

# ***The GPMS Gazette!***

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



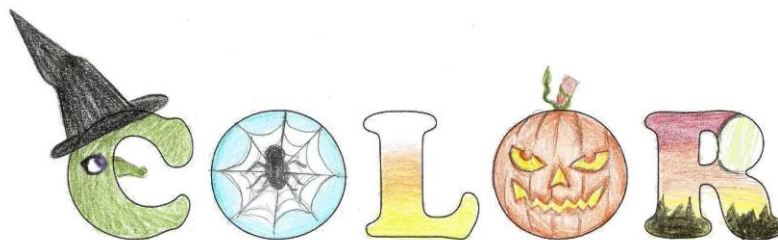
*Devlin Frieze and Micah Lopez enjoy their Building Trades class.*

Photo by Marky Trevino

## ***The GPMS Gazette October, 2018***

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October "color" by Natalie DeLeon



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# GPMS NEWS

*News editor: Faith Pitts*

## September Students of the Month

*By: Gracie Cox*



Some of the Student of the Month winners for October are . . .

**Tyler Lawson, Jens Quam, Isabella Baietto, Madison Tietze, Tulsi Bhakta, Peyton Felchak, and Savannah Lawson!**



Some September Student-of-the-Month nominees, like **Katrina Horst & Matthew Rush** (pictured above), were selected based on recommendations by their classmates. Photos by Cara Nichols & Bella Rodriguez.

# September Students of the Month

## 6<sup>th</sup>-grade Winners:

Savannah Lawson

Tyler Pearson

## 7<sup>th</sup>-grade Winners:

Jens Quam

Madison Tietze

## 8<sup>th</sup>-grade Winners:

Peyton Felchak

Isabella Baietto

Juan Hinojosa

## Nominees: 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Avery Hayward

Boede Talamantez

Mallory Hendrix

Angel Garcia

Carmello Catalano

Kiana Steward

Tulsi Bhakta

Gabriel Trujillo

Caryl Culbreth

## Nominees: 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Makenzie Ivie

Thomas Ortiz

Reece Roach

Jalysa Alvarado

J. T. Moebius

Shifa Ali

Braxley Brezina

Simon Alaniz

Jaymen Galvan

Benjamin Palacios

Nayah Macaambac

Austin Nguyen

Kayden Ralls

Joseph Duguay

Zoe Vasquez

Colson Haubelt

Cayton Nesloney

James Herndon

Jayden Moss

Holden Martini

Addison Cluff

## Nominees: 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Nicolas Watts

Alyssa Garcia

David Wills

Khalid Gholsby

Emma Peralta

Ivy Zheng

Preston Moore

Daisy Garcia

Nathanial Constante

Matthew Rush

Katrina Horst

Jullee Carrizales

Reynoso

# GPMS NEWS

## Homework Help Club

**By: Isabella A. Baietto**

Do you come home with tons of homework every day? Do you never have the time to do your homework and all your household chores? Do you just need a little extra help because you just don't get it?

Well, Communities in Schools is having a Homework Help Club! Mrs. Abby\*, the GPMS Communities in Schools Coordinator says that the homework help club is "A place for kids to come and get their homework done." Homework Help Club is every day after school from 3:45pm – 4:15pm. When asked what subjects the help club covers she said, "Any subject. I help as best as I can but it is more for just having a place to be able to get it done." If you are interested in the Homework Help Club meet in Mrs. Abby's office (in the N Wing) after school at 3:45pm.

"No Requirement, everyone is welcome."

\* Abby Rodriguez



 **Mrs. Vernon**  
**Tuesday**   
**Tutoring**

**By: Noelani Judd**

**Photo by Eagle Imaging**

At 7:11AM, Mrs. Vernon brought the kids in. Normally there are fifteen kids at tutoring.

Mrs. Vernon started out by asking the kids what they wished to do and they chose the Skills Quiz.

They started off quite quickly, doing fractions, decimals, and percentages. While doing the homework with the kids, she helped them remember how to do the problems, clearing their heads. By the time it was ready to go, they had done most of the problems. Mrs. Vernon left some of the problems undone so the kids could do the rest at home.

