

# Connections

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY FAMILIES

## Dates to remember

**Wednesday, November 16** – Deadline for LSSU Holiday Card Entries (turn in to Mrs. Wildner or Mr. Kline)

**Thursday, November 17** – GTA Cares “Fill the Pantry” Jeans Day (school-wide); Board of Directors Meeting, 6:00-7:00 pm, Aqua 5

**Friday, November 18** – Junior High Afternoon Movie, 12:30-2:00 pm, Lecture Hall (see details below)

**Wednesday-Friday, November 23-25** – NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Break

## Mustang roundup

**High school cross country.** Congratulations to the Mustang girls' cross country team for taking 11th place overall in the



Division 4 state cross country finals last Saturday! Senior **Petra Foote** earned 8th place overall, as well as all-state honors; **Chase Snell**, also a senior, placed 65th in his individual run - his second consecutive year as a state qualifier. Nice going, everyone!



**High school basketball.** High school basketball season is starting soon! Boys begin on November 21 and

paperwork and payment are due on the 18<sup>th</sup>). Game dates and practices may be found on the [GTA website](#). Interested students should sign up on the sheet outside the Secondary Office. Required paperwork for parent signatures is available there as well, and students have been emailed this information. As a reminder, student athletes must have a physical dated after April 15, 2022 in order to participate. Any questions may be directed to Mrs. Alejandro, athletic director, at [alejandros@mygta.us](mailto:alejandros@mygta.us).

**Elementary basketball.** GTA will be partnering with the YMCA for Elementary boys' and girls' basketball this year. The season runs from January 14-February 18, 2023 and practices will take place once or twice a week with games on Saturdays at the YMCA South location (Racquet Club Drive). Parents of interested players should sign them up for [Elementary basketball with GTA](#), so we may create teams. In addition, please sign up for the appropriate Youth Basketball session on the [YMCA basketball](#) website. The only fee is the YMCA cost, payable on their registration page. Registration closes on December 23, 2022. Coaches are needed! Interested parents should contact Mrs. Alejandro at [alejandros@mygta.us](mailto:alejandros@mygta.us).

## GTA students create thank you cards for veterans

GTA's Mrs. Schuetze delivered over 200 thank you



cards, created by GTA students of all ages, to **Rico's Cafe' and Pizzeria** in Grawn for their annual free meals for veterans on Veterans Day. Here is just a sampling. Thank

you to Mrs. Schuetze, our students and Rico's for honoring our military heroes in this very special way!

## Niche announces \$1,000 school survey sweepstakes

Year after year, our enrollment applications tell us that the recommendations of friends, relatives or satisfied GTA parents are the number one reason why parents choose to pursue Grand Traverse Academy for their children's education. Here's your opportunity to share your thoughts about our school with others and to **have your name entered for a chance to win \$1,000** for doing so! Parents, students and recent alumni are all eligible. For a link to a short survey, go to the [Niche website](#). Responses are anonymous and will be posted on the Niche site to help others find a school that is just right for their children! **Don't delay – the deadline to enter is November 30, 2022 at 11:00 pm EST.**

## Lunchtime reminder

Parents are asked to please remind children that what is packed in their lunch boxes must not be shared with anyone else. Many of our students have food allergies or other sensitivities that their friends may not be aware of. Similarly, students should be reminded to only consume what was packed for them. If your child happens to forget their lunch, they may let their teacher know and we will provide them a meal from our student lunch pantry. Thank you for helping us to keep all of our students safe!

### Dad Jokes from Don



What is the leading cause of dry skin?

Towels.

## LSSU Holiday Card deadline approaching

Lake Superior State University has announced their annual Holiday Card Contest. Open to all K-12 students from the 21 academies they authorize, the winning artwork will be used on their official holiday greeting cards (and we have had winners in the past!). Details are attached to this newsletter. Entries should be turned in to **Mrs. Wildner** (grades K-6) or **Mr. Kline** (grades 7-12) **no later than Wednesday, November 16.** Art may represent any winter holiday or celebration.

