



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

Upcoming at GMS

[Click here to see the complete GMS website calendar for more events and details!](#)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13 (A Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

8th-Grade Bowie Fieldtrip

9:00 AM

Locker Distribution

2:15-3:00 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

Parents Decorate Lockers (All grades welcome)

4:15-5:15 PM

7th-Grade Girls Basketball Playoff (Site TBD)

6:00 PM (A Team)

8th-Grade Girls Basketball Playoff (Site TBD)

QUICK LINKS

[School Site](#)

[GMS PTA Site](#)

[AISD COVID-19 Updates](#)

[Parent Connection](#)

[Principal's Blog](#)

[Healthy Hints](#)

7:00 PM (A Team)

Boys Soccer Playoff (Site TBD)

Time TBD

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 (B Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Beginner Band Showcase

10:05 AM - 12:20 PM

Beginner Band Showcase

2:10-3:50 PM

Crochet Club

3:55-4:55 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15 (A Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Beginner Band Showcase

8:20-10:00 AM

Beginner Band Showcase

10:05 AM - 12:20 PM

Disney Dance Practice

3:50-5:00 PM

Writing Club

3:55-5:00 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

7th-Grade Girls Basketball Playoff (Site TBD)

6:00 PM (A Team)

8th-Grade Girls Basketball Playoff (Site TBD)

7:00 PM (A Team)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 (B Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Fine Arts Assembly (Students Only)

8:45-9:20 AM 8th Grade

9:25-10:00 AM 7th Grade

10:25-11:00 AM 6th Grade

Dungeons & Dragons Club
3:55-5:00 PM

Band Sectionals
4-5:00 PM

Boys Soccer Playoff (Site TBD)
Time TBD

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 (C Day)

*Staff Holiday Cookie Exchange

**Dance Team Disney Performance Fieldtrip

Band Sectionals
7-8:00 AM

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club
7:50-8:15 AM

Feminist Majority Alliance "FMA" Club
1:55-3:00 PM

Band Sectionals
4-5:00 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 - TUESDAY JANUARY 4

Student Holiday

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5 (A Day)

Students Return

SHORT CYCLE ASSESSMENTS (SCA)

Short-Cycle Assessments (SCA) will be conducted all week for all STAAR-tested courses.

TEACHER WISH LIST

During this season of giving, show our GMS teachers and staff some love by purchasing from their Amazon wishlist! <https://www.tigerpta.org/amazon-teacher-wish-list> E-mail Stephanie and Allison with any

questions at fundraising@tigerpta.org



STAFF COOKIE EXCHANGE

The annual Teacher/Staff Cookie Exchange is Friday, December 17. Please sign up to donate 2 dozen of your favorite homemade cookies on **Thursday, Dec. 16th**. Not a baker? Store bought cookies are also welcome! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C49ABAD2DA31-gmsholiday>

Teachers, administrators, counselors, custodians and all GMS staff will be treated to two (2) dozen festive and tasty cookies packaged in a holiday box to take home and share with their families. Questions?

Contact Laura Navarro at lksn0625@hotmail.com or Tiffany Hight at Tiffany@tiffanyhight.com

LOCKER DISTRIBUTION

Locker distribution will be **Monday, Dec. 13th** during EXCEL for all grades. The building will be open from **4:15-5:15 for parents to help decorate--all grades are welcome.**

BROWN SANTA TOY DRIVE

Attention Gorzycki Community...Did you know that over 1200 families in Travis County will receive some sort of assistance from Brown Santa this holiday season? The Gorzycki Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society is hosting a new toy drive on behalf of the Travis County Sheriff's Brown Santa Program. If each Gorzycki student donates just one toy, our campus alone can make sure 1300 children receive a new toy for the holidays! *Let's help keep the sleigh bells ringing for all of the children in Travis County by donating new toys! Please consider making a donation today!* New toys can be placed in the large barrels (and boxes) in the front entrance from **Monday, December 6th thru Friday, December 17th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

GIRLS SOCCER TRYOUTS

Attention all 7th and 8th grade girls! Girls soccer try-outs will be Wednesday, January 5th, and Thursday, January 6th. Please fill out the form below to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Coach

Sindt at sean.sindt@austinisd.org

[GMS 2022 Girls Soccer Sign-Up](#)

DONATE YEARBOOKS

This holiday season, please also consider donating a yearbook for students whose families cannot otherwise afford one. We would love to get at least 25 books purchased that we can distribute to deserving students so they can enjoy the memories of this year, too! Just click on the DONATE A BOOK button below to link to the online store. Once there, enter DONATE for the first name, BOOK for the last name, choose a grade (6th,7th, or 8th), then scroll down on the next screen and click on the Donate a Book button to complete your order.

