



# Greenacres Middle School

February 2019

Vern DiGiovanni-Principal

Grady Emmerson-Vice Principal

**Main Phone Number: 558-4860**  
**24 Hr Attendance Line: 558-4870**  
**Fax Number: 558-4869**

**Greenacres Middle School**  
**17409 E Sprague Ave.**  
**Spokane Valley, WA 99016**  
**[www.cvsd.org/greenacres](http://www.cvsd.org/greenacres)**

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I wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day in advance. February 15<sup>th</sup> is our staff in-service day and February 18<sup>th</sup> is Presidents' Day. Both days, there will be no school for students. February 20-22 are conference dates. Please refer to our calendar for other important dates.

**Thank You School Board:** Thank you to school board members Tom Dingus, Mysti Reneau, Debbie Long, Dr. Keith Clark, and Cindy McMullen. January was the month to celebrate the dedication and support the school board provides our community as volunteers throughout the entire year. Hurray, CVSD School Board!

**Fill the Bus Food Drive:** The Central Valley Middle Schools are having our annual food drive. You can shop at Safeway of Liberty Lake Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 to 2:00 and leave a donation with our students. Safeway has been a wonderful partner over the years, and we look forward to parking our big yellow school bus in front of the store for the day. I am sure our students would love to see you support our cause.

**After School Pick-Up:** Family and friends, please do not stop on Sprague waiting to enter our parking lot. Cars coming around the corner have little time to adjust to a stopped car on Sprague. Instead of stopping, please turn onto Tschirley and drive further down to wait for your student there. Thank you.

**February Conferences:** Students will be released at 12:30 February 20-22. The February conferences are provided to give struggling students and their parents the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss their student's learning needs and challenges. A struggling student can be identified for many reasons—grades (D or F), attendance, or homework completion as some examples.

- Staff will be setting up conferences for struggling students over the next couple of weeks.
- If you are not contacted for a conference and feel that this is something your student needs, you can email the teacher(s) you would like to meet with, or contact the school at 558-4860 to make arrangements.
- Our goal is to meet with every student (and their parents) who is currently failing one or more classes.
- We will make arrangements to meet with other students and families who request a conference during this time as well.

**PTA News:** Thank you to everyone that has volunteered this year. Soon our PTA will be opening up the opportunity for you to be member of our PTA Board. There are also opportunities for you to help with dances, fundraisers, hospitality, and so much more. Please consider being an active part of our PTA.

Our next PTA Family Dance, “Neon Nights”, is scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7-9pm. Cost is \$3 per person. Dress up in your black light glow wear and dance to a live DJ. Bring cash for black light swag and food items. Please remember that a parent must attend with students. School dress code applies.

**State Testing:** All students will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC). Our testing will take place in May. We will receive individual and school-wide data back. I will continue to update you on testing dates and other information as it is determined.

As in the past, we will provide our students with tutorial information prior to taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Students have also had the opportunity to take interim assessments throughout the school year. These are smaller assessments provided to schools that emulate the Smarter Balanced Assessments and provide some information to teachers and parents about how students are doing.

Who will be testing:	Tentative Dates
**All students SBAC Language Arts/Literacy	May Date TBD
**All Students SBAC Mathematics	May Date TBD
** 8th grade only Science Assessment	May Date TBD

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Visitation to CVHS and Parent Night:** Eighth grade Parent Night is March 4<sup>th</sup> at Central Valley High School from 6-7:30pm. Come tour the school, hear about curriculum, and learn about all the clubs and activities offered at Central Valley High School. Refreshments are provided.

Central Valley High School will also host morning visitations for 8<sup>th</sup> graders on March 11th. Busses will be provided for all CVSD middle schools.

**College Bound Scholarships:** All families who qualify for free and reduced lunch need to apply for free college scholarships for their students. GMS has about 30% of our 7th and 8th grade student population that qualifies for free or reduced lunch. Included in this newsletter are the registration form and qualifications. Please! Please! Please! If your family qualifies for free or reduced lunch, take the time to fill this out. It must be done while your students are in the 7th or 8th grade. There are students in our community that are already attending college because they signed up for this program. For assistance or more information, contact Janet McDonald at 558-4867 or Jennifer Ashlock at 558-4878. Sign up today and make college a free experience for your student.

**Meritorious Service Awards Nominations:** Each year, the Central Valley School District recognizes staff and volunteers that influence and make a positive impact on learning and teaching in our schools. There are four categories for nominations: certificated employees, classified employees, community members/organizations, and teams. Anyone can be a nominator. GMS has outstanding staff members that would be honored to have parents and/or students recommend and recognize them for this award. All nominees are recognized at a building celebration regardless if they are selected as District winners. Please, consider nominating an educator or staff member that has made a difference for your student. Forms are available at [www.cvsd.org](http://www.cvsd.org) under the ‘About Us’ tab. **All nominations are due by February 28<sup>th</sup>. You submit completed forms on-line at the web site.**

**Collaboration Thursdays:** This time has been extremely valuable to the staff as they work towards improving learning and instruction. We have eight teams that meet weekly to discuss assessment, individual student learning, and teaching strategies. Our school improvement plan includes time for teachers to meet and discuss these items. With the Common Core State Standards as well as preparing students for the Smarter Balanced Assessment, this time has been most appreciated and beneficial.

**7th Grade Washington State History and Government:** On November 11, 2011, the Washington State Board of Education created the Washington Administration Code to clarify the graduation requirements for Washington State history. What does this mean for our Central Valley/GMS students?

- Washington State History is taught in 7th grade history classes during the 3rd and 4th quarters; students must pass these two quarters in order to meet the graduation requirement.
- The course and grade is cited on their transcripts upon entering high school. There is no credit, but if they do not successfully pass these two quarters of 7th grade History, they will need to repeat a Washington State history course sometime before they can graduate from high school.
- Our high schools do not offer a Washington State History course. Students who would need to make this course up for graduation purposes would need to complete the course through summer school or through other options.

