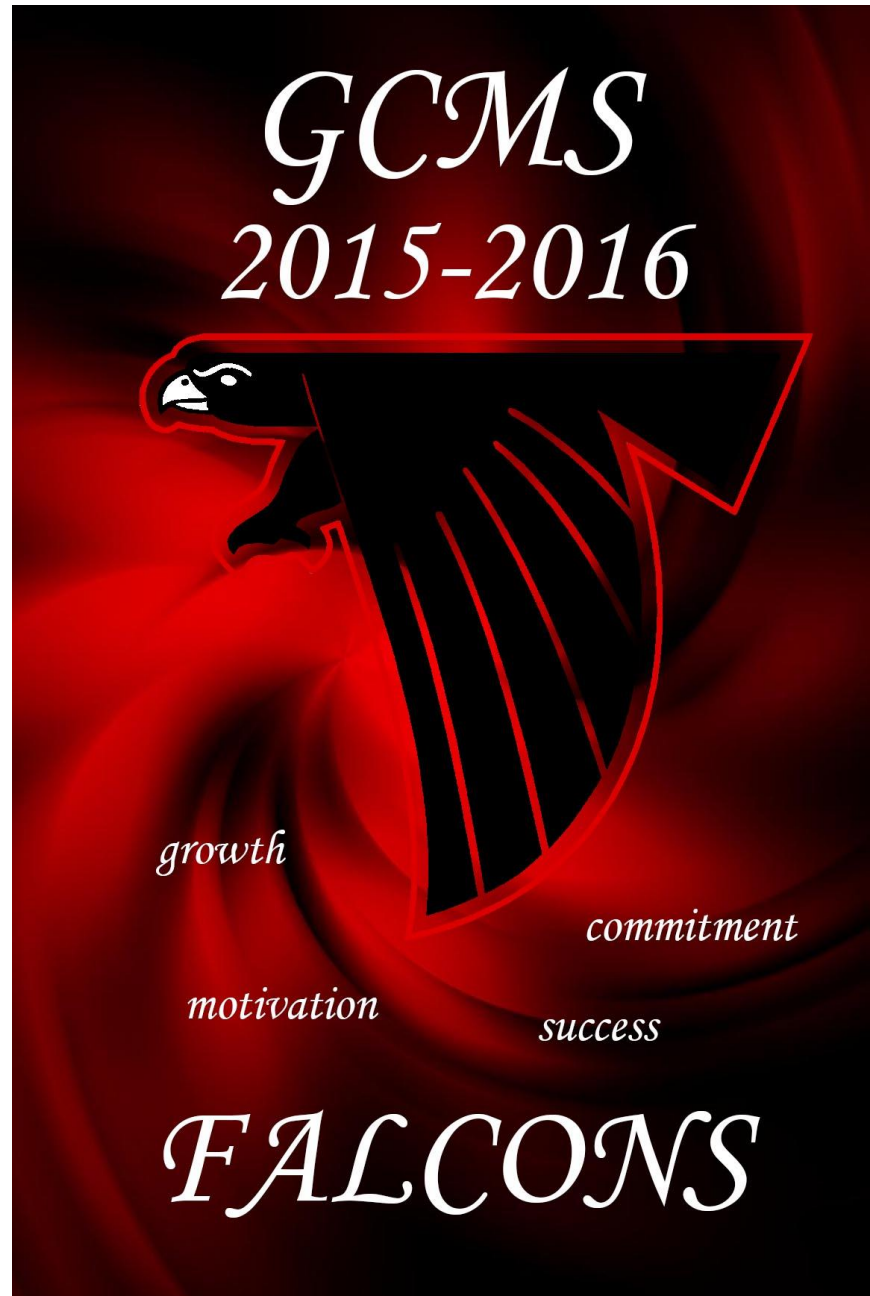




# Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley High School

State of the School

2015-2016



## GCMS High School Vision 20/20

*A GCMS Falcon will graduate well-adjusted and academically prepared: able to handle life's challenges by setting high expectations of growth for the future.*

# Administration

**GCMS Superintendent of Schools – Mr. Anthony Galindo**

**High School Principal – Mr. Chris Garard**

Administrative Assistant – Mrs. Lisa Farmer

**Assistant Principal/Athletic Director - Mr. Mike Allen**

Administrative Assistant – Mrs. Sid Schaefer

**Director of Curriculum and Instruction - Mrs. Erin Nuss**

Curriculum Clerk – Mrs. Salli Sullins

# Facilities

GCMS High School  
815 N. Church Street  
Gibson City, IL 60936  
217-784-4292  
Fax – 217-784-8293

GCMS District Office  
307 N. Sangamon Ave.  
Gibson City, IL 60936  
217-784-8292  
Fax – 217-784-

# GCMS Staff

## Total Number of staff members

Administration	2
Certified Staff	29
Administrative Assistants	2
Non-Certified Clerks	2
Custodial	4
Food Service	3
Paraprofessionals	3
Technology	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>

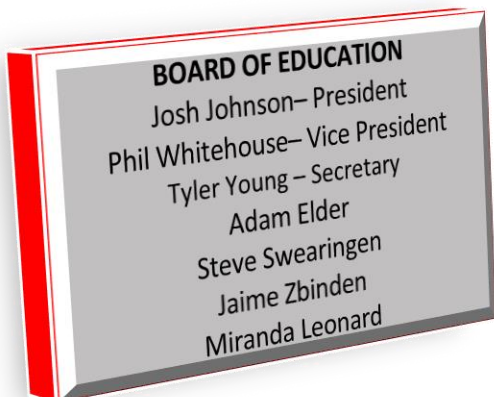
## GCMS Staff - Experience

**313 Total years teaching at GCMS**

**15/29 have earned a Master's Degree**

# District Information

GCMS officially consolidated In July of 1993 to include the communities of Gibson City, Melvin, and Sibley. We house students in three (3) buildings inside the city limits of Gibson City and our district covers 224.5 square miles. GCMS employs approximately 160 staff members and serves around 1050 students in grades Pre- K (ECE) through twelve (12). The unit office is the “business hub” of the district, and is staffed by Office Manager Sarah Sarantakos, Administrative Assistant Doris DeFries, Accounts Payable/Transportation Clerk Beth Tabor, and Superintendent Anthony Galindo. All final financial, policy, curriculum, and staffing decisions are made in this office with input and recommendations from the district personnel, and Board of Education approval. GCMS Board of Education regular meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month beginning at 6:15 pm in the Unit Office Board Room. Board members also serve on many committees throughout the year.



# Employee Recognition Awards

**We would like to recognize these staff members for reaching important milestones for years of service to the school district.**

<b>Kyle Renchen - Band</b>	<b>5 Years</b>
<b>Adam Schafer - Science</b>	<b>5 Years</b>
<b>Rick Ertel- Mathematics</b>	<b>10 Years</b>
<b>Mike McDevitt - Guidance</b>	<b>15 Years</b>

## Falcon First Day

Welcome to the Class of 2019! The school year started strong with a great turnout during freshmen orientation for our incoming students. Freshmen were invited to participate in this orientation on the Friday before classes began. Highlights of the day are listed below:

- Welcome by Principal Garard
- Preparing for HS success – Curriculum Director Mrs. Nuss
- Drivers Education presentation – Mrs. Weber-Jones
- Walk-through schedule – All students
- Top 10 things about GCMS – Mrs. Briney
- Advisory meeting with Mentors
- Lunch and lunchroom procedures
- Pyramid of Leadership – Mr. Tompkins
- 87% attendance 82/94 freshmen
- 26 mentors (junior and senior students)



## Professional Development

Professional Development is an important aspect of education that many do not realize is happening within the walls of GCMS. Staff members are required to participate in education programs to further enhance their understanding of students, education, and the laws that govern Illinois schools. Our district offers required trainings that all staff participate in as well as individual opportunities.

Student growth was a major focus for our district staff this year in terms of professional development. Student growth is defined as a “change in a student’s or group of students’ knowledge or skills, as evidenced by gain and/or attainment on two or more assessments, between two or more points in time”. Staff members continued their education on writing assessments, student learning objectives, and analyzing data.

Mandated online trainings are also an important piece of staff members continued education. Listed below are examples of trainings our staff completed.