# GPMS NEWS

## Academic UIL update

By: Victoria Smith

If you are interested in joining any of the teams listed, please see or e-mail the coach(es):

<u><b>Event</b></u>	<u><b>Coach</b></u>
Chess	Thomas (all grades)
Oral Reading	Leisher (all grades)
Science	Vanderford (all grades)
Maps Charts and Graphs	Ibarra (all grades)
Social Studies	Manville (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Social Studies	TBA (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Art Smart	Sosbee (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Art Smart	Anfosso (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Modern Oratory	Turner (all grades)
Impromptu Speaking	Turner (all grades)
Number Sense	Biediger (all grades)
Mathematics	Biediger (all grades)
Calculator Applications	Biediger(all grades)
Listening Skills	McMahan (all grades)
Dictionary Skills	Quiroga (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Dictionary Skills	McMahan (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Spelling	Zepeda (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Spelling	McMahan (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Editorial Writing	Young (all grades)
Ready Writing	McClary (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Ready Writing	Young (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
One Act Play	Leisher (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Music Memory	Stanford (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Drawing	Sosbee (6 <sup>th</sup> )
Drawing	Anfosso (7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> )

# READY WRITING UIL

**By: Bella Rodriguez**

Mrs. Young oversees the 7th and 8th grade ready writing teams. The 6th grade ready writing coach is Mrs. McClary. If students are interested in competing in the UIL academic meet, they may sign up through their ELA-R teacher, starting October 10. Practices will start October 24; Info about writing events: The writing event takes place about two weeks before the academic meet, at the school. Ready Writing: Contestants are given a choice between two prompts which defines the audience and provides the purpose for writing. Students should be encouraged to analyze the prompts for writing, the format, the audience and the point of view. The format may be, for example, a letter, an article for the newspaper or an essay for the principal. Various writing strategies may be stated or implied in the prompt.

# MUSIC MEMORY UIL

**By: Bella Rodriguez**

Music memory has different types of music, mostly classical like Bach, Mozart, etc. The students must be able to listen to the music, identify the composer and the major work. I will tell you that it is difficult, unless you really enjoy music and are willing to work at it. UIL Music Memory for 6th graders will be on Tuesdays from 3:40-4:30 in Room D104 with Ms. Stanford. If you enjoy music come and join us for UIL Music Memory. Snacks will be provided.

# Science UIL

**By: Bella Rodriguez**

Azucena Vanderford is the Science UIL coach for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. The Science contest, for students in seventh and eighth grades, will be placed on knowledge of scientific fact, understanding of scientific principles and the ability to think through scientific problems. The contest was designed to test not only memory but the ability to critically think about science and scientific processes and concepts. According to Mrs. Vanderford, “At this time, I am recruiting students and if any are interested, they can come to room M126 after school on Mondays, so they can get more information. I need students from all grade levels, so any that love science and who do well and would like to learn more about science are welcome to join.”

Practice will be every Monday starting in November especially for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders; there is a lot of material to cover for them.

# GPMS NEWS

## Daughters of the American Revolution 2018-2019 Essay Contest

By: Isabella Baietto

Do you love writing? Well then, the Daughters of the American Revolution have the contest for you! The topic for the 2018-2019 Essay is: "The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed by the United States Congress on June 4, 1919 and was ratified on August 18, 1920. This amendment granted all American women the right to vote and hold elective office. Many Americans at the time viewed this as a radical change to the U.S. Constitution. Imagine you are living in 1919 while the women's suffrage campaigns were having impact on Americans politically and socially. Discuss the pros and cons of this new amendment the U.S. Congress has passed." If you are interested in participating in the essay contest see Mrs. Schipper for a paper containing the rules. The essays are due November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## "Caught You Being Good" Slips

By: Colton Renfro

A "Caught You Being Good" Slip is a reward you get when someone sees you doing something good without being told to. So, when you clean up in the lunchroom, you may get one. You get to choose different things when you turn it in, like: a free football game, candy, extra credit, and more. After they are redeemed, teachers turn the slips into the front office for prize drawings. Here's a comment from Gabriel Palacios: "Caught you being good slips make you feel good inside and make you want to help more people."

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## 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 this link:

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



# Features

Editor, Madi Snody

## Meet: Mr. Wooten

*By: Lauren Spencer, photo by Eagle Imaging*

What do you do at GPMS? 8th grade Pre-Algebra and intensive Algebra 1 teacher. Robotics Club co-sponsor.

