



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

Upcoming at GMS

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

****Labor Day - Student/Staff Holiday****

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 (B Day)

Back to School Night

5:30-6:45 PM (6th Grade)

7:15-8:30 PM (7th & 8th Grade)

A-Team Football Game @ House Park

6:00 PM (7th Grade)

7:30 PM (8th Grade)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 (A Day)

B-Team Football Game @ Gorzycki

6:00 PM (7th Grade)

B-Team Football Game @ Murchison

6:00 PM (8th Grade)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 (B Day)

7th-Grade Volleyball Game @ O. Henry

6-7:00 (B Team)

7-8:00 (A Team)

8th-Grade Volleyball Game @ Gorzycki

6-7:00 (B Team)

7-8:00 (A Team)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 (A Day)

Principal's Coffee Talk (via zoom)
2:15 PM

8th-Grade Band Night @ Bowie
5:45-9:00 PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

7th-Grade Volleyball Tournament @ Dahlstrom MS
TBD

8th-Grade Volleyball Tournament @ McCormick MS
TBD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 (A Day)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 (B Day)

CAC Meeting
4:00 PM

Theatre TAP Parent Meeting
6-6:30 PM

A-Team Football Game @ Burger Stadium
6:00 PM (7th Grade)
7:30 PM (8th Grade)

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Daily Announcements](#)

[A/B/C Calendar 22-23](#)

[Bell Schedule 22-23](#)

[GMS PTA Site](#)

[AISD COVID-19
Updates](#)

[Parent Portal](#)

[AISD Calendar 22-23](#)

CAFETERIA MONITORS

Tiger Team is looking for volunteers to help monitor the cafeteria during lunch. This is a pretty fun volunteer job that you can do over your lunch break, and it makes a big impact. All the details can be found in the Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C49ABAD2DA31-tiger3>

Please contact Jennifer Pickerill at volunteer.coordinator@tigerpta.org with any questions.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Tuesday, September 6th (5:30-6:45 is 6th grade; 7:15-8:30 is 7/8th grades) is Back to School Night. Parents will start in their child's first-period class. Don't forget to bring your child's schedule with you. There will be a very short 5-minute presentation in each class. The bell will ring and then a 5-minute transition to the next class. This is NOT a time for a parent conference. This can be scheduled for a later date. You will only visit periods 1 - 8, not EXCEL.

*Please remember parking is limited; there will not be parking for everyone, so please carpool. Tiger Mart will also be open for purchases. 6th grade parents please leave immediately at 6:45 so the next set of parents can arrive. [Gorzycki Back-to-School Night Expectations.pdf](#)

COFFEE TALKS

The first Coffee Talk of the year will be held via zoom this **Friday (Sept. 9) at 2:15**. Meet with our Principal, Dr. Cathryn Mitchell, and her leadership team to learn about important news, events, and information regarding our awesome school. Principal Coffee Talks will be held via Zoom every month on Fridays at 2:15pm. Zoom invites will be emailed to all parents before the scheduled dates.

PTA MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who visited joinpta.org in recent days and alerted us about the system issue with the website. Texas PTA has resolved this issue, and the link is working again. We appreciate everyone's patience & your participation in GMS PTA.

- Join today: <https://www.joinpta.org/>

PE T-SHIRTS

P.E. T-SHIRTS ARE BACK IN STOCK! All PE and Athletics students are required to dress out for class. The grey P.E. t-shirt and the orange Athletics t-shirt can be purchased for \$10 through Tiger Mart online or in person by your student at lunchtime. Orders are shipped to the school and can be picked up at Tiger Mart by your student. Email notifications are sent when t-shirts are ready to pick up.

- [Grey PE T-Shirt](#)
 - [Orange Athletics T-Shirt](#)
-

TIGER MART



The GMS Tiger Mart student store website is NOW OPEN at <https://tigerpta.square.site>

- Order PE shirts, Strength & Conditioning shirts, Athletics shirts or GMS Spiritwear!
- Orders will be ready for student pick-up at Tiger Mart during lunchtime 3 days after the order is placed. PE teachers allow students plenty of time to get the required shirts.
- Orders not picked-up within 30 days will automatically get restocked.
- Any size (or item) exchanges of UNWORN and unwashed merchandise may be done by students during their lunch.
- We do not offer refunds.

