# [Gorzycki News] GMS PTA Newsletter - Week of 4/18/21



# **Upcoming at GMS**

Click here to see the complete GMS website calendar for more events and details!

# **MONDAY, APRIL 19**

Principal's Coffee 9AM via ZOOM

Public School Volunteer Week 4/18/2021- 4/23/2021

Bush's Chicken Spirit Night 5PM - 8PM

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Public School Volunteer Week 4/18/2021- 4/23/2021

6th Grade Science Club Meeting via Zoom 4PM - 5:15Pm (GMS Commons & Big Gym)

Tiger Dancer Competition Practice 4PM - 5:15PM (GMS Commons & Big Gym)

# **Quick Links**

School Site
GMS PTA Site
Parent Connection
Principal's Blog
Healthy Hints

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Administrative Professionals' Day

Public School Volunteer Week 4/18/2021 - 4/23/2021

Tigerette Competition Practice 4PM - 5:15PM (GMS Commons & Big Gym)

Band Rehearsal 4:15PM - 5:15PM (GMS Band Hall)

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 22**

Public School Volunteer Week 4/18/2021 - 4/23/2021

Tiger Drill Competition Practice 4PM - 5:15PM (GMS Commons & Big Gym)

Band Rehearsal 4:15PM - 5:15PM (GMS Band Hall)

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Public School Volunteer Week 4/18/2021 - 4/23/2021

# **MONDAY, APRIL 19**

## **TUESDAY, APRIL 20**

STAAR TEST: 7th GRADE WRITING

## **GRANT A WISH TO GMS TEACHERS AND STAFF**



In this ever-changing learning environment, we want to make sure our GMS parents and community have a way to support our incredible teachers and staff. As part of our SHOW YOUR STRIPES fundraising, GMS teachers and staff have submitted updated Amazon Wish Lists. Please consider Granting a Wish today! <a href="https://www.tigerpta.org/amazon-teacher-wish-list">https://www.tigerpta.org/amazon-teacher-wish-list</a>

While you are shopping on Amazon to Grant a Wish, or wishes, select "PTA Texas Congress Gorzycki Middle School PTA" to help earn money for GMS!

Click here to link your purchases with Amazon Smile for GMS.

Support GMS through your Amazon App with Amazon Smile by clicking here.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Allison Gerold and Stephanie Wiley

at Fundraising@Tigerpta.org

JOIN OUR AMAZING TEAM/ FUTURES FOR THE YOUTH

# FUTURES FOR THE YOUTH



Send your questions to kgdohn@me.com

Directors has open positions available.



Email Kelly at kgdohn @me.com to join the team

Thank you for your on-going support and participation in your child's education. We continue to recognize how resilient students have been in the face of the many challenges we've all encountered this year. Students have seized on opportunities to enhance their use of technology, grow academically, and continue learning. One of the many ways we support students in their academic growth is through standardized testing, including the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR). The STAAR helps us all understand how much a student knows and has mastered in core subject areas like English, math, science, and social studies at the elementary and middle school levels, and English I, English II, Algebra I, biology, and U.S history at the high school level.

These tests are simply one measure of student knowledge, and the results can provide important information to families, teachers, administrators, and the students themselves. This is especially important as we know that students have been affected in different ways due to the changes we've had to make in providing instruction during the pandemic.

It's also important to remember that Texas requires high school students to pass all necessary End of Course, or EOC, assessments to graduate. While Austin ISD has offered remote learning to families for the entire school year, Texas Education Agency guidelines require us to administer the STAAR on-site. It is our goal for every student who is able to come to campus to do so. All safety measures will be in place for the administration of the test including masks, social distancing where feasible, and easily available handwashing and sanitizing stations.

Our campus has scheduled STAAR tests for your student for the dates and times shown below:

#### April STAAR

7th grade writing -Tuesday, April 27th

#### May STAAR

8th Science - Tuesday, May 11th

8th Social Studies -Wednesday, May 12th

Algebra EOC\*, 7th Adv Math, 8th Math -Tuesday, May 18

6th, 7th, 8th Reading -Wednesday, May 19th

6th, 7th Math -Thursday, May 20th

#### \*Algebra EOC is a required test for high school graduation.

More information about scheduled dates and times for your child will be provided as we get closer to the test administration dates. Please complete this survey to let us know if your student will be coming to the school for in-person testing. Dates and times for each student will be provided as we get closer to the test administration dates. https://forms.gle/BBQSL5yWn6kL45XM8

Please remember that students who come on to campus must meet the Texas Health and Human Services immunization requirements for school. Please contact our school nurses, Jessica Bram or Sarah Meeneghan at 512-841-8620 if you have any questions regarding immunizations.