Education/experience: 7 years of teaching middle school math, all at GPISD. Received a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from Texas A&M University Corpus Christi in 2009 and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Texas A&M University Corpus Christi in 2012.

Hobbies: Painting and assembling miniatures, powerlifting, and collecting action figures.

Favorite Book: *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

Favorite Games: Dungeons & Dragons, Monopoly, World of Warcraft

Favorite music, artist or genre: No favorites. I appreciate a lot of different kinds of music, but if you mentioned a band's or artist's name to me, I couldn't tell you what songs they publish.

Something about me that might surprise people: My first word as a little child was "Exxon".

I cannot taste the difference between Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, etc...



## Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Fundraiser

*By Madi Snody*

The Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Fundraiser is a fundraiser that raises money for the ELA department. The money helps the Library by books for us to read, and get money for guest speakers, and authors. Instead of cheap prizes, this year you get cash prizes, for every 5 items you sell you get 5 dollars. You pick up your cookie dough items sometime in November. If you sell 5 items you receive 5 dollars, but if you sell 12 items you only receive 10 dollars. We do not round up on money and only give it out in increments of 5 dollars.

## Meet Mrs. Lusk

*Picture and words by Noelani Judd*

*What do you do at GPMS?:* Substitute [Started Subbing because husband has medical issues]

*Education/Experience:* University of CA. [Liberal Arts]  
Northridge 2yrs- Kindergarten Aide - Southern  
Careers. [Medical/Dental Experience, & Lifeguard]  
2004-Present Aide/Substitute. 2yrs Spec. Olympics.

*Hobbies:* Reading, Sports, Gardening, Drawing, Last Chance Rescue.

*Favorite Book(s):* Ferdinand the Bull - Original, & Mysteries.

*Favorite Game(s):* Basketball, Old Maid, board games, & Twister. *Favorite Music, Artist or Genre:*  
1960's, Beachboys, Beatles & music from Phantom of The Opera, Andrew Lloyd Webber.

*Something About Me That Might Surprise People:* I can fly a small plane [4seat Cessna, not  
licensed]. I met my governor Ronald Reagan; then my president met Julie Andrews, Bob Hope,  
Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis. \*Ernest Borgnine & Andy Griffith [Neighbors Growing Up]



## Meet Mrs. Wayne

*Words and photo by, Noelani Judd*

*What do you do at GPMS?:*

*I am delighted to be a World History & Cultures teacher  
in the 6th grade.*

*Education/Experience:*

*After attending Del Mar College for 20 years while I  
worked a variety of jobs, I decided to fulfill my destiny and  
went to TAMU-CC to become a teacher.*

*Hobbies:*  
*My husband and I love to travel - whether it is in a tent, camper or flying over the Atlantic to  
Europe! We love good books and communing with nature. I love to sing.*

*Favorite Book(s):* Anything by David Eddings, Nora Roberts, Comedies, and of course, The Bible!

*Favorite Game(s):* Apples to Apples

*Favorite Music, Artist or Genre:* Christian, or Country, and old Rock and Roll!

*Something About Me That Might Surprise People:* Despite my age and working as a teacher for 20  
years, I have a huge Shy Bone and am often terrified to talk to people I don't know well.



# Sports

Editor: Lauren Spencer

## The First GPMS Pep Rally:

On September 24, GPMS had our first pep rally of the school year. The band, choir and cheerleaders entertained the rowdy crowd. The seventh and eighth grade football players played tug-of-war with a win for eighth grade!

**Lauren Spencer, Brooke Moreno, and Brooklyn Thedin cheer on the crowd!**  
**Photo by Kendall Lopez.**



The cheerleaders dance to the band.  
Photo by Natalie Deleon.

The band playing to pump up the crowd.  
Photo by Natalie Deleon.





# Cross Country:



Faith Pitts and Bella Rizo eating during the cross country meet on October 5<sup>th</sup>, Photo by Gabe Palacios



Emily Odom, Mikayla Fellers, Valeria Casillas, Sophia Jimenez. Photo by Gabe Palacios

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Colton Renfro, Devin Galvara, Gael Garza. Photo by Gabe Palacios.





