



Gloucester City Public Schools

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Dennis M. Vespe, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Lion Community,

Welcome to the start of the 2019-2020 school year! The beginning of a new school year is always a ROARING new time, not only for students, but for families and our staff as well. In this spirit, it is my pleasure to welcome back students, families and staff of Gloucester City School District, ready to continue the important work of our school mission – the students of Gloucester City Schools will become contributing members of a changing society and be prepared and committed to lifelong learning.

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Please refer to Gloucester City School District www.gcsd.k12.nj.us for important information including the 2019-2020 school calendar.

The district is excited with our progress and new initiatives:

- For the first time ever Gloucester City High School has achieved placement on Jay Mathews “High School Challenge Index.” Gloucester City High School was ranked in the top 10% of schools to be honored. Congratulations!
- We have embarked on a Solar Power initiative district wide which will create utility savings and provide for a more “green” environment.
- New technologies are a large part of the educational landscape with the one-to-one initiative. Teachers can track students' progress through in-class activities, in real time, and assess where a student is excelling or needs help.
- As we strive to provide excellent instruction, students will have the opportunity to participate in several new programs / courses.
- High School All Purpose Room - Construction has begun and is making great progress.
- We have replaced all of the equipment in our current Strength Training Facility. Our Physical Education and Athletic programs will now have some of the highest quality resources to train with.
- As a result of the success of our Project Lead the Way Computer Science and Engineering programs, we are working with this nationally-respected organization to establish their Biomedical Science program at GHS. Aspiring doctors, nurses, physical therapists, pharmacists, veterinarians, and students interested in various other health field occupations will find this sequence as the absolute best training grounds for their field of interest.
- We are thrilled to partner with Camden County College’s Career & Technical Institute this year to offer programs to GHS students in their Senior year including Automotive Technology, Baking & Pastry, Carpentry Technology, Medical Assistant, Cosmetology/Hair Specialist, Culinary Arts, Electrician, Heating/Venting/Air Conditioning, Plumbing, Microsoft Office Specialist, Pharmacy Technician, Veterinary Assistant, Welding, and much more!
- TV Studio – A state of the art TV studio will be completed by Sept 1st at GHS along with updated curriculum and programs at GMS and CSS for TV and video design.

- High School Gym - The “Old Gym” looks great with a fresh coat of paint in the foyer areas, and trophy cases.
- Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) Program - Has been implemented at Gloucester High School for the 2019-20 school year.
- Cold Springs School - Received a new roof at no cost to the district.
- Early Childhood Center Playground - New surface, play equipment as well as a shade structure and picnic tables installed. Also, the multipurpose room has received a new look including paint and a new floor.
- The GCSD 18-21 year program has begun as of July 1st
- Our district continues to work with the Gloucester City Police Department to ensure security is at its highest level.
- GMS housed Gloucester City Camps throughout the summer including a basketball camp with Stefano Okoro.
- Sielox Security - In all three buildings, Sielox CLASS (Crisis Lockdown Alert Status System) installation will take place over the next few months. Sielox CLASS is an award-winning emergency notification and response system designed to improve situational awareness and notify first responders in real time, saving time and potentially saving lives.
- CSS and GMS have installed state of the art digital marquees

Many new faculty and staff have been hired during the summer months. I am honored to welcome these new employees to the school district and am excited about the endless possibilities for their success in the Gloucester City School District as they join a talented and committed staff.

New Administrator:

- Middle School Principal - Mrs. Jennifer Holmstrom
- Middle School Vice Principal - Norell Gurcsik
- Athletic Director - Kristin Kellogg
- Early Childhood Director - William O’Kane

I want to wish everyone a **ROARING** 2019-2020 school year!!! AND AS ALWAYS **GO LIONS!!!**

Faithfully in Education,



Dr. Dennis M. Vespe
 Superintendent of Schools
 Gloucester City School District