



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

Upcoming at GMS

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (A Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

6th/7th Grader Choice Sheet (Student Self Serve)

2:05-3:50 PM

QUICK LINKS

[School Site](#)

[GMS PTA Site](#)

[AISD COVID-19
Updates](#)

[Parent Connection](#)

[Principal's Blog](#)

[Healthy Hints](#)

Dance Team Tryout Clinic
3:50-7:00 PM

Debate Club
3:50-4:50 PM

CAC Meeting via Zoom
4-5:00 PM

Band Sectionals
4-5:00 PM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 (B Day)

Band Sectionals
7-8:00 AM

Crochet Club
3:50-4:50 PM

Dance Team Tryout Clinic
3:50-7:00 PM

Band Sectionals
4-5:00 PM

Theatre: Matilda Ensemble Rehearsals
4-5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16 (A Day)

Band Sectionals
7-8:00 AM

6th/7th Grader Choice Sheet (Student Self Serve)
2:05-3:50 PM

Dance Team Tryouts
3:50-7:00 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 (B Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Dungeons & Dragons Club

3:55-5:00 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

Orchestra Pre-UIL Concert

7-8:15 pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18 (A Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club

7:50-8:15 AM

Orchestra Field Trip

9:00 AM -3:30 PM

Feminist Majority Alliance "FMA" Club

1:55-3:00 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21 (A Day)

* Student Holiday/Staff Development

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 (B Day)

Band Sectionals

7-8:00 AM

UIL Chess Puzzle Solving Practice

3:50-4:50 PM

Band Sectionals

4-5:00 PM

Theatre: Musical Rehearsal

4-6:00 PM

Theatre: Matilda Ensemble Rehearsals

4-5:00 PM

SCHOOL FINANCE 101 - CAC MEETING

**AT THE GMS CAC MEETING ON FEB. 14TH,
GORZYCKI PARENT DEBBY CLARKE WILL SPEAK
ABOUT SCHOOL FINANCE. PLEASE JOIN US!**

Public School Finance 101: How Texas Uses Property Taxes to Fund Public Schools Families, especially in Austin where property taxes have skyrocketed, are frustrated that school districts such as Austin ISD are running deficits when they should be getting more money from the state. Debby Clarke, Gorzycki parent and education advocate at the Capitol since 2011, will break down how the state disperses property taxes to fund public schools.

**Gorzycki Middle School is
inviting you to a scheduled Zoom
meeting.**

**Topic: CAC Meeting
Time: February 14th@4pm**

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/92177201480?](https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/92177201480?pwd=a3dqN1orcFhINExwQkhwL1d3VWM3QT09)
[pwd=a3dqN1orcFhINExwQkhwL1d3VWM3QT09](https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/92177201480?pwd=a3dqN1orcFhINExwQkhwL1d3VWM3QT09)

**Meeting ID: 921 7720 1480
Passcode: CAC21**



TIGER DRIVE - THANK YOU!

Tiger Drive Update: GMS teachers, staff and PTA would like to thank everyone that donated to the 2021 Tiger Drive! While we fell short of our ambitious \$20k fundraising goal, we did bring in \$14,160! Thanks to your generosity, all of the requested projects were funded. If you missed out on donating to Tiger Drive, please consider Granting a Teachers Wish from our teacher and staff Amazon Wish List. <https://www.tigerpta.org/amazon-teacher-wish-list>



GIRLS TRACK TRYOUTS

Track tryouts for 7th and 8th grade girls will take place after school on **March 8th, 9th, and 10th** from 4-5:30. Girls who are not in Spring Athletics need to sign up for tryouts in the coaches' office. See Coach Moreno for 7th grade and Coach Kehoe for 8th. In order to try out, a current [physical](#) and emergency card (attached) must be handed in directly to the grade-level coach. Completion of online forms through [Rank One](#) is required as well.

If there are any questions, please contact Coach Moreno (garrett.moreno@austinisd.org) or Coach Kehoe (kim.kehoe@austinisd.org) for more information.

BOYS TRACK TRYOUTS

Track tryouts for 7th and 8th grade boys will take place before school on **March 7th, 8th, and 9th** from 6:30-8:00. Boys who are not in Spring Athletics need to sign up for tryouts in the coaches' office. See Coach Neary or Coach Fourmy to sign-up. In order to try out, a current [physical](#) and emergency card (attached) must be handed in directly to the grade-level coach. Completion of online forms through [Rank One](#) is required as well. If there are any questions, please contact Coach Neary (eamonn.neary@austinisd.org) for more information.

GIRLS & BOYS TENNIS TRYOUTS

Tennis Tryouts will be on **March 7th, 8th, and 9th** 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 if you have any questions.

GMS CAP 10 K RACE TEAM

Are you interested in distance running? Do you want to meet new friends? If so, join the Gorzycki capital 10,000 race team! This event is open to any 6, 7, or 8th grade girl or boy. No experience required!

Capital 10k training dates:

- Friday, March 11th 6:45-8:00
- Friday, March 25th 6:45-8:00
- Friday, April 1st 6:45-8:00
- Friday, April 8th 6:45-8:00

Training events are voluntary, but are encouraged to build endurance. If attending training sessions, change into running gear after school and meet on the track by 4:00.

