

GHS Trojan Spotlight

Activities Spotlight

Sophomore Retreat • Holiday Door Decorating • Great Grinch Hunt • Pep Assemblies

Sophomore Retreat Winter 2026

10th Grade takes over Camp Nazareth

The sophomore class recently traded their textbooks for team-building at the annual Sophomore Retreat, a cornerstone tradition led by guidance counselor Ryan Wig. Now in its 42nd year, the event underwent a significant scheduling shift, moving from Saturday to Friday to encourage higher engagement. The strategy was an undeniable success; student participation surged from approximately 40% to 70%, creating an atmosphere of high energy and community that Mr. Wig noted felt like a return to "before-COVID times."

Throughout the day, students engaged in a variety of classic team-building activities meant to foster communication and reliance on one another. Favorites like the Trust Walk, Blind Amoeba, and the high-



Teacher Matt Crawford leads a group through centipede skis

energy Noodle Knights pushed students outside their comfort zones in the best way possible. The excitement continued with "Sophomore Idol," where students took the stage to perform for their peers. A panel of staff judges decided the winners, and in a fun twist of competition, the order in which the students finished determined the order in which they were served dinner.



Sophomores Samantha Brown, Whitney Hogenmiller, Stella Swartz, and Chelsea Montesano take a break from the winter weather during the Sophomore Retreat at Camp Nazareth.

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High School guidance counselor Ryan Wig addresses the group.

The retreat also provided a space for deep emotional connection and reflection. One of the most poignant moments involved students reading personal letters from their parents and taking the time to write heartfelt responses. As a counselor, Mr. Wig highlighted the anonymous problem solving activity as a personal favorite, in which students worked together to navigate the real-life challenges their peers face. The night concluded on a high note with a captivating hypnosis show that left the "most energetic class" in Mr. Wig's 20-year career buzzing with excitement.

Beyond the structured games and performances, the true spirit of the retreat was found in the quiet moments of inclusion. Mr. Wig shared a "magical" highlight of the day when a student sitting alone was approached by two peers who pulled him into their group—a gesture that perfectly encapsulated the event's mission of unity. While the retreat has long been held at Camp Nazareth, the facility is currently undergoing a leadership transition. Mr. Wig plans to connect with the new family taking over the camp soon, hoping to maintain the integrity of this special tradition for many years to come.

Holiday Door Decorating Contest

Key Club Sponsors some friendly holiday themed competition and fun

The hallways at Greenville High School were transformed into a vibrant display of holiday cheer this season as Key Club hosted its annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. Sponsored by club advisor Jake Stoyer, the event served as both a festive tradition and a successful fundraiser for the organization's outreach programs. This year, the entry fee was set at \$15 per door, with all proceeds going directly toward Key Club's efforts to support students and the local community alike.



Miss Meyer's math themed door

The enthusiasm for the project was evident in the high level of student involvement, as 52 Key Club members eagerly signed up to participate. These students were paired with different faculty members to brainstorm and execute their designs, fostering a sense of collaboration across the school. By the end of the registration period, 22 staff members had officially entered the spirit of competition, resulting in a total of \$330 raised for the club's service initiatives.

After much deliberation over the creative and intricate displays, the top honors were awarded to three standout classrooms. Mrs. Yeatts took home the first-place prize for her exceptional design, followed by Mr. Menold in second place and Mrs. Risavi in third. While the competition was friendly, the real success of the event was the joy it brought to the building. Both students and teachers reported having a wonderful time showing off their holiday spirit and working together to make the season a little brighter for everyone.



1st Place: Mrs. Yeatts



2nd Place: Mr. Menold



Mr. Scott's physics themed door



Mr. Ghirardi's Star Wars themed door



3rd Place: Mrs. Risavi

The Great Grinch Hunt

Climate Committee gives the students some fun before winter break.

The school hallways transformed into a scene straight out of Whoville during the final days of the semester as the School Climate Committee, led by art teacher Megan Gruver, sponsored an interactive Grinch hunt. Spanning the Friday, Monday, and Tuesday leading up to Winter Break, the event was designed to inject a bit of extra Christmas joy and lighthearted fun into the school day. To keep the spirit alive throughout the event, ten Grinches were hidden each day in common areas,

hallways, and classrooms, carefully placed to be visible without students needing to move furniture or disrupt school property.

While the hunt sparked plenty of excitement, it was also framed as a fun supplement to the school day rather than a distraction. Students were encouraged to keep their eyes peeled as they moved between bells, with the reassurance that Grinches were placed at random intervals throughout the day so they could be stumbled upon naturally. This

Seniors Emma Flores and Payton Valenly with their Grand Prize



ensured that the fun remained a background thrill that didn't provide an excuse for students to be late or miss their scheduled classes. Whenever a lucky student spotted one of the green mischief-makers, they headed to the front office to hand it over to Mrs. Hawthorne

and collect a festive treat for their sharp eyes.

The anticipation reached its peak on the final Tuesday with the introduction of a special grand prize. In addition to the standard Grinches, a single, tiny Cindy Lou Who—standing only two inches tall—was hidden somewhere in the building. After a diligent search, seniors Emma Flores and Payton Valenly emerged as the grand prize winners after discovering the miniature Cindy Lou Who perched right on the main office door. The hunt proved to be a fantastic way for the School Climate Committee to foster a sense of community and holiday cheer before everyone headed off for a well-deserved break.

