

GASKILL PREP JUNE 2016 NEWS

Special points of interest:

- A/B DAY CALENDAR
- JUNE CALENDAR
- JUNE MENU

Inside this issue:

Mr. Frommert
Counseling Corner 2

8th Grade Celebration
Welcome Parents of
incoming 7th graders
From the Parent Group 3

From the Clinic
Parent of the Year
Summer School 4

Family Engagement Survey
Mrs. Englander 5

June 2016 News

Volume 1, Issue 1

HELLO FROM MRS. SMITH, PRINCIPAL

Here we are in the final month of the 2015 – 2016 school year! This has been a year of dedication and hard work from students, staff, and parents alike. As we begin to close the school year, I would like to share a few tidbits with you and your child:



WARM WEATHER DRESS CODE

Just a reminder regarding the District's dress code for students especially during the warmer months...

1. Footwear must be worn at all times. Certain footwear that poses a hazard will not be allowed such as flip flops and other open toe shoes. Socks with house shoes are not allowed.
2. Blouses, shirts and sweaters are to cover shoulders, back, chest and stomach.
3. Extremely brief garments such as spaghetti straps, tube tops, net tops, halter tops, and plunging necklines are not appropriate and may not be worn.
4. Sleeveless team jerseys cannot be worn without a tee - shirt with arms worn under it.
5. All dresses, skirts and shorts should be no more than three inches above the top of the knee when the student is in a standing position.



CONTINUING GASKILL PREP'S EXPECTATIONS

In addition, with the change in the weather, we are seeing some overall changes in students and their focus. At times, behavior and work habits are slacking --- and students appear to be ready for the summer break. Staff

and I have talked with students reminding them that we are looking for their best behavior in the classrooms, bus, and all areas of the school day. We expect all students to behave in a respectful and safe manner. We are proud of them and their accomplishments and encourage students to finish out their school year doing their best! Please take the time to remind your child that, although we are closing in on the end of another great school year, we are maintaining our high expectations for their behavior and are still requiring them to focus on academic tasks each and every school day. This will ensure that our children are on-task as instructional staff use instructional time to review important concepts from this year that they will need for next year.

Kudos To:

Our students who have worked hard not only academically but character-wise;

Our staff who are dedicated caring individuals and who nurture our students daily;

Our Parent Education Group who without them we could not provide students with special activities and 'fun'. They may be small in number but they make sure students are celebrated!!!;

*And a final Kudos goes to you.... **Parents!** Thank you for your support this year! Looking forward to the 2016 -17 school year.*

Summer Hours
Monday-Friday 8:30 A.M.—1:30 P.M.

Mrs. Smith, Principal



HELLO FROM MR. FROMMERT!

As this school year wraps up, I want to highlight that June 16th is the Regents Examination for Algebra students in my 2nd period class. Students can review using their binders and www.jmap.org. This website is a great resource for help with lessons, quizzes, and old exams to practice from.

Thanks for your support and contact me with any questions at dfrommert@nfschools.net

Washington, D.C. news

Thanks go out to students, parents, and staff members for an outstanding 8th grade trip (May 11-13). The kids were well behaved, as well as our fantastic chaperones...Mrs. Copelin, Mr. Speidel, Mrs. Schove, Mrs. Franke, Mrs. Roeser, Ms. Savard, Mrs. Schove, & Mrs. Melohusky, . Please note that next year's trip is right around the corner. There will be an informational meeting an hour before the school's open house (TBD) where the trip will be discussed and trip packets will be distributed. We can guarantee the first 80 students a spot on the trip. It will be on a first come, first serve basis. Others will be placed on a waiting list. A \$100

deposit is required with the necessary documents to secure a spot on the trip so please make arrangements so you are not caught off guard.

Thanks for your support and contact me with any questions at dfrommert@nfschools.net



“WHEN WAS

EVER HONEY

MADE WITH ONE

BEE IN A HIVE?”

Thomas Hood

FROM THE COUNSELOR’S CORNER...

From the Counseling Corner.....

