

Greenwood Middle School

2018 Summer Newsletter 2019

Schedule Pick Up

Please enter through the main door (1)

July 24th 5 pm - 8 pm (6th Grade)

July 25th 11:00 am - 1:00 pm & 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm (7th & 8th Grade)

Book Fees for all grades will be approximately \$185.00 - \$210.00

A minimum payment of \$50 will be requested at the time of schedule pick-up.

Charge cards will not be accepted when paying textbook rental

Gym Suits cost \$10.00 Please pay for gym suits with a separate check or cash.

Click [here](#) to go online and file for the Indiana Free / Reduced lunch program. **Families must reapply each school year.** Families that qualify for free or reduced lunches will automatically receive textbook assistance. This aid covers only a portion of the cost of textbooks. Families that do qualify for free or reduced lunches are still responsible for a portion of the textbook fees.

Book rental fees may be paid at the bookstore beginning **Monday, July 16th**. Schedules will only be distributed as listed above, however.

Helpful Hints for Students and Parents

1. The **first day of school is Tuesday, July 31st**. It will be a full day of school. Middle School hours are from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., **except for Wednesdays. Wednesday dismissal will be at 2:30.**
2. Parents/students may pick up class schedules in the cafeteria (enter door 1) on
July 24 (6th Grade) 5 pm-8 pm
July 25 (7th & 8th Grades) 11 am until 1 pm AND 5 pm until 7 pm.
A minimum payment of \$50 will be requested from all parents for textbook rental

If your student is returning to Greenwood schools, [please click here](#) (please disregard the date) or visit any school website and under the PARENT TAB click ONLINE STUDENT REGISTRATION for instructions to re-register your child. This must be done before schedule pick.

3. If your student rides the bus, you may view pick times and locations through the online registration process. Final times and locations will not be official until mid-July.
4. If students arrive at school by car, they should be dropped off in the South lot and enter door 9. Students may enter the building starting at 7:30 and proceed to the cafeteria or band room. Please observe the parameters of the drop-off procedure in that students can only be dropped off along the curb. At the end of the day, students must be picked up in the same area. Following these procedures will help to make this process safer and more efficient. More information on drop off and pick up procedures will be sent out in the near future.
5. If your child walks to school, please remind him/her **of pedestrian safety rules**. It is important that students use good judgment when walking to/from school. If you are a student who walks to school or rides to school in a car, please time your arrival accordingly.
6. Unless students are in supervised activities, **they will not be allowed in the building prior to 7:30 a.m.** (Students will be allowed to report to the cafeteria or band room if preferred, but must go directly to the cafeteria or band room as they enter the school.)
7. This year, textbook fees will vary from student to student depending on the classes s/he is taking.
8. If parents would like to pay book rental prior to this time, they may do so starting **July 16th from 9am—2pm Mondays – Thursdays. Offices will be closed on Fridays during July.** Please come to the GMS bookstore to make payment. Schedules will not be distributed until the times listed in #2, however.
9. If you do not already own one, gym suits may be purchased during schedule pick-up. **The cost of a gym suit is \$10.** *Please pay for gym suits separately from your textbook rental fees.* (Students may continue to wear gym suits that they already own.)
10. **Please make sure that your child is up-to-date on their inoculations. Please check the GMS webpage for a list of required vaccinations. IF STUDENTS DO NOT RECEIVE VACCINATIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER, THEY WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL.**

