

# *The GPMS Gazette!*

*The Official Newsletter of Gregory-Portland Middle School: Home of the World's Greatest Students!*



*Wildcat Winners! GPMS Tennis Team members Rev Wicks, Ruben Flores, Brayden Gonzalez, and Andrew Ibarra display their medals.*

Photo by Tristan Guzman

***GPMS Gazette***

***Spring, 2020***

***Brought to you by students in the GPMS Press Corps during the Covid-19 Quarantine of 2020!***

***Editors: Kylar Huddler, Colton Renfro, Marky Trevino, Colton Converse, Ximena Garcia, and Angelica Constante***

# Wildcat News

## Dr. Turner Honored

Dr. Turner has been named *Outstanding American History Teacher of the Year 2020* by the Texas State Daughters of the American Revolution. (right)



(Left) Dr. Turner with the Corpus Christi Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is currently a finalist for the national award, which will be decided at the end of May.

Congratulations, and best wishes, Dr. Turner!



## Character Strong Grows on Students During Quarantine

Ricardo Salinas III builds a garden with his dad, in answer to a Character Strong dare. To learn more about Character Strong, see the Microsoft Teams folder for your sixth-period teacher or visit <https://characterstrong.com/>.

*Photo by Mrs. Salinas.*

# Students March to Celebrate 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Pictures and information provided by Mrs. Hayward and Dr. Turner*

“Thanks, Dr. Turner, for organizing this! It was an honor and privilege to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment with colleagues, friends, and students on March 7<sup>th</sup>.” – Mrs. Hayward



Dr. Turner leads the community march from the Nueces County Courthouse to Artisan Park.



*Turn the page for more pictures!*



GPMS Wildcats participated in the March 7<sup>th</sup> Suffrage Anniversary March, including Dr. Turner, Mrs. Mannville, Mrs. Hayward, and Mrs. Aleman. (Below right) Lily Stewart and Avery Hayward.



# Theatre News

Words & pictures by Mrs. Leisher

## One-Act Play Academic UIL Regional Meet

On February 15, GPMS students competed with students from other schools at Tuloso Midway Middle School. Here's how our Wildcats performed:

6th grader - Sophia Rocha (6th place)

6th grader - Kaitlyn Kilgore (6th place) (competed as a 7th grader)

8th grader - Elias Vasquez (4th place)

8th grader - London Williams (6th place)



Photo by Mrs. Leisher

## Zink the Zebra

On February 29, 2020, the cast and crew of "Zink: The Myth, The Legend, The Zebra" earned 2nd place from three judges in the district UIL One-Act Play Contest. In addition, five students were honored with individual awards.

Honorable Mention to the

### All-Star Cast

Landree O'Kelley

Kaitlynn Kilgore

Abbi Cantu

Bella Owens

### All-Star Tech Award

Jade Lucero

We are so proud of these kids! Every member of the company contributed to their success. See pictures and a full cast listing on the following pages.



*Photo by Mrs. Leisher*

Jade Lucero  
 Ethan Shaw  
 Cole Dowell  
 Isabelle Garza  
 Jackson Blasy  
 Lily Stuart

Landree O'Kelley  
 Maddie Thomas  
 Stuart Anderson  
 London Williams  
 Elias Vasquez  
 Lyndsey Donka

Olivia Berger  
 Emily Sieck  
 Camryn Kahl  
 Gabi Cano  
 Sami Gregory  
 Abbi Cantu

Kaitlyn Kilgore  
 Bella Owens  
 Alysa Cantu-  
 Benware  
 Raina Desai  
 Avery Hayward



*Photos by Mrs. Leisher*



*Photo by Mrs. Leisher*



(above and below) The GPMS cast and crew of “Zink: The Myth, The Legend, The Zebra”

*Photos by Mrs. Leisher*



# Knights of the Round Table: GPMS Chess Team

The award-winning GPMS Knights of the Round Table are students who play chess in Mr. Thomas' room, usually before school. Some of our knights compete with students from other schools in the Chess Puzzle contests at Academic UIL. GPMS students from all three grade levels are welcome to join next semester. In the meantime, whether you are a beginner or an expert, you may hone your skills at this link: <https://www.coolmathgames.com/0-chess>



Knights of the Round Table representing GPMS at the Feb 15 Academic UIL District Meet were: Hunter Hill, Noah Celeski, Charlie Cash, Jacob Perez, and TJ Pacheco.

*Photo by Mr. Thomas*

## 2019-2020 Academic UIL Regional Chess Puzzle winners from GPMS:

**TJ Pacheco** won 3rd place for the 8th-grade Chess Puzzle competition!

6th-grade student **Hunter Hill** earned a 7th-place ranking, competing against 7th graders in their Chess Puzzle competition!

**Charlie Cash** and **Noah Celeski** tied for 4th place in the 6th-grade Chess Puzzle competition!

Our 6th-grade Knights, **Charlie Cash, Noah Celeski, and Jacob Perez** won the 2nd-place team award for 6th-grade Chess Puzzle!

Here is a list of registered Knights of the Round Table for the 2019-2020 school year:

Stuart Andersen	Aubry Deighan	TJ Pacheco
Myra Anderson	Jadon Dieu	Jacob Perez
Angel Arellano	Jorge Dominguez	Aiden Reyes
Kaleb Burkhuram	Zoey Gurk	Zackery Semple
Charlie Cash	Tristan Guzman	Jaiden Vo
Noah Celeski	Hunter Hill	
Colton Converse	Rufino Medado	

Mr. Thomas says “Thank you!” to this year’s Knights. “Best wishes to our 8<sup>th</sup>-grade Knights, as they move across the board/street to GPHS. I look forward to seeing the rest of you *rook on* next semester!”

# Class Favorites Dance

By Marky Trevino

The Favorites Dance was held on February 22nd 7-10pm. The class favorites were announced throughout the dance. The entrance fee was \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. There was a dance floor, a snack bar, and many fun things to do.



Rufino Medado, Jaiden Vo, Aiden Reyes, Austin Nguyen, Rolando Mireles, & Marky Trevino.  
*Photo by Coleton Christman*



**Most Athletic Winners:** Madison Kilgore, Sophia Davila, Ryder Harrison, Jalya Alvarado, Camron Cantu, and Colton Harrison.  
*Photo by Mr. Alvarado*

*Class Favorites (continued)*



**Most Studious Winners:** Sofia Gonzales, Emiliano Rivas, Elena Miller, Luke Kohleffel, Madison Tietze, and Eli Gerick.

*Photo by Mr. Alvarado*



**Class Clown Winners:** Taylor Getman, Cole Zipprian, Zoe Vasquez, Maison Oseguera, Camryn Kahl, and Brayden Ramsey.

*Photo by Mr. Alvarado*

*Class Favorites (continued)*



**Most Artistic Winners:** Addison Jordan, Emiliano Rivas, Erin Ebers, and Adrian Galvan.

*Photo by Mr. Alvarado*



**Best All-Around Winners:** Maribella Gutierrez, Cole Zipprian, Zoe Vasquez, Jaymen Galvan, Nina Ramirez, and Dian Bhagat.

*Photo by Mr. Alvarado*

*See a complete list of winners on the next page!*

# GPMS Class Favorites

Elected by their classmates in February, 2020:

## 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE

### Most Athletic Girl

Sophia Davila

### Most Athletic Boy

Ryder Harrison

### Most Studious Girl

Sofia Gonzales

### Most Studios Boy

Emiliano Rivas

### Class Clown Girl

Taylor Getman

### Class Clown Boy

Cole Zipprian

### Most Artistic Girl

Addison Jordan

### Most Artistic Boy

Emiliano Rivas

### Best All-Around Girl

Maribella Gutierrez

### Best All-Around Boy

Cole Zipprian

## 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE

### Most Athletic Girl

Jalysa Alvarado

### Most Athletic Boy

Camron Cantu

### Most Studious Girl

Elena Miller

### Most Studios Boy

Luke Kohleffel

### Class Clown Girl

Zoe Vasquez

### Class Clown Boy

Maison Oseguera

### Most Artistic Girl

Valeria Arevalo

### Most Artistic Boy

Anthony Kelley

### Best All-Around Girl

Zoe Vasquez

### Best All-Around Boy

Jaymen Galvan

## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE

### Most Athletic Girl

Madison Kilgore

### Most Athletic Boy

Colton Harrison

### Most Studious Girl

Madison Tietze

### Most Studios Boy

Eli Gerick

### Class Clown Girl

Camryn Kahl

### Class Clown Boy

Brayden Ramsey

### Most Artistic Girl

Erin Ebers

### Most Artistic Boy

Adrian Galvan

### Best All-Around Girl

Nina Ramirez

### Best All-Around Boy

Dian Bhagat

# Pennies for Patients

Information from Mrs. Manville

February 4th marked the beginning of our annual Pennies for Patients Leukemia and Lymphoma fundraiser. Dates were February 4 to February 17, 2020. NJHS members delivered materials to teachers' 6<sup>th</sup>-period classes. The class that raised the most money won a pasta lunch.