In-School Assemblies Showcase the Best of GHS

Pep Assembly for Football Send Off

The energy in the gymnasium was electric as students in grades 7 through 12 gathered for a pep assembly to send off the Trojan football team to their state playoff game. From the moment the assembly started, the atmosphere was set by the marching band's thunderous rendition of "Championship," while the cheerleaders and band front took to the gym floor to ignite the crowd's spirit. The event, meticulously coordinated by math teacher Susan Risavi built momentum for the big game, blended long-standing school traditions with a series of hilarious and highly competitive games that pitted students and staff against one another.



Seniors Logan Campbell and Tyson Hawkins scramble to collect balls in Hungry, Hungry, Hippos

The festivities kicked off with a high-stakes game of "Musical Poms." As the band played, students circled center court, diving for pom-poms the moment the music stopped. The elimination rounds provided plenty of laughs as the field narrowed down to a single winner, setting a competitive tone for the rest of the afternoon. This was quickly followed by a chaotic and fan-favorite round of "Hungry Hungry Hippos," where teams scrambled across the floor to collect the most

balls, sliding and diving in a race against the clock.

In a nod to musical timing and pop culture, the assembly featured a unique "Whitney Houston Challenge." As the iconic notes of "I Will Always Love You" filled the gym, participating students were tasked with hitting a bass drum perfectly in time with the song's legendary beat drop. The pressure was on to match Whitney's power, providing a moment of suspense followed by cheers from the bleachers.

The afternoon reached its climax with a multi-stage relay race featuring four different student teams. The course was a gauntlet of school spirit

themed obstacles, including an "Octopus Race," a "Balloon Run/Balloon Pop" station, a mattress sprint, and a "Hula Hoop Toss." The competition was fierce, as the winning student team earned the ultimate prize: the right to challenge the teacher group in a final showdown. By the time the final whistle blew, the gymnasium was a sea of blue and gold, leaving no doubt that the student body was fully behind their football team as they headed into the state playoffs.

Sports Showcase Assemblies

Greenville Junior/Senior High School has taken a proactive approach to building school spirit and community this year by integrating several athletic contests directly into the school day. By hosting games during school hours, the administration has provided student-athletes with the unique opportunity to perform in front of their entire peer group, creating a high-energy environment that far exceeds a typical evening crowd. These "in-school games" have quickly become a cornerstone of the district's efforts to foster a positive school culture and a sense of collective pride.

The schedule this year featured three major matchups that drew massive support from the student body. The 8th-grade girls' basketball team took on Reynolds, the 8th-grade boys' basketball team faced off against Hickory, and the Unified Bocce team hosted Sharpville. In a spectacular showing of talent and determination, Greenville emerged victorious in all three events. While the wins were a highlight, the true success was the roar of the crowd and the visible support for students who may not always get to play in front of hundreds of their classmates.

For the junior high students, these games serve a dual purpose



Greenville and Reynolds students compete in a friendly obstacle course style run during halftime of the in-school girls basketball game

Greenville Jr High Boys Basketball team huddles during the in-school game vs. Hickory



as both a celebration and a behavioral incentive. Attendance at the basketball games is used as a reward for students who exhibit positive behavior and meet school wide expectations throughout the month. This "incentive" model encourages a focused and respectful school environment. It transforms a standard sporting event into a milestone of the school year that students work hard to earn.

Beyond the excitement of the scoreboard, these assemblies are used as valuable teaching moments for the younger student body. Before each tip-off or bocce match, students are reminded of the fundamentals of appropriate sporting event etiquette. This includes the importance of standing respectfully for the National Anthem and learning how to cheer positively for both teams. By emphasizing sportsmanship and respect from the stands, Greenville is ensuring that its students grow into conscientious fans who represent their district with class.

We are excited to announce that this model is being embraced by one of our neighbors. Reynolds Jr High will be hosting our students for a volleyball match this Thursday during the school day.

Academics Spotlight

Course of Study • Elective Presentations • Borough Planning • PJAS Success

GHS Offers Updated Course of Study

Changes to focus on Literacy, Engagement, and Future-Ready Skills

Greenville High School is rolling out a series of strategic updates to its course of study, designed to enhance student engagement and align with new state standards. From a restructured middle-level literacy program to engaging science and technology offerings, these changes reflect the district's commitment to remaining nimble and responsive to an ever-changing educational landscape.

STRUCTURED LITERACY

In response to the state's new structured literacy initiative, passed late last year, Greenville is fundamentally reshaping its English Language Arts (ELA) instruction for 7th- and 8th-grade students. Moving away from a single block, the school has split the curriculum, adding designated, standalone reading courses in each grade.

Students will now benefit from targeted reading instruction through courses such as Accelerated Reading, College Prep Reading, and Practical Reading. These specialized classes are designed to build reading stamina, vocabulary, and analysis skills alongside their traditional writing focused ELA classes. For 8th graders, the Great Books and Debate course will continue to be offered and presents an accelerated reading track that challenges students to analyze high-quality literature and develop persuasive speaking skills.

