



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

Upcoming at GMS

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

MONDAY, APRIL 26

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

STAAR TEST: 7TH Grade WRITING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

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

PTA General Member Meeting
7PM - 8PM (<https://austinsd-org.zoom.us/j/98520706339?pwd=REZLRndrYWlhaVJSQ1FMTGZDejRxdz09>)

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Quick Links

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

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

MONDAY, MAY 3

Teacher & Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week
5/3/2021 - 5/7/2021

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Teacher & Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week
5/3/2021 - 5/7/2021

GMS 6TH GRADE STUDENT RECEIVING TEXAS PTA REFLECTIONS AWARD

It's with pleasure to announce one of our GMS students, Felix Davidson - 6th grade, is receiving an award of Excellence from Texas PTA for his Reflections entry in photography entitled "Dive Deep Down Inside of Me."

Felix is the only GMS student to receive an award from Texas PTA, and 1 of only 20 students in the "Middle Junior" category to receive an Excellence award. Congratulations Felix!

GMS PTA BOARD FOR 2021 - 2022



POSITION	VOLUNTEER
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Tiger Mart	Amanda Hunter Ashley Vaccarino
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Popcorn Fridays	Rena Alderson
PTA Newsgroup	Venessa Kimball Catharine Corder
Reflections	Leslie Dippell
Webmaster	Marci Struzinski
Service Day	Rena Alderson Kelly Dohn



UPDATE ON THE HUMAN SEXUALITY AND RESPONSIBILITY UNIT

Due to the unique demands placed on schools and teachers during the COVID-19 crisis for students attending both in-person and remotely, the Human Sexuality and Responsibility (HSR) unit will not be taught to students enrolled in grades K-8th grade during the spring semester of the 2020-21 school year. Information will also be published on the AISD Newsletter and HSR website. Parents will have access to resources on topics connected to the [website](#).

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

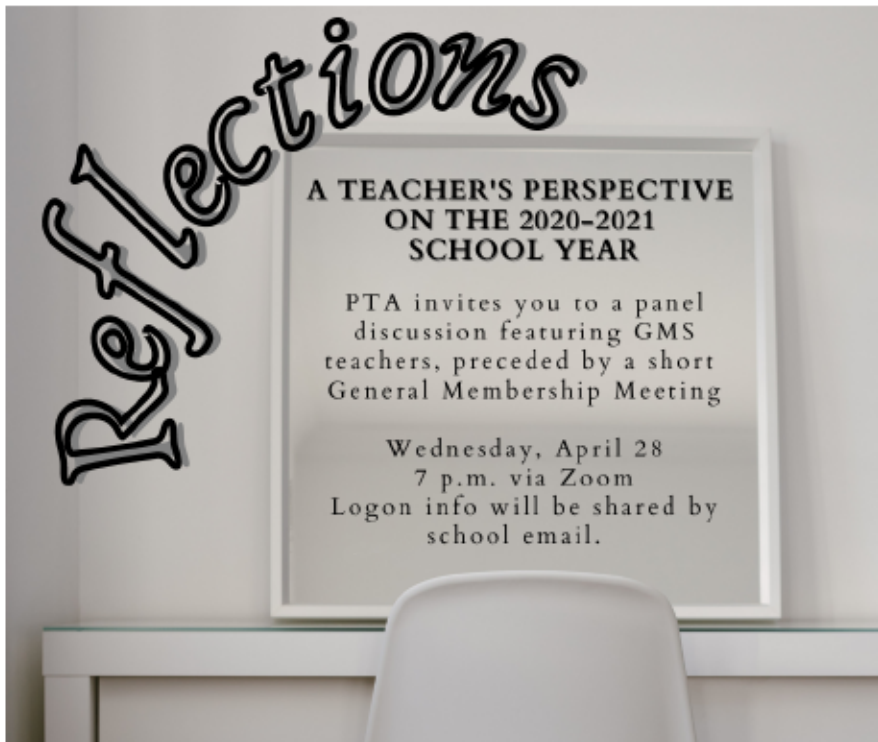
While you are shopping on Amazon to Grant a Wish, or wishes, select "PTA Texas Congress Gorzycki Middle School PTA" to help earn money for GMS!

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

PTA PRESENTS "REFLECTIONS ON THE 2020 - 2021 YEAR: A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE"



Join us on Wednesday, April 28th at 7 PM for the last PTA General Membership Meeting of the year. The brief meeting will be followed by a panel discussion of GMS teachers sharing their reflections on the 2020-21 school year, both challenges as well as silver linings. Join us to hear their perspective as well as close out the year with the GMS PTA.

Topic: PTA General Member Meeting

Time: Apr 28, 2021, 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/98520706339?pwd=REZLRndrYWwhaVJSQ1FMTGZDejRxdz09>

Meeting ID: 985 2070 6339

Passcode: GMM21

JOIN OUR AMAZING TEAM/ FUTURES FOR THE YOUTH

FUTURES FOR THE YOUTH

**JOIN OUR
AMAZING
TEAM!**

We're looking for passionate parents interested in working with us! The GMS PTA 2021-2022 Board of Directors has open positions available.



**GORZYCKI'S
PTA**

Send your questions to
kgdohn@me.com

Join Us!

ALONE
WE CAN DO SO
LITTLE;
TOGETHER
WE CAN DO SO
MUCH

HELEN KELLER

2021-2022
**GORZYCKI'S
PTA**

Interested in volunteering?
Email - kgdohn@me.com

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

UPDATED STAAR INFORMATION FOR GMS

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

Principal
Gorzycki Middle School

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, debbyc@austin.rr.com.

IT'S TIME TO UPLOAD YOUR YEARBOOK PORTRAIT

If your student **DID NOT** have their picture taken by Lifetouch on picture day, you will receive an email (sent on 4/12) from no-reply@balfour.com 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 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 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: <https://www.balfour.com/texas/austin/gorzycki-middle-school/yearbook-packages>

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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

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!

BENGAL PARTNERS





**Modern Family
Dentistry of Oak Hill**

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic
Dentistry
512-301-9002
www.austinmoderndentist.com
Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Shartae, DDS

MALAYAN PARTNERS

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

Mutual of Omaha
MORTGAGE

Equal Housing Lender
Mutual of Omaha Mortgage, NMLS #100384, 300 Camino del Rio N, Suite 1000, San Diego, CA 92108. Subject to Credit Approval. www.mutualofomahamortgage.com



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