Happy Shopping, Tigers!

7TH GRADE SHOT RECORDS

7th GRADE PARENTS Please remember to submit your student's updated shot record as soon as possible, if you have not done so already. Students entering 7th grade are required to have received their Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis booster (Tdap) and their Meningitis vaccine (MCV). These records can be submitted by email as well. jessica.bram@austinisd.org

BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

IMPORTANT FIRST WEEK INFORMATION

Items below were sent to parents last week. The calendar and schedule items have been included in the permanent links at the top of this newsletter for ongoing reference this school year. Some hi-lights of the content in these links are included below in the newsletter.

- [Welcome to Gorzycki 22-23.pdf](#)
 - [Dr. Mitchell Letter.pdf](#)
 - [GMS Bell schedule 22-23 final.pdf](#)
 - [GMS ABC calendar 22-23.pdf](#)
 - [AISD Calendar 2022-2023.pdf](#)
 - [Quick Guide for Parents.pdf](#)
-

- [GMS PTA 22-23 membership.png](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Detailed information was sent in this [Special 2022-23 Back-to-School Newsletter](#). Highlights from the newsletter are included here.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School supplies can be brought gradually throughout the first week of school--students do not need to bring everything on the first day.

- [6th and 8th Grade school supply lists](#)
- [7th Grade school supply list](#)

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

All grade levels had a summer reading book and accompanying assignment. Students will be instructed by their new ELA teachers about how to submit their assignments during the first week of school.

- [6th-8th Grade summer reading assignments](#)

BUS STOPS

Families whose students are eligible for transportation received their bus information by email or letter on Aug 2nd. The district's "Bus Stop Finder" will be live on Aug 2nd. Families whose students have special needs will receive their information in person from their bus teams starting the second week in August.

- [Bus Stop Finder](#)

AISD's transportation team offers families the "WheresTheBus" app, which provides timely information about the location of their student's assigned bus only, including when it will arrive at their stop. The free app is available on any device with internet access (smartphone, tablet, personal computer, iPad)—and takes less than five minutes to install.

- [Where's the Bus App](#)

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Free meals for all students expired at the end of the last school year--this year students will pay according to their meal status: free, reduced, or paid. You can read about this in more detail [here](#). Students will need an account in SchoolCafe to buy lunches in the cafeteria.

- [SchoolCafe](#)

Breakfast - Paid (All Levels): \$1.50
Breakfast - Reduced-Price (All Levels): \$0.30
Breakfast - Adult/Guest: \$2.75
Lunch - Middle & High School - Paid: \$3.25
Lunch - Reduced-Price (All Levels): \$0.40
Lunch - Adult/Guest: \$4.50

VOLUNTEER

CAFETERIA MONITORS

Tiger Team is looking for volunteers to help monitor the cafeteria during lunch. This is a pretty fun volunteer job that you can do over your lunch break and it makes a big impact. All the details can be found in the Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C49ABAD2DA31-tiger3>

Please contact Jennifer Pickerill at volunteer.coordinator@tigerpta.org with any questions.

GMS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Interested in learning more about GMS Athletic Booster Club? Looking to volunteer? The GMS Athletic Booster Club Board is in need of new board members and would love for you to be part of the team. We have various positions available, and there will also be many other opportunities to volunteer if you don't think being on the board works for you. The Athletic Booster club raises money for the additional coaching stipends AISD does not provide. This money is used exclusively for the benefit of our athletes. Please reach out to Christi Leber @ c_cuccia@yahoo.com to inquire or volunteer.

DONATE

GMS COUNSELORS DONORS CHOOSE PROJECT

We are SO close to having our most recent project on DonorsChoose fully funded! Thank you to those who have already donated and those who will consider it.

We utilized DonorsChoose last year to create our "Brain Lab" in our office - a place where students can learn about their brain/body and practice some regulating strategies, as well as a mobile Brain Lab that can be borrowed by teachers or brought by counselors into the classroom for counseling lessons. Our next plan is to let teachers build their own mini-Brain Labs in their office. If that sounds interesting, read more about it and consider donating [here](#).