This year's winning classes were:  
3rd place - Stanford \$155.92  
2nd place - Thomas \$202.77  
1st place - Kenne \$285.43

As a school, GPMS raised \$1,880.51 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society! For more information about the program, please visit: <https://www.penniesforpatients.org/>

**...And a special thanks from Mrs. Manville to Mrs. Elliott for her efforts!**

Pictured above: NJHS students delivering Pennies for Patients materials to teachers. (top left to bottom right) Nina Ramirez and Nayeli Reyna about to knock on Mrs. Perez's door. Mr. Sosebee ready to collect. Sra. Puente and Madison Snody excited about the contest. Neveah Lara, Jessica Abt, Madison Tietze, Samantha Gregory, Haley Rasmussen, Nina Ramirez, and Nayeli Reyna pause for a group picture.

*Photos by Coleton Converse*

# GPTV Jr. Works Track Meet

*Pictures by Mrs. Whitaker*



(left) Isaiah Salinas and Reagan Bohac (right) Hunter Hill. For more information about GPTV Jr., please visit <https://www.g-pisd.org/gpms/activities/jr-tv-club>

# GPMS Spelling Bee

*By Hailey Rasmussen*

On Friday, February 7, 2020, GPMS held its annual spelling bee. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the bee. First, all ELA teachers held a classroom spelling bee. The winner from each classroom then went to the schoolwide competition. At the bee, the students competed for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The first-place winner is now going to be in the districtwide spelling bee. Here were the rankings:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Hailey Rasmussen

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Eli Gerick

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Rolando Mireles, Jr.



*Photos by Coleton Christman*

# Heath Beat

*Words and pictures by Hailey Nguyen*

GPMS health students learned about Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). It is a very hard procedure, which takes a lot of patience, effort, and strength.



Runfino Medado and his classmates learn lifesaving skills.

# Zink the Zebra – Free February Performance



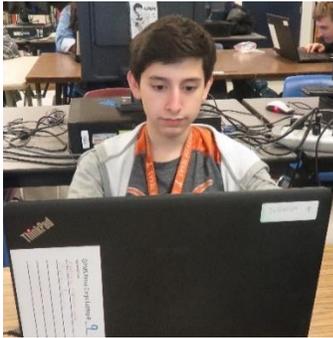
In February, Raina Desai, Bella Owens, Kaitlyn Kilgore, Abbi Cantu, Sammy Gregory, Alysa Benaware-Cantu, Avery Haward (pictured above) and the Theatre Arts department treated staff and students to a free performance of the award-winning GPMS production “Zink: The Myth, the legend, the zebra.”

*Photo by Jade Lucero*

# Press Corps

Words & pictures by Coleton Christman

In the GPMS Press Corps, we write articles, take pictures, post letters on the Wildcat Drive message board, and we work on the yearbook.



Pictured above: Press Corps members Marky Trevino, Raistlin Wiemken, and Hailey Nguyen during their 5<sup>th</sup>-period Journalism class.

## The Future GPMS



For those of you who haven't been able to drive by, they're making progress on our new building!

Photo by Mrs. McClary, April 12

For more information and updates, please visit <https://www.g-pisd.org/news/bond-construction-updates>

# Flour Bluff MS Track Meet Results

## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Ladycats

*Provided by Coach Wilson*

**Long Jump** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Lauren Hollingsworth - 4<sup>th</sup> - 12'9"

8<sup>th</sup> - Rebecca Nolen - 6<sup>th</sup> - 12'8"

**Triple Jump** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Megan Griffith - 1<sup>st</sup> - 29'1", Kyleigh Shirley - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 28'4"

8<sup>th</sup> - Rachell Powell - 1<sup>st</sup> - 31'10",  
Madison Kilgore - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 28'3"

**High jump** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Kyleigh Shirley - 1<sup>st</sup> - 4'6",  
Kaci O'Neal - 4<sup>th</sup> - 4'4"

8<sup>th</sup> - Sakara Wade - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4'4",  
Kamryn Zipprian - 4<sup>th</sup> - 4'2"

**Pole Vault** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Kaden Ralls - 1<sup>st</sup> - 6'6",

Mackenzie Ivie - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6'

Mackenzie Carmickle - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6', Madison Carmickle - 4<sup>th</sup> - 5'6"

8<sup>th</sup> - Mallory Hendrix - 1<sup>st</sup> - 6'6", Carly Culbreath - 5<sup>th</sup> - 5'

**Shot put** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Shifa Ali - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 24'9", Savannah Lawson - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 24'7", Angel Ramos - 5<sup>th</sup> - 22'11",

Ashlyn Kelly - 6<sup>th</sup> - 22'2"

8<sup>th</sup> - Morgan Suggs - 1<sup>st</sup> - 30'1", Jessenia Castillo - 5<sup>th</sup> - 26'4", Lily Stuart - 6<sup>th</sup> - 25'5"

