



Grandville Calvin  
Christian Schools

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## Grandville Christian School [www.gosquires.org](http://www.gosquires.org)

**GCCS 2019-2020 Theme: "The Wonder of the Story"**

**Theme Verse: "O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood, and I constantly tell others about the wonderful things you do." Psalm 71:17**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY ART OF THE MONTH: WONDER OF GOD'S LOVE**

**January/February Verse: "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you received; freely you give." Matthew 10:8**

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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK . . . .

Welcome to 2020!

I pray that all of our GCS families had a chance to rest and relax over the Christmas break. After two weeks away, it was great to be back with teachers and students again this week, with excitement in the building! It is amazing that we are moving into the second half of the school year and also entering a new decade on the calendar! I am excited not only for what is to come in the next few days, weeks, and months, but I am also excited about the future of Grandville Christian School and Grandville Calvin Christian School. As you may have already seen, we have a few chances to share the strategic plan for the district in a variety of meetings at all three campuses and we would like your feedback through surveys that have been emailed out to our community. We value your feedback as we continue to look ahead, so please take time to complete those over the weekend if possible.

I also want to make sure all of our GCS families know that we are always open to feedback, in both things that are going well and things we can continue to work towards improving, so please let me know at any time if you have questions and feedback to share in celebration as well.

As we move into 2020, I hope to continue to be a partner with you in telling the story of GCCS in all sorts of wonderful ways!

Thank you again for partnering with us at GCS!  
In Christ,

Derek Braman

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### NEW INFORMATION THIS WEEK

**SKATING PARTY!!** School skating parties are coming up soon! These parties, at Tarry Hall Roller Skating Rink, are great ways to build community among our students. Admission is \$4 and all skate/rollerblade rental is \$1. Students are allowed to bring their own skates or rollerblades.

January 21, 3:45-5:45 for 1st and 2nd grades

March 23, 3:45-5:45 for 3rd-5th grades

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### ANNUAL GCCS AUCTION!

DATE: Saturday, February 8, 2020

TIME: 5:15 pm – doors open for registration, Dinner and silent auction begin at 5:30

p.m., Live auction begins at 6:30 p.m.

Special music performance by our first grade students at 6:15 and 7:20 pm.

PLACE: Calvin Christian High School Gymnasium

Reservations for dinner are being accepted now. All you can eat - Dinner will be catered by On the Border - They will offer mild versions of their salsa for those who prefer that. Dinner will be \$10 for 6th grade and up, \$6 for 5th grade and under and free for our 1st grade singers.

Childcare will be available for children potty trained through 5th grade. It will be in our Learning Commons area of the HS. Reservations are required by calling the Calvin Business Office at 616-532-2373 or emailing [jstaalj@gccsmi.org](mailto:jstaalj@gccsmi.org). You can also pre-register through this [link](#).

Don't forget, we have two \$500 tuition credit vouchers that will be drawn at the end of the night. Tickets are \$10 each to enter. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

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**COIN WARS:** Coin Wars are coming back! This fun competition between classrooms is a fundraiser sponsored by the Parent Club and the kids LOVE it! You can start gathering those coins and bills over break so that you're ready for Coin Wars!

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**CALVIN BASKETBALL CLINIC:** Once again this winter the boys basketball coaches will be sponsoring 3 Saturday basketball camps for 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders. All camps will be held at the Calvin Christian High School gym and will be led by Calvin Christian Varsity Coach Ryan Stevens.

The purpose of each camp is to teach and practice the fundamentals of the sport necessary for successful individual and team play. Combining station drills, games, team contests and competitions with individual instruction and staff lectures, we feel we have the right blend to give our campers a thorough understanding of the game of basketball.

Sign up forms are available in the front entrance of Grandville Christian or you can print one [here](#).

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**EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT WISH LIST!** At Grandville Christian we are blessed with wonderful teachers and support staff. Our educational support team uses many different tools to help our students succeed but there are many tools they dream of having to make an even greater impact on our students. If you would like and are able to bless the support team their wish list is listed below. Most of these items can be purchased online and mailed straight to school! [Therapy Shoppe](#), [Puzzle Pieces](#), and Amazon are just some of the online options!