- Sexual Harassment
- Mastectomy and Breast Reconstruction Notice
- Homeless Education
- Illinois Ethics Training – Code of Ethics
- Teaching Children with ADHD – Behavioral Interventions
- Bullying Prevention
- Hazard Communication for school Employees
- Lockout/Tagout Awareness
- Blood borne Pathogens for School Employees
- Self-Regulation – Helping students stay on task
- Students with Diabetes
- Sexual or Domestic Violence and Student Pregnancies
- Social Media: Personal and Professional Use
- Protecting Student Data
- Suicide Prevention and Response
- Fire Safety

# ACT Score Report

## 2006-2015 Comparison

Year Tested*	Composite Score	English	Math	Reading	Science
2016	21.8	21.6	21.5	22.0	21.5
2015	21.4	21.5	21.8	21.2	20.7
2014	19.97	19.05	20.66	19.82	19.72
2013	22.5	22.1	22.6	22.7	22.4
2012	20.9	20.66	21.83	19.92	20.87
2011	21.7	21.37	21.85	21.69	21.89
2010	21.0	21.0	21.0	22.0	21.0
2009	20.9	20.2	21.3	21.2	20.7
2008	21.9	21.9	21.7	22.0	21.7
2007	21.4	20.8	21.8	21.4	21.2
2006	21.0	20.8	20.5	21.3	21.3

## Happy Holidays?? Homecoming 2015!!

The Holidays were the theme of this year's Homecoming at GCMS. Each class was given a different holiday to represent for their class float and hallway decorating contests. Our students participated in activities throughout the week with various dress up days, door decorating contest, and Class float building. Student counsel hosted multiple assemblies including Iron Man Volleyball, Project Ignition Assembly, Class Tug-of-war, and a Pep Assembly which included the crowning of our Homecoming Royalty. Friday night was the big football game against long-time rival Paxton-Buckley-Loda in which our FALCONS came away with a 51-0 victory! The week ended with our students attending our annual Homecoming dance. Attendance at the dance was a staggering 249 GCMS students, which is about 73% of our entire student body. After all of the contest points were totaled, our Senior Class was the overall Spirit Winners for the week. Proud week to be a FALCON!

### Class Themes

**Senior Class** – Christmas  
**Junior Class** – Independence Day  
**Sophomore Class** – Halloween  
**Freshmen Class** - Easter

### Dress-up Spirit Days

**Monday** – Super Hero Day  
**Tuesday** – Class Holiday Dress Up  
**Wednesday** – Student T-Shirt Design Day  
**Thursday** – Class Colors  
**Friday** – RED AND BLACK

### Homecoming Royalty

**Homecoming Queen** – Holly Arends **Homecoming King** – Zach Johnson  
**Senior Attendants** – Andrea Worthington  
 Emily Allen, Brian Arends, and James Fairfield.  
**Junior Attendants** – Taylor Engel, Bayleigh Shoemaker, Sam Baillie, and Logan Davis  
**Sophomore Attendants** – Alison Andreae, Allison Davis, Connor Bowen, and Mitchell McNutt.  
**Freshmen Attendants** – Sydnee Barnes, Makenzi Bielfeldt, Marcus Baillie, and Nathan Garard.



## Class of 2016 attend Leadership Camp

Balancing on a huge teeter-totter, passing individuals through a massive spider web, squeezing everyone onto small platforms, balancing on cables, and helping each other over a 12 ft. wall were just some of the challenges that faced our Senior Class. These activities and others were presented to our students by trained facilitators during their annual trip to Allerton Park in Monticello. Our senior class trained to become better leaders and prepared to better guide all of our students through a successful school year. THANK YOU SENIORS FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP!



## GCMS experiences ANOTHER water main break!

October 6, 2015, GCMS had another water main break. The good news this time was that the break was OUTSIDE the building 😊 Port-a-Potties were brought in for students and staff at the High School and Elementary for the morning hours. Students and staff handled this challenge like they always do...WITH CLASS. Due to the water main break, the school was placed on a boil order for two days. Water bottles were purchased and readily available for all who needed them. Thank you to the City of Gibson for their quick repair work to get us up and going.



## PARCC Spring 2015 Results

	ELA	ELA	Math	Math
Grade Level	State of Illinois	GCMS	State of Illinois	GCMS
<b>HS</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>53%</b>

## GCMS HS Ranked #14

GCMS High School was rated 14<sup>th</sup> out of 612 public high schools in Illinois based on academic achievement! SchoolDigger.com ranks schools based on test scores supplied by each state's Department of Education. They then calculate an Average Standard Score by normalizing and averaging each school's test scores across all tests and grades. That average score is then sorted with the highest score ranked #1 and so on. Based on our recent test scores, GCMS High School ranked better than 97.7% of high schools in Illinois!

**ACADEMIC**  
*Excellence*

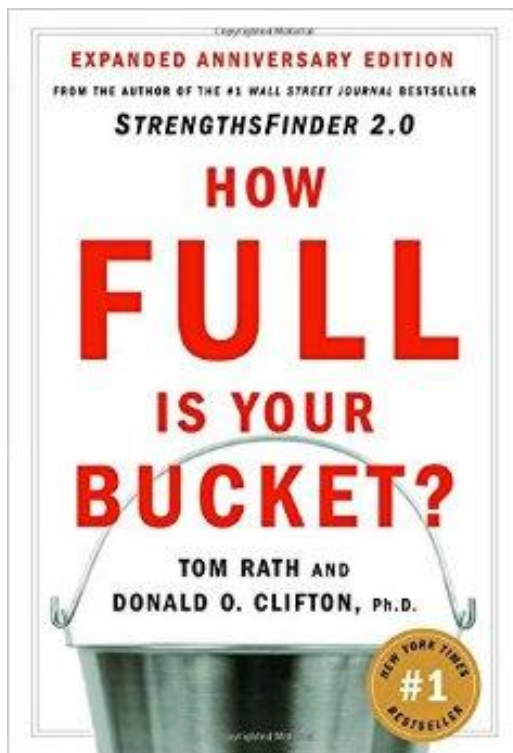
## How Full is Your Bucket?

### GCMS District Book Study

How did you feel after your last interaction with another person?

Did that person -- your spouse, best friend, coworker, or even a stranger -- "fill your bucket" by making you feel more positive? Or did that person "dip from your bucket," leaving you more negative than before? The #1 *New York Times* and #1 *BusinessWeek* bestseller, *How Full Is Your Bucket?* reveals how even the briefest interactions affect your relationships, productivity, health, and longevity. Organized around a simple metaphor of a dipper and a bucket, and grounded in 50 years of research, this book will show you how to greatly increase the positive moments in your work and your life -- while reducing the negative.

Filled with discoveries, powerful strategies, and engaging stories, *How Full Is Your Bucket?* is sure to inspire lasting changes and has all the makings of a timeless classic.



## Fair Isn't Always Equal

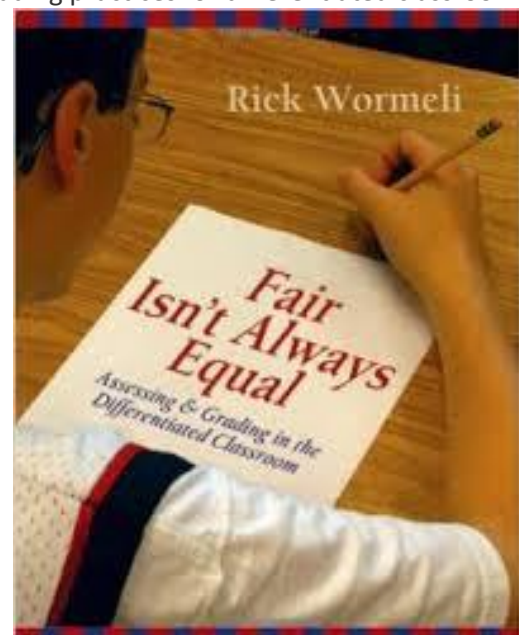
### GCMS HS Book Study

Differentiated instruction is a nice idea, but what happens when it comes to assessing and grading students? What's both fair and leads to real student learning?

*Fair Isn't Always Equal* answers that question and much more. Rick Wormeli offers the latest research and common sense thinking that teachers and administrators seek when it comes to assessment and grading in differentiated classes. Filled with real examples and "gray" areas that middle and high school educators will easily recognize, Rick tackles important and sometimes controversial assessment and grading issues constructively. The book covers high-level concepts, ranging from "rationale for differentiating assessment and grading" to "understanding mastery" as well as the nitty-gritty details of grading and assessment, such as:

- whether to incorporate effort, attendance, and behavior into academic grades;
- whether to grade homework;
- setting up grade books and report cards to reflect differentiated practices;
- principles of successful assessment;
- how to create useful and fair test questions, including how to grade such prompts efficiently;
- whether to allow students to re-do assessments for full credit.

