Grimmer Middle School

November Newsletter

Focused on Teaching and Learning



Mrs. Thompson does such an excellent job engaging her entire classroom each and every day.

Grimmer's Annual Halloween Dance!



Over 500 students showed up for the fourth annual Grimmer Halloween Dance. Students enjoyed dancing in the cafeteria, playing basketball in the gym, and some awesome concession snacks. It was a great night! A huge thank you to the Grimmer PTO for sponsoring this event.

Important Upcoming Events

Veterans Day Program: Nov 7

- Doors Open at 7:45 AM
- Breakfast at 8:00 AM
- Program at 9:15

Early Release Day: Nov 11 - That's a Tuesday and Grimmer dismisses at 1:10 PM

Washington DC Informational Meeting: Nov 12 at 6 PM

- Grimmer Library
- 7th grade families

Thanksgiving Break: Nov 26-28

5th Grade CogAT Testing: December 8-12. Click here for more information.



I Beat Principal Bounds!

Principal Bounds plays Connect 4 with students during lunch. If you beat him, you get a donut. Once a dozen people win, the donuts are delivered. These guys all beat him...it ended up being more than a dozen.

Grimmer Cell Phone Policy

Cell Phones

- Are not to be visible in the classroom nor can they be a classroom disruption
- Are not permitted at lunch and should not be visible in the cafeteria
- Should not be visible in the hallways
 - We understand that students may check their phones while at their lockers.

Headphones and Airpods

- The only time a student should be wearing headphones is under the direct supervision of a teacher during class through a Chromebook activity.
- Students are not permitted to wear headphones in the hallways during passing periods.

Attention 7th Grade Families!

Do you want to be in NJHS during your 8th grade year?

NJHS Criteria:

- 2 School Activities (such as school sponsored sports or clubs)
- 2 Out of School Activities (such a club swimming and piano)
- 3.3 Cumulative Grade Point Average
 - Find all NJHS information on page 6 in your student agenda

*We want you to have this information now so you can plan accordingly

Grimmer First Semester Reward Field Trip

This year, Grimmer is sponsoring a reward field trip for students who meet the following criteria during the first semester:

- No Grade lower than a C- on their quarterly report cards
 - We will run a 2nd quarter grade check on December 8 at the end of the day
- No more than 6 absences (full day) for the first semester
- No disciplinary infractions greater than a detention
 - No more than 2 detentions for the semester.

Our goal is to provide a fun incentive for students to work towards. We want to prepare students for real world working experiences, and many careers offer incentives. This trip is an extra incentive. There is no academic negative impact for not qualifying for this incentive.

Planning out the Year at Grimmer

Grimmer School Wide Events

- Open Building August 7 from 10:00 6:00 PM
- First Day of School August 13
- Open House August 13 from 5:30 7:30 PM
- Picture Day: August 15
- Body Safety Presentations October 2 for all grades
- PTO Halloween Fest October 10 from 6-8 PM
- Picture Day Retake October 17
- Halloween Dance October 17 from 6-8 PM
- Veterans Day Ceremony November 7: Breakfast at 8: Ceremony at 9
- First Semester Reward Trip December 11 & 12 (Thursday 5th & 6th) (Friday 7th & 8th)
- Winter Dance February 6 from 6-8 PM
- Penny Wars February 2 6
- Straight A Breakfast February 13 at 8:45 AM
- Book Fair February 23-27
- 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament March 9-20
- End of Year Celebration May 21 (Thursday) Rain Date is May 22 (Friday)
- 8th Grade Ceremony May 28: Ceremony begins at 10:30. Doors open at 10.
- 8th Grade Dance May 28 from 6-8 PM

Early Release Days - Grimmer dismisses at 1:10 PM

- September 9
- October 14
- November 11
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12

LC Vacations & Holidays - No School

- ◆ Labor Day: September 1
- Fall Break: October 24-27
- Thanksgiving: November 26-28
- Winter Break: December 22 January 5
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 19
- President's Day: February 16
- Spring Break: March 23-27
- Easter Break: April 3-6
- Memorial Day: May 25

Early Release Day Schedule (No Advisory)		
5th Grade	8:47AM - 9:50AM	ELA or Math Block 1
	9:55AM - 10:56AM	ELA or Math Block 2
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 6
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Lunch
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
6/7/8th Grade		
	8:47AM - 9:17AM	Period 2
	9:22AM - 9:50AM	Period 3
Grade 6	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Lunch 6A
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 4
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 7	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Lunch 7B
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 8	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 5
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Lunch 8C
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Period 6
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
Early Release Dates:		
September 9th	February 10th	May 12th
October 14th	March 10th	No Early Release Days in
November 11th	April 14th	August, December or January

The Best Thing About Doing School

The whole point of school is teaching and learning. The past couple of weeks I was able to do what I truly enjoy doing, getting out of my office and into classrooms. Observing teaching and learning reminds me of why I got into education, to help kids. Observing teachers is part of a principal's job duties, however, I wish I would have been doing it in my early years as a teacher. I've learned so much about good teaching through observing others. Grimmer is fortunate to have so many wonderful teachers dedicated to helping students maximize their potential.

