



# The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School*



8/20/18

“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”



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## It's All About Community

There are a lot of things that make GVCS a very special place. Topping the list most certainly, are our amazing teachers. They are passionate, brilliant, dedicated and hardworking, I could go on and on – truly.

It could be our incredible students and their families – inquisitive, creative, engaged, purposeful – and just all around awesome.

We all come together to dig into meaningful work – to apply academic learning, honed high quality student products and are directed by strong character – to answer that age old question – “Why do I need to know this?”

To answer this question and to collect real data we head out into the world as a Crew - to learn, and apply that learning to do good in our local and global community.

What could be better than that?

So it really is all about community, and that was highly visible last Friday at our Welcome Back to School BBQ.

A hearty thank you to all who pitched in to make it happen. It is a big lift for the first week of school!

A special shout out of appreciation to our newest families to join GVCS for attending the BBQ, and to our time honored families who took them under their wing.

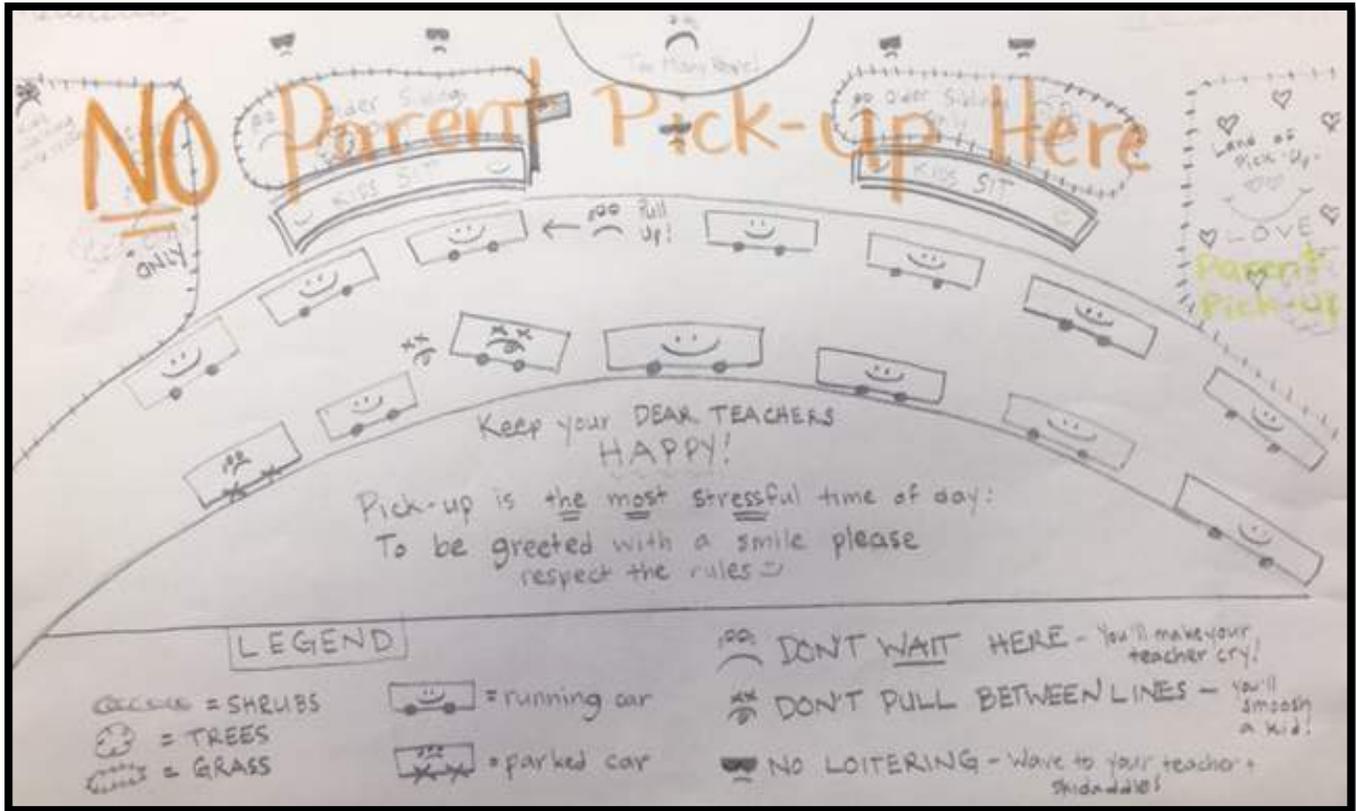
We are Crew and thus I know it is going to be an amazing year!

