



Voices of the Valley

Vol. 10, No. 1

September 2000

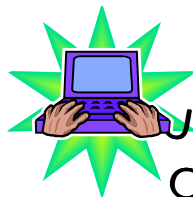
WWW.garnetvalleyschools.com

Debuting the end of September, the Garnet Valley Website is a welcome addition to the Information Highway for our district. Watch for our kick-off celebrations!

The web pages will have current information about the school and all activities.

Menus, calendars, Board meeting notes, telephone directories, classroom highlights, community news and much more will be available for all internet users at home, school, and work.

Anywhere the web is, you can see it.



Just a
Click
Away!

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GVSD Growing...

The **Delaware County County Planning Commission** has released the 1999 annual report and the data is very revealing about growth in Garnet Valley. Overall the county saw a significant upsurge in residential units. Concord and Bethel Townships are the leaders among

the 6 municipalities that account for 82% of the growth in the county. Concord Township, the fastest growing municipality in the County, had over three times the number of residential units proposed last year (986) compared to 1998 (317). The growth rate in Bethel Township was almost four times the 1998 figure with 417

units proposed in 1999. Concord has also had a significant increase in nonresidential development applications.

Additional housing continues to bring more families and children to our district. The data in this newly released report indicates that our district will continue to expand to meet the needs of new residents.



update!

Back to School

September 5 - K to 9

Garnet Valley School District will open its doors for the 2000-2001 school year on Tuesday, September 5. All students in grades 1-9 will attend a half-day session on September 5th, followed by a full day for all students on Sept. 6. For September 5th only, AM kindergarten will report from 9-10; PM kindergarten will report from 10-11.

GVMS Going to Washington to Accept Blue Ribbon!

National Blue Ribbon Festivities are going to be held in Washington, DC September 21st through 23rd. Garnet Valley will be represented by **Principal Rick Dunlap, teacher Lisa McAndrews and student Amanda Campbell**. Dr. Dunlap and Mrs. McAndrews represent the staff for this award presentation and Amanda represents the students. Staff, parents and students were all involved in the Blue Ribbon application and inspection processes but only three can actually receive the award at the formal ceremony. Amanda represents the efforts of 24 students and was the lucky "draw

names from a hat" winner of the honor. A cheering section of family, friends, staff and administrators will be on hand to witness the event and participate in the festivities celebrating the Blue Ribbon honor.

Only eight schools in Pennsylvania are national winners of this prestigious national award and all who worked hard on the project are to be commended. The Middle school is a **WINNER!** Congratulations to all who made this a reality, and who worked hard to achieve the Blue Ribbon Standards.



Dr. Rick Dunlap, student Amanda Campbell and teacher Lisa McAndrews will accept the Blue Ribbon Award for GVMS in Washington, D.C.

Garnet Valley Adult Evening School Catalog In This Issue

Application Software & Technology Grant Sun Micro Systems & SAP America

Installed and ready to go. **SAP America, Widener University, Garnet Valley HS** Business department, and six other schools in the eastern USA are collaborating on a program to include units of study on the use of Enterprise Software. **SAP America** is donating their suite of integrated software to Widener. Garnet Valley School District was selected to receive a classroom full of Sun Ray desktop computers from **Sun Microsystems**. GVHS students will use these workstations to access the SAP system being hosted by Widener. On August 17, Sun sent John Greenberg, a network expert, to help set up both Garnet Valley and Widener's Sun Ray lab.

GV Business Department students will receive training in the use of the SAP



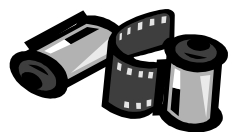
Jerry Booz, GV technology coordinator, and John Greenberg, Sun Microsystems, at a new workstation at GVHS

software. SAP is a financial-based suite of applications programs that are widely used by major corporations worldwide. The lab can also be used for general re-

search, writing purposes and for internet access when not used by the students of the business department collaboration.

