



# Tiger Tracks

Be Respectful, Be Ready, Be Safe



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

April 27, 2018

Issue 9

www.d105.net

School Closing Hotline: 708-482-2722

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## CALENDAR



### April

- 23 Board of Ed Mtg. 7:30 p.m.
- 23 PTO Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Spring Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m.

### May

- 1 Spring Band Concert, 7p.m.
- 3 Spring Orchestra/Choir Concert, 7p.m.
- 4 Mid-term Quint 5
- 5 Great America High Note Festival
- 9 District Musical, 7 p.m., Gurrie gym
- 10 District Musical, 7p.m., Gurrie gym
- 14 Gurrie PTO Mtg., 7 p.m., LLC
- 20 D105 Foundation DASH 9:00 a.m.
- 21 Board of Ed Mtg. 7:30
- 23 D105 Writing Festival 6:00 p.m.
- 24 8th Grade Great America Trip
- 25 8th Grade Graduation Dance 7-10 p.m.
- 29 Gurrie Graduation LT South 7:00 p.m.

Spring



## **Eighth Grade Reminders**

**Gown and medallion fee (\$25) due in to the office by May 15th.**

**Great America money (\$35) due in to the office by May 15th.**

**Checks should be made out to Gurrie Middle School.**

## **Important Year End Dates:**



- May 24 8th Grade Great America Trip
- May 25 Graduation Dance, 7-10p.m.
- May 25 All 7th & 8th grade students must have cleared: all books returned, all fees and fines paid by 3:15.
- May 28 Memorial Day
- May 29 Gurrie Graduation  
7p.m., LT South Field House
- June 1 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 and the days grow longer it becomes tempting for our students to think more about summer and less about their school work. 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 25<sup>th</sup> from 7-10pm; Great America Trip on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>; and Graduation on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> 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 Orchestra performing on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Bands performing on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm and our Choir performing Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm.
- Students will be performing the musical *Into the Woods* Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> 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 District 105.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 distracting 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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@d1.net](mailto:jpedersen@d1.net) or  
Mr. Alvarez at [ealvarez@d105.net](mailto: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  
jpedersen@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!!

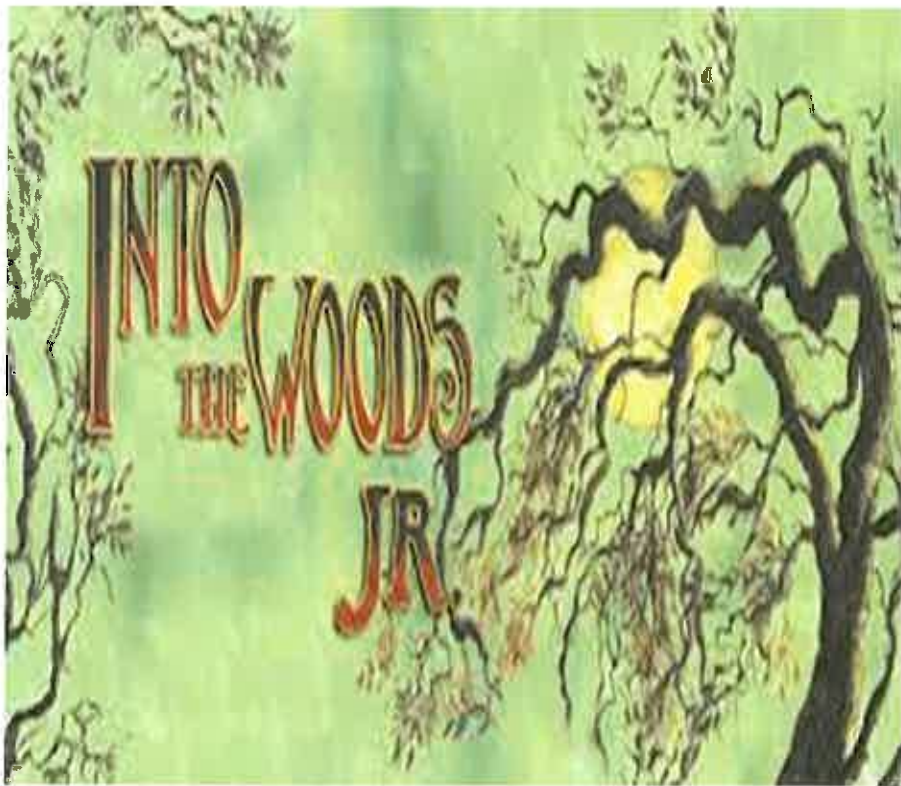
*"Into the Woods, Jr. "*

Wednesday, May 9

Thursday, May 10

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 19th in the Gurrie gym! The concert featured outstanding performances from the Gurrie Choir, GMS Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, and Symphony Orchestra. It is great to see our fine arts community come together for such a worthy cause! This year, we worked to raise money for Karam Foundation, a nonprofit that provides aid for victims of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Syria.