This thorough and practical guide also includes a special section for teacher leaders that explores ways to support colleagues as they move toward successful assessment and grading practices for differentiated classrooms.



## Career Cruising

A key point in the vision statement for GCMS High School is to graduate students who set high expectations of growth for the future. By using the Career Cruising program, our students have started to prepare for their futures. The program is designed to allow students to self-explore and evaluate different post-secondary paths. Each student views their future in a different way. At GCMS High School we have students that attend 2-year and 4-year institutions or 18-24-month training programs. We also have students who join the workforce or the military. Since the future visions of each student is different, we use the tools provided by Career Cruising to better prepare each individual student. All GCMS High School students have completed the Matchmaker Assessment, which matches students with possible careers. The class of 2016 are in the process of using Career Cruising to find scholarships and financial aid options so they can turn their dreams into realities. For the students who know their workforce future starts after graduation, Career Cruising provides a job search engine. Because of this search engine, our students are able to search the US for jobs and apply for those jobs all in one place. The Career Cruising program will continue to supplement the work we do inside the classrooms at GCMS High School.

## Future Plans of GCMS Graduates

Class of:	2014	2015	2016
Work	6	5	7
Military	5	5	7
Undecided	1	1	3
Community College	25	34	22
4 Year University	28	11	24
Certificate program	5	3	0



## Falcons SOAR when they:

### Stop Other stuff And Read

**When:** Every Monday during Advisory.

**Who:** All students and all faculty....seeing role models (like teachers) read is essential to our success.

**What:** All students and faculty stop whatever else they might be doing and **read**.

**Where:** In the advisory classroom. Students may not go to the library or anywhere else during this time. Everyone reads. There are no passes out.

**Why:** Independent reading is an essential component of the Common Core State Standards. **We are an intelligent and well-read staff....we can maximize on those traits by sharing our appreciation for and knowledge of literature, newspapers, magazines, and books with our students.**

Our commitment:

- No club or organizational meetings scheduled Wednesdays during advisory.
- Teachers will read during advisory time no matter how tempting that online game of solitaire may be.
- We will encourage students to bring something they will enjoy reading and if they don't know what they might like we will talk to them about what we like to read.
- If a student does not have something to read we will hand them something (school appropriate) to read for that day.

## GCMS Elementary School Grandparents Lunch

Many of our grandparents are able to attend and eat lunch with their grandchildren each year during this event but unfortunately, some are not able to attend. This year, twenty members from the Class of 2016 volunteered to assist the Elementary School with Grandparents lunch and fill in for missing family members.

*This is a note Mr. Garard received from Cathy Walker-Steidinger – School and Community Liaison. “Thanks very much to you and all the high school students who came over last week during Grandparents Lunches.*

*It means so much to the Elementary students who do not have a guest, when they are matched up with a “big kid” and made to feel really special. I saw several quivering lips turn into big smiles.... that was priceless.”*

This is another wonderful example why GCMS is such a great place to be!



## HOIC “Conference for a Cause”

GCMS High School, along with a majority of Heart of Illinois Conference schools, teamed up to raise funds to help those affected by terrorism and violence. Many HOIC schools worked to raise money to relocate one family from war-torn Syria. The idea of raising money for a refugee family came from Fieldcrest Principal Bill Lapp, who learned more about the country at a conference he attended in Birmingham. Lapp discovered it takes \$25,000 for the organization, Mercury One, to relocate a family of five and provide for them for one year. Knowing one school couldn't do this alone, the idea was brought to the HOIC principals and the joint effort was born. During a kick-off assembly at GCMS, local community members Ron and Melanie Warfield talked about how terrorism can affect a family. Their son, Robb, his wife and three young children were forced to leave Africa, after Robb, a missionary, was targeted by al-Qaida. Lapp told GCMS students there is nothing more important than to stand up for other people. “When you do something charitable for somebody that you know isn't going to pay you back, that is true love and caring, and that's what you are doing”. The GCMS marketing class designed t-shirts that they designed, printed, and sold as one of the school fundraisers. GCMS students and staff raised \$3250 for this worthy cause!

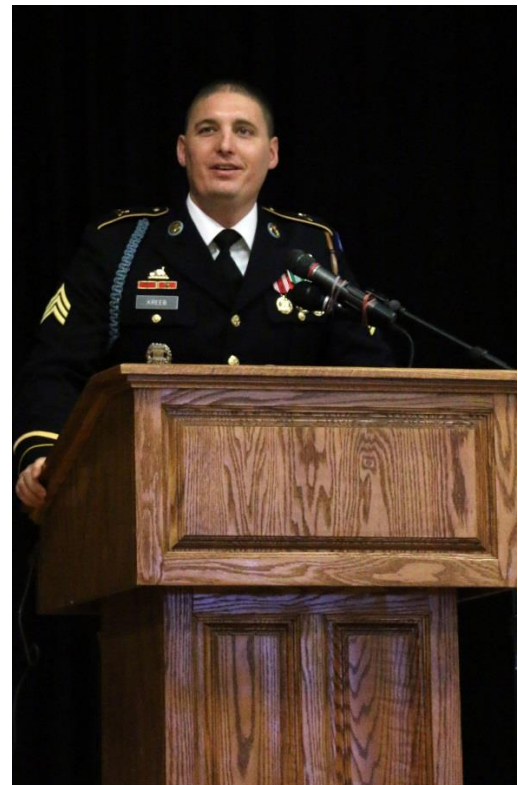
## GCMS University

GCMS University is a two year induction and mentoring program supported by the Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley School District. The program has evolved into a three tier support system. Teachers are placed into a tier according to their teaching experience. The goal of GCMS University is to introduce new staff members to the culture of the GCMS school district and to provide a formal system to support new teachers with their professional development goals. This program is under the direction of Mrs. Kilee Lidwell-McFerren, Elementary/Middle School Assistant Principal.

## Veteran's Day Assembly

GCMS schools hosted our annual Veteran's Day Assembly on November 11, 2015 in the High School gym. This year's program began with an entrance parade of over 120 Veteran's and was concluded with 500 elementary school students singing “You are Our Heroes”. Emotions could not be contained throughout the entire assembly. Highlights included the University of Illinois Detachment 190's Drill Team, the Pledge of Allegiance presented by Elementary

students, Isabella Adams, Kale Bauer, Seth Kollross, and Erin Stroh. High school student James Fairfield spoke about the *Origin of Veterans Day* while Sara Edgar presented *A Prayer for Veterans* and Tristan Smith gave the *Closing Statement*. Our keynote speaker this year was Matthew Kreeb, a retired Marine Corps officer who spent part of his duty as a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Our High School Band and Choir performed the National Anthem, The Air Army Corps, The Caissons, The Marine's Hymn, Anchors Away, Semper Paratus, and God Bless America. Planning is already underway for next year's program.





# Extra-Curricular Activities

## Boys Golf

During the 2015 boy's golf season, there were many highlights to take away. Overall, the team went 17-4, including a 15-1 home record. Captains included seniors Doug Woodward and Brian Arends. The team introduced four new varsity members including, Clayton Bane, Dillon Glascock, Connor Birky, and Logan Davis. On Wednesday, September 2, the team recorded the lowest team score on record for the GCMS boy's golf team with a 160. Clayton Bane provided the lowest round on the season for the boys with a 1-under, 35 on Wednesday, September 23. Freshman Connor Birky provided the most consistency of the six varsity members by recording scores in each regular season match in the mid-low 40's. Despite having the #3 seed heading into a strong regional field at Danville Country Club, the team was unable to advance, or have any individuals advance to sectionals. GCMS will return four varsity members for the 2016 golf season.

## Girls Golf

The Lady Falcons Golf Team experienced an excellent season and finished with a 14-6 record. The 2015 team was led by the senior leadership of Emily Allen and Morgan Hazen. Juniors were Sara Edgar, Danielle Sallee, and Emily Sommer. The excellent freshmen group that really contributed a lot at the varsity level consisted of Sydney Funk, Megan Moody, and Shannon Spangler. The girls finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Blue Ridge Invite and received a plaque. The team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the HOIC Tournament. Emily Allen placed 5<sup>th</sup> and earned All-Conference honors. Girls Golf only has 2 classes and boys 3 which meant that our girls had to compete against schools of 1,000 students. The regional at Railside was one of the toughest in the State. Normal U-High took 1<sup>st</sup> place, BCC 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Mahomet 3<sup>rd</sup>. Even though the team shot their best 18 hole round of 423 they came up short. Emily Allen finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place with a 101. She earned her trip to sectionals in the first playoff hole. Emily shot a career best 44 for 9 holes and career best 96 for 18 holes. The girls will return six members for the 2016 golf season.

## Volleyball

Our Varsity team finished the season with 7 wins and 19 loses. The JV team had 4 wins and 18 loses. Varsity participated in one tournament and finished 6th in the PBL classic with 3 wins and 2 loses in the tournament. The

team was led by 7 seniors who all saw starting time. Overall, our team excelled at court coverage but struggled to find consistency in our offense and defending against strong hitters. We had great participation during the off season in the weight room and in summer open gyms. Both Varsity and JV participated in the Illini Elite summer league in Bloomington this year. We faced some very tough competition at the start of our season before hitting our stride in the middle and tallying the majority of our wins at that time. We finished our season at the HOIC tournament where we went 2-0 and lost our opening game at the regional level. We saw some substantial growth from all of the athletes and we look forward to see what awaits us next season.

## Football

WOW what a ride! GCMS Falcon Football started the season with an undefeated 9-0 regular season record. This outstanding regular season brought an HOIC Co-Conference Championship (shared with Class 2A State Champion Tri-Valley) and a berth to the IHSA Playoffs. Highlights of the regular season included a 5 game shutout streak, beating PBL 52-0 for a Homecoming victory and winning 47-0 over Fieldcrest on Senior Night. The IHSA State Playoffs brought Mt. Olive to GCMS for the 1<sup>st</sup> round. It was a rainy and nasty day, but that would not stop the Falcons from winning 49-13. Nick Meunier also broke the IHSA State Record for most touchdowns in a game with 7. He also had 247 yards rushing and 387 all-purpose yards and that was all done in the 1<sup>st</sup> half! For the 2<sup>nd</sup> round game, GCMS traveled to Winchester and faced an extremely physical team. The game went back and forth until the Falcons pulled away late in the game to win 20-8. Zach Johnson sealed the victory with a 12 yard scamper late in the game. Every single started on the defense had double digits in tackle points with Levi Davis leading the way with 27 tackle points. Arcola came to GCMS for the IHSA Quarter Finals. The crowd was huge on both sides and the atmosphere was amazing. The game was played on one end of the field due to the wind with all 4 touchdowns being scored on the one end. The Falcons lost 13-14. They gave everything they had but came up just a little short. The falcons finished their season with an 11-1 record, tying the school record for the most wins.

# HOIC All-Conference Football Members

## Offense –

### 1<sup>st</sup> Team

Nick Meunier – Running Back (Unanimous)

Glenn Mehl – Lineman

Zach Johnson – Kicker

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Team

James Fairfield – Tight End

Nick Schoonover – Lineman

## Defense-

### 1<sup>st</sup> Team

Tristan Smith – Linebacker

Nick Meunier – Defensive Back

Levi Davis – Lineman

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Team

Key-Shawn Girkin – Linebacker

Tucker Cribbett – Defensive Back

Sam Baillie - Lineman



## Wrestling

Our varsity wrestling team went 21-3 in dual meets this season. We won 2 tournaments (Argenta and Orion), while finishing 2nd at Plano and 7th at Princeton. Our team finished its season with a second place IHSA Regional performance and only 12 points behind regional champion Olympia High School. Coming out of the regional tournament, GCMS qualified 9 of our 11 wrestlers for sectionals. Four wrestlers, Key-Shawn Girkin, Levi Davis, Preston Braaten, and Aaron Carter made it through sectionals to qualify for the state tournament. This is the 10th consecutive year to have a state qualifier and the 8th consecutive year to have a state place winner in our program.

The following awards were given:

MVP – Key-Shawn Girkin

Most Improved – Conrad Thomas

Most Takedowns – Key-Shawn Girkin

Most Pins – Levi Davis

Heart of a Champion – Lane Williams

## 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State Football Nick Meunier

Nick Meunier had an outstanding senior season in football earning him numerous awards and honors. Nick was chosen as an Illinois High School Football Coaches Association 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State running back! He was also Pantagraph All-Area, News Gazette All-Area, News Gazette Top 100, and was selected to play in the Shriner's All Star Game. All of the honors are well deserved. Congratulations Nick!



## 5<sup>th</sup> Place at IHSA Wrestling Key-Shawn Girkin

Senior, Key-Shawn Girkin earned a 5th place finish in the IHSA State Wrestling Tournament at the 152lb weight class. Key-Shawn won an exciting match in the closing seconds to continue towards his ultimate goal for placing at State. Key-Shawn beat Macomb's Zach Wilson 5-4 to win his last high school match ever and earn 5<sup>th</sup> place.



## Variety Show

The annual Variety Show was held on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. 73 students were involved in this show, either on the stage or behind the scenes, and even 7 teachers made an appearance onstage. There were 18 acts, including performances from the Concert Choir, Women's Choir, Men's Choir, and Chamber Choir, as well as many solos, duets, trios, skits and videos. There was a wide variety of acts, and some that were even original compositions. Miss Broaddus was the director of the show, Mrs. Brucker accompanied many acts on the piano, and Taylor Engel and community member Ann Spangler did much of the choreography and blocking for the show. Junior Emily Sommer and senior Mikayla Baillie were the emcees for the evening. The show was very well attended by the community, and it is our hope that it was enjoyed by all!



## OKLAHOMA

This year's spring musical was Rodger's and Hammerstein's "*Oklahoma!*", performed on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the high school gym. Between the cast, crew, and pit band, over 60 GCMS students were involved in the production. Auditions were held right before winter break, and students rehearsed all January and February to get the show performance-ready. A preview for senior citizens in the community, "Breakfast on Broadway," was put on the morning of March 4<sup>th</sup>, and then the show was performed twice that weekend. The students worked extremely hard and were excited to put on great performances for the audience!



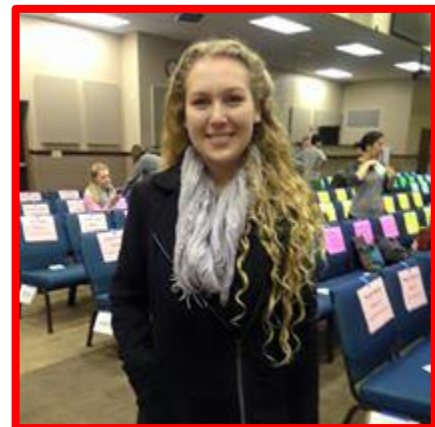
## Honors All-State Choir

Junior Sophie Hafer was accepted into the Honors All-State Choir, which is the highest level of achievement for our students to obtain. She attended the ILMEA (Illinois Music Association) conference in January. Sophie was able to rehearse and perform with the top students from all over the state and sing under a very renowned conductor, Dr. Andre Thomas from Florida State University.

## IMEA District Chorus

The ILMEA (Illinois Music Education Association) has auditions each year for middle and high school music students. There are choral, vocal jazz, orchestra, and band ensembles. The state of Illinois is split up into 9 music districts (GCMS is in district 3), and interested students first audition at the district level. Students at the choral level are given five pieces to prepare, and two of those pieces will be selected at the audition. Choral students also have to be prepared to sing their major scale and triad, all three forms of the minor scale and triad, the diminished and augmented triads, as well as sight read. Students from the entire district three auditioned on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, and the top students were selected for the All District Choir, which will take place on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Students will rehearse all day with a guest conductor, and then perform a concert that evening. This year, juniors Sophie Hafer and Rachel Harmet were selected to be a part of the All District Choir.

After the district level, the top students in each voice part are sent to perform with students from the other eight districts at the ILMEA Conference in Peoria in January. These results are released after the district festival takes place.





## All-State Dance Competition

Taylor Engel performed her dance solo at the Illinois Dance Team Association State Competition in Springfield on Saturday, February 13. Taylor was one of 44 soloists who qualified for the state contest. She qualified for state after competing in regional contests on Jan. 16 in Clinton and Feb. 6 in Tuscola. Only ten dancers advance to the finals, and even though she performed extremely well, she was not able to qualify for the finals. Fantastic job!



## Multi-Media Journalism (MMJ)

Course Description: The students will work with digital media by implementing programs for advance video editing and photo-editing techniques. The class will plan and produce videos, broadcasts, slideshows and other projects utilizing video clips and working with audio/video techniques, uploading videos, editing the clips in a variety of ways including effects, transitions, manipulating audio & video, pictures into movies, rendering and finalizing a video.