The lab consists of 30 Sun Ray stations and a Solaris Server. Widener will act as GV's first line of support, and Sun will provide any further assistance. This entire project has been moving along under the guidance of **Amelia Maurizio** from SAP and **Dr. Marjorie DelBello** from GV. Value of the software is \$500,000. Value of the training for GV staff is \$4,500. Value of the hardware donation is \$58,000.

Mr. Gerald Booz, technology coordinator, is excited about the overall project, and he is anxious to start testing and fine tuning the system so that GV students can get the most out of this grant.



Spotlight Assistant Principals



Concord Elementary
Pat Dunn, is starting her 9th year as a staff member. She lives in GV and has three children. She's served on numerous Home & School committees and many other parent groups in the district.



GVMS
Christina Anderson has a son who is entering Middle School this year (in another district) so she's on the same page as all the other middle school parents she contacts! Congratulations to Chris who recently was awarded a doctorate from Immaculata!



GVES
David Soslau is quite a bit taller than everyone around him. No kids at home but more than 880 kids look up to him.



GVHS
Barbara Robinson is starting her 1st fulltime year as an administrator. She has three children and lives in GV. Always busy with athletics and working with students she says, "I love my job and enjoy working with the students and staff."



GVHS
Michael Christian is new to GV and comes from Methacton school district. A first time dad who enjoys his eight month old daughter comments, "She has completely changed our lives, all for the better."



Middle School FINISHED

School is ready and expecting to have 800+ students on the 1st day of school. Students, teachers, staff and maintenance have all been detouring and adjusting for two long years, but the results are worth the time, trouble and inconvenience. The new entrance is very impressive and when the buses pull up to the front again, a bigger

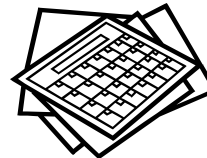
lobby will fill with students. Outside the road narrows where the addition reaches almost to the bus lane, a shorter walk in bad weather, but drivers beware the pavement has a new twist in front of the door. Students being dropped off and picked up by car will still use the Gym entrance. Buses only are permitted out front until after 7:45 AM and between 2:00 – 3:00 PM. The office is inside the front door on the right, and the guidance offices are on the left. Check out the renovations on Back to School Night, September 13th, 7:30 p.m.! Parents may also observe their children's classes during the day, September 15th, at Open House. Check for times at back to School Night.



Moving Day for the Principal's Office.

2000/2001 School Tax Payable in 3 Installments

The Garnet Valley School Board of Directors approved the school budget for the 2000/2001 school year in June. The budget was trimmed to minimize the tax hike brought on by reassessment and resulted in keeping an effective millage rate that was about the same for the 1999/2000 year exclusive of the re-assessment adjustments. In their ongoing efforts to help lessen the re-assessment changes, the board passed a special installment payment plan for 2000/2001 school taxes. The Tax collectors will allow taxpayers to pay in three equal installments payable on October 31, November 30 and December 31. Installment tax notices have been mailed to all taxpayers and reflect the modification for this year only. All installment payments must be received by those dates or incur a 10% penalty on the late installment.



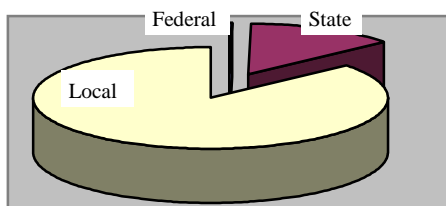
Taxpayer Issue Answered

In response to the Sound Off Reader in the Garnet Valley Press who asserted that the, "Garnet Valley School Board has taken it upon itself to educate the juveniles in Delaware County Prison at the taxpayer's expense..." the following are the facts.

- Law mandates the program. The GVSD has not "taken it upon itself" to educate these students. Garnet Valley must manage the program because the correctional facility is located within the GVSD.
- GVSD does not pay for the program. Costs are assessed proportionately to the fifteen Delaware County Districts and other districts, including the City of Philadelphia and some out of state districts. The assessed costs relate to the number of students from those districts who are incarcerated. The district recovers the cost of operating the program.