Our 5th grade language arts teachers go above and beyond in teaching their students the fundamentals of reading and writing. This team includes Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Spivak, Ms. Schrage, Ms. Calhoun, and Mrs. Hensley. I was able to spend a morning in each of their classes. I was so impressed by how each of them engaged their class for 90 minutes. Each one had their own style. Their own approach. Yet, each one had great rapport with their class. Students were reading and writing, working independently followed by collaborating. The transitions between activities were seamless. They were great classes. But don't take my word for it, ask the students.

I was only an assistant principal for two years. The principal I served under was excellent. I noticed she would frequently write to the teachers in her building. Simple handwritten notes of encouragement and validation. It was not uncommon to walk into her office and find her jotting out one of these notes. I also noticed that the teachers would have them displayed near their desk. It didn't matter who the teacher was, you could see the stack of encouragement they had received over the years pinned to a wall or stuck on a filing cabinet. That was ten years ago. That lesson stayed with me.

For me, some of the best ways to move a school forward are really quite simple. Provide an encouraging word, play some games of connect 4, dress up in a silly costume. All of these strategies are centered on building authentic relationships. But, I get to do all of these things because Grimmer teachers implement relevant and rigorous lessons...daily. November is a time of gratitude and thankfulness. If there is a teacher, or staff member, who your child really thinks highly of...tell them. You'd be surprised how far a word of encouragement goes for a teacher.

ou all,

W. Ryan Bounds

In the pictures below:

- Mrs. Marsh's choir class performed at a Chicago Wolves game
- Mrs. Moore's students learn math with glow pens and a blacklight
- Mrs. Troxell's Project Lit has their Murder Mystery Dinner









LAKE CENTRAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

GRANTS AWARDED TO LAKE CENTRAL TEACHERS

Grant Round #63 was completed on October 20th when we awarded 16 grants totaling \$10,038.26. Click here to see details about the grants. We are thrilled to be able to support our teachers!

"Taking Education to New Heights"



Front Row: Dawn Czamik, Kate Perschon, Sidney Hudi, Allison Castle, Tracey Caposey, Jennifer Miller

Back Row (standing): Melody Wolff, Susan Popa, Randi Lollis, Colleen Rock, Crystal Lippie, Caryn Cruz, Melanie Venturelli, Julie Walker, Courtney Leonhardt, Kristy Bashara, Sheri Venturelli, Julie Wiejak of Purdue University Northwest, Mike Seljan, and Mark Sperling of Indiana University Northwest School of Education.

17 PLEDGE FOR EDUCATION

<u>Thank you</u> to all LCSC teachers, administrators, and staff who are participating in the Pledge for Education payroll deduction program for the 2025-26 school year!

Jennifer Frazier Lindsay Kruzan Dana Rund Elana Arens Rob James Christine Barajas Jennifer Gescheidler-Kandalec Jeff Sandor Kristy Graff-Bashara Cynthia Lale (Scrivener) Misty Scheuneman Kimberly Beach Rebecca Gromala Tiffani Lindzy Justin Schranz Catherine Beiriger Lisa Groszek Nicole Littrell Michelle Snow Brooke Benson Joanne Madarasz-Pratt Joseph Stanisz Letitia Gustas Lucas Bolz Robert Gustas Beth Hall Allison Castle Nesa Malino Victoria Thompson Ginger Marinkovich Mercedes Martinez Rachel Underwood Allison Colgrove Kristina Collard Nichole Hay Carla VanDerNoord Elizabeth Cowan Cheryl Hobby Julie Moore Sheri Venturelli Jackie Holden Jenny Novosel Cassandra Cruz Larry Veracco Ralph Holden Sheila Novotny Michelle Vogt Melissa Cummins Nicholas Karin Shelly Ores Laura Waszak (Layman) AJ Dal Santo Brian Kissinger Alison Petralia Christine Zeldenrust Jennifer Fandl Kari Regan Joseph Kruzan Jennifer Zollman (Miller) Jennifer Fieleke

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For more information or to support the Lake Central Education Foundation, visit lakecentralef.org or contact admin@lakecentralef.org or (219) 682-8917.