## Medication reminder

Parents are reminded that medications must not be



sent to school with students or stored in backpacks or lockers for use during the day. **All medication must be administered by staff in the office.** According to state

law, we must have a physician's authorization in order to administer prescription medications to your children at school, and a parent's authorization for over-the-counter medications (including herbal or homeopathic remedies). *Parents must bring both the medication and the authorization form into the appropriate office.*

## Donations needed for Thanksgiving food drive

As a reminder, GTA Cares is partnering with our National Honor Society in a Thanksgiving food drive for under-resourced GTA families. Secondary advisories are collecting specific nonperishable items to assemble into boxes. Our goal is to provide a Thanksgiving meal for the 10 families who have expressed a need this year. If you can help, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Donated items should be sent to school with your Secondary child **no later than Thursday, November 17.** A list of needed items is attached to this newsletter.

Elementary families who wish to participate are welcome to make a cash donation of any amount, which will be used to fill in any gaps in the meal boxes. Cash contributions may be made through the [GTA website](#). **All donations should be made by Thursday, November 17.**

## Junior High afternoon movie announced

The freshman class is hosting a movie event for GTA 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> graders next **Friday,**



benefit the class of 2026.

**November 18 from 12:30-2:00 pm in the Lecture Hall,** featuring Disney's "The Emperor's New Groove." The cost is \$5 and popcorn will be available for \$1. Pizza will be served after the movie until 2:30 for \$2 per slice. Profits will

## Crystal Mountain school ski/snowboard program returns

Once again, Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville is offering discounted lift tickets and equipment rentals, including professional on-hill instruction, to students of Grand Traverse Academy. The passes are good for **Thursdays only from January 10-February 16**. Children must be at least 7 by January 1, 2023 to take part in the program. Registration is [available online](#) or you may request a hard copy packet from GTA parent Phil Conner, program coordinator, at (231) 342-0897. **The deadline for paperwork is Wednesday, November 30.** Online instructions are attached to this newsletter. Any questions may be directed to Phil at the number above.

## Locals Student Season Pass Program offered at Shanty Creek

GTA students in grades 4-12 and/or ages 9-17 are eligible to purchase discounted all-area passes for the 2022-23 season at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire for just \$99! Interested parents may purchase an Add-a-Parent pass for \$399 (limit two per family). Details and purchase information is attached to this newsletter. Thank you, Shanty Creek, for this very generous offer!

## Mustang onesies available

Have you welcomed a future GTA Mustang into your family recently? Grand Traverse Academy babies receive an "M is for Mustangs" onesie as a gift from GTA! If you have a new little one, stop by or call the Elementary Office and we'll be sure to get one to you. Don't wait though, as they are sized for babies up to six months of age.



## GTA water bottles for sale

Did you know that our brains are composed of 73 percent water and need proper hydration to function normally? One study even found that drinking water improves memory and helps focus our attention. That's why we encourage students to bring a water bottle to school each day to stay hydrated! Water bottle fillers are located throughout the school for refills. And right now, 27-ounce easy grip water bottles with the GTA logo are available for sale in either office for just \$3 each. Parents may buy them too, to promote our school wherever you go!



## Ongoing events

**Med Club Muffin Sales (Secondary)** – Every Monday from 7:45-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multi-Purpose Room

**Sophomore Class Bagel Sales** – Every Wednesday from 7:40-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multipurpose Room 4 and the Intention Room (Mrs. VanHouzen's office)

**Elementary Pizza Days** – Every other Wednesday, as follows: December 7, January 11 & 25, February 8 & 22, March 8 & 22, April 12 & 26 and May 10 & 24 (order and pay by the preceding Monday using forms sent home on off weeks), \$1.50 per slice of pepperoni or cheese

**Secondary Pizza Days** – Every Thursday (order and pay by Tuesdays using forms provided in Advisory classrooms), \$1.50 per slice of cheese or pepperoni

**NHS Elementary Doughnut Sales** – Every Friday in the Intention Room (at the entrance to the Elementary Wing), 7:50-8:05 am, \$1 each for several varieties

**NHS Secondary Doughnut Sales** – Every Friday in Multipurpose Rooms 1 & 2, 7:40-8:00 am, \$1 each for several varieties

**Secondary Beverage Sales** – Monday-Thursday at Lunch in Bronze 1, \$1.50 each for Snapple fruit drinks

**Fill the Pantry Jeans Days** – Thursdays: November 17, January 12, March 23, May 25 (\$2 per person to wear jeans with a uniform top)



## Fun Facts

The number 57 does not actually relate to the quantity of products offered by the Heinz company. Instead, the numbers 5 and 7 held a special significance for founder H. J. Heinz and his wife, so he adopted the slogan "57 Varieties" for his food processing company.