Garnet Valley 2000/2001 Budget

Garnet Valley's general operating budget totals \$34,500,622. A quick snapshot of how we receive and spend those dollars follows:

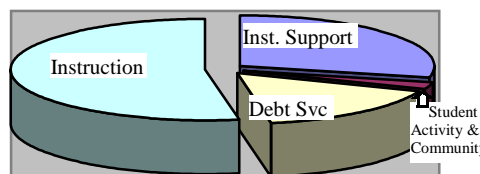


WHERE IT COMES FROM

Local	86%	\$29,692,879
State	14%	4,727,720
Federal	< 1%	80,023

WHERE IT GOES

Instruction	53%	\$18,202,016
Instructional Support	29%	9,842,973
Student Activities/ Community	2%	782,202
Debt Service	16%	5,673,431




School Calendars On Sale at Back to School Night

Look for the 2000/2001
Home and School Calendars
at your Back to School Night.
Events, school holidays, days
off and special directories
listed.

Don't miss getting your
copy, supplies are limited.
Limited supplies are available
at the GVEA centers. All
profits benefit the school
library.

September 2000

		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 	6	7	8	9
		First Student Day K-9 1/2 Day	First Full Day All Students		GVES Spirit Day GVMS 7th & 8th Gr. Dance 7:30 - 9:30PM	
10	11 CES Grade 2 Back to School 7:00—8:00 PM	12 Education Meeting GVEC Conference Rm 7:00PM	13 GVMS Back to School 7:30PM	14 CES Grade K & 1 Back to School 7:00—8:00 PM	15	16
					GVES Picture Day GVMS Open House Classroom Visits	
17	18	19 GVES Homeroom Parents Meeting	20 GVES Grade 3 Back to School	21 GVES Grade 4 & 5 Back to School GVMS National Blue Ribbon Recognition	22	23
					CES/GVES Wrapping/Candle Sale Starts	
24	25 CES BAC/HSA Meeting 6:30 / 7:15PM Transportation Meeting	26 CES Parent Volunteer Coffee Reach GVEC Confer- ence Rm 7:00PM School Board Meeting GVEC Board Room 8:00 PM	27	28 GVHS Back to School 7:00 PM GVES LEA Meeting	29	30



Need School Closing Info?

Tune into TV stations GVTv-Ch. 11, WPVI-Ch. 6, KYW-Ch. 10 or radio stations AM-WDEL 1150, AM-WCOJ 1420, AM-WILM 1450, AM-WPWA 1590 or FM-WJBR 99.5 for closing and delayed opening

Maintenance Department in FULL SWING.

Summer is no vacation for the crews that take care of the GVSD. Maintenance supervisors **Bob Gillespie** and **Joe Stiegerwalt** are directing the entire operation either in person, by cell phone or through walkie-talkie. Joe and Bob are keeping fit and trim with all the construction on top of the normal summer maintenance chores. **Diane Geddes**, maintenance secretary, is doing a tremendous job keeping track of where people are and coordinating schedules.

The **GVHS** crew has spent most of their time prepping the classrooms and working through the total disruption of the halls and exteriors all summer. **Sis Wilhelm, Dee McMaster, Joe Parker, Gerry Ruch, Bill Larkin, Bobby McCloskey, Bonnie Cook and the substitute custodial staff** are to be commended for their positive attitude and efforts to "pull it together for the students". **Ralph Pontillo & Bill Manley** did an outstanding job on maintenance and repairs.

The **GVMS** crew is breathing a sigh of relief as they see two years of renovations coming to a close. They've been working through and around construction and have kept things student friendly and working. **Roger Wilhelm, Stacy Stanolis, Chris Cahill, Sue Pierce, Rob Benn, Art Bleiler, Ed Connolly, Steve Bernard**, and the **substitute custodial staff** take a bow. They've insured the school opening will be a shining example of their hard work.

GVES for the first time has had no construction and just one look will show the results of their conscientious efforts. They completed the school even though all the district construction relocated the sports, music and educational camps and programs into this one building. **Kathie Berckman, Cheryl Fabuien, Chuck Cahill, Rob Murphy, Bill McGowan, and Jim Miller** made the school sparkle. **Butch McAllister** is also to be commended for all his maintenance work.

