

Geneseo High School - January 2026

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Tips for Returning to School After Winter Break

- 1. Re-establish Bedtime Routines:** Ease back into consistent sleep schedules by reducing screen time and setting earlier bedtimes.
- 2. Get Organized:** Check school supplies, clean out backpacks, and ensure your child is ready to start the semester with everything they need.
- 3. Talk About the New Semester:** Discuss any changes, worries, or goals for the upcoming months to help your child feel prepared and confident.
- 4. Set Goals Together:** Reflect on successes and challenges from the first semester and set realistic goals for improvement and growth.
- 5. Return to Homework Habits:** Revisit your homework routines. Adjust if needed to better fit your family's schedule.
- 6. Acknowledge Feelings:** Validate your child's emotions about returning to school, whether excitement, anxiety, or a mix of both. Listening and support can ease the transition.

New Course Offerings for 2026-2027!

GHS is excited to offer 5 new courses for the 2026-2027 school year. More information will be presented to the students at their upcoming grade level meetings.

The following new courses will be offered next school year:

- 1- Ag Leadership (11th-12th graders)
- 2- Dual Credit Government (11th graders)
- 3- Basic Art (Special Education)
- 4- Drone Operation and Maintenance (11th-12th graders)
- 5- Positive Psychology. (11th and 12th graders)

Safety and Well-Being

As winter weather approaches, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the colder temperatures. Allow extra time to get to school safely. Stay updated on any school closures or schedule changes due to inclement weather through our school's website and automated communication channels.



Graduation 2026 - Sunday, May 24 at 3:00 p.m.

Graduation will be held on Sunday, May 24 at 3:00 p.m. at the GHS Stadium. We will provide additional information to students and families as we get closer to the date!

Seniors - Herff Jones Cap/Gown/Tassel Order

This is a reminder that cap, gown, and tassel orders need to be submitted online to Herff Jones by **January 8, 2026**. A link to order is listed below.

<https://highschool.herffjones.com/secom/school/IL/Geneseo%20High%20School/12001005000/5009/buildpackage/1>

Online Absences

This is a reminder that parent/guardians can enter absences online through Skyward Family Access ahead of time. Directions are attached. **Online absences can only be entered for full day absences or if a student is arriving late due to an illness or appointment. Online absences cannot be entered for a student leaving during the school day. A note given to the Front Office in the morning is still the preferred way for a student that is leaving during the school day for an appointment, out of town, etc.**



Online Absence Tutorial.pdf

Download

1.4 MB

Student Attendance

Attendance Reminders

Leaving School During the Day.

1. In the case of illness:

If a student is not feeling well, they need to go see the school nurse. The school nurse will contact a parent/guardian and will get approval from the parent/guardian before the student leaves school. Failure to check out with the school nurse could result in disciplinary action.

2. In the case of professional appointments:

Students having a medical/dental or other professional appointment must present a signed note from a parent/guardian to the GHS Front Office before school on the day of the appointment. The note needs to state the date, reason for leaving, and the time they need to be dismissed from class. When the note is given to the GHS Front Office, the student will receive a permit to show their teacher so they can be excused from class at the stated time.

In the case of last-minute appointments, the parent may notify the school by phone about the appointment. The student then must pick up a permit from the GHS Front Office to be excused from class.

Appointment Confirmation Slips

When a student receives their permit to leave for an appointment they will also be given a blue appointment confirmation slip that needs to be signed by the doctor, dentist, or professional involved. The signed blue confirmation slip must be given to the GHS Front Office when the student returns from the appointment in order for the absence to be recorded as excused.

When a student has a medical appointment before school starts for the day, a confirmation slip from the professional office must be presented to the GHS Front Office upon check-in for the absence to be recorded as excused.

If a signed confirmation slip is not returned the absence will be recorded as unexcused.

A confirmation slip is needed if a student has an extra-curricular activity, practice, game, etc. in order for the student to participate.

Attendance and Extra-Curricular Participation

On days when school is in session, students involved in extra-curricular activities must be checked in at the Front Office by 10:30 a.m. (with Early Bird - Period 6 schedule) and 11:30 a.m. (with a Period 1-7 schedule), unless prior arrangements have been made for medical appointments, funerals, etc.

Important Upcoming Dates

December 22 - January 2

No School - Winter Break

Monday, January 5

School Resumes - Semester 2 Begins

Friday, January 16

2:00 p.m. Dismissal

Monday, January 19

No School - Teacher Institute

Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Tom Ryerson

Tom is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters