

G-AMS NEWSLETTER

October, 2020



MASK UP FOR OTHERS....

Students and staff, alike, have adjusted to our new “normal.” Our students have acclimated to our building safety protocols and have been quite conscientious about social distancing, washing / sanitizing hands, and diligently wearing face masks. With several “face mask breaks” built into the daily routine, students have managed our current circumstances well. These breaks take place several times throughout the day and allow students to step outside, remove their masks, continue to social distance, and get a breath of fresh air.



Time to Eat

Our cafeteria and eating space looks a lot different to start this year. With strict adherence to the six-foot social distancing standards, we have enough space in our cafeteria to accommodate the 4th and 5th grade students who eat breakfast. The sixth and seventh breakfast eaters have seating throughout the lobby and commons areas. For lunch, each grade level can be seated in the cafeteria for their designated lunch times. We are ever-so grateful for our large, open space and for the flexibility of our students.



RECESS HAS NEVER BEEN BETTER

The new middle school playground equipment is a huge hit! After consultation with the Kalamazoo County Health Department, it was deemed acceptable that with small cohorts at each grade level, our building is able to conduct recess activities that provide some sense of “normalcy” for our students. Masks off and enjoying the outside, students can play freely and put the new equipment to good use.



ASSESSMENT TIME

Annually, all students at G-AMS take part in the math and reading NWEA MAP Growth Assessment. Students complete this assessment in the fall, winter, and spring. It is an effective tool in measuring academic achievement and growth. Teachers then utilize the assessment results in planning their lessons and targeting their instruction. Working within the Hybrid Learning Model, we have had to creatively schedule our testing times and still remain within the testing window. Students will wrap up testing by the end of October.



APPLAUDING THE POSITIVE

We still recognize and celebrate positive behavior choices at G-AMS. Our PBIS weekly drawings have started up again! For the week of September 28, the staff at G-AMS congratulated the following students for demonstrating great behavior and making positive choices throughout the week: Mary Zimmerman--7th grade, James Taylor--6th grade, Emma Dipzinski--5th grade, and Kaylin Wetzel--4th grade.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Parent Teacher Conferences (schedule online for each grade level)
 - Thursday, October 15, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, October 15, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 - Friday, October 16, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.