**Discus** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Nina Steele - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 60'5", Audrey Dierks - 4<sup>th</sup> - 60'2", Ashlyn Kelly - 5<sup>th</sup> - 57'1"

8<sup>th</sup> - Hailey Gregory - 1<sup>st</sup> - 81, Morgan Suggs - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 69'4", Lily Stuart - 6<sup>th</sup> - 64'10"

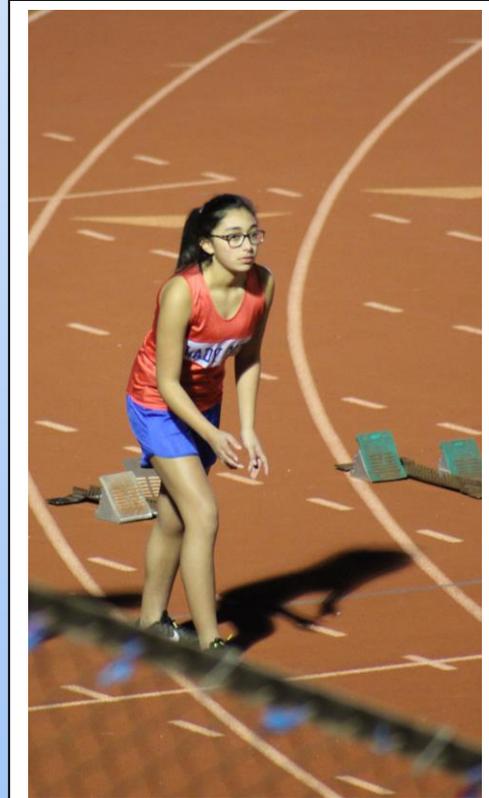
**2400 m run** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Zoey Flores - 1<sup>st</sup> - 10:06, Aubrie Fountain - 4<sup>th</sup> - 10:21

8<sup>th</sup> - Sami Gregory - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 10:03, Mia Pena - 5<sup>th</sup> - 11:11

**400 m relay** - 7<sup>th</sup> - Cayton Nesloney, Kyleigh Shirley, Desiray Ayala, Megan Griffith - 1<sup>st</sup> - 55.58

8<sup>th</sup> - Rachell Powell, Disna Bhakta, Sakara Wade - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 54.59

(continued on next page)



Nayeli Reyna getting ready for sprints

*Photo by Hailey Rasmussen*

## ***Track Meet Results (continued)***

**800 m run-7<sup>th</sup>**- Mackenzie Ivie- 1<sup>st</sup>- 2:41, Jillian Emmerson- 5<sup>th</sup>- 2:52, Miranda Dixon 6<sup>th</sup> 2:55

8<sup>th</sup> - Tayeden Leith- 4<sup>th</sup>- 2:48

**100 m hurdles- 7<sup>th</sup>** Kara Olguin- 4<sup>th</sup>- 19.53

8<sup>th</sup>-Leila Carpenter- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 18.3, Madison Kilgore 3<sup>rd</sup>- 18.32, Madison Snody 4<sup>th</sup> - 18.41

**100 m dash-7<sup>th</sup>** Cayton Nesloney 2<sup>nd</sup>- 14.32

8<sup>th</sup> - Marissa Valenzuela- 4<sup>th</sup> -14.07

**800 m relay- 7<sup>th</sup>** Lelani Deleon, Megan Griffith, Lauren Hollingsworth, Kyleigh Shirley 1<sup>st</sup>- 1:56

8<sup>th</sup>- Rebecca Nolen, Dixia Bhakta, Rachell Powell, Sakara Wade- 1<sup>st</sup>- 1:57

**400 m dash- 7<sup>th</sup>** Mackenzie Ivie- 1<sup>st</sup>- 1:08, Miranda Dixon 4<sup>th</sup> - 1:11, Jillian Emmerson- 5<sup>th</sup>- 1:12

8<sup>th</sup> - Disna Bhatka 2<sup>nd</sup>- 1:06, Trinity SaLvoie 4<sup>th</sup>- 1:09, Dakota Anderson 6<sup>th</sup> - 1:09

**300 m hurdles-7<sup>th</sup>** - Kara Olguin-3<sup>rd</sup>- 55.48, Lelani Deleon 6<sup>th</sup> - 57.95

8<sup>th</sup>- Madison Kilgore-1<sup>st</sup>- 53.26, Mallory Hendrix-4<sup>th</sup>- 57.69,  
Tadeyn Leith- 5<sup>th</sup> 58.83, Leila Carpenter 6<sup>th</sup> -1:00

**200 m dash- 7<sup>th</sup>** -Cayton Nesloney- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 29.7

8<sup>th</sup> - Dixia Bhakta- 3<sup>rd</sup>- 29.86, Madison Snody- 5<sup>th</sup>- 30.16

