

General Information

Equal Rights Policy Statement

GC Schools do not discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, age, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status. Discrimination claims may be filed with the superintendent.

Student Insurance

Student insurance can be purchased through the school. Kids' Connection insurance is available for qualifying families. Information will be distributed on the first day of school to all students.

Student Health and Immunizations

According to state law, all students are required to have up-to-date health records on file with the school in which they are enrolled. To receive immunizations at the Regional West-Garden County call (308) 772-3283 for more information.

Student Health Screenings and Lion's Club Vision and Hearing Screenings will be conducted **October 3**.

Computer/Internet Use

School policy requires all K-12 students and staff to sign a computer/Internet user agreement, prior to using the computer or Internet at school. The user agreements are included in the student handbooks. Signing the handbook form indicates students/parents/staff are aware of and agree with the user agreement policy. The signed form must be returned to the office before a student may use a computer for educational purposes.

GCJH/HS Technology Boot Camp

GCJH/HS Computer Boot Camp Night is **August 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the GCHS Gym**. All students in grades 7-12 and their parents are required to attend this camp. **Contact Sheila Litke at (308) 772-0104 for more information.**
The computer fee for students in grades 7-12 is \$100 and the \$25 student fee also has to be paid before they may take the computer home. Students and parents who can't attend the boot camp can check out their computer and pay the fees on or after August 17.

High School Registration

High School registration will be held on **Monday, August 8th at GCHS** during the following times:
10:00-11:00 a.m. Seniors
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Juniors
1:00-2:00 p.m. Sophomores
2:00-3:00 p.m. Freshmen

Any student who has not registered by August 11th will have schedules developed for them by the guidance counselor and principal.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is important for students to be successful in school.

Please call the principal's office before 8:00 a.m., if your student will be tardy or absent from school for any reason.

Garden County Elementary

(308) 772-3336

Garden County High School

(308) 772-3242

The entire attendance/tardy policy can be found in the Parent/Student Handbook.

PowerSchool Electronic Student Record System

Parents are encouraged to access academic and attendance information concerning their student on the electronic system. Parents may obtain a password and assistance from their school secretary. The website address is <http://gardencounty.powerschool.com>.

PowerSchool will have some new features this year. A single sign on will allow parents to log in with one username and password and access all their students accounts.

Information and instructions for set up will be disseminated at boot camp for high school and junior high and open house for elementary.

Childfind

Garden County Schools asks you to assist us in our "Nebraska Child Find" efforts.

This is an ongoing statewide search for all unserved children with disabilities or developmental delays, ages birth through 21. If you know of a child who is experiencing difficulties with motor development, speech and language, vision, hearing or learning, please refer the parent to the number below.

Garden County Schools will provide an educational evaluation at no cost to the parent. If the child qualifies under Nebraska law, a free and appropriate educational program will be developed to meet his/her educational needs. To contact us please call:

Teresa Jenkins
Garden County Schools
(308) 772-3336



Communication Sources

In an effort to maintain all possible communication sources, Garden County Schools will offer numerous ways for parents, students, community members and all other interested citizens to stay abreast of happenings at the schools.

The primary sources are:

- Garden County Schools' web site- <http://www.gardencountyschools.org>
- Garden County News-the official newspaper of the school district.
- Garden County Schools' Facebook page

(The official newspaper will run at least two issues mailed to all residents of Garden County, even those who do not subscribe to the paper. One will be in July or August with back-to-school information. The district's annual report to patrons will be printed over the winter break.)

- Notices sent home with students
- Mailings with timely information
- Information provided on sports programs and health updates
- Information sent home with midquarter and quarterly report cards
- Radio announcements as needed (school closings)
- Phone calls to students' homes, when necessary
- School Messenger calls with time sensitive information to all parents and businesses
- Teachers are available via emails and voice mail messages before/after school.
- Power School website for academic and attendance status

Annual Notice of Non-Discrimination Public Notice Garden County High School

Students, their families, and potential employees of Garden County High School are hereby notified that Garden County High School does not discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, age, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in employment, career, and technology programs or activities set forth in compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations. Any persons having inquiries concerning Garden County High School compliance with Title II, Title IV, Title IX and/or section 504 may contact:

Dr. Paula Sissel, Superintendent
200 W. 4th Oshkosh, NE 69154
(308) 772-0182 psissel@gceagles.org

Garden County High School offers the following career and technical education programs for all students regardless of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, gender or disability, including those with limited English proficiency: Agriscience, Animal Science, Rangeland Management, Plant Science, Intro to Food Science, Livestock Nutrition, Personal Finance, Accounting I, Accounting II, Rural Entrepreneurship, Intro to Industrial Technology, Advanced Woods, Advanced Metals, Small Engines, Construction.

