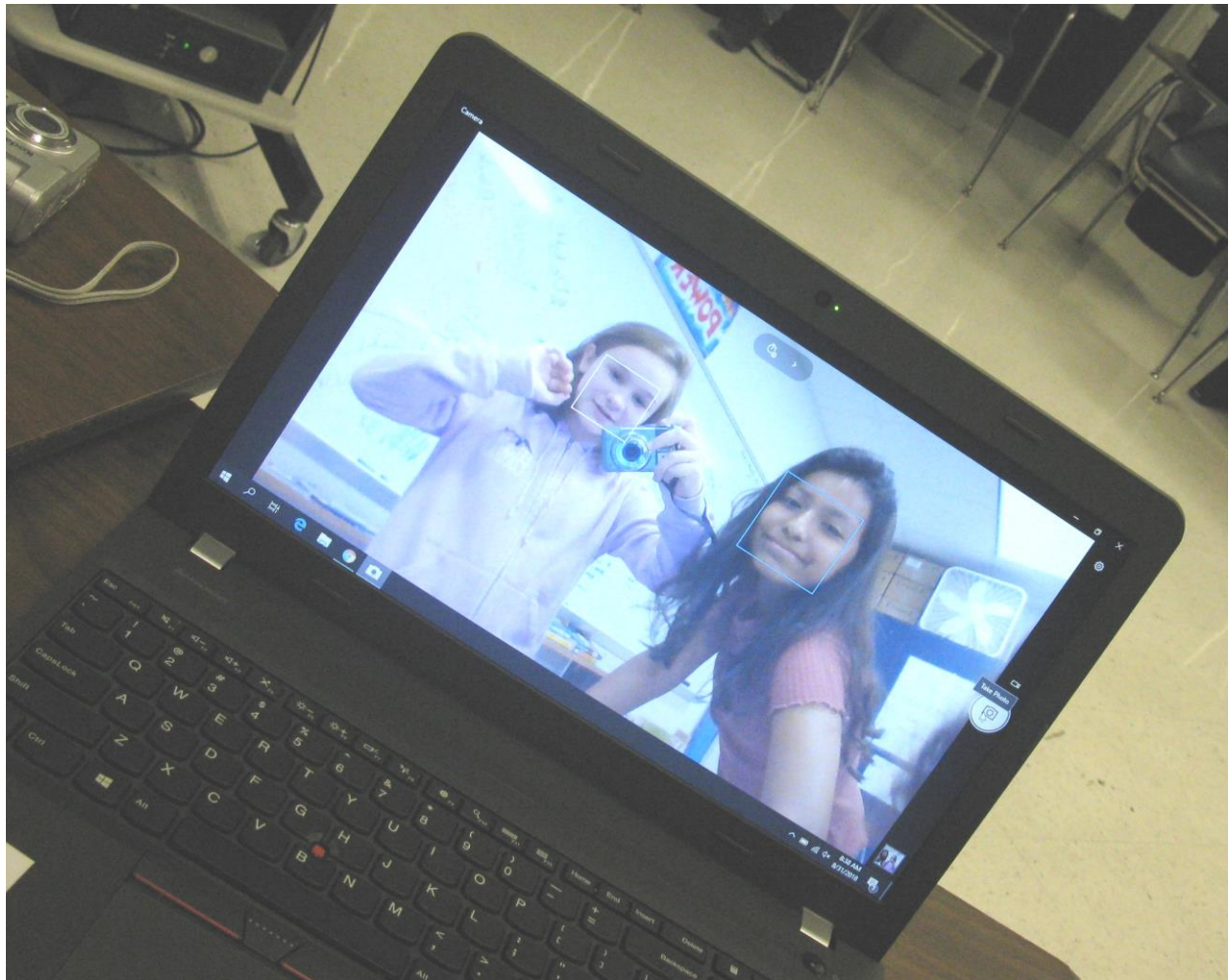


The GPMS Gazette!

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



Smile!

