

GMS Newsletter Sponsored by PTA

Week of September 30, 2024



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL
AUSTIN Independent School District



This week at GMS

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

MONDAY, September 30

AISD Custodian and Groundskeeping Appreciation Week starts TODAY!

TUESDAY, October 1

 Football Game 

A-Team **7th Grade** - 6:00PM vs. Lively @ Burger Annex

A-Team **8th Grade** - 7:30PM vs. Lively @ Burger Annex

You can view the GMS Football schedule [here](#).

National Hispanic Heritage Month Begins TODAY!

WEDNESDAY, October 2

 Football Game 

B-Team **7th Grade** - 6:00PM vs. Small @ Small (Away)

B-Team **8th Grade** - 6:00PM vs. Bailey @ Small (Home)

 Volleyball Game 

7th Grade **B-Team** - 6:00PM vs. Small @ Small (Away)

7th Grade **A-Team** - 7:00PM vs. Small @ Small (Away)

8th Grade **B-Team** - 6:00PM vs. Small @ GMS (Home)

8th Grade **A-Team** - 7:00PM vs. Small @ GMS (Home)

You can view the entire volleyball schedule [here](#).

THURSDAY, October 3

! NO SCHOOL !

FRIDAY, October 4

! NO SCHOOL !

SATURDAY, October 5

TQBA Quiz Bowl Tournament 8:00AM-5:00PM



Cross Country Meet - 7/8 Grades Boys& Girls 9:30-11:30AM @ Brentwood Christian 11908 N. Lamar

Cheer Competition Practice in the Commons 1:00-6:00PM

SUNDAY, October 6

MONDAY, October 7


AISD Principal Appreciation Week Starts Today!

 Football Game 

7th Grade **A- Team** - 6:00PM vs. Paredes @ Burger Stadium

8th Grade **A Team** - 7:30PM vs. Paredes @ Burger Stadium

TUESDAY, October 8

 Football Game 

7th Grade **A- Team** - 6:00PM vs. Lively @ Burger Annex

8th Grade **A Team** - 7:30PM vs. Lively @ Burger Annex

Gorzycki Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Daily Announcements](#)

[Bell Schedule 24-25](#)

[GMS PTA Link](#)

AISD Links

[Parent Portal](#)

[AISD Calendar 24-25](#)

[Bus Stop Finder](#)

[School Cafe](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

💰 THE GMS WEBSTORE HAS REPLACED SCHOOL CASH ONLINE 💰

GMS has replaced School Cash Online with a GMS Webstore please see/use the link below:

<https://gorzycki.myschoolcentral.com/>

This GMS Store will have all the fees associated with classes and events in one click.

Once you create an account go to "My Family" and add your students.

This is for Gorzycki Students only, in other words, if you want a T-Shirt for yourself, you should probably head on over to Tiger Mart. Once you've logged on simply click on the item associated with your student i.e. Choir, CTE Wheel, Science etc... then select your student and add to cart. These fees help the classes with expenses associated with the class.

HEADS UP

There are 2 additions to Processes & Procedures

Permit to Leave School Early:

Students who need to leave school early must be picked up **before 3:15PM** due to traffic and parking availability.

After School Pick Up Procedures:

Parents and caregivers are not permitted to move the orange cones.

UPCOMINGATGMS



**SAVE THE DATE!!
GMS HOMECOMING DANCE
7TH & 8TH GRADERS ONLY**



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
6:00-7:30PM**



**THE GORZYCKI DANCE TEAM IS PROUD TO HOST
THE 2024 HOMECOMING DANCE.**

ATTIRE: GMS SPIRITWEAR

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!



PRESENTED BY MINDPOP, AUSTIN ISD FINE ARTS & THE CREATIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE

DAY OF *dance*

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!



**SATURDAY
OCT. 5, 2024
9AM-6PM**



**AISD PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER: 1500 BARBARA
JORDAN BLVD**



Special thanks to Genevieve & Ward Orsinger Foundation

TURKEY TROT

Registration for the THIRD ANNUAL CIRCLE C RANCH TURKEY TROT and KIDS MILE is live!!! Take advantage of the early pricing NOW! Link is below or click on pic.

https://eventdog.com/a/eventpage.php?eID=60269&fbclid=IwY2xjawFiMFJleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHTQjCSy rCUenWmlqdnqtZ5eb7Rbcd-ZeP7RvpU_fYzzzRxc98O01Wl5jaQ_aem_dPP8-ZhRqv9uRtMTHrGKWA