11. Free and reduced meals/textbook assistance applications should be completed online by visiting [this site](#). Please make sure that you follow instructions and fill out the application completely. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. (Include name, address, social security number, and signature and make sure all sections are filled in.)
12. If you are applying for **textbook assistance and HAVE NOT COMPLETED AN ONLINE APPLICATION**, please make sure that you make the application center **YOUR FIRST STOP WHEN COMING TO SCHEDULE PICK-UP**. You can complete these applications in the GMS cafeteria.
13. ATTENTION SMOKERS: In compliance with city ordinance, there is to be NO smoking in or around the school premises. This pertains to visitors and employees.
14. **Please visit our PTO Booth during schedule pick-up.** We have a wonderful and very active PTO at GMS. Please take the opportunity to join for the 2017-18 school year. Membership dues are \$8 and can be paid at the time on schedule pick-up. (Please pay dues with a separately from book rental fees). Also included in this correspondence is a **PTO volunteer form** that can be completed and turned in at the schedule pick-up sessions.
16. Student pictures will **not** be taken during schedule pick up.
17. Please remember to call the **GMS Guidance Office Attendance Hotline (889-4043)** to **report all absences**. Please call before 9 a.m. *If absences are unreported, they will be recorded as unexcused.* An accumulation of unexcused absences could result in grade reductions, a report to the Johnson County Probation Office for truancy and/or a report to the Division of Child Services for an investigation of Educational Neglect. Also, please remember to get a **physician's statement** if your student visits the doctor because of illness. Please refer to the attendance policy published in the student agenda book for additional information.
18. Any student who arrives late to school should report to the Guidance Office and receive a **"late to school" pass before reporting to class**. Students should make every effort to arrive on time to school.
19. Every student receives an **Agenda Book** (student handbook) at the beginning of school. This handbook contains hall passes, a date book and a homework-recording sheet. The handbook also includes a copy of all school rules and other pertinent school information. **Please impress upon your student that the handbook is as important as any textbook and should not be lost or damaged.** Please also help students to remember that we usually do not replace misplaced agenda books. In an attempt to help students "hang on to" their agenda books, **all agenda books will be bar coded...** *It is important that parents read the handbook. It will be a useful tool for both you and your student.*
20. Please remember to review behavioral expectations when looking at your agenda book. **GMS operates with a school-wide discipline plan.** The details of the discipline plan are included in the agenda book.
21. All teachers have **voice mail extensions and email addresses**. Please feel free to contact us at any time. GMS also has a **webpage and various social media sites** that provide school-wide, as well as individual classroom/teacher, information. In addition, regular **School Messenger calls** are made to all GMS families. These messages will reference upcoming activities and events.
22. Parents also will be able to access information about their child's grades, attendance and discipline via the school's **data system, Power School**. Please contact the school if you do not have parent Power School login information.

23. Please note that the **2018-19 calendar** is included in this mailing. This should prove to be a good planning tool for the upcoming school year. Please note that vacation dates are included on this calendar. *Please try to limit student vacations to those designated on the calendar.*
24. If you have provided your email to the school, you will receive a **weekly email that highlights that week's activities**. This information also is listed on the school website under "announcements".
- 25. Students are not allowed to carry backpacks to class.**
26. Don't forget that each student has a student i.d. number. It is important that students remember these numbers as they are used for Internet log-in, the cafeteria pre-pay system, AR, etc.
27. Because cell phones, iPads, iPods, etc. are such common communication tools, GMS DOES allow students to bring these tools with them to school. However, this equipment must not be visible during the school day without permission from school personnel. Our policy is that as long as we do not see or hear these tools, we will not confiscate these items. *If a device is confiscated, the student will be required to surrender this device for THREE DAYS. If there are additional confiscations, additional consequences will be provided. GMS will not be responsible for repairing or replacing cell phones or other electronic equipment, so please remind your student of the responsible use of these items.*
- 28. We also are asking that parents supervise their children's Facebook/Twitter/Instagram etc. pages/accounts.** We have noticed that many of the social issues and disagreements that come to GMS originate on social networking pages. Middle School students are very concerned about the opinions of their peers. Often, when they access a social network, they feel less responsible for comments that are made than if they were making the comments in person. When students DO come face to face during the school day, trouble erupts. **Please help your child to understand the responsibility that comes with the use of these programs. If issues from social media disrupts the school day, the school may take action.**
29. Please make sure that you read **the GMS dress code** before purchasing school clothes. The dress code can be found online in the Student Handbook at the GMS home webpage. Please help your child to make good clothing choices. **If a pattern of disregard for the dress code is established, disciplinary consequences will be applied.**
30. There are many opportunities for participation **in extra-curricular activities at GMS.** However, based on School Board policy, all participants must have a signed "*parental consent for random drug-testing*" form on file before they can participate. Students participating in athletics must also have a completed physical form, a signed statement from the athletic handbook and proof of insurance coverage on file. The GCSC does offer **reasonably priced insurance.** Check the link on our website for more information.
31. All athletes are provided an **athletic handbook.** In addition to the school handbook, it is important that those participating in athletics are also familiar with these guidelines.
- 32. GMS has a "2-'F'" extra-curricular policy.** If students have two or more "F's" on their NINE-WEEK report card grades, they will not be allowed to attend extra-curricular activities for the duration of the following nine-week grading period. If the next report card posts better grades, the exclusion will be lifted