Below are links to our WFAL Broadcasts:

September -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdQTAuJix0s>

October –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FK6tGkfGuQA>

November

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1RnIAA8fV0>

Thanksgiving Edition

<https://youtu.be/YR-lpCMt4Y>

Christmas Edition

<https://youtu.be/wxFcbt8pbOY>

February –

<https://youtu.be/chyfATwhbtQ>

March –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoNYbUf2Uyk>

April –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4u9wEsUD6w>

Special Dance Video produced by Zach Johnson and Andrea Worthington

<https://youtu.be/fSydUI5dOTE>

## National Honor Society

The members of the William M. Loy chapter of the National Honor Society are chosen each year from the Juniors and Seniors who have at least a 3.30 grade point average. The faculty rates these students in the traits of character, leadership, and service. An appointed faculty council reviews the rating sheets and makes a final decision for membership. The NHS induction ceremony took place on March 8, 2016. The ceremony was held in the morning with the entire student body and faculty present. Later that evening, the students and their families are honored at a dessert banquet, at Railside Golf Course. Dr. Tim Leonard spoke that evening, giving his Top 10 list of ways to live a successful life.



### 2015 Inductees

Emily Allen  
Julia Bleich  
Lacie Butler  
James Fairfield  
Morgan Hazen  
Julia McGuire  
Breanna Walker  
Cayley Wilson  
Andrea Worthington

### 2016 Inductees

Alyssa Allemand  
Holly Arends  
Zachary Johnson  
Nicholas Meunier  
Trevor Steidinger  
Madisyn Thompson  
Jessalyn Davis  
Sophie Hafer  
Alex Hunt  
Bailee Mueller  
Shreya Patel  
Emily Sommer  
Rose Williams





## GCMS Falcons sign Letters of Intent



**Julia Bleich – Soccer  
Olivet Nazarene University**



**Mikayla Baillie –Basketball and Track  
Indiana Wesleyan University**



**Douglas Woodward – Golf  
Greenville College**



**Nick Meunier – Football  
West Point – United States Army**



**Breanna Walker - Softball  
Illinois Wesleyan University**

## Dancing with the Stars

The Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley High School dance team presented “Dancing with the Stars” on Saturday, Feb. 20. The event started with a soup dinner from 5 to 6 p.m. in the school’s cafeteria. Free-will donations were accepted for the meal. Dance team members teamed up with local “celebrities” for each act. Paired up will be Katy Neal and Mrs. Elg, GCMS high school Spanish teacher; Taylor Engel and Nick Meunier, GCMS high school athlete; Sam Groover and Dr. Lanoue of Gibson Area Hospital; Megan Meunier and Mr. Hoogstraat, middle school science teacher; Sydney Funk and Mr. Allen, GCMS high school assistant principal and coach; and Daisy Jaramillo and Arlette Jaramillo, waitress at El Rodeo’s. Additional performances were presented throughout the evening as well. At the end of the event, a Judge’s Choice award and a People’s Choice award were presented. The audience will determine who wins the People’s Choice award (for a penny per vote). Winners were: Judge’s Choice – Megan Meunier and Dale Hoogstraat and the People’s Choice award went to Sam Groover and Dr. Lanoue.



## Project Ignition - Dome Shift

On October 26-27 the GCMS SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) went to Springfield for the 6th Annual Dome Shift conference. There were 14 GCMS students who attended the conference. Two of our students, Cayley Wilson and Caleb Pulley, served on the IL SADD Student Advisory Board and helped to plan and set up for this year’s conference. Inspirational speaker Cara Filler opened the conference with her “Drive to Save Lives Tour” presentation. The students attended various workshops throughout the day. The workshops included: *Photovoice Kit- Empowering Young People to be Agents of Change*. Photovoice is a complete web-based toolkit for carrying out Photovoice projects that combines photography, dialogue, photo exhibits and social action to address community issues you care about and taking action. Another workshop was *Advocacy 101 and SADD*

*Speaks* (Students for Power, Education, Advocacy, and Knowledge) where students improve and gain extensive advocating skills. There were other workshops on *Buzzcheck*, which is a social marketing campaign for youth by youth. The campaign includes a website, videos, & discussion guide to help students facilitate classroom discussions. This also involves SADD’s “*Mobilizing the Community*”. They concluded Monday night with *The Media Guy* presentation. This includes a multi-media presentation on values, good decisions, and right choices. They combine images, movie clips, discussions with stars, news and music from their familiar worlds to give some new emotional impact to the issues teens are trying to address. The last workshop was on “*Show Me the Money*” on how to get money from National and Local SADD Resources. Randy Block was the last speaker who talked about *Impact Teen Drivers*. Every school that attended received an Impact Teen Drivers Tool Kit.



## TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

Congratulations to Mrs. Judy Weber-Jones! Mrs. Jones was named **the Illinois High School and College Driver Education Association (IHSCDEA) TEACHER OF THE YEAR!!** She will be presented with her award at the State Driver Education Conference in May. During the State Driver Education Conference, Mrs. Jones was honored with introducing one of her mentors, Reg Green into the Hall of Fame. This is a great recognition for all of her hard work and dedication to teaching our kids how to drive safely! JOB WELL DONE MRS. JONES!!!!



Mrs. Weber-Jones – IHSCDEA Teacher of the Year  
Mr. Reg Green – IHSCDEA Hall of Fame

## Drive 4 Your Life

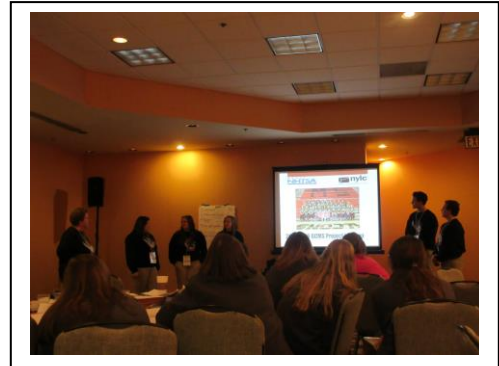
The GCMS Project Ignition had a very successful day of mentoring Clifton Central at the Ford Drive 4 UR School Event. GCMS Advisor Mrs. Judy Weber-Jones and Clifton Central (CHS) Advisor Mrs. Eva McGill are both confident that they raised the maximum amount of \$6,000. Each school will receive \$3,000 each to continue their safe driving program. We deeply appreciated the excellent support from the community as 324 applications were completed and turned in. The event had many safety activities going on. The activities included GAH/ISP child safety seat checks, safety town for the younger kids, Convincer and Rollover demonstration reinforced the importance of wearing a seat belt, golf cart and fatal vision goggles around the cones to simulate a drunk driver, prizes were distributed to all that attended. State Farm Agent Greg Kurtenbach provided a great lunch topped off by a buckle up cookie.



## Project Ignition to Minneapolis

Project Ignition leaders attended the National Service-Learning Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota March 30-April 1st. Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley High School was one of three schools selected to attend and do a presentation. They received \$6,500 to help offset the expenses related to this trip. This year GCMS has been mentoring Clifton Central High School. The GCMS senior Project Ignition Leaders that attended were Emily Allen, Lacie Butler, James Fairfield, Nick Meunier, and Cayley Wilson. The Advisors were Julie Briney and Judy Weber-Jones. CHS had 4 students and Advisor Eva McGill attend. GCMS helped Clifton form a teen safe driving service-learning program. At the National Service-Learning Conference students learned how to collaborate with others, leadership skills, and partnerships to sustain their programs in their respective schools. Students did presentations of their projects to others schools and helped them develop teen safe driving programs in their schools in the USA and other countries. The focus this year

was increasing seat belt use. GCMS made a video about the importance of the back seat passenger being belted in. The whole workshop and NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) was very impressed. To find more about GCMS Project Ignition please go to their website. [www.gcmsprojection.org](http://www.gcmsprojection.org)



## Girls Basketball

Girls Basketball finished this season at 12-18 and advanced to regional championship game in which they eventually lost to Bloomington Central Catholic. Some of the team highlights this year included: Mikayla Baillie scoring her 1000th career point, she was named all-tournament team at GCMS/ Fisher and Monticello tourney. Mikayla was also named to the HOIC All-Conference 1st team, was a Champaign News Gazette player of the week and played in the Parkland/News Gazette All-Star game on April 10th. Madi Thompson and Claire Schmitt were invited and played in the HOIC All-Star game.



The following awards were given:

MVP – Mikayla Baillie

Best Free Throw percentage – Mikayla Baillie

Most Assists – Mikayla Baillie

Most Steals – Mikayla Baillie

Most Rebounds – Claire Schmitt

Hustle Award – Amber Witteman

Defensive MVP – Makenzi Bielfeldt

Most Improved – Jenny Patel



## Boys Basketball

The GCMS varsity basketball team finished the season with 12 wins competing in three tournaments, a 12 game HOIC schedule, and concluded season in Regional play.

