



Tiger Tracks

Be Respectful, Be Ready, Be Safe



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

November 15, 2021

2021, Issue 3

www.d105/gurrie.net

School Closing Hotline: 708-482-2722

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CALENDAR

November

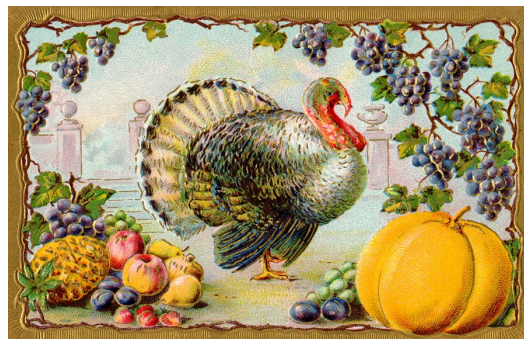
23 Project Linus, 1:15p.m.
24 Non Attendance Day
25 Thanksgiving Day
26 Thanksgiving Holiday

December

4 Holiday Band Concert 7:00p.m.
7 Holiday Orchestra Concert, (5th-
8thgraders only) 7:00p.m.
13 Board of Ed. Meeting, 7:30p.m.



*The Staff and Students of
Gurrie Middle School wish you all a
Happy Thanksgiving*



From the Principal's Desk



Greetings from Gurrie!

Trimester 1 has ended and we are one-third of the way through the school year.

I am very proud of the way our students and staff have begun the year and returned to full, in-person learning. While there are still mitigations in place to help prevent the spread of COVID in our schools, students have done such a great job with wearing the masks and distancing. Please continue to reinforce the importance of these practices in our school to ensure everyone's safety.

Looking ahead, 8th grade students and parents will be involved with the transition process to high school. On January 19, LT will hold its Future Freshman Night for the class of 2026. Students and families will have the opportunity to attend presentations on academic programs as well as learn about elective course offerings, athletics, and activities. You will also be able to tour South campus that evening. On January 26, LT will host a WebEx activity to discuss the course registration process, share the Academic Program Guide, and elective course selection. On January 27, families will receive an email with your child's placement letter and link to a Google Form that will be used to make elective course selections. The placement letter will detail your child's academic level placement for English, Math, and Science classes. The letter will also include information regarding the process for completing a level change and making elective selections. In early February, LT counselors will visit Gurrie to meet with students, discuss course requests, and enter academic course selections. Then in the spring, the online registration process for LT will begin which will include the submission of your child's birth certificate, health paperwork, and verification of residency. Dates for the counselor visits and registration will be forthcoming.

During Red Ribbon Week in October students participated in the Signs of Suicide program which provides important information regarding depression and how to help a friend (or themselves) who may be struggling. Each student learned about the ACT acronym (acknowledge, care, tell). In the event that a friend is struggling students were taught to ACT. Acknowledge - acknowledge that their friend has a problem. Care - let their friend know that they care about them and are supportive. Tell - tell a trusted adult about their friend's struggle to get any needed help and support. Students also learned that depression is a treatable illness and that suicide is a preventable tragedy that can occur as a result of untreated depression. In addition, students learned the signs of serious depression or possible suicide in themselves or a friend and how to help themselves or others by taking the simple step to ACT. These discussions are not easy ones to have but students were engaged and attentive to the content and instruction, asking great questions and participating in discussions with the presenter. According to a report in 2015 by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) suicide is the third leading cause of death in youth ages 10-24 while 90% of those who died by suicide had an underlying mental illness, typically depression. In 2014, a World Health Organization study found depression to be the number one cause of illness and disability in adolescents worldwide. We are grateful to Elyssa's Mission for bringing this important program to Gurrie and providing factual and useful information to students, staff, and parents.

As we head into the Thanksgiving break, I want to wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday and as always, let you know how much I am thankful to be a part of the Gurrie and District 105 community.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ed Hood

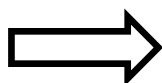
Health Notes.... Reminders

Winter is coming and so are seasonal illnesses. Parents are reminded to be watchful for flu symptoms in their children. Parents of children with asthma or chronic disease should have already consulted with their doctors regarding their need for flu vaccine.

Remember, sometimes we feel “less than great” but we are still able to do our job. A student may attend school with a cold, but needs to follow good hygiene practices. Cough drops are allowed at school as they do not fall under our medication policy. A cough lasting more than two weeks should be checked.

Remember to avoid giving aspirin for the flu due to its correlation to Reye’s Syndrome. Other reasons to keep a child home

are fever, vomiting, diarrhea, strep throat (must have completed at least 24 hours of medication before returning), conjunctivitis (pink eye), and ear infections. **Please do not send a sick child to school and endanger him or the welfare of others.** Remember that if your child has shown symptoms of any of these illnesses in the morning, chances are that they will not improve as the day goes on. Please keep your child home in those cases. If your child becomes ill at school, or has come to school ill, you must make arrangements to either pick them up or have someone pick them up. Sick children cannot be cared for in the nurse’s office for an entire day and then sent home on the bus. This jeopardizes the health of the entire school community.



Important Announcement for Families with Students with Food Allergies

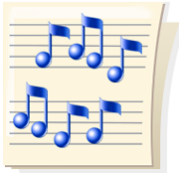
Some food at school sponsored special occasions may not be nut free. Parents/guardians may call the school to gather more information regarding foods that may be served at a specific event, or they may send an alternative food item with their child to eat.

