

P.J. Gelinas JHS



Science Department

**Gary R. Vorwald
Chairperson**



gvorwald@3villagecsd.org

631-730-4715

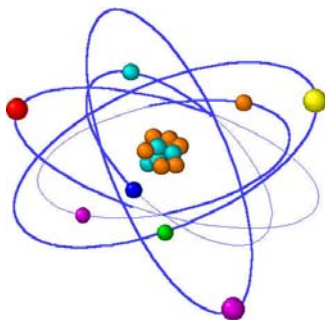
Welcome to the P.J. Gelinas Science Department web page.

Our 7-9 science program emphasizes important relationships, processes, and applications of concepts. Students are provided with opportunities to develop their skills of analysis, inquiry, and design through active laboratory work.

The curriculum is aligned with the New York State Math, Science, and Technology (MST) standards and is based on the Intermediate Science (grades 5-8) and commencement level (9-12) core curricula. At the end of grade 8, most students will be evaluated with the NYS Intermediate Science Assessment. Grade 8 honors students and grade 9 students take high school level (commencement) courses based on either the Physical Setting/Earth Science core curriculum or the Living Environment/Biology core curriculum. Students enrolled in these courses are evaluated in June with the corresponding regents' examination. At the high school level, students must have successfully completed a minimum of 1200 minutes of laboratory experience with satisfactory written reports as a prerequisite for admission to the regents' examination in Earth Science and Biology courses. Please review our district's Essentials of Learning for more information about our science curriculum. It is available at the link below.

http://www.threevillagecsd.org/department_and_programs/essentials_of_learning_grades_7-12

It is the goal of the Three Village CSD that our science program prepares students to have a clear understanding of the dynamic processes controlling our world and be able to explain accurately and with appropriate depth, ideas considered important in the scientific community. In attaining scientific literacy, students will be able to use the skills gained in our secondary program long after they have completed their education in the Three Village schools.



Science Department Staff

TEACHER	COURSE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Mr. Daguerre	Physical Science 8	edaguerr@3villagecsd.org
Mrs. Guarascio	Living Environment/Biology 9H & Science Research	vguarasc@3villagecsd.org
Ms. Gerber	Science 7 & Physical Science 8	mgerber@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Haas	Earth Science 9R	rhaas@3villagecsd.org
Mr. McArdle	Earth Science 8H, Science 7 & Science Research	tmcardle@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Mutter	Earth Science 8H & 9R, Science Research	dmutter@3villagecsd.org
Ms. Perry	Science 7 & 7H	lperry@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Schuchman	Earth Science 8H, 9R & EarthSMART	pschuchm@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Stiegelmaier	Living Environment/Biology 9H & Science 7H	kstiegel@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Vorwald	EarthSMART & Science Research	gvorwald@3villagecsd.org
Mr. Weiner	Earth Science 9R & EarthSMART	kweiner@3villagecsd.org





UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Science Extra Help Schedule

Teacher	Day/s	Period/s	Room #
Mr. Daguerre	By Appt	6	209
Mrs. Guarascio	Tues/Thurs	7	108
Ms. Gerber	Tues/Thurs	5	215
Mr. Haas	Tues/Thurs	7	211
Mr. McArdle*	Tues/Thurs	6	106
Mr. Mutter	By Appt	6	106
Ms. Perry	Mon/Wed	5	213
Mr. Schuchman	Tuesday Thursday	6 7	218
Mr. Stiegelmaier	By Appt	5/7	220
Mr. Vorwald	Tues/Thurs	6/7	222
Mr. Weiner	Mon-Fri & Tuesday (after school);	7	216

All Science Teachers are also available by appointment after or before school.



Assessment Information

Each Spring, the New York State Intermediate Science Exam is administered to students in eighth grade. This assessment is cumulative and encompasses all the physical setting and living environment major understandings and performance indicators, as specified in the NYS Intermediate Core Curriculum. The assessment has a performance component (lab test) that is given in class at the end of April or early May. The written part consists of both multiple choice items as well as constructed response questions. The written part is normally administered the first week in May.

Students who are enrolled in Honors Earth Science in grade 8 are currently exempt from this assessment, but will take the Earth Science Regents Examination in June. Students in grade 9 are assessed by the NYS Regents examinations in either Earth Science or Living Environment.

