



Gates Chili Schools

August 2018

Welcome Back to School!

Welcome New School Year-2018-2019!
Summer Fun becomes School and Learning Fun in September! The summer in the Gates Chili Central School District has been busier than ever preparing for our staff and students to return. This is my favorite time of the year...Back to School!



School will officially open September 4, 2018 with our Staff Development Day, and students returning on September 5, 2018. The 2018-2019 school year will continue our efforts towards improved academic achievement with a focus on instructional practices that are Learner-Centered. In addition, we will continue to innovate, build relationships, and become culturally responsive. Our work aligning curriculum, district wide, will explore culturally responsive practices to meet the needs of our district's changing demographics. Our diversity is what makes Gates Chili so special; our students, our families, and our staff embrace it, and we want to engage and enhance our practices to celebrate it! Our WHY... *To build relationships and create a culture of respect, responsibility, compassion and hard work so that everyone experiences success!* Our MISSION... *Together we teach and inspire excellence for all learners.*

This academic school year will be an exciting one as we continue to launch 1:1 computing devices and technology use as part of our Digital Conversion, district wide. This fall our students in grades 9-12 will receive a personal computing device that they will use all year long both in school and at home. In addition, our elementary school students will have their own devices to use each day while in school, and our students in Middle School will have the opportunity to use their device again this year. Our job will be to integrate technology as a tool for best instructional practices, to personalize learning, and to engage/empower our learners. Our Innovation Coaches and our Arts Partners TOSAs will continue to facilitate and guide research based initiatives, meeting the learning targets established by NYSED as part of **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**.

The district is in full design phase with our Architectural and Construction Management Team. Construction is underway for our High School roof work and stadium renovations, that include a new Track and Turf field. We are meeting weekly to discuss the needs of the district and reporting monthly to the Board of Education to ensure that the Capital Improvement Project, Phase 1, is successful in two (2) primary areas...on budget, and on time. This project is one that will change the learning environment of our district at all levels, we only have one chance to do this right...and we want to do it right! The design phase is complete for the Florence Brasser Elementary School classrooms addition, the renovations for Paul Road and the Middle School, and this August we will submit for the Auditorium addition at the High School. Early in 2019 we will complete design and submit to NYSED the renovations for improved space at both Neil Armstrong and Walt Disney Elementary Schools.



Be sure to check out our website for updated calendar dates, updates, happenings, and contact information. Please consider filling out the survey we have posted to provide us with feedback and input that will allow for us to improve the website and communication. In addition, you can follow me on Twitter, @gateschilisupt, to observe all the wonderful things happening in the district each day. Also, download our APP, it has exciting potential to meet the needs of our students and families to improve communication, announce events and activities in real time, and so much more.

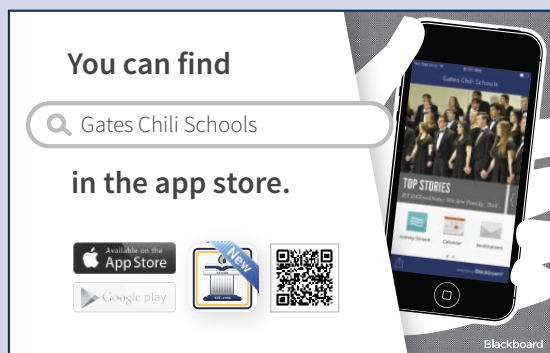
Best wishes as you enjoy the last few weeks of summer and prepare for the 2018-2019 school year. We look forward to welcoming our staff and students back to school. There is no better opportunity than to experience the growth of a child both academically and socially each new school year. Thank you for trusting us to provide a learning environment that believes that every child can learn and achieve remarkable things! Please know we are here to partner with our families to ensure that every child in the Gates Chili Central School District is successful in preparation for College, Career, and/or Civic readiness.

Kimberle Ward, Superintendent

Download the Gates Chili Schools Mobile App

To access important district and school information on your mobile devices, download the Gates Chili Schools mobile app. This free app – available on iPhone and Android platforms – provides quick and easy access to information parents most often seek about our district. Easily navigate postings about news and events and quickly retrieve school contact information, calendars, sports schedules and scores, lunch menus, and more. For additional information about the Gates Chili School mobile app, visit: <https://www.gateschili.org/Page/17739>.

Be sure to check for real time events and activities throughout the year!



Welcome New Board of Education Members



Kerri Keyes and her husband Phil are long time Gates residents and Kerri has lived in the district her entire life. Her two children attend Gates-Chili and are 3rd generation in the district. Kerri attended SUNY Brockport and Genesee Community College. She currently works for Rochester Regional Health System, where she has been employed for the last 15 years. Community involvement has always been a priority for Kerri. She has volunteered with Gates Ambulance, Gates Soccer as a board member, served as a secretary to the Gates Fire Department Board of Directors, and has been involved in Boy Scouts.