Photo by Gracie Cox

GPMS Press Corps members Gracie Cox and Kendall Lopez familiarize themselves with some of the technology in their journalism class.

In this issue:

News – pages 3 - 8

Features – next issue!

Sports – pages 9 & 10

A&E (Arts & Entertainment)

pages 11& 12

Opinions – pages 13 - 15

Meet the GPMS Press Corps

page 2

...and more!



Meet the GPMS Press Corps!

By Mr. Thomas



Welcome to the first issue of the GPMS Gazette! This issue has been created by the pioneers in our new journalism class! These brave students, all members of the GPMS Press Corps, have been working hard to put together some chronicles of life at Gregory-Portland Middle School:

Isabella Baietto	Janell Gomez	Faith Pitts
Jayden (Sky) Campbell	Mathew Goodlad	Hailey Rasmussen
Cayden Cano	Madelynn Gross	Colton Renfro
Ginny Carey	Juan Hinojosa	Jesse Riojas
Brandon Castilleja	Noelani Judd	Bella Rodriguez
Sean Charles	Zoey Lankford	Victoria Smith
Gracie Cox	Kendall Lopez	Madison Snody
Natalie DeLeon	Jonathon Martinez	Lauren Spencer
Savannah Diaz-Korff	Rylee Martinez	Mark Trevino
Zoe Garza	Skyla Martinez	Jaden Velasco
Allison Gaydos	Gabriel Palacios	

Gazette editors have been elected by their peers; here's what they do:

Faith Pitts, News Editor - Faith reviews content about ongoing news stories, covering the interesting things happening (and things that will be happening) at GPMS.

Madison (Madi) Snody, Features Editor – Madi reviews articles about the cool things that have happened (and the awesome people making them happen) at GPMS.

Lauren Spencer, Sports Editor – Lauren reviews stories about (and photos of) our wonderful wildcat athletes!

Mathew Goodlad, A&E (Arts & Entertainment) Editor – Mathew reviews content about activities in band, choir, art, and many of the other creative endeavors of talented GPMS students!

Jayden (Sky) Campbell, Opinions Editor – Sky collects editorials, letters to the editor, political cartoons, and any other opinions you want to share with the world!

You'll be seeing the work of the GPMS Press Corps in this issue, future issues, the school webpage, the yearbook, and the front marquee (more on that later). While journalism students are automatically members, the GPMS Press Corps is open to all students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. If you are interested in joining the Press Corps, please talk to one of the excellent people above and/or see me in room C112.



GPMS NEWS

Faith Pitts, Editor

College Day

By: Madison Snody

Have you ever wondered why we have college day every Wednesday? Why we should even go to college? Well here are a few questions and answers about college day and why you should go to college:

Q: Why do we have college day every Wednesday?

A: (from Mr. Alvarado) "We have college day to bring awareness of various colleges and universities in the area. We want all students to know their options, so they can make an informed decision."

Why should we go to college?

A: (from Mr. Alvarado) "The world of work is changing. For the most part, all high-paying jobs in the future require additional training after high school from either a college or a technical school. As a student, if you want a job in which you will be able to make a good living, you will need to seek educational opportunities after high school."

Now you know about what college day is and why you need to go to college.

GPMS Library

By: Zoe Garza

Some facts about our library:

One of our lovely librarians, Mrs. Castillo said, "I wouldn't say it is harder, but I will say that it is a lot busier than we were last year in 2017-2018."

"We have a total of 14,230 books in the library!"

"Mrs. Doty has been an amazing addition to our library and yes things are running a lot smoother than they would have been if I had been by myself."

"There are many things that are different this year. Adding 6th grade to our campus has been a big one. We have gone from 30 something classes visiting the library to 53 classes visiting the library. With the merge we have added over 6,000 books."

"The biggest number of students I have had in the library is probably 80-90 students. This happened last year during Teen Lounge."

GPMS NEWS

Communities in School

By Faith Pitts

Communities in School (CIS) was made in 1977 and is now one of the largest dropout prevention agencies in the nation. The mission of CIS is to surround students with a community of support, encouraging and helping them to stay in school and achieve in amazing life.