33. Breakfast will not be served on the first day of school.
34. A reminder goes to students that it will take a few days for the cafeteria procedure to become a smooth routine. **Please have your lunch money/i.d. number ready** and pay close attention to the supervisor's instructions so that you can get through the lines quickly.
35. We invite all of our parents to visit GMS whenever convenient. **However, security procedures require that all doors are locked during school hours and visitors are "buzzed in" by office personnel. Visitors will need to present a valid I.D. and to wear proper identification at all times during the school visit.** Please do not be offended if you are stopped if you are not wearing one of these identification badges. Remember that we are trying our best to keep your children safe.
36. **Daily homework can be expected of your middle school child.** Some students will have an ELT (study hall) and will be able to use that time for study. However, if your child consistently comes home with no homework assignments, especially if his/hers grades are not 'up to par', please follow-up to make sure that homework is being completed.
38. GMS will be providing a **daily 38-minute remediation/enrichment program for all students.** This program is called our PRIDE program and takes place from 8:00-8:38 each morning. Students focus on essential math and language arts skills during this time. **IT IS CRITICAL THAT STUDENTS ARE AT SCHOOL ON TIME IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PROGRAM.**

8th Grade Supply list:

- Folders, one for each class. These get torn up easily, so while they are on sale, please pick up enough for the whole year. They need to have pockets and three prongs and be blue, green, yellow and red. Each core teacher has a specific color.
- Spiral notebooks with perforated pages that can be torn out neatly to hand in. One per class.
- Calculator – *not one on the cell phone.*
- A pencil case– one large enough to fit and hold your calculator
- Pens, blue or black ink for assignments- (Buy extras so you are always supplied.)
- Red pens at least 5 to get through the year.
- #2 pencils. (Please buy a large quantity while they are on sale)
- A 12 pack of colored pencils (You'll need these for social studies.)
- One box of tissues to be given to the Language Arts teacher so that we will have a year's supply. (We run through lots of tissues when cold and flu season sets in.)
- A pack of Blue or Black Dry Erase Markers.
- A set of earbuds – for use with computers.
- A USB Drive to save work and take it from school to home and back.
- Two large glue sticks

Field Trip/Special Event fee of \$18. (Separate check, please.) The field trip is "Follow the North Star" at Conner Prairie as well as other activities.

7th Grade Supply list:

- Supply of loose-leaf notebook paper
- Blue or Black Pens
- Several packages of Pencils
- 5 Spiral Notebooks
- Colored Pencils
- 2 Pocket/ 3 Prong Folder for each class
- A pack of Blue or Black Dry Erase Markers (To be given to the math teacher.)
- *Basic* Calculator (No graphing capabilities required)
- 1 flash drive
- 1 pair of head phones or ear buds
- 2-3 boxes of Kleenex to be donated to the team
- 1 bottle of hand sanitizer

6th Grade Supply list:

- **Individual teachers may ask for additional supplies at a later time.**
- A Supply Bag / Pouch (to carry supplies to class)
- A LARGE Supply of PENCILS with erasers
- A supply of Blue/Black PENS
- 9 SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
- 9 TWO POCKET FOLDERS WITH PRONGS
- 2 boxes of COLORED PENCILS
- 4 or 5 LARGE sized BLACK DRY ERASE MARKERS
- 4 GLUE STICKS
- CALCULATOR (inexpensive type)
- EAR BUDS
- Pocket PENCIL SHARPENER
- Package of 3x5 INDEX CARDS
- Supply of POST IT NOTES
- 2-3 BOXES OF TISSUE

2018 - 19 School Calendar

July 30 Teacher work day (school not in session)

July 31 Students' first day of first semester

September 3 Labor Day (school not in session)

September 28 End of first grading period

October 15- October 19 Fall Break (school not in session)

November 19- November 23 Thanksgiving Break (school not in session)

December 20 End of second grading period End of first semester

December 21- January 2 Winter Break (school not in session)

January 2 Teacher work day

January 3 Students' first day of second semester

January 21 Martin Luther King Day (school not in session, snow make-up day if needed)

February 15 School not in session, snow make-up day if needed

February 18 Presidents' Day (school not in session, snow make-up day if needed)

March 8 End of third grading period

March 18- March 29 Spring Break (school not in session)

May 23 Students' last day of second semester End of fourth grading period End of second semester

May 24 Teacher work day (school not in session, snow make-up day if needed)

May 24 High School Graduation