



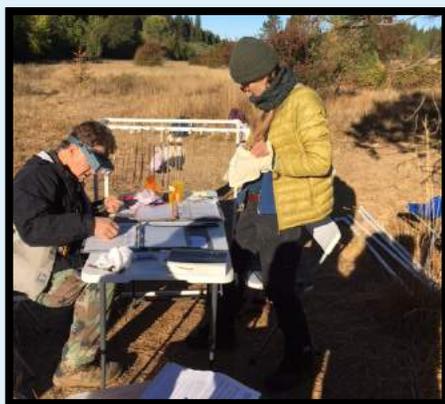
# The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School*



9/29/17

**“We are crew, not passengers.”  
– Kurt Hahn**



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## The Creation of the Sierra Nevada!

Lori & Karen’s Crew spent a day as geologists observing and experimenting at Yuba Gap near Donner Summit.

It was a full day that kicked off with landscape art, followed by expert talks on how the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range was formed.

Big thanks to Craig Gilbert, our tour guide at Squaw Valley who brought the profession of geology to life for our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders!

Students learned about careers in geology and were able to explore some of the tools of the trade.

While there, students got hands on through multiple stations involving observations related to eroding granite slabs making new soil, a decomposing tree, roots breaking through rock to survive, and many other small plants craving out an existence above tree line.

Students hypothesized about the origin of rocks they found a top the mountain, explored how rocks break and looked for evidence of a seasonal pond.

It was an amazing immersion into the second grade Expedition, “The Mountains are Calling!”



## A Bird in Hand is Worth a Future Ornithologist?



This past week, Crew 12 rose bright and early to meet the biologists at the Bennett Street Grasslands, and learn about resident as well as migratory birds in Nevada County.

Sue's Crew meet with biologists who are currently studying birds at the meadow. The experts (Allison Nelson & Dan Lubin - Thank You!) took kids in small groups to see mist nets in action! These nets allowed the scientists to carefully capture numerous birds. Once caught, the birds were banded (think ankle bracelet) and data was collected about their age, gender, etc. This specific study is focused on cataloging birds in order to better understand their habitat needs in this unique location.

This type of program also allows scientists worldwide to track individual migratory birds along their journeys! So cool!

While at the meadow, students also studied the various habitats, noting consumers, producers, and other signs of life.

The experts at Bennett Street Meadow supported Sue's Crew with their Expedition, "Bills and Gills." Emma's Crew will head to Bennett Street on Tuesday of this week to do the same Fieldwork!

## Announcing... Crew 24!

We are Crew! **The parent crew** that is!

The Parent Leadership Group is transforming into **Crew 24** to reflect the value of our entire parent community as an integral part of our school. It will be a reference point for families to interact, organize, participate and contribute to further enrich our school community.

**Our first Crew meeting this was amazing! Thank you to all how participated.**

**Feel like you missed out? Well if so, it is not too late to still join Crew 24!**

If you are curious about joining future Crew 24 meetings, or just curious, contact Olivia Prichett at 530 470 3404 or via email at [oprichett@gvsd.us](mailto:oprichett@gvsd.us) or Cameron Herzog at 530 263 3261 or via email at [cameron969@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cameron969@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

**We look forward to you being part of Crew 24!**

## Sports Info!

Upcoming...

### Cross Country:

10/23 -12/15

#### Mandatory Parent Meeting for All XC Runners!

If your child is participating in the upcoming Cross Country Season, make sure to attend the mandatory parent meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Date: Wed, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>

Time: 3:15pm

Where: Staffroom

**Why? Obtain the sports packet to register your athlete, learn about the practice schedule, understand expectations for team selection & participation and get a copy to the season Competition Meet Schedule!**

**Boys Volleyball: 10/23 – 12/15**

**Boys Basketball: 12/18 – 2/23**

**Girls Volleyball: 2/26 – 4/27**

**Track: 4/10 – 5/26**



## GVCS Walks the (Love) Walk

As many of you may know, earlier this week an incident of ugliness and racism took place in downtown Grass Valley.

In response, many in our broader community decide to let the world know that “Love, not Hate, Makes Grass Valley Great!” by assembling in downtown Grass Valley on Friday for an anti racism walk.

In this spirit of love, equality, diversity and inclusion our Grass Valley Charter community showed up!

I want to share my appreciation for the members of our GVCS Crew who stood up and said, “We need to be there” – and for all those that walked the walk, in person or from afar!

As a Nevada County native, who traveled a bit and came back, I understand the complexity off our community.

I love our community. I love that in the face of ugliness, hate and intolerance – hundreds and

hundreds of women, children and men of all ages and backgrounds show up to state without politics or agenda – that nope - our community is not about hate, but about love.

I am proud to be a member of this community and thankful to be surrounded by awesome people.



## Mr. E Doesn't Play Piano...

But if you do, or if you are interested in learning, the school has a donated Wurlitzer piano looking for a good home! Please Email Mr. E at [aezell@gvcsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvcsd.us)



## Kids Love GVCS & We Love Them – Especially at 8:15am!

I love starting my day greeting our students! Bright eyed and bushy tailed, or groggy and half awake – they are amazing! But, students arriving before 8:15 have no supervision. Please help us with an 8:15 drop off.

## The Howlin' Coyotes!!!

Sometime there are events that take place outside of GVCS, but involve our community that are just too cool

not to give a shout out! This past weekend many kiddos from GVCS participated in the Spartan Race at Squaw Valley! GVCS kindergarteners, 1<sup>st</sup> graders and 4<sup>th</sup> graders were in abundance! Warming our heart here at GVCS, are the stories of Crew that come out of these experiences. Our very own Ziggy noted that of course you are going to give folks a hand up when they fall because, "That's what you do for your team."



## A Strong Foundation

Looking for a good way to participate and have an impact at your child(ren)'s school? Serving as a GVCS Foundation Board Member just might be the ticket.

### What's required, you may wonder...?

An inquiring and open mind!

The desire to make decisions about fundraising dollars that will impact our kids and our school!

A full heart to embrace fun and make a difference!

Attend monthly meetings from August – June (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, 3:30pm in the Staff room – Next one is coming up on September 28<sup>th</sup>)

The Foundation is currently open for new Board Members and seeking to fill the officer positions of Secretary and Treasurer.

Indicate your interest on the Parent Interest Form or just email [foundation@grassvalleycharterschool.org](mailto:foundation@grassvalleycharterschool.org)

**Mark Your Calendars!**  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Walk-a-thon!

Value Cards available in December!

May 12<sup>th</sup>: Blue Marble Jubilee

## 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