**1600 m run – 7<sup>th</sup>** -Zoey Flores- 1<sup>st</sup>- 6:17, Aubrie Fountain 2<sup>nd</sup>- 6:30

8<sup>th</sup> - Sami Gregory 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6:22, Mia Pena 6<sup>th</sup> - 6:36

**1600 m relay 7<sup>th</sup>** – Kara Olguin, Megan Griffith, Mackenzie Ivie, Kyleigh Shirley 1<sup>st</sup> - 4:39

8<sup>th</sup>- Alizae Tijerena, Sakara Wade, Disna Bhakta, Madison Kilgore 1<sup>st</sup>- 4:26

**Final Standings: 7<sup>th</sup> grade- 1<sup>st</sup>- GP- 242, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Flour Bluff- 144, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Calallen- 107, 4<sup>th</sup> - Alice- 93, 5<sup>th</sup> IWA-30**

**8<sup>th</sup> grade- 1<sup>st</sup>- GP- 206, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Flour Bluff- 197, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Calallen- 146, Alice - 35**

**Congratulations 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Ladycats.. You got a taste of victory, now stay humble and stay hungry, work hard on your own in this uncertain time to be that champion, but most importantly remember all the lessons sports and athletics have taught you and be a CHAMPION OF LIFE during this time.**

**IT WAS A GREAT YEAR TO BE A LADYCAT!!**

- *Coach Wilson*



# 2020 – 2021 Cheer Team Announced

By Coach Whitaker



Please join me in congratulating the following students on making the Gregory-Portland Middle School Cheer Team:

## Cheerleaders:

- Sophia Arthurs
- Kiera Baker
- Brooke Becker
- Gabs Cavazos
- Cheyenne Cueller
- Raeleigh Devine
- Taylor Getman
- Sofia Gonzales

- Cali Gregory
- Megan Griffith
- Payton Henson
- Sara Hesseltine
- Lauren Hollingsworth
- Ailani Mancias
- Lauren Moody
- Addison Morales
- Kendall Ramos

- Avery Rodriguez
- Kaelynn Shirley
- Kyleigh Shirley

## Managers/Alternates:

- Mia Barrera
- Faith McNeal

# Comics

By Melinda Sword



## Meet Mrs. Hayward

*A teacher interview by Avery Hayward*

**What do you do at GPMS?** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELAR and NJHS Advisor

**Education/Experience:** Journalism Degree from Texas Tech, Teaching Certification from UT Arlington, 19 years teaching

**Hobbies:** Reading, Spending Time with my Family, making travel plans

**Favorite Books:** Everything written by T.J Klume

**Favorite Games:** Block! Triangle, Block! Hexa, Word Cookies, Word Stacks, Wordscapes; Apps on my phone

**Favorite music, artist or genre:** Top Pop

**Something about me that might surprise people:** I'm hilarious. I'm really an introvert, I'd rather stay home and read, than go to a party.



## Meet Aundrea Reyes

*A student interview by Jenna Rodriguez*

**Favorite class/subject (&why):** My favorite class is athletics because it's fun and challenging.

**School Clubs/Activities:** Art, because it's fun and entertaining.

**Hobbies:** Playing sports and listening to music.

**Favorite Book(s):** My favorite book is Percy Jackson because it has an interesting backstory.

**Favorite Game(s):** My favorite game is Uno because it's a fun game to play with family & friends.

**Favorite music, artist or genre:** My favorite music is rap music.

**Plans/goals for after high school:** To go to college and get an education for myself.

**Something about me that might surprise people:** I'm good at drawing.

## Meet Natalie Abt

*Student interview by Bailey Clarke*

**Favorite Class/ Subject:** Social Studies because it's fun and I enjoy it.

**Hobbies:** Drawing, sleeping, eating

**Favorite Book(s):** Horror books

**Favorite Game:** Minecraft

**Favorite music, artist or genre:** My Chemical Romance

**Plans/goals for after high school:** Animator

**Something about me that might surprise people:** I have a dog and I'm half Russian.



## Spring Opinions Section

By: Opinions Editor - Ximena Garcia and Assistant Editor – Angelica Constante

**What Makes GPMS Great?** Ximena Garcia - What makes GPMS great is the variety of electives the school has to offer. In fact, one of the electives is journalism (most schools do not have this elective available for students). Another remarkable thing about GPMS is the teachers who help you along the way when you have a problem or when something is difficult for you. These are just two things the school has to offer, but overall, this is an amazing school to go to from 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.