# Tennis:

By Allison Gaydos

Information from Coach Esquivel

The Tennis Team played Alice Middle School last week on Wednesday. The Wildcats were able to capture a team victory over Alice in both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Due to the weather, the matches were cut short, however the matches played showed that the GP tennis team was here to win.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Singles

Ashley Garcia

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Doubles

Jorge Dominguez/ Revel Wicks

Mathew Elizondo/ Christopher Sanchez

T.J Pacheco/ Nathan Sain

Ashley Garcia/ Abigayle Sciba

Jade Everitt/ Ashley Berlanga

Sage Moss, Meenu B. Nair

## 8<sup>th</sup> Singles

Jayden Lindsay

Anika Cluff

Anyssa Castillo

Abigail Molone

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Doubles

Jayden Lindsay

Atreju Martinez/ Brayden Irragi

Katelyn Decker/ Jasmin Flowers



Anyssa Castillo readies for a return. Photo by Bella Rodriguez.

# Tennis Ladder:

By Hailey Rasmussen

Information from Coach Esquivel

The Tennis ladder is a way to place players according to several factors. The goal is for a student to be considered in the top 8 of the group. The beginning ladder was determined by a tournament held during class to determine the records of wins/losses. The players were placed according to record. In order to maintain their position on the ladder, a skills evaluation is conducted every few weeks and looks at a players forehand, backhand, volley, overhead, serve and also incorporates agility, athleticism, court awareness, rules and sportsmanship. All of these skills are taken into consideration and help the students to look at what improvements may be needed to move into a better position; the closer to number 1, the better!



## The “Opt-Out” List

You may be asking, “Why am I (or my friend, or my child) not listed and/or pictured in a *Gazette* article?”

Some parents have requested that their children not be pictured nor listed in school publications, on a form they completed during student registration; this applies to the school yearbook, as well as the *GPMS Gazette*. The list of students whom we are not allowed to mention nor picture in school publications is called the “opt-out” list.

**We are not allowed to include “opt-out” students in the *GPMS Gazette* nor the GPMS Yearbook.**

G-PISD respects the rights of parents to protect their children's privacy. Parents may contact the school's front office to have their children removed from the list, or to obtain more information.



# Cheer:

By Kendall Lopez

Information from Coach Eads

Our cheer team is made up of 7th and 8th graders. They are:

Ivory Cavazos (8<sup>th</sup>)

Lyndsey Donka (7<sup>th</sup>)

Karah Felt (8<sup>th</sup>, Captain)

Sophia Garcia (7<sup>th</sup>)

Brynn German (8<sup>th</sup>)

Kameryn Getman (7<sup>th</sup>)

Brooke Moreno (8<sup>th</sup>, Captain)

Rebekah Nolen (7<sup>th</sup>)

Rachelle Powell (7<sup>th</sup>)

Bella Rizo (7<sup>th</sup>)

Abigail Schaberg (8<sup>th</sup>)

Kensley Shirley (7<sup>th</sup>)

Lauren Spencer (8<sup>th</sup>)

Brynn Stacy (7<sup>th</sup>)

Brooklyn Thedin (8<sup>th</sup>)

Jaden Velasco (7<sup>th</sup>)

The cheerleaders are responsible for cheering at football games, as well as pep rallies, and this year they even cheered at their first volleyball game. As the year goes on, they'll cheer at other sporting events as well.

"Something new this year - our team is fundraising to compete in their first competition as Gregory-Portland Middle School. The competition takes place in December at the American Bank Center. The girls have been selling air fresheners, as well as doing birthday

announcements to raise the needed funds. I hope that the school will come out and support them as they dominate at competition!" Says Coach Eads.



Most importantly though, the cheerleaders are positive representatives of the school. Their job is to promote and maintain school spirit, as well as a positive attitude.

Jaden Velasco and Brynn German with the school mascot, Winston.

Attend any school sports events recently? If you took any awesome photos that you want in the gazette and school website, email them to the sports editor, Lauren Spencer.

