

CONGRATULATIONS!

Gobles High School 2017 Graduates



Lilly Rose Adams
Hailey Elizabeth Baxter
 Noah Matthew Bigley-Klaassen
 Dustin Rae Bland
Jacob Garrett Bolhuis - Salutatorian
 Jason Everett Boyer, II
Katlynn Marie Brink
 Kieanna Lynn Alyne Brooks
Samantha Ann Brown
Olivia Gabrielle Brunner
 Alexandra Marie Caffrey
Emily Elizabeth Chilla
Katerina Marie Cooper
 Michael Thomas Crawford
 Dylan J. DeBoer
 Myan Andrew DeHaan
 Morgan Marie Dingman
 Lexus Eileen Disbrow
 Austin Nevada James Dobbins
Johnathan Michael Doman - Valedictorian
 Adam John Fifer
 Dominick James Fisher
 Mikaela Renee Forker
 Emma Lee Mae Geresy
 Elijah Chance Giles

Collin David Goldsberry
 Jacob Alan Grauman
 Jacqueline Michael Hammann
 Briana Kay Hankinson
Emma Magdalene Harbaugh
 Angelica Marie Hazekamp
Kierra Nicole Hill
 Brandon John Holland
Tyler Andrew Hunt
Anne Marie Huston - Valedictorian
 Jeffery Kyle Koppers
 Makaylia May Leonard
Logan Nicole Litchfield
Madison Sue Marsh - Valedictorian
 Austin Christopher Martin
 Steven Robert McComis, Jr.
 Lauren Marie McMullan
 Chase Christian Miles
 Jacob Gary Millward
Ryan James Mizikar
 Michael Dennis Daniel Myers
 Taylor Leeann Olsen
 Thomas Sidney Osborne
Alexandra Nicole Paladi - Salutatorian
 Eric James Parker

Bethaney LeeAnn Payne
 Kendra Elizabeth Price
 Johnathan Brown Rasmussen
 Dustin Dewayne Rupert
 Bryce Louis Rick Sabo
 Marcus Stephan Secondi
 Tanner Jeffrey Smalley
 Isaiah Tyler Smith
Clayton Lee Stapert
Casey Marie Steinman
Alexis May TenBusschen
 Joshua Daniel Thrasher
 Jon Levi Tromotola
 Samantha Ann Warning
 Shianne Kathleen Wichtman
Cari Lynn Wiessner
Casey Alexander Wioskowski
 Mason James Wiseley
 Jakob Daniel Wrenn
 Anna Amber Young
 Nicholas James Young
 Kaylee Nicole Weiss
 Alexis Ann Zajda
 Eirik Eggemoen
 Shan Huang
 Sophie Sykora

*Bold indicates National Honor Society



GOBLES HOMELINK

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2017!

On Sunday, June 4, 2017, graduates held their heads high, faculty and staff beamed with pride, and friends and family shared laughter and tears of joy at the Gobles High School 124th Commencement Ceremony.

The Gobles Middle/High School Band played the processional march as the graduates paraded into the gymnasium. After a few words of welcome and congratulations from Principal McAndrew, the commencement addresses were delivered by graduating seniors Emma Harbaugh, and Anne Huston.

During a speech that highlighted the 1920s literary classic, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Harbaugh advised her fellow seniors to remain steadfast and true in the pursuit of their post high school dreams.

“My hope for you, Class of 2017, is that while chasing your own green light, you always remember where you came from,” said Harbaugh. “Use your time wisely. Don’t be afraid of love, but don’t sell yourself short in the process.”

Huston delivered remarks to her fellow classmates to the theme of time, and new opportunities. The senior surprised her fellow graduates with a gift taped to the bottom of their chairs – a small hour glass, to serve as a reminder to her classmates to use their time wisely.

This year, Gobles High School recognized three co-valedictorians, Johnathan Doman, Anne Huston, and Madison Marsh, as well as two co-salutatorians, Jacob Bolhuis, and Alexandra Paladi.



Senior Class President, Emma Harbaugh, and Senior Class Vice President, Collin Goldsberry, honored three individuals who have made a positive impact in the lives and education of the Class of 2017. Mrs. Kelly Lyons, Mrs. Veronica Peterson, and Ms. Sue Boyer were presented with plaques of appreciation from the graduating class.

While delivering the farewell address to his fellow graduates, Collin Goldsberry spoke about the graduating class’s potential for greatness. Goldsberry shared the encouraging words of his mother, and Gobles Elementary teacher, Mrs. Karen Ryder, “I don’t care what you do, just be the best at it.”

Congratulations, Class of 2017!

SENIOR CITIZEN SUPPER A SOUP-ER SUCCESS

Gobles sixth-graders, high school National Honor Society students, and staff hosted 35 community members for the Annual Senior Citizen Soup Supper on Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

Those in attendance were served a hot meal by Gobles Middle/High School students, enjoyed a game of BINGO, and received goody bags donated by several local companies.

Thank you to all of the generous sponsors that made donations to this year’s soup supper. Without your help, this event would not be possible!

Perrigo, Wahmhoff Farms, H&R Block, Gobles Veterinary Clinic, Village Market, Mancino’s, Hometown Pharmacy, Leduc Blueberries, Shell Gas Station, Dickerson Growers, and Gobles Public Schools staff.



EDUCATIONAL HERO AWARDS

Gobles Public Schools is proud to congratulate Mr. Dick Johnson and Mrs. Megan Ivester as the recipients of the 2016-17 Educational Hero Awards.

A Van Buren County distinction that recognizes local educators and community members, recipients of this award demonstrate knowledge and skill in their area of responsibility, act as a true “team player” in a school setting, provides service above and beyond their job description, and many other admirable qualities.

Congratulations to Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Ivester - Thank you for exhibiting the true qualities of what it takes to be Team Gobles.



