Welcome to Goff Middle School Families of New and 6th Grade Students!





Coming Together:

From Five We Become One!







DONALD P. SUTHERLAND SCHOOL



Agenda

- Faces and Places of Goff Middle School
- 2. General Information
- 3. Information For Families
 - a. Attendance Matters Every Student Succeeds Act
 - b. Middle School Transition
 - c. Contact List

2024-25 Goff M.S. Administrative Team

Interim Building Principal - Mr. McHugh



6th Grade Principal (Assistant Building Principal) - Ms. Hoffman



2024-25 Goff M.S. Administrative Team

7th Grade Principal (Assistant Building Principal) - Mr. O'Malley



8th Grade Principal (Assistant Building Principal) - Mrs. Mahoney



Faces of Goff Middle School

School Counselors 518.207-2476 Mrs. Oropallo - (A - Gra)



Mrs. Stever - (Grb-O)



Mrs. Gleason (P - Z)



Mrs. Dunn - (MAP & JumpStart)



PTO - General Information

- Website: https://ptogoff.weebly.com/
- Email: ptogoff@gmail.com
- 2025-2026 PTO Board:
 - Sarah Cantara President
 - AnneMarie Bailey-Yavinditte Vice President
 - Katie Sheehan Secretary
 - Jannette Eich Treasurer

School Resource Officer - Deputy Gravelle

Deputy Gravelle's Role at Goff Middle School:

- Law Enforcement safety and security
- 2. Education bullying, internet safety, vaping etc.
- 3. Relationship Building Another trusted adult to talk to, a connection between our community and school



Senior Security Officers

Mr. William Conboy



Mr. Jeff Guzy



Places at Goff Middle School

Main Office & House Offices





Places at Goff Middle School Library

With: Mrs. Tobin



Gymnasium



GOFF BLUE DEVILS

Places at Goff Middle School

Cafeteria & Nurses Office Mrs. Heritage and Mrs. McHugh







General Information

Goff 101

- 1. Academic Expectations
- 2. Teams
- 3. Scheduling
- 4. Chromebooks

Academic Expectations

- Rigorous Standards
- Independent and small group class work and projects
- High level of accountability and personal responsibility expected from each student
- Inferential thinking (Reasoning)
- Multi-step questioning and answering
- Time built into school day to complete greater amount of work
- Different teachers for different subjects



Teams

- Students are organized into teams.
 - For 2025-2026 Grade 6 and Grade 7 will continue to implement full teaming!
- Some students have a mix of teachers from both Teams Only in grade 8 in 2025-2026.
- There is NO difference in the quality of instruction on the teams
- Each team has same resources, curriculum, and opportunities!!!
- We are unable to honor Team switches as class sizes have been balanced to ensure all students have the best opportunity to learn.
 - Part of the Middle School transition requires students to develop new friendships and nurture old friendships.

Scheduling







- **5 Core Classes**: ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, ELA Extension/Strategic Reading (<u>Informational Literacy</u>) an additional ELA class that focused on nonfiction and digital literacy)
- Rotating Encore Classes: Art, Home & Careers, Technology, Career Readiness
- Physical Education
- Music: Band, Chorus, Orchestra, General Music
- Team Time
- Lunch/Access



Music Choices

Students can choose from:

- Band
- Chorus
- General Music
- Orchestra



For students who choose two music options (Band, Chorus, Orchestra) they will NOT have a Team Time in their schedule.

PowerSchool and Google Classroom



- Student grades will be posted in PowerSchool. You may already know how to access this- some people even have an App on their device. If you do not already know how to get into PowerSchool, your student's School Counselor can help you with this. It is important that you know how to get into PowerSchool so you can keep track of your student's work and grades in each class.
- Most teachers also use Google Classroom to post assignments, grades, and/or important information. Your student will join the Classrooms for ALL their classes and these will be shown as icons on the homepage of their Google Classroom.
- Please remind your student to check each Classroom While you can be invited as a
 Guardian to your student's account, only student accounts can see ALL the work and
 information posted. Have your student sign into their account with you there. It is a
 great way to stay connected to their school experience AND allow them to feel like
 tech experts.

Chromebooks

- Each student will have a district issued Chromebook
- You need to have Chromebook in school every day
- Chromebooks **must** be charged each night at home
- Keep the chargers at home
- Chromebooks should ONLY be used for educational purposes
- Teachers and administrators will be monitoring Chromebooks to ensure they are being used appropriately (GoGuardian)









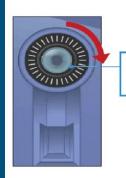


Lockers

- Students will be using lockers to start the school year. Lockers are assigned and information will be on their schedules that they will receive this summer.
- Each student will have their own locker to store school and personal items.
- Opening the locker can be tricky! Students will have an opportunity to practice opening their locker and will have teachers in the hallway to help!