[Donate a Book](#)

GMS LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

Do you love to read and want to meet up with students who love to read? Then join our book club. We will meet 1-2 Fridays each month during EXCEL class. Our first meeting will be later this month. If you are interested in joining, please fill out this [Google Form](#), and I will contact you later with more details.

STUDENT ID BADGES

Students are expected to have an ID badge on at all times. If a student forgets his/her badge, GMS will create a "visitor" badge for the student. On the third request for a visitor badge, the student will be expected to purchase a new ID for \$5. If an ID badge is lost, a replacement badge is \$5.

LUNCHES

Students receive one free lunch tray per day. Additional items can be purchased using a student account or with cash. Students can swipe their ID badges during lunch to document the free lunch tray.

DRESSING OUT FOR PE

All Functional Fitness, P.E., and Strength & Conditioning students began dressing out last week. Students will use the locker room to change and store their belongings. A lock and locker will be provided. In addition to black athletic shorts/pants and appropriate shoes for physical activity, **students are expected to wear the grey Gorzycki P.E. shirt.** They are **sold in the [Tiger Mart](#) (\$10 each).**

PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE TALK VIA ZOOM

Monthly @ 2:00-3:00 PM

****Monthly Zoom invite will be sent to all parents**

Thursday, January 13, 2022

Thursday, February 10, 2022

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Thursday, May 12, 2022

VOLUNTEER AT TIGER TEAM

Tiger Team provides parent lunch monitors. Volunteers are needed--please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4DAFAE2EA1F49-tiger>

Below is additional information about the GMS Tiger Team.

GMS Tiger Team Parent Lunch Volunteers

Thank you so much for giving your time to help our campus be even more successful! Your partnership with us is so valuable. All of our students benefit when we work together.

There are 3 lunches:

On all Block schedule days, A Days and B Days:

A lunch = 11:00 - 11:30 = 100% 6th grade students

B lunch = 11:50 - 12:20 = Mixed 7th and 8th grade students, but majority 7th

C lunch = 12:35 - 1:05 = Mixed 7th and 8th grade students, but majority 8th

On C days, Fridays - Notice the time differences:

A lunch = 10:50 - 11:20 = 100% 6th grade students

B lunch = 11:40 - 12:10 = Mixed 7th and 8th grade students, but majority 7th

C lunch = 12:30 - 1:00 = Mixed 7th and 8th grade students, but majority 8th

When you arrive, after you check in with the front office, please find an administrator or counselor (in the cafeteria or commons) who will let you know which location needs help. See tasks below based on location:

During your scheduled lunchtime volunteering, we would appreciate your help doing the following tasks in the CAFETERIA:

- As students arrive at tables, **remind them to sign** the Seating Chart clipboards
- When tables are dismissed to the lunch line, **please collect the seating charts** by taking them off the clipboard and placing them on the cafeteria stage. FYI, sheets are color coded: A lunch = white, B lunch = blue, C lunch = green
- For the remainder of the time, please weave in and out among the tables and **remind kids to pick up any food or trash** on the floor, to **stay seated** unless they ask permission, and keep the shouting to a dull roar.
- If students raise their hands, please go see what they need. You may give them permission to use the restroom, get paper towels, get water/milk/utensils, and visit the Tiger Mart
- The administrator on duty will give directions on the microphone about when students are to throw away their garbage and when they are allowed to dismiss to class

During your scheduled lunchtime volunteering, we would appreciate your help doing the following tasks in the COMMONS:

- As students arrive at tables, **remind them to sign** the Seating Chart clipboards
- When all the students at a table have completed their Seating charts, **you can dismiss** those who want a school lunch to go get in the lunch line. **Please collect the seating charts** by taking them off the clipboard and placing them on the cafeteria stage. FYI, sheets are color coded: A lunch = white, B lunch = blue, C lunch = green
- For the remainder of the time, please weave in and out among the tables and **remind kids to pick up any food or trash** on the floor, to **stay seated** unless they ask permission, and keep the shouting to a dull roar.
- If students raise their hands, please go see what they need. You may give them permission to use the restroom, get paper towels, get water/milk/utensils, visit the Tiger Mart
- **10 min before they are dismissed**, please go table to table to **remind them to throw all trash away**
- **5 min before they are dismissed** remind them to **wait until their table is inspected** before they leave
- **At dismissal time**, you may **let each table go** after you have checked to see their table is clean

DROPPING OFF ITEMS AT SCHOOL

In order to assist students with self-responsibility and to keep classroom disruptions to a minimum, GMS does not make deliveries nor do we contact the student while they are in class to let them know that their item was dropped off. You may tell your student before school that you will be dropping off an item or you can email their teacher. The student will then have to pick it up from the front office. (delivery exceptions are contact lenses or glasses).

AFTER SCHOOL BEHAVIOR

The manager at Torchy's reached out and asked that concerns they are seeing be shared with the GMS community. It appears that many of our GMS students are going to Torchy's afterschool unchaperoned. These students are vandalizing the restaurant. The manager is hoping that by sharing the concerns with our GMS families they won't have to implement any next steps. We are seeing some of the same behavior here at GMS; if students can be identified, parents will be contacted.

When we all work together we can support our students in all locations.

PERMIT TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY

When students leave school early, written permission from a parent or guardian is required.

The student must bring the note to the front office in the morning to receive a pink slip.

The student will show the pink slip to the teacher when it is time to leave; the teacher will allow the student to go to the front office for parent pick-up. ***Without a pink slip, students are not allowed to leave class***

Parent/guardian(s) must sign the student out in the front office before leaving campus. Please bring your photo ID.

ATTENDING GMS ATHLETIC EVENTS

AISD is allowing 100% capacity at all athletic events. GMS looks forward to the upcoming season and hopes that we can continue to provide a safe environment for all students, staff, and spectators. In order for us to do this, we need your assistance and cooperation for the benefit of our student-athletes. Please look over the guidelines below and help us provide the safest setting for our indoor athletic events.

- Complete the AISD App/Green screen prior to the game for each person attending. The Green Screen will not be checked upon entry.
- Masks are required for all spectators.
- Families sit together socially distanced from others. Students may attend with a parent/guardian and sit together as a family.
- The first game spectators exit immediately at the conclusion of the game allowing space for the second game.

Thanks again for your support and assistance as we all work together to ensure a safe and positive athletic season for your students.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER QUARANTINE AND/OR BEING SYMPTOMATIC

Quarantine: (For individuals that are NOT fully vaccinated)

Day 0 is the last date of exposure.

Day 1 is the first day without exposure.

Day 5-7 Covid testing can occur.

Day 8 the individual can return to campus if a negative test result is provided, and they have had no symptoms.

At this time, for someone who is quarantined and asymptomatic, we can accept a rapid test OR a PCR test from any testing facility that provides a paper document or email copy of the results. At-home tests are not accepted.

Any quarantined individual that develops symptoms, must have a negative PCR test and/or doctor's note to return before 10 days from the start of symptoms. Additionally, they must update the school, incase further contact tracing needs to be done.

Fully vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine after a close contact exposure, but should monitor for symptoms and if symptoms develop, they should notify the school nurse or administrators, go/stay home, and follow the same steps as quarantined individuals that develop symptoms (above).

Symptomatic / Ill students or staff (Regardless of vaccination status):

Symptomatic individuals (sent home from school sick, self-reported sick, or developed symptoms during quarantine) need a negative PCR Covid test and/or a doctor's note to return before 10 days. Please reference this quick guide from Student Health Services to know when to stay home and when/how to return: [COVID 1pager 9-1-2021.pdf](#)

Testing:

Staff or students who are symptomatic may request a rapid test on campus. However, rapid tests are not available for asymptomatic individuals at this time. With 1,272 students and 123 staff members, our one nurse is not able to provide peace-of-mind testing while still meeting the safety needs of those currently on campus daily. Our priority is to have our nurse available for those staff and students with an immediate need in the building.

Please click here for [COVID-19 Testing Site Resources 8-24-21](#)

JOIN GMS PTA TODAY!