Andre (Andy) Bailey is a husband of 29 years and father of three. He has lived in Gates for the past 25 years. He holds a BSEE and an MBA and works as a Director of Product Management at Kodak Alaris Inc. He has served his community as a Cub Scout den leader (Chili) for 4 years, a girls and boys soccer coach for Gates and Chili over an 11-year span, as a crisis counselor since 1999 and as an Adjunct Professor of Business at the graduate level for the Saunders College of Business at RIT for 5 years. He is passionate about enabling children's potential and ensuring justice, fair treatment and accountability.

2018-2019 Board of Education Members:

Jeffrey Pettinski, Jr., *President*
Andrea Hinchey Unson, *Vice President*
Andre (Andy) Bailey
Michael Bailey
Katie Coffee
Kelly Glover
Kerri Keyes
Brenda L. James
Marvin Stepherson

Navigating Our New Website

Welcome to the new Gates Chili website. A dedicated team has been working for many months to ensure all our information has been migrated to the newly designed website and new content is added daily.

The information is all there. The pathway to the information has changed. The channels across the top of the website are based on the needs of you the viewer. There are also Global Icon buttons, below the photograph, in the center of the page to direct you to the exact page or log in for high search items: District Calendar, School Tool Parent and Student Portal, Menus, Transportation and Athletic schedules.

The District Calendar is on the homepage as a scrolling horizontal bar of the week's events or choose to view the full calendar. Each school home page has their events in their scrolling horizontal bar. You can use the ical feature on the calendar page to export the information to your personal calendar on your mobile device.

Consider following our social media accounts – Twitter, Facebook and Instagram to learn more about the great things happening in our school buildings and classrooms. Use the website search tool, powered by Google, to find a page or information you need. There is also a translate button in the top right corner for families who need the content in a different language.

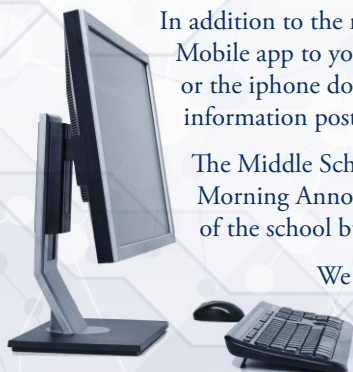
We will continue to work to make sure all links, videos, and forms are working correctly. We thank you for your patience and if you see something that isn't working or you can't find what you are looking for, contact us at: Communications@gateschili.org.

Chrome and Firefox are the best browsers to use to interact with our new website. The new site has a responsive design to provide you the best viewing experience on your desktop, laptop or mobile device.

In addition to the new website, families can download the free Gates Chili Mobile app to your smartphone. You'll find a direct link to either the android or the iphone download on our website under District News. All the information posted to our new website will push out to the Mobile App.

The Middle School Spartan Happenings e-newsletter and the High School Morning Announcements are each posted as a quick link on the left panel of the school building's webpage.

We hope the new updated website and the District mobile app are valuable resources for you. If you have questions or feedback let us know at Communications@gateschili.org.



Developing 21st Century Learners

Gates Chili Central School District is continuing a transition in teaching and learning with the support of 1:1 student laptops. This program referenced as our “digital conversion” is focused on creating a more personalized and engaging environment that is enhanced through the use of digital devices and resources. As part of this program, students will be empowered to learn anywhere, at any time, as well as strengthening their creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. Our digital conversion is about putting the world in students’ hands. We want students to experience, connect, and interact with the world in ways that traditional textbooks and curriculum alone cannot provide.

At Gates Chili, we are committed to developing 21st century learners. The 21st century learner should be able to:

- access the best sources of information beyond the four walls of the classroom.
- work collaboratively, both in person and at a distance, and communicate ideas effectively to multiple audiences using new media.
- use real-world digital and other research tools to access, evaluate, and effectively apply information appropriate for authentic tasks.
- work independently and collaboratively to solve problems and accomplish goals.
- value and demonstrate personal responsibility, character, cultural understanding, and ethical behavior.

The districtwide digital conversion is a continuation of the Smart Schools Bonds Act. This year, Elementary schools will have daily access to 1:1 laptop carts in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5. All Middle and High School students will receive a laptop to use both at school and at home to extend their learning opportunities. This is part of an ongoing initiative in Gates Chili to provide staff and students with interactive technology to support teaching and learning.