The team won the GCMS Thanksgiving Tournament for the 6<sup>th</sup> time since 1993 and in the process defeated the LeRoy Panthers, the IHSA Class 1A state champion. After Christmas we played in the Monticello Holiday Hoopla Tourney placing 3<sup>rd</sup> out of eight teams with wins over Tuscola, Sangamon Valley and Blue Ridge. In January we lost the consolation championship game in overtime to Fisher in the McLean County/HOIC Tournament. In Regional play we defeated Oakwood in the quarterfinals before losing to #11 state ranked Bloomington Central Catholic in the semis. BCC would lose the championship to St. Joe-Ogden in overtime and SJO would go on to win the 2A state championship.

Tucker Cribbett and James Fairfield won all-tourney selections in both the GCMS Thanksgiving and Monticello Holiday Hoopla tournaments. Tucker also was named News-Gazette player of the week in November after his performance in the GCMS Thanksgiving Tournament. Mitchell McNutt was named honorable mention All-HOIC and also was Special Mention All-Area in the News-Gazette. Tucker Cribbett and James Fairfield were listed as honorable mention all-area performers in the Gazette as well. James concluded his career as only the 4<sup>th</sup> player at GCMS to finish in the Top 10 all-time in rebounding, scoring, and wins and Tucker set the district record for three-point FG in a career.

The following awards were given:

Team MVP – James Fairfield and Mitchell McNutt  
Defensive MVP – Keegan Allen  
Most Improved – Sam Baillie  
Core Value Players of the Year – Trevor Steidinger  
M.T.S.D Award – James Fairfield  
Free-Throw percentage Leader – Mitchell McNutt  
Rebound Leader – Sam Baillie  
Assists Leader – Mitchell McNutt

## Cheerleading

This year, the Cheerleaders won first place at the GCMS Turkey Tournament Cheerleading Spirit Competition. We were a young squad but really worked hard to improve throughout the season, and worked toward more difficult stunts.

The following awards were given:

MVP – Holly Arends  
Most Spirit – Julia McGuire  
Most Improved – Emma McGuire  
Most Dedicated – Holly Arends



## GCMS Dance Team

The dance team had 9 members who completed the season. The team performed a variety of dances and dance styles throughout the season. Highlights of the dance season were:

- Taylor Engel advancing to state with her solo and the entire team going along to cheer her.
- The Clinton IDTA regional where the team had their highest score of the season and received a third place trophy.
- The annual guy/girl dance.
- The joint dance performed with the cheerleaders.
- The Dancing with the GCMS Stars fundraiser which was a tremendous success.

The following awards were given:

MVP – Katie Neal  
Spirit Award – Daisy Jaramillo  
Most Improved – Abby Harper  
Most Dedicated – Sydney Funk  
Leadership Award – Tara Hoffman  
Performance Award – Sam Grover  
Top Gun Award – Megan Meunier  
Miss Congeniality – Abby Harper  
Shake it award – Daisy Jaramillo  
Memorization – Ashley Britz  
Best Choreographer – Taylor Engel  
Best Dancer – Katie Neal



## Red Army Donation

The Red Army sold yard signs and collect donations for the Gibson City Police Department. We were able to donate \$500 towards the purchase of body cameras.



Trevor Steidinger – Chief Steve Cushman – Mikayla Baillie

## GCMS Blood Drive

GCMS Senior Holly Arends was the student organizer for the spring Red Cross blood drive. GCMS students and community members donated 59 units. Great Job Falcons! For the year, GCMS students collected 122 total units of blood for the Red Cross who will donate \$750 in scholarships to GCMS students.



## Prom 2016



Prom Queen – Madisyn Thompson  
Prom King – Trevor Steidinger

**2016 Prom Court – Abby Bowen, Breanna Walker, Tristan Smith, and Nick Schoonover.**

2016 Prom was held in Champaign at The Refinery. Dinner choices were Teriyaki Steak/Chicken, green beans, garlic/cheese mashed potatoes, and chocolate cake. The students danced the night away to local DJ Keith Eyre. Students and Chaperone's all had a great evening. Thanks Jr. Class for sponsoring a fantastic event!

## Girls Track

The girls track team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the HOIC Conference track meet with 80 team points despite several injuries. They were also 2<sup>nd</sup> in their 17 team sectional. At the IHSA Sectional track meet two seniors qualified for state in individual events: Julia Bleich in long jump and Mikayla Baillie in shot put and discus. Mikayla qualified for the IHSA State finals and placed 11<sup>th</sup> overall with a season best throw in the shot put. Out of the 24 girls on this year's team, 4 will graduate and Mikayla Baillie will continue her track career at Indiana Wesleyan University.

The following awards were given:

Most Valuable Player – Julia Bleich

Most Dedicated – Mikayla Baillie

Most Improved – Jacey Goin

Sportsmanship – Emily Sommer

Owen "Sonny" McCall Memorial Track Award – Julie Bleich

## 11<sup>th</sup> Place at IHSA Track Meet

### Mikayla Baillie – Shot Put



## Boys Track

This season began with high expectations and ended the same way. We had 24 athletes join our team. Eight freshmen, 4 sophomores, 6 juniors, and 6 seniors worked to bring home a second place at the HOI Conference track meet. We were also able to get a fifth place at our sectional meet.

We were able to break five school records during the regular and post season. The 4x100 set the school record at the conference meet and then again reset it at the sectional meet. Those young men were Nick Meunier, Zach Johnson, Mitch McNutt, and Casey Calaway running a time of 44.82. We had four young men qualify for the prelims at the state meet: Zach Johnson (110 high hurdles), James Fairfield (shot put), Nick Schultz (high jump, long jump, triple jump), Caleb Bleich (long jump). Zach and Nick then qualified for Saturday's finals. Nick ended the season with three new school records in the high jump (6-7), long jump (22-5), and triple jump (44-10.25).

Zach and Nick allowed GCMS to record a fourth place team score at the meet. This is the highest finishing team for the boys since the consolidation.

The following awards were given:

Most Valuable Player – Nick Schultz

Most Dedicated – Zach Johnson

Most Improved – Casey Calaway

Sportsmanship – James Fairfield

Owen "Sonny" McCall Memorial Track Award – Zach Johnson

## 4<sup>th</sup> Place at IHSA Track Meet Zach Johnson – 110 M Hurdles



Senior hurdler Nick Johnson finished his High School track career with a personal best of 14.98 seconds in the 110 Meter Hurdles and a 4<sup>th</sup> Place finish at the IHSA State Track Meet! Awesome Job Zach!!

## STATE CHAMPION!! 1st Place at IHSA Track Meet Nick Schultz – Long Jump

Something many of us knew a little about but didn't know all of the details, **Nick Schultz can fly. No really, he can FLY!** What we did know is that Nick's specialty is the high jump. Nick was able to jump a personal best of 6' 7" and finish 3<sup>rd</sup> at the IHSA State Track meet! What we didn't know was that Nick could also triple jump where he finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place as well with a jump of 44' 10 ¼". But wait, it gets better yet. Nick proved that being a beginner in an event doesn't really matter when you can fly. Nick pulled off the unimaginable at the IHSA State Track Meet. Nick soared through the air with the best of them and proved to be **THE BEST OF THEM**. Nick won the State Track meet with an unbelievable jump of 22' 5" in the long jump! Again, who knew that Nick could fly! We are very proud of what you have been able to accomplish.

**FALCON PROUD!!!!**



## Nick Schultz named Ford County Record's Male Athlete of the Spring

GCMS junior Nick Schultz is presented with the Rostie Cup in recognition for being named the Male Athlete of the Spring.



## Baseball

Baseball finished the season with a 13-18 record. They won their first round regional game upsetting higher seeded Dee-Mack, whom they had lost to earlier in the year. Other highlights included a double header sweep of CPCI early in the year, Freshman Nathan Garard throwing a No-Hitter in his first varsity start, and also Juniors Tucker Cribbett and Logan Davis becoming one of the best double play combinations in team history. Senior catcher Jake Brewer finished his career in the top 5 in school history for total at bats, hits, runs, stolen bases, and hit by pitches. Senior Tommy Cook is now 2nd in school history in strikeouts by a pitcher.