Sophia Garcia doing a toe touch. Photo by Hailey Rasmussen







## Arts & Entertainment

### RED RIBBON WEEK POETRY CONTEST

By Zoe Garza

The counselors would like to have a poetry contest for all students in GPMS. We want them to write poems on the Red Ribbon theme of "Life is Your Journey—Travel Drug Free". Entries may be turned in to Mrs. Edge, Mrs. Garcia or Mr. Munoz. Entries must be received by October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to be eligible. Five winners will be selected. One winner will be read on the announcements each day of Red Ribbon Week 10/29-11/2. Each winner will receive a prize! Please be sure your entry is school-appropriate and has your full name and grade level.

### Choir Concert

Photo by Gabe Palacios

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, our choir gave an awesome concert!



### Twin Day Pictures from September 25<sup>th</sup>

Photos by Mrs. Dornak and friends, collected by Natalie De Leon



Mr. Campion and  
Ms. Stallard



Ms. Quiroga , Mrs. Jasso , Mrs. Baker ,  
Mr. Zepeda , Mrs. Perez , Mrs. Martini



Faith Pitts and Gracie Cox



Brynn German and Kara Felt



Madelynn Gross and Marissa Wright



Coach Davila and Coach Wilson



Ava Gragg and Zoe Deleon

## Poetry

By Mr. Thomas' ELAR students

### *Halloween*

By: Brooke Moreno

Jack O' Lantern, Pumpkin Pie

A good scare will make a grown man cry

Witches, Ghouls, and a Clown

Many scary things all in one town

Candy bars, Trick-or-Treat

Give me something good to eat

It's Halloween

But don't be mean

Dress to the extreme

And try not to scream!

## Through the Waves      By Katrina Horst

The crashing of the waves  
Landing on the sand  
The stunning sunset before me  
Seashells in my hands.

Crabs running around  
Seagulls above fly  
Through the vibrant colors in the sky.

Nothing seems better than  
Spending time on shore  
Through the waves.

~~~~~

## What's the point of sadness?      By Madden Schoener

What is the point of sadness  
It's just a state of mind  
From the soul that we bind  
It's destructive  
We can't control it  
It makes our body go into a fit  
It tears us apart  
It breaks our heart  
When you are told no  
You just wish that you could go  
Back to that place that you hide  
Where you can sigh  
And ask yourself  
What is the point of sadness?

# October Opinions!

**Editor, Jayden Campbell**

**Welcome to the October Gazette! We have been doing great so far; thank you, students, for all the hard work. Let's get started!**



~~~~~  
*As you know by now, every Wednesday is college day, let's read some college editorials!*

## Oregon State University!!



By: Jayden Campbell, Photo by Eagle Imaging

I would like to go to Oregon State for college. I know, odd choice, but I've done a lot of thinking. Oregon State is a college that doesn't get recognized but really deserves to be. Let's get into a little back story first. My brother wants to go there as well, and I thought it was kind of random. He started talking about it more and he told me some of the great qualities of going there and of course, some of the bad. My whole family went to ETSU in Tennessee. They all think that I'm super weird, considering Oregon seems random. Anyways, let's get into why it's a great college and why it's a great pick.

Oregon State has a great facility and staff, everyone there is extremely helpful, and the professors are very smart and very straightforward. I have done lots of research on the college and a lot of the students have left great reviews and comments about the school. Oregon has a great academics program; there are over 200 undergraduate and 100 graduate degree programs through its 11 colleges. There are many options depending on what you want to do. Personally, I want to get involved with their Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences program. I have been interested in science for a long time and I think that it's the perfect opportunity to learn more about earth and ocean science. With its 15 experiment stations, discovery is likely.

Oregon State University earned \$441 million in external research funding in 2017, a third consecutive year of record-breaking growth. This college has worked extremely hard and it's all paying off. I encourage you to follow your dreams and go to whichever college you like, but definitely consider Oregon State University!

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# Oxford University

By: Sean Charles, Photo by Eagle Imaging



I want to attend Oxford for the medical aspect. When I graduate from high school, I plan to be in the marines and to go to college. My goal is to become a neurosurgeon and become successful in life, and at Oxford I believe I would be getting an education not everyone can get. Students who go to Oxford for medicine are put in a clinical environment for a better study and class surrounding. With separate pre-clinical and clinical sections to the course, students on the Oxford standard medical course first gain a comprehensive grounding in medical science. This results in more training and a better understanding of what it's like to work in a hospital or career in the medical field.