Persons seeking further information concerning career and technical education offerings and specific pre-requisite criteria should contact:

Michelle Dormann
200 W. 4th Oshkosh, NE 69154
(308) 772-0104 mdormann@gceagles.org

To obtain this information in a language other than English, call (308) 772-3336.

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SPORTS INFORMATION

All athletes are required to have sports' physicals and proof of insurance prior to the first practice*

• School Sports Physicals are **FREE at Regional West Garden County this year**. There will NOT be physicals given at school before the code of conduct meeting this year. Please call (308) 772-3283 to schedule a physical. Clinic hours are 9 AM-5 PM Monday-Friday.

• Physical forms are available at the GCJH/HS office and on the school website <http://www.gardencountyschools.org>

• Physicals include a vision exam so please remember corrective eyewear.

• **2016-2017 GCJH/HS Code of Conduct** meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 1 in the High School gym.

• GCJH/HS fall sports' meeting for football, volleyball, cross country and girls' golf will follow the Code of Con-

duct meeting.

All GCJH and HS students unable to attend the Code of Conduct meeting on August 1, and who have not signed a Code of Conduct for the 2016-2017 school year, will have to call the school to schedule a meeting with the Athletic Directors at (308) 772-3242 and sign the code of conduct. They will not be allowed to practice until they have met with the Athletic Directors.

Opening Practice Dates

Football:

Conditioning:
August 1: 7 p.m.-after Code of Conduct Meeting
August 2-5: 8:00 a.m.

Practice:

August 8: Schedule will be given to players at the Code of Conduct Meeting

Volleyball:

August 1: Code of Conduct and mandatory meeting 6:00 p.m.

Conditioning:

August 8-12: 7:00-7:45 a.m.

Two a day practices:

August 15-19: 7:00-7:45 a.m. and 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Golf:

August 1: Code of Conduct Meeting 6:00 p.m.
August 8: Practice

Cross Country:

Conditioning:

Week of July 24 and July 31-Run on your own for at least 15-20 miles per week at a very easy pace
August 8-12: Team Conditioning 5:00 p.m.
August 15: Practice 4:00 p.m.
August 16: Team Meeting in Mr. Hyatt's room 4:00 p.m. with practice to follow

Admission & Season Passes

GCJH/HS Season Passes
Adults-\$35
7-12 Students-\$25
Family-\$70

Early Childhood Program

Sixpence Early Learning

Garden County Public Schools and Volunteers of America - Western Nebraska have been awarded a considerable grant by the Sixpence Early Learning Fund to serve 12-15 at risk infants and toddlers through a family engagement home visiting program in both Deuel and Garden Counties. This program will use the Parents as Teachers curriculum focusing on providing information, support, and encouragement for parents to help their children develop during the first years of life. As parents are their children's first and most influential teachers, this program will help build a foundation of parent education and family support.

"Sixpence pursues its goal by helping Nebraska parents provide safe, stimulating, supportive environments and relationships during the critical early years of life," said Amy Bornemeier, grant administrator for the fund. "This is especially important for families who face significant challenges in meeting the developmental needs of their youngest children."

Approximately two million dollars of funds were awarded to 16 community partnerships throughout the state. There are only two Sixpence programs in the panhandle, one awarded to Scottsbluff Public Schools and the one awarded to Garden County Public Schools, serving both Garden and Deuel Counties. This award was possible by a close partnership with Volunteers of America - Western Nebraska, Garden County Schools as well as both Creek Valley and South Platte Public Schools.

Families participating in this program will work with the Home Visiting Educator three times per month, to work on engagement plans. These plans will assist parents in developing their children's earliest learning experiences.

The program began serving families in October, 2015. Families can be referred or contact the Volunteers of America Office (308)-778-5548 in Lewellen, for more information

OPEN HOUSES and Technology Meeting Information

VOA-WN Preschool Open House:

August 9 from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Preschool

GCE: Technology Information Meeting and Open House August 15 - 6:00 p.m. in the gym

Technology Boot Camp and GCJH/HS Open House

All Students Grades 7-12 GCJH/HS:
August 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the main gym

Tours of GCJH/HS will be available, after computers are checked out and fees paid.

