

Greenville Middle School

Family Newsletter

April 2023



Greetings,

Welcome to April! Please take time to read important updates from GMS. As always, please reach out to us with any questions. The best way to get accurate answers to your questions is to call the school office directly and we will gladly assist.

With regard,

Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. Powell

Autism Acceptance Month



April is Autism Acceptance Month! GMS will be celebrating with various activities throughout the month. We will kick off the month by sharing facts about Autism Spectrum Disorder and students will watch a short video. On April 12th, we encourage all students and staff to wear BLUE in support of ASD! Students and staff will also be receiving bracelets to wear. We can't wait to see all the BLUE!

GMS March Students of the Month



Each month we celebrate students who are demonstrating Social and Emotional Learning Skills (SEL) in the areas of Self Management, Self Awareness, Relationship Skills, Social Awareness, and Responsible Decision Making. We celebrate students who are growing and making progress in their skills and also those who demonstrate them consistently.

Congratulations to our March Students of the Month!

Student Safety Reminders



- You may not drop off or pick up your student in the staff lot. You must use the drop off/pick up lane for your students safety.
- Pull up as far as possible in the lane, once you make your first stop and you are curbside your student should exit.
- GES students should be dropped off in the GES parking lot. If you have a GMS student as well, they can walk from GES.
- Drop off/pick up should only take place in the right lane. The left lane is for exiting after you have dropped off/picked up. Students should never walk through the left lane.
- Please remind your student if they are biking, once they are school grounds they should walk their bike.

Student Drop Off Time



Students can enter the building each morning at 7:25am (unless they are here for band, choir, or an activity supervised by a staff member). Please do not drop them off prior to that as there is no supervision. Please remind them they will need to wait in the cafeteria until 7:30am before heading to their grade levels. If your student is planning on getting breakfast, please remind them to get breakfast right away and take it with them to their first hour. If your child is coming to Open Gym, they may arrive at 7:00am but must remain in the gym until 7:25am.

Please keep in mind, students should be seated and ready to learn by 7:40am. Please plan accordingly if you are dropping off so that they have adequate time.

We have seen an increase in drop-off students not arriving at school by 7:35.

Please plan accordingly to avoid having your child be tardy.

Planning Ahead for 2023/24 Vacations?



[2023-2024 District Calendar](#)

Please use the district calendar to plan for vacations for next year. Please schedule vacations according to our calendar to avoid missing school. School attendance is one of the highest predictors of student success!

FINISH STRONG!!

Attendance matters, every day counts toward student success



Anytime your student is out for a medical (medical, dental, mental health) appointment or is ill, a note from the doctors office can exempt those occurrences from the ten days. If you have those documents from prior appointments or illnesses, please route them to our school office as soon as possible.

Wisconsin Attendance Law:

According to “State Statute 118.15(3)(C) parents may excuse their child from school for no more than **ten** (*all or part of*) days a school year. *After* ten times of being excused, a medical excuse will be required to exempt the absence, or the absence may be treated as unexcused.”

Helpful Tips:

- Call Greenville Middle School before 7:30am on the day your student is going to be absent. (920-757-7140) **Please wait for all directions on the voicemail line, it will prompt you to save your message when you are done. Please wait for that to finalize your message.**
- Schedule as many appointments as possible outside of the school day.
- If a student misses school due to an appointment (doctor, dentist, therapy, etc) or goes to the doctor for an illness, the professional can send a note exempting the absence from school by either faxing (fax number 757-7141) the note to school or it can be handed into the office here at Greenville Middle School.
- Schedule your vacations to coincide with the school district calendar. (Pre-arranged absence forms must be filled out and approved before a trip)
- Communicate with school staff when there are barriers to your student attending school.
- Students will be marked tardy after 7:40am. Students are expected to be in school and seated ready to go at this time.
- Greenville Middle School and Hortonville Area School District will be sending reminder letters, emails, and requesting parent meetings after 10 school days are excused, we want to be partners in your child’s success. Absences after 10 occurrences will be marked unexcused and will require a doctor's note.

GMS Student Handbook



Please take time to review our [Student Handbook](#). Your student has been provided a copy of this. You may also access [district policy](#) if you have additional questions.

Reminders from the



If your student is not feeling well during the school day they should get permission from their teacher to go to the Health Office. The Health Aid will discuss their symptoms and assess your student in the Health Office and will then contact you. Please remind them they should not be texting parents from classrooms without teacher permission. Please remind them to follow this process so that we can follow our school health protocol. At times, students may be avoiding class and our Health Aid does an excellent job working with students to ensure it is appropriate that they leave for the day. This process also helps us ensure attendance protocols are utilized correctly. Please remind your student of this process and ensure they follow this protocol here at school.

Student Cell Phone Use at GMS



We ask that you please do not text your child during the school day. This becomes a classroom management challenge for our staff. Students may only use their phone for school use in the classroom with teacher permission. They may not use cell phones in restrooms, hallways, locker rooms, or the lunch room. If you need to get a message to your student, please call the school office and we will get them the message.

If your child is not feeling well, remind them to go to the nurses office to be assessed rather than calling you first. The nurse's office will then contact you.

We also have seen an increase of students using ear buds during the school day when they do not have teacher permission. Please remind them that their ear buds should stay in their locker all day unless a teacher has given them permission to use them during class. They should not have them in at any other time. Thank you for your help with this.

2023-2024 Teacher Request Requirements



It is that time of year when families and parents start to send teacher requests for next year. Classroom teachers, interventionists, pupil service staff, and special education staff collaborate to identify the very best placement for your child. Lists are created, reviewed, and then revised several times to balance student needs.

