



Tuesday Take Home - September 14, 2021

Gordon Russell Middle School Weekly Newsletter

Phone: 503-667-6900

Web Address: <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>

 <https://twitter.com/GRMSTBirds>

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

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

Wednesday	September 15, 2021	Picture Day *info below	All Day (PE/Health Class)
Friday	September 24, 2021	Staff Inservice-No School	
Wednesday	September 29, 2021	PTC Meeting	7:00 PM (Virtual) https://meet.google.com/gxe-qgos-nay?authuser=0

WELCOME BACK

We want to express a hearty "WELCOME BACK" to all of the Gordon Russell Middle School students and families. The beginning of the school year is always a great time with a built in "fresh start". It was awesome to see our newest group of Thunderbirds.

The entire staff is excited and ready for a successful school year for every student. All of our teachers have spent considerable time preparing for the year and we have set some high goals for ourselves. We will be working harder than ever this school year to make the most of your child's experience. Please feel free to stop in and say hello before or after school or call with any questions.

PICTURE DAY

Picture Day is coming to Gordon Russell Middle School!! Get your smiles ready! Pictures will be taken on Wednesday September 15 during PE or Health classes. If you are planning to order pictures, please come with your picture packet filled out and bring your payment with you. If you would like to order pictures online, you may do so at <https://dorianstudio.com/>

Tips to make picture day great:

- Simple clothing like solid shirts or small patterns photograph best.
- Graphics or wording may not photograph completely
- Think of something funny as they take your picture

SCHOOL WIDE BINDER SYSTEM

Organization is one of the most important parts of being an effective student. Management of time and energy and learning to set priorities can make the difference between success and failure at school. This year GRMS will be providing, teaching and promoting the uses of binders as an organizational tool. Teachers will use the binder as a part of instruction to better keep students organized and help them manage their time and energy. Thank you for your support in this area.

STUDENT PLANNERS

An important part of helping our students develop responsible habits that promote success is the effective use of the student planner. The student planners were presented to students during the first week of school. Please ask to see your student's planner and look to see if they are using it to record homework, project due-dates, and important school events. This is a key organizational strategy for continued success.

SCHOOL/PARENT COMMUNICATION

The Tuesday Take-Home is a weekly newsletter that will be sent electronically and/or is sent home with each student on every Tuesday of the school year. The Tuesday Take-Home highlights events, procedures and PTC information and occasionally has important items attached that are to be delivered home.

The GRMS website is an online resource that includes information from both of our newsletters, as well as information related to athletics, lunches, buses, student grades/progress, and more. Check it out at <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>.

BUS INFORMATION

Most likely you have received information from First Student regarding the times for student pick up. If not, or if you have questions, please feel free to contact them at 503-665-8193. Those parents, who will be driving their children those first few days of school, please remember to arrive no earlier than 8:40 a.m. Students who arrive early will be asked to wait outside until that time.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

During the first week of school, staff presented student behavior expectation lessons to students as part of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) Program.

PARENT TEACHER CLUB (PTC) NEWS

The Gordon Russell Middle School Parent Teacher Club have already begun their planning for the 21-22 school year. Key areas of concentration for the coming year include:

- Financial support of GRMS programs via grants to staff projects, ongoing programs and specific activities,
- Support for activities and events via organization, refreshments and supervision,
- Coordination of all volunteer activities - recruitment, training, and recognition,
- Community events that will involve students and families in a healthy and enjoyable activity.
- The PTC will meet for the first time on September 29th at 7:00 PM. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend our PTC meetings.

MEDICATION REMINDER!

School personnel may not give children medication without written permission from the parent/guardian and doctor. Parents must bring the medication to the school office and complete the required district form before the medication can be given. Students may never transport medication.

Prescription medication must be prepared and labeled by a pharmacist at the direction of a physician. The district requires a signed permission form and instructions from the student's parent, which includes: name of student, name of medication, route, dosage and frequency of administration will be needed.

Prescription medication must remain in the original container from the pharmacy or doctor's office. Nonprescription medication must be brought to school in original container or packaging and must follow recommended guidelines for dosage. Nonprescription medication means only commercially prepared, non-alcohol based medication to be taken during school hours that is necessary for the student to remain in school.

SUN SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

Our school offers SUN programming. We will offer a range of athletic and interest-based classes including homework support in three sessions throughout the school year. Programming will run Monday through Thursday. An activity bus will be available to transport students to their neighborhood following programming.

Our belief is that by partnering with community programs such as those listed above, as well as others, our middle schools can offer even more after school activities than before. Even better, more students will have the opportunity to participate because the offerings will be much more than a standard athletic program. As we all know, the more students we have engaged in positive after-school activities, the better it is for them, their parents, and our community.

APPROPRIATE DRESS

1. To ensure adequate coverage of the body at school and school activities, the following articles of clothing are not permitted:

Allowable Attire

- Students must wear shoes and clothing including both a top and a bottom or the equivalent.
- Shirts and dresses must-have fabric in the front and on the sides.
- Clothing must cover undergarments; waistbands and bra straps excluded.
- Fabric must cover all genitalia, buttocks, and nipples. Clothing covering these areas must not be see-through.
- Headwear must allow the face and ears to be visible and not interfere with the line of sight to any student or staff. Hoodies must allow the student's face and ears to be visible to the staff.
- Clothing and footwear must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities including physical education, science labs, CTE shops and labs, and other activities where unique hazards exist.
- Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.

Non-allowable Attire

- Clothing may not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or other controlled substances.
- Clothing may not depict pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
- Clothing may not depict violent acts, promote violence, or aggression.
- Clothing may not depict Confederate flags, Nazi symbols, nooses, or hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected group.

All decisions regarding inappropriate dress and/or grooming are at the complete discretion of the school administration.

We will work with our students to help them meet school expectations. We attempt to always interact respectfully with each individual as we address concerns. We ask that parents support our efforts through regular discussions with students about school behavior and proper attire. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

I LOVE YOU GUYS

The safety of your student/students at school is our number one priority. This past year our school district, along with our local fire and police departments, have adopted new protocols and procedures. The protocols were created by the "I Love You Guys" Foundation, which was developed following a fatal school shooting. It is becoming a standard regionally and nationally. The protocol's curriculum, materials and posters are free to download and duplicate. The protocol features four standard emergency responses: Lockdown, Lockout, Evacuate, and Shelter. Your students will be given a training on the new protocols and an informational letter is attached.

MORNING ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

Please do not drop your children off at school in the morning before 8:40 a.m., unless they have made prior arrangements with a teacher or are part of a supervised activity. There is no supervision available for students prior to 8:40 a.m. Thank you for your consideration.

CROSSING GUARD ON POWELL

Due to the increased number of Russell students who cross Powell Valley Road to get to our school, we have a crossing guard to assist students before and after school. Stationed at the crossing area just south of our property, a school staff member will stop traffic while assisting students who need to cross the street. We will be adjusting the crossing guard times to meet the needs of the students. To start with we will have a crossing guard on duty from 8:40 – 9:00 am and 3:35 – 3:50 pm.

DAILY ATTENDANCE AND NOTIFICATION

Gordon Russell Middle School continues to use an **every period attendance system**. This will not only allow us to more closely monitor students in the building, but will also enable us to communicate student attendance more effectively with families. We will be making calls to parents throughout the day to ensure an open line of communication while students are at school, or confirming that they have an excused absence.



STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a "Term of Art" and is then followed by a "Directive." Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

"In Your Classroom or Area"

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the "All Clear" is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

"Get Inside. Lock outside doors"

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

"Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

"To a Location"

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

"State Hazard and Safety Strategy"

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.