SCIENCE

The science department is equally active, redesigning its offerings to align with the new PA STEELS standards.

This shift emphasizes a "phenomena-based thinking model," encouraging students to engage with real-life scientific applications.

Building on the popular new Astronomy course taught by Matt Scott, which the district introduced this past year, Greenville is transforming older curricula into hands-on, real-life options. Two new courses, Pennsylvania Wildlife and Earth Science, are designed to be accessible to all students while providing rigorous, inquiry-based study of students' immediate, natural world. These updates are intended to give all students the opportunity to experience scientific learning that is authentic, rigorous, and engaging.

TECHNOLOGY

Facing a statewide shortage of computer science-certified teachers, the Technology Department has proven its resilience. Rather than simply removing computer science based courses, Greenville continues to offer a robust catalog of 17 technology courses for grades 7-12 with its new additions.

The district has pivoted from traditional computer science models to more interactive and creative programming options. This past year, the district introduced two new computer courses titled Interactive Technologies and Interactive Programming. These courses are designed to help students develop interactive solutions across fields such as gaming, education, healthcare, and are designed to help students

develop interactive solutions across fields such as gaming, education, healthcare, and entertainment. Looking ahead, tech teacher Kim Greleski is already preparing a mobile app development course slated for the 2027-28 school year, ensuring the curriculum stays on the cutting edge.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Looking toward the future, the Social Studies team has begun consolidating its course scope and sequence. The goal of this effort is to create a diverse "menu of options" for high school seniors beginning in the 2027-28 school year.

While tightening the course content across the existing scope, this initiative aims to allow seniors to select from a menu of coursework that personally resonates with them, fostering a deeper connection to civic education. Currently, the social studies department is weighing the impact of potential courses, including Modern Global Conflicts, Sports History, US Military History, World Religions, AP US History, and History through Hollywood.

Ultimately, the updated course of study at Greenville High School serves as a testament to the district's ability to evolve without losing sight of its core mission. By meticulously balancing rigorous new state standards with a diverse array of electives designed for all learners, the high school ensures that every student, regardless of their post-secondary path, finds a relevant and challenging academic home.

This evolution has occurred alongside the continued success of the district's College in the High School (CHS) program; by maintaining 12 distinct CHS courses with a combined enrollment of over 320 students, Greenville provides collegiate-level opportunities that remain a cornerstone of its academic identity. Through this blend of modern standards and innovation, and traditional excellence, the district continues to foster an environment where high expectations and broad accessibility move hand in hand.



Korbin Lockhart, Logan Difede, and Andrew Allen show off computer games that they have designed in Mrs. Greleski's classroom.

Student Scheduling Season begins at GHS

As we approach the final stretch of the winter season, it is time to look forward to the 2026-2027 school year! We are officially entering "Scheduling Season" at Greenville High School, a pivotal time when students begin to shape their academic future. Our goal is to make this process as transparent and stress-free as possible for both our students and their families. Parents, please feel free to review the following scheduling timeline with your student in preparation to picking courses for next school year.

SCHEDULING TIMELINE

Intro Grade Level Meeting: Students will be introduced to the scheduling process this year through class meetings in the auditorium.

- March 6th

Course Selection Meetings: Students will report to the computer lab during their social studies course to select the course they would like to take in PowerSchool.

- 8th Graders March 13th
- 9th Graders March 16th
- 10th Graders March 18th
- 11th Graders March 19th

GHS Elective Videos

GHS is excited to announce the availability of elective videos on the district website. These videos intent to provide students and parents with a clear, dynamic window into our classrooms before they commit to a course. By creating these online presentations, we hope that families can explore options at their own pace, fostering informed decision-making and ensuring students are genuinely excited about their schedules. This transparency not only helps align student interests with the right electives, but also highlights the high-level work and diverse opportunities available within our district.

LINK TO ACCESS VIDEOS:

<https://pagreenvillejrshigh.schoolinsites.com/electives>

PJAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

GHS thrives at first PA Junior Academic of Science

The Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) is a science fair for students in grades 7-12 in PA that promotes science, engineering, technology, mathematics, research, public speaking, long-term planning, and perseverance. The projects are measured by both the science contained within and how well students present their work to a panel of judges. The state is split into 12 regions that each have a regional fair sometime between February or March. Students have the chance to qualify for the State Meet and win special awards. The 12

regions come together in May for the PJAS State Meet. 2,000+ students from all over the state take a three-day trip to Penn State University to live in the college dorms, eat in the dining halls, and present their projects for the opportunity to win scholarships and other monetary awards.

Greenville's PJAS journey began with an initial meeting with all Gifted students at the beginning of the year. Students were briefed on the competition, and Mr. Lasko outlined that this would be a very challenging, yet rewarding

experience. Five exceptional students: Presley Menold, Karsyn Shilling, Cameron Cooper, Jackson Keeling, and Dallin Richins all volunteered to participate.

Our Region 9 partner, Slippery Rock University, at the direction of Dr. Nicole Dafoe, Dean of the College of Engineering and Science awarded Greenville a \$900.00 grant from Exxon Mobil. The grant assisted new "Mentors" to support their PJAS students with funds for materials, training, and additional funds for registration fees for both the regional and state meets.