## Upcoming Dates

- April 24 Spring District Orchestra Concert  
Gurrie Middle School
- April 29 Kane County Cougars Game  
(GMS Jazz Ensemble, Symphony  
Orchestra, and Choirs)
- May 1 Spring District Band Concert &  
Matinee  
Gurrie Middle School
- May 2 District Orchestra and Choir Tour  
All D105 Schools
- May 2 GMS Jazz Ensemble Performance  
WSCAE Awards Ceremony
- May 3 Spring District Choir Concert  
Gurrie Middle School
- May 3 Choir & Orchestra Matinee  
Performance  
Gurrie Middle School
- May 4 District Band Tour  
All D105 Schools
- May 5 High Note Festival Competition  
Six Flags Great America
- May 9 "Into the Woods Jr."  
Gurrie Middle School
- May 10 "Into the Woods Jr." Matinee  
Gurrie Middle School
- May 29 Gurrie Graduation  
LT South Campus
- June 2 LaGrange Pet Parade  
(Concert & Symphonic Band, and D105  
Elementary Choir)

## D105 Summer Band Camp

It's that time of the year again! Registration for the always popular D105 Summer Band 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 band and get them prepared for next year. Please contact the directors with any questions!



## 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

- 23 Girls' Softball at Westchester
- 23 Girls' Gold Soccer at Willow Springs
- 23 Boys' Volleyball at Westchester
- 24 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs. Washington Blue
- 24 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs. Washington Red
- 27 Boys' Volleyball vs. McClure
- 27 Girls' Softball vs. McClure
- 27 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Pleasantdale
- 30 Boys' Volleyball vs. Park
- 30 Girls' Softball vs. Park
- 30 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs. Highlands Blue
- 30 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs. Highlands White

### May

- 1 Boys' Volleyball at Willow Springs
- 1 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Park Red
- 1 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Park Blue
- 1 Girls' Softball at Willow Springs
- 4 Boys' Volleyball vs. Pleasantdale
- 4 Girls' Softball vs. Pleasantdale
- 7 Gurrie Blue Soccer at McClure White
- 7 Gurrie Gold Soccer at McClure Red
- 8 Gurrie Blue Soccer vs. Willow Springs
- 8 Gurrie Gold Soccer vs. Pleasantdale
- 10 Boys' Volleyball at Highlands
- 10 Girls' Softball at Highlands Blue
- 15 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Washington Red
- 15 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Washington Blue
- 17 Gurrie Blue Soccer at Highlands White
- 17 Gurrie Gold Soccer at Highlands Blue

## 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 7th, and qualifying girls will compete on Wednesday, May 9th. 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.

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)



## 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 Lauren Elliot, Maylin Aldama, Estefania Ledezma, Amber Salazar, Sofia Cabrera, Hailey Brudd, Erika Betancourt, Mariela Marcial, Katie Young, Xenya Bizarro, Yaira Martinez.

Members of the 7th grade team are Emma Kallal, Lindsay Hammond, Grace Sneed, Nikki Avizius, Angie Townsend, Sara Gjorgjevska, Lilly Prendergast, Lindsey Rickman, Kyla Kirby, Monica Nunez, Margot Pooler, Lilly Renick.

Teams are coached by Ms. Vogg and Mr. Yena.



## Boys' Volleyball

The boys' volleyball teams have been chosen and the season began with an away game against Washington on April 10th.

Eighth grade team members are Joel Nunez, Salvador Lopez, Matthew Dahl, Jack Nutting, Jack Bradbury, Luke Whelton, Connor Crowe, Billy Back, Thomas Kawczynski, Emiliano Esquivel, Kyle Hannigan, Aidan Collins, Christian Koos.

Seventh grade team members are Peter Sanchez, Dylan Colbert, Sammy Kogen, Andrew Follenweider, Liam Carolan, Santos Anda, Grant Kostrzewa, Patrick Wenstrup, Nick Polonowski, Emmett Driscoll, Connor Spellman, Patrick Engels.

The teams are coached by Mr. Olson and Mr. LaBud.



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.

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*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 7<sup>th</sup>. Ed Hood, Principal, will hand deliver each commendation to the appropriate staff member during Teacher Appreciation Week (May 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>). More forms are available in the school office or on our website at [www.d105.net](http://www.d105.net).

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

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**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.