At GPMS we have a CIS program, run by Abby Rodriguez. In her words “One of the services that I provide is helping kids that are in need of clothes. I want to have a big enough closet here at the school so that no one on campus will have to worry about if they will have clothes to wear.”

If you have any clothes you don't want but you think others will like, please take them down to the N wing room 7 to drop them off.

Knights of the Round Table

By: Mathew Goodlad

Do you like chess? If you do, the Knights of the Round Table chess group is for you. Whether you are a master or wanting to learn, all ability levels are accepted and encouraged to attend group meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays before school in Mr. Thomas's room (C112). Hall passes can be obtained from Mr. Thomas in room C112.



Ariel Castellano and Diego Aguillon sharpen their chess skills before school. *Photo by Mathew Goodlad*

GPMS NEWS

National Junior Honor Society

By: Noelani Judd

At the meeting on August 22, 2018, the NJHS officers, along with Mrs. Hayward and Mr. Zepeda, spoke about what the NJHS students would be doing that year and what they could do for activity points.

Though some of the kids came from athletics, they still payed close attention to what the officers and Mrs. Hayward were saying.

The meeting had some humor put into it. Jackson Gragg made some jokes while speaking, for example, he said “dollar sign” instead of saying the currency normally, which broke part of the serious tone.

Overall, the meeting was a learning experience. The students got to ask questions about how to get activity points or how many hours they had to put in so they wouldn’t be kicked out. The NJHS kids are truly trying to help.



Mrs. Hayward and Mr. Zepeda welcoming NJHS members to their first meeting of the school year.

Photo by Noelani Judd

GPMS NEWS

Cats club

By: Savannah Diaz-Korff

The Cats Club is about rewarding the students on achievements in school. Every 6 weeks out of the 9 weeks, if u meet the requirements of your academics, you will be rewarded. The rewards include fieldtrips, and on campus events such as movies, karaoke and games! The requirements to be in the Cats Club are shown below.

- * Must have an 80 or above average in each class
- * Cannot have more than 2 unexcused absences
- * No suspensions, no ISS, no DAEP or referrals
- * Cannot have more than 3 tardies

Cats Club serves as a way for students to try their best to be involved in these school activities. Students who do not qualify for these activities will remain in the school and continue with their regular schedule throughout the day. Some trips will include costs, such as food and drinks, traveling, and entrance fees. If you make the requirements for the Cats Club, you will be given a permission slip, with a lunch order form, and event information. There are no exceptions, the paperwork must be signed with a parent signature, including the money that is required. If an eligible student chooses not to attend an event or activity, the student will be able to stay behind, and continue with their regular class schedule. However, schedule may be modified to accommodate.

The first fieldtrip has been announced to take place at the Rockin' K Farms on Wednesday, October 24 for 6th graders, and Friday October 26th for 7-8th grade.



Photo courtesy www.rockinmaze.com

[Rockin' K Farms](#)

[Robstown, TX](#)

www.rockinmaze.com

Come to Rocking' K Farms, A Fall Family Tradition!
Explore our farm and all of the many attractions we have, including our Pumpkin Patch, Corn Maze, Cow Train, and much more!

GPMS NEWS

Box Tops for Education

By: Madelynn Gross

Box Tops are great; they help our school. Where could I find the Box Tops? On a bunch of different groceries. Where do I take my Box Tops? The school's front office, the school's library, or Mr. Thomas in room C112. How does the Box Tops for Education program help our school? They help our school because they earn money, which helps our school.



Mathew Goodlad clips and sorts Box Tops coupons.

Photo by Madelynn Gross

For more information about Box Tops for Education, please visit this website:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com>

GPMS NEWS

Journalism Students Take Over the Front Marquee

By: Lauren Spencer

The front Marquee is that big board at the front of the school with updated news on both sides. You might wonder, “How do those letters get up there?” “Who puts the messages up there?” As of this school year, the students in Mr. Thomas’s journalism class are responsible for putting up the messages up on the board.