AMAZON SMILE

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

STAY CONNECTED

DR. MITCHELL ON TWITTER

We love our GMS principal! Follow Dr. Cathryn Mitchell on Twitter, and check out photos from 6th-grade Locker Night: twitter.com/GMS_DrMitchell

COFFEE TALKS

Meet with our Principal, Dr. Cathryn Mitchell and her leadership team to learn about important news, events, and information regarding our awesome school. Principal Coffee Talks will be held via Zoom

every month on Fridays at 2:15pm. Zoom invites will be emailed to all parents before the scheduled dates below.

- September 9, 2022
- October 21, 2022
- November 11, 2022
- December 9, 2022
- January 13, 2023
- February 10, 2023
- March 24, 2023
- April 14, 2023
- May 12, 2023

PROCESSES & PROCEDURES

QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS

The Quick Guide includes processes for: arrival and dismissal, reporting absences, dropping off items, and medications on campus.

- [Quick Guide for Parents.pdf](#)

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Arrival: The building is open from 7:50 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The **Tardy Bell rings at 8:20**. Upon arrival, 6th grade students will report to the cafeteria. 7/8th grade students will report to the Commons. Students are to sit on the floor in the Cafeteria/Commons area. Students must be supervised in the building outside of school hours.

Dismissal: Students who stay for an activity/tutoring session should remain in their designated area with the Gorzycki staff member in charge of the after school activity. Parents should pick up their child within 10 minutes of a given activity ending time. Failure to be picked up in a timely manner may result in restrictions from after-school activities.

ID BADGES

Students will be held accountable for wearing the badges that have been distributed. Students without badges, which have been about 100 each day, will be assigned lunch detention. Extra lanyards can be purchased in Tiger Mart, which is open daily during lunches. Once pictures are taken and official badges are distributed, additional badges will cost \$5.

LOCKERS

All grade levels were issued lockers and a combination lock. Backpacks are not allowed in classrooms or in the cafeteria; students need to keep their backpacks in their lockers. Students can carry Chromebooks and notebooks to class in a Chromebook case.

MEDICATIONS ON CAMPUS

As of this year, **ALL MEDICATIONS ON CAMPUS REQUIRE DOCTOR'S ORDERS** in addition to a parent authorization form. This means that **all prescription and over-the-counter medications** require a doctor's order and will not be allowed on campus at all without it. In the past, the prescription label on the

bottle served as an MD order but AISD has changed the policy and now requires the MD order. Students are not allowed to self-carry ANY medication without doctor's orders and parent authorization.

Daily medications and/or emergency medications such as inhalers, epipens, seizure or diabetic medications can be dropped off. The medications cannot be accepted without the necessary paperwork completed. You may visit the GMS website at gorzycki.austinschools.org to print and complete all necessary paperwork. Please call the health room with any questions or to make other arrangements to drop off medication. Health Room # 512-841-8620, or email to jessica.bram@austinisd.org.

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.

COVID QUARANTINE AND TESTING

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Students and staff that have tested positive for Covid-19 will be required to isolate at home for 5 days. The date of the positive test is Day 0 and individuals may return on Day 6. After returning to campus on Day 6, you will be required to wear a mask for 5 additional days per CDC recommendations and AISD policy.

It is not necessary to submit a negative test to return, but students and staff should be 24 hrs. fever free and have improvement in symptoms.

SYMPTOMATIC / ILL STUDENTS AND STAFF

Staff or students who become ill while on campus may request a rapid covid test on campus. However, please do not come to school ill to get a Covid test or request "peace of mind" testing while on campus. Our health room's priority is meeting the safety and health needs of those currently on campus. There are several testing locations provided by AISD but the closest locations to GMS are:

Kiker Elementary Testing Hub :

M-F 8:00am -2:00pm

Burger Athletic Complex:

M-F 8:00am-6:00pm

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.

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 Jessica Swearingen and Rebecca Alvarez at partners@tigerpta.org with questions.

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

BENGAL PARTNERS



Proud Gorzycki Sponsor!



**Modern Family
Dentistry of Oak Hill**

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic
Dentistry

512-301-9002

www.austinmoderndentist.com

Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Sharfae, DDS



SIBERIAN PARTNERS



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

