

Grass Valley Elementary

School Newsletter • November 6, 2020

From the Principal

Dear Grass Valley School Community,

Fall is here, the leaves are changing and the air is a little more crisp. The change of seasons brings on the anticipation and excitement for winter holidays and family traditions. We will all be making some sort of modifications to our holiday traditions for the 2020 season. Camas School District also made modifications to our conference schedule. Instead of our usual fall conferences, we had more informal check-ins with families this week. Given our remote learning start, CSD decided to move the more formal parent conferences to the week of Feb. 1-5.



As you might have heard by now, all Camas elementary schools will be starting small-group kindergarten on Nov. 9. Camas, as well as many other school districts in Clark County, has been and will continue working with the state Department of Health and Clark County Public Health. CCPH supports bringing back our kindergarten students in groups of 10 or fewer utilizing mitigation strategies against COVID-19 transmission. We are currently working with our GVE kindergarten families on specific logistics. There have been no changes to the current plan in regard to starting our hybrid model for the rest of our students. We are still looking for three consecutive weeks with moderate to low levels of new COVID-19 cases in order to start the hybrid learning model. We will reach out to you as soon as we begin to approach that possibility. As a reminder, there will be options for those who wish to continue the remote learning pathway.

We also want to welcome our new PTA co-presidents, Charmaine Lightheart and Dawn Redmond, and to thank our out-going co-presidents, Amanda Rinesmith and Lynette Shaw, for their energy, hard work and dedication to the support of our Grass Valley school community.

In an effort to maintain a few traditions from our “normal” school year, we are offering a fall Scholastic Book Fair, online only. The Grass Valley fair will be open Nov. 9-22. You’ll find all the details later in this newsletter.

We want to thank you for your partnership and the continued support you are providing for your child(ren) and families. We know it can be overwhelming at times. It is important that we stay strongly

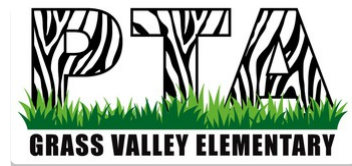
connected and continue to pay close attention to self-care strategies for ourselves and our Zebras. Below are a couple of reminders about past wellness opportunities that are worth your time. The Camas School District's [All-Student Wellness website](#) also offers a range of resources.

- If you did not get a chance to view our CSD wellness guest Lael Petersen, MSW, and her presentation last month, you can view a recording of the webinar, "Managing Online Learning: A Survival Guide for Parents." [Watch the webinar](#) (passcode: spSb.+L3).
- There is also an SEL Podcast with CSD Social-Emotional Wellness Liaison Jennifer McMillan from September: [Listen here](#).

Regards,

Sean McMillan, principal

PTA News



NEW CO-PRESIDENTS: Charmaine Lighthouse and Dawn Redmond were elected as our new co-presidents at the general membership meeting Oct. 22. With all of our major fundraising programs canceled or delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic, we are currently dipping into our small reserve fund in order to cover our monthly operating costs. We humbly ask that you read below for ways that you can help support us through this time, if you are financially able. Thank you.

SHOPPING FUNDRAISER: We'll be having a "Shop-Around" fundraiser on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 11 AM to 7 PM at Mapel Boutique in Camas, in the QFC shopping center. Mention our fundraiser when you shop and GVE PTA will receive 20% of the purchase price. For online purchases, enter "Grass Valley" in the notes at checkout.

SPIRIT WEAR SALES: Give the gift of Grass Valley spirit for your winter holidays! GVE clothing is for sale online or in person via [Papermaker Pride](#) in downtown Camas. Curbside pickup is also available. A portion of each sale helps support our PTA. Visit their website, select the "Schools" menu, and select youth or adult sizes under the Grass Valley menu to browse and place orders.

PAYBACK BOOK FUNDRAISER: Our annual Payback Book fundraiser is still going. Sales are all online and ship directly to you. The [books](#) feature coupons for local businesses and cost \$20 each, with \$10 of each sale going to our PTA. Each physical book also comes with an optional app version if you prefer. To purchase, go to [paybackbook.com](#). Then, click on "Purchase a 20/21 Payback Book," select "Referred by a School or Group? Click here!" and choose our school. Please share this information with friends and family! You can save on shipping by bundling orders.

FRED MEYER: GVE PTA is now participating in the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. If you have a store loyalty card, you can choose us as your charity to support us all year! Simply log in to your Rewards account online, go to "My Account" and select Community Rewards from the menu options. Search for Grass Valley and click "enroll" to select us as your charity.

AMAZON: When you're shopping online, remember that we are also part of the Amazon Smile program. Shop Amazon via [smile.amazon.com](#), type "Grass Valley PTA 3 6 65" as your charity and 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases will be donated to our PTA.

DIRECT DONATIONS: We'll gladly take a cash donation through [our PayPal account](#). We also accept checks payable to GVE PTA mailed to or dropped off at school.

