

GARFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

500 Palisade Avenue
Garfield, New Jersey 07026

Dorotea M. D'Amico
Principal

Christopher Annibal
Vice Principal

Phone: (973) 340-5010
Fax: (973) 546-8430
www.gboe.org
Twitter: @Principal_GHS



Jennifer Botten
Vice Principal

Brian Cameron
Vice Principal

Welcome
back!

ENCOURAGE * INSPIRE * SUPPORT

August 24, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and that you have had the opportunity to enjoy, rest and recharge during the summer months. At school, the summer has been spent planning for exciting changes!

I am delighted to welcome several new administrators to GHS this school year. We have two new vice principals to introduce: Mr. Christopher Annibal and Mr. Brian Cameron. Mr. Todd Williams joins us as school disciplinarian. Mr. Annibal brings with him 25 years of experience in Garfield as a social studies teacher, coach, guidance counselor, and administrator. As part of his role at GHS, Mr. Annibal will oversee the new Success Academy. Mr. Cameron began his tenure in Garfield in 2004 as a social studies teacher, coach and then curriculum supervisor. Mr. Williams also has been a teacher and coach in the district for 24 years. Each of these administrators brings with them experience, dedication and commitment to our youth and a desire to always develop and expand our programs. We are excited to have Mr. Annibal, Mr. Cameron and Mr. Williams join our team and wish them each a long and successful tenure!

School re-opens on Wednesday, September 7th. The schedule is listed below, on our website and will be emailed to students. Over the past two school years, we have implemented numerous safety and cleaning protocols districtwide, and over time, we have modified those protocols as deemed necessary and appropriate. We will continue to maintain this fluid approach as we begin this school year.

Schedules will be made available through Parent and Student Portals on September 1. At this time, we are not able to make schedule changes. Once school begins, guidance counselors will be in communication with students. Access to Parent Portal and Student Portal will be the same as in previous years. Freshmen and New students will be issued a username and password. I strongly encourage you to use Parent Portal and have your child use their Student Portal (two different accounts). You can continue to log-in using your current username and password (<https://www.fridayparentportal.com/garfield>). Both Parent and Student Portals will allow you access to information pertaining to your child's school records, including attendance, documents, announcements, progress reports and report cards. These documents will not be mailed home. Take note that there is a 'Documents' link in Parent Portal. We will use that link to share information electronically. You will be required to acknowledge documents in Parent Portal once you log-on. This will take the place of the documents that previously required to be returned to school with signatures. *It is so especially important that we have current phone numbers, addresses and emails. Please be sure to verify them when you log on to Parent Portal.*

The 2022/2023 GHS Student Handbook is available on our homepage: ghs.gboe.org and on Portal. Students will also receive an email with a link to the Student Handbook. As always, it will include calendars, schedules, dress code and school information, activity information, graduation and testing information and requirements, expectations, protocols, and policies. Please familiarize yourself with the handbook. If you cannot access it online, please call the school office.

The student uniform dress code has been updated for this school year. A committee of students, teachers, administration met at the end of the school year to discuss and plan for the upcoming school year. I would like to acknowledge their challenging work and thoughtful discussion. Below is a summary of the dress code; additional information is available in the student handbook beginning on page 21. Student dress code will be enforced this school year.

- Dress Code
 - As part of the dress code, students may purchase shirts and outerwear through school uniform vendors or fundraisers. In all cases, clothing must be in good condition and fit appropriately.
 - Shirts/Outer Layers
 - Purple (no other colors) polo-style shirt with collar and district logo (short or long sleeve)
 - Garfield/Boilermaker t-shirts in any color, but white.
 - Plain purple, black, or gray sweaters, fleeces, zip-ups, sweatshirts/hoodies* with or without district/athletic logo.
 - Bottoms
 - Khaki or black pants.

- Khaki or black skirts no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Khaki or black shorts no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Not permitted
 - Jeans, of any color
 - Stretch or spandex pants/shorts
 - Hoodies
 - For additional information, please refer to the handbook.

Freshmen Orientation

Orientation for Freshmen will be held on Thursday, September 1st. We will hold two orientation programs: grade 9 students with:

- Last names A – L report to GHS at 11 a.m.
- Last names M – Z report to GHS at 1:30 p.m.
- School appropriate dress. Masks are optional.
- Freshmen will also receive a Class of 2026 Teams notification.

All Students

- The first day of school is **Wednesday, September 7th (A-Day) and will be a one-session day. Thursday and Friday, September 8 (A-Day) and 9 (B-Day)** will also be one-session days. The schedule is included below.

Student Arrival: 8:00 - 8:26
Block 1: 8:30 – 9:33
Block 2: 9:37 – 10:37
Block 3: 10:41 – 11:41
Block 4: 11:45 – 12:45
Lunch: 12:45 – 1:15

Additionally,

- All students have been assigned GBOE email addresses along with access to Microsoft Office 365. It is important that students check school email regularly.
- Students will use only their school GBOE accounts for any related school communication.
- Please familiarize yourself with the district site: www.gboe.org
- The direct link to the GHS site is: ghs.gboe.org
- Please be sure to complete summer assignments. Again, this information was shared with all students during the last school year. Additional information can be found on the GHS site under the Summer Assignments tab or directly at: <http://ghs.gboe.org> (Summer Reading)
- Per district protocol, at this time we are limiting in-person conferences at the school. If you need to speak to anyone, please call or email. Staff email can be found at: http://ghs.gboe.org/staff_directory If an in-person meeting is necessary, an appointment is required to be made ahead of time.
- Emergency cards will be distributed on the first day of school to students. Please complete and return by Monday, September 12, 2022.

Also, be reminded that I have a GHS Twitter account that I use for general reminders as well as up to the minute announcements (such as changes in daily schedules). Feel free to follow me at [@Principal_GHS](https://twitter.com/Principal_GHS). The Twitter feed is also available on our GHS home page. Take the time to become familiar with our school website for additional information.

Back to School Night will be Thursday, October 6th. More information will follow [through Parent Portal](#). Thank you, in advance, for your patience and cooperation, as we begin to settle into a new school year. If there are any questions, please call the school office. On behalf of the entire GHS administration and faculty, let me extend my wishes to everyone for a successful school year!

Sincerely,



D. D'Amico
Principal



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WE DO NOT DISCRIMINATE AS TO AGE, RACE, CREED, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR DISABILITY.