



## GORZYCKI MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Upcoming at GMS

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

#### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 9**

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

AISD - Principal Appreciation Week

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10**

8th A & B -Team Football Game @ Westlake HS  
5:00 PM (B Team - 8th Grade)  
6:45 PM (A Team - 8th Grade)

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11**

PSAT Testing 8th graders

7th A & B -Team Football Game @ House Park  
6:00 PM (B Team - 7th Grade)  
7:30 PM (A Team - 7th Grade)

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12**

Volleyball Game Site TBD  
7A 6:00 PM  
8A 7:00 PM

#### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13**

Principal Coffee Talk via Zoom  
2:15PM

#### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14**

#### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

## **MONDAY, OCTOBER 16**

AISD Transportation Employee Appreciation Week

UIL One Act Play Tech Day (Theatre)  
AISD Performing Arts Center

Football Playoffs (Date & Time TBD)

7th Grade Girls Basketball Tryouts @GMS Gym  
Before School - 6:15 AM to 8:00AM

8th Grade Girls Basketball Tryouts @ GMS Gym  
afterschool - 4:00PM to 5:30PM

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17**

UIL One Act Play Tech Day (Theatre)  
AISD Performing Arts Center

Football Playoffs (Date & Time TBD)

7th Grade Girls Basketball Tryouts @GMS Gym  
Before School - 6:15 AM to 8:00AM

8th Grade Girls Basketball Tryouts @ GMS Gym  
afterschool - 4:00PM to 5:30PM

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

### Gozycki 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

### **TIGER DRIVE**

#### **Tiger Drive Extended!**

Great news-- you have more time to donate! We have extended the Tiger Drive campaign to allow all GMS families the opportunity to participate. **Donate today at [tigerpta.org](https://tigerpta.org)** and don't forget to **ask you employer if they will match** the donation.

#### **What is Tiger Drive?**

Tiger Drive is Gozycki's no hassle, school-wide campaign creates a fund available to ALL GMS teachers that supplements what is provided by AISD. In lieu of 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!

The **2023-24 goal of \$20,000** will provide all Gorzycki teachers, and in turn our students, with support that allows GMS to remain the highest rated middle school in AISD!

#### **How Will the Money Be Used?**

Your GMS PTA has worked with faculty and administration to determine the most impactful use of your donations. We will fund a grant program that allows teachers, staff, and community members to submit funding requests to support classroom and campus needs. We will also fund Sixth Grade Transition Camp to introduce GMS's tradition of excellence to our newest Tigers. Finally, we will help fund outdoor improvements to the GMS campus.

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 Gorzycki!!





#### **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.**

#### **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>

#### **PRINCIPAL COFFEE TALKS**

Principal coffee talk will be held via Zoom **Friday, October 13th at 2:15pm.**

- <https://austinisd-org.zoom.us/j/87293612153?pwd=aThJeElmYTl2TW5lemVOY1BE...>
- Meeting ID: 872 9361 2153
- Passcode: TALK23



#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS**

**7th grade** will try out before school on **Monday October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**. **Doors will open at 6:15 a.m.** and tryouts will go until 8:00 a.m.

**8th grade** will try out immediately after school on **Monday October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.** on both days.

Parents are responsible for dropping off and picking up their athlete. Please be on time.

In order to try out, each athlete must have a '23-'24 physical on the current AISD form (it must be dated on or after April 15th, 2023), emergency card, and all online forms complete before tryouts. **If an athlete tried out for volleyball (or you already turned in all forms), all of this has already been taken care of and there is no need to resubmit forms.**

If any forms are missing, your child will not be allowed to try out. If you are unsure, please have your child stop by the coach's office to check in.

#### **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.



#### REFLECTIONS

All Gorzycki Tigers are encouraged to participate in National PTA's Reflections arts education program. This year's theme of "I am Hopeful Because..." can be explored in the categories of dance choreography, music composition, film production, photography, literature, and visual arts. For more information please view this [flyer](#). Reflections pieces may be submitted [online](#) by Monday, October 30, 2023.

A grey poster for 'Reflections 23-24'. At the top, a blue ribbon contains the text 'Reflections 23-24' in bold blue font. Below this, 'Call for Submissions!' is written in large green font. In the center is a circular logo with a sunburst and the text 'I AM HOPEFUL BECAUSE...'. Below the logo is the RBFCU logo. On either side of the logo are QR codes. Below the left QR code is the text 'Eligibility & Participation' and below the right QR code is 'Online Submission Form'. At the bottom, the section 'About Reflections' is followed by a paragraph of text.

**Reflections 23-24**

## Call for Submissions!

**Eligibility & Participation** **Online Submission Form**

**About Reflections**  
Reflections has been a staple art program in many schools for 50 years. Through the effort of our Local PTAs, millions of students have found a creative outlet in the areas of dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts.

#### 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>

### 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

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# 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**

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## 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.

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## STAY CONNECTED

### COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

- **SCHOOL MESSENGER**

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

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"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

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**VOLUNTEER**

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## 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](#)

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## 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](mailto:fundraising@tigerpta.org)

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## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.austinmoderndentist.com)

Doctors Maggie & Benjamin Sharfae, DDS



MALAYAN PARTNERS



JULIE G HOMES GROUP

AUSTIN  
PORTFOLIO  
REAL ESTATE 

SIBERIAN PARTNERS







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