The capital 10k race is on **Sunday, April 10th**. If interested, go to cap10k.com and register. When registering, be sure to click "school team member" and then select Gorzycki Middle School.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Coach Sindt: sean.sindt@austinisd.org

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS) APPLICATIONS

Eligible candidates for induction to the 2022-23 Gorzycki Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society will be posted on the [GMSTIGERS.ORG website](http://GMSTIGERS.ORG) by the end of the day, Wednesday, February 9th.

All eligible candidates will be notified via school email. If your child is interested in applying, they need to pick up an application and submit it by the deadline.

Applications can be picked up in the GMS library or Room 802. Completed applications & teacher letters of request must be submitted in hard copy into the box outside of Room 802.

All completed **applications are due March 11 by 4PM** in the box outside of Room 802

Please note:

- ~ Only eligible candidates may apply.
- ~ Eligible candidates are those on the eligibility list.
- ~ Only current 7th grade students are considered for eligibility.

- ~ If accepted, 7th-grade students will serve during their 8th-grade year.
- ~ Membership into the Gorzycki Chapter of the NJHS DOES NOT transfer to Bowie HS or any other AISD High School.

BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL - INCOMING 9th GRADERS

[Incoming 9th Grade BHS Information](#)



2022 MS to HS SCHEDULING DATES

December 13th	Dawg Show Campus Preview Day Feeder middle schools will visit Bowie
January 24th	Incoming 9th Grade Showcase at Bowie Course & Club Fair 5:30PM-7:30PM
January 26th & 27th	Classroom Advising at Bailey MS
January 28th	Classroom Advising at Covington MS
January 31st & February 1st	Classroom Advising at Small MS
February 2nd & 3rd	Classroom Advising at Gorzycki MS
February 4th	Classroom Advising at Kealing MS Classroom Advising at Lively MS
February 7th	Student & Parent Advising Bailey, Covington, Kealing, Lively, and Small MS at Bowie 5:30PM-7:30PM
February 8th	Student & Parent Advising at Gorzycki MS at Bowie 5:30PM-7:30PM
February 9th	All MS Choice Sheets Due
February 14th	Round One of Course Verifications Sent to Parents via Email
March 14th	Round Two of Course Verifications Sent to Parents via Email
May TBD	Round Three of Course Verifications Sent to Parents via Email
May 27th	"Change of Mind" Deadline
Summer 2022	Advanced Course Summer Assignment Workshops
August TBD	Camp Bowie Express for Incoming 9th Graders

HIGHSCHOOL TRANSITION INFO

For information about transitioning to high school within Austin ISD (including but not exclusive to Bowie

High School): [Heading to High School](#)

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

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, 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, in case 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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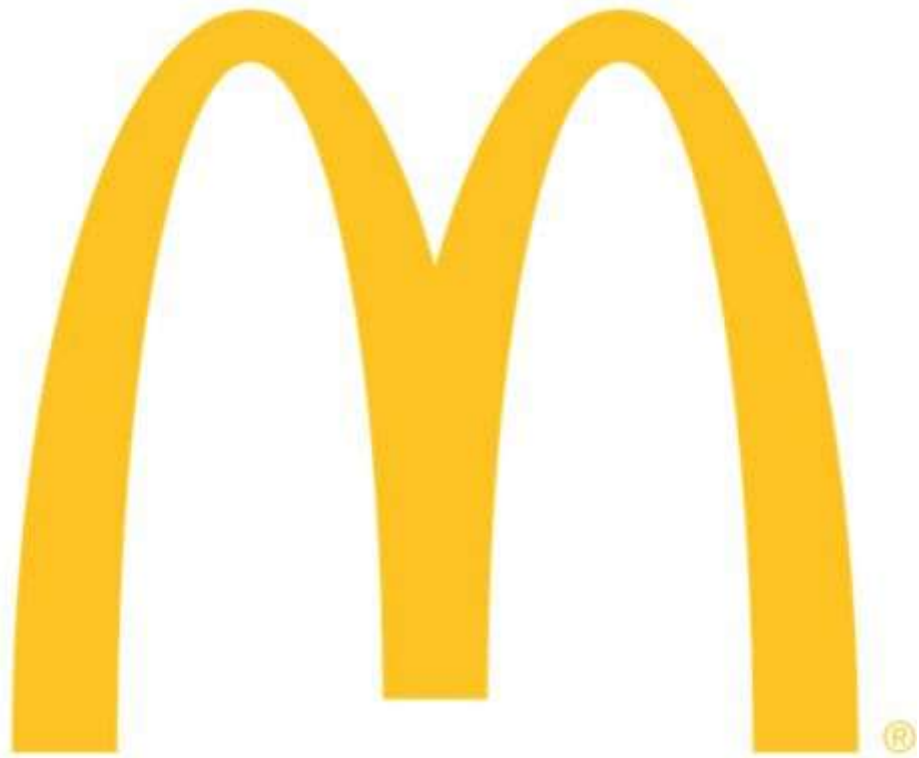
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8011 BRODIE LN
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SADAM@FARMERSAGENT.COM



McLANE FAMILY DENTAL

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



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