Concord is all prepped and ready. No construction, but plenty of YMCA activities, kept this crew busy. **Mary Benn, Joe Nicolini, Austin Bradley, Alice Frederick, and Ben Salvatore** all worked tirelessly. **Steve Yotsko** worked with plumbing contractors and made sure all the maintenance is sound and ready for the opening. **Schools are opening, on time!**

Thanks maintenance crews!



GVHS Construction Update

GVHS is expanding. All summer long the hallways had barriers and "hard hats only" posted where entrances used to be. **School will be**

open on time, despite all the rumors to the contrary. The hallways will be sporting the all new "Techno" look with no ceiling tiles for the first few weeks. This sure is an interesting display of the inner workings of the mechanics that run the heat, power, and communications services. Classrooms haven't changed much, so once inside the rooms, it is business as usual.

The new addition where the buses used to park is moving along with bulldozers and

concrete dominating the area. This is not much to see yet, but as soon as walls go up the high school will look very different from Smithbridge Road.

There is a new student parking area directly across from the front door.

Lines are due to be painted the last week of August by the Seniors and should be numbered and ready for the Juniors and Seniors who are lucky enough to secure a spot. This is the only lot to be used by students.

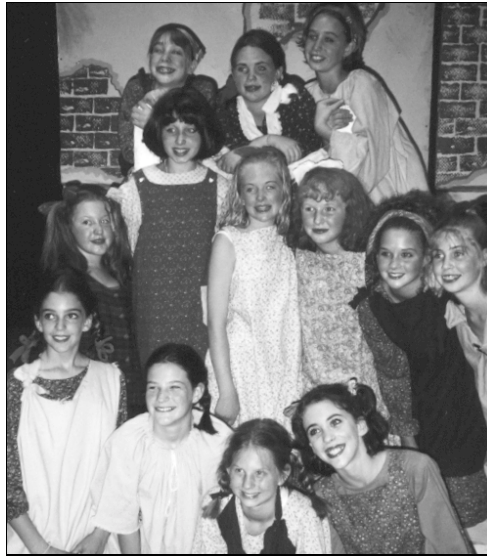
"Annie" On Stage in Garnet Valley

Friends of the Arts Scores Success with Summer Drama Workshop

Middle school students traveled the easy street to way-off Broadway accolades as Garnet Valley Summer Theatre 2000 capped its four-week summer drama workshop with "Annie Jr." on July 13 & 14 at Garnet Valley Middle School.

Amanda McCrossin took on the "Annie" role with spirit as she held her own against a group of talented actors, urging optimism at every turn in such classic tunes as "Tomorrow" and "Maybe." **Joel Lenderman** (a music teacher at GVES) was Daddy Warbucks in his successful debut on stage. **Stephanie Cornell** (also a GVES teacher) played the witchy Miss Hannigan and turned it into a comical tour de force. **Kevin Knickerbocker** and **Gianna DiPasquale** were the conniving Rooster and his ditzzy girlfriend Lily. Grace was played by **Christine Girolami**, whose sister **Gale** served as the accompanist for the production.

The talented 45-member cast acted, sang and danced their way through several



Hard-Knock Life: Annie and her orphans including (top row) Sarah Tereniak, Jackie Gallagher, Katie Skahan, (middle row) Brandy Wiechecki, Amanda McCrossin (Annie), Melinda Ferry, Lindsay Kuhn, Lindsay Ambrose, Laura Putman (bottom row) Laura Petrini, Amy DeNight, Courtney Knickerbocker and Lauren Fiumara

production numbers enhanced by colorful sets and period costumes. Actors auditioned

for roles and an additional company of 16 girls was chosen to present a pre-show of Broadway tunes.

Lori Knickerbocker directed the show, with **Tonda DiPasquale** choreographing, **Regina Wilson** producing, **Cathy Wakefield** assistant directing and **Barbara Prugh** handling musical directing chores. A technical team of middle school students, led by **Jackie Hamel**, designed and built the sets. A host of other parents, GV staff and community members had a hand in the program, including **Marge Brown**, whose dog Scarlett took on the role of Sandy.