Greenville students worked on some amazing projects! 7th Grader Jackson Keeling's project "Built to Break" studied the strength of truss bridges. 7th Grader Cameron Cooper's project "Need more Salt" studied the effectiveness of various salts at melting ice. Freshman Presley Menold's "Super Squeakers" studied the effects of caffeine on lab mice. Sophomore Karsyn Shilling entered a behavioral study on the effects of facial features on personality perceptions. Dallin Richins whose project entitled "Directional Speakers:

Limitations and Applications" studied the effects of high frequency sound waves in a specific direction. Students worked diligently on their projects throughout the winter and practiced their presentations before our Region 9 meet at SRU on Saturday, February 21st alongside 25 schools and 345 students.

PJAS can be thought of as 60% "the science" and 40% the presentation. Students are measured not against each other but instead against a rubric or standard. Student scores between 4.0 and 5.0 receive a "first award" and are a qualifier for the state meet at PSU. At the end of the region meet Keeling, Cooper, and Richins achieved a 1st Place Award. Cooper received an additional honor by winning a special 7th grade award with a \$200.00 cash prize. These three students will move on to the 3-day State competition hosted by PSU in May.

Dallin, Cameron, and Jackson: Good luck at PJAS states!



Dallin Richins and Cameron Cooper show off their awards

Joint Borough Planning Effort

CHS Argument and Debate students work with industry professionals to plan our town's future.



CHS Argument and Debate students actively planning borough redesign ideas with leading industry professionals.

The intersection of academic theory and real-world civic duty came to life recently as CHS Argument students participated in a high-stakes collaboration for the Borough Redesign Plan. This unique community engagement event saw students working directly with professionals from Stromberg/ Garrigan & Associates, alongside reps from several architectural firms and key borough officials, including Jasson Urey and Amy Hollowell. The session was designed to give the youth of Greenville a seat at the table, allowing them to lend their voices to the future physical and cultural landscape of their community.

The meeting followed a structured agenda that prioritized the student perspective and hands-on interaction. After an initial introduction explaining the importance of student feedback, the participants engaged in a "dot exercise" on

giant maps of the borough. Students were asked to identify two specific types of locations: places outside of home or school where they currently enjoy spending their time, and areas they believe embody the "best of" Greenville. This visual data provided the visiting architects with an immediate sense of the town's current strengths and the social habits of its younger generation.



Junior Nora Taylor shares with the group her thoughts on potential development opportunities

Following the mapping exercise, students broke into groups of five or six to dive into more granular detail. For twenty minutes, these groups used illustrative stickers to mark up the maps with specific ideas for new facilities, modern amenities, and potential land uses they would like to see implemented. The atmosphere was one of intense collaboration as students debated the best placement for community improvements. The session concluded with each table reporting their two "big ideas," offering the borough representatives a prioritized list of student-led visions for a better Greenville.

The success of this initial meeting has paved the way for an ongoing partnership between the school and local developers. Stromberg/ Garrigan and Associates have already announced plans to return to GHS in the spring to expand this initiative, working with a larger cross-section of the student body to further refine the redevelopment plans. This return visit will allow more students to contribute to the evolving vision of the borough, ensuring that the final



Sean Garrigan explains a mapping concept to a group of GHS students.

redesign reflects the needs and aspirations of the generation that will inherit the town's future.

The visiting firms and borough officials were notably impressed by the quality of the engagement, reporting that the GHS students represented the district with an exceptional level of class. The consultants specifically highlighted the students' genuine honesty as a highlight of the day, noting that such candid feedback is invaluable for a successful redesign. This partnership stands as a testament to the impact students can have when they apply their argumentative and analytical skills to the world right outside their classroom doors.

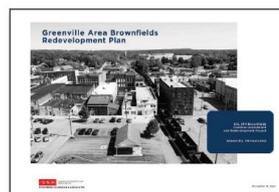
"GHS offers a huge thank you to Jill Schoenfeld, Sean Garrigan, Mark Patrick, Jasson Urey, and Amy Hollowell for taking the time to work with our tremendous students!"



Redevelopment Plan Update FAQ

What's the Greenville Redevelopment Plan Update?

The Redevelopment Plan Update is a **Borough-wide planning and revitalization initiative** that builds upon previous recommendations to identify new opportunities for **community improvements** that reflect Greenville's current priorities.



2022 Area-wide Redevelopment Plan

These may include strategies for **redeveloping vacant properties and buildings** to spur economic investment.

Arts Spotlight

• Indoor Drumline • School Musical •

Indoor Drumline take Center Stage

Mr. Danch leads GHS students into a new opportunity to showcase Greenville's amazing musical talent.

The rhythmic heartbeat of Greenville High School has found a new stage this winter as the Indoor Drumline program embarks on its inaugural season of competitive performance. Led by director Dan Danch, this ensemble has spent the last several months preparing a sophisticated show titled "Synthesis," marking the first time Greenville has stepped into the arena of indoor percussion competition against other Western Pennsylvania schools.

