

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Each and Every Child, Each and Every Day

Parcells Newsletter

November 2018

<http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/gpparcells>

Happy November!

I hope that everyone had a great start to the school year. It is hard to believe we are already wrapping up our first quarter of 2018-19. The last day of the Marking Period is Friday, November 2nd. Report Cards will be available online through Parent Portal (not Schoology) on November 13th. If you have questions or concerns, we have Parent/Teacher Conferences coming up later this month.

November looks to be another busy month. The Parcells Panther Players will be putting on their show, "The Bully Plays" on November 1-2. Also, on November 20th, all of our 8th grade students will spend the morning at North High School, learning about the exemplary programs that North High School will provide them. Also, remember that Tuesday, November 6th is election day and school will not be in session. Remember to vote and check out more information on the districts' bond. Perhaps the most important school related event in November is our Parent Teacher Conferences. This year, conferences will be held on Thursday, November 15th, from 4:30-7pm, and on Tuesday, November 20th, from 12:30 - 3pm and 4:30-7 pm. Conferences are held in the main Gymnasium, and are a time for parents to meet all of their child's teachers to discuss their progress, successes, and concerns. It is important that we see all of our parents in attendance.

Welcome Henry Hartley - October 11th, 2018

My wife, Sarah, and I are happy to introduce Henry Paul Hartley to the Panther Community. Henry was born late in the evening on Thursday, October 11th, weighing in at 7lbs, 3oz. Jacob loves his little brother.



Annual Parcells Holiday Bazaar - December 1st

Our PTO is busy putting together our annual fundraising event. If you are not able to volunteer your time, I hope you are all able to stop by the craft show to support our school. Money raised from the Bazaar supports our clubs, activities, and performing arts programs at Parcells.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a great month of November,

Dan Hartley, Principal



The Counselors' Corner

November 2018

Michigan School Counselor Association Conference- October 28th and 29th

Mrs. Radant and Mrs. Palffy will be in Lansing these days for the MSCA conference

End of 1st Quarter- November 2nd!

Please check Schoology to see your students' current grades. If you are having a problem connecting into Schoology, please contact us and we will help you set it up.

8th grade Naviance- November 7th and 8th

The 8th graders will explore colleges and majors that interest them during their Social Studies classes.

PBIS Dodgeball Tournament Reward- November 9th

Any student eligible for the school wide end of quarter reward will be able to participate in a dodgeball tournament from 3:30-5:30pm this day. Sign up information will be on the announcements a week prior.

Parent/Teacher Conferences- November 15th and 20th. We look forward to seeing you!

November 15th 4:30-7pm

November 20th 12:30-3:00pm and 4:30- 7:00pm

8th Grade Day at North on November 20th

8th graders will be dropped off by 8:20 and picked up by 10:30 at North HS

To find out more, check out the Counseling website and join us on Facebook (Parcells Middle School Counseling Office) and Twitter (ParcellsCounsel) to be the first to hear what's new in the counseling offices.

Please feel free to contact your student's counselor with any questions or concerns!

Kimberly Radant (A-K)

(313) 432-4618

Kimberly.Radant@gpschools.org

Carla Palffy (L-Z)

(313) 432-4620

Carla.Palffy@gpschools.org

Life Skills News-

Life Skills students are getting ready to sew. Please check with your student for a supply list early November. We'd like all materials in class when we return from Thanksgiving break so that we can complete projects in time for winter break.

6th graders are ready to begin their machine sewing unit. If you haven't already done so, please send in the \$8. If you're able to volunteer in class, please email me.

It's TURKEY TIME! If your family is interested in donating a whole frozen turkey to be cooked in class during the week of November 12th, please plan to send one in anytime from now until Friday November 9th.

Last year, Parcels Life Skills students cooked and carved 20 turkey's which helped feed a Thanksgiving feast to over 1,000 hungry people in Metro Detroit. Turkey's will be cooked, carved and donated to Crossroads of Detroit. Crossroads is also looking for canned goods (vegetables, potatoes, gravy, etc.) for their meal. For more information, please feel free to email me- andrea.gruenwald@gpschools.org or sign-up using the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COB44ABAE2FA1FF2-crossroads1>



Greetings from Art Department

In November, 30 art students will be visiting the Cranbrook Museum of Science to see the Leonardo da Vinci Machines Exhibition. Da Vinci Machines & Robotics features Leonardo's amazing flying machines, nautical, hydraulic and architectural innovations, groundbreaking applications of civil engineering, artwork, and incredible war machines. We also will attend two workshops; one on motion and the other on color.