-iTunes \$ cards for iPad app purchases

-Osmo kits (for the new Osmo the school is purchasing to use with an iPad) <https://www.playosmo.com/en/>

-Amazon gift cards (we buy lots of books, sensory & other educational tools - including most items on this list - from Amazon!)

-Body sock, blue or green (available on [Amazon](#) or [Therapy Shoppe](#))

-puzzles

-fidgets

-weighted lap blanket

-weighted stuffed animal

-fluorescent light covers

-wobble stools

-sensory tools

-cooperative games (available on Amazon or on GameWright)

-Magnetic 10 Frame set

-Magnetic letter set (we use a specific type)

-Sensory swing with removable hanger apparatus

-Storage tubs with clip lids

-Playmobil sets (social learning through play)

- ABCya subscription
  - crash pad for sensory room
  - sit'n'spin
  - efficient storage options (ask [Ruth Doorn](#) for more information)
  - gift card to "Really Good Stuff" (an online educational/teachers supply store)
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**GAME CLUB AND CHESS CLUB:** Mrs. Vos is still running the Game Club and Chess Club again! Chess Club started November 14 and Game Club started on November 21! If you missed the previous Chess or Game Clubs, don't worry! There are still more dates! See the attached pages for more information.

[Game Club](#)

[Chess Club](#)

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## CALENDAR ITEMS

January 17, Chapel led by Elenbaas and Cruz classes  
January 21: 1st-2nd grade skating party at Tarry Hall, 3:45-5:45  
January 24: No school, teacher development day/Rebounderz fundraiser  
January 30: Early Childhood Night, 6:30-8:00PM  
February 8: GCCS Auction, doors open at 5:15PM  
February 28: 3rd grade musical

**CALENDAR NOTE:** Our Mid-Winter break is scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2020 OR it's a Snow Day makeup if necessary.

**3RD GRADE MUSICAL:** The Third Graders will be performing their musical, "Not Your Average Joe" on Friday afternoon, 2 pm, here at Grandville Christian on February 28. Parents and friends are welcome to our afternoon presentation of this 1950's style retelling of Joseph and His Brothers Bible story.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Summer Sports Camps! Registration starts January 1, 2020, for students entering grades 1-8. Click [here](#) for more information!

**2019-20 GCCS ACADEMIC [CALENDAR](#):**

**BUSING NOTE:** Just a reminder that there are days that Grandville Public has a half-day of school and we have a full-day. Due to conflicting release times, they will **NOT** be busing our students home in the afternoon. Please make other arrangements on these dates:

January 24, February 20, March 20, and May 29.

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## ELEMENTARY NEWS AND EVENTS



**WE'RE HERE TO HELP:** Grandville Christian School is a caring community who wants to assist all who find themselves struggling financially or who just need a helping hand through a difficult time. We have several ways to do this:

*Shopping Cart:* Near the office there is a shopping cart; anytime you see items in the cart that would be helpful for your family please help yourself! You might just need a can of soup to complete your supper--if it is there, please take it.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?** If your family has been blessed financially and you would like to be a blessing to others there are ways to help.

**Shopping Cart:** Any non-perishable items can be placed in the cart at any time.

**Gift Cards:** The office collects gift cards for groceries and gas that can be given out to families in times of need.

**Benevolent fund:** Donating to this fund helps families who find themselves with a sudden unexpected illness, loss of job, or financial burden. Donations can be given to the office.

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## PARENT CLUB CORNER

**PARENT CLUB IS ON FACEBOOK!** Follow us [here](#) to stay up to date with news, events, and volunteer opportunities at GCS.

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### FUN WINTER ACTIVITIES AND FUNDRAISERS!

**Coin Wars** January 13-17: This fun and friendly competition between classrooms at GCS is a fundraiser sponsored by the Parent Club. This is our favorite fundraiser because the kids LOVE it and the school is energized with excitement as they strategize against each other!

**Spirit Week** schedule for January 13-17:

Monday - Mismatch Day

Tuesday - Sporty Day

Wednesday - Pajama Day

Thursday - Hat & Hair Day

Friday - Squire Day

**Rebounderz Fundraiser!** GCS students are off Friday January 24 for a Staff Professional Development Day and Rebounderz will open their doors at 1pm for a GCS Fundraiser. Just tell the front desk you are there for the GCS Fundraiser and Rebounderz will donate 25% of all admissions on January 24 to Grandville Christian. Please visit the Rebounderz website for new price packages and to sign the waiver for your kids.