Departmental final exams are administered each June for all seventh grade students. Students in grade 8 take either the NYS Intermediate Science Assessment or the NYS Earth Science Regents, which count as the final exam. Students in grade 9 take either the Earth Science Regents or the Living Environment Regents, which count as the final exam for the course. Final exams are valued at 16% of the composite grade for the course, while each quarter is worth 21%.

Earth Science 8H & 9R, and Living Environment/Biology 9H are high school, credit-bearing courses that culminate with a regents examination. Students enrolled in these commencement level science courses must complete satisfactory lab reports that represent a minimum of 1200 minutes of lab work in order to qualify to sit for the Regents Examinations in June. Teachers will monitor student progress on labs and inform parents if there are any concerns.

Each spring, there will be an after school science review class in preparation for the NYS Intermediate Grade 8 Science Exam and the Earth Science Regents Examination. Invitations to select students will be sent home in the Spring.

Helpful Links for Science

New York State Education Department Resources

Resources for Parents & Students

<http://usny.nysed.gov/parents/>

NYSED Science Homepage

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci.html>

New York State Core Curricula

Intermediate Science Core Curriculum
(grades 5-8)

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/pub/intersci.pdf>

Earth Science Core Curriculum

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/pub/earthsci.pdf>

Living Environment/Biology Core Curriculum

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/pub/livingenv.pdf>

Science Assessments

Intermediate Science Assessments

<http://www.nysedregents.org/testing/sciei/sciences8.html>

Earth Science Regents Exams

<http://www.nysedregents.org/testing/scire/registearth.html>

Earth Science Reference Tables

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/reftable/esp1-7.pdf>

Living Environment/Biology Regents Exams

<http://www.nysedregents.org/testing/scire/registlive.html>

Student Resources

Castle Learning – online test preparation help for Earth Science & Biology

<https://castlelearning.com/review/login.asp>

Regents Exam Prep Center

- resources to help students prepare for various regents exams; includes Earth Science and Living Environment review and practice tests

<http://regentsprep.org/>

Department Information and Activities

International Beach Cleanup

Saturday, September 17, 2011

West Meadow Beach

Join members of the Gelinias and Three Village community on Saturday, September 17 to help clean up West Meadow Beach. This event is a documented beach cleanup, sponsored by the American Littoral Society. Beach cleanups are sponsored throughout the world at around this time of year.

Students will work in groups of 3-4 to collect garbage and debris, and record what they are collecting. This data is sent to the Center for Marine Conservation for processing and has been used to help develop solutions and stop the dumping of trash in our coastal environment. Last year over 200 volunteers from the Three Village community participated, of which 120 students were from Gelinias. Science teacher Peter Schuchman will again coordinate the cleanup with Eileen Gerle, Town of Brookhaven Environmental Educator.

The event begins at 10:00 a.m. and usually lasts 2 hours. Friends and family members are invited. Meet at the pavilion on the west side of the parking lot. Bring water, hats, sunscreen, and gloves. All participants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