Any student who **does not attend** Technology Boot Camp will need to pay fees and get their computer beginning August 17.

Parent Involvement Meeting will be held in the student lobby at 6:00 p.m. before Technology Boot Camp.

High Ability Learner Program (HAL)

- Students in Grades 4-12 will be screened this fall for HAL.
- Parents may be asked to fill out a survey about their child.
- HAL students are screened annually for the program.
- HAL program qualifies approximately 10% of the student body.
- HAL is a voluntary program and students who qualify are not required to participate.

Questions may be directed to Mr. Assmann at GCJH/HS and Mrs. Stanczyk or Mrs. Stegman at GCE.

GCE Before and After School Program-"Champs"

GC Schools is beginning our 11th year with a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to provide an after school program to our elementary students.

The after school program will begin directly after school and be open until 6:00 p.m. daily (with the exception of Fridays, with a 5:00 p.m. dismissal time). An afternoon snack will be provided to all who attend. Parents or guardians will be required to pick up their child at the end of the day and sign their child(ren) out. (The times of the programs are subject to change according to family needs and staffing availability.)

Charges for the program will be based on free/reduced lunch status and family incomes. Parent handbooks providing specific information and details will be available for participating students and parents. Additional information will be sent home with all elementary students on the first day of school or can be obtained by calling GCE. Carrie Hoagland is the site director of the program.

Staff Qualification Notice

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 gives parents the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, GC Schools will provide the following information about their child's classroom teacher:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher.
- Parents may also get information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree. We will also, upon request, tell parents whether their child is being provided services by a paraeducator and, if so, the qualifications of the paraeducator. The request for information should be made to an administrator in your child's school building. The information will be provided to you in a timely manner. Finally, GC Schools will give timely notice to you if your child has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the Act.

Dual Credit Classes at Garden County High School

Students at Garden County High School have the opportunity to take online classes to help prepare themselves for college. Dual credit classes can be a great way for students to go in to college with several courses already completed. High-ability students can take challenging courses that are not provided by our staff. This keeps students actively engaged and excited about going to college. Students have the opportunity each semester to sign up for online or distance learning college courses.

Students who take a dual credit course can apply for Nebraska's Access College Early (ACE) Scholarship. To qualify for a dual credit course, students must have a minimum ACT score or a minimum score on the Compass Test. The Compass Test is scheduled through the high school and WNCC test administrators. The guidance counselor also visits with the students to see if they are ready to take the responsibility of an online college-level course. If you have any other questions or would like more information, please contact **Michelle Dormann** at the high school.

Garden County TeamMates

Garden County Schools are in need of mentors for upcoming year. Please contact **Pamela Jeffrey at (308) 772-3242** if you are interested in being a TeamMate mentor for the 2016-17 school year. This is an incredible program that helps our youth achieve their goals in life!

Notice Concerning Disclosure of Student Recruiting Information

NCLB requires GC Schools to provide military recruiters & institutions of higher education access to secondary school students' names, addresses, & telephone listings. Parents & secondary students have the right to request that GC Schools not provide this information (eg.: not provide the students' name, address, & telephone listing) to military recruiters or institutions of higher education, without their prior written parental consent. GC Schools will comply with any such request.

VOA-WN Preschool

The Volunteers of America-Western NE Preschool is located at Garden County Elementary, 800 W. 2nd, Oshkosh. Children must be 3 years old by July 31 to attend. Register at Garden County Elementary or call (308) 772-3336 for registration forms. Head Start applications are also available this year; proof of income and proof of birth is also needed.

Birth Certificate and Immunization records must be provided for all children.

Transportation will be provided to/from Kids' Cottage and Kicks & Giggles.

Morning class starts at 8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. with breakfast and lunch served. Afternoon class starts at 12:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m., with lunch and snack served.

An Open House will be held on Tuesday August 9 from 5:00- 6:00 p.m.

**PRESCHOOL CLASSES
BEGIN Tuesday August 16**

BACK TO SCHOOL!

School Supplies

Elementary

Unless your child receives a supply list in the mail from their classroom teacher, classroom supplies will be provided.

Junior and Senior High School

Although students may receive additional information from teachers on the first day of school, the following items are suggested: pencils, pen (blue or black), spiral notebooks for each of their class subjects, separate spiral notebook for classes requiring journals, loose leaf notebook paper.