Fall Book Fair launches online

We will have our first ever online only book fair Nov. 9–22. While we wish it could be in person like usual, we're pleased to still be able to carry on our tradition of a fall book fair and provide a safe way to get new books into our children's hands. We hope your family will enjoy checking it out.



Fair dates: Nov. 9–22

Online store: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/gvebookfair>

Scholastic Book Fair flyer: bookfairsfiles.scholastic.com/flippingbooks/F20-custom-booklist/F20-custom-booklist.html#p=1

Features include:

- Grass Valley's own online store, with a large selection of titles, at the right price points.
- A Virtual Fair so you and your kids can experience the magic of the school shopping experience. Browse titles by grade, meet popular authors, and discover the comfort and joy of our fair.
- Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly (25% back in rewards). This funds our program to give every GVE student a free book.
- Items will be shipped directly to your home address. Shipping is free with purchases of \$25 or more.

From the Librarian: Curbside checkout coming soon!

Great news! Grass Valley's library will begin curbside book checkouts this month! Our first curbside pickup is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 12 to 2 PM. Students can reserve their selections through the [Destiny](#) website. They should log in with first.last name and password of zebras. They can put books on hold and I will pull them for curbside checkout. Look for more information in Clever, on Mrs. Linton's page.

I also want to let you know about two great – and free! – online opportunities to bring more books and stories into your children's lives.

BookFlix: Thanks to our PTA, we were able to purchase unlimited access to this new collection of e-books and learning activities through Scholastic. These fiction and nonfiction resources are especially good for students in grades K–3. You can access [BookFlix online](#) with the username and password grassval.

Epic: [Epic](#) is an online library of eBooks, AudioBooks, "Read-to-Me" books and educational videos available at no cost to educators and students (during school hours). Educators can see what books students are reading, assign books or collections, create quizzes about books and see how many minutes/titles students have read. It's a great way to give our students access to a library from home. Epic School refers to the free, full library version of Epic available to teachers and students (but limited to school hours – 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday). Epic Free refers to the free access parents can sign up for that will allow students two free hours of reading time outside the school day per week and access to a limited library. Families who want full access to Epic 24/7 would need to subscribe to Epic Unlimited.

All Grass Valley students have Epic School simply by being signed up as students here at GVE. Here is a link to all [class codes for Epic](#).

Many teachers will create collections for their students within Epic that are individualized to their reading levels and interests. What you may not know is that I am also sharing collections in Epic that are based on themes of books that we are sharing together during live and on-demand library lessons.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Erin Linton, teacher librarian



You can still help 'Stuff the Bus' this year

CSD's annual "Stuff the Bus" community food drive will still be held this year, but without a competition between classrooms. Beginning Monday, Nov. 9, donation bins for new nonperishable canned/package food and toiletry items will be available outside in the back of Grass Valley each day between 7 AM and 3 PM, with final pickup on Friday, Dec. 11. Cash and check donations can be made at Camas High School; more information will be coming soon about how to make a donation online.

This month's staff appreciation prize winners

The PTA had another drawing to give away three gift cards for staff appreciation for November. Watch this [short video](#) of our student drawing to learn who the lucky winners are. Congratulations from the Grass Valley PTA Staff Appreciation Committee, and thanks to everyone who has donated a gift card. We welcome more gift card donations for future raffles – just mail or drop them off at school. We'll have another drawing next month.

Calendar

November 9-13 – Zebra Week

November 9-22 – Online Book Fair

November 9 – Kindergarten Cohort A (M/Tues) starts 8:00 to 11:45 AM

November 9 – Stuff the Bus food collection begins in back of school (runs through December 11)

November 11 – Veterans Day Holiday, no school

November 12 – Kindergarten Cohort B (Th/F) starts 8:00 to 11:45 AM

November 13 – 4th grade supply pickup, 11:45 AM-?

November 16-20 – Green Week

November 16-22 – Online Book Fair

November 18 – Library book curbside checkout, 12:00-2:00 PM

November 18 – 3rd grade supply pickup, 12:00-2:00 PM

November 23-27 – Zebra Week

November 25, 26, 27 – Thanksgiving Holiday, no school

November 30-December 3 – Green Week

December 2 – End of 1st trimester

December 10 – Report cards go home

NOTE: You can also find calendar information in ParentSquare.

Contact Us

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<http://schools.camas.wednet.edu/grassvalley/>

Grass Valley PTA: Visit us at <http://grassvalleypta3665.weebly.com>,

"like" us on Facebook and follow gvezebraspta on Instagram.



This newsletter is published monthly during the school year by Grass Valley Elementary and the PTA.

You can email the newsletter coordinator, Nancy Nilles, at newsletter@gvezebraspta.org. To add email addresses to the mailing list, contact GVE Head Secretary Aileen Hay at 360-833-5710.