For additional questions regarding STAAR administration, please contact Whitney Black at 512-841-8603.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Respectfully, Cathryn Mitchell

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEED YOUR HELP CONVINCING THE GOVERNOR

Thank you to all the parents who signed the Austin Council of PTAs letter last week in support of the \$18B in federal stimulus money for education. Austin ISD will get around \$221M of that money. The legislators have heard from their constituents and they seem to be on board with giving almost all the federal stimulus money directly to schools. Governor Greg Abbott has not stated where he stands. Please follow this link and send a pre-populated email to him saying that money needs to go directly to schools. If you have any questions, you can contact Debby Clarke, <a href="mailto:debbyc@austin.rr.com">debbyc@austin.rr.com</a>.

#### IT'S TIME TO UPLOAD YOUR YEARBOOK PORTRAIT

If your student <u>DID NOT</u> have their picture taken by Lifetouch on picture day, you will receive an email (sent on 4/12) from <u>no-reply@balfour.com</u> with instructions and a unique link to upload your student's picture (if you have siblings at GMS, you will receive unique links for each child). Please check your spam folder if you do not see the email in your inbox. Questions? Please email the yearbook adviser at andria.sindt@austinisd.org.

# GMS PARENTS, THE YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR HELP! YEARBOOK PICTURES ARE NEEDED!

Parents - we need your help! I know you have been asked to wear many extra hats this year and we have one more to add - YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHER! With social distancing rules and virtual learning in place, our yearbook photographers can't be everywhere and we need your help. But, don't worry.... we have an APP for that!

We are asking for teachers, parents, and students to install and use Balfour's Image Share app this year to submit photos for the yearbook. There is even a place to enter in WHO is the photo and WHAT they are doing so we know where to use the photo in the yearbook. You can upload photos of virtual learning or any other school events including fine arts and athletics. We want our yearbook to capture the year and we can't do it without you.

Once you download and install the Image Share App, you will enter your email address. Then, you will receive an email from Balfour allowing you to create a username and password. Once you log in, you are ready to submit photos to the yearbook staff. The app will allow you to upload 5 images at a time. Please do NOT upload photos that have been received through a text message or have been downloaded from social media. Those images will not be of high enough quality to use in the yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact the yearbook adviser, Andria Sindt, at <a href="mailto:andria.sindt@austinisd.org">andria.sindt@austinisd.org</a>. **NOTE: This** 

is for Yearbook General Picture Upload (not headshots at this time)

#### Step-by-Step to get app setup:

- 1. Download Balfour ImageShare App (see picture)
- 2. Enter name, email, and GMS project number (123225)
- Balfour will email you a confirmation code.
- 4. Once you receive the code, you can set up your username and passcode and begin uploading photos.

#### GMS YEARBOOK ON SALE NOW!

Even though so many things have been canceled this year, the YEARBOOK is HAPPENING! Our GMS Yearbook can be purchased online using the link: <a href="https://www.balfour.com/texas/austin/gorzycki-middle-school/yearbook-packages">https://www.balfour.com/texas/austin/gorzycki-middle-school/yearbook-packages</a>

#### TIGER MART



Click on the link to shop and thank you for your continued support of Tiger Mart! Roar! <a href="https://tigerpta.square.site/">https://tigerpta.square.site/</a>

JOIN GMS PTA TODAY!



You belong in PTA! ...and so do your relatives, neighbors, and friends... Spread the word! The number one reason to join the Gorzycki Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help your school. This year's unique circumstances do not change the healthy relationship between our campus administration and the Gorzycki PTA Board and membership. Although programming and events may look different, we will continue to partner with Gorzycki to bring new resources that benefit all students.

As Gorzycki PTA gears up to support our teachers, staff, and students for 2020-2021, you can join in the effort by becoming a member of the PTA today. The PTA also supports our parents by providing timely information in our newsletter. Sign up to start receiving the PTA Bulletin. 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 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. Please click the link to join today: https://www.joinpta.org/

# 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 <a href="here">here</a> to read more. GMS contact: <a href="mailto:fundraising@tigerpta.org">fundraising@tigerpta.org</a>

#### 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 <a href="mailto:partners.gms@gmail.com">partners.gms@gmail.com</a> with questions.

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



















# Modern Family Dentistry of Oak Hill

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic Dentistry 512-301-9002

www.austinmoderndentist.com Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Sharfae, DDS

#### **MALAYAN PARTNERS**













# SIBERIAN PARTNERS





# **TIGER PARTNERS**