**Basketball Game:** Join the GCCS community at Calvin Christian High School on Friday to cheer on the Squires basketball teams: Girls @ 6pm and Boys @ 7:30pm. Parent Club will host face painting for elementary students from 6:45-7:45.

**Buffalo Wild Wings** fundraiser all day January 20 when 20% of sales (dine-in or carry-out) will go back to our school. There will be a digital flyer or just mention that you are there for GCS and our school will get the credit. \*\*If you use Script, BWW script has a bonus of 10% between January 11-17. Buy then and use during the fundraiser!\*\*

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**KEY CARD BOOKS FOR SALE:** Key card books are available in the office to purchase for \$25.00 These make great gifts and offer many discounts around Grand Rapids! Click here (<https://qrkeycard.com>) to view the new book. The proceeds go to our GCS Parent Club.

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## MUSIC NOTES

[Click here](#) to view the Music Calendar of Events for the 2019-2020 school year.

**FIRST GRADE:** The first graders will be singing during this year's Auction 2020 on Saturday, February 8. The students will "sing for their supper" as "On the Border" will be providing our first graders with a free meal for their gift of music. See teacher notes for more details.

**THIRD GRADE:** The third graders will be presenting their musical, "Not Your Average Joe" on Friday, February 28, 2 pm, for parents and friends in the elementary gym. You are welcome to attend!

"Playing music is the brains' equivalent of a full body work out. Playing a musical instrument engages practically every area of the brain at once, especially the visual, auditory, and motor cortices." Dr Anita Collins, Neuromusical Educator

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND WAYS TO HELP IN OUR COMMUNITY



### GET INVOLVED AT GCS

We know that parents are busy so we offer a variety of ways to get involved at GCS: You can volunteer at school or from home, during the school day or during evenings or weekends. Those who can't commit time can help out by purchasing items to celebrate the teachers during staff appreciation week or to provide meals for the staff during parent/teacher conferences. Please [click here](#) to view the volunteer opportunities.

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**NICE TWICE DONATIONS:** Did you know that you may drop off your gently used items at GCS? There's a drop box just outside the office for small items. Large items will need to be dropped off directly to the store. Thank you for your support!

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**LIBRARY:** The library is looking for parent volunteers during class times. Please contact Janna Slot ([jslot@gccsmi.org](mailto:jslot@gccsmi.org)) with any questions. Please [click here](#) to view the opportunities and sign up.

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**PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!:** **We are still in need of volunteers for some morning recess times, 8:00-8:30.** This is truly one of the easiest (and FUN!) ways to give 30 minutes of your time to our students! Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nannies... anyone can do this!

\*Please contact Jill Francisco ([jfrancisco@gccsmi.org](mailto:jfrancisco@gccsmi.org)) for more information and to see how you can help.

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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK:** We love to share what's happening in our classrooms! Search for [Grandville Christian School](#) on Facebook to see more!

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## HOT LUNCH NEWS

To set up your hot lunch account visit [www.sendmoneytoschool.com](http://www.sendmoneytoschool.com). If you need your student's ID number, contact the office. Please make sure you check your account balance and keep it updated for hot lunch or send money in.



If you have specific questions, please contact Whitney TeBos in Grandville Food Service at [wtebos@gpsbullogs.org](mailto:wtebos@gpsbullogs.org) or 616-254-6404.

[Click here](#) to view the website and monthly menu(s).

**HOT LUNCH MENU ALLERGY CONCERNS:** Please contact Jeff Ward, our GPS Food Service Director, if you have any questions or concerns relating to menu items that your child may be allergic to. His number is (616) 254-6525, and he is more than happy to discuss allergy policies and procedures with our hot lunch program.

**PIZZA DAYS:** Pizza day is a favorite here at GCS. If your child orders two slices of pizza, the way it will be billed to your [www.sendmoneytoschool.com](http://www.sendmoneytoschool.com) account will look a little different. Instead of seeing two charges, you will now see one charge of \$4.05 (\$2.50 for the first slice and \$1.55 for the second).

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GRANDVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE:** Grandville Little League sign ups started on December 1! Click [here](#) for more information.

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**Job opportunity:** De Haan Tile and Floor Company is hiring! Click [here](#) for more information.