Greetings from the English Department

"Writing and reading fiction is, I think, a human effort to make sense of the world."
Robin Hobb, author

Students in all three grade levels are currently focusing on reading stories, which hopefully connect to their own experiences and will help them become better writers of their own stories along the way.

6th graders are working on short stories in their narrative classes, with a focus on characterization and perspective. In informational, students are learning types of nonfiction text and have recently completed their own personal narratives.

7th graders in Ms. Therriault's classes are enjoying the tale of Ponyboy and Johnny in S.E. Hinton's classic, *The Outsiders*. *How many of us read this book while we were in middle school? It is still as engaging to students now as it was then. Students of Mr. Bens will read this later in the year. Currently, they are working with their independent reading choices.*

8th grade students are currently working on a short story unit, which includes works by such esteemed authors as Walter Dean Myers, Lensey Namioka and Maya Angelou. The main focus for this unit is identifying features of literature, such as parallel structure, foreshadowing, and flashback. Students will soon write their own short stories.

Parents, you can support your student's progress by encouraging him or her to read every day, for at least 20 minutes!



GYM SHORTS

Welcome back to the athletics information section of the newsletter.

Our Volleyball teams are wrapping up and have both had a successful season. Thank you to the parents for supporting the girls and coaches.

Cheer tryouts will have been completed by the time this is in print. Congratulations to our new team. They will cheer at our home Boy's Basketball games.

Boy's Basketball tryouts are slotted for November 7, 8 and 9. We are excited to welcome our new coaches both Coach Winowiecki and Coach Hill. Please make sure your 7th or 8th grade son has the proper paperwork to try out (physical current after April 15, 2018 on the appropriate form, goldenrod emergency paper and passing classes with a completed eligibility sheet). Our goal is to carry 15 athletes per team.

Wrestling will begin end of January as well as Girl's Basketball. Please talk to your student for information as well as follow the updated athletic calendar on the website.

Thank you for your support in the bleachers, in the car rides and snacks along the way.

the

Mrs. Gulick
Athletic Coordinator, Physical Education Teacher
Parcells Middle School



The Science Department

The science department is meeting several times over the next few months to continue working on piloting curriculum aligned with the new Michigan science standards (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/K-12_Science_Performance_Expectations_v5_496901_7.pdf).

First quarter, all science teachers across the district piloted an IQWST (<https://activatelearning.com/iqwst>) unit at at least one grade level. We'll be meeting to get training and plan to implement a Mi-STAR unit (<https://mi-star.mtu.edu/curriculum/>) for second quarter. Both quarters, units were chosen that fit with the current (old) GPPSS science content - physics for 8th grade, chemistry/life for 7th, and earth/environmental science for 6th.

Then the tough work begins - we will compare and analyze pre/post test scores, look at student and teacher surveys, and use some engineering processes (criteria, constraints, and decision matrices) to decide which of the curricula to recommend to the BOE for adoption next year.

If you have strong feelings about the curriculum your child is experiencing, please let us know. Informed parent input is always welcome!

Social Studies

The 6th grade social studies students are finishing up learning about the 5 themes of Geography by creating their own brochure and highlighting the different themes of geography for a place they have visited. They have been practicing the tools of geography by exploring different kinds of maps through an interactive map lab.

7th grade students finished created a Core Democratic Values book to demonstrate their knowledge of the values we hold in our society. They are currently working on a large culture project.

8th grade students are finish up studying the early English colonies of America. Students are demonstrating their knowledge through a variety of methods. Some are participating in a group colonial marketplace project, while others have role played the true story of Pocahontas. Students will also be thinking on their feet as they experience the Salem Witch Trials. Colonial magazines and postcards are reinforcing development of America while practicing writing skills

Greetings from the Math Department

Classes are in full swing. There have been many assignments, quizzes and tests. One of the easiest ways to keep track of student grades is to discuss the weekly Schoology email with your child. Also, check Schoology every Monday after school to see upcoming school work. The card marking ends on November 2.

Your child should be working on *Imagine Math* each week. The goal is for each student to complete 30 lessons over the course of the school year. This amounts to about one lesson per week.

If your child needs extra assistance in mathematics, after school homework help is available in room 108 on Monday – Thursday. Below is a list of other resources available for math assistance.

Need Extra Help?

1) Math notebook

Review notes containing vocabulary words, steps and examples

2) Textbook

Review examples at the beginning of each section.

Reference answers to the odd problems at the back of the book.

3) Online textbook

Lesson tutorial videos

Practice quizzes

4) After school help

Homework Help: Monday—Thursday: from 3:25-4:25 Room 108

5) Internet resources

www.purplemath.com

www.teachertube.com

www.khanacademy.org



Check the online grade book and the homework calendar regularly.

