

The GPMS Gazette!

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



GPMS Tennis Team members Tristan Guzman, Janelle Garcia, Abby Sciba, Bethany Miles, Christopher Sanchez, and Elias Vasquez love to hang out together!

Photo by Ginny Carey

GPMS Gazette **February, 2019**

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in the GPMS Press Corps!

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February "color" by Victoria Smith

The GPMS Gazette Editorial Staff:

News edited by Faith Pitts

People edited by Madi Snody

A & E edited by Isabella Baietto

Features edited by Madelynn Gross

Opinions edited by Sky Campbell

Sports edited by Lauren Spencer

Tech edited by Hailey Rasmussen

Style edited by Zoe Garza

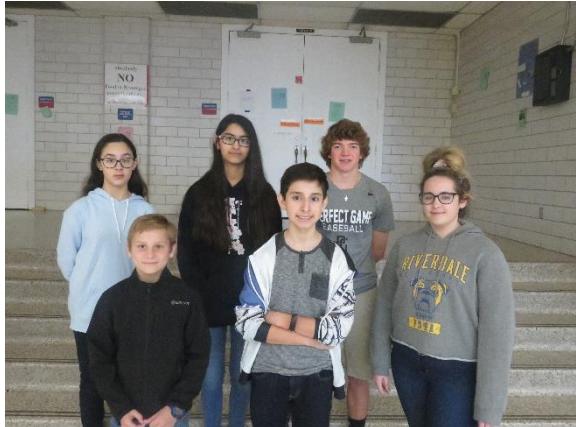
Executive Editor – Jonathon Martinez

GPMS NEWS

Editor: Faith Pitts

January's Students of the Month

By Rylee Martinez and photo by Savannah Diaz-Korff



6th grade: Jayden Smith &
Gavin Klaus

7th grade: Hailey Rasmussen &
Marky Trevino

8th grade: Heavyn Garcia &
Kaden McCoy

Snack Pack Drive

By Kendall Lopez

From Mrs. Abby Rodriguez, Communities in Schools: "We are collecting individually wrapped snacks, juice boxes, and single-serve food that kids can make themselves. Also, large Ziploc bags to put the food in. Every Friday we will give packs out to kids who need them, to ensure that everyone has something to eat over the weekend. We don't want any child here to not have food to eat. If the drive is successful, then we will have snack packs available every Friday of this school year."

Math in History

By: Savannah Diaz-Korff

Math in History is an activity that teaches students how to figure out proportions of each article of the constitution, then transfer the data to a chart. The idea was taken from a Bill of Rights Institute workshop from several years ago. Word count in a document gives you a scientific way to analyze the proportions of different sections of a document.

The interpretation to be made is that the higher proportion a section is in a document, the more important that section is. This assignment points out that the three branches of government were of the highest importance to our founders.



Also, since Article 1 sets up the legislature, it can be inferred that our founders were most concerned about the function and power of that branch of government more so than the other branches. This assignment also provides an alternate way to analyze the Constitution.

Abigail Schaberg, Sierra Moreno, and Kiera Vest are featured in this picture. This picture was taken by Mrs. Schipper!

Maps, Graphs and Charts UIL

By: Madelynn Gross

7th and 8th-grade teams meet in room D109 Monday after school until 4:30 pm.

Our 6th-grade team meet in room D109 Thursday after school until 4:30 pm.

Please contact Mrs. Ibarra for more information.

People Section

Editor, Madison Snody

Meet Mr. Solis

By Gabe Palacios, Photo by Eagle Imaging

Hello, my name is Mr. Mario Solis, and I teach 7th grade Science at GPMS. I graduated from Texas A&M Corpus Christi in 2005 with a Master's Degree in Educational Administration and in 2003 with a Bachelor's Degree in Education with a specialization in Life and Earth Science. I also have an Associates Degree in Real Estate from Del Mar College. My hobbies are fishing, kayaking, and exercising at our local gym. My favorite book is The Bible and any books by Scott Hahn or Brant Pitre. As far as games are concerned, I really liked playing Mario Kart on my old N-64. I'm holding out for the mini-console if it ever comes out. I'm keeping my fingers crossed! Musically, I like listening to 80's rock, because it's the music I grew up with, but lately I pretty much listen to anything while I'm cleaning house or exercising. The last few years I have really enjoyed listening to Christian music. Matthew West is my favorite artist. His songs are really inspiring. I think people might be surprised to know that back in the day I was a real Iron Maiden fan. In fact, I have seen them four times in concert. Shhhhh, don't tell anyone...