Can you believe it is June? Where did the school year go? For the counselors, as well as your children, it can be one of the busiest times of the year. Students are studying for final exams and dreaming about summer vacation. Counselors are determining who needs to attend summer school and dreaming about summer vacation. We all are working towards the same goal ~ to have a successful ending to the school year. Counselors have been meeting with students who have failed any major subject. Major subjects being ~ Language Arts, Math, Science, or Social Studies. Students must successfully pass these four major subjects to proceed to the next grade. Should your child fail one or two of these classes, they MUST attend summer school. If they fail three or all four of these classes, they must repeat the grade. In all four major classes, your child needs to have a 65% or higher to pass. Should your child need to attend summer school, Mr. Zafuto, and myself, Mrs. Mecca, will be here until the end of June, registering students. You will be receiving letters concerning summer school the first week of June. Watch your mail.

As the school year draws to a close, it is important that your child be in school each and every day. They need to be prepared to take their final exams in all areas. We hope your child

had a successful and enjoyable school year. If there is anything we can do, please feel free to call us in the Student Service Center at 278-5820. Have a safe and healthy summer. At this point ~ I usually sign off with "See you in September," however ~ after 30 years ~ all spent right here at Gaskill Middle School, I will be retiring. It was a pleasure working with your children all these years. I hope I have helped some of them navigate their way through middle school. May they be successful as they continue their education over at the High School.

Until next year.....

Mr. S. Zafuto ~ and

Mrs. A. Mecca ~ signing out.



School Counselors



8TH GRADE CELEBRATION DAY!

The 8th Grade Celebration will be held on Tuesday, June 21st with the assembly beginning at 8:40 a.m. As you know this celebration, which is intended for those 8th grade students in good standing, begins for the students at 7:30 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Since this celebration is **not a high school class day or graduation ceremony** the Gaskill Prep School dress code will be enforced. Dresses and skirts must be of appropriate length and shoulders, backs and mid drifts must be covered. There is no need for gowns, tuxedos or limos. Save the special extras for High School.

Seventh grade students will return to home base and dismissed at 10:30 a.m.

If you have not yet purchased a yearbook, you can do so by paying Mrs. Mecca \$30 cash to order your yearbook now.



**Farewell!
GPS Class of
2016**

WELCOME PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF INCOMING 7TH GRADERS

We look forward to your arrival in September! We want to make your time at Gaskill a great learning experience. So you can prepare for Prep school, we want you to know that each class is 50 minutes long. Lunch is 30 minutes. Academic study is our 1st period of the day. Students are able to do homework or receive extra help. The day begins at 7:35 a.m.—yes, that’s right, 7:35 a.m.—and ends at 2:25 p.m. If you eat breakfast at school, it begins at 7:15 a.m.

All parents of incoming 7th graders are invited to attend the Gaskill Parent Group meeting

which will be held on **Monday, June 20th @6:30 p.m.** Being a parent of a Prep school student is much different than an elementary student. Come see what changes are in store for you and how YOU can help at the Prep School level. Chairpersons will be needed for fundraisers and special events! Election of officers will be held and we would like to hear your ideas and what YOU want to happen at Gaskill. We just need your help in taking a small part so the work load is shared by everyone. Even if you think your child does not need to see you at this age, they still do need your support and to know you are there.

“ALONE WE
CAN DO SO
LITTLE;
TOGETHER WE
CAN DO SO
MUCH.”

Helen Keller

FROM THE GASKILL PARENT GROUP

Our last parent Group meeting will be **Monday, June 20th**. Parents of students who will be attending Gaskill next year are welcome to attend. Please join us to help plan for the 2016-17 school year.

Picnic in the Park was held on Friday, May 20th for those students who earned High Honors, Honors, Commendable Achievement, Perfect Attendance and Character traits during the 30 week marking period.

Students will have hotdogs, chips, juice and pizza. The kids have a GREAT time. Many thanks to our volunteers—we could not do it without your help!

This is just ONE of the many things we do as a parent group to celebrate our children’s accomplishments! The fund raising we do during the school year helps pay for these celebrations to acknowledge the great work our students do.

The Gaskill PEG would like to thank everyone who helped with our Ponderosa fundraiser. We are grateful to the many families that showed up to support us and those who donated the 20 baskets for the basket auction. We couldn’t have done it without our very dedicated staff who were willing to wait tables in order to help out. Overall, the Ponderosa fundraiser raised almost \$1,000 which can be used for our celebrations and field trips. Great work everyone!



