



# GOOD NEWS

The official quarterly GSD community newsletter

FALL 2024

## SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR OF PTHV

This summer, the Grantsburg School District completed 62 Parent Teacher Home Visits (PTHV), including 45 at the elementary (17% of families), 16 at the middle school (5.6%), and three at the high school. While our goal was to reach 10% of families, we proudly connected with approximately 7.75%.

We deeply appreciate the participation of families and staff in this inaugural effort. Families found the visits relaxed and meaningful, building positive relationships and offering a chance to ask questions. PTHV's mission is to foster student success through relational engagement, transforming teaching and learning experiences for all.



## GES RIBBON CUTTING EVENT

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Ribbon Cutting and Open House at the newly renovated Grantsburg Elementary School! Funded by the 2022 capital referendum, this project allowed us to expand the elementary school, decommission Nelson Primary, update middle and high school classrooms, and improve building systems and traffic flow.

*Thank you!*

*We are grateful to our community for making these essential upgrades possible, creating a safer, more modern learning environment for our students. Your continued support strengthens the future of the Grantsburg School District!*



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## MORE WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

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- **Events Calendar**  
*See what's happening in GSD*
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## HARD WORK PAYS OFF FOR ATHLETES

Our Pirate football players are showing their dedication with early morning weightlifting sessions at 7:15 a.m. Coaches and athletes alike are going above and beyond, demonstrating their commitment well before dawn. Keep up the great work, Pirates!



## FRESHMAN FIRST DAY BOOSTS CONFIDENCE

Our 9th graders started the year with Freshman First Day, with mentors guiding students through the building and helping to ease first-day nerves. Students also completed the Clifton StrengthsFinder, identifying their Top Five strengths for future exploration in Life Skills class. Mrs. Lade added to the excitement with fun gym activities, making it a memorable start to high school for our freshmen!



# #GoGrantsburgPirates



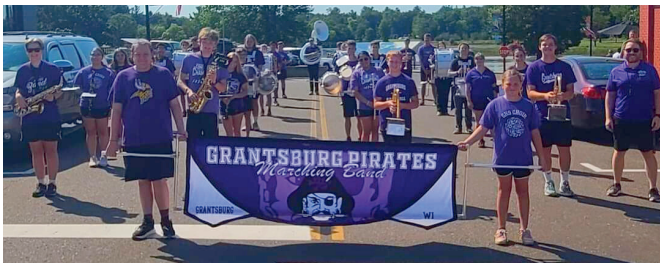
## RESPECT RETREAT BRINGS CORE VALUES TO LIFE

On September 11, freshmen students participated in a Respect Retreat, led by Youth Frontiers and GHS mentors. The day was filled with energy, fun activities, and moments of reflection, all centered on the importance of respect—a core value at GHS. Students explored respect for others, property, and themselves, reinforcing a positive and respectful culture across all grade levels.



## GHS BANDS GEAR UP FOR AN EXCITING SEASON

With the new school year in full swing, the GHS Marching and Pep Bands are gearing up for an exciting season. After having summer practices in August to prepare for the Grantsburg Fair Parade, the band focused on their Homecoming Field Show. They performed a 90s Kids-themed show during halftime on Friday, October 4, if you missed it, catch it on *We Are Grantsburg!*







# ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

## FOOTBALL TEAM INSPIRES YOUNG READERS

The Grantsburg Football team visited the Elementary School to read books as part of their annual Kick-Off to Reading event. Their involvement sparks a love for reading in our young learners, and we're proud of our football players for being excellent role models!







## 7TH GRADERS MAKE ORANGE PEEL MAP PROJECTIONS

Seventh-grade students studied map projections in social studies. Each student was given an orange to draw on. Then, they peeled it and tried to make it lay flat so their picture could be seen exactly how they drew it. The activity proved that maps are a distorted representation, and globes represent Earth best!