Meet: Mrs. Quiroga

By Savannah Diaz-Korff, Photo by Eagle Imaging



What do you do at GPMS? I teach 6th Grade ELAR

Education/experience: I graduated from UTPA which is in Edinburg, TX. Now it has changed to UTRGV.

This is my 10th year teaching. I've taught all grades up to 6th grade.

Hobbies: I love listening to music, watching football, reading, fishing, and playing basketball whenever I can.

Favorite Book(s): My favorite series of books to read are Rick Riordan's, "The Lightning Thief." He's also one of my favorite author's.

Favorite Game(s):

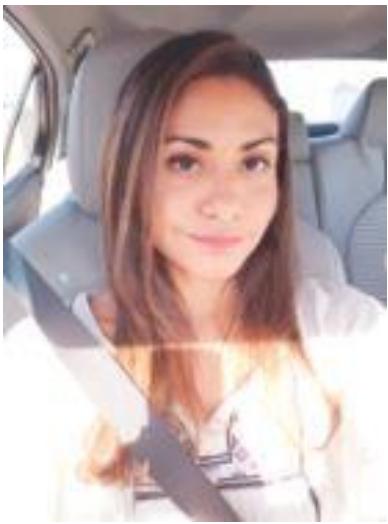
My favorite board game is Scrabble. I also love to play Uno, and any type of trivia game.

Favorite music, artist or genre:

My favorite music is pop. I just saw Elton John in concert and he was amazing! Right now I'm excited to see the music group KISS in February.

Something about me that might surprise people: I was somewhat of a tomboy when I was younger. I really wanted to play football at a young age, but it was not allowed yet for girls to play. I then pursued basketball, and in the 8th grade I played on the varsity Girl's Basketball State Championship team in South Dakota and we won state.





Meet Ms. Guzman

By Zoey Lankford, Photo by Ms. Guzman

What do you do at GPMS? 7th Grade English Teacher

Education/experience: First year teacher at G-P Middle School

Hobbies: Yoga, surfing, fishing, and camping

Favorite Book(s): Psychological Journals and Science Journals

Favorite Game(s): Call of Duty

Favorite music, artist or genre: Surf Rock, Latin Music

Something about me that might surprise people: I have been practicing yoga for 6 years. I really like being outdoors; the beach for surfing and fishing are my biggest hobbies when I am not busy.

Meet Mrs. Whitaker, formerly Miss Eads, also Coach Alex

By Kendall Lopez, Photo by Eagle Imaging

What do you do at GPJHS? I teach 7th grade English Language Arts Reading and I coach cheerleading.

Education/experience: B.A. from the University of North Texas in Converged Broadcast Media

Hobbies: Shooting and editing video. I love creating.

Favorite Book(s): The Harry Potter series for sure. I've read it at least a dozen times.

Favorite Game(s): no favorite game

Favorite music, artist or genre: Halsey. I've seen her live twice!

Something about me that might surprise people: By the time I was 22, I had moved 22 times!



Meet Officer Lopez

By Gabriel Palacios, Photo by Officer Lopez

They call me officer G, and I have 9 years of experience as a patrol officer. I completed high school and have some college hours. I enjoy playing sports and watching sports, mainly football and basketball. My favorite book would be the Bible. I enjoy listening to Linkin Park while I exercise at the gym. Something that would surprise people about me is: I am really good at basketball!!!! I hope this answers some of your questions. I really enjoy working at my favorite campus: the GP middle school!"



Meet Mrs. McClary

By Sean Charles

What do you do at GPJHS? I teach 6th grade ELA, coach 6th grade UIL Ready Writing, and assist with BOB.

Education/experience: I graduated from Angelo State University and began teaching in 1991 in the San Angelo area. After six years of teaching, I took the opportunity to stay home with my children until they were all in school. This is my 9th year at G.P.

