



Tiger Tracks

Be Respectful, Be Ready, Be Safe



Gurrie Middle School
1001 S. Spring Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525
708-482-2720

April 26, 2019

Issue 9

www.d105.net/gurrie

School Closing Hotline: 708-482-2722

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CALENDAR



April

25 Choir Concert 7:00 pm
29 Board of Education Mtg. 7:30 pm
30 Spring Band Concert 7:00 pm

Eighth Grade Reminders:

Gown and Medallion fee (\$25) Great
America fee (\$36) due in to the
office by May 14th.

Checks should be made out to:
Gurrie Middle School

L.T. 8th Grade Fitness Days

Lyons Township High School will hold their annual 8th grade Physical Fitness Days in May. Qualifying boys will compete on Monday, May 6th, and qualifying girls will compete on Tuesday, May 7th. Gurrie 8th grade students who receive an 80% or better rating in each of the six components of the President's Physical Fitness Test will take part in the Fitness Days at L.T. Gurrie students will be testing in their physical fitness class. Good luck to our 8th graders who hope to qualify for the special L.T. Fitness Days.

The six components of the test are:

Sit and Reach (flexibility)
50 Yard Dash (speed)
Standing Long Jump (explosive leg power)
Shuttle Run (agility)
Push-Ups (upper arm strength)
1 mile run (cardiovascular endurance)

May

2 Spring Orchestra Concert, 7:00 pm
8 District Musical Performance
7:00 pm
9 District Musical Performance 7:00 pm
13 Gurrie PTO Meeting 6:30 pm
20 Board of Education Meeting 7:30 pm
23 8th Grade Great America Trip
24 8th Grade Graduation Dance 7:00 pm
27 Memorial Day– No School
28 Gurrie Graduation LT South 7:00 pm



Important Year End Dates:

May 23 8th Grade Great America Trip
May 24 Graduation Dance, 7-10p.m.
May 24 All 7th & 8th grade students
must have cleared: all books re
turned, all fees and fines paid by
3:15.
May 27 Memorial Day
May 28 Gurrie Graduation
7p.m., LT South Field House
June 3 Last Day of School for 7th grade

From the Principal's Desk



Hello Gurrie Families-

It's hard to believe that we are well into the third trimester and in the 'home stretch' here at Gurrie. As the weather warms (well, at least some of the time) and the days grow longer, it becomes tempting for our students to think more about summer and less about their schoolwork. Please encourage your student, as we are, to finish the year on a positive note. We have had a great year with many successes to look back and build on. There are still seven weeks of school left, and we want everyone to finish strong and go into the summer looking forward to the opportunities next year will bring.

Some important dates and events to remember as we move closer and closer to the summer:

- Eighth grade has many critical dates to remember including the Graduation Dance on Friday, May 24 from 7-10pm; Great America Trip on Thursday, May 23; and Graduation on Tuesday, May 28 at 7:00pm.
*Please note that graduation will take place at Lyons Township High School, South Campus, in the Field House.

Our annual spring concerts are approaching with our choir performing Thursday, April 25 at 7:00pm. Bands will be performing on Tuesday, April 30 at 7:00pm. Orchestras perform Thursday, April 2 at 7:00pm. Finally, students will be performing the musical *Beauty and the Beast* Wednesday, May 8 and Thursday, May 9 at 7:00pm.

Some additional information for our graduating class:

- The form parents filled in and signed at registration indicating how they wanted their child's name written on his/her diploma and announced at the ceremony will be followed at graduation
- Gowns at a cost to parents of \$25.00 will be provided for all students.
- On graduation night, each student will be presented with a graduation medallion in the school colors. Corsages or other flowers should not be worn to the ceremony.
- Next week, I will be sending home our graduation expectations for graduates and our audience. Please remember that the graduation ceremony is a formal event and as such, requires a high level of respectful behavior to honor our graduates and all their accomplishments at Gurrie and in District 105.
- The 8th grade class trip to Great America requires a high level of responsibility on the part of individual students. We allow only students who have shown this high level of responsibility during the latter part of the school year to attend. Any student who earns two major referrals from April 1 to the day of the trip will not be eligible to attend. This policy has been discussed with students during advisory, and parents have been notified through a letter sent home in the Wednesday envelope
- A reminder for 8th grade parents that the Graduation Dance is a school sponsored event and our dress code policy applies at the dance. I pulled information that is relevant to the dance from our dress code expectations. Our complete policy is found in our student handbook or on the Gurrie website.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