After members of the GPMS Press Corps



received training, Juan Hinojosa and Jesse Riojas (pictured right) were the first two students to post a message on the front marquee.



Photos by Mr. Thomas

Mark Your Calendar

There are a lot of exciting events happening at GPMS; to see what they are and 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>



Sports

Lauren Spencer, Editor

Eighth Grade Volleyball Roster:

Aguirre, Reanna
Bolden, Destiny
Byrne, Caitlyn
Cabello, Iliana
Casas, Caitlynn
Fellers, Mikayla
Felt, Karah
Hatton, Margo
Hernandez, Illiana
Hesseltine, Hailey
Horst, Katrina
Magee, Presley
Moreno, Alanna
Moreno, Sierra
Nesloney, Caylor
Redden, Krista
Rich, Mia
Rios, Gabby
Rodriguez, Makayla
Saathoff, McKenzie
Scott, Taylyn
Shaberg, Abigail
Thedin, Brooklyn
Turner, Brianna
Watts, Nicole
Vest, Alexa
Vest, Kiera
Zheng, Ivy

Seventh Grade Volleyball Roster:

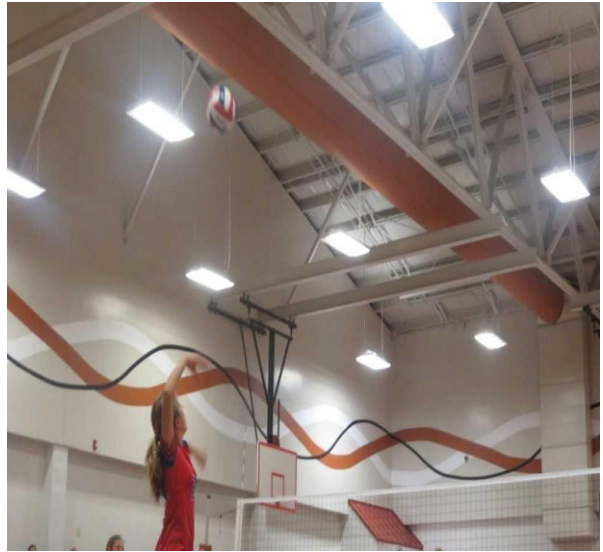
Alvarado, Victoria
Baker, Taylor
Castillo, Jessenia
Cox, Gracie
Culbreth, Carly
Diaz-Korff, Savannah
Ebers, Erin
Fajardo, Mariah
Getman, Kameryn
Gregory, Sami
Holifield, Courtney
Kilgore, Madison
Laughlin, Taylor
Leith, Tayeden
Makar, Madelyn
Meier, Brenna
Miller, Kathleen
Moreno, Abigail
Powell, Rachelle
Powers, Kylee
Radford, Halle
Rodriguez, Jenna
Shirley, Kensley
Snody, Madison
Stuart, Lily
Suggs, Morgan
Wade, Sakara
Carpenter, Leila
Teitze, Madison



Seventh Grade Volleyball Girls practice.
Photo by Jaden Campbell



Carly Culbreth (#3) up to serve in Alice 8/30/18
Photo by Hailey Rasmussen



Madison Snody hitting a super serve on 8/30/18
Photo by Hailey Rasmussen

The “Opt-Out” List

You may be asking, “Why am I (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.

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

Wanted: Parent Volunteers

Please apply at the school’s front office to join the ranks of our awesome parent volunteers!

Ask for an application at the front office, or download/print one from this link:

<https://www.g-pisd.org/resources/volunteer-form>



Arts & Entertainment

Mathew Goodlad, Editor

What's on the Horizon for Choir?

By Allison Gaydos

Starting the second week of September, Mr. Champion will begin having sectional rehearsals for 7th and 8th grade choir students who are interested in auditioning for the All-Region Choir in October. "The schedule actually changes from week to week since we rotate guys' and girls' sections both before school and after school. We do this so everyone has an opportunity to come to at least one section rehearsal per week," Mr. Champion explained.