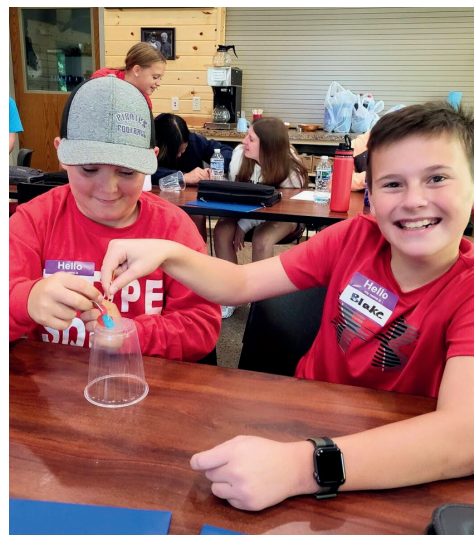
Students enjoyed the added bonus of eating their oranges afterward!



## GMS HOPE SQUAD TRAINING RETREAT

On September 18, the Grantsburg Middle School Hope Squad participated in suicide prevention training and team-building activities at the Crex Meadows Meeting and Gathering Hall. Students in grades 6-8 are nominated by their peers to serve on the Hope Squad, representing and supporting all students. As the eyes and ears of the Middle School, Hope Squad members promote positivity, mental wellness, and connectedness while helping to create a safe, supportive environment.

Their work also includes anti-bullying efforts and substance misuse prevention, making them a valuable part of the school community.





## 8TH GRADERS EMBRACE COURAGE AT ANNUAL RETREAT

On September 13, 8th grade students and staff participated in a Courage Retreat presented by Youth Frontiers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering character, civility, and community in schools.

The retreat helped kick off the school year positively and supported the goal of building a schoolwide community where every student feels a sense of belonging and care. This interactive experience was supported by Youth of Burnett County Prevention Coalition funding.



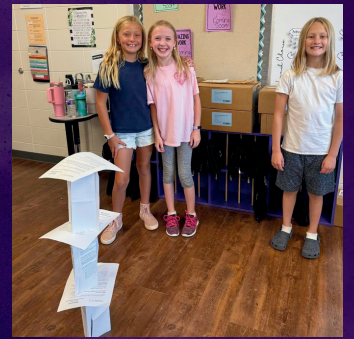
## 4TH GRADERS CELEBRATE WITH WATER BALLOON TOSS

Fourth graders started the school year with some friendly competition during a water balloon toss! This fun activity provided a refreshing way to cool off on a hot summer afternoon, helping students bond as they celebrated the start of a new school year.



## 5TH GRADERS TEST ENGINEERING SKILLS

Fifth graders recently tested their engineering skills by constructing the tallest paper tower using only 20 sheets of paper. Students could fold or tear the paper, encouraging them to think outside the box, communicate effectively, and collaborate as a team.







## 2ND GRADE STUDENTS CELEBRATE FAIRY TALE & TALL TALE UNIT

Second graders wrapped up their Fairy Tale and Tall Tale unit by watching a classic fairy tale and enjoying colossal pancakes, just like in their Paul Bunyan story. It was a delightful way to reflect on their learning!



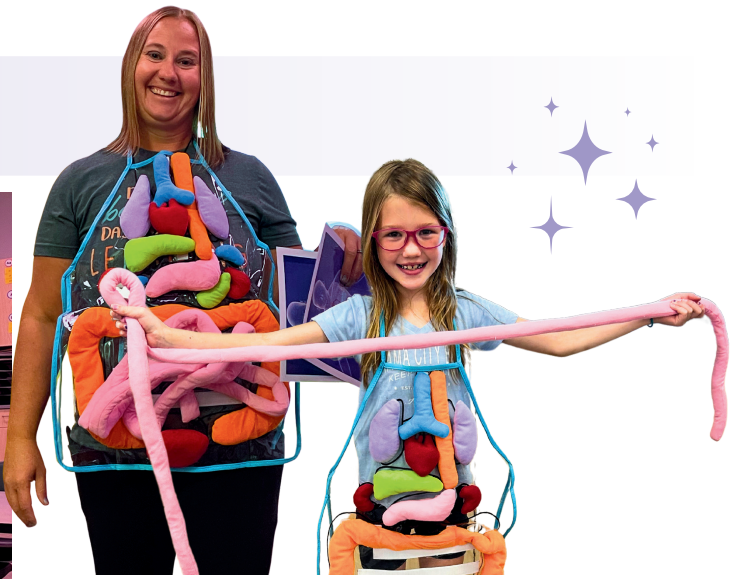
## FIRST GRADE FABLE OLYMPICS

First graders brought fables to life to celebrate the conclusion of their first Knowledge Unit on Fables and Stories! During the Fable Olympics, they enjoyed games inspired by classic tales, such as balancing a milk pail on their heads from *The Maid and the Milk Pail*, collecting golden eggs like in *The Goose and the Golden Egg*, reaching for grapes from a vine as in *The Fox and the Grapes*, and hopping like Peter Rabbit from *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. This engaging event made learning fun and memorable!