Hobbies: Reading, shopping for more books to read, watching my son play sports.

Favorite Book(s): To Kill a Mockingbird

Favorite Game(s): Bananas, Uno

Favorite music, artist or genre: Rock, pop

Something about you that might surprise people: I am a graduate of Permian High School, the school that was the motivation for the movie Friday Night Lights. My husband played football, I was a cheerleader, and my father-in-law was our school principal. He had an actor play him, and his name is actually mentioned in the movie and in the credits.



A&E

(Arts & Entertainment) Section

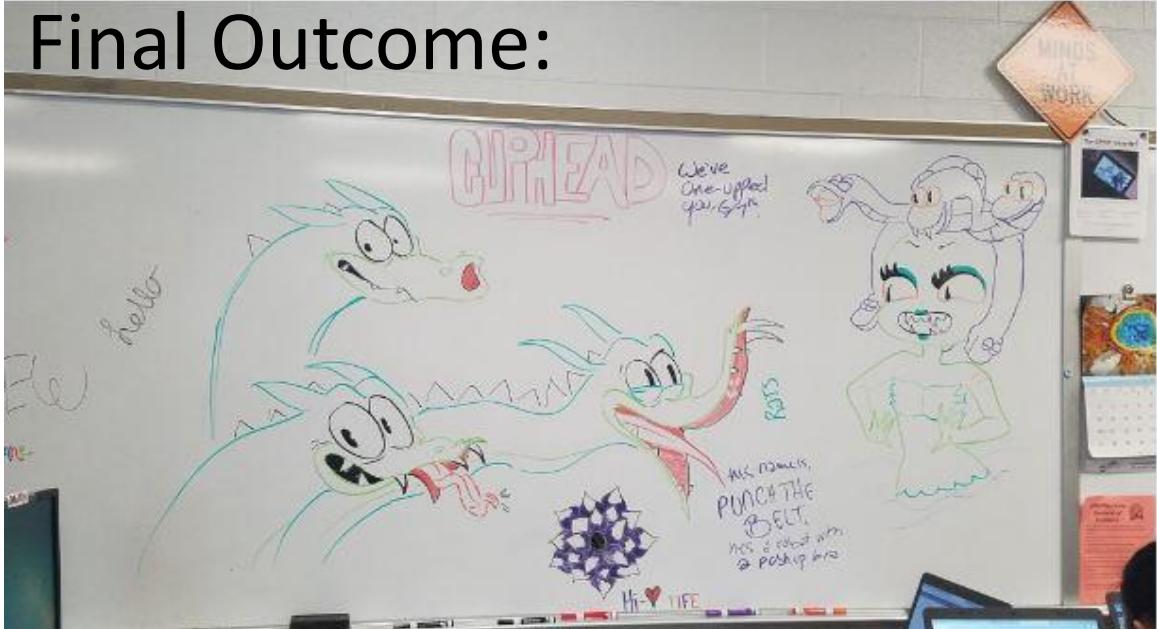
Editor: Isabella Baietto



Kariane McMahon & Cara Nichols draw on their 3rd-period ELA whiteboard, after finishing their assigned work.

"We gotta one-up 6th & 7th period," says Cara.

Final Outcome:



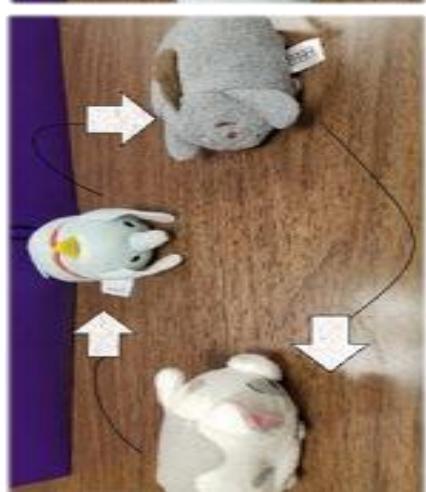
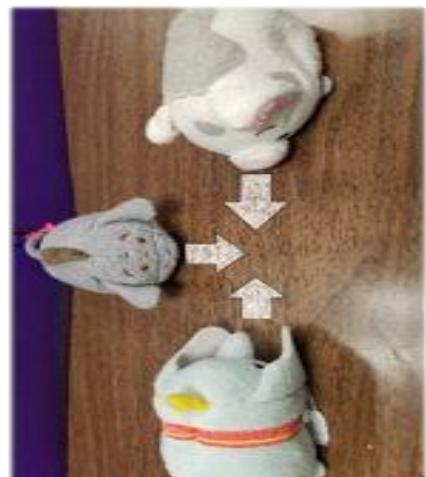
Photos by Chloe Poenisch