*It is expected that students shall be dressed in an appropriate manner while at school or attending a school or PTO sponsored activity. Appropriate school dress includes clothing, accessories, or hair styles which are not disruptive or distractive to the students and therefore will not interfere with the educational program. Personal attire must be clean and safe so as not to be a hazard to the health and welfare of the student and other students in the school. Gurrie Middle School hopes that parents will take an active part in assisting their children in making intelligent decisions about their appearance in school. **Students with inappropriate clothing will be asked to change. If needed, parents will be contacted to bring a change of clothes or students will be sent home.***

The following guidelines will be used in evaluating student dress. These include but are not limited to:

- *Clothing that is considered too revealing or suggestive in any way is prohibited*
- *Transparent items, spaghetti strapped tops, tank tops, strapless tops, any clothing exposing a bare midriff, single strapped tops, short shorts (shorts should cover to mid-thigh and below), nightwear or items normally worn as undergarments, but displayed as outerwear are prohibited*

The school principal is the final authority for judging the appropriateness of a student's appearance.

We have recently welcomed incoming 7th graders and their parents to Gurrie and provided them with an orientation to our school. It is great to meet these future Tigers and I am excited about welcoming another great group of students to our school community. I remember meeting and talking with our current eighth graders when they came for their orientation two years ago. How much they have grown over the past two years. I am confident that they will be continuing their success in high school and beyond.

As always, check out the school website at www.d105.net. Remember that we have a full building calendar, lunch menus, Wednesday envelope materials, classroom homework, and other important information all available at the site.

Enjoy the longer and warmer days ahead.

Sincerely,

Ed Hood



PBIS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The PBIS program, which rewards students for their positive behavior in school with Tiger Stripes, would greatly appreciate your help with donations. Please donate items from the list below throughout the school year. It is very important that we have enough items to reward the students.

Donated items can be dropped off at Gurrie's main office anytime during the school day or can be sent in with your student. Please label "PBIS".

If you have any questions, please contact:
Therese Jumic at jpedersen@d105.net or
Mr. Alvarez at ealvarez@d105.net.

The following list shows some of the items that we can use for our PBIS store. Food items cannot have any peanut products or be produced in a factory that process peanut items. Nonfood items like clothing and toys need to be new or unused.

Food Items

Ring pops
Jolly Ranchers
Laffy Taffy
Now and Laters
Strawberry Twizzlers
Tootsie Pops
Dumb Dumb suckers
Rice Krispie Treats

Nonfood Items

Water bottles
Hacky sacks
Stuffed Animals
Picture frames
Slinkys
Pens
Mugs
Movies
Music CD
Calendars
Toys
Journals
Backpacks
Table games
Gurrie Gear
T-shirts
-College,
-Chicago
teams, etc
Sweatshirts:
-College,
-Chicago
teams

Social Worker FYI

Jeannette Pedersen, 708-482-2720 ext. 1221

jpetersen@d105.net



Working Together to Raise Drug Free Kids

Many parents say, and truly believe—*"My child would never do drugs."* But actually believing—*"not my child"* - could actually endanger your child. Studies indicate that more students report having been offered drugs than parents believe. Although, many children never abuse substances, some children may begin using alcohol and marijuana in their middle school years.

What Can We Do?

According to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, teenagers who reported feeling close to their families were unlikely to engage in risky behavior such as drinking, smoking or drugs. These findings support the opinion that parents can influence the decisions of their children about whether or not to use drugs.

Drug-Proof Your Children Ways to Communicate and Encourage Family Closeness

1. Set a good example. Practice what you preach. Be honest about your own mistakes.
2. Arm yourself with the facts about the signs, symptoms of substance abuse. Communicate these facts to your children.
3. Get involved in your child's activities. Attend school activities, church activities, and other events.
4. Get to know your children's friends. Make your home a welcoming place for friends to visit.
5. Create clear and consistent rules. Follow through with consequences.
6. Know where your children are. Do not be afraid to verify your child's story occasionally by checking with other parents. This communicates love and awareness.
7. Plan frequent family outings such as camping, shopping, going to the movies or attending sporting events.
8. Get your child involved in helping others. Focusing on helping others will put their own problems into perspective and give them a sense of accomplishment and pride.
9. Tell your children you love them every day. Show them they are valuable by spending time listening to them as well as talking to them. Treat them with respect even when they make mistakes.
10. When drug use is identified, take action immediately. Contact resources to get help.



