

# Gurrie Middle School

Ed Hood, Principal

1001 South Spring Avenue  
LaGrange, IL 60525-2798  
(708) 482-2720  
[www.d105.net](http://www.d105.net)

*Gurrie Middle School: Empowering students to pursue their interests, talents and dreams.*

July, 2018

Dear Parent:

My name is Ed Hood and I am the principal of Gurrie Middle School. Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year. The staff and I are looking forward to building positive and rewarding relationships with all of our students, whether they are new to Gurrie or returning for their eighth grade year. If this is your first middle schooler or a sibling of one who has gone through middle school before, this developmental stage has many unique and dramatic characteristics. Changes that occur in children between ten and fourteen -changes that are physical, emotional, intellectual-are particularly dramatic. Our staff will work hard to address those changes and provide the appropriate support for your child's needs within our middle school.

Gurrie offers a strong core academic program in the areas of math, science, reading, language arts, and social studies. Gurrie places appropriate emphasis on these core subjects but we also want students to explore other curricular areas, including world language, and fine and practical arts. With the specialization that takes place in high school, middle school may be the last time students are exposed to some of these subjects.

Advising and counseling middle-school-age-children is an important task for the middle school. Young adolescents experience many changes. They need and want to have significant adults outside the family provide them with a sense of consistency and security. At Gurrie, we have an established Advisory program that allows all students in our school to meet regularly with a cohesive group led by two teachers who serve as advisors to the group. Advisory allows students an opportunity to form close, positive relationships with staff and other students while building trust and cooperation.

Good health and physical fitness are important for all students. Students at Gurrie participate in physical education each school day and are encouraged to take advantage of our intramural and interscholastic sports programs. Gurrie also offers a wide array of clubs and extracurricular opportunities.

Communication is very important to us and we will work hard to provide timely and appropriate communication to you regarding your child. Please visit our website for a full year calendar, upcoming events, and other important information. Our website is [www.d105.net/gurrie](http://www.d105.net/gurrie).

I ask that you become a member of our Gurrie Parent Teacher Organization and help support the many wonderful activities and programs they make possible. The results of research are very clear: When parents are actively involved in their children's education, they do better in school. WE NEED YOU! See our school website for more information about our PTO.

I feel a tremendous sense of pride being a member of the Gurrie community and I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you and your children throughout the upcoming school year. If you ever have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to call me here at school (708) 482-2720, email me at [ehood@d105.net](mailto:ehood@d105.net), or stop by the office.

Respectfully,

  
Ed Hood