• Comic By Emma Denton





• Comic By: Isabella Baietto





Band News

By: Jonathan Martinez
Information Provided By: Mr. Anderson

Gregory Portland Middle School hosted the Region XIV Band Auditions Saturday, January 26. 32 of our students earned a chair in the region band. These students will now participate in the clinic and concert at Veteran's Memorial High School Friday and Saturday, February 1st and 2nd. If you see any of these students, please congratulate them on an outstanding performance.

Flute:

Erica Estrada
Brooke Moreno
Mackenzie Saathoff

Clarinet:

Isabella Garcia
Aiden Reyes
Sophia Martinez
Emma Peralta
Marisela Rocha
Jaylin Ortegon

Bass Clarinet:

Omar Mariscal

Alto Saxophone:

Misha Stegall
Christian Villeda
Vincent Nguyen
Jaiden Vo

Tuba:

Ella Spencer
Rufino Medado

Trumpet:

Quinn Smith
TJ Elliott

Horn:

Cheyene Olson
Peyton Felchak
Ryan Fudge
Laura Bennett
Aiden Sheehy

Trombone:

Blake Farr
John Vaughan

Baritone:

Clayton Cates
Matthew Rush

Percussion:

Sean Rios
Dale Loveland
Alex Elizondo
Kolton Ramos

Five students earned special recognition for achieving 1st chair in their respective instruments:

Omar Mariscal 1st chair
(Bass Clarinet)

Misha Stegall 1st chair
(Alto Saxophone)

Quinn Smith 1st chair
(Trumpet)

Clayton Cates 1st chair
(Euphonium)

Ella Spencer 1st chair
(Tuba)





GPMS Theatre presents
"Asylum"
By Jerome McDonough

Produced with special permission of Dramatic Publishing

Public Performances February 14 & 15 @ 6:30 p.m.
at GPMS Auditorium
All seats \$5

UIL One-Act Play Contest March 2 @ 12 p.m.
at Tulosso-Midway HS



See the January 2019
GPMS Gazette
for more information
about "Asylum"

If you have anything you would like to see in the A&E
Section, email Isabella Baietto, the A&E Editor



Features

BY Madelynn Gross

Madison Boomer: GPMS Student & International Dance Contestant

By: Ginny Carey

GC: What grade are you in?

Boomer: I'm in the 6th grade

GC: Why are we interviewing you?

Boomer: I made it to the Irish Dancing Worlds

GC: What are the Irish Dancing Worlds?

Boomer: The best dancers in the world go there to compete.

GC: When are the Irish Dancing Worlds?

Boomer: Sometime in December, in Dublin, Ireland.



PSAT Testing

By. Marky Trevino

The PSAT was held on October 10th. It was between 8 AM to 4 PM. Eli Gerick and Dian Bhagat have taken the test, and believe that the test was very challenging, and they barely had time to finish. Eli says “, I took this so I could know what the test was about.” It seems that they and anyone else that took the test have taken one step closer to acing the SAT

Mrs. Baker's Shanty Town

By. Marky Trevino

On December 17, Mrs. Baker's class worked on their project to create a mini cardboard shanty town. In real shanty towns, people have to make their homes out of recycled material, so the students had to do the same. They could only use recycled material and couldn't bring anything from their homes. Each home they made had to have at least 2 rooms, 1 door, and a window. The students had to research what Brazilian shanty town their house would be located in. They had to find out information about the area including school and work. Then they had to answer all the questions their paper had. It seemed to be a very fun experience for the students.