GV Summer Theatre 2000 is the brainchild of DiPasquale, Knickerbocker and other volunteer parents who comprise **GV Friends of the Arts**. This was the first summer program for the group, which produced the well-received "The Truth About Cinderella" with GVMS last fall. GVMS Principal Rick Dunlap and the GV administration have been terrific to work with in this endeavor, noted DiPasquale, who added that the group plans to be back next summer to produce another workshop at the middle school.



Science Gets a Boost

Students in Mrs. Hansell's classes at the Garnet Valley Middle School have benefited greatly from materials purchased under a very generous grant of \$23,000 from the **Deitrich Botstiber Foundation** over the past two years. Not only have the overall responses to the new mini-course program for gifted and talented students at GVMS been more positive and enthusiastic, but also students in the program have expressed a greater interest in math and science. Through the purchase of new hardware, software, and other materials under the grant, students in the ATP program explored such topics as aerodynamics, geometry and basic principles of engineering. This, in combination with an ambitious NASA program and enriched studies in general science and math, has heightened the demand for more advanced science courses at GVHS. During the 2000/2001 school year, Physics II will be added to the curriculum and AP Physics will be added in 2001/2002. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Marjorie Del Bello states, "In a world increasingly dominated by science, math and technology, we are delighted to have new opportunities to nurture our students in these areas, and we are very grateful to the Deitrich Botstiber Foundation for its help."

Second Step Training Continues

Twenty-six Garnet Valley staff member recently participated in a "training of trainers" workshop presented by the Committee for Children, a nationally recognized violence prevention organization. The workshops were paid for through the safe schools grant funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Central office staff, principals, counselors and teachers took the three day course, so that they, in turn will be able to train others in skills of empathy, impulse control, anger management, problem solving, and conflict resolution. A series of workshops is planned for this summer and fall to enable staff to foster prosocial skills.

"Caring is central to the shaping of relationships that are meaningful, supporting, rewarding, and productive at all stages of life", said Dr. Del Bello, who is spearheading these efforts. "Families and schools have long known the importance of fostering this kind of learning. Now businesses, too, realize that productivity depends on a work force that is socially and emotionally competent. So it is important that schools do all they can to develop these skills in natural settings such as the classroom, playground and athletic fields."



Garnet Valley's Dress Code 2000

Garnet Valley Dress Code

Recently a committee of teachers, administrators, parents, a board member, and students reviewed the dress code for the Garnet Valley schools. The new guidelines were revised in June and are and being published in the letters that will be sent to all students prior to school opening.

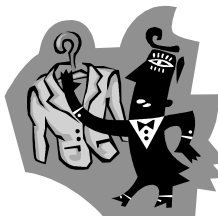
DRESS CODE

Student dress should be appropriate for the school setting. The choosing of neat and appropriate dress is as important for school as it is for other occasions in a student's life. The clothes worn to school should be neat and clean; always keeping in mind that his/her appearance must not present a clear and present danger to the student's health and safety, cause an interference with work, or create classroom or school disorder. Student dress should meet standards of good taste and grooming. Students dressed inappropriately will be referred to the office. They will be requested to alter

their dress if in violation of the dress code. If this is not possible and a parent cannot be reached, the student will not be permitted to attend classes for the remainder of the day.

The following regulations will be observed:

1. Extremes in apparel or jewelry, which are: distractive, disruptive, disrespectful, revealing, or unsafe will not be permitted.
2. Clothing or jewelry displaying: alcohol, drugs, tobacco, weapons, violence, obscenities, lewd or illegal behavior, sexual overtones, satanic/cult references, double meanings, or any



reference that is disruptive to the educational environment will not be permitted. Any jewelry item that is an impediment to the safety of the student or that of others

should be removed at the request of a staff member.

