



## GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Upcoming at GMS

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

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Staff Development/Student Holiday

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

All assignments are due for six weeks TODAY!

Health Screenings (spinal & diabetes)  
(GMS Locker Room)

Tigerette Competition Practice  
4PM - 5:30PM (GMS Commons)

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Tiger Drill Competition Practice  
4PM - 5:30PM (GMS Commons)

7th Grade B Team Basketball  
6PM - 7PM (GMS)

### Quick Links

[School Site](#)  
[GMS PTA Site](#)  
[Parent Connection](#)  
[Principal's Blog](#)  
[Healthy Hints](#)

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

Tiger Dancer Competition Practice  
4PM - 5:30PM (GMS Commons)

7th Grade A Team Basketball  
6PM - 7PM (GMS)

8th Grade A Team Basketball  
7PM - 8PM (GMS)

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

Today is a "C" Day

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

GMS Soccer  
9AM - 10AM (GMS)

GMS Soccer  
10:30PM - 11:30PM (GMS)

### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Tigerette Competition Practice  
4PM - 5:30PM (GMS Commons)

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

Tigerette Competition Practice  
4PM - 5:30PM (GMS Commons)

### **"C" DAY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH**

GMS Community,

We know some of you have expressed confusion over next Friday's (2/19) "C Day." So, we hope this message gives you some clarity and provides you with information that you may find helpful.

The original intent (to give you some background and context) of the "C Day" was to ensure that teachers had the appropriate balance between their A and B day classes. Without it, they would have ended up 2 lessons ahead with one group of students and 2 lessons behind with another which we felt might make an already-confusing-year even more confusing. But then TEA/AISD decided to bestow 4 asynchronous days on us *after* we had already adopted the A/B calendar. This, naturally, led to further confusion.

Ultimately, the goal for February 19 is to make everyone's lives easier. It is the final day of the six-weeks and we envision it being one last opportunity for students to catch up before grades are due. Any assignments or tests from the final week of the six-weeks can be completed and tutoring sessions with teachers may be scheduled upon request.

**Here are the basic expectations for students:**

- 1.) Students will need to complete one asynchronous assignment in BLEND for each of their 8 classes. For some classes, this may be as simple as a one-question "Have you turned in all of your assignments?" quiz. For others, it may require a little more thought and effort. This will serve as the student's attendance for the day. Therefore, teachers will not be required to hold a Zoom for attendance purposes.
- 2.) For students on-campus, they will go to their First Period teacher's classroom at the beginning of the day where they will remain for the entire day (excluding lunch).
- 3.) Students, both on-campus and off, will have access to their teachers the entire day for assistance. Each teacher will choose what this looks like. Some may have an open Zoom link for the entire day where students can come and go as they please. Others may schedule individual times to work with specific students. Please check with your specific teachers for more information.

**Note:** this begins what will essentially be 3 straight weeks of asynchronous Fridays. February 26 and March 5 are two of the TEA/AISD asynchronous remote days. And they will function similar to our previous one on January 29.

**NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE SURE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE FULLY FUNDED**

Texas Education Agency is waiting to hear from the governor, lieutenant governor, House speaker, and legislators on the Senate Education and House Public Education committees about whether public schools should be funded using pre-pandemic attendance. This helps our schools cover costs related to educating students during a pandemic. Austin Council of PTAs has a form letter you can send, but it would be great if you add a personal story about how Gorzycki has gone above and beyond to keep our kids engaged. To find the letter, go [here](#) to the subject Hold Harmless, House Committee Assignments. Emails for most of the recipients are in the post, but the Senate Education Committee can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, contact Debby Clarke, [debbyc@austin.rr.com](mailto:debbyc@austin.rr.com).

**2020-2021 AISD FAMILY SURVEY IS AVAILABLE TO SUBMIT**

The 2020-2021 AISD [Family Survey](#) can be submitted by parents and guardians until March 5, 2021. Participation in these surveys is voluntary and all answers are confidential. If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Research & Evaluation at [survey@austinisd.org](mailto:survey@austinisd.org).

**GMS PARENTS, THE YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

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 high enough quality to use in the yearbook. If you have any questions, please contact the yearbook adviser, Andria Sindt, at [andria.sindt@austinisd.org](mailto:andria.sindt@austinisd.org). **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)
3. Balfour will email you a confirmation code.
4. Once you receive code, you can setup your username and passcode and begin uploading photos.

#### **GMS PICTURE DAY!**

Picture Day is coming! GMS is officially scheduled for Monday, March 1.

**Here is what you need to know:** -- LifeTouch will take the portraits at GMS (most likely in the gym) -- Opportunities will be provided for BOTH on-campus and virtual students to have their pictures taken -- There will only be ONE picture day. There will NOT be a make-up day. -- All picture packages will be ordered online to minimize contact -- Mask will be required at all times until the photographer says it is okay to remove it for the photo

**More information will be sent out closer to the picture date, including the following:** -- How to make a picture day appointment if your child is a remote learner -- Online ordering information -- What to do if you cannot (or don't want to) get your child's photo taken at school -- Safety protocols As we all know, COVID has thrown wrenches into the best-laid plans this year. Once we are closer to the picture date and know more specifically what options are open to us, more details will be provided. Please understand that until then, we will not be able to answer specific questions about appointment times or what to do if your child cannot (for any reason) get their picture taken on March 1.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate uncharted waters. If you have any questions, please contact the front office. Andria Sindt, M.A., M.Ed

Journalism, Media Production, Yearbook

PAL Facilitator

Gorzycki Middle School

<http://tinyurl.com/Ms-Sindt-Website>

## **GMS YEARBOOK ON SALE NOW!**

Even though so many things have been canceled this year, the YEARBOOK is HAPPENING! Order your Gorzycki Middle School Yearbook for \$35 through January 31st. The price will go up on February 1st.

Yearbooks can be purchased online using the link: <https://www.balfour.com/texas/austin/gorzycki-middle-school/yearbook-packages>

## **TIGER MART**



# Gorzycki Tiger Mart



## Show Your Gorzycki Tiger Spirit



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Support Your Athletes  
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Small - 2XL**

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

**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 [here](#) to read more.

GMS contact: [fundraising@tigerpta.org](mailto:fundraising@tigerpta.org)

## 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](mailto:partners.gms@gmail.com) with questions.

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

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BENGAL PARTNERS







**Modern Family  
Dentistry of Oak Hill**

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic  
Dentistry  
**512-301-9002**  
[www.austinmoderndentist.com](http://www.austinmoderndentist.com)  
Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Shartae, DDS

**MALAYAN PARTNERS**

**Amy Elizondo**  
Mortgage Banker | NMLS # 1128166  
**(512) 585-9198**  
[aelizondo@mutualmortgage.com](mailto:aelizondo@mutualmortgage.com)  
4411 South IH-35 #115  
Georgetown, TX 78626

**Mutual of Omaha**  
MORTGAGE

Equal Housing Lender  
Mutual of Omaha Mortgage, NMLS ID 100386, 100 Camino Del Rio N 100, San Diego, CA 92108. Subject to Credit Approval. [www.mutual.com/loanorig](http://www.mutual.com/loanorig)





# JULIE G HOMES

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AUSTIN  
PORTFOLIO  
REAL ESTATE

## SIBERIAN PARTNERS



McLANE FAMILY DENTAL

## TIGER PARTNERS



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