



August 31, 2021

Welcome GSA Community!!

Orientations Wednesday and Thursday:

We are so excited to welcome students on campus this week: tomorrow (Wednesday) 9th and 10th graders, and 11th and 12th graders on Thursday. Students will report to the gymnasium at 8am. All students should dress appropriately for being outside, bring a water bottle, and make sure to have a mask to wear while indoors. 11th and 12th graders who are coming to help on Wednesday should check in with Mr. Eckenfelder when they arrive.

PowerSchool Registration and ECollect Forms:

If you have not yet done so, please register and fill out your forms online ASAP. We must have this information prior to the start of school. If you have any questions or concerns about PowerSchool, please contact our Registrar, Debbie Davis at d.davis@georgestevens.org.

BIRCH Project Participation:

We are excited to partner with the University of Maine and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the BIRCH Project this year.

BIRCH (Building Interpersonal Resilience and Community Health) is a research project designed to help us better understand how to support our students and foster their well-being. The information we learn from BIRCH will be helpful to GSA as we continue to meet your child's academic, emotional, and social needs.

Your child can earn up to \$75 in Amazon gift cards for completing all parts of the BIRCH Project.

Click [here](#) for the permission form and more detailed information about BIRCH. Permission is required for your child to participate. We need a completed form for all students, even if you decline this invitation for your child.

[Here](#) is an informational video about BIRCH that will be distributed to students.

Thank you for your support, and we're excited to launch the BIRCH Project soon!

If BIRCH sounds familiar, we had planned to do the BIRCH Project last year, but it was disrupted due to COVID-19. If you consented for your child to participate in BIRCH last year, your child is all set to participate! If you consented last year but you no longer want your child to participate, please contact BIRCH Director, Dr. Becca Schwartz-Mette at rebecca.schwartzmette@maine.edu by September 24.

We are thrilled to be back!

Rebecca Gratz