Attendance By Zoey Lankford

November 30th - December 6th 95.8 %
December 7th - December 13th 95.43%

This is the attendance percentage for December! Make sure if you are not here at school to try and come the next day and bring a note from home or a doctor. Remember if 97% of your grade comes to school then you will get phones on Monday!

Academic Booster Club Zoey Lankford

The Academic Booster Club (ABC) helps make GPMS a great place for our students to learn. "If you are a parent/guardian and would like to fill out the volunteer paperwork, please go to the front office to pick it up. We look forward to working with you!" says Mrs.Uptergrove, the club sponsor. If you need more information, please contact Mrs. Uptergrove.

STAAR Testing – Don't Be Scared; Be Prepared!



Prepare for the future by learning from the past. Visit this website for actual STAAR materials from previous school years:
<http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/STAAR Released Test Questions>

Box Tops for Education

Turn your trash into cash for our school! Please clip, collect and bring your Box Tops coupons to school. Money raised will support our school library! Box Tops collection bins are located in the front office, the library, and several teachers' classrooms. For more information about the program and/or to register as a supporter of our school, please visit www.boxtops4education.com



The screenshot shows the school's website with a navigation bar for 'GREGORY-PORTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL'. Below the navigation is a search bar and links for 'Campus Info', 'Calendar', and 'Staff Directory'. A large section titled 'HAPPENING NOW (EVENT CALENDAR)' displays a monthly calendar for October 2018. Events listed include: Robotics Meeting (3:45 PM - 4:30 PM, N-2), Middle School vs. Kafte (4:30 PM - 5:00 PM), 7th Grade Football Game (vs. Gregory-Portland Middle School), College Day, Middle School Tennis vs. Kingsville (TBD), Choir After School (4:30 PM - 8:00 PM), Middle School Cross Country Meet, and West Guth Park.

Mark Your Calendar

There are a lot of exciting events happening at GPMS; to see what they are when they will happen, visit the school's website, or click the link below!

<https://www.g-pisd.org/gpms/calendar/happening-now-event-calendar>

February Opinions

Jayden (Sky) Campbell, Editor

As you know, every Wednesday is college day; some students are already thinking about their future education, and already thinking about how they want their future to be!

University of the Incarnate Word

By: Zoey Lankford



Incarnate word is in San Antonio, Texas. If you want to go to Incarnate Word in the future for college, you can visit the campus on a tour. The college includes many studies, including: accounting, art, banking and finance, athletic training, bilingual communication arts, journalism, marketing, English, and more. There are also many scholarship opportunities such as ROTC, athletic, and more. The university has many sports, including: baseball, basketball, cross country, fencing, football, golf, soccer, swimming, tennis, track, and more. In the school you can even study abroad. There are different services to help you out with school, such as tutoring. On the campus there are also some dining options, such as a café. If you want more information about the campus check out the website <http://www.uiw.edu>

Texas A&M Is The Place I Want To Go!!!

By: Colton Renfro

I would love to go to the Texas A&M College in Dallas, Texas. I would go there to be a designer and a mechanic. I would also be the first one in my family to go to a Texas A&M College and that would be awesome. My family also are big Aggie fans. Gig 'em Aggies! I would try to get a master's degree in both choices of subjects. Not to mention, the maroon colors. Plus, I would join the baseball team.



What Makes GPMS Great?

By: Madison Snody

GPMS is a great school one of the things that make it great is the intensive courses. The intensive courses are great for kids who want a challenge. In 7th grade, they offer intensive courses for all required classes. In 8th grade you can even take algebra to be ahead in high school. If you take these intensive math classes, you could even get a year of math off for your senior year in high school. The intensive courses offers students challenges, which is a very good reason to have them.



What Makes GPMS Great?

BY: COLTON RENFRO



GPMS is perfect. I would never leave GP. Although, with a new splash of paint, I think this school could be the best. The teachers are great, too. They always help me when I need help. They are the best. The custodians are great. I know they most likely do not have the best time cleaning our bathrooms or lunchroom, but they still do it for us. Thank you so much for cleaning our school. Well, that is it for me! Thank you! Bye!

Let's hear some words of wisdom!!

"Good Better Best. Never let it rest, until your good is your better, and your better is your best!"