Thank You to Our Retirees

Retirees were honored at the June 12, 2018 Board of Education meeting. We wish our retirees the best of luck as they begin this new journey and thank them for the years of service they have dedicated to the children of the Gates Chili Central School District:

The retirees as of June 2018 are:
William Beeke, Karen Bovenzi, Donna Cafolla, Georgina Clancy, Marie Cutaia, Mary Dale, John Gaspar, Menka Gorevski, Barb Hebert, Judy Hilton, Mary Ladd, Kathy Lemcke, Kathleen Lesiv, Annette Locke, Marilyn Luff, Karen McCrossen, Corrine Melvin, Gary Pollock, Rita Proseri, Linda Quinlan, Rosemary Scheuch, Irene Stumberger.



Gates Chili Education Foundation

Greetings from the Gates Chili Education Foundation Board of Directors! We are excited about this opportunity to update you about our foundation. This summer marks the end of our first three years of operation. The Foundation is an independent non-profit organization formed to provide student centered support to the learning community of the Gates Chili Central School District, including the awarding of grants, for funding programs and expenditures, for staff and individual students in need. The Board is composed of volunteers who oversee the operations of this foundation.

Thanks to our many generous individual and business donors, over the past three years we have awarded over \$17,000 to support various staff initiatives that otherwise would not have been funded through the school district. We have also made education related grants to individual students who demonstrated financial need.



Last fall and spring, the Foundation sponsored two (2) Bingo Bonanza fundraising events. A good time was had by all! Thanks to our generous local businesses and other donors, we were able to hand out numerous game and door prizes. Our fundraising efforts will

continue this year. Please consider attending our fall Bingo Bonanza event on Friday, October 19, 2018 and our spring event on Friday, May 3, 2019 in the Gates Chili High School Field House.

--- SAVE THE DATE ---



Another exciting upcoming fundraising event will feature the Harlem Wizards on Friday, March 1, 2019 in the Field House. There will be more information available soon.

Please consider a donation that will enable us to fund more students in need and to provide funding to staff initiatives.

To learn more about the Gates Chili Education Foundation, how to apply for grants, or how you can support the Education Foundation, please visit: www.gceducationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors
of the Gates Chili
Education Foundation

*John A. DiCaro,
Christina M. Fenton,
Thomas M. Tette,
Mary Frances Johnson,
Rhonda J. Laskoski
and B. Andrew Dutcher.*



Gates Chili
Education Foundation
Strive Achieve Grow

2018 Gates Chili Hall of Fame Inductees and Events

The Hall of Fame is designed to honor graduates of Gates Chili High School who have achieved distinction, outstanding accomplishment or significant contribution within their schools, families, careers, communities or personal lives. In addition to honoring selected graduates, a major goal of the Hall of Fame is to provide role models and incentives for current and future students.

The inductees this year will be:

Matthew Bowers - Class of 1999;
Renee Emanuele (Calleri) - Class of 1993;
Dr David Olivo - Class of 1993;
Heather Rogers (McKane) - Class of 1989;
and Jeanine White - Class of 1985.

The Hall of Fame reception will be held at St. John Fisher College on Friday, September 28th at 6:30 pm. Other than Inductees, the cost is \$5.00 at the door. The official induction ceremony will take place during half-time of the varsity homecoming football game, which will begin at 7:30 pm.

DISTRICT WEBSITE FEEDBACK SURVEY

A few months ago, the District launched a newly designed website. The website is an essential communication tool to provide information and resources to our school community. We welcome your suggestions and feedback on the website.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018WebsiteFeedback>

Parents need school supplies too.

(Luckily, it's just a single download away.)



Download the official Gates Chili Schools app today for access to your school's student info, grade alerts, calendars, and much more!

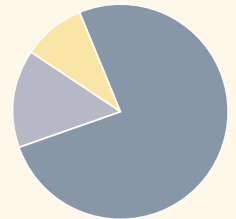


Business Office Update

It has been a busy summer in the Business Office as everyone has been working hard to make our successful transition from our Alio business system to WinCap. One change that has resulted from this has been the way in which we do purchasing. Purchase orders are now entered at the building and department level, and approved and printed in the Business Office. The transition to the new system, combined with users adjusting to new roles in the purchasing process has slowed our summer ordering down a bit. We apologize in advance to anyone who experiences any delays in receiving their beginning of school year orders.

On a different note, we have good news for our taxpayers.

The Board of Education approved the 2018-19 school tax levy at its August 14, 2018 meeting. The tax rates for this year have actually been reduced from \$26.55 per thousand to \$26.35 per thousand.



From everyone in the Business Office, please accept our best wishes for a safe and successful school year.

Elementary Summer Program

The goal of our Elementary Summer Program is to develop and maintain literacy skills, boost student achievement and increase student confidence and love of learning. For our youngest learners, we focused on building students' foundational learning skills through developmentally appropriate activities and experiences. For students in grades 1 through 5, the program included activities designed to motivate students and improve competence in reading and writing. This year we had 180 students participate. Students explored pond life, practiced their reading comprehension skills and learned about the Civil War and the Solar System.



