



Thunderbird Take Home - 9/3/2020

Gordon Russell Middle School Phone: 503-667-6900

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

<https://twitter.com/GRMSTBirds>

<https://www.instagram.com/gordonrussellthunderbirds>

<https://www.facebook.com/GordonRussellMiddleSchool/>

WELCOME BACK UPDATE

With school right around the corner, we wanted to make sure you had the latest updates.

TEACHER OUTREACH

Beginning next week your student's advisory teacher will be reaching out to you by phone. We look forward to speaking with you. Your student's advisory teacher will be your primary contact with the school for support and information.

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE THRU

This year instead of our traditional Open House, we are going to have a back to school drive-thru event.

5:00 - 7:00 PM

6th Grade, September 22nd

7th Grade, September 23rd

8th Grade, September 24th

Students will have the opportunity to say a distant hello to their teachers and pick up necessary school materials. The items for pickup are:

6th, 7th, 8th Grade Math Textbook

Band Instruments*

Student Virtual Response Card

Art Supplies (If enrolled in an art class)

If you ordered and paid for a 2019-2020 Yearbook, they will be available for pickup during this event.

TECHNOLOGY PICKUP

We wanted to remind you that the Fall 2020 Device Distribution is happening now.

Please [visit this webpage](#) to view a list of dates, times, and locations for device distribution. As a reminder, each GBSD student should pick up a device to use during online instruction which begins September 14.

It is strongly recommended that all students use a district-issued device. Security, firewalls, software, and other things are guaranteed when our devices are used.

1st DAY OF SCHOOL

September 14th - All students

We are working hard to complete student schedules. They will be available prior to the first day of school and visible in StudentVue or ParentVue. You will receive a notification when student schedules are available.

Attached is a copy of the Middle School "bell" schedule. Please take note of the times students are expected to login in for live classes.

eGBSD

Our comprehensive distance learning instructional focus will be known as **eGBSD** and feature:

- Students will begin the year using Google Classroom.
- Students will have an Advisory class plus a 5 period school day.
- All classes will have a live lesson/check-in with their teacher
- Consistent and regular teacher feedback on academic work and real academic grades (A-F)
- Support for technology usage for students and families

- Attendance-required daily, attendance taken in individual classes
- Please see the attached daily student schedule*

To sum things up, expect a rigorous, academically aligned online educational program focused on teachers consistently connecting with students and families. This Fall at Gordon Russell we will provide a meaningful learning environment where students feel connected, creating a seamless transition back to in-person learning.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND VERIFICATION

We wanted to remind you that Parent Verification for the 2020-2021 School Year opened August 15, 2020.

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

Keeping your family's information up to date is crucial to receiving timely communication from Gresham-Barlow School District and ensures that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. This year 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.

Don't have a ParentVUE account or have other questions? Please contact the school to obtain your activation code.

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SCHOOL OFFICE PHONE HOURS

8:00 am - 4:00 pm School Days

The GRMS building is closed to the public. If you feel there is a need to come to the building, please contact the front office to schedule an appointment. For the safety of our staff, do not drop by the school without an appointment

SCHOOL/PARENT COMMUNICATION

The Thunderbird Take-Home is a weekly newsletter that will be sent electronically on every Tuesday 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".

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.). Parents or guardians should have an access code, but if you do not please call the main school office number at 503-667-6900 for an activation code.

The **GRMS website** is an online resource that includes information from both of our newsletters, as well as other school-related information. <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>

GRMS is also on **Social Media**.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GRMSTBirds>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/gordonrussellthunderbirds>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GordonRussellMiddleSchool/>

MEAL INFORMATION/FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS* (Please use link below)

<https://www.gresham.k12.or.us/domain/41>

****Applications must be completed every school year to maintain enrollment in the federal program.***

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

In a digital environment, it is important to remember ways to maximize the time spent online.

Tips for Being Successful

- Be Prepared (remember to charge devices at night and have class materials ready)
- Stay On Task (avoid distractions and give your full attention to the class)
- Be Visible
- Mute your microphone when starting a class meeting. Turn it on when needed.
- Use appropriate language when speaking
- Wear school appropriate clothing
- Academic Integrity-avoid plagiarism, copying, or turning in work that is not your own.
- Report any problems immediately to an adult

We support our students' right to free expression and the right to dress in a comfortable manner. It is critical to keep in mind that we are a public school and an academic setting.

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 2020-2021 school year to make it a great experience for all.

Sincerely,

Rolland Hayden
Principal

Middle School Schedule

Please note: this is a sample schedule and may vary slightly depending on your student's grade level and teacher.

Time	M, T, Th, F	W
8-9 a.m.	Prepare for the day	Prepare for the day
9-9:25 a.m. Advisory	Log on for face-to-face	Log on for face-to-face
9:30-10:25 a.m. Period 1	Log on for face-to-face learning time	Student learning experience
	Small group and/or on your own learning	
10:30-11:25 a.m. Period 2	Log on for face-to-face learning time	
	Small group and/or on your own learning	
11:25 a.m.-12:05 p.m.	Lunch	Lunch
12:05-1 p.m. Period 3	Log on for face-to-face learning time	Student learning experience and wellness
	Small group and/or on your own learning	Wellness
1:05-2 p.m. Period 4	Log on for face-to-face learning time	
	Small group and/or on your own learning	
2:05-3 p.m. Period 5	Log on for face-to-face learning time	
	Small group and/or on your own learning	
3-3:30 p.m.	Student learning experience and wellness	

Support for ELL and Special Education will be provided during small group/on your own learning time.

Wellness time consists of prerecorded music, PE and counseling lessons.

Synchronous = face-to-face

Asynchronous = Small group and/or on your own learning

Applied learning = Student learning experience