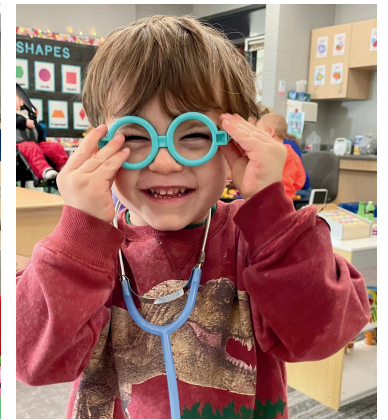
## 1ST GRADERS EXPLORE THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



First graders have been diving into their science curriculum by learning all about the digestive system! This exciting unit allows students to explore how our bodies process food and understand the important functions of each part of the digestive tract. It's a fun and educational journey into the world of human biology!

## WELCOME TO EARLY CHILDHOOD, AMANDA MELIN!

We are excited to welcome Amanda Melin to our Early Childhood program! Her students are already learning various skills and they have a fun classroom mascot—a monster that gobbles up all their letters! This engaging approach helps make learning enjoyable and interactive for our youngest learners.



## RECORD-BREAKING RUN BY ADDY BLUME



Addy Blume from Mrs. Stomberg's class made history by breaking the former school record for the 1/2-mile run by an impressive 9 seconds! Addy completed the race in a remarkable time of 3:37.

**Congratulations, Addy, on this outstanding achievement!**



## ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL KICKOFF EVENT AT MT. OLYMPUS

Our annual Back to School Kickoff Event on August 1 at Mt. Olympus in Wisconsin Dells was a blast! Despite stormy weather in the forecast, the weather cooperated, allowing us to enjoy a day of rides and fun, topped off with a delicious pizza, chips, cookies, and soda lunch.

We look forward to this tradition each year, and this year certainly did not disappoint! Here are just a few pictures from our memorable day.



## ALUMNUS CARTER PEET THRIVES IN CONSTRUCTION

2024 iForward graduate Carter Peet, from the Stevens Point area, is making strides in the construction world, helping run his family business, C&B Precision Contractors. The company builds various commercial and residential projects across Central Wisconsin. Currently, the team is busy framing a new Chipotle restaurant and constructing two custom residential homes.

During his senior year, Carter balanced his schoolwork with afternoon and weekend construction jobs, earning the credits he needed to graduate. He focused on taking elective classes related to his profession while at iForward.

We are proud of hardworking students like Carter and are thrilled to see him contributing to the community through his work!





## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KICKS OFF MONTHLY ASSEMBLIES

On September 6, the Elementary School held its first monthly assembly, bringing all students together in one space!

We discussed the importance of being a school family, read the story *Our Class is a Family*, and then broke into smaller groups to discuss the theme of being a friend.

**It was a fantastic way to wrap up our first week of school!**

IS...	SAYS...
Nice	"Are you okay?"
Likes to play with you	"I'm here for you!"
Helpful	Good things
Someone who shares	"Do you need any help?"
Caring	"Don't worry - it's going to be okay!"
Kind	
Encouraging	

DOES...	DOESN'T...
Play games with you	Be mean
Helps you	Push others
Play outside with you	Bully others
Be nice to each other	Copy others
Listen to you	Hit others
Mute while others are talking	Yell at others
	Help you



## EXCITING START TO ELEMENTARY ART CLASSES

Elementary art classes are off to a fantastic start! Students have been exploring various types of lines and discovering how to use them to create unique art projects. It's been an excellent opportunity for creativity and artistic expression as students develop their skills.



## FOURTH GRADE ENGINEERS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Fourth graders took on an exciting engineering challenge: creating the longest chain using just one piece of paper, scissors, and tape.

The students showcased their creativity and problem-solving skills, and the winning chain stretched over 10 feet! Great job thinking like scientists and engineers!

