



# The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School*



2/22/22

“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”



## Got DNA?

Seventh Graders were busy this week as scientists extracting and examining DNA from strawberries. Student have been learning about the function of DNA, as well as its structure by creating models of DNA.

During the experiment, students mash their strawberries, add a DNA extraction fluid, strain the solution, combine the extract, and rubbing alcohol at which point, the DNA separates from the mixture allowing it to be examined with the naked eye.

And! Students become Scientists, all they were missing were the lab coats!

Thanks for sharing Ms. Cormia and the whole 7<sup>th</sup> grade Crew!



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## Welcome Back Parents!

This past week we saw a distinct rise in parent volunteers on campus, and it was wonderful! If you have been waiting for a signal that you are welcome to return to campus, this is it! See below for opportunities, and requirements for getting back into our school. Welcome!

## Interested in Becoming A Substitute Aide?

We are looking to build our community of substitute aides! If you are the kind of parent that would be in the classroom weekly, or every day if you could – this might be the gig for you!

Aides help support students and teachers in a variety of ways, from supporting instruction in the classroom, to supervising recess, to working through clerical tasks, aides are a critical part of our team. And sometimes we need substitute aides! If you are interested, please reach out to me at [aezzell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us) for a conversation, and more information!

## We Miss You!

One of the many things I love about Charter is the historic parent involvement – while that was interrupted by Covid, we are so grateful for your involvement. Our school community is not the same without YOU! This is one of the many reasons I am grateful to see parents back supporting Fieldwork and Adventure, or to chat with parents volunteering to belay on the climbing wall.

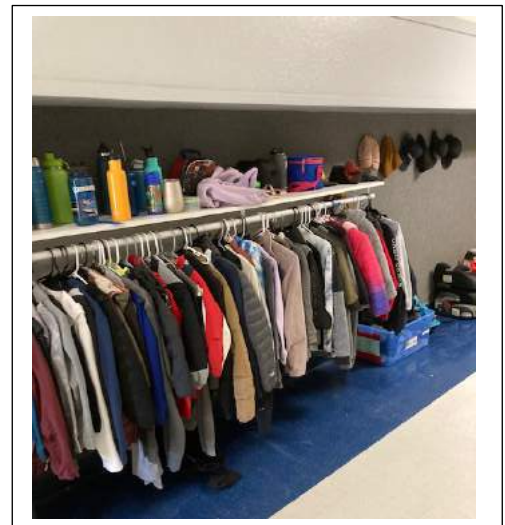
We are in the planning stages of bringing back some community events, structured to align with public health guidelines, but so importantly, to bring our community back together to celebrate our shared goal of raising academically performing students, of strong character, focused on impacting the world for the better!

If you are interested in supporting your classroom teacher, and are vaccinated, or able to test 72 hours in advance of volunteering, understand that you must wear a mask and are symptom free, please reach out and let your teachers know you are interested. Thank you for being part of the Crew!

## Lost? Found!

The Lost and Found is filling on up! Missing jackets? Water bottles? Glasses? Booster seats? Hats? There is a bounty of kids clothing.

Please drop by (masks on) and take a peek for anything belonging to your student.



## Boys Basketball Tournament

The Boys Basketball Tournament is this week! If you are interested in coming out to support these young men, the schedule is as follows.

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 2/23 at NU West Gym at 6pm, vs YRCA

7<sup>th</sup> grade: 2/23 at NU West Gym at 5pm, vs NCSA

Subsequent games depend on the outcome of these games.

## Girls Volleyball!

Girls Volleyball, open to 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders, will be officially kicking off the week of February 28<sup>th</sup>! There is **informal practice this week (2/22 – 2/25)**, Tuesday - Thursday from 3:00 – 4:00pm and Friday 12:30 – 1:30pm outside at Charter. Meet Coach Gabe at the picnic tables.

The season lasts two months, and I suggest planning on a game or practice most week nights. Practices will take place between 6-8pm, at the Scotten Gym, the game times are TBD.

Additional information is in the front office. Coach Gabe will be Coaching the team. **If you are interested in being an Assistant Coach**, please contact Mr. E at [aezzell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us)

## Track Coach

We are looking for a Track Coach! The season runs from 3/28 – 5/27. If you are interested in supporting young student athletes, please reach out to Mr. E at [aezzell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us) or call the office at 273 – 8723.

## Sports for the Year

Boys Basketball (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade): 1/3 – 2/25

Girls Volleyball (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade): 2/28 – 4/29

Track (4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>): 3/28 – 5/27

Paperwork and open gym (for indoor sports) is typically the week before the season start date listed above. If you have any questions about sports, please reach out to Mr. E, at [aezzell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us)

## Be In The Know

If your student is absent, please call the front office (530) 273 8723, to let them know why.

If your student becomes symptomatic for CV19 they should not attend school, but please reach out to the office. **If your child tests positive, please keep them home, and call the front office, or email the following information. Name of student, Date of symptoms, Date of positive test and vaccination status of any siblings attending GVCS. Emails should be sent to: the following:**

[rettl@gvsd.us](mailto:rettl@gvsd.us), [lduchene@gvsd.us](mailto:lduchene@gvsd.us), [aezzell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us), [mcloud@gvsd.us](mailto:mcloud@gvsd.us), [vbringolf@gvsd.us](mailto:vbringolf@gvsd.us)

## 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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## 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