A copy of the food allergy policy is available on the District website.

Books Make Great Holiday Gifts...

During the upcoming holiday season, remember books as gifts to children. Books last longer than most toys and games and they benefit the child. Studies show that children improve their reading ability by reading a lot. The gift of a book to a child tells that child that you value books and reading, and helps to create a lifelong appreciation of reading.





Music Notes



Winter Music Concerts

The Orchestra Winter Concert will be held on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Gurrie Gymnasium, featuring the orchestras.



This year's Winter Band concert will be held on Thursday, December 9th. The Beginning Cadet Band will have their debut performance at 6:00 pm, students should plan to meet in the GMS Small gym at 5:30 pm. The Symphonic, Concert Band will all be performing alongside the 3:00 Jazz Band, GMS Jazz Ensemble, and the GMS Percussion Ensemble at 7:00 pm. These students are to report to the GMS Small Gym or Band Room by 6:30 p.m.

Please continue to encourage your child to practice regularly and attend all rehearsals on time. The band, orchestras and choirs always look forward to performing for family and friends. This is a great way to start the holiday season.

LT Solo and Ensemble Contest

This is just a reminder that the Lyons Township High School Solo and Ensemble contest will be held on Saturday, March 12th at Lyons Township South Campus. Information and registration forms will be passed out to band and orchestra members during the first week of December. Completed registration forms will be due early in January. It is encouraged that all students participate. Beginner musicians are not allowed to participate.

We will also be holding our annual District 105 Pre-Solo and Ensemble Showcase on Thursday, March 10th. This is a requirement for all 4th-8th grade orchestra and 5th-8th grade band students. More details will be distributed after winter break.

LTJHS Jazz Festival



The GMS Jazz Ensemble will be performing in the LT Jazz Festival on February 23rd, 2021. The students will be attending an all-day clinic featuring one of the top jazz musicians in the Chicago area, as well as performing for the LT directors and students. More details to follow!

District 105 Music Program Dress Code

Information was distributed at the parent's meetings in September explaining the dress code all Fine Arts students at performances. Please be sure this form has been returned to your child's director and that you have discussed/made arrangements for your child to adhere to this policy.

Choir News!

The Gurrie Choir will have a "Carols in the Courtyard" event on Thursday, December 16th, from 3:30-4:00. All are welcome to stop by and sing with us!



Cheerleading

Congrats to the 2021-2022 Gurrie Cheerleading team. Our 2021-2022 cheerleaders are:

Vivi Koppel
Sophia Kutlich
Lili Tomich
Amaya Morales
Rachel Berry
Nadia Neskovic
Hanna Bato
Enesa Selimi
Abril Aguilar
Janiya Mallory
Amilyn Brasse
Isabel Velez
Paola Campos
Valeria Monterrosas
Kayla Chrenen



The cheerleaders are off to a great start and are excited to cheer on the Boys Basketball Team this year!

2021-2022 Boys' Basketball Begins



Tryouts for the 7th grade boys' basketball team took place during the week of October 22nd. The following boys were named to this year's team: Connor Carolan, Evan Gardner, Julian Harris, Lawan Jolly, Harrison Kittridge, Jack Lee, Liam Malay, Brendan McCabe, Ethan Peto and Nathan Woods.

Tryouts for the 8th grade boys' basketball team were also held during the week of October 22nd. Members of this year's team are: Patrick Collins, Jacob Cortez, Gavin Driscoll, John Frankhauser, Adrian Karlovic, Nathan McMullen, Diego Ojeda, Chris Ramirez, Roman Sosnovyy, Finley Tyrrell and Jake Yi.

The teams are coached by Mr. Alvarez and Mr. Pontrelli.

SPORTS CALENDAR

November

30 Boys' Basketball at Willow Springs

December

2 Boys' Basketball vs. Park Blue
6 Boys' Basketball vs McClure Red
7 Boys' Basketball at Westchester
10 Boys' Basketball vs McClure White
13 Boys' Basketball at Washington Blue
14 Boys' Basketball at Washington Red





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***Don't miss out on all the memories...order your
Gurrie Middle School Yearbook today for only
\$20.00!***

Gurrie students will soon receive a yearbook order form in their Wednesday envelope. Please return the completed form with cash or check made out to Gurrie Middle School to Mrs. McGovern in room 112. If you pay with cash or check you will receive a receipt (delivered to your advisory) to confirm your order. If you need another copy of the order form, look for the link on the Gurrie website. If you prefer you may also *ORDER ONLINE* with a credit card at jostensyearbook.com. Just click “**BUY YOUR YEARBOOK**” and then search for **Gurrie Middle School**. Yearbooks must be ordered by Tuesday, March 15, 2022 and they will be distributed during our school yearbook signing party at the end of May.

You can also upload photos to be considered for our Gurrie Yearbook! Go to www.replayit.com and click on “FIND YOUR SCHOOL TO REGISTER”, type in “Gurrie” and then enter your information to register and create an account to upload your photos. We'll select the best for use in our 2021-2022 Gurrie Yearbook.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. McGovern, Gurrie yearbook moderator, by email at jmcgovern@d105.net or call 708-482-2720, ext. 1212.