"The Middle School Choirs' Fall Concert will be held on Thursday, October 4th at 6:30 in the auditorium. The 6th Grade choirs will perform first, followed by the 7th/8th Grade Choirs. It is free and open to the public! Parents, students, and teachers are all invited to attend! Choir students will have a dress rehearsal after school the day before the concert. That rehearsal is mandatory for all choir students, but it is a closed rehearsal."

"Our first competition, the All-Region Choir auditions, will be held a week later on Saturday, October 13th at Tuloso-Midway Intermediate School. It's a great opportunity for our G-P Choir members to shine! We take the biggest group of students to the auditions, and we normally have around 50 singers who make the All-Region Choir."

Theatre



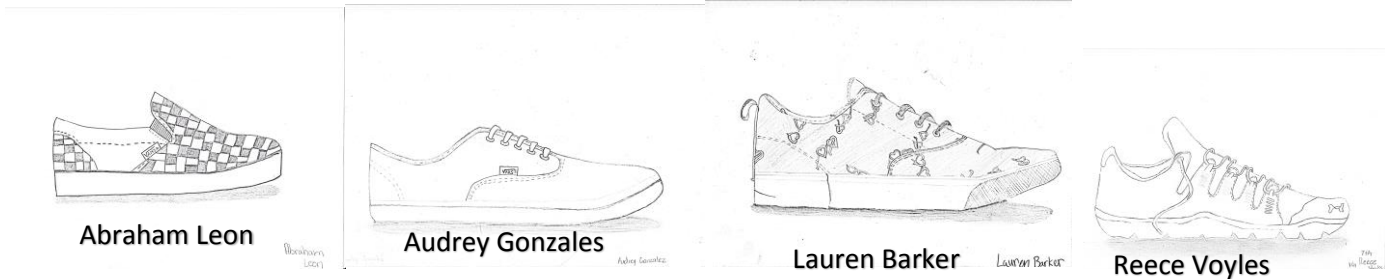
Here are some recent pictures of theatre students Hailey Bustos, Jackson Blazy, Ava Gragg, Madalyn Makar and Camryn Kahl practicing for the October Stinky Cheese theatre performances.

Photos by Gracie Cox

Art

Collected by Kendall Lopez

Here is some fabulous art drawn in Mr. Sosebee's Class:



Artwork by Natalie DeLeon

Do you like to create art and/or comics? If so, please bring your masterpieces to Mr. Thomas in room C112!

Opinions!

Jayden (Sky) Campbell, Editor

Welcome to the opinions section of the Gazette! We can't wait to hear how you feel! We want everyone to know your opinion!

College Day!

As you may know, every Wednesday is college day.

Some students already know what college they want to attend!

Texas A&M

By Kadon Howard, guest writer

Ever since I was a young child, I have loved A&M. My mom went there and the rest of my family are going to the school. Growing up with A&M in my life has allowed me to learn so much about the school, and has made me want to go there to hopefully get a master's degree or a high level of education.

I hope to get a degree in aerospace engineering in the future because I have always been fascinated by space and aircraft since a young age. I am also good at math and science, which are my two favorite subjects, and have been since 6th grade. I'm choosing A&M because I know that the engineering opportunities are wonderful for getting a future job. While the education is good, I've also heard that the school's athletics and academics are wonderful. Many friends and family members that have gone to A&M have always come back and talked about how wonderful the students and professors are. While the acceptance rate isn't very low, the school is still a great place to go for an education that can lead me to a good job.

Overall, I believe A&M is the best place to go for my college education. While there are many other options that are believed to be "better," I choose A&M as the college to go to in the future.



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## University of Texas

By Abigail Schaberg, guest writer



Why UT? Since I live in a community full of Aggies I often get asked the question why I am a longhorn fan. Of course, when I was younger I said because my parents went there but now that I am older, and I have my own opinions on colleges, I am proud to say that I want to go to UT by my own personal choice. So, the question remains, why do I want to go to the University of Texas in Austin?