Reflections Program 2024-2025

Deadline - Monday, November 4th

Theme: "ACCEPTING imPERFECTION"

All Gorzycki Tigers are encouraged to participate in National PTA's **Reflections arts education program**. The focus of the program is positive recognition, rather than competition, and provides opportunities for access to the arts. Students of all ages and abilities can experience the benefits of creative expression in finding their voice to share their unique story.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Dance Choreography | Music Composition |
| Film Production | Photography |
| Literature | Visual Arts |

WHO: Divisions are: 6th-8th grade and Special Artist* The student's family must be a member of the Gorzycki Middle School PTA by Monday, November 4th.

If you are not currently a PTA member, please join [here](#).

WHAT: This Year's Theme is: **ACCEPTING imPERFECTION**

WHEN: Submission deadline is Monday, November 4th

HOW: Download the [ENTRY FORM](#) and see the [Program Rules \(including art category rules\)](#)

- **Pick a category for your entry**
- **Submit entries via Google Form [HERE!](#)**

***Students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 may enter in the Special Artist Division or grade division most closely aligned to their abilities.**

Started in 1969 and a staple arts program in many schools, National PTA's Reflections Program provides opportunities for recognition and access to the arts, boosting student confidence and success in the arts and life. Each year, over 300,000 Pre-K through 12th-grade students create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme.

Reflections® is a National PTA Arts Program. GMS Students submit their entries to the Gorzycki Middle School PTA. After being reviewed by volunteers, entries may be selected go on to compete in the Austin Council of PTA's level (all of Austin ISD), the Texas PTA level and even the National PTA level! In the selection process, greater weight is put on the interpretation of the theme, how closely the piece relates to the theme based on the entry submitted and the artist's statement.

Questions? Please contact pta.reflections@tigerpta.org

Please click [here](#) for more details.

QUIZ BOWL FUNDRAISER

Hello GMS Community,

The Gorzycki Quiz Bowl Program is holding a SNAP Raise fundraiser to pay for study resources, tournament fees, and travel expenses. The fundraiser runs from September 16th through October 14th. Please consider donating using the link below or click on the pic. Thank you for your support! - GMS Quiz Bowl

https://raise.snap.app/donate/gorzycki-quiz-bowl-program-2024?fbclid=IwY2xjawFZEU1leHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHSi9pl6pkar2AMpMLZ7T-h4V7dgyo9MIDn46DQH5zxuDAoE-0aiFre1bvg_aem_YDH99c0iwbPdaNeKZw6wIA



Order Your Yearbooks Now

Click on the photo below or the link to order your yearbooks.

https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/2368780/Gorzycki-Middle-School/2025-Yearbook/2024072404292273786/CATALOG_SHOP?utm_term=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=YBK_MER1382869710_SY25_Segmented_National_Previous_Buyer_S1_EN_20240816&utm_medium=email&utm_source=exacttarget&utm_content=Sec1_Hero_Button

It's a fact:

Time Flies

Don't miss your chance to order your yearbook at the lowest price of the year!

\$40 *until Aug. 30*





Get 4 free icons if you order before the price goes up!



Order today at [jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com) or scan the QR Code


FITNESS & HEALTH


Moxsquad: Fitness for Girls - Stronger Together, Confident Forever.

Whether you are looking to get your daughter moving or complement her current sports and activities, Moxsquad is designed to enhance her overall fitness, confidence and community. Click on the photo below or the link provided to signup and get more details. <https://moxsquad.com/>



PARK SQUADS	GYM SQUADS
	
GRADES 3-8	GRADES 6-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generalized training, focusing on strength, running, jumping, agility, and more!• Led by certified trainers and educators.• Meets Monday or Wednesday• Grades 3-5 3:45pm to 4:45pm• Grades 6-8 5pm to 6pm• Circle C Park Field 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generalized training, focusing on proper technique for strength, safe use of cardio equipment, jumping, footwork, and more!• Led by certified trainers and educators.• Meets Sundays• Grades 6-12 Noon to 1pm• Sola Crossfit





EMAIL TODAY TO BOOK
INFO@MOXSQUAD.COM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VOLY - THE NEW PLATFORM FOR VOLUNTEERS

Hello Volunteers and Future Volunteers,

There is a new tool volunteers will use called [Voly](https://austinisd.voly.org/), this is the new platform for volunteer management and background checks. Please direct your volunteers to austinisd.voly.org. when creating their account, volunteers will provide their information, sign a confidentiality form and agree to our volunteer guidelines. They will also need to sign a background check consent form. Once that's completed, a separate link will be sent to volunteers for them to complete the background check.