### **College Editorials**

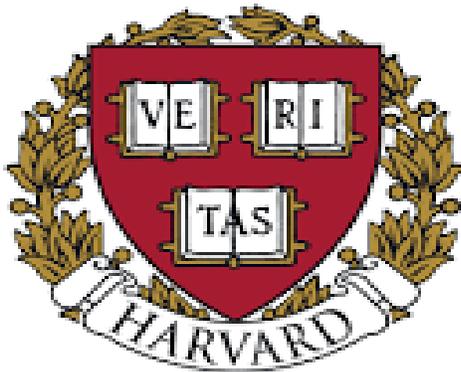


Jenna Rodriguez - Texas A&M University

When I graduate, the college I would like to go to is Texas A&M University. I want to go to Texas A&M because I want to get a degree in accounting and when I searched up what schools supply accounting degrees Texas A&M popped up. Most of my family has gone to Texas A&M, and said it was a great school, so therefore I would like to go there. I would also like to play softball there because they have a good softball team.



Bailey Clarke - Harvard University - A good college to go to, if you're interested in law or business, is Harvard University. It offers so many academic opportunities. It pretty much guarantees you to get a good job after graduating from Harvard. Harvard is the oldest college in the United States. It has the world's largest academic library. It includes 20.4 million books. You could learn many things there such as finance, history, or biology science. The campus is very substantial. It has a large dining hall with many food options. The teachers are all very good. I would very much recommend this college.



**Book Review –** Hailey Rasmussen – *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer



Twilight is a great book, if you like romance novels. The book is about an average girl named Bella Swan who moves to a new town and has to go to a new school. She feels like she doesn't belong, since everyone seems like they already have their own friend groups. She eventually finds friends and they tell her about a mysterious guy named Edward Cullen. He doesn't talk to anyone but his siblings: Jasper, Alice, Emmet, and Rosalie. Bella eventually starts speaking to him and finds out he's a vampire!

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<https://www.boxtops4education.com>

# Game Reviews

## Marky Trevino - SSBU (Super Smash Bros. Ultimate)



“Super Smash Bros. Ultimate” is an epic fighting game developed by together Nintendo. It brings battle! "It's a really epic fighting game if you like fighting games!" says Coleton Christman. “Super Smash Bros. Ultimate” is a perfect game to play with friends and family. You can have a lot of funny moments and have a lot of fun. Overall, I give this game a 10/10.



## Colton Converse - WGT Golf

WGT golf is a mobile, multiplayer golf game that allows you to play against other players in a round of golf. WGT golf is a good game, however it has room for improvement. The graphics in WGT are horrendous, the players legs often disappear completely, sometimes the entire character disappears, and you are left with nothing but a club. While the graphics may be bad, the gameplay and wide array of clubs fully make up for it. The head-to-head multiplayer mode is another addition to this game that adds to the fun. This game mode allows for the player to play against other players in real time and climb the online leaderboards. Overall, this is a great game, however the graphics need improvement.



## Colton Converse - Forza Horizon Four

Forza Horizon 4 is a racing game that allows you to drive all types of vehicles. Forza has also been a candidate for the best graphics almost every year!!! Forza's rolling hills and amazing landscapes will almost force you to look as you drive past, however Forza's popularity doesn't just come from its amazing graphics it also comes from the surprising amount of variety that the game has to offer. With many different types of cars and trucks to choose from Forza has the best selection of cars out of almost all racing games, it also has a lot of types of races to choose from. I personally love this game for the reality that it offers Forza can make you feel as though you are really behind the wheel of some of the most expensive/rarest cars in the world. No matter how you look at it, Forza Horizon Four is a great game with amazing graphics, variety, and most of all realism.



## Bailey Clarke - Mario Kart Mobile



This is an exciting game you can play with friends or random people online. It's a kart racing game where you can collect coins and a variety of powerups. The first one to complete two laps and get to the finish line first wins. I like it because the games are fast and easy. I play with my friends all the time when I get bored, because it passes the time.



## Bailey Clarke - Papa's Pizzeria



This is a fun and easy game. You play as a new employee at a pizza place. First, you take the person's order, then you make the pizza - very simple. Anyone can play, because it is that simple. You can play this game on Cool Math or you can play it on your phone as an app. I really like this game because you make the pizza yourself and then get paid for it. The game is very addicting and there are also lots of other games like it on Cool Math.