Capital Improvement Project Update

Phase 1.1 of the project was bid in the spring and construction began early in July. The landscape of the stadium site has certainly changed, and the High School roofing project is underway. We anticipate that the roof work will be completed in September, just in time for school to reopen, and before winter sets in. New doors and hardware sets are being replaced at the Middle School, along with some floor patches at exit doors. Please plan to join us for our official "Ground Breaking" event on September 11, 2018. This is a scheduled board meeting that begins at 7 p.m. We will open the meeting in celebration of our capital improvement project kickoff. We hope you can join us. The District values and appreciates the generosity of our Gates and Chili communities in support of this project. It will truly be enjoyed for many years, well into the future. It is with gratitude and optimism that I extend a very genuine thank you!

Phase 1.2 and 1.4 are projected to be approved by the NYSED sometime in August. We will then prepare bid documents for September, and hope to begin construction at Florence Brassler and Paul Road, in late fall/early winter.

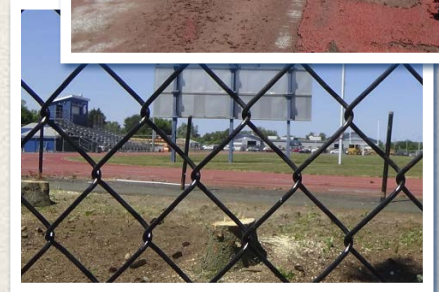


Phase 1.3 is the Middle School renovation, and projected to be approved by NYSED in the spring. Bid documents will go out shortly after, with an anticipated construction start date to coincide with the end of the 2018-2019 school year. We would like to take full advantage of the summer of 2019 to begin demolition and renovation. So exciting!

Phase 1.5 is the High School Auditorium. Final drawings are currently in the design phase and will go off to NYSED by the end of August. We anticipate a construction start date to be in June of 2019.

Phase 1.6 includes renovations and additions at both Neil Armstrong Elementary School and Walt Disney Elementary School. We are currently looking at design and anticipate submission to NYSED to be in January of 2019. Construction will begin at both sites sometime in January of 2020. All work is anticipated to be complete by 2021.

The district, over the next few years, will begin planning for Phase 1A of the project. As you know we anticipate a referendum for voter approval in May of 2020. This phase would then include renovations we have already identified and



include: new kitchens at Florence Brassler and Neil Armstrong; the addition of an auditorium at the Middle School facing Buffalo Road; and additional improvements to the Stadium, the High School, and all elementary schools. Much of the scope will be dependent on our next Building Condition Survey to be completed in 2020.

Please look for updates on Twitter and the Website. We will be hosting our Architectural and Construction Management Team each month during our first board meeting of the month. They will provide updates regarding the timeline for construction, and ensuring that the project is staying on budget. If you should have any questions regarding the project, please do not hesitate to contact me, Kimberle Ward, Superintendent of the Gates Chili Central School District.

~ INTRODUCING NEW STAFF MEMBERS ~

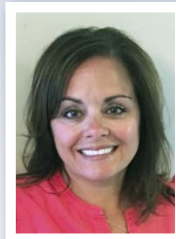


Welcome Dr. Steven Ayers!

Steven will be serving the district as the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business. He joined us on July 1, 2018, and will remain with us until we have hired the permanent, probationary Assistant Superintendent, anticipated to be appointed on or before November 1, 2018.

Steve retired from the Hilton Central School District in 2016 after 20 years as the Assistant Superintendent for Business. He and his wife Patty have six (6) grown children, and six (6) grandchildren. He and Patty spend the warm half of the year living in Hilton, and they are snowbirds in Estero, Florida the other half of the year.

We thank Steve for his thoughtful and professional expertise.



Welcome Angelina Pound!

Angelina joined the Gates Chili Central School District on July 1, 2018. She will be serving the district as the Coordinator of Student and Family Support Services. Angelina comes to us with 20 years of Social Work and Leadership experience from the Marion Central School District. While in Marion, Angelina coordinated the district's school climate transformation grant. This was a

collaborative effort between all Wayne County schools which worked to align the various programs that fall under the Student Support Services umbrella. She was an active member of the Committee on Special Education, Curriculum and Instruction Council, and provided valuable outreach to families connecting them to local resources. She has a long history of working collaboratively to support students, families, and staff to help students achieve academic success. We welcome Angelina and look forward to the good work that will be accomplished as she collaborates with all District stakeholders to support student achievement.

2018-2019 School Nutrition News You Can Use

Good nutrition is critical to student achievement. A well-nourished student will generally have better attendance, be more attentive, and have more energy to take on the day's activities. Now is a great time to encourage your kids to choose school meals! The School Nutrition Program provides tasty, nutritious, and reasonably priced breakfast and lunch meals for both students and staff.