District Musical!

Save the Date!!

“Beauty and the Beast”

Wednesday, May 8th

Thursday, May 9th

7:00 p.m.

Gurrie Auditorium





Music Notes



Seventh Annual Band-Aid Concert a Success

We greatly enjoyed our annual Band-Aid benefit concert on Thursday, April 16th in the Gurrie gym! The concert featured outstanding performances from the Gurrie Choir, GMS Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, and Symphony Orchestra. It is always great to see our fine arts community come together for such a worthy cause! This year, we worked to raise money for the Humane Society of the United States, benefiting all of the animals in or lives!



Upcoming Dates

April 25	Spring District Choir Concert Gurrie Middle School
April 30	Spring District Band Concert & Matinee Gurrie Middle School
May 1	District Orchestra and Choir Tour All D105 Schools
May 2	Choir and Orchestra Matinee Performance Gurrie Middle School
May 2	Spring District Orchestra Concert Gurrie Middle School
May 3	Spring District Choir Concert Gurrie Middle School
May 3	District Band Tour All D105 Schools
May 4	High Note Festival Competition Six Flags Great America
May 8	Beauty and the Beast Jr. Gurrie Middle School
May 9	Beauty and the Beast Jr. Matinee Performance Gurrie Middle School
May 14	GMS Jazz Ensemble Performance Wire (Berwyn)
May 28	Gurrie Graduation LT South Campus
June 1	LaGrange Pet Parade Downtown LaGrange

D105 Summer Band Camp

It's that time of year again! Registration for the D105 Summer Band Camp and Summer Orchestra Camp is open, and information will be distributed to parents and students shortly. This is always an exciting way to keep our students excited about their instruments and get them prepared for next year. Please contact the directors with any questions!



GMS Jazz Ensemble Performance

The legendary GMS jazz Ensemble has a wonderful performance opportunity coming up on May 14th. They will be opening for the Chicago Composers Big Band at Wire in Berwyn. Please come and support our D105 musicians!

Great America Permission Slips and Fees

The original deadline to turn in forms and fees for Great America has come and gone. If you haven't turned in your permission slip yet, please do! We can always accept a few late entries. Please contact your child's director if you have any questions at all. Thank you!



SPORTS CALENDAR



April

- 29 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Highlands Blue
- 29 Boys' Volleyball at Washington
- 29 Girls' Softball vs. Highlands
- 29 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Highlands White
- 30 Girl' Softball vs. McClure
- 30 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Park Blue
- 30 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Park Red

May

- 2 Boys' Volleyball at Willow Springs
- 2 Girls' Softball vs. Willow Springs
- 2 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Westchester
- 7 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs. McClure White
- 7 Girls' Softball vs. Pleasantdale
- 7 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs. McClure Red
- 9 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Willow Springs
- 9 Boys' Volleyball at Highlands
- 9 Girls' Softball at Highlands
- 9 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Pleasantdale
- 13 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs. McClure White
- 13 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs. McClure White
- 14 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Washington Blue
- 14 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Washington Red
- 16 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs Highlands White
- 16 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs Highlands Blue

Girls' Softball

Spring means the coming of the girls' softball season for Gurrie girls. Tryouts were held right after spring break. Members of the 8th grade team are Chrissy Thorpe, Monica Nunez, Lindsey Rickman, Grace Sneed, Kyla Kirby, Angie Townsend, Lillian Prendergast, Halie Prysny, Emma Kallal.

Members of the 7th grade team are Maddie Kosenesky, Katarina Neskovic, Journie Wickert-Harris, Lizet Ojeda, Carmella Duda, McKayla Duran, Emma Yawn, Aleksia Petrovich, Kendahl Payton, Hannah Kallal.