3. Undergarments worn as outer garments are not permitted, nor should clothing be worn in such a manner that allows undergarments to be seen.
4. Bare midriff clothing, see through shirts, low cut tops and/or dresses, thin strapped tops and/or dresses, tube tops, and muscle shirts will not be permitted.
5. Heavy boots with black lug soles will not be worn in school.
6. Hats, caps, bandannas, or other head covering will be removed while in the buildings and placed in a student locker or cubby.
7. Any items that might be used as weapons, i.e. chains, ropes, heavy bracelets or oversized rings will not be allowed.
8. Torn or ragged clothing will not be permitted.
9. Outerwear (coats/jackets) must be placed in lockers or on coat hooks during school.

REMINDER!!! NEW IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS

Now PA state law requires:

ALL students (K-12) to have a second dose of Measles Vaccine (preferably in the form of MMR)

Students entering Kindergarten or First Grade for the first time since 1997-98 are also REQUIRED to have the additional immunizations:

- ♦ 4 doses of DPT (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) DT or TD vaccine including one dose administered on or after the fourth birthday
- ♦ 3 doses of oral or injectable Polio vaccine
- ♦ 2 doses of Measles vaccine administered on or after the first birthday, preferable in the form of MMR
- ♦ 1 dose of Mumps vaccine administered on or after the first birthday
- ♦ 1 dose of Rubella vaccine administered on or after the first birthday
- ♦ 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine

Please have these requirements completed by your physician or the Delaware County Health Center (610/447-3250). Please return official proof (note from physician/clinic including child's name, name of immunization & date) to your school nurse.

Concord Elementary
Mrs. P. Darling RN, CSN
Fax: (610)579-6179

GV Elementary
Mrs. L. Wesolowski RN, CSN
Fax: (610)579-4139

GV Middle School
Mrs. S. Mealo RN
Fax: (610)579-5179

GV High School
Mrs. P. Amoss RN, CSN
Fax: (610)579-7788



See You Soon!

Remember
Bus Safety Rules Keep
Everyone Safe!

2000/2001 Board Meeting Schedule

The Board approved the following schedule of Board meeting for 2000/2001 school year.

August 29, 2000
September 26, 2000
October 24, 2000
November 28, 2000
Dec. 4, 2000
January 23, 2001
February 27, 2001
March 27, 2001
April 24, 2001
May 22, 2001
June 26, 2001

Board Reorganization Meeting
December 4, 2000
7:00 p.m.
Garnet Valley Education Center

Voices of the Valley is published by Garnet Valley School District.
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Station Rd. Glen Mills, PA 19342, Phone—610-579-4546.
Communications Specialist: Sue Fritz

Voices of the Valley

News You Can Use About Garnet Valley School District

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School Board Meetings

Garnet Valley School Board meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. The Work Session is held the Monday of the week before the regular Board Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

The Finance and Facility Operations Committees meet following the Work Session.

Finance Committee Chair: Elizabeth A. Laird

Facility Operations Chair: Daniel Van Wyk

The Education Committee meets on the Tuesday before the Work Session at 7:00 p.m.

Education Committee Chair: Barbara Tarr

The Policy Committee meets per chair's request.

Policy Committee Chair: Jodi Dix

The Building Projects Committee meets per chair's request.

Building Projects Committee Chair: William Wilkinson

GVSD Board of School Directors

Michael J. Hanlon, Esq., President	610-558-2005
Kenneth J. Miller, Vice-President	610-459-3290
Jodi Dix	610-459-2159
Elizabeth A. Laird	610-558-0134
Loretta E. Scuderi, Ed.D.	610-579-7367
Barbara Tarr	610-459-3962
Daniel C. Van Wyk, Esq.	610-859-8182
William D. Wilkinson	610-459-4954

Seated with the Board:

Anthony V. Costello, Ed.D., Superintendent
Marjorie DelBello, Ed.D., Asst. Superintendent
Kathie Estock, Ed.D., Asst. Superintendent
Joseph F. Kauffman, Esq. Board Supervisor
Thomas Delaney, Treasurer
Margaret E. Brown, Secretary



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