

GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

HORTONVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 30, 2009

Mr. Bruce A. Carew, Principal

GMS WELCOMES NEW STAFF!

The school year got off to a great start with 550 students in attendance. GMS welcomed the following new staff: Rachel Galloway, 8th Grade Teacher, Sandee Spaulding-Cornell, Guidance Counselor, and Jill Danke, 6th Grade Teacher.

GMS HAS A NEW PARENT PORTAL!

Recently HASD purchased a new student software management program called Skyward. Skyward includes **Family Access** that will allow you to view a great deal of information, including grades and attendance on your child with a login/password.

If you have not picked up your login/password; please complete the Family Access application in this newsletter. The application must be brought to the office by the parent to receive your login/password.

PARENT REMINDERS!

SIGNING STUDENT OUT:

Parents/Guardians must come to the office and sign their student out when they are leaving the building. When a student comes into the building the student can sign themselves in.

YEARBOOKS:

Yearbooks are ordered at the end of January they are not ordered with school pictures. Please be on the look-out for the order forms at that time.

ABSENCES:

Parents please call the office when your student will not be in school. We have an automated system so you can call anytime to leave us a message on our attendance line. Dial 757-7140 and follow the instructions for reporting a student absent.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE:

GMS' Parent/Teacher Conferences run a little different than at the Elementary School. It is on a first come first serve basis. Look for the dates in upcoming newsletters.

AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP AVAILABLE!

If your child needs extra help to stay on top of his/her grades, check out our After School Homework Help. Available for all grades. Days of the week, start times and locations are different for each grade. Ask your child about it, contact your child's teacher, or call the office at 757-7140 to find out details.

LUNCH MENUS ONLINE!

Please see the hasd.org website to access lunch menus online.

GMS BAND

Important Dates to Mark On Your Calendar!

December 16th – Dress Rehearsal during school day (Please do not schedule any doctor/dentist appointments during dress rehearsals)

December 17th – Winter Concert at HHS 6:30-8:30

March 11th – Dress Rehearsal during school day

March 11th – Band-O-Rama at HHS 6:30-7:30

March 20th – District Solo and Ensemble at New London

May 12th – Dress Rehearsal during school day

May 13th – Spring Concert at HHS 6:30-8:30

Concert Dress

REMINDER: Students MUST wear their long-sleeve red band shirt, BLACK pants, BLACK shoes, and BLACK socks. In the past we have received many compliments regarding the GMS Band's appearance at performances. We believe that a group who sounds good should also look professional when performing. Please help us do this by ensuring the uniform is washed and fits before the day of the concert.

Concert Etiquette

The students involved in the GMS Bands put in a lot of time and hard work to prepare such wonderful concerts for the audience. Please remember that items such as cell phones and video games can be distracting. Our students want to share their talent with the community. Please respect the musicians by staying until the end of the concert. It's no fun playing for an empty auditorium!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Oct. 6 Mid-Quarters mailed home!
Oct. 14 Early Release (dismissal 12:50)
Oct. 29 NO SCHOOL
Oct. 30 NO SCHOOL
Nov. 4 End of 1st Quarter

GYM TALK ON FITNESSGRAM!

FITNESSGRAM is a complete battery of health-related fitness items that are scored using criterion-referenced standards. These standards are age and gender specific and are established based on how fit children need to be for good health.

These will be the following health-related physical fitness testing components that will be used to assess how fit your child is:

- **Aerobic capacity** (PACER)
- **Upper body strength and endurance** (90 degree push-up)
- **Abdominal strength and endurance** (curl-up)
- **Trunk extensor strength and flexibility** (trunk lift)
- **Flexibility** (back-saver sit n' reach and shoulder stretch)
- **Body composition** (height and weight).

It is important to let children and their parents know what fitness level they're performing at. So we will be sending home your child's results which will state what fitness level (Needs Improvement or Healthy Fitness Zone) their child is performing at. If your child is performing at the "Needs Improvement Level", the parent can play an important role with working with their child by improving on that particular fitness component.

But the greatest challenge the Physical Education Department and parents will have is getting the children moving while having FUN and keep them moving for the rest of their LIVES!

In addition to sending home your child's results, we will start a fitness portfolio that will follow with them throughout their Middle School years.

During physical education class, the teachers will promote the principal mission of the FITNESSGRAM program "To promote a lifelong physical activity among youth". So please take time to read the FITNESSGRAM Report and help us promote lifelong physical activity. If you have any questions, email cindyberndt@hasd.org or markreinemann@hasd.org

GMS PTO NEWS!

Welcome back Students, Teachers, Staff, & Parents! The GMS PTO is looking forward to another fantastic year at GMS!

We are continuing with "SPIRIT WEAR!" This year we added a long sleeve t-shirt option. Student's shirts will have their class designation on the back. Parents can order shirts with a plain back, and staff members can have "STAFF" on the back. We encourage all to purchase a shirt. We will have "SPIRIT" days throughout the year with maybe a few competitions and prizes? Look for the order form in this newsletter and return your order form with payment to the GMS office by October 9th.

We will be hosting two 5th/6th grade Fun Nights (Oct 22nd, and Mar 25th). We will have a DJ, open gym, snacks, and door prizes! Save up your Box Tops with your name written on the back as entries for the door prizes.

The GMS PTO does not do a major fund raiser. We depend on the income from Box Tops, Milk Caps, Cartridges, Cell Phones, Digital Cameras, and Campbell's Soup Labels. If every GMS family saved these items, we could easily earn thousands per year!

We would love to have any and all parents/teachers/staff to be a part of the GMS PTO. Please contact Sharon Baken (sbaken@new.rr.com) if you would like to be involved.