Vern DiGiovanni  
Principal, GMS

**Math is Cool Tournament**  
February 15th  
Mount Spokane High School.  
Yes, that is a no school day.

Students going to the tournament need to be at GMS at 2:15 on February 15th.  
A school bus will take your student to the tournament.  
Parents are invited to come at 5:30 during the dinner break.

Students need to return their permission slip ASAP

Please email or call if you have any questions

Pat Dempsey  
558-4893  
[pdempsey@cvsd.org](mailto:pdempsey@cvsd.org)



Do you know how to  
speak Taiwanese?

If you do, the choirs  
could use your help!

Please contact Mrs.  
Croskrey at  
[mcroskrey@cvsd.org](mailto:mcroskrey@cvsd.org).



## **Spirit Service Club**

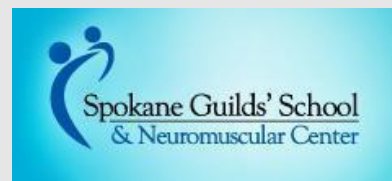
Information for our next meeting:

**February 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Art room 121**

**2:45-4:00 -- Make sure you have a ride home.**

We will be gearing up for the Penny Drive for the  
Guild School  
the first week in March.





Our Student of the Month program enables the staff to recognize students that show PACE Character Traits. Each month we will have a different trait as our focus. The criteria for December was “Caring”, January was “Fairness”, and February is Honesty. All of the students that are selected are treated to a pizza/sundae party at lunch time. There will also be a Student of the Month breakfast for students, parents, and staff. The Student of the Month celebration for December and January is on February 8th, 7:30am in the commons.

Students selected for the month of **December** were:

6th Grade

Morgan Stensgar  
Peter Moskalenko  
Savannah Mortimer  
Lincoln Duggan  
Lexi Wilding  
Jace Carter  
Olivia Curtis  
Trevor Burpee  
Natalie Gerber  
Ariana Baker

7th Grade

Josh Wesley  
Ian Sadlowski  
Kyndal Butcher  
Kealeah Trotter  
Liliya Kravtsova  
Taylor Rasmussen  
Brayden Gilbertson  
Preslie Young  
Alison Pegram  
Kara Chan

8th Grade

Keegan Phillips  
Jack Rau  
Brice Sphuler  
Hannah Lind  
Elijah Thompson  
Aliyah Spence  
Alayna Bell  
Lexi Aitken  
Emma Fredekind  
Savannah Smith  
Dakota Means  
Hannah Mostek  
Emree Brantner  
Jackson Nichols  
Madison Gannon

Students selected for the month of **January** were:

6th Grade

Kendylyn Rogers  
Catalina Brooks  
Jacob Dahmen  
Allison Schmedtje  
Ryan Freeman  
Carli Agnew  
Eli Gray  
Shealyn Fry

7th Grade

Owen Gingeras  
Lola McKay  
Bella Escobar  
Brady Cardon  
Kole LeGrant  
Shea-Lea Flowers

8th Grade

Holly Meadows  
Brooke Pederson  
Cohen Rachoy  
Jacob White  
Nathan Goode  
Brianna Suarez  
Teagan O'Reilly  
Jillian Persicke  
Hannah Brigman  
Dakohta Chavez

The Student of the Month program is meant to promote success in and out of the classroom. For a student to be a well-respected citizen, they must be able to balance many different areas of life. They must exemplify outstanding characteristics both as a student and as a citizen of the community. The student must be able to handle many different aspects of student life while maintaining excellence in the classroom. This award is designed to nominate and select students who promote and take pride in Greenacres Middle School and in themselves.



# News & Announcements



## -February-

- 1- Muffins for Moms, 7:30a
- 7- Dine Out with PTA @  
Applebee's on Pines
- 12- PTA Board Mtg, 6pm
- 22- Neon Nights Dance, 7-9p



**Let's light up the night and Glow Dance! Friday the 22nd from 7-9p. Cost is \$3 per person. Dress up in your black light glow wear and dance to a live DJ. Bring cash for black light swag and food items. Please remember that a parent must attend with students. School dress code applies.**



Join us Thursday February 7th at Applebee's on Pines. Show the fundraiser flyer attached to this email (paper or digital version) so GMS PTA will receive the credit.

Thank you so much for supporting GMS!



### GMS PTA Board

#### President

Michelle Bartholomew  
bruinptapresident@gmail.com

#### Vice-President

Aimee Fiala

#### Secretary

Michelle Acton-McArdle

#### Treasurer

Barb Hormel


Box Tops raised \$262.80 for the last six months, so keep on clipping! Only Box Tops that show an unexpired date can be submitted and the date must be on them. If you send in 50 your child will receive a coupon for a free slushie. We are grateful for any quantities as each box top is worth 10c, this is a great easy way to donate to the school. Thank You GMS parents!



# February 2019



Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat

					1 Muffins for Moms	2 'Fill the Bus' Albertsons Liberty Lake 9-2
Annual Fill the Bus Food Drive 1/28 through 2/1						
3	4 Report Cards Home	5	6	7 PTA Dine Out at Applebees	8 Student of the Month Breakfast	9 Solo & Ensemble Evergreen MS
10	11	12 PTA Mtg, Commons, 6p	13	14 	15 <b>LID Day- No School</b>  Math is Cool Tournament	16
17	18 <b>President's Day No School</b>	19	20	21	22 PTA Neon Dance \$3, 7-9	23
<b>CONFERENCES– Early Release 12:30</b>						
24	25 Girls Basketball begins	26	27	28	1  Donuts for Dads 7:30am	