



GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

Upcoming at GMS

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

Custodian & Groundskeeping Appreciation Week

Tiger Drive Continues this week

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

B-Team Football Game

6:00 PM (7th Grade) @ Gorzycki

6:00 PM (8th Grade) @ Bailey

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

PTA General Membership Meeting & Self Defense Demonstration

@ GMS Cafeteria

6:30PM

A-Team Football Game @ RR Walsh MS

5:15 PM (7th Grade)

6:45 PM (8th Grade)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

Last Day of Tiger Drive

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Quiz Bowl Tip Off Classic Tournament (@ Gorzycki)

8:00AM to 5:30 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Indigenous Peoples Day/Student Holiday
No School (Staff Development)

AISD - Principal Appreciation Week

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

A & B -Team Football Game @ Westlake HS
5:15 PM (B Team - 8th Grade)
6:45 PM (A Team - 8th Grade)

Gorzycki Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Daily Announcements](#)

[Bell Schedule 23-24](#)

[GMS PTA Site](#)

AISD Links

[Parent Portal](#)

[AISD Calendar 23-24](#)

[Bus Stop Finder](#)

[SchoolCafé](#)

UPCOMING AT GMS

PSAT DAY

On **Wednesday, October 11**, the digital PSAT 8/9 will be administered to 8th graders. This means that your child will be taking the exam on a computer rather than using traditional pen and paper. To acclimate to the digital format and become comfortable with the tools they will be using during the exam, students can explore the College Board's prep materials online. **It is imperative that students bring a fully charged Chromebook on Wednesday, October 11, in order to access the exam.**

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

We are beginning the 2023-24 identification process for any students not previously identified for the Gifted and Talented (GT) program in earlier grades. The process includes several steps: nomination, screening, the testing process during the school day, and possible selection. At the middle school level, the gifted program coincides with the Advanced programs. There are no "pull-out" programs or GT classes per se, nor is the identification of giftedness on the student's official transcript. Students who are identified as gifted at the middle school level must take Advanced courses in the areas where they show that ability. If you would like more information about the GT nomination process for any students, please email Dawn Dammann (dawn.dammann@austinisd.org) by **October 6, 2023**.

GIFTED & TALENTED SERVICES IN AISD

GT REFERRAL WINDOW

9/18 - 10/06

GT REFERRAL LINK

bit.ly/AISDGTStart

If you think your child may benefit from services for the Gifted and Talented (GT), please complete the referral form linked above or via QR code.



Contact your child's teacher or campus GT Advocate for more information.

TIGER DRIVE

Time to show your stripes! It's almost time for The Tiger Drive!

What is the Tiger Drive? It is Gorzycki's no hassle, school-wide campaign creates a fund available to ALL GMS teachers that supplements what is provided by AISD.

In lieu of several fundraisers or asking students to sell anything, we simply ask for direct donations from parents, guardians and community members. 100% of the funds will go directly to OUR school!

Tiger Drive will **kick off on September 25th and run through October 6th**, so stay tuned for more information. Please take a moment to consider how much you can support your school with a generous financial contribution. Don't forget to ask your employer if they will match your donation to a charitable organization such as your GMS PTA.

With your help, we will be able to provide our teachers and students with everything they need to maintain and exceed the Gorzycki standard of excellence!

Let's SHOW OUR STRIPES for our Gorzycki teachers!

Questions? Email fundraising@tigerpta.org



QUIZ BOWL FUNDRAISER

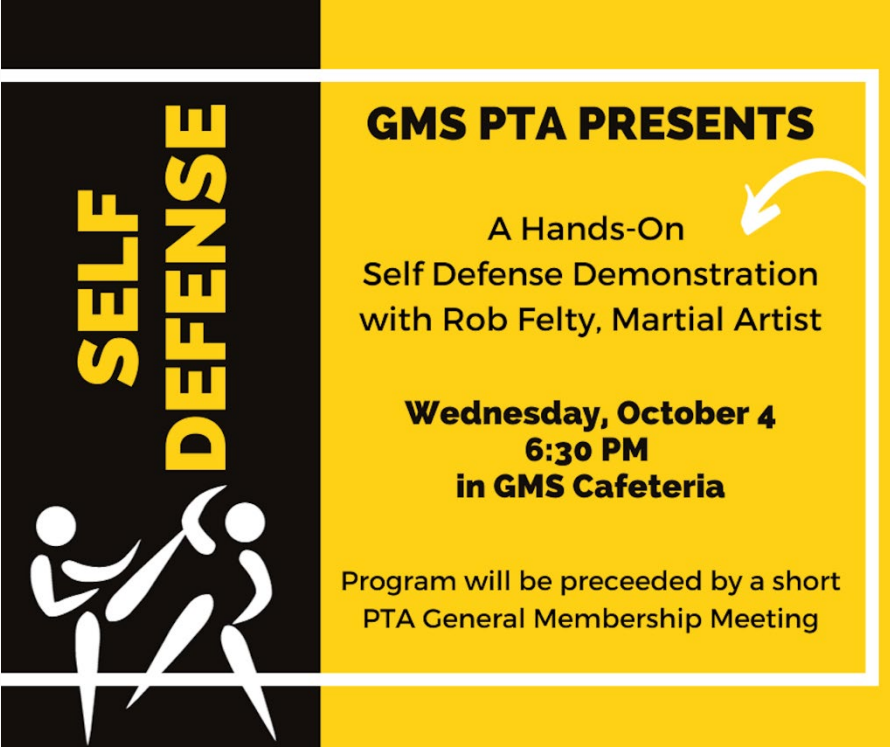
The Gorzycki Quiz Bowl Program is holding a fundraiser to pay for study resources and tournament fees. The fundraiser runs from September 11th through October 9th. Please consider donating using the link below. Thank you for your support!- GMS Quiz Bowl