Join today: <https://www.joinpta.org/>

The number one reason to join the Gorzycki Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. Our Gorzycki PTA works to improve the well-being of all students by providing enrichment programs and funding, as well as promoting advocacy and involvement throughout the school. The PTA also supports our parents by providing timely information in our newsletter. The PTA encourages the collaboration of parents and teachers in order to promote and enhance the learning and education of our students. By becoming a member of the PTA, you'll be a part of an organization that truly does make a difference in the lives of all children at GMS.

Current Fundraisers

Choose Amazon Smile for GMS

Please consider shopping and earning cash for GMS! Select "PTA Texas Congress Gorzycki Middle School PTA"

Click [here](#) to link your purchases with Amazon Smile for GMS.

Support GMS through your Amazon App with Amazon Smile by clicking [here](#).

Box Tops for Education

Download the Box Tops for Education app and start scanning your receipts! Every little bit counts and adds up quickly for GMS. How do box tops raise money for your school, click [here](#) to read more.

GMS contact: fundraising@tigerpta.org

Show Your Stripes - Grant A Teacher's Wish



Show your GMS teachers some love by purchasing an item from their classroom wish list! Any purchase is greatly appreciated.

<https://www.tigerpta.org/amazon-teacher-wish-list>

Gorzycki Partner Program

The PTA works diligently to provide resources for our students, teachers and staff, but we can be more successful with the help of our many partners in the community! The Gorzycki Partner Program enables your business to have significant exposure and visibility in our community while providing vital funds to support our students. This opportunity is available to all businesses and families. Contact Becca Lusk & Kelley Davis at partners.gms@gmail.com with questions.

The PTA would like to thank the businesses that support our school!

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4411 South IH-35 #115
Georgetown, TX 78626

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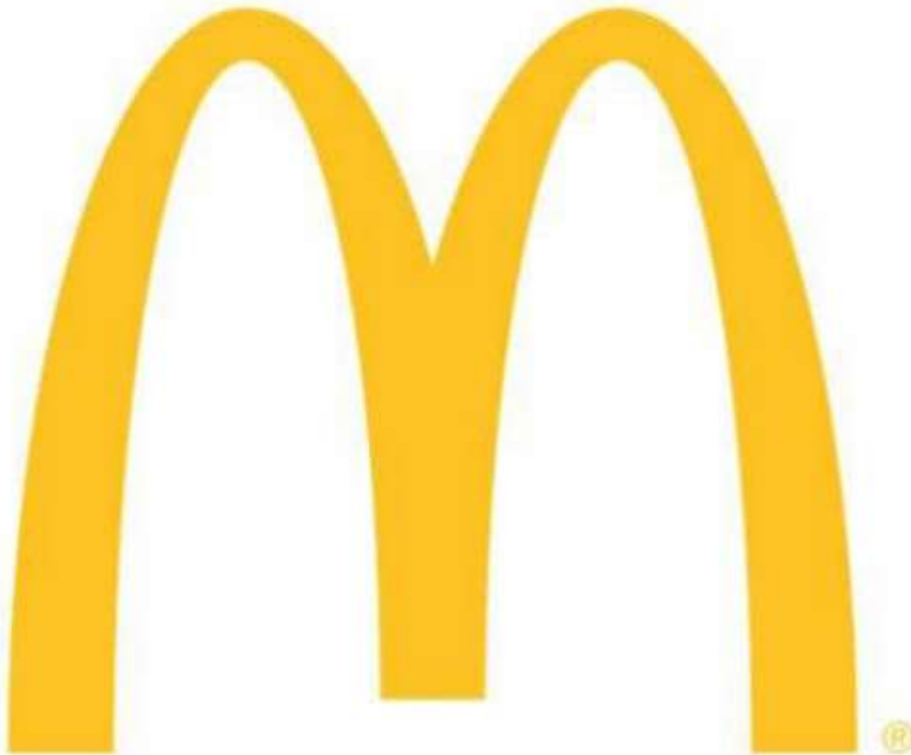


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512.892.1020
Shelley Adam
Your Local Farmers Agent
8011 BROCKELN
AUSTIN, TX 78745
SADAM@FARMERSINSURANCE.COM



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JAMES McLANE, DDS & DEIDRA McLANE, DDS



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www.austin-braces.com

Gorzycki Middle School
7412 W. Slaughter Lane, Austin TX 78749 Phone 512-841-8600 Fax 512-841-8601