Breakfast is \$1.50 (\$.25 for Reduced or Free to students that qualify)

Lunch is \$2.90 (\$.25 for Reduced or Free to students that qualify)

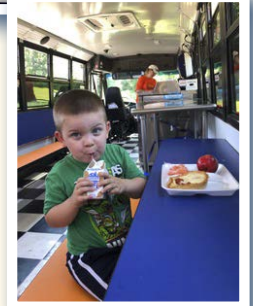
A Carton of Milk is \$.50

You can find menu specifics and snack options by visiting the "MENU" Link on the Gates Chili Website (www.gateschili.org).

We encourage families to track student meal purchases and place money on student accounts using our FREE APP @ www.mypaymentsplus.com, and is available for both "APPLE" and "ANDROID" phones. To set up an account use your child's student ID.

Be sure to apply for Free or Reduced priced meals this summer. An application packet will be delivered to your mailbox in mid-August. You can also find information by using the School Nutrition link on the Gates Chili website, you can complete the application online or download it for convenience.

Our Food Bus has arrived, and it has been busy this summer delivering FREE USDA meals to kids throughout the community this summer! This was a wonderful collaboration and partnership that involved donations from local and regional vendors, along with our own Transportation and Facility staff. The bus and equipment were donated, and our team of staff converted the bus to accommodate meal preparation and service. During the school year, the bus will be used for educational enrichment activities, and may turn up at various community/district events. Keep an eye out for a big white bus with Spartan Eats logos, you can't miss it!



Welcome Carmen DelCorvo to the School Nutrition District Office. Carmen comes to us with eleven (11) years of experience working in the cafeteria at Village Elementary in the Hilton Central School District. Debbi Beauvais, RDN SNS, has started her 19th year as the Director of our programs and both ladies are looking forward to a great 2018-2019 school year.

If you have questions about any of the programs and services School Nutrition offers please feel free to contact them at 247-7213.

Arts Integration - Where have we been and where are we going?

During the 2017-2018 school year, over 60% of students in the district participated in arts integrated curriculum through the A.R.T.S. Partners program with Rochester Broadway Theatre League. We have received much national and local recognition for our commitment to and recognition of the importance of the arts in education. Students in grades K-12 were exposed to live theatre, with many of them attending their first Broadway show. During the school year ahead, we will be continuing this partnership, and looking to expand it to include other community partners and resident artists. Student-centered inquiries will be written around the National Tours of Les Misérables, Fiddler on the Roof, and Miss Saigon, the production of Peter Pan which will be performed by Roberts Wesleyan Community Players, and we will also be connecting our younger Spartans with the performers and productions that are held right here in our district at the Middle School and High School.

However, arts integration is so much more than taking students to a performance and teaching them about it before and after the trip. True arts integration is an approach to teaching and learning through which content standards are taught and assessed equitably in and through the arts. Arts integration brings creativity and problem solving into the classroom, giving students the freedom to demonstrate their knowledge in a variety of ways and focuses on the process of having original ideas. A focus on "critical creativity" will allow students at all grade levels to make connections, transform their knowledge and verbalize the reasoning behind their creative choices in order to make learning more authentic and meaningful. Our Spartans have unbelievable creativity, and we can't wait to watch it shine this year!



Gates Chili High School Peer Leaders Win Monroe County *STOP DWI Radio PSA Contest*

Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo announced the winners of the first annual Monroe County STOP DWI High School Public Service Announcement (PSA) Radio Contest.

The winners taking first, second and third place are all Gates Chili High School students in Janell Bernas' Peer Leaders class. First Place: Maya Blackwell, Kynesha Milwood, and Zionah Campbell; Second Place: Connor Hamilton, Brittany Hargrove; and Third Place: Amanda Andorka, Jessica Donath, and Azizi Sarkis.

The contest invites local high school students to create a 30-second public service announcement about the dangers of drunk driving.

"In our media-focused world, the STOP DWI Radio Contest provides creative opportunity for students to help lead the fight against impaired driving," said Dinolfo.

The students each received a certificate and first place winners received \$400; second place winners received \$200; and third place winners received \$100. The monetary awards will benefit the work the Peer Leaders do to help in the community.

"I told the students about the contest," said Bernas. "We talked about what a PSA is and how to get the audience to feel what you are trying to convey." As a class, the students brainstormed ideas and looked at current commercials and evaluated them.

"I gave them only a few rules," she said. "Elicit emotion, it can only be 30 seconds and be unique - do whatever speaks to you."

The students used two classes to form their group, write the PSA and record it. Thanks to High School Computer Lab Aide Lara Giallombardo and Innovation Coach Michael Munski for assisting the students with the broadcast quality recording.

