



# The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School*

1/21/20



“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”



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## Buddy Classes

There are many traditions that help make our school a strong community with that family feel. One of these traditions is our commitment to building friendships across our Pre-K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade campus.

The primary way that we do this at GVCS is through our Buddy Classes. Older and younger classes are paired and then work (and play!) together throughout the school year. We have found that this helps to keep our older students a bit younger at heart, and provide our younger students with older role models.

Most recently our 8<sup>th</sup> graders spent a little time with their 2<sup>nd</sup> grade buddies making playdough, and friendships!



## Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences are a cornerstone of our school. They put students in the driver seat of their education by engaging them in their own learning. This structured time allows them to share their growth, as well as their struggles. They have been preparing for this conversation and are excited!

Nuts & bolts:

SLCs are 1/27 – 1/31 and by now you should have an SLC appointment with your student's teacher. If you do not have it secured yet, contact your child's teacher ASAP. Your attendance is crucial.

Please arrange to attend SLCs so that you can give your undivided attention to your student presenting their SLC. This may mean finding kiddo care for other children.

While your child's teacher will be present and engaged, this is really a time for your student to speak to you, and for you to celebrate them. If you have a long list of questions for the teacher, please hold those for a later date.

Please, be on time. Each teacher meets with at least 24 families. This can mean more than 12 hours of conferences. If you are late, it impacts the whole schedule. Thank you for your engagement in your child's education.

## Are You A Parent Volunteer Extraordinaire?

Do you find yourself at Charter frequently? Do you look around and think to yourself, "It would be pretty cool to work here with all of these amazing students and teachers!" Well, do we have an opportunity for you!

Charter is looking for a few Aides to help make our school even more amazing! We are looking for an aide in our 5<sup>th</sup> grade to finish out the school year. This is a grant funded position to support small group instruction, particularly in math. The position is M-Th from 8:30 – 12:00.

In addition we are looking for a pre-k Aide which is M-Th from 8:00 – 3:15 and Friday, 8:00 – 12:45. This position requires 6 ECE units, and a willingness to obtain a total of 12 ECE units.

Are you interested in more information?

Check out the postings on [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org) and search Grass Valley School District. Postings are **#18-79 Charter Preschool Aide** and **#19-52 Instructional Aide I/II Temporary 2019/20 School Year**.

**Note all applications are due by 1/21 by noon. Have questions? Contact Mr. E at [aezell@gvsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvsd.us)**

## Crew 24's GVCS Family Day of Service

Crew 24, GVCS parent group extraordinaire is kicking off a day of service for our families to come together and support others in our community who could use a helping hand. On Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:30 pm in the GVCS MPR you can contribute to a founding design principle of EL Schools, that of Service & Compassion.

For one night only work alongside other charter families in a school wide drive to support local nonprofits. Bring your donations of clothing, non perishable food, and books benefitting the: Hospitality House, Interfaith Food Ministry, Karing Closet and Partners Family Resource Center.

We will be sorting, collating and boxing goods in preparation for delivery. Additional volunteers will be needed to help deliver items shortly after the work day.

**BOXES!** Save lots of them for us to use!

**Join us:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DACA62AA3F85-gvcs1>

**Questions?** Contact Olivia ([opritchett@gvcsd.us](mailto:opritchett@gvcsd.us)) or Laura ([lines530@yahoo.com](mailto:lines530@yahoo.com))

## Got STEAM?

The Nevada County STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) Expo will be held on Saturday, March 28th at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. There are various opportunities for project submission, including group (2-3 students) and individual projects. Grass Valley Charter School may submit a total of four projects for grades K-8. If your student is interested in submitting a project please contact **Sue Muir** at [smuir@gvcsd.us](mailto:smuir@gvcsd.us) by **Thursday, February 13th** (see TechTest Jr exception below). A spot in the competition representing GVCS will be given on a first-come-first-serve basis. If you'd like to learn more about the event and the categories visit the county website at [www.nevcoexpo.org](http://www.nevcoexpo.org). You may also contact Sue Muir in person (Room 12) or via email with questions.

## Spirit Day, Friday 1/31

Next Friday is the much anticipated, Fancy Dress Up Spirit Day! Dust off your ball gowns, tuxedos, suspenders, top hats and tiaras! Classes will compete for the coveted Spirit Day Trophy! Show your Charter Spirit and get Fancy!



## **Sports Updates!**

### **Boys Basketball**

12/16 – 2/21

6<sup>th</sup>/ 7<sup>th</sup> – Coach Ben Murphy

[b-bmurphy@att.net](mailto:b-bmurphy@att.net)

7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> – Coach Simon  
Menesini

[pineviewconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:pineviewconstruction@gmail.com)

### **Nordic Skiing**

Coach Curry [rcurry@gvgsd.us](mailto:rcurry@gvgsd.us)

### **Girls Volleyball**

2/24 – 4/24

Coach Russ

[russyokon@msn.com](mailto:russyokon@msn.com)

### **Track**

4/6 – 5/24

Coach Curry [rcurry@gvgsd.us](mailto:rcurry@gvgsd.us)

### **Mountain Biking Club:**

Fall Season is a wrap, Spring  
Season will start in March.  
More info to follow.

**Contact Mr. E with Sports  
Qs**

[aezzell@gvgsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvgsd.us)

## **Boys Basketball**

The season is about to kick off this week, come on out and support our students!

1/21 – GVCS vs Chicago Park at 4pm, Chicago Park

1/22 – GVCS vs Yuba River at 5pm, Mount Saint Mary

1/23 – GVCS (8<sup>th</sup>) vs Seven Hills (8<sup>th</sup>) at 5pm, Seven Hills

1/23 – GVCS (7<sup>th</sup>) vs Grizzly Hill at 6pm, Seven Hills

1/28 – GVCS vs CC at 6pm, Seven Hills

More Dates to Follow!

## **GVCS Goes Wild & Scenic**

Charter attended the South Yuba River Citizen's League Wild and Scenic Film festival Student Sessions this past week. Students enjoyed films celebrating nature, adventure and student activism. Kudos to our 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> grade team for being featured in the film, "Bird Banding" which highlighted the work taking place in Bennett Street Meadow, which our students engage in through their Bills & Gills Expedition.

## **Playground Supervision**

Wow, the kids sure do love the new playground! Unfortunately there is no supervision before or after school. Please do not drop off your student before 8:15am. Additionally, if you are meeting your student at the playground for pick up, you must be there by 3:00pm. Thank you for helping to keep everyone smiling and having fun!

## **Dates! Be In The Know!**

**1/27 – 31 – Student Led Conferences (1/2 days all week)**

**2/14 & 2/15 - Presidents' Days**

## 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