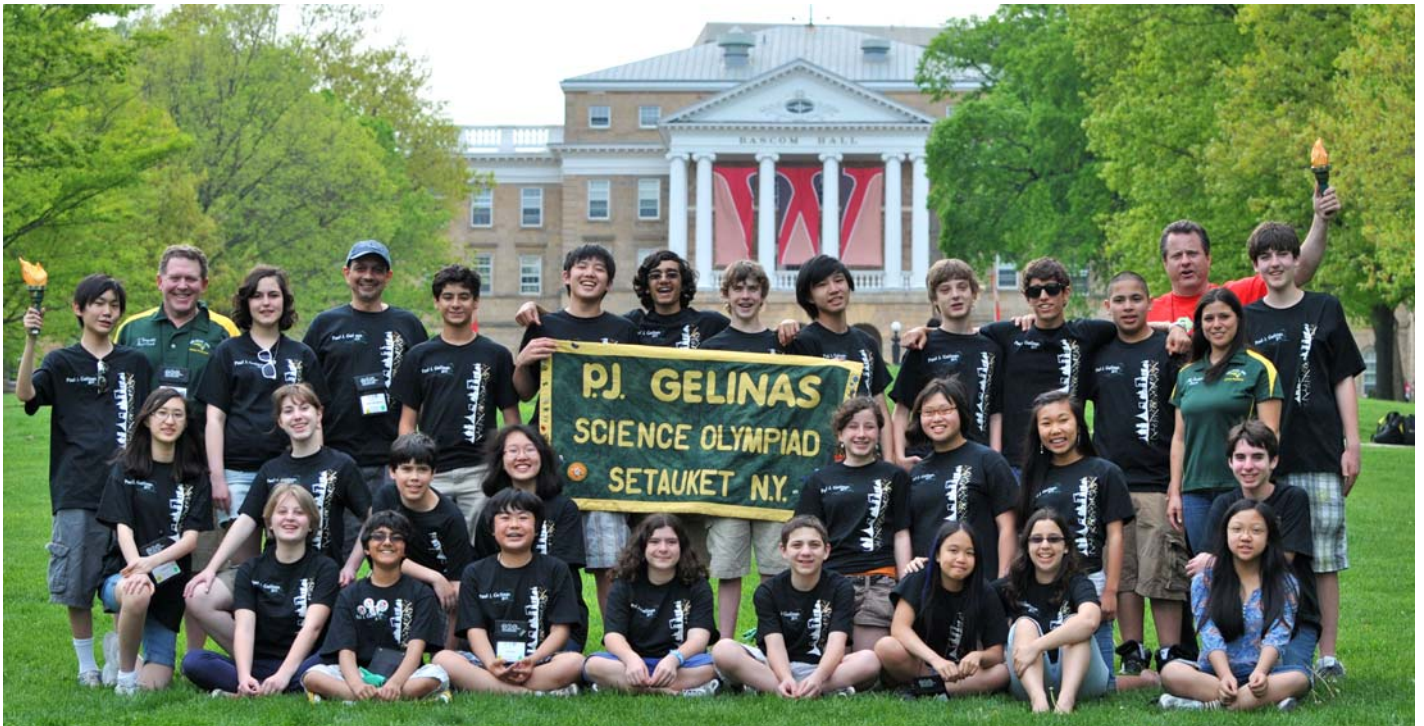
Science Olympiad Team

Science Olympiad provides students with opportunities to explore their interest in various aspects of science and technology through interscholastic competitions. Each school forms a team of 15 students who compete against their peers in various events. The events are intended to challenge students to their potential while encouraging students to have fun while learning science. Each event is unique and requires students to learn academic content, science, or technical skills. Members are encouraged to choose events that match their interests, and work at improving their knowledge and skills through the guidance of the advisors and teammates. Students choose 3-4 events, such as Tower Building, Storm the Castle, Water Quality, Forestry, Rocks and Minerals, Reach for the Stars, and Science Crime Busters, that they prepare for the regional tournament.

This year Gelinas JHS will enter at least 4 teams at the Eastern Long Island Regional Science Olympiad Tournament, which will be held on a Saturday in March 2012 at Candlewood Middle School in Half Hollow Hills. In 2011, 40 teams from across Suffolk County competed.

Last year the Gelinas continued to excel in this program. The team placed 2nd in Suffolk County and 2nd in New York State, winning dozens of medals in a variety of events. The team qualified for the National Tournament, which was held at the University of Wisconsin. We are the only junior high school team from Suffolk County to reach the nationals. Our team placed an amazing 7th out of 60 teams from 47 states in the US.

The team is coached by Gary Vorwald, Science Chair at Gelinas, assisted by science teachers Monica Gerber and technology teacher Ed Moloney.



Long Island Science Congress

Long Island Science Congress provides opportunities for secondary school students to present and get recognition for their science research. Students prepare a science research project and present their results to judges at this annual event. The Congress is held at SUNY Farmingdale in the Spring, usually some time in April.

Each school can send up to 10 projects for each Division. Current students in 7th and 8th grade can enter the Junior Congress, and 9th grade students can enter the Senior Congress. Applications are due in December.

More information will be provided by our Science teachers and applications will be available. Contact your child's science teacher or Mr. Vorwald for more info.

Science Awareness Day

Each year, Gelinas sponsors a Science Awareness Day in which teams of students present the results of their science research to evaluators from Ward Melville HS and Stony Brook University. Many of the projects are completed as part of our Science Research Program, but individual students are encouraged to participate.

The event is held in March in our own library. Announcements will be made and applications will be available in early winter. All students who are interested can participate in this program. Last year we had over 200 students present 100 projects.