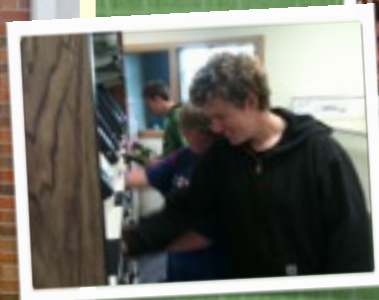


Geneseo Middle School

NOVEMBER 2011



Student-Led Conferences

When parents, students, and teachers talk about ways to help student progress, great things typically happen. Although this school year is almost a quarter of the way completed, we have noticed great support and conversations between our teachers and parents. The results of this open communication on the success of our children is immense.

In an effort to meet with as many families as possible while also increasing student involvement in the learning process, we utilize student-led conferences. For the middle school student, we have found that student-led conferencing allows the student to

take ownership for the work they have done in class and their academic progress. The process of preparing for conferences is involved. Students have to work with the teachers to select material that shows their progress academically. Students need to be able to talk about the work and explain what they learned. Furthermore, students also focus on goals they have for themselves.

Although we have found success through student-led conferences, we recognize that this style of conferencing is not for everyone. If you would like to meet with your team of teachers,

or and individual teacher, you can make arrangements through the counseling department.

PTA is still accepting memberships. Please email Mr. DeBaene or Mrs. DePauw through the GMS website for ways to join this excellent organization.

Student-led conferences are November 7th and 10th from 4-8.



GMS Twitter www.twitter.com/geneseoMS

Announcements

Health Watch

As we enter flu season, please review with your child proper hand washing and covering their coughs. If your student is ill and requires staying home, please keep the school nurse informed of any specifics that would help us protect the rest of the student population.

Loading and Unloading Students

Please help the Geneseo Middle School parking lot be as safe as possible. We are urging parents who drop off and pick up their children to please look for pedestrians in parking lot who may be crossing. This includes staff members and visitors entering the building.

A.S.A.P.

This year we have been implementing a new program called A.S.A.P. during the middle of our school day. This class period lasts approximately twenty minutes and provides a variety of options to the building. Students who have been identified as struggling with math and English skills are given lessons and support to boost skills. This does not include specific homework support, but rather the skills and knowledge to be able to complete math and English tasks effectively. Several other students will participate in Silent Sustained Reading (SSR). SSR time is for students to read uninterrupted and practice reading skills. Although SSR sounds simple enough, the time to read and practice reading improves reading abilities. A.S.A.P. is new to GMS and we continue to evaluate its success and potential. In the future, we plan to expand some of what we can offer with this period.



Red Ribbon Week was October 24-28. During this week, students did various activities to raise awareness to being drug free. The topic of drug abuse is a tricky subject, but something that needs to be discussed with students. Please contact our counseling department if you need any help discussing drugs at home.

Upcoming Dates

November 2 - Picture retakes

November 4 - IESA Speech Contest (at Taylor Ridge)

November 7 & 10 - Student-Led Conference 4-8 p.m. (hour early releases)

November 10 - School board meeting

November 11 - Veteran's Day (no school)

November 21-25 - Thanksgiving Break (no school)



Visit www.geneseoschools.org to reach the middle school website. A link to the calendar is located through this website.

Boys' Basketball and wrestling competitions begin in November. Please check the Geneseo Middle School online calendar for details.