Some of the factors considered when placing students in classes include:

1. Balancing the ability levels of all students
2. Equalizing class size
3. Separating children who have demonstrated personality conflicts.
4. Distributing the ratio of boys and girls.
5. Configuring classrooms for access to resource teachers.

We do not guarantee any teacher requests as we believe our educators are qualified to support all students. Only requests with a specific medically documented academic need can be honored. If your student qualifies for a request based on academic need, please submit a written statement which contains the reasons why such a placement is necessary for your child's education. The Written statement must include the date, child's name, his/her grade level for the following school year, the FIRST AND SECOND choice of teacher and the academic rationale for the request. A parent/guardian signature and documentation from the student's medical provider supporting the request must be included. All requests must be received in the school office no later than April 30, 2023.

GMS/HMS Spring Fling!



Friday, April 21st, 2023 at Greenville Middle School

5th and 6th Grade: 3:30-5:00 pm

7th and 8th Grade: 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Cost: \$5 includes dance admission, hot dog, chips, and bottled water

Permission Slips were emailed home and can also be picked up in the school office and must be returned with payment by April, 19th

8th Grade Awards and Promotion Ceremony



Save the date! May 31st , 2023 5:00PM

We will hold the program at the Wolf River Community Bank Stadium at Hortonville High School, weather permitting. If the weather forecast calls for rain the program will be held at Greenville Middle School in the main gym. We will update you via Skylert by 12pm on May 31st if it is moved indoors.

There will be an 8th Grade GMS/HMS Dance to follow at HMS from 6:30-8pm

Please contact Jes Powell at GMS if you would be willing to donate decorations, gift cards for prizes, or snacks for the dance. There is no need to pre-register.

The last day of school is not until June 1st, our 8th graders do attend the following day through the 1st.

Forward Exam Testing Continues



GMS Students in Grades 5-8 will continue on in the Wisconsin Forward Exam until April 28th.

The Wisconsin Forward Exam tests students in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8. Fourth and eighth grade students are also tested in Science and Social Studies. One or more subtests may be administered daily during the identified time frame and it is very important that your son or daughter be in school during this time. Students not in school on the scheduled testing days will be scheduled for a make-up test prior to the close of the testing window.

The Wisconsin Forward Exam measures the knowledge and skills your student(s) should have acquired by the time they reach each grade level. Their performance on the assessment will not affect any of their current grades. Please encourage your son or daughter to take the test seriously and do the best they can. The

results of these tests will be used to help school staff make determinations or placement in classes to best support your child(ren).

If you have any questions, please contact the GMS office at 920-757-7140

Thank you,

Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. Powell

HASD School Bus Expectation Reminders



As a reminder to all, it is very important for our drivers to ensure that your child arrives to and from school safely. Student safety is the drivers primary concern on every route (to and from school, activities, field trips, etc).

Recently, we have seen an increase in behavioral concerns on our bus routes. When a driver is managing behaviors, it is distracting to their ability to drive safely. Consider yourself as a driver, would you want your student to behave in a way in which your ability to drive safely was compromised? We need your student to manage their behaviors on the bus to ensure safe transport in the same way you would.

If your student is not able to manage their behaviors while on the bus, a behavioral referral will be made to school administration. Please review the following expectations with your student so that the driver can focus on driving.

1. There is no food or drink permitted on the bus at any time. It should remain in their backpack.
2. Social media of any kind may not be used on the bus.
3. Students may not use their cell phone or any other electronic device to take pictures or videos on the bus.
4. The volume level on the bus must remain low. Students may engage in conversation at a low volume level with the student(s) they are seated with. They should not be shouting, yelling, chanting, etc.
5. Just as we would use a seating chart to assist in the classroom, seating charts on the bus are an expectation. Students must sit in their assigned seat.
6. Students should be facing forward when the bus is moving. They should remain seated with their feet on the floor. Their feet should not be in the aisle. The aisle may not be blocked when the bus is moving. Students should remain seated until the bus makes a complete stop before they get up to exit the bus.
7. Swearing, inappropriate comments, teasing, name calling and unkind remarks to peers is not acceptable on the bus at any time.

If a second referral occurs, a conference may be held with any/all of the following: the Director of Transportation, the principal/associate principal, student, driver, and parent or guardian(s) with a written report sent to parent/guardian(s). Additionally, a student may be suspended from riding the bus for two (2) days at the discretion of the administrator. A third offense can result in a five-day bus suspension. In the event of a fourth offense, the student may be suspended from riding the bus and referred to the Board of Education for possible expulsion from bus riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.

If you have additional questions please reach out to us and we will do our best to assist. You can also reference the [School Bus Discipline and Conduct Policy #8610](#). We wish you well and look forward to seeing your student back at school on April 10th, 2023.

Notes from the Counseling Office: 8th Grade Parents



Attention 8th grade parents, we have some fun career exploration opportunities for your students in the month of April.

On Wednesday, April 26, 2023 Hortonville & Greenville Middle School students will be attending the 8th Grade Career Fair that will be held at the Clintonville High School Field House from 10:00-1:00PM. Field trip permission slips will be coming home soon.

Friday, April 28th from 8:45-11:00am, all 8th GMS students will be taking a field trip to Hortonville High School where students will be introduced to their High School counselor, take a tour and have a sneak peek at extracurriculars that are offered - Lastly students will have a chance to have a Q & A session with Link Crew and SWAP, student leadership organizations at HHS.

Any questions please contact Ms. Danke, School Counselor

HASD Summer School Information



Summer School Registration is open, please visit this [link](#) for more information.

Important Dates to Remember:

[2022/2023 District Calendar](#)

[2023-2024 District Calendar](#)

April 24th: End of the 3rd Quarter

May 29th: Memorial Day - No School

June 1st: Last Day of School

June 5th - 23rd: Summer School