<https://raise.snap.app/donors/gorzycki-quiz-bowl-program-2023>

PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND SELF DEFENSE PROGRAM

GMS PTA invites you to attend our first General Membership Meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 4th at 6:30 pm. Following the meeting at 7 pm, join us for self defense training taught by a martial artist. You'll learn some simple safety techniques to benefit yourself and teach your children. Participants will be invited to practice some of the defense maneuvers, so dress in comfortable shoes and clothing. Snacks

and beverages will be provided. This is an adult only event, but please invite your friends and neighbors.



The poster features a black vertical bar on the left with the words "SELF DEFENSE" in large, bold, yellow capital letters. Below the text is a white silhouette of two figures in a martial arts stance. The main body of the poster is yellow with a white border. At the top, it says "GMS PTA PRESENTS" in bold black letters. Below that, it reads "A Hands-On Self Defense Demonstration with Rob Felty, Martial Artist" in black text, with a white arrow pointing to the right. The date and time are listed as "Wednesday, October 4 6:30 PM in GMS Cafeteria" in bold black text. At the bottom, it states "Program will be preceded by a short PTA General Membership Meeting" in black text.

GORZYCKI CAMPUS ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) MEETING

The Campus Advisory Council (CAC) is an advisory body that offers guidance and counsel to the Principal. The Council consists of Gorzycki Faculty, the Principal, Parents, Community Representatives, and Business Representatives. All meetings may be attended by the public and are open to comment.

Next Meeting October 12th at 4PM via Zoom

All pertinent information and zoom info can be found at this link: <https://gorzycki.austinschools.org/parents/resources/cac>

PICTURE MAKEUP DAY

Didn't get your student picture taken? Don't panic! Student Picture Make-up Day will be on **Thursday, October 19th** during all 3 lunches.

YEARBOOK ORDER

Order your GMS Yearbook Today!

<https://www.jostens.com/.../2368780/Gorzycki-Middle-School/>

it's all written down

On sale now



\$45

buy your yearbook

TODAY

JOIN PTA

Join GMS PTA



TigerPTA.org/joinPTA
Your yearly membership matters!

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=IwAR12yu0q6p97GWOWFsAv1PemVEISrOuYiH2BSlsz1cX3bqhOwH00A7LnDBs>

TIGER MART IS OPEN

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, 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 (Wed 8/16, 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.

PE Shirt Bundle Tiger Mart is offering a [6th Grade Bundle](#) to help your student be stocked and ready for the school year. The Bundle includes (2) PE shirts and (1) drawstring bag (*for stinky shirts!*) The bundle is available for \$20 (a \$5 savings if purchased separately.) When ordering online, add 2 shirts and 1 bag to your cart and use the code **FREEBAG** at checkout.

STAY CONNECTED

COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

- **SCHOOL MESSENGER**

We strongly encourage parents to revisit their notification settings in the Parent Cloud under

"School Messenger" so that you may receive important CAMPUS or district messages. School Messenger is the district's communication tool. Parents can set their preferred modes of district & campus communication in the parent cloud. Gorzycki is capable of sending mass emails to all or certain grade levels only and

has used this method on several occasions. All school information will be shared via traditional email as well as social media and our website. Please click link below to check your settings.

You must have a Parent Portal acct. <https://www.austinisd.org/technology/parent-portal/schoolmessenger>

- **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

PRINCIPAL COFFEE TALKS

Principal coffee talks will be held via Zoom every month on **Fridays at 2:15pm**. Zoom invites will also be emailed to all parents before the scheduled dates below.

- <https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/87293612153?pwd=aThJeElmYTI2TW5lemVOY1BE...>
- Meeting ID: 872 9361 2153
- Passcode: TALK23

October 13, 2023

November 10, 2023

December 8, 2023

January 12, 2024

February 16, 2024

March 22, 2024

April 12, 2024

May 10, 2024

VOLUNTEER

TIGER MART VOLUNTEERS



The GMS Tiger Mart is the PTA sponsored student store on campus. It is open daily during student lunches and staffed by a group of amazing volunteers. We are looking for additional volunteers for the upcoming 2023-24 school year.

You are committing to a recurring shift every other week (A week or B week). Shifts run from 10:35-1:00. "A week" will start the first week of school (Aug 14), "B week" will be the following week.

It's a great way to volunteer inside the school during the day and interact with students. If you are interested in joining the volunteer team, please fill out your info below and the Tiger Mart coordinators will be in touch. We do have volunteer subs available if you are unable to make your regular shift from time to time.

Please fill out this Google form: [Tiger Mart Volunteers](#)

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

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.

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 our 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.

ID BADGES

Students without badges will be sent to 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

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.

REDUCED-PRICE MEAL SIGN UP

New for the 2023-24 school year, students determined to be eligible for reduced-price meals will receive breakfast at no cost through funding allocated through the Texas legislature. 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: \$1.75
- 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 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





Modern Family
Dentistry of Oak Hill

Gentle Preventive & Cosmetic
Dentistry

512-301-9002

www.austinmoderndentist.com

Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Sharfae, DDS



MALAYAN PARTNERS



JULIE G HOMES GROUP

AUSTIN
PORTFOLIO
REAL ESTATE 

SIBERIAN PARTNERS





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