Unlike a traditional marching band, indoor percussion is a highly specialized discipline that takes place within the confines of a gymnasium. The ensemble is composed of 20 dedicated students, including nine marching percussionists and 11 members of the "front ensemble" who play stationary instruments such as the marimba, vibraphone, drum set, synthesizer, and xylophone. Notably, 11 of these participants are actually wind players from the concert

bands who have stepped far outside their comfort zones to learn entirely new percussion instruments for this season—a testament to the versatility and commitment of the GHS music program.

Preparation for a show like "Synthesis" is an intense process that began the moment the fall marching band season concluded. The team rehearses three days a week, often transforming the band room into a makeshift stadium by clearing out furniture and laying down a massive 55' by 35' tarp to practice their intricate marching maneuvers. This allows the students to perfect their "drill" even when the gym is occupied by winter sports.

The competitive nature of indoor drumline is rigorous and technical. Performances are evaluated by professional judges across four major categories: Visual, Music, Visual Effect, and Music Effect. These judges provide

real-time, authentic, recorded commentary during the performance, which the students and Mr. Danch listen to afterward.

This feedback loop is essential to the program's growth; after each show, the group enters a "critique" session with the judges to discuss improvements, which are then implemented during the next week's rehearsals to boost future scores.

Greenville's debut on the circuit has already turned heads. Following a successful preview at Kiski Area High School in late January, the team traveled to Penn Trafford High School on February 21 for their first official competition. In an impressive showing for a first-year program, Greenville earned second place, finishing just behind last year's reigning champions. The momentum is building toward the season's end goal: the championship show on Saturday, March 28.

Local fans will have a special opportunity to see "Synthesis" performed right here at home. On Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 PM, GHS will host the "Concert at Winter's End" in the high school gym. This event is a true showcase of the district's musical talent, featuring the indoor percussion and winter guard groups alongside the elementary, junior high, and senior high concert bands and wind ensemble. Admission is \$5 per adult, with a \$15 family maximum, and all proceeds benefit the band program to fund instruments, music supplies, and workshops with industry professionals.

Come check us out in the GHS Gym, March 17th at 7:00!

GHS Band Youtube
<https://www.youtube.com/@GreenvilleBandProgram>



GHS Indoor Drumline performs their show, "Synthesis", at Penn Trafford High School on February 21st.

Don't Feed the Plants! GHS Delivers the Monstrous Hit, *Little Shop of Horrors*



Greenville Elementary students in grades 4-6 attend a production preview for Little Shop of Horrors in the GHS auditorium

The Greenville stage recently burst to life with the classic 60s rock-and-roll sounds of *Little Shop of Horrors*, a production that director Claire DeArmitt described as a masterclass in the perfect blend of comedy and drama. Following a rigorous audition process in mid-November and months of dedicated after-school rehearsals, the cast and crew presented two successful previews on February 23 and 24, followed by a triumphant three-night run from February 26 through 28. Choosing a show rooted in humor was a deliberate, thoughtful move by DeArmitt, who aimed to provide students and the audience alike with a joyful escape. Amidst the weight of current world events and heavy headlines, the vibrant energy of Mushnik's Flower Shop offered a much-needed sanctuary of laughter and high-spirited music.

The success of the show was rooted in a cast that seemed tailor-made for their roles, but the real magic occurred in the wings and during the long hours of preparation. DeArmitt, who had the unique vantage point of being backstage for every

performance, witnessed firsthand the seamless teamwork and contagious joy that exuded from the students. Whether a student was center stage for the entire show, appearing in a few select numbers, or working entirely out of sight of the audience, every participant felt a deep sense of inclusion. One particular memory from rehearsals stands out as a testament to this spirit: while practicing a serious musical number, the cast began to get sillier and more creative with their delivery and choreography each time a musical phrase repeated. This spontaneous fun proved that the process of building a show is just as vital to student development as the final performance.



Seniors Ethan Iverson & Dallin Richins prepare for Audrey II

DeArmitt emphasized that this experience was designed to foster more than just acting talent; it was about building character. By having fun together, the students formed a bond that translated into a selfless culture backstage, where they helped one another without hesitation. This sense of service—prioritizing the success of the group and the well-being of their peers over individual glory—is the core value DeArmitt hopes the students carry with them long after the sets are struck. The production served as a classroom for life skills, instilling a lifelong sense of belonging, commitment, and a relentless work ethic in every student involved.

Of course, a production of this magnitude "takes a village," and the director credited the very existence of the show to the tireless advocacy of Nicole Richins and Erin McKinney. Their work began nearly a year ago in April, as they attended administrative and board meetings to ensure the students would have this essential opportunity. They were the primary drivers of the production, fueled by a belief that theater is a necessary annual experience for student growth. The visual spectacle of the show was further supported by the dedicated efforts of Jen Ferguson, Amy Noble, Annie Ball, Jamie Ball, and Brent Beckstein, who managed the complex logistics of costumes, props, and set design. They were joined by a dedicated army of parents who handled everything from concessions and programs to the intricate details of hair and makeup.



Senior Hannah McKinney performs as Audrey

For DeArmitt, this particular production carried a deep personal resonance that made the closing night especially emotional. The graduating seniors in the cast were her very first class of seventh graders when she began her career at Greenville. Watching them transform from wide-eyed middle schoolers into the caring, hard-working, and immensely talented young adults who commanded the stage this February was an incredibly rewarding journey. As the final curtain fell on the 28th, it was clear that *Little Shop of Horrors* was more than just a musical; it was a defining core memory for the performers, the crew, and the entire Greenville community.