October 17, 2022

Dear LSSU Academies,

As I type this letter, I have a big smile on my face. Each year I look forward to our annual Holiday Card contest where I get to witness first hand all of the talented artists that attend academies authorized by Lake Superior State University. Winners will be selected from four categories with each winner's artwork displayed on our holiday card as well as receiving an LSSU "Swag bag." We accept artwork using a variety of art mediums, however, keep in mind that the image will be scanned. Here's what you need to know. Winners will be chosen in the categories of K-2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.

Please have interested students complete their designs on plain, white, letter sized paper. (8 ½ by 11) Students should include their **name, age, grade level, t-shirt size (S, M, L, XL- designate youth or adult size), and academy name** on the back of each submission. Designs are due no later than Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022. I look forward to receiving your submissions. Please mail to:

Julie Buchholtz  
Academic Assessment Specialist  
Lake Superior State University  
Charter Schools Office- Fletcher Center  
650 West Easterday Avenue  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

Winners will be notified by December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.  
Questions? Please contact me at [jhopper@lssu.edu](mailto:jhopper@lssu.edu).

Sincerely,

Julie Buchholtz

**Grand Traverse Academy**  
1245 Hammond Road East  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 995-0665 / Fax (231) 995-0880

**AUTHORIZATION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received by GTA \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **PHYSICIAN'S ORDER** *(to be completed by a physician or authorized prescriber)* **OR**

☐ **OVER-THE-COUNTER** *(to be completed by the parent and/or guardian)*

Diagnosis/Purpose of Medication \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Tablet/capsule ☐ Liquid ☐ Inhaler ☐ Injection ☐ Nebulizer ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Day \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Duration \_\_\_\_\_

Important Side Effects or Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

☐ For Episodic/Emergency Events Only \_\_\_\_\_

Special Storage Requirements ☐ None ☐ Refrigerate ☐ **Kept with Child or Teacher in the classroom**

Physician's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned parent/guardian authorizes Grand Traverse Academy, through its office staff, building level principal or secretary, to administer medication or to supervise the taking of medication by his or her child. It is understood that the undersigned parent/guardian shall immediately notify the school district in writing in the event that the prescription shall be discontinued or modified.

The medication must be brought to school by a parent/guardian in the original pharmacy bottle, appropriately labeled. The medicine must be kept locked in the school office. Refill of the prescription shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardians.

Further, the undersigned releases the school district and shall indemnify said school district from any liability or damage which may result to the student from the administration of said medicine as prescribed by the physician.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# **GTA Cares/National Honor Society Thanksgiving Food Drive**

## **Needed Food Items**

*(please, no frozen, refrigerated or perishable foods)*

- ☐ Canned Peas
- ☐ Canned Sweet Corn
- ☐ Canned Creamed Corn
- ☐ Canned Sweet Potatoes
- ☐ Canned Cranberry Sauce
- ☐ Boxed Stuffing Mix
- ☐ Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- ☐ Turkey Gravy in Jars or Packets
- ☐ Canned Green Beans
- ☐ Canned Cream of Mushroom Soup
- ☐ Canned French Fried Onions
- ☐ Boxed Biscuit or Cornbread Mix



**Links to purchase:**

Tuesday Schools - <https://secure.crystalmountain.com/s/school-programs-tuesday>

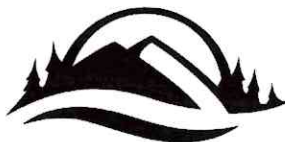
Wednesday Schools - <https://secure.crystalmountain.com/s/school-programs-wednesday>

Thursday Schools - <https://secure.crystalmountain.com/s/school-programs-thursday>