## Err, Umm – How Do I Drop Off and Pick Up My Student?

Ok, we know drop off and pick up is a well-coordinated dance – and y'all were looking good out there after 2 months off! However, growth mindset - we can always improve!

Please pick up as follows:

K-1 (and older siblings) in front of the school as illustrated below:



If you are not a visual learner... Please pull forward, don't drive down the center between the two rows of cars, don't leave your car – an amazing teacher will walk your student to your car – how do they know your car/student pairing? Superpowers. That and please put a placard in your window with your last name printed clearly, but mostly it's the superpowers. Your teachers love your student, but no loitering. Wave and move forward, please – or wave, hand your teacher a coffee, and then pull forward. Leave by turning right only.

Picking up your older 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in the back drop-off area off of Hwy 174? Pretty much the same rules apply. Remember the “don't park and leave your car?” This one applies doubly, because if we have to call your name over the school PA and your student is in middle school, they are going to be SOOO embarrassed.

Picking up in the Vets Hall? Don't. Please and thank you – there is no staff supervision of this area.

And as always, please be patient. Thank you!

## **Sports Updates!**

See below for an overview of the NCAL Sports.

### **Girls Basketball**

8/20 – 10/12

First practice Monday  
August 20<sup>th</sup> 6:15 pm at the  
Scotten Gym.

For more info please pick  
up a sports packet in the  
office, or contact Coach  
Russ at  
[russyokon@msn.com](mailto:russyokon@msn.com)

### **Cross Country**

8/20 – 10/12

First practice Monday,  
August 20<sup>th</sup> 3:15pm on the  
GVCS Field. For more info,  
please pick up a sports  
packet in the office, or  
contract Coach Curry at  
[rcurry@gvcsd.us](mailto:rcurry@gvcsd.us)

### **Girls Volleyball**

10/22 – 12/14

### **Boys Basketball**

12/17 - 2/22

### **Boys Volleyball**

2/25 - 4/26

### **Track**

4/8 – 5/24

Contact Mr. E with Qs

[aezell@gvcsd.us](mailto:aezell@gvcsd.us)

## **Do You Like Mountain Biking? And Kids?**

The GVCS Mountain Biking Club has become an amazing community of riders due to the commitment of several inspiring coaches who have put in many, many years of volunteering! Several of our coaches did not even have their child riding, or their child graduated years ago!

But like all things, the time has come to pass the torch (or the bike pump?). A salute to Jon P, Rick M, Shannon & Mike L, Dave & Mela for their years of commitment to the club – and appreciation to April B, who has agreed to continue coaching this Fall.

April is amazing, but she & I **need your help!** So we are looking for volunteer coaches who can commit to a weekly ride from 3:00 – 5:00pm. If you are interested, please contact Mr. E for more info at [aezell@gvcsd.us](mailto:aezell@gvcsd.us).

## **What's the Matter?**

Sue & Lindsey's 5<sup>th</sup> graders had their Expedition kick off Friday, an exploration of the states of matter! These fifth grade crews rotated through several stations experiencing food in all states of matter. Delicious and educational!

Solids, liquids, gases & plasma!  
Which one is cotton candy... find a 5<sup>th</sup> grader and ask them!



## **Break Out Your Calendars & ... Be In The Know!**

8/22 **GVCS Paperwork due**

9/3 **No School - Labor Day**

9/4 **First Day of Middle School Electives**

9/6 **Back to School Night (not 8/13)**

5:00-5:30 for PreK

5:30 – 6:15 for K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

6:15 – 6:45 Whole School in MPR

6:45 – 7:30 for 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade

9/10 **Picture Day!**

## An Expanded View of Student Achievement

At GVCS we have an expanded vision of student achievement. We believe that when a student graduates from our school, that they should be well on their way to becoming an effective and productive citizen, who not only envisions a better world, but possesses the tools to help create that world.

As students culminate their education, be it after college or vocational school, we know that their success is not solely dependent upon their test scores, but on the quality of their work and the quality of their character.

As such, at GVCS we consider student achievement to have three dimensions: Mastery of Academic Skills and Content, High – Quality Work, and Character.

We hope that you have found evidence of our commitment to these dimensions of student achievement in the previous pages.



## Grass Valley Charter School

225 South Auburn Street  
Grass Valley , Ca95945

[www.grassvalleycharter.org](http://www.grassvalleycharter.org)



## Our Design Principles

The Primacy of Self – Discovery  
The Having of Wonderful Ideas  
The Responsibility for Learning  
Empathy and Caring  
Success and Failure  
Collaboration and Competition  
Diversity and Inclusion  
The Natural World  
Solitude and Reflection  
Service and Compassion