Second grade, back to school, I remember the anticipated questions teachers would ask me. “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Honestly, I had no idea what I wanted to be, but I knew it had to have something to do with helping people. Still to this day I do not know what I want to be. All I know is I want to help people-and play volleyball. I started volleyball last year, in seventh grade. I’m only in eighth grade now so I don’t know what team I will make in high school, but I know I’m going to give 110% and try harder every day. Those two key points were the final factors in my decision.

At UT there is a bunch of opportunities to serve the state and get involved. This gives you the chance to help local and surrounding communities, which is exactly what I want to do. For other people in different fields, this could be very helpful. Working with children, adults, and elders in need could be a good practice for any job that requires social skills. Their volleyball program is also one of the best in the state, being in the Big 12 conference right now. They have won many games and competitions so far and have had great coaches in the past years. They also have a great fine arts program with famous, also very successful, professors like Mathew McConaughey.

Why UT? These are only a few of the amazing things UT has to offer. This is why I would love to attend their school in the near future. And in a community full of Aggies, this is why I chose to support the longhorns.

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## Texas A&M University

By McKenzie Saathoff, guest writer

Why choose Texas A&M you ask? This is an overall great school. With amazing passing rates, a safe community there in college station, and multiply student clubs and organizations. Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas is the largest college in the state. Seventy-two percent of students attending A&M receive some type of financial aid. With this information let’s talk about degrees and majors. This college offers everything from Marine Sciences to a degree in engineering. You can even go to <http://www.aggiebound.com/> for reviews from current and past students.

Financially, Texas A&M has multiple ways to help students with money. For example, scholarships, loans, grants, waivers, and campus employment. This all allowing more students to have the chance to have a college experience and an opportunity to major in something of your choice. There are several ways to achieve a scholarship. Sports, academics, and organizations are all ways to earn a scholarship.

During your time at college station the school and community offers more than enough extra curricula activities to keep you active. Such as the Corp of Cadets, the Yell Leaders, and student government. Swimming, outdoor sports, and the Memorial Student Center are all available activities.

In 2017, Texas A&M was ranked first in the nation for the “50 Best Value Bachelor’s in Engineering”. It was also ranked first for “50 Best Colleges You Can Actually Get Into”, in 2016. The college provides any major you dream of learning about for the next 2-4 years. Majors include aerospace engineering, computer science, food science, marine biology, Spanish, and zoology. The professors that teach these subjects are top ranked. Additionally, there are five libraries with 5 million volumes and 1.5 million e-books.

My family tree unfolds back to Texas A&M University. My family is a major aggie family and without this college my parents would have never met. Therefore, I would not be here. My dad attended for a degree in chemistry earning his degree in his first four years. He was a student who strived to earn his bachelor's in chemical engineering, which he did after two additional years. My mom attended this school on scholarship and met my dad at one of the dance halls in college station. The organization that brought my family to a whole was the Aggie Wrangler. A group of dancers that my dad took lessons from which is why he was out dancing that one night. Overall Texas A&M University has great organizations, academics, and sports teams. This is a ranked number one school with more than enough resources and majors to find the thing you want to do for the rest of your life. Not only a good future comes out of this college experience, but a fun and knowledgeable college life. A college that brings people together from near and far to give you the education you need to have a successful life.

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That concludes our Opinions section for the August issue of the *GPMS Gazette*! If you have any opinions, political cartoons, questions, etc. please e-mail me, Jayden Campbell on your school e-mail! Your submission may be included on our next *Gazette*!

Thank you!



Did you know that you can help the planet and the robotics team at the same time?

Simply bring your printer's empty inkjet cartridges to C108 and the robotics team will recycle them for you.



Remember inkjet cartridges will fit in the palm of your hand. We cannot recycle larger cartridges.



Lending a Hand (or Three)

Daisy Garcia, Taelor Fritz and Oline Vatland help Ms. Trijillo decorate the wall outside her classroom.

Photo by Cayden Cano



Download the *GPMS Gazette* in **COLOR** at www.g-pisd.org/gpms/community