## Colton Renfro - OffRoad Outlaws



OffRoad Outlaws is a free to download game for almost any phone and for most computers. This game is an off-road game with many different maps consisting of roads, mud, hills, mountains, grass plains, logs, bridges, deep water, and of course, rocks. When you start the game, you will receive \$30,000 in in-game money. This is enough to buy from a wide variety of trucks and 4-wheelers. Once you choose your vehicle, you can upgrade its power, grip, weight, and durability. You can also choose between adding a blower, which is a supercharger, or a turbo. If you would like to buy a bigger and better rig, you will have to earn more in-game money or in-game gold by completing trails in maps. Speaking of maps, let's talk about them. When you start the game and buy your first vehicle, you can go to the PLAY icon in the bottom right hand corner. When you tap on that, you have the choice to either go to SINGLEPLAYER or MULTIPLAYER. I would suggest you go to SINGLEPLAYER for your first time. Then from there, you can see your maps to choose from. You have WOODLANDS, which is a map in the woods with a river going through it. This map has a wide variety of trails to do going from simple hill climbs to big rock crawling. This map is a great place to start out at to learn your car's capability. You can also go to CUSTOM MAPS straight from the start. This region has a lot of maps created by players from across the world. There will be a chart sort of thing at the top that says FEATURED, NEWEST, ALL, FAVORITES, and MY MAPS. To create a map of your own, you'll have to become an OffRoad Outlaws member. That will cost you \$2.99 a month. If you want a fun map with Fun rock trails that consist of beginner and pro, click on the ALL icon and type in the search bar "Hazard County". This is one of my favorite maps ever. It also has a mini city in the middle. If you want another truck but you don't have quite enough money, you do have the option to sell your current truck. I sold a couple of mine so I could buy a Jeep Wagoner. As soon as I bought the rig, I automatically maxed out everything. That includes power, grip, weight, durability, suspension, and tires. I even installed Pro Solid Axels. I hope you download this game. If you do, tell me, so I can help you out a little bit and do a couple trail rides with you. I can't wait. I also put a picture of my rig on here so you can see what is possible in this game. Well, until next time, see you on the trails!



## Colton Renfro - Cool Math Idle Dice

Cool Math is a very popular site for school-appropriate games. Recently, I've been playing a game called Idle Dice. In this game, you earn money by rolling dice. You start with one single die and get the amount of virtual money that the number of the die lands on. Later on, you can upgrade your dice, and buy more dice. You can have a total of five dice. It's kind of like Yahtzee. After you buy all the dice, there are extras that you can buy that multiplies your total to get you more money.



There are settings in the top right corner that set how many times you upgrade the dice. If you choose 100, and upgrade the dice, an ascend button pops up. If you click on it, it lets you draw a card. Certain cards help you earn more money or faster automatic rolling. You can also earn BP to buy different things. There are a lot of extras, so you're going to have find that stuff for yourself. Have fun!



## Colton Renfro - Cool Math's Moto X3M

Moto X3M is a game on Cool Math that you can play on almost all devices. This game consists of a guy riding a dirt bike throughout various levels; there are 25 of them.

## Colton Renfro - Need For Speed: No Limits

I have another racing game to tell you about. This one is made by EA and it is called "Need for Speed: No Limits". EA has made multiple "Need for Speed" games. You can play this game on most phones for free.



When you start the game, you will learn the controls by driving one of the best cars you can get. I started with a Dodge Viper, but I've seen others start with different cars. It will show you how to steer by tapping on the left or right side. To use the nitro boost, you swipe up. To go into a drift, swipe down and steer in the direction you want to go. After you "escape" the police, you drive into Kim's garage. Kim is the one who hired you to race for you. She will give you "blueprint cards" to build your first car. It sounds like Asphalt 9: Legends a little bit to me. The first car you get is a Subaru BRZ in blue. As you race around town, you will unlock different areas and stages. One of my favorite places is the Modshop where you can add body kits and wraps to your vehicle for free.

I love the game so much, and I hope you do too. I hope to race you one day. Until then, have fun!

# Colton Renfro's Thoughts and Fun Tips in the

## Era of Coronavirus... ?



### My Opinion on Quarantine 🤔🏠

Hello. I am Colton Renfro and I am here to tell you what I think about the quarantine. Honestly, I have mixed feelings about it. I like staying home with my family and pets, and I like not having to GO to school all the time. But on the other hand, I kind of miss going to school. I hate the fact that I can't see anyone else in person besides the people in my house. I also miss running in athletics.

Plus, and I know all the 8th grade athletic boys can relate to this, I don't get to go to the rest of the track meets, especially district. What I don't miss as much is all the schoolwork. I'm glad we don't have to as much as we did at school. I also feel bad for the seniors because they don't get their prom that they've always wanted.

Well, that's how I feel about this quarantine. How do you feel about it?

### Creative Things to do to Pass Some Time.... 🎮

I know a lot of you are bored of staying home and not being able to go anywhere since everything is closed and there is no more school. So, that's why I'm here to help you pass the time. I have created a list of some fun things to do to get your mind off everything that's happening in the world. Take a look...