**Step by Step Online Store Instructions**

1. After clicking on the link to the store provided, select your pass option by clicking "Shop Now". This will be the option furthest to the left. You will then be directed to a few more options.
2. Select which pass you'd like (Age 19+ for chaperones, Ages 7-18 for students).
  - a. **IF YOU ARE RENTING** – Select ski or snowboard below where you selected age.
  - b. **IF YOU ARE NOT RENTING** – **Do not** select ski or snowboard and click "Add to Cart" and proceed with the purchase.
  - c. Once you check the boxes you cannot uncheck them, refresh the page if this happens.
3. A brown "Checkout" box should appear after clicking "Add to Cart". Click that button and proceed.
4. You are now going to log in. It is likely that you will have to create an account as this is new. Follow the steps provided on how to create an account.
5. You will then be redirected back to your cart. Click "Select a Group Member". Your name should then come up below.
  - a. If you are adding more than one student/family member, click "Add Group Member" and enter that person's information in the fields.
  - b. You will also likely have to add a photo unless one comes up where your name is. **If you have to add a photo, you must do so before continuing with the purchase.**
  - c. Once complete, click the brown "Continue" box at the bottom.
    - i. **NOTE:** If you do not have a blue Crystal Card from last year, you must choose to get a new card and there is a \$2 fee for this. You will not be able to complete the purchase without selecting this option!!!
6. After proceeding, you will have to sign both waivers for the season. Click "Sign" next to both of the waivers. A box will open, scroll to the bottom and follow the prompts. Once these waivers are completed, select "Continue"
7. You will then be directed to the payment page. Fill out all the required boxes and then proceed to "Continue" at the bottom.
8. Verify all information is correct and click "Confirm Order". You have now completed the pass purchase process.





## SHANTY CREEK RESORT

### Shanty Creek Locals Student Season Pass Program

Shanty Creek Resorts is pleased to offer the NEW Locals Student Season Pass Program for the 2022-23 winter sports season. This program is offered to grade 4 - 12 students and/or students aged 9 – 17 in Antrim, Charlevoix, Crawford, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Otsego counties. Students aged 8 & under can purchase regular passes for \$29.

This new program is designed to offer all students a reduced rate All Area season pass as a reward for their hard work and efforts toward education in what has been unique, challenging and changing environments. **Only one pass will be issued per student.**

### **IMPORTANT!! –NEW ONLINE PURCHASE PROCEDURE!**

New this year – Local Student passes and Add-a-Parent passes can be purchased online using your schools unique Promo Code. Your Schools code, to be used by all students is **TRAVERSE** to purchase, please follow these steps:

1. Go to the season pass section of [shantycreek.com](https://www.shantycreek.com) and click on **Buy Season Pass >** or visit <https://www.shantycreek.com/?module=reset> and click on the Promotional Code tab.
2. Enter Promo Code **TRAVERSE**
3. Your schools Local Student pass and Add-a-Parent pass will be displayed.
4. Follow the instructions through the purchase process.
5. For Local Student and Add-a-Parent pass purchases that included all requested information and a photo, and that had Release of Liability waivers completed, your pass will be pre-printed for pick up. Passes will be available for pick up in person beginning November 25, 2022 on the lower level of The Lodge at Cedar River, located at 2400 Troon S, Bellaire, MI 49615. **Please have proof of enrollment in your school system when you come to pick up your pass.**
6. Any pass purchasers that are unable to provide proof of enrollment will have their passes canceled and their money refunded.

### **Pricing:**

Locals Student Season Pass	\$ 99
Add-a-Parent passes *	\$339

Passes are All Area, unrestricted passes and are valid for 22/23 and good for weekdays, weekends, holidays; days or nights; at Schuss Mountain. Passes are picture passes and are not transferable. All applicable rules regarding SCR passes apply. Passes are good for lift access only and no rental, lesson, or tubing options are available to these pass holders.

*\* Parents of students purchasing Locals Student Season Passes may purchase "Add-a-parent" passes. Passes must be purchased at the time the student pass is issued and are limited to two parent passes per family.*

### **Fine Print**

- Remember, you must supply the accurate proof of student enrollment in one of the 63 participating local schools. Having an address in the local area will not count as proof. Please see above.
- Any Locals Student pass holder caught obtaining or using their pass fraudulently will lose their Locals Student pass privileges for the remainder of their secondary education school career.
- All resort rules governing season passes apply. Students receiving season passes need to be 18 OR have a parent/guardian sign release of liability forms. The season pass liability form can be completed during the purchase process.
- Season pass holders and their guests are expected to conduct themselves in a safe and courteous manner while using their pass privileges at Shanty Creek.
- We are sorry, but no adjustments may be made to previous 22/23 pass purchases due to this program. Please retain this information for future season's pass purchases should you believe you qualify for the Locals Student Pass program.
- Please contact the Season Pass office at 866-901-3149 or [skershner@shantycreek.com](mailto:skershner@shantycreek.com) with questions.