I know getting in to this university is not going to be easy. With an astonishing acceptance rate of 17.5%, this is going to be a hard goal to accomplish, but as long as I keep studying and working hard, I can do anything I put my mind to!

~~~~~

## What Makes GPMS a Great Place?

By: Jaden Velasco, Photo by Eagle Imaging



I like how this year we have more choices! For example, we have more electives and intensive classes to choose from. That's good, because some kids need more of a challenge. If they were in a regular class, it would be much too easy for them. Also, it's good we have more electives because students can try more things that they have interests in." I think GPMS is a great place because we have a lot more freedom than elementary and intermediate school," says Zoey Lankford. In conclusion GPMS is an amazing place because of all these reasons and more!

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## What Makes GPMS a Great Environment?

By: Jayden Campbell, Photo by Eagle Imaging

Our school is great, it is a very positive place. The staff are great and very kind. The teachers are very caring, and they also make sure that we are okay. They always make sure we have every opportunity that we possibly can, but add a little fun in the mix. Students come first here, and positivity is key. The lunch ladies are really kind and hardworking. The counselors are extremely helpful and really caring. They separate the sixth graders because of bullying reasons and I think that that's a really good idea and fair to all of us. Since the sixth graders are separated, we aren't crowded and there isn't any bullying. Those are just a few reasons that our school is great!



# How We Can Make GPMS a Better Place?

By: Victoria Smith, Photo by Eagle Imaging



GPMS is already a great school, but can be made better. “How can we do that?” you may ask. I have some different thoughts on this topic. We can share our thoughts more on the *Gazette*. We can do that by contacting the Journalism students and share our opinions and ideas for the *Gazette*. All you need to do is have an opinion on something that is school appropriate, and email one of the editors. That way, they know how to improve the *Gazette*, and can maybe put a topic you are interested about in the article. Another way the school can be better is combining the grade levels more. It doesn’t have to be all the grade levels combined, but at least two grades. If some of the grade levels combine, the grades can get along better, and less conflict will rise in the future.

## What could make GPMS even better?

By: Natalie Deleon, Photo by Eagle Imaging



Don’t get me wrong, GP is an amazing school and I couldn’t be happier here. But there are a few things that could make our school a little bit better than it already is, for example the graffiti covering the bathroom walls and the bell schedules put in place to shelter 6th graders. Some students feel like it's unfair to the other students to have them running on an entirely different bell schedule to keep them from getting “bullied”. The school is crowded and old and the extra grade level scares us a bit but seeing as that can't change our only problem is the dingy looking bathrooms that could be improved with a simple paintjob done by the school or NJHS.



*That concludes our opinions section of the Gazette! It was a little short, but still great. If you want your thoughts and ideas to be featured in the next Opinions section, please e-mail me (Jayden Campbell)! Thank you, GPMS!!*



## 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](http://www.boxtops4education.com)



# Technology

Hailey Rasmussen, Editor



## The Kurzweil 3000

By: Savannah Diaz-Korff

**Kurzweil 3000** is a technology that educates students that need some extra assistance. It provides writing, reading, study skills, and test taking study platforms that target people with learning disabilities or other disabilities that make reading or writing difficult to understand.

"Kurzweil is a program that we run on our computers in GCS (Grand Central Station). It's an online text-to-speech program that reads the text, and students use headphones or earbuds to listen," says Mrs. Brashear, GCS Supervisor.

The Kurzweil program has helped many of our students at GP, not only at GPMS, but also at the GPHS, and many Elementary Schools!