Greetings from the choir room!

The choirs of Parcells are busy preparing for the “Celebration of Choral Singing” concert that happens at the end of this month! Here is what our choir families need to know:

- **During the school day of Wednesday, November 28** – Parcells, Pierce and Brownell choir students will rehearse together on the Brownell stage during the school day. We will have school buses bringing us to and from Brownell that day.
- **The evening of Wednesday, November 28, 6pm and 8pm – Parcells, Pierce and Brownell “Celebration of Choral Singing” Concerts** - This evening’s concerts feature all singers from all three middle schools in GPPSS. We will give two performances, **6pm and 8pm**, at Brownell Middle School on the evening of Wednesday, November 28. This is a ticketed concert. As soon as I have ticket information, I will send home an email. Please remember our concert attire:
 - ◇ **6th grade girls:** a dressy combination of black, white, and/or gray
 - ◇ **6th grade boys:** long-sleeved dress shirt in black, white, or gray; black dress pants; black dress shoes; black, white, and/or gray tie
 - ◇ **7th grade girls:** a black dress, or a black skirt with a black top, or black pants/leggings with a long, dressy top; skin colored nylons, black dress shoes; simple jewelry.
 - ◇ **8th grade girls:** in addition to the school-provided dress, please wear modest black heels (which could be “character shoes”) and skin-colored nylons
 - ◇ **7th and 8th grade boys:** in addition to the school-provided tuxedo, please wear black socks and black dress shoes (not tennis shoes!!)
- **Friday, November 30 – Parcells, Pierce and Brownell Choir Lock-in!** More information will be available soon. This is an event *only* for choir members of our three middle schools...it is going to be a fabulously fun night!

On an unrelated note, as you accumulate pictures throughout the year of various choir events, please help us to enjoy the pictures, too. I look forward to seeing your pictures digitally in my inbox – sarolil@gpschools.org. If that’s too cumbersome (sometimes the attachments are too large to send), you can always “share” them via Google Drive – ask your students for help...I promise that they know how to do this! Thank you in advance for your efforts!

As always, please let us know if you have any questions via email – sarolil@gpschools.org and henrib@gpschools.org. Thanks for your continued support of the Parcells choir program!

~ Mrs. Leslie Saroli and Mr. Ben Henri





**The Grosse Pointe
Public School System**
Parcels Middle School
20600 Mack Ave.
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Phone: 313-432-4600
Fax: 313-432-4602

**TO ALL GPPSS FAMILIES
FROM PARCELS PRINCIPAL**

Absentee ballots for the November 6th school bond election are now available.

Residents of the Grosse Pointe Public School System can cast an absentee ballot...

- ✓ if they expect to be out of town on November 6th;
- ✓ if they are 60 years of age or older;
- ✓ if they are unable to vote without assistance at the polls; or,
- ✓ if they cannot attend the polls due to religious reasons.

Registered voters can get an absentee ballot application online at www.michigan.gov/sos or simply go to the Clerk's Office, complete an absentee ballot application, and vote--all in one five-minute stop.

You can avoid going to the polls and standing in line if you vote absentee. (That's one reason we expect more absentee voters than normal in November.)

If you can't vote by absentee ballot between now and November 5, please go to the polls on November 6th. In this election every vote will count.

If you have any questions or need more information about our school district's bond proposal, please talk with me directly or call Superintendent Gary Niehaus at 313/432-3010.

Thank you.

Daniel Hartley
Principal

Vote November 6

There is no school for students on Tuesday, November 6. On that day, we encourage you to take your student to the polls and model the voting process, or discuss the ballot initiatives with them.

On the ballot is a School Bond Proposal. It is designed to:

- Enhance **student safety** and school security
- Make **infrastructure** improvements (roofs, boilers, HVAC)
- Upgrade technology infrastructure (no student devices)

Projects fall into four main categories to keep students:

- **Safe** - secure vestibules, cameras, PA systems, asbestos abatement, locks from inside classrooms
- **Warm** - energy efficient HVAC (boilers, air handlers)
- **Dry** - roofs, mechanical systems
- **Connected** - technology infrastructure and classroom technology (no student devices)

Key Points:

- To calculate your annual cost multiply 1/2 the market value of your home by 0.0015
(Example: \$300,000 market value divided by 2 = \$150,000 x 0.0015 = \$225/year or \$19/month)
- The average age of a GPPSS school is 77 years.
- 100% of the funds raised stay in GPPSS for our students.
- The district will continue to act as wise fiscal stewards. On 10/08/18 another clean audit was presented to the Board highlighting how fund equity has increased to our goal of 10%.
- If you have questions or need more information, call any principal or call Superintendent Gary Niehaus at 313/432-3010.
- More facts, including a line by line list of projects by school, are posted at www.gpschools.org - click [School Bond 2018](#)

From: The PTO Holiday Bazaar Planning Committee

The Parcels Holiday Arts and Crafts Bazaar is on Saturday December 1st from 9am to 4pm. This annual event is organized by the Parcels Parent Teacher Organization, and it is our largest fundraiser. Funds from this event help to support student activities and needs at our school as well as fund music and Washington DC scholarships (8th Graders).