"I am so proud of them, not just for winning, but for believing in themselves and being original," said Bernas. "Once they had a starting point, they never looked back."

All three Gates Chili Peer Leaders winning entries will be aired on 98 PXY during STOP DWI Labor Day Crackdown taking place August 17 – September 3, 2018.

The judging committee examined a total of twenty entries from local high school students. Each entry was judged on originality, messaging and public safety appeal.



Pictured: (front row l-r) Teacher Mrs. Janell Bernas, Brittany Hargrove and (back row l-r) Kynesha Milwood, Zionah Campbell, Jessica Donath, Connor Hamilton, and Aziz Sarkis.

Not Photographed: Maya Blackwell and Amanda Andorka

Pupil Personnel Services 2018

The Pupil Personnel Services Department has been working diligently this summer to prepare for the 2018 - 2019 school year. As we continue to strive to meet the needs of all learners within the District, this has prompted us to closely examine the services that we offer to meet the learning needs of all students.

Keeping that in mind, we have expanded our programming this year. This includes a special class at the elementary level and the creation of a Communication and Social Skills Program (CASSP) at the Middle School. In creating these programs, we are increasing our level of support for students on the autism spectrum within the District. We have also added a special class at the High School and continue to work to find ways to create the most inclusive environments possible for all students.

Additionally, we have added 2.6 positions to the department to provide early intervention services for our students in the areas of speech language and social-emotional development. We are excited for the new school year to begin as we continue our commitment to work collaboratively to find ways to maximize our effectiveness so that all students can succeed.

As a Pupil Personnel Services Department, we are also pleased to welcome Mrs. Angelina Pound to our administrative team. She brings to our department a wealth of experience and knowledge. We know that great things are on the horizon under her leadership as she works with staff and students around the concept of resiliency.

Visitor Parking

Due to the Capital Improvement Project Site Work happening adjacent to the Central Administration Office Building, parking is a premium. We have designated several parking spots facing the building for our community visitors. Overflow parking will include the spots facing away from the building, those located along Spartan Way, and the large parking area at the High School closest to the Field House entrance.

We apologize for any inconvenience. We are excited about the project and know that it will be all worth the inconvenience over the next year or so. We will continue to assess the parking throughout the school year, and will address any issues and/or problems consistently and as quickly as we can.

If you should have any questions and/or concerns regarding parking, please do not hesitate to contact me - Kimberle Ward, Superintendent of the Gates Chili Central School District.

Also, please remember that this is only the beginning of our capital improvement projects that will impact each of our buildings. Parking will be an issue throughout the project, and please excuse our dust and noise.



Annual Notices

Attendance

If a student is absent the parent or guardian should phone the school to report the absence. Parents of elementary students should call their school main office. Parents of Middle and High School students should call (585)-247-5050 to be connected to the proper attendance office. Students are required to bring a written excuse to the Main Office/Attendance office on the day they return to school. The excuse should be signed by a parent or guardian and should include the date and reason for the absence.

Absences will be categorized in one of two ways:

An Excused Absence includes: personal illness, illness or death in the family, religious observance, quarantine, required court appearance, attendance at health clinics, approved college visits, approved cooperative work programs, military obligations.

An Unexcused Absence is an absence that does not fall into the above categories or any absence from school or scheduled instruction for which a reason is not provided through proper written notification by a parent or guardian to the attendance office.

Code of Conduct

The Gates Chili Central School District Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive, and district personnel may deliver, quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal. The Board has clearly defined these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property in the Board of Education adopted Code of Conduct and Character. The District's complete Code of Conduct & Character, is available for review at each building's main office, as well as on the District website at www.gateschili.org.

Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity Act creates a framework for promoting a more positive school culture through sensitivity training and classroom curricula on diversity.

DASA is intended to give students in public schools an educational environment free from discrimination and harassment. It protects against all forms of harassment, particularly

those based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding DASA, contact the DASA Coordinator: High School Assistant Principal Jennifer_Kern@gateschili.org; Middle School Assistant Principal Rebecca_Scott@gateschili.org; or Elementary School Principals: Brasser Tim_Young@gateschili.org; Disney Elaine_Damelio@gateschili.org; Neil Armstrong Lisa_McGary@gateschili.org and Paul Road Peter_Hens@gateschili.org.

Emergency Closings

In the event of inclement weather or an emergency, the District website at www.gateschili.org will show emergency school closing information. A mass notification call will be made to families. The information will be broadcast on many local television stations, including WHAM Channel 13, WHEC Channel 10, WROC Channel 8, and Time Warner News Cable Channel 9. Closing information can also be heard on local radio stations WHAM, WEZO, WRMM, WPXY, WCME, WVOR, and WXXI-FM. School closings should be announced by 6 a.m. No private or parochial school transportation is provided when Gates Chili Schools are closed. In the event of an early dismissal, announcements will also be made on those stations. Parents whose home is unattended during the day should make prior arrangements for their children to be properly supervised should an early dismissal occur.