The following awards were given:

- Most Valuable Player – Jake Brewer
- Offensive Player of the Year – Jake Brewer
- Defensive Player of the Year – Logan Davis
- Pitcher of the year – Adam Bean
- HOIC – All Conference
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Team – Tucker Cribbett
  - Honorable Mention – Jake Brewer
  - Honorable Mention – Logan Davis
  - Honorable Mention – Tommy Cook

## Softball

The GCMS Lady Falcon softball team had high hopes for the 2016 season and were hungry for another post season run. However, the Lady Falcon team showed some inexperience to start the season while starting 3 freshman and a sophomore. However, strong pitching and clutch hitting helped them stay competitive in most of their contests throughout the year. The Lady Falcons played a very competitive non-conference schedule which included four state ranked opponents including Bloomington Central Catholic and St. Joseph-Ogden in (2A) as well as Herscher and Clinton in 3A. Even though the Lady Falcons did not win against some of the top ranked teams in the state, they stayed competitive in every game. The Lady Falcons finished the season with 15 wins and competed for their 3rd straight regional championship. The 15 wins were the most for a Lady Falcon team since 2012.

The following awards were given:

- Most Valuable Player – Brea Walker
- Falcon Award – Jessalyn Davis
- Most Improved – Abby Wingler
- HOIC – All Conference
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Brea Walker
  - Honorable Mention – Claire Schmitt





## FFA

From Washington D.C. to Springfield IL, the Gibson City Melvin-Sibley FFA chapter has had quite the year. Members participated in competitions like Public Speaking, Livestock Judging, and even Agronomy. They learned skills like how to take care of swine, what is needed to run an efficient meeting, and even what makes up an engine. But, the FFA's year was not all work, there was fun involved too. An exciting activity such as the National FFA Conference, taking place in Louisville Kentucky, was a week full of activities like rock wall climbing, shopping, and even a concert! Conferences throughout the year allowed members to meet fellow students from all over the state. These new relationships created through this chapter have allowed shy students to come out of their shell and outgoing students to expand their horizons even more. A popular conference this year was FBYC-Farm Bureau Youth Conference- which revolves around sessions allowing students to develop characteristics that will later benefit their careers. Being a student led organization, FFA provides leadership roles that are over seen by the advisor-Ms. Hughes. These leadership positions are held by not only the officer team, but also other active members that are willing to take on the responsibility of overseeing either a CDE or other FFA functions.



### 2015-2016 GCMS Officer Team

**President:** Lacie Butler  
**Vice President:** Cayley Wilson  
**Reporter:** Daisy Jaramillo & Kendra Koonce  
**Secretary:** Sara Edgar  
**Treasurer:** Bailee Mueller  
**Sentinel:** Mitchell Meenen  
**Historian:** Megan Davis

### 2016-2017 GCMS Officer Team

**President:** Sara Edgar  
**Vice President:** Bailee Mueller

**Reporter:** Taylor Marcum  
**Secretary:** Shelbie Butler  
**Treasurer:** Mitchell Meenen  
**Sentinel:** Layne Harden  
**Historian:** Ashlyn McPherson

### 2015-2016 Section 17 Officer Team

**President:** Lacie Butler  
**Secretary –** Sara Edgar

### 2016-2017 Section 17 Officer Team

**President:** Sara Edgar

## FFA Banquet Award Winners:

### 2016 Chapter Proficiency Award Winners

\* Section Winner  
\*Star in Ag Business - Sara Edgar  
\*Turf Grass Management - Sara Edgar  
\*Small Animal – Cayley Wilson  
\*Diversified - Jordynn Marcum  
Beef Entrepreneurship - Lacie Butler

### Career Development Events

2015 Horse Judging CDE

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Overall in State!**

Shelbie Butler	Adrienne Conover
Jordynn Marcum	Katie Quinley
Taylor Marcum-5 <sup>th</sup> in Section	
Ashlyn McPherson- 7 <sup>th</sup> in Section	
Paige Shelton-10 <sup>th</sup> in Section	

### 2015 Section Land Use CDE

Devin Back	Layne Harden
Kendra Koonce	Andrew Laughery
Mitchell Meenen	Paige Shelton
Noah Swanson	Austin Williams
Brandon Zumwalt	

### 2015 Agronomy CDE

Allie Heavilin	Kendra Koonce
Dalton Heavilin	Bailey Long
Tara Copher	Darrin Brown
Graham Voelker	

### 2015 Section Dairy Products CDE

Allie Heavilin	Gio Calero
Megan Davis	Paige Shelton
Cayley Wilson	Eryca Meinen
Andrew Laughery	Jessica Mueller
Ashlyn McPherson	Bailee Mueller



### 2015 Parliamentary Procedure CDE

Lacie Butler- Secretary-7<sup>th</sup> in Section  
Sara Edgar- Floor Member  
Austin Hileman- Floor Member  
Ashlyn McPherson- Floor Member  
Eryca Meinen- Floor Member  
Cayley Wilson- Chairman

### 2015 Section Ag Sales CDE

Sara Edgar                      Layne Harden  
Daisy Jaramillo              Katie Quinley

### 2015 Section Greenhand Quiz Bowl CDE

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Teams

Shelbie Butler              Gio Calero  
Layne Harden              Andrew Laughery  
Ashlyn McPherson        Katie Quinley  
Paige Shelton              Graham Voelker

### 2015 Section Public Speaking CDE

Eryca Meinen-5<sup>th</sup> Place Extemporaneous  
Sara Edgar- 5th Place Prepared Speaking  
Shelbie Butler- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Creed Speaking  
Darrin Brown- Creed Speaking

### 2016 Livestock Judging CDE

State Blue Rating Team  
5<sup>th</sup> in Section

Jordynn Marcum-6<sup>th</sup> in Section  
Garrett Wright              Ashlyn McPherson  
Taylor Marcum              Layne Harden

## FFA Auction

The GCMS FFA held its annual FFA Auction in February. One hundred thirty seven businesses and individuals donated items for auction. We cannot express enough appreciation towards these businesses and individuals for their support. The auction raised money toward FFA expenses and scholarships. The event was organized and operated by our students and FFA sponsor Ms. Malory Hughes. A special thanks to Bill Kruse Auction services for donating the auctioneer. The FFA raised over \$21,000!! This is thought to be an all-time record for this event.



## FFA Petting Zoo

The GCMS FFA hosted their annual petting zoo on Thursday, April 21, including more than just animals for them to experience. GCMS Elementary classes and community members were able to experience over 10 varieties of agricultural and exotic animals. They also viewed different machinery and equipment that FFA members provided. Adding some fun to the day, pedal tractors races were a hit. As the students left the Ag Expo, they were given an Ag bag filled with candy, pencils, and an agricultural coloring page and magazine. It was a great day for kids to get to experience the agriculture in the GCMS district.



## Retirements

GCMS High School says goodbye to teachers Mrs. Judy Weber-Jones and Ms. Kathy Hussey. Both will retire from the Physical Education department. Mrs. Weber-Jones began her teaching/coaching career in 1986 at Melvin-Sibley High School. She has taught Physical Education and coached Basketball, Volleyball, and Softball but will always be remembered as our driver's education teacher and Project Ignition Leader. Ms. Kathy Hussey began her teaching career at Hinckley-Big Rock teaching English, Reading, and Physical Education in 1978. During her career, she has taught at Charleston Jr. High and Elgin High School. She has coached volleyball, track and field, and badminton. Ms. Hussey took 14 years off from teaching to be a stay-at-home mom before returning to teaching at GCMS in 1998. Our physical education/driver's education department are going to miss both of these ladies. Good luck in the next chapter of your lives.

## Goodbye to Teachers

Three GCMS High School teachers will be moving on at the end of this school year. Ms. Lauren Heap, English teacher, will be moving to Wisconsin to the University of Wisconsin to begin her Doctoral program in Curriculum and Instruction. Mr. Adam Schafer, Science teacher, will be moving to Ohio to the Miami University of Ohio to begin his Doctoral program while doing research on Chemistry Education. Ms. Hannah Lebovitz, Library Clerk, will be moving to Ohio to marry Mr. Schafer and begin their lives together. Mrs. Katie Elg, Spanish teacher will be moving to Berkley California to continue her teaching career. Good Luck Falcons, continue to make us proud!

## Illinois State Scholars

Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley High School is pleased to announce that ten GCMS High School students from the graduating class of 2016 have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping to make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, bestows this prestigious recognition to top Illinois high school students annually. This year, over 18,800 elite honorees join the other top state students honored for their academic achievements since the designation was first introduced in 1958.

Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top ten percent of high school seniors, hailing from 671 different

high schools across the state. Selection is based on SAT, ACT or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year. High school guidance counselors work with ISAC to determine the winners.

The following GCMS High School students were named 2016-17 Illinois State Scholars:

Alyssa Allemand  
Emily Allen  
Adam Bean  
James Fairfield  
Jordynn Marcum  
Julia McGuire  
Nick Meunier  
Madisyn Thompson  
Breanna Walker  
Andrea Worthington

## Year-end Class Awards

### Choir Awards:

Arion Award – Clair Schmitt  
National Choral Award – Fiona Keigher  
Outstanding Choir Senior – Abby Bowen  
Most Improved Vocalist – Wesley Quimby

### Band Awards:

Semper Fidelis Marine Band Award – Hannah Meece  
Rex Troyer Memorial Award – Lidia Portal  
Louis Armstrong Jazz Award – Lucas Eyer  
John Philip Sousa Band Award – Emily Allen

## Class Academic Awards

Students are selected as Class Academic Award winners by GCMS staff. Each curricular area selects one student per grade level based on their academic performances, hard work, and commitment to their education. This year's Class Academic Award winners are listed below:

### Freshman

English:	Joshua Bleich
Mathematics:	Claire Retherford
Science:	Gabrielle Dammkoehler
PE/Health:	Alayna Miller
Foreign Language:	Tyler Ricks
Music:	Shannon Spangler
Industrial Ed:	Layne Harden
Agriculture:	Paige Shelton
Home Economics:	Olivia Cissell
Business:	Julian Kennedy
Social Science:	Hattie Parsons
Visual Arts:	Gracie Conover

## Sophomore

English:	Jacey Goin
Mathematics:	Bailey Salyards
Science:	Emily Lange
PE/Health:	Ross Dueringer
Foreign Language:	Nicholas Tabor
Music:	Jeremy Steidinger
Industrial Ed:	Clayton Bane
Agriculture:	Mitchell Meenen
Home Economics:	Abigail Wingler
Business:	Brooks Schmitt
Social Science:	Audrey Boss
Visual Arts:	Haley Christensen

## Junior

English:	Rose Williams
Mathematics:	Caleb Pulley
Science:	Andrea Glascock
PE/Health:	Alex Hunt
Foreign Language:	Jacob Norbot
Music:	Lauren Duquette
Industrial Ed:	Levi Davis
Agriculture:	Bailee Mueller
Home Economics:	Kelsi Reynolds
Business:	Logan Davis
Social Science:	Gideon Kerber
Visual Arts:	Tessica Byrne

## Senior

English:	Abby Bowen
Mathematics:	Trevor Steidinger
Science:	Madisyn Thompson
PE/Health:	Abigail Row
Foreign Language:	Alyssa Allemand
Music:	Lucas Eyer
Industrial Ed:	Grace O'Brien
Agriculture:	Jordynn Marcum
Home Economics:	Julia Bleich
Business:	Breanna Walker
Social Science:	Brian Arends
Visual Arts:	Fiona Keigher

## Class Student of the Year

Freshman – Shannon Spangler

Sophomore – Jeremy Steidinger

Junior – Rose Williams

Senior – Trevor Steidinger

### Choir Awards:

Arion Award – Clair Schmitt

National Choral Award – Fiona Keigher

Outstanding Choir Senior – Abby Bowen

Most Improved Vocalist – Wesley Quimby

### Band Awards:

Semper Fidelis Marine Band Award – Hannah Meece

Rex Troyer Memorial Award – Lidia Portal

Louis Armstrong Jazz Award – Lucas Eyer

John Philip Sousa Band Award – Emily Allen

# Academic Awards

## Students of the Month

The Bank of Gibson City is very generous in supporting GCMS High School each year. At each faculty meeting, staff members nominate and ultimately vote on a senior class student of the month. Winners receive \$50, preferred parking for two months, and get to go for lunch with the staff member who nominated them. A Student-of-the-Year is then chosen from these nine winners. Student-of-the-Year is awarded a \$2000 scholarship during the Awards Ceremony at the end of the year.

Winners include:

September – Dakota Butler

October – James Fairfield

November – Emily Allen

December – Zach Johnson

January – Andrea Worthington

February – Nick Meunier

March – Holly Arends

April – Trevor Steidinger

May – Abby Bowen





**GCMS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Academic Awards**

**May 20, 2016**  
**2:00 P.M.**

**Valedictorian and Salutatorian**

Valedictorian ..... Emily Allen  
Salutatorian ..... Madisyn Thompson

Lion's Club Scholarship ..... Julia Bleich, James Fairfield  
Rotary Scholarship ..... Zach Johnson  
Rotary Reach for the Stars Scholarship ..... Taylor May  
Hutchcraft Family Scholarship ..... Lacie Butler  
Jake's Boys Scholarships ..... Hannah Meece, Claire Schmitt  
FFA State Degree Scholarship..... Lacie Butler, Cayley Wilson  
Top 10 Chapter President's FFA Scholarship ..... Lacie Butler  
FFA Alumni Scholarships ..... Lacie Butler, Jordynn Marcum, Cayley Wilson  
FFA Senior Scholarships..... Lacie Butler, Jordynn Marcum, Morgan Hazen, Cayley Wilson  
20 Exceptional FFA All-Star Award..... Lacie Butler  
American Legion Honorable Mention Awards ..... Emily Allen, Nick Meunier  
American Legion Awards ..... Andrea Worthington, James Fairfield  
The Heart of GCMS Scholarship ..... Nick Schoonover  
National Honor Society Scholarship Finalist ..... James Fairfield  
Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award..... Madisyn Thompson, Zach Johnson  
Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award ..... Emily Allen, James Fairfield  
Marine Corps "Semper Fidelis" Award ..... Hannah Meece  
Army Reserve National Scholar/Athlete ..... Nick Meunier

John W. Cowell Citizenship Award & Scholarship ..... Breanna Walker, Zach Johnson

Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Jr. Citizen of the Year ..... James Fairfield  
DAR Good Citizen Award ..... Cayley Wilson  
SAR Good Citizen Award ..... James Fairfield  
WCIA 2016 Best of the Class ..... Emily Allen  
Future Teachers of America Award ..... Lacie Butler  
Frieda Garber Award ..... Lacie Butler  
Phil & Eva Loy Scholarship ..... Alyssa Allemand  
Elmo & LaVerne Meiners Scholarship ..... Doug Woodward, Morgan Hazen, Lacie Butler

Gibson Area Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship ..... Zach Johnson  
The Ronald McDonald House Scholarship ..... Emily Allen  
Kelly & Margaret O'Neal Scholarship ..... Cayley Wilson  
Christie Scholarship ..... Julia Bleich  
Illinois Pork Donor-Advised Fund Scholarship ..... Jordynn Marcum

GCMS CCC Scholarship ..... James Fairfield  
Lakeland College Foundation Scholarship ..... Lacie Butler  
St Louis College of Pharmacy Institutional Scholarship ..... Madisyn Thompson  
St Vincent DePaul Scholarship ..... Adam Bean

Parkland Pathways ..... Ross Brown, Lidia Portal  
 Illinois Wesleyan University Alumni Scholarship ..... Breanna Walker  
 Valparaiso University Honors Scholarship ..... Hannah Meece  
 Mark Twain Scholarship ..... Jordynn Marcum  
 Missouri Univ. of Science & Technology Trustees & University Scholarships ..... Emily Allen  
 St. Louis University Deans & Enhanced Merit Scholarships ..... James Fairfield  
 SIU University Excellence Scholarship ..... Morgan Hazen  
 The Edgewood College Presidential, Fine Arts & Academic Achievement Awards ..... Alyssa Allemand

Red Cross Awards ..... Holly Arends, Zach Johnson  
 Silver Cord ..... Andrea Worthington

**Bank of Gibson City Student of the Month and Year Awards**

September ..... Dakota Butler  
 October ..... James Fairfield  
 November ..... Emily Allen  
 December ..... Zach Johnson  
 January ..... Andrea Worthington  
 February ..... Nick Meunier  
 March ..... Holly Arends  
 April ..... Trevor Steidinger  
 May ..... Abby Bowen  
 Student of the Year ..... Zach Johnson

All-Season Athletic Awards ..... Zach Johnson, Julia McGuire, Mikayla Baillie

United States Military Academy at West Point Recognition ..... Nick Meunier

**Senior Good-Bye video produced by Madi Thompson, Emily Allen, and Katy Neal**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR9aCBedODI&feature=youtu.be>



**GOOD BYE and GOOD LUCK!**