- Painting a fun picture 🎨
- Going for a run
- Play with your pets 🐕 🐈
- Binge-watch your favorite TV show 📺
- Workout 🏃 🏈 🏀
- Go for a bike ride 🚲
- Cook something new
- Play some board games with your family (I recently played Giant Jenga)
- Clean your room 🧹
- Do a puzzle 🧩
- Try fishing 🎣
- Play baseball with your family ⚾
- Have a water balloon fight 💧

So, go ahead; try some of these out. I bet you'll find a lot of fun doing some of these. Well, until the next article, see you later!

## Fun Things to do With Your Pets during Coronacation... 🐶 🐱

🐾 by Colton Renfro

Are you bored staying home during Coronacation? And are your pets bored too? If you answered YES to both, then here is a list of stuff you can do with your pets (if they're cats or dogs) ...

- Take your dog on a run with you 🐶
- Teach your cat to use the restroom on the toilet 🐱 🚽
- Give them lots of yummy treats 🍖 🐶
- Teach your dog fetch 🐶 🎱
- Buy a Frisbee for your dog 🎱 🐶
- Make your cat a cat-hammock 🐱 🐱
- Make your dog a dog pen 🐶 🐶
- Give your dog a bone 🐶 🍖 🐶 🍖



- Do the What-The-Fluff challenge with your pets 🐶 😊 !
- See how many Cheez-Its you can put on your cat before they wake up 🐱 🐱 🍷
- Give your cat a paper bag 📁
- Give your dog a tennis ball ○ ● ● ●

There are some fun things to do with your pet. Have fun trying them out. Bye!

## Fun Art Projects to do During Coronavirus Lockdown! 😊

Hello! I know that a lot of you THINK you don't have anything to do during this lockdown, but you're wrong. All you must do is find some paint, brushes, coloring pencils, pens, markers, or other art related utensils, and let your mind go to work. Here's a list that I put together of some fun art-related projects to do.

- Tape Resist Canvas

Art 🖼️ 🎨

- Fruit Thumbprint

Art 🍇 🍎 🍓 🍌 🍋

- Watercolor Art 🎨 🌈

- Pencil Eraser Paint

Polka-Dot Art 🌞 🌞

- Take Pictures of Beautiful

Landscapes 🏞️ 🏠 🌳 🌳

🐾

- Clay Art 🎨 🎨

- Dirty

Flip

Cup

Art 🎨



Well, those are just a few of many things that you can do. The last one I put (the dirty flip cup) is my favorite. You should try it out sometime. Well, until next time, I'll see you later! Bye!

# Advice for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders....



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grader, Colton Renfro says...

Hello future 6th grader(s). My name is Colton Renfro and at the time that I am writing this, I am at the end of Middle School. I know a lot of you guys are nervous about your first day of middle school, and I can see why. I was the same way when I was going into 6th grade. I was scared because I have never been to a school where there were a lot of older people than me, but don't worry about them. The school has got that all under control. If you're worried about the 7th and 8th graders, don't be. They do a very good job of keeping you separated from them so that you can learn your way around with others your age. If I was to say one thing that would help you for your first day, it's that you should just be yourself. Don't try to "fit in" with the crowd, stand out. I promise you, it will help you a lot. I know you'll do just fine in 6th grade. And for my brother, have fun in 6th grade. I know you will. Well, that's all I have to say. I can't give you all the answers to everything, but I know you will be able to find them yourselves. Good luck and have fun. Bye!

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grader, Ximena Garcia says....

Right when you walk in, be confident that you will make it to high school. At first, it might seem that some subjects are hard, but you will get used to it. Once you get to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, you get to use calculators in Pre- Algebra, so it won't be as hard. One thing you do need to do is get most of your high school credits done before you get to high school. You also need to take two years of a foreign language, and in 8<sup>th</sup> grade they have a Spanish class with Señora Puente. You do one year of Spanish in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and another in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. If you want to learn another language, there's German, but only in high school. Although, you can't do one year of Spanish and one year of German. Another exciting elective is clerical practice; you basically help in the office and deliver stuff to teachers. If you have questions, you can ask your teachers or counselors; you can always count on them. Just have fun and study hard, and you will get past all the obstacles in your way.



Dear GPMS Faculty, Staff and Students,

With this being my last year at GP Middle School, I leave with both joy and sadness. The joy comes from being able to complete some projects around my home without being limited to weekends. The sadness comes from leaving my GP family. After 20 years here, I am finding it hard to say good-bye. I've known many teachers, administrators, and staff who have come and gone. It never seemed so difficult until now. I will miss everyone terribly, so if I show up now and then, don't be surprised. I truly regret not being able to say good-bye to my students in person. I really feel cheated. Several of them have already brought me to tears when they told me the same. May God bless all of you and may you have a happy, healthy next school year.



Mrs. Donovan, May 2020