Coaches: Mrs. Gjoni and Ms. Huebner



Boys' Volleyball

The boys' volleyball teams have been chosen and the season began with an away game against Willow Springs on April 8th.

Eighth grade team members are Santos Anda, Liam Carolan, Emmett Driscoll, Patrick Engels, Andrew Follenweider, Sammy Kogen, Matthew Pierpaoli, Nick Polonowski, Calum Rogers, Peter Sanchez, Connor Spellman, Jake Warkentien, and Patrick Wenstrup.

Seventh grade team members are Anson Babb, Michael Badrov, Tommy Culver, Tommy Goryl, Jakob Kawczynski, Jackson Koos, Alex Lonsway, Dylan Rickman, Caden Strack, Daniel Torres, and Carson Turner.

Coaches: Mr. Olson and Mr. LaBud



Girls' Volleyball Season Recap

7th Grade:

The 7th grade girls had an amazing first season as a part of Gurrie Tigers volleyball program! This group was one of the elite teams in 7th grade and ultimately finished the year 11-3! This team cruised to big victories over the likes of Park Jr. High, McClure, and Highlands Middle School to just name a few. All members of the team helped contribute to an awesome, fun-filled season! Grace Turner and Lydia Busker helped lead the Tigers to a double-digit win campaign as key players in the success of the team. Both girls dominated at the net along with their leadership. Maddie Rowen and Izzi Wirtz also led the Tigers as the team's primary setters throughout the 2019 season. Other key players include Reese Metz and her superb serving, Claire Collins with her front row dominance, Caitlin and Sarah Crowe's backrow excellence, McKayla Duran's overall awesome game-play, Hannah Kallal's front row blocks. What an awesome season it was for the 7th grade Tigers! Congrats on a great season. Once again the girls on the team were: Rayna Aaronson (Manager), Lydia Busker, Claire Collins, Caitlin Crowe, Sarah Crowe, McKayla Duran, Hannah Kallal, Reese Metz, Maddie Rowen, Grace Turner, and Izzi Wirtz.

8th Grade:

The 8th grade girls finished the season at 6-5. Throughout eleven games, setters Alyssa Wong, Hannah Eskra, and Nikki Avicious helped control the offense and set up our hitters Lily Prendergast, Emma Kallal, Karman Kapsa, and Sara Gjorgjevska. Defensive specialists Grace Sneed, Piper Oldenburg, Margot Pooler, Karen Martinez, Maddie Gonzalez, and Sophie Dike helped cover the floor from opposing hitters.

On March 16th, the teams competed in the conference tournament at Park Jr. High. The girls fell to Highlands in the first round after a hard-fought match. Though this marked the end of the tigers' season, the girls showed signs of significant improvement as a team throughout the year as they fought their way to a winning record.

Coaches: Mr. LaBud and Mr. Olson

From the Principal's Desk.....About Staff Appreciation.

Tell a teacher or staff member you care by completing and returning the following Staff Member Commendation Form!

Each of us can think of a special teacher or staff member who has made a positive impact on our lives. Many of us have never expressed our appreciation to those individuals. Others of us have waited years after graduation to do so.

Perhaps you've been pleased by the special way a staff member worked with your student academically, provided emotional support, or assisted in the achievement of a personal goal. Submittal of the completed form that follows can be your way of telling that staff member they are special and appreciated.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following Staff Member Commendation. We need the completed forms to the school office by Monday, May 6. Ed Hood, Principal, will hand deliver each commendation to the appropriate staff member during Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10). More forms are available in the school office or on our website at www.d105.net.

Your staff will appreciate your thoughts for years to come!!

Gurrie Middle School **Staff Member Commendation**

Mr. Hood:

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know how pleased I am with a member of your staff.

Gurrie Staff Member

Is, in my opinion, deserving of special commendation for the following reasons:

_____ provides a stimulating and challenging educational environment that encourages quality work.

_____ demonstrates a personal interest in students' progress and overall well-being.

_____ is friendly, patient, and understanding.

_____ shows professionalism and represents Gurrie Middle School in a positive manner.

_____ other _____.

Remarks: _____

_____.

Signature

Date

Please return to Gurrie Middle School, 1001 S. Spring Avenue, LaGrange, IL 60525 or have your student bring it to the office.