Lily Thomas, Abby Ball, & Baylee Dickey play Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronnette

Athletics Spotlight

Unified Bocce • Boys & Girls Basketball • Jr. High Basketball • Wrestling

Unified Bocce Rolls to Major Victories

Greenville's Unified Bocce team continues to build a more inclusive school culture one frame at a time.

This winter, the sounds of rolling bocce balls and cheering teammates echoed through our gymnasium with more intensity than ever before, marking a season that defined the very heart of our school's athletic community. Under the leadership of Head Coach Gary Bonanno, our Unified Bocce program reached new heights both on the scoreboard and in the relationships built on the court. It was a record-breaking year for the program, with our two teams delivering stellar performances throughout the regular season. Team One finished with a dominant 7-1 record, securing the top spot in the region and entering the playoffs as the number one seed before ultimately finishing fourth in a highly competitive regional playoff round. Meanwhile, Team Two proved just as formidable, ending their season with a strong 6-2 record and a third-place regional ranking.

The success of the season was bolstered by a historic milestone for our school as we had the honor of hosting the regional playoffs for the first time in program history.



Coaches Gary Bonanno and Brad Solderich rally the team in a timeout of their final match.

Our student-athletes took full ownership of the event, assisting with the setup and teardown of the courts and thriving under the energy of a home-court advantage. Unfortunately, Team One lost in what could be described as the "match of the year" versus Clarion. After a back-and-forth match in which both sides held a 2-point lead, the match went into a golden frame.



Final Frame result (Greenville rolled the green balls)

In the golden frame, our team placed an amazing 3 balls within 2 feet of the pallino. However, Clarion placed one ball literally touching the pallino. Despite the final outcome, the overall event was a true reflection of Greenville High School's character, as it embraces everything that Special Olympics stands for.

While the season winning records were impressive, Coach Bonanno noted that the true victory lay in the immense personal growth of the players. Throughout the winter, first-year players showed rapid improvement, and both athletes and partners began to master the nuances of the game, eventually identifying shots and coaching one another during matches without needing to look to the sidelines for guidance.



Seniors Grant Loutzenhiser and Gianna Solderich, with SRO Wes Carson, serve as the Guardians of the Flame of Hope

The most enduring memories of the season, however, happened away from the scorecards. The true spirit of Unified Sports was on full display as partners stepped up to form deep, meaningful bonds with their teammates. One student in particular took great care to assist a teammate who uses a wheelchair, ensuring they navigated every court, bus, and away gym with ease and dignity. The impact of the program was perhaps best captured during a pre-playoff interview with one of our athletes, Tyler Stiffy. He shared that he loved bocce because it provided him with a genuine opportunity to compete in a sport—an experience he had never been able to access before.



Freshman Tyler Stiffy participates in a pregame interview with WFMJ

This sense of belonging and pride was further amplified during the opening of the playoffs when the entire building fell silent to watch one of our own athletes, Braden Jewell, perform a stirring rendition of the National Anthem in front of a packed gym.

As we look toward next year, the momentum behind the program continues to build with more students than ever expressing interest in joining the roster. Coach Bonanno is already looking for ways to keep the community connected, with plans in motion to launch an inaugural alumni game. This initiative will allow former players to remain active participants in the program they helped build, ensuring that the culture of inclusion and competitive excellence continues for seasons to come.

Check out the interview by clicking [THIS LINK](#)

Girls Basketball



Seniors Preslie Kirila and Ella Tokar against Slippy Rock

The Lady Trojan Basketball program reached new heights during the 2025-2026 season, characterized by remarkable growth, thrilling comeback victories, and a deep commitment to the Greenville community. Head Coach Sam Faler reported a highly successful year, with both the Varsity and Junior Varsity squads showing significant improvement on the hardwood.

The Varsity team finished with a strong 16-7 record, an improvement over last year's 14-8 finish. After starting the season 5-4, the Lady Trojans found their rhythm, winning nine consecutive games and ultimately playing for the Region Championship against a tough 4A Slippy Rock team. Their performance secured them a second-place finish in Region 4, a fifth-place ranking in District 10 3A, and a coveted PIAA playoff berth. One of the most unforgettable moments of the season occurred against Cambridge Springs, where the team rallied from a 19-point deficit late in the third to secure a stunning overtime victory.

The Junior Varsity program experienced a historic turnaround, finishing 10-3 after not winning a single game the previous season. Their journey began with a hard-fought 13-10 win over Titusville in December—their first victory in two seasons—and concluded on a high note with a dominant 45-25 win over Slippy Rock.

Sophomore Ava Cascio led the team in scoring (17.0 ppg), assists (3.0), and steals (2.4), finishing the season ranked 12th in District 10 for scoring.

Senior Preslie Kirila, a four year letter winner, surpassed 800 career points and led the team with 49 made three pointers, ranking 4th in Mercer County for shots from beyond the arc.

Senior Ella Tokar served as the "Defensive Floor General," amassing 397 career rebounds and leading the team's defensive efforts alongside Senior Sidney Hart, whose high basketball IQ and ball handling were essential for executing team strategies.