- Author Unknown



- Retold by: Mrs. Patricia Smith

(Para Professional at Grand Ridge Grade School in Grand Ridge, IL)

Thank you for reading and looking at the Opinions section! Thanks to the students that sent me great editorials! I hope you have a great Valentine's Day!

SPORTS

Editor, Lauren Spencer

Seventh-Grade Wildcat Basketball

By Gabriel Palacios

Seventh-grade boys “A” team basketball lost to Flour Bluff 59-52 on Monday, December 17. The Wildcats trailed 37-25 during the first half but fought back in the 3rd and the 4th quarter late. Davian Guevara led scoring with 18 points, followed by Colton Harrison 12, Russell Escamilla 9, Trevor Jones 9, Jacob Arroyo 2, & Marco Gonzales 2.

Seventh-Grade Flour Bluff Tournament

By Gabriel Palacios

Seventh-grade boys “A” team basketball completed bracket play in the Flour Bluff tournament this past weekend. The wildcats beat Calallen 45-15 and then lost in the championship to Flour Bluff 53-46 in an outstanding game! The wildcats played great against a very good Hornet team. Trevor Jones led scoring with 11 points in the championship, followed by Davian Guevara 10, Russell Escamilla 8, Marco Gonzales 6, Evan Rhodes 4, Colton Harrison 4, Jacob Arroyo 2, and Jaydon Smith 1.

Seventh-Grade Boys Baker Game

By Gabriel Palacios

The 7th-grade Boys Basketball “B” Team beat Baker Middle School last night with a score of 35 to 18. Top scorers for the game were Tasi Quinata and Ryan Arredondo each with 6 points; Jeremiah Felan with 5 points; Elijah Young, Ricardo Alvarado, and Eli Garza each with 4 points; Kris Vargas, Brian Hinojosa, and Kaleb Castillo each with 2 points. Also playing great defense with several rebounds were CJ Hart, Michael Hernandez, Garrett Carter, Ranger Weatherford, Gabriel Palacios, and Vince Esqueda. Great Game Wildcats! Record now is 4 Wins 0 Losses.



Photo by
Colton Renfro

Seventh-Grade boys Driscoll Game

By Gabriel Palacios

Seventh-grade boys “A” team basketball beat Driscoll Middle School 51-37 on Monday, January 28. The Wildcats jumped out to a 31-14 lead at the half behind great pressure defense. Colton Harrison led scoring 12 points, followed by Davian Guevara 11, Trevor Jones 9, Russell Escamilla 8, Marco Gonzales 4, Jaden Dement 4, Jaydon Smith 2, and Eli Gerick 1. The Wildcats close the season next Monday, February 4 at home against Flour Bluff.

Seventh-Grade Ladycats CCISD Tournament

By Madi Snody



The 7th-grade “A” Ladycat basketball team participated in the CCISD middle school tournament this weekend. The Ladycats started out with a win to Baker 18 to 9. Rachelle Powell was the high point with 10 points, Carly Culbreth, Madison Snody, Madison Kilgore, and Halle Radford each added 2 points. The Ladycats fell to TM later that night. Madison Kilgore had the hot hand with 7 points while Rachelle Powell and Carly Culbreth added 2 each.

Photo by Hailey Rasmussen

Oder your 2019 GPMS Yearbook now, while supplies last!



Cover art by Chloe Poenisch & Diego Aguillon

Order the 2019 GPMS Yearbook for 2017's price!

Get more pages than last year, all designed by the GPMS

Press Corps!

Order now online for \$35, and save \$10 off last May's purchase price of
\$45!

www.balfour.com/shop/yearbook?smi=71833





Technology

Hailey Rasmussen, Editor

Keyboarding

By Brandon Castilleja, Information from Mrs. Hughes

Mrs. Hughes teaches the 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade Keyboarding classes. 6th-grade students learn how to live in the 'real world' and what good life skills to have. 7th and 8th graders learn to format personal business letters in Touch System Data Entry.



Ducksters.com

By Brandon Castilleja

Ducksters is an educational website that has history, science, and geography. For history, you can learn about the civil war, the American Revolution, or both World Wars. Science can help you learn about the environment and animals. Reading biographies can help you learn about US presidents, Artists, and World Explorers. Geography lets you see places all over the world and gives information about the place you are looking for. If you want a break from studying, Ducksters has games, from puzzles to math games.



