



## GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Upcoming at GMS

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

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 31 (A Day)**

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Current 6th & 7th Grade Choice Sheet Advising

2:05-3:50 PM

[School Site](#)

[GMS PTA Site](#)

[AISD COVID-19  
Updates](#)

[Parent Connection](#)

[Principal's Blog](#)

Debate Club  
3:50-4:50 PM

[Healthy Hints](#)

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 (B Day)**

Band Sectionals  
7-8:00 AM

UIL Chess Puzzle Solving Practice  
3:50-4:50 PM

Theatre TAP '22 - '23 Auditions  
4-6:00 PM

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 (A Day)**

Band Sectionals  
7-8:00 AM

Current 6th & 7th Grade Choice Sheet Advising  
2:50-3:50 PM

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3 (B Day)**

Band Sectionals  
7-8:00 AM

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

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

7th-Grade Boys Basketball Game @ Bailey MS

6:00 PM (B Team)

7:00 PM (A Team)

8th-Grade Boys Basketball Game @ Gorzycki MS

6:00 PM (B Team)

7:00 PM (A Team)

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4 (A Day)**

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

Drama Club

4-5:00 PM

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

TMEA Region 18 Choir Clinic & Concert

7:15-3:45 PM

Orchestra Instrument Selection Day

8-1:00 PM

Band Instrumental Selection Day

9-3:00 PM

### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7 (A Day)**

8th Grade Virtual Guest Speaker: J.E. Wolfson, Ph.D.,

Director of Education

ELAR Classrooms, ZOOM during ELAR Periods

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 (B Day)**

8th Grade Virtual Guest Speaker: J.E. Wolfson, Ph.D.,  
Director of Education  
ELAR Classrooms, ZOOM during ELAR Periods

Band Sectionals  
7-8:00 AM

Band Sectionals  
4-5:00 PM

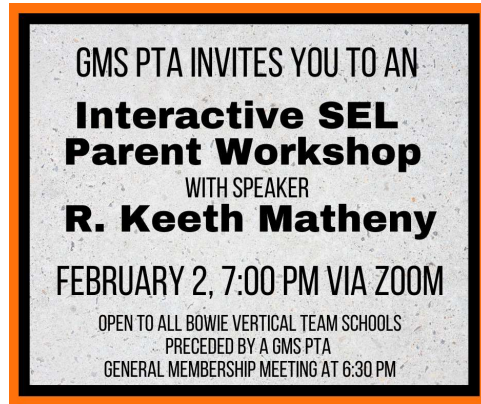
Theatre: Matilda Ensemble Rehearsals  
4-5:00 PM

**SAVE THE DATE: PTA INTERACTIVE SEL PARENT WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 2ND**

GMS PTA invites you to join us for a General Membership Meeting on February 2 at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Following the GMM, at 7 PM, GMS PTA invites parents from all Bowie Vertical Team schools to participate in an interactive SEL workshop given by Mr. R. Keeth Matheny, a national award-winning teacher, author and speaker, and also a Bowie parent.

We'll be exploring such questions as "What is going on with the teenage brain?", "How can we help support students' emotional health during COVID?," and "What does effective SEL look like in schools and in communities?"

Zoom Login Meeting ID: 894 4498 8631      Passcode: 929901



### SAVE THE DATE: CHOICE SHEET NIGHT FOR ALL GMS STUDENTS FEBRUARY 7TH

Feb 7 Choice Sheet Night for all GMS students. In order to social distance, GMS is asking parents to come at these times determined by the last name.

It is a drop-in type of event.

**5:00-5:30 A-I**

**5:45 - 6:15 J-Q**

**6:30 - 7:00 R - Z**

### AUSTIN ISD BUDGET TALKS

Join us to learn about priorities and plans for staffing, programs, and departments and how you can get involved in the budgeting process on your campus.

- Thursday, February 3, 2022, 6:00-7:00 p.m. (Families and Community Members)
  - Register here: <https://bit.ly/AISDBudget-Community1>
- Saturday, February 5, 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Families and Community Members)
  - Register here: <https://bit.ly/AISDBudget-Community2>

### REFLECTIONS PROGRAM NEWS!

FOUR Reflections entries from GMS were selected to advance to the state-level competition!

Nearly 60,000 students across the state participate in this program annually and less than 3% of those advance to Texas PTA.

Final results will be announced on March 15. Congratulations to these talented students!

**Willa Hibbs**, Literature, How Many Say, How Many Do

**Felix Davidson**, Photography, Shine Your Love Light

**Ty Ladd**, Visual Arts, I Will Change the World

**Felix Davidson**, Music, Continual Journey

### GMS DANCE, CHEERLEADING/MASCOT TRYOUTS

6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders wanting to try out for dance need to request a permission slip from Mrs. Hanson.

7<sup>th</sup> graders wanting to try out for cheerleading and/or mascot need to request a permission slip from Mrs. Hanson.

### GMS TENNIS TRYOUTS

Tennis Tryouts will be on March 7- 9 for all 7/8 boys & girls. Please bring your own tennis racket, tennis balls will be provided. Practice will start after school until 5:15 pm. Please try to attend all days however, it is not mandatory.

Students need to turn in a current [physical](#) to Coach Gaines (the front office cannot accept physicals), emergency card (attached below), and complete the [online forms](#) in order to participate. Please contact Coach Jason Gaines at [jason.gaines@austinisd.org](mailto:jason.gaines@austinisd.org) if you have any questions.

### DONATE YEARBOOKS

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. If you are interested in joining, please fill out this [Google Form](#), and I will contact you later with more details.

### PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE TALK VIA ZOOM

**Monthly @ 2:00-3:00 PM**

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

Thursday, February 10, 2022

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Thursday, May 12, 2022

### VOLUNTEER AT TIGER TEAM NEEDED

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).

### PERMIT TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY

When students leave school early, written permission from a parent or guardian is required. Please follow these steps:

1. The student must bring the note to the front office in the morning to receive a pink slip.
2. 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\*\***
3. Parent/guardian(s) must sign the student out in the front office before leaving campus. Please bring your photo ID.

### UPDATED AISD ATHLETICS PROTOCOL UPDATE IN RESPONSE TO STAGE 5 COVID

There are new updates to how we manage our athletic programs, including mask requirements and limits on spectators at indoor athletic events, in response to Austin-Travis County moving into Stage 5 of the COVID-19 risk-based guidelines as of January 11, 2022.

**Mask requirements:** All students, staff, and spectators will be required to wear masks at indoor athletic events unless they're participating in vigorous activity.

- **Student-athletes will be masked** at all times except when they're playing the sport. That means masks are required in the locker room, in meetings, or on the sidelines.
- **The masking requirement** applies to all visiting teams and spectators.

**Capacity limits:** Two people per player will be allowed into all indoor activities and are required to wear masks.

**Health screenings:** Student-athletes will be verbally screened daily to confirm everyone at the practice or game feels 100%.

- **Student-athletes** are expected to self-screen and self-report if they're experiencing any symptoms, including congestion, runny nose, sneezing, or cough.
- **Anyone who has symptoms** should not be attending any type of school activity.

We will continue reviewing our protocols to be sure we're maintaining a safe environment for our student-athletes, staff, and community.

### 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](mailto: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](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**



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### SIBERIAN PARTNERS



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McLANE FAMILY DENTAL

JAMES MCLANE, D.D.S. & DEIDRA MCLANE, D.D.S.



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