The freshman class made an immediate impact, with Madison Mallek leading the team in rebounding (6.3 rpg) and earning All-Tourney honors at the Greenville Holiday Classic, alongside fellow letter winner Raegan Zane. Sophomore Reese Robertson also earned her first varsity letter as a key contributor off the bench.

Beyond the box scores, the Lady Trojans were active ambassadors for the district. The team held a summer camp for nearly 80 local students, helped with the "K-2 Little Dribblers" program, and volunteered at the "Night to Shine" event. Their community service also included organizing a winter clothing drive for GES students and wrapping gifts for the "Giving Tree".

The program is already looking toward the future with a busy offseason. This includes three days a week of lifting and open gyms, participation in summer leagues and team camps, and the Lady Trojans Skills Camp for students in grades K-8.

Boys Basketball

The Greenville boys basketball program enjoyed a stellar season under the leadership of new head coach Joe Batt, defined by a championship pedigree and an unwavering team-first mentality. The Varsity squad finished the year with a strong 15-10 record, earning the title of Co-Region 1 Champions. The success extended throughout the program, as the Junior Varsity team put together an impressive 12-4 campaign.

The Varsity offense was powered by several standout performers who provided consistent scoring throughout the season. Keith Covert led the way with a formidable 20.8 points per game, followed by Justin Schell at 13.5 points per game and Brekken Hedderick at 12.7 points per game. Reliability was a hallmark of the roster, with Keith Covert, Jacosa Mitchell, and Jacob Vandevander standing out as the only three players to compete in all 25 games of the season.

Beyond the statistics, Coach Batt highlighted the immense personal and collective growth of the roster. He noted that the players arrived each day ready to work hard and remained extremely coachable, responding positively when the coaching staff issued a new challenge. This dedication resulted in every individual player, and the team as a whole, improving significantly from the first tip-off to the final whistle. Perhaps the most defining characteristic of the group was their selflessness; the players celebrated each other's successes regardless of who was scoring the points or playing the most minutes. Every athlete embraced and executed their specific role tremendously.



Seniors Sam Campman and Jacosa Mitchell on Senior Night

The season was filled with highlights, but none were more impactful than the dramatic fourth-quarter run on Senior Night against Lakeview. That surge secured a crucial victory that allowed Greenville to tie for first place in the region. Coach Batt also reflected fondly on the daily camaraderie, from "talking mess" to the Gold squad during practice to the privilege of coaching alongside some of his best friends on the staff.

Looking ahead, the future appears bright for the Trojans. Coach Batt believes the school has only seen the beginning of this team's potential and is eager to get the players back in the gym this offseason to further develop their skills. With many key contributors returning and several others poised to step into larger roles, the program is well-positioned for continued success next year.



Junior Justin Schell drives against Lakeview

Jr High Basketball

The Greenville Junior High boys basketball program concluded a season marked by significant individual growth, gritty team victories, and unforgettable "revenge" games. Head coach Josie Lewis reported that the 8th-grade team finished with a stellar 15-5 record, while the 7th-grade team finished 5-14. Despite the difference in records, both squads demonstrated a remarkable ability to learn from early setbacks and dominate in rematches.

A defining theme for the season was the team's ability to bounce back against tough rivals. After an early one-point loss to West Middlesex, the 8th grade team secured its revenge

at home with a 21-point victory, fueled by aggressive floor running and drawing critical fouls. The 7th-grade team followed a similar path; after a narrow one-point loss to Reynolds, they rallied to win the home rematch by 20 points and defeated them again by 14 points in their first tournament appearance. Coach Lewis attributed these turnarounds to the boys mastering the "little things" and consistently winning hustle plays.

Player development was at the heart of the season's success. Starting with the October open gyms, the coaching staff worked with a group that showed great effort but lacked confidence. As the months progressed, the players refined

their ball handling, shooting, and defensive skills. More importantly, their belief in themselves and their teammates grew as they spent more time together, leading to a much higher level of play across both grades.

One of the most exciting opportunities for the program was the Junior High Incentive Game held at the high school. Playing in a true varsity environment, complete with a pep band, a student section, and a packed gymnasium, the boys rose to the occasion. The team defeated a tough Hickory squad by 31 points, even forcing the mercy rule in front of their cheering peers and community members.

The season was also defined by "toughness and a fighter mentality," best exemplified by

back-to-back home wins against Franklin. The 8th-grade victory came down to a buzzer-beater attempt by Zane Tokar, who stepped to the line and sank two pressure-filled free throws to win the game. Meanwhile, the 7th-grade team secured an overtime win against Franklin by playing lockdown defense, holding their opponents to 0 points in the final period.

Looking toward the future, the coaching staff is eager to see the 8th graders transition to high school sports, where their hard work is expected to lead to continued success. The program is also excited to welcome the rising 6th graders and to continue the development of the 7th-grade team, which made such immense strides over the past year.

Wrestling

Greenville wrestling delivered another outstanding season filled with competitive success, meaningful traditions, and unforgettable moments for our student-athletes & community.