Moving Up to Middle School

COMBINATION LOCKS

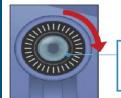


Step #1

Turn the dial right until you reach the first number of your locker combination.

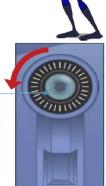


Turn the dial left past the second number. Keep turning until you reach the second number again.



Step #3

Turn the dial right until you reach the third number. Then pull down to open your lock!



Clubs and Activities

- Art Club
- Chorus
- Computer Club
- Creative Writing
- D.O.M.E. (Defenders of Mother Earth)
- Drama Club/Musical
- Garden Club
- GSA
- Jazz Band
- Morning Show







- Orchestra
- Be the Change Club
- Peer Leadership
- P.E. Sports Club
- Science Olympiad
- S.A.D.D.
- Ski Club
- Sports Intramural and Interscholastic
- Student Council
- Yearbook

Fun Events

- Activity Nights
- Field Day
- Character Education
 Assemblies
- Field Trips
- Halloween Event
- Spirit Weeks
- Semi-Formal (Grade 8)



Family Information

How <u>you</u> can support your sixth grader to have a successful first year at Goff Middle School!

Attendance Matters

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- Be here and be on time! ("Life Training")
 - Drop-offs traffic
 - D&D & Starbucks!
- Being at school and on time ensures academic success!
- If you're late to school, your parents/guardian must sign you in at the main lobby.
 - 1 day absent per week = 8 weeks absent per year
 - 10 minutes late per day = 1 ½ weeks per year
- EGCSD Website Link: https://egcsd.org/?s=Attendance+Matters



Middle School Transition

- This is a time of major social and emotional growth.
- Typical challenges include:
 - Social Media Issues
 - NO CELL PHONES During the Academic Day Year 3 for Goff MS
 - The impact of outside issues on our academic day
 - Inappropriate Behaviors
 - Poor Decision-Making
 - Dress Code Violations

Top 4 Code of Conduct Infractions

- Bullying in person and cyber bullying. In some cases a DASA report may be filed. (SOCIAL MEDIA)
- Cell Phone and/or smart watches, earbuds/headphones <u>are not allowed</u> to be used during school hours. (SOCIAL MEDIA)
- Dress code violations clothing should be safe and appropriate and not disrupt educational process. Hats and hoods are not allowed.
- Misbehavior on the bus students are expected to stay seated while on the bus, fighting and cursing will not be tolerated and Cafeteria (SOCIAL MEDIA)

The Code of Conduct is strictly enforced. Any infractions will result in consequences as outlined in the Code of Conduct

Safety Measures and Protocols

Arrival and Building Entry:

- We encourage all students to ride the bus to and from school.
 Transportation department will provide pick up/drop off location and times.
- Parent drop off begins at 7:30 am in the drop off lane. Drop offs will not be allowed prior to 7:30 am.
- Students will be allowed in the building at 7:40 am.

Safety Measures and Protocols

Dismissal and Parent Pick Up

- Students are dismissed at 2:40 pm and will exit the building at the main entrance and go directly to their bus.
- Parent Pick Up
 - o Parent pick up will begin at 2:40 pm
 - Students will line up along the sidewalk
 - Cars should be lined up in 2 lanes

Summer Orientation and Building Tours

- We will be scheduling a student orientation this summer for incoming 6th grade students to tour the building again and meet some new friends. Once we have finalized the plans, we will communicate that information to families. Monday, August 25, 2025 (10:00 am to 11:30 am)
- The building will be open on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 from 4-7 pm for parents and students to tour the building and practice opening lockers.

Please note that there may be limited access to certain areas in the building as construction projects and cleaning continue and that there may not be anyone in the building to assist you during your visit.

Contact Information

Goff Middle School



Main Phone Number: *518.207.2430*

Guidance Office: 518.207.2476

Mr. McHugh: Interim Principal: 518.207.2461

Ms. Hoffman: 6th Grade: 518.207.2431

Mr. O'Malley: 7th Grade: 518.207.2451

Mrs. Mahoney: 8th Grade: 518.207.2451

Health Office: 518.207.2490

Thank Questions?