

GKMS Summer Newsletter 2011-2012

Welcome Back!

Welcome back GKMS families. Below is some information we hope you will find helpful as the school year nears. Please call the office with any additional questions at (815) 784-5222. We are looking forward to another great year of students, parents, and teachers working together to make GKMS a great place for kids.

First Day of School

The first day of attendance for students is August 17th. We will start at our normal time of 7:55. Students will be released at 11:30. Our first full day (7:55-2:55) of attendance will be August 18th.

GKMS Handbook and Internet Usage Form

During the first week of school, GKMS students will be receiving two very important pieces of information. The GKMS Parent-Student handbook serves many purposes. First, it has the GKMS and District sections of the handbook. In each of these sections, you will find expectations for students, procedures and other important information. The Parent-Student Handbook also serves as an agenda, which can be used for recording assignments, tests, projects etc. Also, students will be bringing home a copy of the Internet Usage policy. It is important you read over this, and the handbook, with your student.

The signed receipt (located at the front of the Parent-Student Handbook) is due back to school on August 26th, 2011.

Important Powerschool Information

Did you know?

- Parents can view their students' daily classroom activities, as well as things they should be working on?
- Parents can view their students' grades?
- Parents can view their students' attendance?

- Parents can see announcements about school activities daily?

All of this can be done through accessing Powerschool. Each student has an access ID. 6th graders and new students will receive this information during the first few weeks of school. Returning 7th and 8th graders have the same login information as previous years. If misplaced, parents may request the information in writing from the GKMS office.

GKMS Open House

GKMS Open House Curriculum Night will be on Sept. 20th from 6:30-7:45. Please come and join us.

Volunteers

GKMS is always looking for ways to involve parents and community members. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. McPherson at 815-784-5222 or by email at bmcpfers@gkschools.org.

Mealtime

GKMS will once again be using Mealtime for payment of lunches. A few reminders about Mealtime here at GKMS:

- Students must have either their id # (provided on the first day) or their ID cards in the lunch line.
- Any balance from last year is carried over to this school year.
- GKMS is a cash-free lunch-line. No cash can be accepted in the cafeteria.
- Students may submit cash or check payments in the morning in the gym, or in office by the end of 2nd hour (9:22am).
- Parents may also submit payments on-line.

Important Dates

August 17 th	Half Day of School 7:55-11:30
August 18 th	Full day of school 7:55-2:55
August 24 th	Fundraiser Begins. (Ends Sept. 5 th)
September 5 th	No School
September 7 th	Picture Day
September 12 th -14 th	Loredo Taft for 6 th Graders

GKMS Sports News

GKMS Sports Physicals

Any student wanting to try out for any sport at GKMS must have a physical on file before tryouts begin. A student may not participate in tryouts without a sports physical on file. School fees have to be paid before a student may participate in a contest.

GKMS Sports Parent Meeting

When: August 11th, 7pm
Where: GKMS New Gym (enter through cafeteria at west end)
What: Informational meeting for Football, Volleyball and Cheerleading
Who: Mr. Dirk Campbell, AD, GKMS coaches and GKMS administration.

If you have a son or daughter who wants to compete in fall sports here at GKMS, please join us for an informational meeting on August 11th at 7pm. Coaches will talk about expectations, program goals and procedures for tryouts. If you have questions please call Mr. Campbell at 815-784-5111 or Mr. McPherson at 815-784-5222.

Sports Schedules/Directions

Schedules are posted on our school website. Directions are also posted. Students will also receive a hard copy of practice schedules and game schedules when practice begins.

Fall Cheerleading Tryouts

Fall cheerleading tryouts will be held on August 22nd, from 3:00-4:30. There will be a clinic for interested students on August 18th and 19th, from 3:00-4:30. Practice will begin on August 23rd. For more information on fall cheerleading, please attend the GKMS Sports Parent Meeting on August 11th at 7pm here at GKMS.

Volleyball Tryouts

Volleyball tryouts for 7th and 8th graders will be on August 8th-10th from 10-12am. Practice will begin on August 11th. For more information, please attend the GKMS Sports Parent Meeting on August 11th at 7pm here at GKMS.

Football Practice

Football practice begins at GKMS on August 8th at 9am. For further information, please attend the GKMS Sports Parent Meeting on August 11th at 7pm here at GKMS.