If you have any adults who are volunteering in your classroom or going on field trips, etc, please ask them to go to this link and fill out the information. This will be good for this school year. If you have any questions, please let me know.

<https://austinisd.voly.org/>

**CALLING ALL
GMS PARENTS!**



**WANT TO
GET INVOLVED?**

**The Middle School years go by FAST!
By volunteering, you can make the most of your
time at GMS and get plugged in!**

**Fill out the Form below to let us know
how you might like to volunteer!**

CALLING ALL TIGER FAMILIES!

Looking for a way to occasionally volunteer at GMS? Fill out the following form and let us know where you would like to help:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdK-myowPq96cjX9DDry9vza7ENxE4fugJy-W_YQvwh37ZX0A/viewform



JOIN PTA!

Join the GMS Parent Teacher Association! Quick and easy, click the link below to join today!

- <https://www.tigerpta.org/join-pta>

Annual Dues: \$10/individual, \$5/staff

Then, like and follow our page! Members will receive a PDF of their membership card via email.

<https://www.tigerpta.org/join-pta?fbclid=IwAR12yu0g6p97GWOWFsAv1PemVEISrOuYiH2BSlsz1cX3bghOwH00A7LnDBs>

CALLING ALL INCOMING 6TH GRADE GORZYCKI FAMILIES!

TIGER MART, THE PTA-SPONSORED STUDENT STORE, IS OPEN FOR
BUSINESS AND READY TO PREPARE YOUR STUDENT FOR A GREAT YEAR.

We carry spirit wear and swag for the entire family, PE shirts, strength & conditioning shirts, and miscellaneous school supplies. As a PTA fundraiser, all profits go back into the school and directly benefit GMS.

2 ways to shop: **online** at <https://tigerpta.square.site/s/shop> and
in person with cash or credit card during student lunches



IT IS TIME TO ORDER YOUR GMS PE SHIRTS!

PE shirts are required for all students.

Tiger Mart is offering a 6th-grade bundle to the first 200 orders to help you get stocked up for the school year.

- (2) PE Shirts
- (1) Drawstring Bag (for stinky PE shirts!)

Enter code **FREEBAG** at checkout.

TIGER MART IS OPEN

Tiger Mart, Gorzycki's PTA-sponsored student store, is OPEN and ready to prepare your student for a great year.

What's Tiger Mart? Tiger Mart is the PTA-sponsored student store open daily during student lunches. We carry spirit swag for the entire family, strength and conditioning shirts, and miscellaneous school supplies. We are also where you can purchase your student's gray PE shirts. At least 1 PE shirt is required for all students, but we parent volunteers recommend having a couple on hand.

How can we shop? You can [shop online](#) at any time or students can shop in-person with cash or credit card during their lunch hours. Online purchases are available for student pickup 3 school days after the order is placed. Tiger Mart will also be open for in-person parent shopping on Locker Night (Thurs 8/22, 4-5 pm) and Back-To-School Night.

Where do Tiger Mart profits go? Right back into GMS! Our student store is a rolling fundraiser and all proceeds benefit Gorzycki students.

GMS NEWS AND CELEBRATIONS



GMS BAND - PLAYERS of the Week (End of September)

Drumroll please....

Cate S. from Honors Band!

Alice S. From Symphonic Band!

Eli D. from Concert Band!

Vincent S. from beginner trumpet class!

Andrew G. from beginner saxophone class!

The above-mentioned students were chosen as Principal Players because they always follow our GMS acronym:

Give 100%

Manage Yourself

Show Respect

Join us in congratulating our Principal Players for this week!!

Thank you for being outstanding members of the Gorzycki Band!! Kudos!!!



The Santa Book by our very own GMS Parent Erin Eby

Hello GMS Family -


One of our very own GMS parents has published an award winning holiday book that helps parents guide their children from one "side" of the Santa tradition to the other in a way that is developmentally appropriate and honest. Please click on the pic or the link below to find out more.

<https://thesantabook.com/>



GIFTED AND TALENTED NOMINATIONS & INFORMATION

Information for the Gifted and Talented program can be found below.