Nutrition Program

Gates Chili participates in the Federal Child Nutrition Program. A nourishing breakfast is available daily to students in all elementary schools, the middle school, and high school along with the lunch service offered daily in all buildings. In addition, provisions are made for free or reduced-priced meals. An application for Free and Reduced Meals is mailed home in August and available at each school cafeteria, at www.gateschili.org, or at the District's school nutrition office at Gates Chili Middle School, 2 Spartan Way. Applications are accepted throughout the school year.

Annual Notices

Student Privacy and Privilege

Directory Information

Gates Chili Central School District's policy is to not disclose directory information to outside organizations except to the military and post-secondary schools as required by the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Parents and eligible students may request, in writing, that the school not disclose directory information without prior parental consent. FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents and students age 18 or older certain rights with respect to these records.

Photographs/Video

Throughout the school year, photographs or videos may be taken of students for use in District publications or by the news media to highlight the achievements and accomplishments of our students. Parents have the option of excluding their child (ren) from this type of publicity. If you do NOT want your child photographed or videotaped, you must notify your child's school principal in writing each September. If your child performs in a school play, in a sporting event or a concert open to the school community and or the public, the District has no control over photographs or videos taken by the media, other parents or community members in attendance.

Medical Services

Nurse

If a student should become ill during the school day, a school nurse is available in the health office of each building and can administer first aid treatment. If necessary, the nurse will notify the parent or person designated to be contacted in case of an emergency. Our Medical Director is also available districtwide to provide health related support.

Update Medical Records and Immunizations

This is a reminder to all families that updating your child's medical records, scheduling grade level physicals, and making sure that your child has received their immunizations is important to ensure the health and safety of the Gates Chili learning environment.

New York State Law requires all students to present proof of immunizations before being allowed to attend school. This year, New York State made changes to its immunization requirements. The District requires that proof of immunizations be presented before the first day of school. Students who do not provide proper proof of immunization will not be permitted to continue to attend school.

Contact your child's physician immediately to ensure that your child receives the required immunizations prior to the start of school. An up-to-date copy of those immunizations must be presented to your child's school health office by Friday, August 31, 2018.

Medications

The school nurse is responsible for administering any internal medications to students. A written request from the parent or guardian is necessary before the nurse can administer the medication; a written order from the attending physician must also be on file in the school's health office. The medication must then be delivered directly to the nurse by the parent, in the original prescription bottle, locked in a secure place in the health office, and administered only in the health office.

Health and Welfare of District Buildings

Asbestos Compliance

Asbestos management plans for each school building are available for review. Any questions regarding asbestos removal projects or any asbestos related issues should be addressed to George English, Director of Facilities and Transportation, George_English@gateschili.org or (585) 247-5050 ext. 13100.

Pesticide Notifications

The Gates Chili Central School District maintains a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, staff and community members who wish to receive 48-hour written notification prior to certain pesticide applications. If you would like to receive notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur, please send your request to George English, Director of Transportation and Facilities, George_English@gateschili.org or (585) 247-5050 ext. 13100.

Fire Safety

The annual fire safety inspection for the 2017-2018 school year of all school buildings in the Gates Chili Central School District for fire hazards has been completed and the report is available at the office of George English, Director of Facilities and Transportation, George_English@gateschili.org or (585) 247-5050 ext. 13100. The 2018-2019 annual inspection is underway.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Gates Chili Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, age, marital status, partnership status, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, sexual orientation, gender (sex), military status, veteran status, domestic violence victim status or political affiliation, and additionally does not discriminate against students on the basis of weight, gender identity, gender expression, and religious practices or any other basis prohibited by New York State and/or federal non-discrimination laws in employment or its programs and activities. The District provides equal access to community and youth organizations. Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies should be directed to the Civil Rights Compliance Officers: Michaela Perrotto, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations (Primary) or Carol Stehm, Associate Superintendent for Instruction (Secondary). Please direct all inquiries via (585)-247-5050 or civilrightscompliance@gateschili.org.

Facilities, Security and Transportation

Facilities and Security Summary: It has been an honor to have Doug Ackert join our team this summer as our Interim Custodial Supervisor. Doug's leadership and dedication has made a significant impact on what the facilities and security teams have been able to accomplish this summer.