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www.gobles.org

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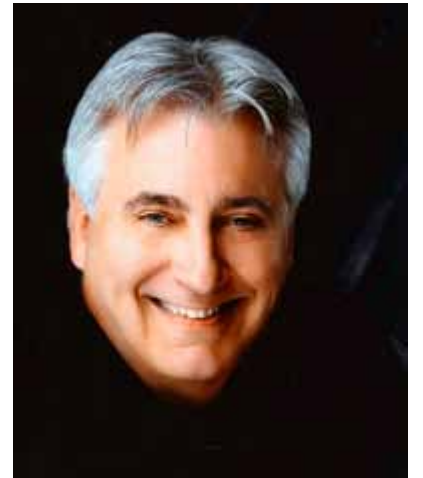


SUPERINTENDENT

Hello Everyone,

It is always a bittersweet time when a school year ends and planning for the future begins. On the one hand, it is a time to say goodbye to the old. Students say goodbye to their classmates. Students say goodbye to their teachers, and vice versa. Graduating seniors say goodbye to everything that they have known. Teachers say goodbye to their colleagues. And so it goes. Before we breathe a sigh of relief and launch into summer, it is appropriate to take a moment to reflect and celebrate. It is true that a demanding and productive school year has reached a conclusion. Let me say thank you to everyone for your role in helping our young people grow in their learning. Together we are making a visible difference for our students, families, and community.

There are many things that I keep with me as memories from this school year. I can only share a few in this limited space. I think of the Community and its investment in the school district. I think of the Board of Education and its willingness to participate on behalf of the community to provide leadership for strong schools. I think of the Employees and their talents and gifts that provide great learning experiences. I think of the Parents who choose Gobles Public Schools as their educational solution, and who entrust us with their pride and joy. I think of the Students and their growth, both as people and as learners. On the other hand, as we stand here today and look ahead to the future, there are next steps to take for all of us. We get to say hello to the new. There are new experiences to engage. There are new relationships to forge. There will be new opportunities and challenges to embrace. It is a time of both anxiety but also excitement. Yes, life is about coming to grips with, and facing both the Old and the New.



JEFF REHLANDER

Gobles Public Schools is coming to grips with, and facing both the Old and New as well. For example, the school experience as we have known it over the years continues to evolve. Almost twenty years ago now, the State of Michigan school of choice legislation was adopted. As a result, K-12 public school education has shifted from a quasi-monopoly educational solution based upon geography, to a market-based educational solution with a relaxation in attendance zone requirements. Parents and students now have many options for their educational solution. Like many school districts throughout the State of Michigan, Gobles Public Schools has been forced to adopt more of a business model approach to operating our school district. Marketing our product and customer service are now more of an important part of our lexicon and management of our schools. Additionally, the industry of education continues to face challenges with the traditional model of financing of schools. In the State of Michigan, there has been much discussion over the years whether school districts receive adequate funding to do their work. In fact, there are multiple recent studies on this matter which suggest that school districts are considerably underfunded. Lastly, to complicate this narrative, the traditional school financing model is tied to a school district's enrollment. Over the last few years, the economy has caused many school districts such as ours to struggle with enrollment. For instance, between 2007 and 2012, Gobles Public Schools lost considerable enrollment. Between 2012 and 2016, Gobles Public Schools grew in enrollment. During this 2016-2017 school year, Gobles Public Schools lost enrollment and the projection for the 2017-2018 school year is to decline in enrollment again. As you can see, this traditional school financing model has made it extremely challenging to manage a K-12 public school district, and actualize a robust Mission and Vision. With that being said, the Gobles Board of Education is providing next generation leadership and looking at our current challenges as an opportunity. The old model of financing for K-12 public schools will remain the same. Gobles Public Schools will continue to be part of this traditional format and make efficient use of the financial resources that it provides. However, we are in the process of exploring how best to position our school district and school community with strong schools going forward.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

On Friday, May 5, 2017, the Middle/High School students and staff took to the community and school grounds for the 4th Annual Community Service Day. Students participated in services such as planting, raking, cleaning, and painting.

A very special thank you to our generous sponsors! We couldn't have done it without you: Wahmhoff Farms, Pine Grove Greenhouse, Dickerson's Greenhouse, and Meijer on West Main.



To do this, we must be proactive and seek alternative sources of revenue. Please know that our core belief of Learning For ALL and core business of K-12 Schooling will guide us in this search. I can say that our Learning Model will continue to incorporate the brick-and-mortar K-12 Gobles Public School experience as we now know it with our history of excellence in academic and extracurricular programming and outcomes. In addition to this traditional learning model, we are reaching out beyond our school boundaries to make a larger difference with two new alternative learning options that will expand our geographical reach, and increase both enrollment and funding. Both of these initiatives are dependent upon State of Michigan approval. First, we propose to authorize a Cyber Charter School. This involves Gobles Public Schools working with a vendor called Michigan Online Schools that targets at-risk students throughout the State of Michigan who have not found success in the traditional K-12 public school or brick-and-mortar charter school settings, helping students who would not normally graduate get a high school diploma, and serving as a bridge for these students to the world of work or the military. A second direction that we are investigating is a concept called Shared Services. This involves Gobles Public Schools providing nonessential curriculum/instructional services to private schools that do not currently offer these opportunities for their students in Van Buren County and in counties contiguous to Van Buren County. We believe that these program additions align well with who we are as a school community, will help us to build upon the excellence already in place at Gobles Public Schools, and enable us to actualize our Mission and Vision and what we want as outcomes for young people as we move further into the 21st century. Feel free to contact me with questions.

We Are Team Gobles. As we approach summer and beyond- Let's Go Together As Tigers!
Jeff Rehlander, Superintendent