



The HOWL

Grass Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School

9/8/17



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

Listen to Mrs. Roosevelt ...

“People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.”

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Crew 16, Cynthia’s courageous group of 5th graders, took on various challenges and experienced the exhilaration of moving through difficulties and fears.

OnCourse Ropes Course hosted the crew over two Fridays with GVCS’s amazing Adventure Teacher, Beth, leading the way for good times and notable growth.

Between visits students reflected on their character and applied what they learned in the field to their academic development. What a wonderful way to start the school year and find out that we can do more than we ever imagined possible.

We will be listening to hear the words of encouragement that echoed through the tree-tops, “You got this!” and “Here, take my hand” back in the classroom!



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The Mountains Were Calling...



And Mr. Anderson's 8th grade crew heard the words of good ol' John Muir!

With a classic High Sierra experience awaiting them, this 8th grade crew took to the Grouse Ridge area last week.

What they found was more than our beautiful Sierra granite peaks, they also discovered perseverance and responsibility amid the unpredictability of summer rains and thunderstorms.

Responsibility for keeping your bedding and gear dry goes to the next level when it means properly rigging your sleeping tarp as the rainstorm advances!

Despite the whimsical weather, the crew still managed to explore the Five Lakes Basin area via an orienteering course led by GVCS Adventure Teacher, Ryan Wells.

The whole crew also learned about traveling safely in the high country when lightening storms are a frequent occurrence.

With this knowledge in hand, student still managed to safely ascend the Black Buttes and Fall Creek Mountain.

Throughout the adventure the crew became accustomed to the daily pace of creating potable water, bear bagging food, setting and breaking camp and preparing meals together.

We cannot wait to see this crew rise to the next challenge as they head to Mono Lake in the coming weeks!

Big thanks go out to Ariel, Tim, Kevin and Steve for being awesome backpacking parents!

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.

Please join us for our first crew meeting on September 21st at 3:30 pm in the GVCS Staff Room. Refreshments will be served!

Families received a "Parent Interest Form" from their child's teacher at Back to School Night. Please complete the form and return it to your teacher by Friday, September 15th.

Contact Olivia Prichett at 530 470 3404 or via email at oprichett@gvsd.us or Cameron Herzog at 530 263 3261 or via email at cameron969@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

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

Sports Schedule!

You asked for it! So here it is, one place with all the sports info!

Information for the year is below, detailed info (practices, coaches, etc) will be added throughout the year.

All coaches do handout paperwork in all eligible grades / classrooms a week before practice. Additional copies of paperwork can be found with Heidi or Mr. E.

8/28 – 10/12: Girls Basketball with practices M-Th from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Scotten Gym. Grades 6th – 8th Coach Russ can be reached at russyokon@msn.com

MTB Club Fall Season

9/12 – 10/27

Cross Country: 10/23 -12/15

Boys Volleyball: 10/23 – 12/15

Boys Basketball: 12/18 – 2/23

Girls Volleyball: 2/26 – 4/27

Track: 4/10 – 5/26



Back to School Night!

Back to School Night is one of my favorite events of the year! This is coming from someone who, for over a decade had the privilege of taking students Snowshoeing, X-C skiing, Backpacking, Rafting, Rock Climbing, Sailing, Spelunking, Kayaking and so many more amazing adventures.

But Back To School Night is magic. Watching students prepare to share their daily experience with parents ahead of time, or parents writing to their own children (while seated in their desk!) about what they are proud of in their own child, what their greatest hopes are for their child as a learner is simply put, wonderful.

Visiting each classroom from pre K – 8th grade is special. It is not just our pre K thru 5th grade rooms that are full of engaged and eager parents, our middle school has got it going on too!

GVCS is an amazing community because of the incredible dedication of our amazing staff and our amazing families. Thank you for always saying, “Yes!” and stepping up to the plate when there is work to be done.

Be honest, who doesn't want to spend more time with Regina Curry?

Wondering how you can bring some extra spicy awesomeness to your parenting? Sign up for Regina's six week Nurtured Heart for parents class! The Nurtured Heart approach involves noticing kids' strengths and validating their skills. This approach is highly effective both at home and in the classroom, as it has a proven impact on all children, including those who are challenged socially, emotionally and academically.

The six-week session is offered from 9/19 – 11/7 (no meetings 10/17 & 10/31) from 5:30-7:30pm in the GVCS Staff Room. The cost is \$20. RSVP with Regina at rcurry@gvcsd.us

Popsicles & Hot Coco!

Not just a good band name, also a reminder that depending on the weather, one or the other is for sale on Friday during recess for \$1! Proceeds support GVCS Sports!

Charter Alive – Enrichment Classes

Classes start the week of September 18!

GVCS offers an array of classes instructed by well-known and talented professionals from our community. Bringing programs to the school is a win-win for the school, students, and parents. School site programming increases access, reduces costs, and programs operate as part of the school community.

This fall classes will include:

- **NEW**...French Classes for students in grades 2nd-5th and 6th-8th
- Creative Movement Dance with Laura Bishop
- Kuk Sool with Lila Reyna
- Theatre with Paulette Gilbert
- Art with the Artist Workshop
- For our youngest students - Turtle Tots Kuk Sool!

Be sure to check out www.CharterAlive.com for all the information you need on GVCS afterschool programs from athletics to Clubs. Register Now!

A Strong Foundation

The Grass Valley Charter School Foundation is an all – volunteer, Independent 501 c3 nonprofit organization that was established in 2008 to support and improve GVCS. The Foundation's Board of Directors is made up of staff members and parents.

The GVCS Foundation:

- * Subsidizes every student's fieldwork costs
- * Is responsible for 3 major fundraisers annually
- * Stewards and allocates all dollars raised
- * Supports school clubs, sports and activities

Mark your calendars!

- 1) Friday, November 3rd – GVCS Walk-A-Thon
- 2) Value Cards in December 2017
- 3) Friday, May 12th – GVCS Blue Marble Jubilee

Interested in participating?

Foundation Board Meetings are the 4th Thursday of the month, 3:30 in the Staff room.

Would you like to serve on the Board? Be sure to indicate your interest on the Parent Interest Form. There are currently 2 officer positions open: Treasurer and Secretary.

Come help to make a difference at our amazing school!

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

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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