FROM THE CLINIC

Gold sports packets were given to all 8th grade students. Please read the information. Scheduling a sports physical during the summer is an advantage. Many sports begin practice before the new school year begins. This is especially true for grades 9—12.

I wish you a great summer and don't forget to schedule your sports physical.

Mrs. Sturdivant,
School Nurse



Make sure to

take time to

read during

July and August!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PARENT OF THE YEAR!

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Tornabene for being selected as Gaskill's Parent of the Year! She was honored at the Parent/Partner Dinner on Thursday, May 12th.

**WE WISH MRS. TOR-
NABENE MUCH SUC-
CESS DURING NEXT
YEAR !**

**ANNEMARIE HAS
BEEN A WONDERFUL
HELP AT GASKILL!**



SUMMER SCHOOL INFORMATION

Letters will be arriving home soon if your child might need to attend summer school. Please fill out the application, sign it and return to your child's guidance counselor. If you register and then do not need to attend, you will be notified.

Summer School begins **Wednesday, July 13, 2016** and ends **Tuesday, August 16, 2016**. Students can only take two courses in summer school, so if your child does not pass 3 or 4 courses, s/he is not eligible to attend summer school.

If you have any other questions regarding your child and summer school, please contact the guidance counselors,
Grade 7 - Mr. Zafuto
Grade 8 - Mrs. Mecca



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Volume 1, Issue 1

Your opinion is needed!!!!!!

We value your opinion! Families with children in our school are being asked to share their opinions in order to help us increase student achievement at Gaskill.

We ask that each family take the survey. Results are not tabulated by District personnel, and responses are anonymous. Information will help us continually improve our school. GPS students and staff are al-

so participating, using a survey designed for them. We hope to have input from all our stakeholders in order to get the MOST useful information. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete.

Go to **WWW.NFSCHOOLS.NET** Look on the district's homepage under 'What's New' - **Family Engagement Survey** Click and you will see

'Niagara Falls Family Engagement Survey 2016'
Password: NFFamily2016

YOUR CHILD THANKS YOU!



MRS. ENGLANDER—GRADE 8 LANGUAGE ARTS

Summer Reading Tips from Mrs. Englander

Let's work together to keep up those reading levels! Studies show that most students experience a loss of reading skills over the summer months, but children who continue to read will gain skills.

Here is a list of tips from *Reading Rockets!* This company is a national multimedia literacy initiative offering information and resources on how young kids learn to read, why so many struggle, and how caring adults can help.

- 1. Read aloud together with your child every day!** Make it fun by reading outdoors on the front steps, patio, at the beach or park. Also, let your children read to you.
- 2. Set a good example!** Parents must be willing to model behavior for their children. Keep lots of reading material around the house. Turn off the TV and have each person read his or her book, including mom and dad.
- 3. Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it!** This is the way to develop habits of the mind and build capacity for thought and insight.
- 4. Let kids choose what they want to read, and don't turn your nose up at popular fiction!** It will only discourage the reading habit.
- 5. Take your children to the library regularly!** Check the library calendar for special summer reading activities and events. Libraries also provide age appropriate lists for summer reading.
- 6. Subscribe, in your child's name, to magazines like *Sports Illustrated for Kids*, *Highlights for Children*, or *National Geographic World!*** Encourage older children to read the newspaper and current events magazines, to keep up the reading habit over the summer and develop vocabulary. Ask them what they think about what they've read, and listen to what they say.
- 7. Ease disappointment over summer separation from a favorite school friend by encouraging them to become pen pals!** Present both children with postcards or envelopes that are already addressed and stamped. If both children have access to the Internet, email is another option.
- 8. Make trips a way to encourage reading by reading aloud traffic signs, billboards, notices!** Show your children how to read a map, and once you are on the road, let them take turns being the navigator.
- 9. Encourage children to keep a summer scrapbook!** Tape in souvenirs of your family's summer activities picture postcards, ticket stubs, photos. Have your children write the captions and read them aloud as you look at the book together.

It was such a pleasure getting to know you and your child this year!

Best of luck at NFHS, or wherever your journey takes you!