We proudly hosted the Sheetz Kickoff Classic at GHS, opening the season in front of our home crowd. One of the most powerful moments of the event was honoring area veterans. Wrestlers from all teams stood together, stretching a massive American flag across the mat during the National Anthem. GHS wrestlers wore U.S. National Guard uniforms in tribute to our military heroes, creating a moment that reminded everyone that wrestling is about more than competition, it is about character, respect, and community.

We also hosted the Dry Tech Duals at GHS, continuing to make our home venue one of the premier wrestling environments in the region.

This season included several individual milestones:

Rudy Gentile and Hunter Cox both reached the 100-win milestone.

Rudy Gentile, Hunter Cox, and Kelley Enterline captured District 10 Championships.

We qualified seven wrestlers for the Northwest Regional Championships.

Rudy Gentile, our only senior starter, provided tremendous leadership throughout the season.

This weekend, Gentile, Cox, and Kaysom Mataria will represent our school at the state tournament.



Senior Rudy Gentile works to pin a Saegertown opponent

Senior Night was another unforgettable highlight. In a packed gym under a "Blackout Night" theme, we captured the Region title against Saegertown in front of an electric home crowd. The energy and support from our community continue to set Greenville apart.

We were also honored to recognize longtime Commodore Perry and Greenville wrestling coach Bob Parker as an honorary captain for our match against Cambridge Springs — a meaningful tribute to someone who has impacted generations of wrestlers in our area.

Looking ahead, our program stands on the brink of history. Greenville wrestling currently sits at 998 program victories, and we look forward to eclipsing 1,000 wins next season, which would make us the #1 AA program in PIAA history in total wins. We hope to celebrate this incredible milestone with our entire community and alumni.

Rudy, Hunter, and Kaysom: Good luck at the states!

The work does not stop in March. This spring and summer, our wrestlers will compete across the country, continuing to grow and challenge themselves. Last year alone, athletes competed in Atlantic City, Myrtle Beach, Indianapolis, and North Dakota, and we expect even more national opportunities in the months ahead as our student-athletes prepare for another championship run.



Our three NW Region Medalists Cox, Gentile, and Mataria

Career Exploration

GHS continues to strengthen local partnerships

As the winter season continues, GHS students are actively charting their paths toward the future. Career Coordinator Heather Balas has been at the forefront of this mission, working to bridge the gap between classroom learning and the diverse professional landscape of our region. A cornerstone of this effort has been the "Workforce Wednesdays" series, which has brought a rotating cast of industry leaders directly to our students. This winter, the program featured insightful sessions with Joy Cone in February, the Primary Health Network in January, the Pennsylvania State Police in December, and Acutec Precision Aerospace in November. These visits have allowed students to engage in meaningful dialogue with local experts, gaining a firsthand look at the skills and dedication required to succeed in fields ranging from advanced manufacturing to public safety and healthcare.

Beyond the classroom walls, students have also taken part in immersive site tours that provide a high-definition view of modern industry. Recent excursions to NLMK and Jamestown Coating gave students a unique look at the logistical and technical complexities of local production, while the UPMC Jameson Career Day offered a deep dive into the fast-paced world of medical professionals.



Xavier Gardner and Ezra Shoaf explore machinery at Jamestown Coating



GHS students get the full experience while visiting UPMC Jameson during their Career Day

These experiences are designed to demystify the local workforce and show our students that high-level, rewarding careers are available right here in our backyard.

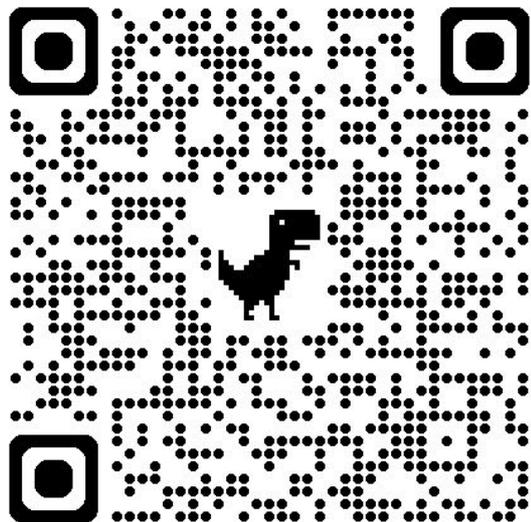
Perhaps the most impactful element of this initiative is the personalized approach to career counseling. To date, Mrs. Balas has completed individual meetings with every single junior and senior at GHS, meticulously connecting their personal interests and strengths to viable career pathways. This individualized guidance ensures that our upperclassmen feel supported and informed as they prepare for graduation.

The momentum is set to continue as the calendar turns to spring, with sophomore meetings scheduled to begin in March. By starting these conversations early and maintaining strong ties with local employers, Greenville High School is ensuring that every student graduates with a clear vision of their potential and a roadmap for how to achieve it.

UPCOMING WORKFORCE WEDNESDAY PARTNERS

- MARCH:
Wabtec Corporation
- APRIL:
Imperial Systems

Help Us Connect with Alumni



More Opportunities to Follow District Events & Student Work

Follow our student produced newspaper on instagram.

- @ GHS_TROY_TIMES

Follow our student produced media and news team on youtube.

- <https://www.youtube.com/@GHSTrojanTV>

GHS Sports Calendar

- <https://www.greenilletrojans.com/>