discounts for folks who qualify.

Attendance Matters

Attendance and punctuality are extremely important to the success of our students, not only in school, but in society as a whole, and as we partner to help guide students as they prepare to be successful beyond their time with us, we know that being on time and ready to learn is a fundamental and well documented part of being successful in school and life. GHS took great strides forward last year with automated calls home, attendance letters, and parent meetings, and we'll continue to grow our practices to ensure we are effectively working with our students and their families in their attendance and punctuality success.

Greenfield Public Library

Teen Programs and Events

****Teen programs are intended for youth ages 13 - 20 ****

Wednesday Resources in the Teen Room, Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17, 2:30 - 4:30pm

Stop by the GPL Teen Room on Wednesday afternoons in December from 2:30 - 4:30 pm for a variety of teen-friendly resources including:

- **Youth Career Counselors from MassHire:** available to help you write a resume, practice interview skills, find a part time job or paid internship and answer any employment related questions.
- **Homework Help:** Need some help with schoolwork? Meet with kids from local high schools and get help on all kinds of subjects. Willing to stop in and tutor? Earn a gift card to Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters for your time!
- **After School Snacks:** Grab a slice of pizza and some fresh fruit while you're at it!
- We'll also have toiletries and hygiene supplies available from the Health Department.

Questions? Contact Teen Librarian Francesca at francesca.passiglia@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5120

This program, funded by The Library Initiative for Teens and Tweens, is free and intended for youth ages 13 - 20.

Oddly Satisfying Crafts, Friday, December 5, 12, 19, 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Stop by the Teen Room on Friday afternoons in December to relax and unwind after the school week and create a fun and oddly satisfying craft.

- December 5 - hand carved stamps
- December 12 - shrinky dinks
- December 19 - winter watercolors

Questions? Contact Teen Librarian Francesca at francesca.passiglia@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5120

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Getting to Know your Nervous System: a brief overview of neuro-diversity, Wednesday, December 10, 3:30-4:30pm, in the Makerspace

Join mental health experts from the Community Health Center of Franklin County on Wednesday, December 10 at 3:30 pm to discuss neuro-diversity in a safe and inclusive space. Participate in creative, interactive activities designed to help you to better understand your own feeling states: your current emotional and physiological conditions, such as feeling safe, anxious, or joyous.

*Pre-registration is required for this program: <https://greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/15751999>

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Teen Room Café, Thursday, December 11 and Monday, December 15, 2:30 - 4:30pm

Drop by the GPL's Teen Room on Thursday December 11 and Monday, December 15, from 2:30 - 4:30 pm for Teen Room Café.

The GPL Teen Room dims the lights and levels up on Café Days with cozy drinks and home baked pastries plus chill lounge music. Stop by to hang with friends, study, read or just take a break.

Questions? Contact Teen Librarian Francesca at francesca.passiglia@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5120

This program, sponsored by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library is free, and intended for youth ages 13 - 20.

Kick Off to Winter Break!, Tuesday, December 23, 11:30-2:30pm

Make a stop at Greenfield Public Library on Tuesday, December 23 between 11:30 am - 2:30 pm before you start your winter break. Check out a book and receive a special reading kit. Make a

quick craft in the teen room. Join the Mario Kart/Super Smash Bros tournament in the Community Room. Plus pizza!

This event is open to middle and high school aged youth.

Questions? Contact Teen Librarian Francesca at francesca.passiglia@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5120

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Winter Break in the Teen Room: Friday, December 26, Monday, December 29, Tuesday, December 30, Friday, January 2

Stop by the teen room to read, work on a puzzle, create with perler beads, build with cardboard and more. Hot cocoa will be served each day from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Questions? Contact Teen Librarian Francesca at francesca.passiglia@greenfield-ma.gov or call (413) 772-1544 x5120

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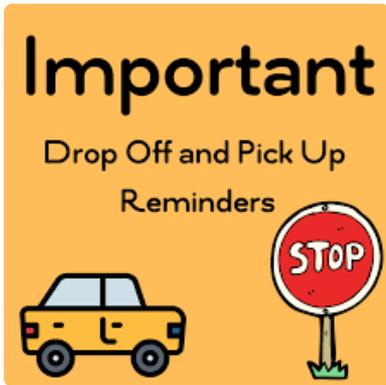
Yondr Cell Phone Pouches

The YONDR program will continue to be utilized at GHS again this year. In many districts across the state, this has not only been a very effective program, but has had many positive effects on the students and culture of the school. I'm excited about the positive outcomes we will have as a community this year, and we are committed to see this process be a success at GHS!

The basic rule is that cell phones/ear buds are to be **off and away during school hours**. Upon arriving at school, students will place their phone/earbuds in a YONDR pouch and retrieve their items as they leave for the day. If a student does not have a cell phone/earbuds on them, then they won't need a pouch, but please understand the policy and if a student is found with a phone/earbuds out during the school day, discipline measures will be continue to be enforced.

Drop off/ Pick up

Parent Reminder



Reminder that the Staff Parking lot is not a drop off zone.

Morning arrival:

- Students being bussed to school will be dropped off in the rear of the building.
- Students being transported by parents will be dropped off in the front of the building.

Afternoon Dismissal:

- Students being bussed home will get on the bus in the rear of the building.
- Students being picked up from school by their parents, will be picked up in the front of the building.

Clubs

Greenfield Public Library



Teen Room Policy

The staff of the Teen Room at the Greenfield Public Library strives to create a safe, respectful, warm, inviting and fun environment for young adults. The Teen Room represents the Library's effort

greenfieldpubliclibrary.org



Mike Browning

Mike is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

Mike Browning
Principal
[micbro1@gpsk12.org](mailto:micro1@gpsk12.org)

