



Tuesday Take Home - November 19, 2019

Gordon Russell Middle School Weekly Newsletter

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|-----------|-------------------|--|----------|
| Tuesday | November 19, 2019 | Principal Recognition | 3:00 PM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | Picture Retakes | 9:00 AM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | Jazz Band to Metro East TV Studio | 10:00 AM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | JV1 Volleyball @ Alice Ott | 5:00 PM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | Varsity 2 Volleyball @ Alice Ott | 6:00 PM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | Varsity 1 Volleyball @ Alice Ott | 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday | November 20, 2019 | Parent Teacher Club Meeting-All Welcome to Attend! | 7:00 PM |
| Thursday | November 21, 2019 | Choir to Metro East TV Studio | 11:55 AM |
| Thursday | November 21, 2109 | Academic Student of the Month | 3:00 PM |
| Friday | November 22, 2019 | End of First Trimester | |
| Friday | November 22, 2019 | Dental Sealants Begin (11/22 - 12/11) | |
| Friday | November 22, 2019 | Gratitude Gathering Social | 2:35 PM |
| Friday | November 22, 2019 | Volleyball Tournament | 5:00 PM |
| Saturday | November 23, 2019 | Volleyball Tournament | 8:00 AM |
| Monday | November 25, 2019 | No School Grading Day | |
| Monday | November 25, 2019 | Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:30-8:00 PM)-See Below | |
| Tuesday | November 26, 2019 | Parent/Teacher Conferences (8:00 AM-8:00 PM)-See Below | |
| Monday | December 2, 2019 | Holiday Canned Food Drive Begins (12/2 - 12/13) | |

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE 2019-2020

Our holiday canned food drive will begin **Monday, December 2nd** and run through **Friday December 13th**. This will be a *grade-based competition* to see who can bring in the most items.

The winning grade will receive ice cream at lunch on Tuesday, December 17th. **If we hit our school wide goal of 2,500 items, Mr. Hayden will have to spend a day on the GRMS ROOF!**

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SPREAD THE CHEER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

Every year, the Gordon Russell community supports families in need during the holidays. This year, we will be giving food from our food drive and gift cards to these families.

At parent conferences, look for the winter display at the front of the building. If you would like to assist these families, T-Bird leaders will be at the table by the display to help you. Please donate with cash or

check. For every \$10 donation, we will add a snowflake to our display.

What a wonderful way to help others and make the holidays brighter!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

It is time for parents/guardians, students and teachers to get together and discuss student progress so far this year. All teachers will be completing 1st trimester grade reports on November 25th in preparation for the Parent/Teacher Conferences. Should a parent/guardian and student not be able to attend the scheduled conferences, grade reports will be sent home the following week. You are encouraged, however, to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with your student's teachers. Since this is the end of first trimester, please focus on meeting with teachers of year long classes. **Please bring your student with you to the conferences.**

Conferences Times and Appointments

Monday, November 25th, 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 26th, 8:00 - 11:45 a.m., 12:30 – 3:45 and 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.*

*Please note the lunch and dinner break times from 11:45-12:30 and 3:45-4:30. Please do not plan on meeting with teachers during this time.

6th grade - appointment only - The Explorers and West Wing teachers have sent home scheduling information by 1st period teacher.

Explorers - Media Center

West Wing – Classrooms

7th grade - appointment only - The Language Arts teachers have sent home scheduling information on November 5th.

All 7th Grade - Media Center

8th grade - appointment only - The Language Arts teachers will be sending home scheduling information today.

All 8th Grade – Commons

SPECIALIST TEACHERS BY SUBJECT

The Specialist Teachers will be available for a drop in visit during conferences.

Mr. Acevedo, ELD and Workshop - Room 29

Ms. Baldwin, Physical Education - Large Gym

Mr. Bonifacio, Spanish - Commons

Ms. Bootzin, Counselor – Counseling Center

Mr. Davis, Room 1

Ms. Dixon, Counselor – Counseling Center

Art, Art - Room 35

Ms. Gagne, Band - Band Room

Ms. Goltz, Room 15

Ms. Larkin, Room 16

Ms. Mirka, Choir - Choir Room

Mr. Nagel, Physical Education - Large Gym

Mr. Parrish, Room 33

AFTER SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

We are pleased with the parent and student support provided at our after-school games. When it comes to maintaining a game environment that is supportive of athletes and comfortable for all spectators, there are a

few guidelines that Russell students should keep in mind.

While attending an athletic event, student spectators need to respect the other spectators attending the event. Movement in and out of the gymnasiums should be restricted to quarter, half, and between game breaks. The doors leading to the hallway are the only doors available for entry and exit. DO NOT use the doors that lead to the football field. These are emergency exits only.

Students attending after school events are expected to be spectators in the stands. Students are not to be roaming around the hallway or areas outside of the gymnasium. These areas, including the covered play area, are off-limits to student activities during our games. Skateboarding and riding bicycles are also prohibited in these areas when after school events are taking place.

Again, we appreciate student spectators at our after-school athletic events. We expect our spectators to behave in a manner respectful of athletes and other spectators. Students and spectators unable to follow our guidelines will be removed from the event and restricted from after-school activities.

HEALTH CONCERNS AROUND VAPING

Over the past few years I have seen an increase of students using and talking about vaping in school and at home. GBSD middle school principals have felt it necessary to draft a combined letter to parents about this topic. Please see the attached letter and as always, please call if you have any questions - Rolland Hayden.

UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION

Please remember us if you or your family's contact information changes. Please call the main office to update your student's records.

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YEARBOOKS

Dear Parents, the Yearbook staff would like to inform you about the Gordon Russell Middle School Yearbook of 2019-2020. All books now cost \$20 before spring break. After that date, they will be \$25. Also, on yearbook signing day, there will be a limited supply: first come, first served and ***cash only***. If you are not sure if you have purchased one, a list is posted outside the counseling office. Buying a yearbook will help the school and also be a record of great memories! Come to the main office and make your \$20 yearbook purchase today!

SCHOOL-WIDE SOCIAL

November 22nd from 2:35 - 3:35 marks our first Thunderbird Social of the year. This year all of the socials will be themed, they are purposeful and tied to the school culture. The theme of this week's social is centered around "Gratitude". There will be a scavenger hunt, which allows students to get to know the teachers and staff members of the school. There will be collaborative activities that promote teamwork. Some of the activities included at the social are a dance, field games, obstacle course and much more.

Much of what makes our school successful is the student's connection to the school and the pride they feel being a Thunderbird. This event helps to connect our students to the school and we hope that everyone helps to make the event a success.