Please see attached promotional flyer for this year's Bazaar: Admission is \$3 per person, \$2 before 10am, Children under 12 are free. The event runs from 9am through 4pm on Saturday Dec. 1st with over 150 vendors displaying and selling their home crafted goods throughout the Parcell's gyms and hallways. Help us get the word out with our Facebook Event: [Facebook Parcels Holiday Bazaar Event](#)

We cannot make this event a success without your help! We are in need of volunteers for the event and for donations to help stock the Cafe for that day.

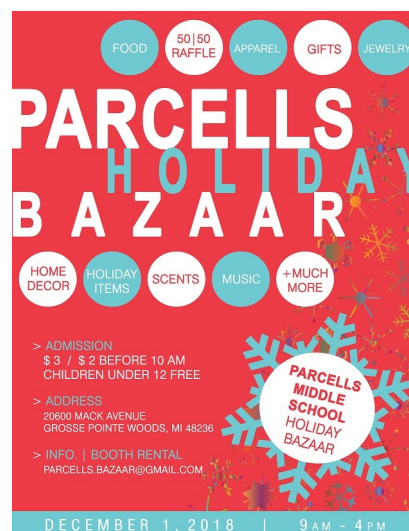
Volunteer Sign Up at the following "Sign Up Genius - Parcels Bazaar Volunteers" link: [Click Here for the VOLUNTEER Sign-Up Genius](#)

We need volunteers to help set up the day before, as parking lot attendants (in shifts), to help supervise student volunteers at the Cafe (in shifts), to help sell Admission tickets at one of three entrances (in shifts), as well as a few scavenger assistants.

Donation Sign Up at the following "Sign Up Genius" link: [Click Here for the DONATIONS Sign-Up Genius](#)

We need donations to help stock the Cafe that day. The PTO will purchase coffee, subs, and pizza to sell, but we need your support with drinks, waters, chips, candy, muffins, bagels, and donuts ...please see details by going to the "Sign Up Genius - Parcels Bazaar Donations" link provided.

We would not be able to make this annual event a success without your generous support! Thank you so much!



Greetings from AVID

The Parcels AVID program has again partnered with Soulliere Garden Center for our annual wreath sale. If interested in purchasing holiday decor please see the attached sheet and return the order form with payment to Brian McDonald, Alexis Lecznar or Steve Chevalier. Order forms are due by Wednesday, November 21st, with pickup on Monday, December 3rd, during afternoon and evening conferences in the hallway outside the main gym..



Soulliere Garden Center Wreath Fundraiser

**\$5.00 Donation
for every item
sold**

Mixed Door
Swag 18-20"
\$17.00



Balsam Wreath
20-24"
\$25.00



Poinsettia
6-1/2"
\$15.00



Porch Pot
\$35.00



Sleigh Centerpiece
\$30.00



Decorated Mug
\$15.00



Items pictured may vary slightly
from delivered items.

[illegible]

Bandwidth Focused on Academics



The District is working with our internet filter options to ensure appropriate bandwidth for instruction and testing. **Please be aware that as the District limits access, social media like Snapchat and Instagram will be using your family data uses and charges could increase.** Make sure to review with your student the cell phone policy that is on pages 11 and 12 in their student planner passed out the 1st day of school. Thank you for supporting our focus on academics.

THE HOMEWORK STATION

The Homework Station is open after school Monday through Thursday from 3:25 to 4:25 in room 108. It's a great place to do homework, ask for help and work on projects. We have textbooks, calculators and other school supplies. Students may also use computers and a color printer for class projects. No sign up is necessary, and students may attend as often as they like.

HOMEWORK STATION

3:25-4:25

Monday-Thursday

ROOM 108

- **Do you want to get your homework done before you get home?**
- **Are you having trouble understanding your homework?**
- **Do you need a computer/printer to complete your homework?**

Come to the Homework Station! We have everything you need to help you understand and finish your homework. No sign up. Just drop in.





