



Student Summer Newsletter 2023 - 2024

Gordon Russell Middle School Phone: 503-667-6900

Office Phone Hours: 8:00 - 4:00 Web Address: <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>

WELCOME BACK UPDATE

With school right around the corner, we wanted to make sure you had the latest information. We look forward to seeing your students in person again this year. We have the same bell schedule: Advisory, then a 7 period day. Our school hours will remain from 9:05am - 3:35pm (Wednesdays 10:05am - 3:35pm). We cannot wait to welcome our students back!

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The GRMS building is open to the public beginning the week of August 21st, 2023 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

This year Gresham-Barlow School District will provide all consumable school supplies at no cost for families. On the first day of school all GRMS students will be receiving; A binder, pencil pouch, dividers, paper, pencils, pens, etc. Students will receive everything they need for their classes. This does not include a backpack.

Accepting donations for staff: Reams of paper, expo dry erase markers, tissue boxes, markers etc.

PARENTVUE

ParentVue is a tool with our student information system that will allow parents to access their student(s) ongoing progress and final grades, current attendance reports, and have the ability to update demographic data (i.e. address, phone, etc.).

Keeping your family's information up to date is crucial to receiving timely communication from Gresham Barlow School District. It ensures that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. All updates can be done online through your ParentVUE account. After logging in to ParentVUE, click on the "Online Registration" tab in the top right-hand corner to start the verification process.

ONLINE REGISTRATION & VERIFICATION

We wanted to remind you that Parent Verification for the 2023-2024 School Year will open August 21st, 2023.

Before the beginning of every school year, we request that parents/guardians review and/or update their family and student information through parentVUE.

Our front office staff returns from break on August 21st, 2023. If you need assistance with accessing/creating your parentVUE account please reach out to our front office staff Ms.Amanda or Ms.Addis at (503) 667-6900.

BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE- ICE CREAM

With a new school year approaching we would like to invite all families to attend our Back to School Open House Ice Cream Social. All families are encouraged to attend on September 14th, from 6:30-8:00p.m.

Ice Cream Social- 6:30pm-7:00pm

Open House- 7:00pm-8:00pm

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

We are working hard to complete student schedules. A DRAFT of your students schedule will be available prior to the first day of school and visible in StudentVue & ParentVue. You will receive a notification when student schedules are available. **Please consider that schedules are still in draft mode** and final schedules will be handed out the first day of school.

September 5th- 6th Grade

September 6th - 7th and 8th Grade (All students)

TECHNOLOGY

This year, like last, students will have the opportunity to use a district issued Chromebook. Chromebooks will continue to be housed in classrooms and allowed to use during class time.

SCHOOL/PARENT COMMUNICATION

ParentSquare will be our primary mode of communication. We encourage you to download the app, so you can view information and respond via your cell phone. Please take a moment to review [this](#) slide deck created as an introduction for ParentSquare.

The Thunderbird Take-Home is a weekly newsletter that will be sent electronically through parentsquare once a week of the school year. The Thunderbird Take Home highlights events, procedures, PTC information, and occasionally has important items attached. Copies of the TTH can be found on our webpage under “Our School”.

The [GRMS website](#) is an online resource that includes information from both of our newsletters, as well as other school-related information & events.

MEAL INFORMATION/FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS

ALL Gordon Russell students will receive a **FREE** breakfast and lunch every day.

For our records, please take a moment to fill out the free and reduced lunch application. It is encouraged for all families to have this filled out by October 15th. [Here](#) is a link with more information. **Applications must be completed every school year to maintain enrollment in the federal program.*

CLOSING COMMENTS

I am extremely excited for the upcoming school year. Gordon Russell is a quality school with a staff that is committed to providing an outstanding middle school experience. There is an authentic belief that all students will succeed and I am proud to be part of this community. I look forward to partnering with you all for the 2023-2024 school year to make it a great experience for all.

Every Student. Every Classroom. Every Day.

Sincerely,

Erin Voelker
Principal