
JAMES GETTYS GAZETTE

SEPTEMBER 2021



September 2021

Hello JG Families!

On behalf of our teachers and staff, I want to welcome back our returning students and families and issue a warm welcome to those students and families new to our school community. While every year brings new challenges, I am happy to report that our school year is off to a good start, in no small part due to our supportive parents, dedicated staff, and hard-working students. I am so proud to be a part of our James Gettys community! In this our first newsletter of the 2021-2022 school year, we have included a number of helpful reminders and some very useful information for our students and families.

Welcome New Staff! : First and foremost, we are excited to welcome several new staff who have joined our JG community. Our students are quickly getting to know them, but we wanted to introduce them to our JG parents and families. Included in this month's newsletter are brief bios on each of newest staff:

* **Guidance Counselor:** Mrs. Effinger

* **P.E. Teacher :** Mr. Weaver

* **Orchestra Teacher :** Ms. Kenney

* **L IU Teacher :** Ms. Bentley

* **Custodian :** Mrs. Flynn

Parking Lot Enhancements: Improvements to our main entrance parking lot that were started last year, were completed this summer. The most noticeable improvements our visitors will notice are the additional parking spaces gained, as well as the handicap accessible curbs and parking. The flow of the parent drop-off/pick-up area was not impacted. **As a reminder, we do ask parents to NOT park in the district parking lot and cross bus lines to drop off or pick up their students.** Parents, thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance in keeping our students safe.

Health & Safety Plan & FAQs: For the latest information on the GASD Health & Safety Plan, including updated FAQs please visit the district website and click on the "Return to Learn" plan. <https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/covid-19>

The Warrior Way: While long time JG students and parents alike are familiar with our James Gettys STAR owl (Safe Choices, Take Responsibility for your own behavior, Achieve, Respect: yourself, peers, environment, all adults) our teachers and PBIS team will be busy this year introducing our students and school community to The **Warrior Way: #Be Here, #Be Involved, #Be Committed, #Behind.** The Warrior Way language is already a big part of our middle and high schools and we are excited to introduce this in our elementary buildings this year.

Finally, parents as you read over this month's newsletter, and throughout the year, should you have any questions, please reach out. Our teachers and staff are here to help! Together, 2021-2022 WILL BE a great year!

Mr. Wells

Principal



Welcome back to another school year!

Thank you to all that have provided us with your child's updated health information, including immunizations. If you haven't returned the health survey form or physical form for those students in kindergarten or dental form for K,3, and 5th grades please do so at your earliest convenience.

We are very happy to be able to provide the Health Hero voluntary flu vaccination program at school again this year. This will be done on Wednesday, September 29th. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine at school this year please return the form that was sent home the first week of school ASAP. If you need a form please let us know. Remember to continue to wash your hands, cover your cough and keep your child home from school if they are ill.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful September!

Melissa Weikert RN
James Gettys Elementary School Nurse
898 Biglerville Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-6254 opt.5 ext. 1227



Hello, my name is Mrs. Effinger and I will be your child/children's School Counselor at James Gettys beginning this year. Mr. Hogg and I were asked to switch places, so he will be at Franklin Twp. Although I am sad to leave Franklin after 15 years, I am looking forward to my new adventure at James Gettys.

I am starting my 16th year as a School Counselor with Gettysburg Area School District. I live in Mechanicsburg with my husband and 2 of our 3 daughters. Our oldest daughter just started her Freshman year of college at Shippensburg University.

It has been wonderful meeting the students here. They have been so welcoming!

Each year, I have the opportunity to interact with your child/children at school in many different capacities. The goal is to visit the classrooms in person this year for Counselor lessons. This month's lesson will focus on my role as the School Counselor, the GASD Bullying Policy, and a little bit about me.

Thank you for all the support you give to your child/children and their education. If you need to reach me for any reason, I am available, whether you are attending school in person or virtually, via phone (717)334-6254 #5 #1640 or email at deffinger@gasd-pa.org.

I look forward to a wonderful year! Thanks for all you do!!

Denyel Effinger, Guidance Counselor

Important Dates
and INFORMATION

September 3 & 6 - No School, Labor Day Holiday

September 28 - Fall Picture Day

October 8 - Early Dismissal, Prof. Development, at 1:00

October 11 - No School, Prof. Development

October 28 - Fall Picture Retake Day



All school menus are available on the James Gettys Homepage or at the following links:

SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST MENU:

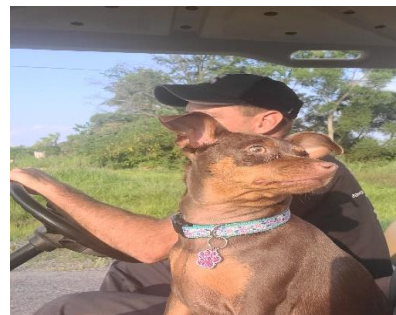
<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/cms/lib/PA01816494/Centricity/Domain/12/September%20Elementary%20Breakfast.pdf>

SEPTEMBER LUNCH MENU:

<https://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/cms/lib/PA01816494/Centricity/Domain/12/Sept%20Lunch%20Elementary.pdf>

WELCOME ABOARD JAMES GETTYS' NEW STAFF MEMBERS:

My name is **Laurie Flynn**. I am the new custodian for James Gettys. I have been employed with GASD since 2001. I have lived in Gettysburg all my life. I am married with 2 Daughters ages 23 & 16. I have 1 dog known as Ms. Minka the princess. I enjoy dirt track racing & The Pittsburgh Steelers.



Grace Kenny is the 4th-6th grade orchestra director in the district. She plays the violin professionally and enjoys being a singer/songwriter in her free time (check out her music on Spotify/Apple Music)! Grace is excited to teach here at JGE and can't wait to get to know the school.



My name is **Mr. Weaver**! The first thing you should know about me is that I LOVE my job. I absolutely love being able to spend my days working with students to accomplish different goals and expose them to activities and skills that they never knew existed. In my free time, I love to go on hikes with my wife Courtney and our dog Buddy, as well as exercising and exploring new cities.



CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. COOPER (AKA MISS SOLIDAY) ON YOUR BEAUTIFUL WEDDING!