GT nomination will be open until October 7th

GT nomination will be open until October 7th. You can also access the form at: bit.ly/AISDGT24 If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dawn Dammann at dawn.dammann@austinisd.org

docs.google.com

Click on the photo or the link below for more information:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-aQOWJNsnmO6U1EgzspFiCt9Xy2q3GU1B6EFLGFT4/edit>

STAY CONNECTED

COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

- Subscribed to the newsgroup: <https://gorzycki.austinschools.org/our-school/email-updates>
- Sign up to receive notifications for the **Gorzycki Middle Campus Community Course** at: <https://aisdblend.instructure.com/courses/111130>
- Follow the **OFFICIAL GMS Facebook Page**: Gorzycki Middle School
- Catch up with the latest student stories, events and news. It's everything Austin ISD, in your pocket. If you haven't already, download the app! You can find it on your phone in your app store via Google Play or Apple App.
- For [Android](#)
- For [Apple](#)

PRINCIPAL COFFEE TALKS

The first Principal Coffee Talk will be held Tuesday, September 10th at 2:15PM.

- Coffee talks will be held via ZOOM - link to be provided.
- You can find all the dates of all the Coffee Talks [here](#).



DONATE

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

POPCORN FRIDAY DONATIONS NEEDED

GMS Popcorn Fridays needs your help. All donations go towards appreciating the GMS teachers with popcorn, drinks and snacks. Please contact Kelly Granger at popcorn@tigerpta.org if you would like to donate.

PROCESSES & PROCEDURES

UPDATED: SCHOOL TRAFFIC PLAN

Arrival: During the morning arrival and after school pickup, vehicles approaching the front of the school will be channeled into two lanes of traffic, the inside lane closest to the school and the outside lane closest to Slaughter (the middle lane will be blocked off so that students can safely walk up to the crosswalk). Buses will drop students off at the awning in the back of the school. Afternoon dismissal for car riders will be in the front of the school. Parents arriving early for pick-up will be expected to park in one of the two lanes behind the crosswalk. Parents will queue up behind designated markers. Parents are to stay in your vehicles.

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.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP PROCEDURES

Please follow the GMS procedures for arrival and dismissal from school. We ask that student pick-ups occur in the loop in front of the school. Stopping to pick up students on Slaughter is NEVER acceptable. To help reduce some of the congestion, we ask that if you are turning left on Slaughter after picking up your child, you enter the school using the left two lanes. If you are turning right on Slaughter, please use the right lane for student pick-up. This will help reduce the changing of lanes when leaving campus.

GMS also asks that you not use Allerton Avenue for student pick-up. GMS is trying to be good neighbors and the parking issue after school is creating very unsafe situations.

Parents and caregivers are not permitted to move the orange cones.

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

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. Students who need to leave school early must be picked up before 3:15 due to traffic and parking availability.

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.

REDUCED-PRICE MEAL SIGN UP

We encourage families who currently have reduced-price status to complete an AISD meal benefits application at www.SchoolCafe.com/AustinISD to ensure their eligibility through the entire school year.

Breakfast:

- Full Price: \$2.00
- Reduced-price: FREE

Lunch:

- Full Price: \$3.50
- Reduced-price: \$0.40

SPORTING EVENT PICK-UP

Students are welcome to all Athletic events. Please remember that students are to be picked up from the event 10 minutes after the game is over. This is NOT a set time and can be anywhere from 8:00 - 9:00. Students who are not picked up on-time will not be allowed to attend future events.

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 Susan Crum at partners@tigerpta.org with questions.

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

BENGAL PARTNERS



**Central Texas
ORTHODONTICS**
3413 W Slaughter Ln
Brian St.Louis, DDS, MS



**RISE +
SMILE**
ORTHODONTICS

Womack
REAL ESTATE

Proud Gorzycki Sponsor!



Balance
**DANCE
STUDIOS**
balancedancestudios.com



**CIRCLE C
ORTHODONTICS**
JONATHON KIMES, DDS
FIDEL DEL TORO, DDS PhD
www.austin-braces.com



BRANCHES
A SERVICE OF AUSTIN OAKS HOSPITAL

Satellite
EAT + DRINK + ORBIT

KS
KIFER SPARKS AGENCY
REAL ESTATE



ARBOR TRAILS

Modern Family
Dentistry of Oak Hill

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic
Dentistry

512-301-9002

www.austinmoderndentist.com

Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Sharfae, DDS



MALAYAN PARTNERS



SIBERIAN PARTNERS





TIGER PARTNERS



Gorzycki Middle School

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