<https://www.ducksters.com>



Recycling Batteries

By Savannah Diaz-Korff, Photo by Madison Snody

Mrs. Edge started recycling batteries 3 years ago, and a lot of good things have come from that. When batteries are taken and dropped off at a landfill, the batteries will start to dissolve or erode, and the liquid acid that is inside of the battery will seep into the ground. The acid can get into our water system, and it can be very harmful for animals and humans. This program reuses ALL battery parts so the acid dissolving doesn't happen. Mrs. Edge would love to accept every battery that is donated, but the batteries will not be accepted if the battery is rechargeable.

This program works in 3 simple steps:

- People donate batteries until the batteries fill up a bucket.
- Mrs. Edge calls UPS and notifies them about the bucket.
- UPS comes and takes the bucket away, and brings the bucket back once the batteries have been dropped off.



If you are interested in dropping off any NON-RECHARGEABLE batteries, please see our 7th-grade counselor in the counselor's office. The bucket is located in Mrs. Edge's office. She wants to keep it there to monitor what is put in the bucket, and make sure nothing is taken out. There is no target goal this year, we usually get up to 1 bucket a year.

"Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" - Mrs. Edge

Virtual Tour of the New Middle School

By Melany Castillo



Do you ever wonder what the new schools are going to look like in the future? Click the links below to find out what the new middle school looks like. The new middle school will cost \$117 million to upgrade with things such as: new band instruments/music, athletic uniforms, theatre equipment, better computers, new technology, furniture, and concession stand. The new middle school will be built where the intermediate is, down Wildcat Drive.

Learn more here: <https://www.g-pisd.org/news/bond-construction-updates/newgpm>

or, if you are reading this online, click this link to take the tour:

<https://securedata2.finalsuite.com/cf82/gpisdorg/data/media/video/1080p/1943.mp4?rand=1549552680579>

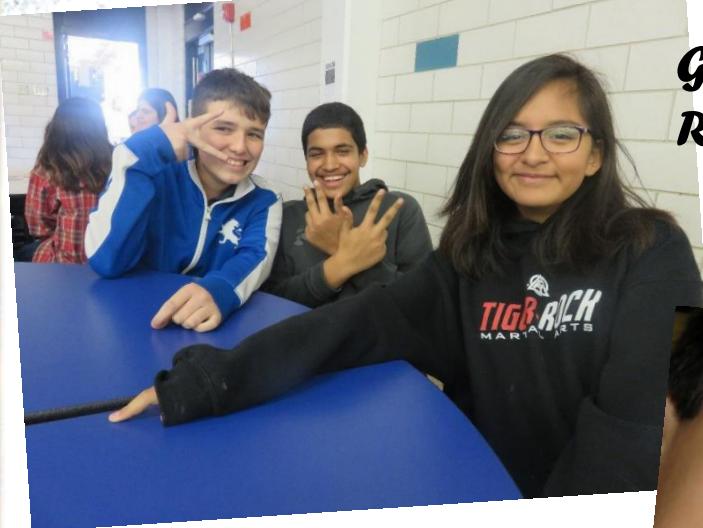


:+.*Style Section*.+;

Editor: Zoe Garza

!Students and Teachers Lifestyle!

**Gabriella Flores, Jayson
Rios, Logan Lovins**



**Markie Trevino, Brandon
Castilleja Hailey
Rasmussen, Mr. Thomas,
and Jadon Velasco.**



**Jaime Hernandez,
Cesar Martinez, Zach
Guzman, Ka'Len Hall**





February Favorites Dance

GPMS is having a Favorites Dance in the school's cafeteria on Saturday, February 23rd, 7:00-10:00pm. Tickets Cost \$10 (presale); Tickets at the door cost \$15. In each grade level, GPMS students vote for:

Most Athletic Boy and Girl

Most Artistic Boy and Girl

Most Studious Boy and Girl

Class Clown Boy and Girl

Best All Around Boy and Girl

**Students, check your
school e-mail for the link
to cast your votes!**

