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Great Expectations School News

A Note from Director Rachael

Dear GES Families,

Our school year is off to an amazing start! The Lynx South “Cabin” was finished just in time for students in large part due to the dedication of our GES community. We are beyond grateful to have this new learning space and would like to thank the contractors who rearranged their schedules, Jerry Starr for his indefatigable leadership, Gary Nesgoda and Martha Williams for shingling, and Brian Wilson for exterior paint. Many hands truly do make lighter work!

Sincerely,

Rachael

Important Dates & Events

- **FROM THE ISD 166 BUS GARAGE: ALL ROUTES WILL BE MOVED AHEAD 5 MINUTES TO ALLOW BUSES TO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME, BEGINNING MONDAY MORNING, 9/12.**
- If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the online back to school forms on [jmc](#). It is essential that we have health and dietary information for each child at the start of the new year. Call school for assistance.
- Beach Day – Rescheduled for Friday, 9/16 due to weather
- School Board Meeting – Thursday, 9/15 4:00-6:00 pm
- Nature Day – Friday, 9/23 (our first School Spirit Day of the year!)
- GES Annual Meeting – Tuesday, 9/27
- School Picture Day – Thursday 10/13

Community Opportunities

[GMAC Fall Youth Classes](#)

[Auditions for Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer Jr](#)

[North Point Schedule](#)

In the Classrooms

This week, all GES classrooms experienced the joy of trying new things, which is delightfully represented below by the Bear Cubs testing out the parachute! Older students, including the Lynx classrooms were equally excited to put the Gaga pit back into use!



Many Thanks!

GES was founded with the knowledge that students whose families volunteer at school are more successful at school. It also sets an expectation that prioritizes education. It is understood that families these days are very busy, but volunteers are essential to daily operations, as well as special events at GES. Please aim to volunteer 24 hours per family, if possible, each school year.

- This month, we wish to thank our volunteers that helped with the bounce house at the Tofte 4th of July celebration. They raised over \$900 toward the new playground for our students! Wow!!

- Thank you also, to our dedicated recycling volunteers, Joni and Nathan Kristenson! With all the shipping boxes at the start of the school year, we have kept them busy! They could really use another family willing to take turns bringing the GES recycling to the recycle center. Please call school if you could take a turn. 218-387-9322.
- Thank you to Jerry Starr, not only for serving as general contractor for the new classroom, and pulling it all together *in a flash* but, also for locating a trailer and setting up the aluminum can recycling in the east parking lot! We have a mountain, 8 feet tall – of CRUSHED cans! Let's keep it growing! Jerry has also made connections with several local businesses to save their cans for us. All proceeds will be donated to GES! We do need volunteers to help with the collection. Please call school if you can assist 218-387-9322.
- Lastly, a huge thank you to Martha Williams for her tireless and passionate volunteerism working with the Great Lunch board to procure new Great Lunch staff, and being at school all day, every day this week, ensuring that students without a snack or lunch were fed with nutritious, real food. She scrubbed the kitchen like it has never been scrubbed before and kept up with the dishes generated each day (even with lunch from home there were loads of dishes). Sincere thanks, Martha!

Public Health Update

[Great Expectations School Covid Safe Learning Plan](#)

[Public Health Back to School Letter for Families](#)

[September Community Covid Testing Sign Up:](#)

Testing, in addition to COVID-19 vaccination, is a safe, effective way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Consider test yourself or your children for COVID-19:

- 5 days after an exposure at school or childcare 5 days after large social gatherings
- Before or after traveling

Testing is free of cost, and everyone in the community is welcome! Results are available within 25 minutes.
Wednesdays at Cook County Community Center from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m

[View the Sign Up](#)

As a reminder, if your child is ill, please keep them home and call school at 218-387-9322.



Great Lunch

Hello from the Great lunch kitchen!

It's been a fun week preparing for the return of Great Lunch! We anticipate a 9/19 start for HOT lunch. Look for an updated menu in next week's newsletter!

For now, please add funds to your child's lunch account on the [jmc](#) website so they're ready to go on the 19th.

As always, please call the office if you have any questions on school-related items.

Lesla Hofer

Office Administrator

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