KROGER PLUS CARD FUNDRAISER – Enroll Now!



Parcells Middle School (#91050) Kroger Plus Card Enrollment

You can support Parcells Middle School by shopping at Kroger and using a registered Kroger Plus Card. Every time you use your Plus Card (or telephone number) at check-out, Kroger donates a percentage back to Parcells Middle School. Your participation makes a difference in our school community!

You can enroll your card any time during the year but don't wait, sign up now so the school can benefit year around! New this year, you do NOT need to re-enroll every year! If you are already enrolled you will continue to support Parcells Middle School!

To get started, please follow the steps for NEW ENROLLMENT

Go to www.kroger.com and click on “No Account? Register” located at the top right corner of the page.

If you are enrolling your card, please be aware that it is a two-part process. You have to complete both parts to link your Kroger Plus Card to Parcells Middle School.

Part One – Create a Kroger Account

- Provide your email address and create a password.
- Your password must be 6-12 characters long, and include at least one letter and one number.
- Select your preferred store. (Please note that Parcells Middle School will receive benefits wherever you shop.)
- Click the orange “Create Account” button.

Part Two – Select Parcells Middle School as Your Community Rewards Partner

Go to www.kroger.com and click on “Sign In” at the top right corner of page. Using the email address and password sign in to your Kroger Account.



- Click on **your first name** at the top right corner of the page.
- You will be on the “Account Summary” page.
- First, add your Plus Card number or 10-digit phone number and your last name. If you experience a problem at this stage, please contact Kroger at 877.576.7587.
- Second, add your Personal Information. You do not need to input your birth date.
- Third, choose Parcells Middle School as your Community Rewards Partner. Begin by clicking the orange “Enroll” button. Then complete these three steps:
 1. Find your Organization. Type “**Parcells Middle School**” and click “Search.”
 2. Select your Organization. Select **Parcells Middle School (#91050)**.
 3. Click the orange “Enroll” button to complete your enrollment.

Now you have selected Parcells Middle School as your Community Rewards partner. Within one – two weeks, you should see a statement at the bottom of your receipts which says, “At your request, Kroger is donating to Parcells Middle School.”

Thank you for taking the time to select Parcells Middle School as your Kroger Community Rewards Partner. We are grateful for your support. If you experience a problem during this process, please contact Kroger for assistance at 877.576.7587.

You can also contact Jennifer Michalski at jjmichal2@gmail.com or 313-310-0914.

Your Grosse Pointe Public Library

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is grateful for its many community partnerships. To ensure we remain good neighbors with our partners in the Grosse Pointe Library System, we would like to take this opportunity to remind patrons of rules that will help us all utilize this community resource to its fullest potential.

Just as in school, there are guidelines for behavior and supervision at our local libraries. The library has a document entitled "Guidelines on Behavior" that will be enforced. It is available for review at the Youth Desk, but here are a few highlights we would appreciate your help in maintaining:

Visiting the Library

- We encourage all patrons to work together in order to ensure a safe, positive learning environment.
- Loitering outside the library, or excessive entrance and exit, is disruptive to this environment which is designed to support study, reading and other quiet activities.
- Please remember the Woods branch parking lot off Mack Avenue is locked during drop-off (7:30-8:30 a.m.) and pick-up time (2:45-3:30 p.m.) for the safety of our children.
- Our libraries, particularly the Woods branch, are busiest from 3:15-5:30 p.m., so it may be helpful for other patrons to visit at non peak hours.
- Children under the age of 9 cannot be left unattended. Guardians or caregivers must be age 13 or above themselves to watch younger students in the library. The library staff is not responsible for supervision of your children. Childcare is available for a fee through the GPPSS Kids Club and details can be found at www.gpschools.org or by calling 313-432-3067.

Computer Use

- Students need a valid library card or knowledge of their card number to use computers.
- Livetutor.com is available free of charge from 3-10 p.m. every day of the week.
- Computer use is limited to 30 minutes to ensure equitable access.
- Only one student is allowed to sit at a computer.
- No food or drinks are allowed at the computer.
- Students may bring their own earphones to use with computers; the library does not provide these.
- Printing is available from youth computers for a small fee (10¢ per black and white page, \$1 for color).

Working Together

- An expired library card or excessive fees may prevent patrons from using the computers or borrowing materials.
- Any patron, including students, with a pattern of disruptive behavior will be banned from the library.
- To keep track of library usage in those busy times, student patrons will be asked to sign in for programming or quiet study using their library card.

Please remember, this is our community library. Working together, parents, students, community members, and library and school personnel will maintain a positive library environment and experience for all.