### Comments about Kurzweil

"It helps me, but doesn't help me at the same time" -Faith Pitts

"It's a very helpful app; it helps me a lot." -Madelynn Gross

"I don't like the way the voice pronounces the words" -Ginny Carey

Visit the website at: <https://www.kurzweiledu.com/default.html>

## Clever.com

By: Hailey Rasmussen

Clever.com is a way for students to keep track of all their usernames and passwords. The portal provides apps like BrainPop, Istation, and Edmodo. In apps like Istation, students can read passages and answer questions about the passage.

### Comments about Clever.com:

"It's different than paper and book, and it's useful in theory," says Lauren Spencer, 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

"It could be better, but it's helpful," says Jaden Velasco, 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Visit the website at: <https://clever.com>



**By: Noelani Judd**

Freerice is an ad-supported website where the ads help them donate to charities. For every question you answer they donate 10 grains of rice. Through the ads they are supported with, they have the chance to send all these grains of rice to countries suffering from hunger.

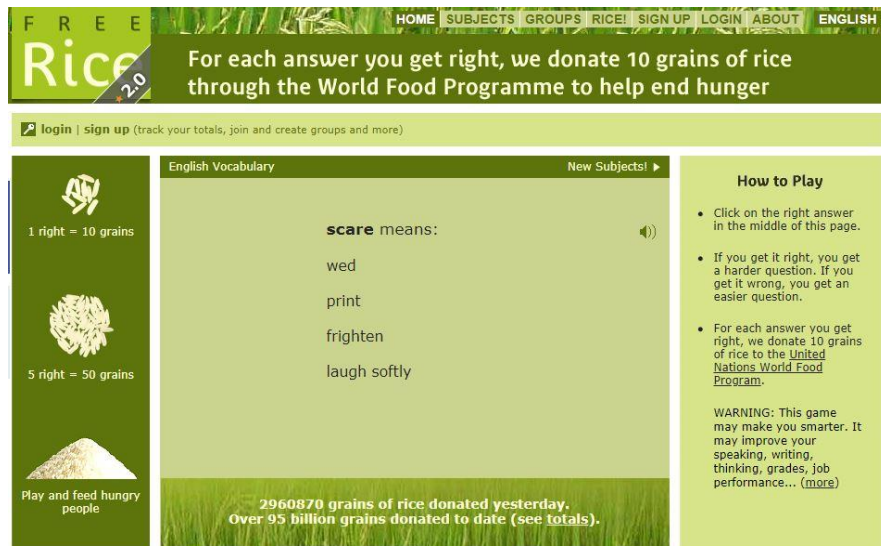
**Freerice has two main goals:**

1. Provide education to everyone for free.
2. Help end world hunger by providing rice to hungry people for free.

Ad blockers do stunt this. If you don't see an ad, the website doesn't get any money, so you could just be answering questions correctly but nothing going over to help end world hunger. To feed people, you would need to disable ad blockers.

Freerice helps support the United Nations World Food Programme.

At this moment, Freerice has donated 95,140,062,082 grains of rice.



*-Screenshot taken on website.*

Visit the website at: <http://freerice.com>



# UIL Calculator 6-8

By: Zoey Lankford



Mr. Wooten is the UIL calculator teacher in room N2. In the UIL team, they learn how to solve problems and properly use the calculator. If you need any more information,

e-mail Mr. Wooten or go to

<https://www.uiltexas.org/aplus/events/aplus-calculator-applications>

# Edmodo



By: Victoria Smith

Edmodo is a website that helps both students and teachers stay in touch with everyone. Teachers can create classes with special codes and give students codes to enter the "classroom". Students can be in as many classes that they need to be in. Teachers can have multiple classes and have them open to any number of students. Teachers can create assignments, polls, regular posts, or small questions. When students want to open an assignment, they have the option to make a regular text document, Word document, Powerpoint, or an Excel workbook. The assignments have deadlines assigned to them by teachers, fail to turn in the assignment? The assignment is locked, and you will be unable to work on/start the assignment. You can check your assignments on one of the smaller tabs on the top right corner. Along with checking your assignments you can also check your progress, look through your online backpack, message your friends or teachers directly, look at your notifications, or check your profile. Parents can also join Edmodo and check the updates. Edmodo offers a planner to keep you in check with your assignments. Edmodo is not only for students but also for business or other jobs. Working together is an important life skill that is encouraged by Edmodo. Have fun creating!

Visit the website at: <https://www.edmodo.com>

# Student Printers

By: Zoey Lankford

Have you ever needed to print a paper for school, but you ran out of ink or don't have a printer? Ink is very expensive, and it ends up adding to even more than the printer itself. It also runs out very fast. Printers can also be super expensive depending on the one you get. Some projects you must do take up a lot of ink. Sometimes you even have more than one project to do at school. You might run out of ink, but you can't buy it. Next time you need to print a paper you can go to the school library. In the library you can use the student printers and computers.

That concludes the first ever *GPMS Gazette* Technology section! If you have any articles about technology, email me (Hailey Rasmussen) or see Mr. Thomas in room C112.



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