The high school custodial team has accomplished a lot despite the absence of their leader for the first month of the summer. Thank you to Doug, Frank Mahns and Frank Callea for your leadership and direction in John Lesio's absence and for the hard work of the entire team. The Middle School, Paul Road, and Florence Brassier are all well on their way to being ready for the start of school as well. Thank you again to our head custodians in each of those buildings for your leadership and thank you to the cleaning crews for your hard work on some very hot sticky days.

Neil Armstrong hosted the regional BOCES program and Walt Disney hosted the summer literacy program, so our custodial crews in those two buildings have been busy keeping up with the needed daily requirements of those programs. Both buildings are going to get extra attention from our custodial staff starting the week of August 20th to get them ready for the start of school. Neil Armstrong's gym received a very nice face lift before the BOCES program began. The floor was refinished and repainted. It looks nice!

Our security team has also been very busy this summer supporting the two summer programs at Neil Armstrong and Walt Disney, as well as providing security at the High School and Paul Road for the summer meals programs and for the pickup and drop off times for the summer school students that meet at these two locations for busing to regional summer school.

The tennis courts have been cleaned and repainted to a US Open paint scheme and they look fantastic. Pickle ball lines have been added to six (6) of the courts as well.

The grounds crew has done a great job keeping up with the demands of the summer and added some very nice finishing touches to the front of the Facilities and Transportation Building and around the flag pole at the High School. They also made some changes to the layout of the fields we have available and have all the fields painted and ready to go for the opening of fall sports.

The maintenance team has been very busy with lots of different projects including moving walls around at the administration building, adding power and network connections for the new smart projectors, repairing walls and painting them, replacing old worn out plumbing at Florence Brassier and the High School, and keeping as many of our spaces cool this summer as possible.

Transportation Summary: It has been an exciting summer so far for the Transportation Department as we were able to get our new Food Service Bus on the road. A lot of people deserve a lot of credit for making this awesome bus a reality, especially Matt Helmbold, Andy Porter, Brian Gowanlock, Thad Whittier, Rich LoMonaco, and Eric Vandenberg. A huge thank you goes out to Matthews Bus Services for donating the bus and painting it for us.

Our 15 new buses for the upcoming school year have arrived and most of them have been commissioned and are ready for service. We will have only buses with shoulder restraints at three (3) of our four (4) elementary schools this year and even the 4th elementary school will have a couple of buses with the shoulder restraints. If we are able to continue our plan, next year all of our schools will have buses with shoulder restraints.

We have kindergarten orientation scheduled for August 21st and August 22nd at the Middle School. Kindergarten School Bus Orientation is scheduled as follows:

SCHOOL ATTENDING	DATE / TIME
Neil Armstrong	August 21st 2018 Registration 5:00 PM Orientation will start at 5:30 PM
Florence Brassier / St. Pius X	August 21st 2018 Registration 6:30 PM Orientation will start at 6:45 PM
Walt Disney/ Northstar Christian	August 22nd 2018 Registration 5:00 PM Orientation will start at 5:30 PM
Paul Road School/Archangel	August 22nd 2018 Registration 6:30 PM Orientation will start at 6:45 PM

Transportation Reminder

The Transportation Department reminds all parents that their children should be at the bus stop five minutes prior to their scheduled bus time. All transportation forms can be found under the Parent tab, Transportation at <https://www.gateschili.org/domain/28>. Contact the Transportation Department at 247-4774 with any questions.



**Gates Chili Central
School District**
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2019 Changes to Exemptions for Property Owners Age 65 and Over



To receive the Enhanced STAR exemption, property owners must enroll in the Income Verification Program (IVP).

Property owners enroll in the IVP with their assessor at the time they are applying for or

renewing their Enhanced STAR exemption. They only need to enroll in the IVP once. If eligible for the Enhanced STAR exemption, they will automatically receive the exemption each year thereafter.

In the first year, the assessor will verify their eligibility based on the income information provided.

In the following years, the New York State Tax Department will verify their income eligibility. Property owners will not need to renew the exemption or provide copies of their tax returns to their local assessor.

We will notify the assessor whether the property owner's income satisfies the income eligibility requirement, but we will not disclose their income to the assessor.

Senior citizens exemption recipients must apply for Enhanced STAR separately.

To receive the senior citizens exemption, property owners must apply each year. In the past, older adults who qualified for the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens (also known as the senior citizens or aged exemption) were automatically granted the Enhanced STAR exemption.

Due to changes in New York State law, beginning with applications for 2019, they must apply separately for the senior citizens exemption and the Enhanced STAR exemption.

For more information for property owners:

- [Enhanced STAR Income Verification Program \(IVP\)](#)
- [Enhanced STAR Income Verification Program \(IVP\): Questions and answers for property owners](#)

Questions?

- STAR—518-457-2036
<https://tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/types.htm>
- Property tax relief—518-453-8146
<https://tax.ny.gov/pit/property/property-tax-relief.htm>