



Grant Community High School

District Newsletter

March 2024

Student of the Month

Delaney Blancett



The Grant Community High School March Student of the Month is senior Delaney Blancett, daughter of Casey and Shanda Blancett of Round Lake.

Delaney's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during her sophomore year and has served as the NHS Secretary since her junior year. She has earned her place on the Honor Roll each semester, has taken numerous AP classes, earned three scholar athlete awards, and has recently been named as an Illinois State Scholar. She holds a remarkable 4.989 GPA.



Her extracurricular activities include Volleyball, where she and her team won the Regional Championship, which has not been done since 1985. She has been involved in Track & Field since freshman year and also competed once for FBLA.

Delaney has participated in many volunteer opportunities with NHS, such as Back to School Night, material pickup, the GCHS Foundation Gala, and roadside cleanups. She has been an office aide for two years, as well as a Big Dawg Mentor in her senior year. In the community, she helped with the Rotary Holiday Party, Egg Hunt, and the Farmers Markets.

In addition to all of her activities, Delaney works at X-Factor Trampoline as a birthday party host. She also enjoys babysitting and dog-sitting for family and friends. In her spare time, she plays piano and researches genetics to better understand type 1 diabetes.

Her plans for the future include attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to major in molecular and cellular biology.

Board of Education

Steve Hill, *President*

Kathy Kusiak, *Vice President*

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Excellence in Education Award Winner

Cassi Reid is the perfect recipient of the Excellence in Education Award because of her outstanding dedication and contributions to our school community. Cassi's roles at Grant began in the Attendance Office, leading her to a role as a Paraprofessional, and ultimately to her position as a Special Education Teacher and Case Manager. Throughout her unique journey, she has consistently demonstrated exemplary qualities that make her an exceptional staff member whose impact extends far beyond the classroom.



Mrs. Reid, her students, & Principal Schmidt

One of the most commendable aspects of Cassi's teaching is her remarkable empathy toward all students, particularly those on her caseload. She goes above and beyond to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment for every student, ensuring that each individual's unique needs are not only met but embraced. She is amazing at meeting students where they are at while pushing them to learn, overcome, and thrive. Her commitment to fostering a sense of belonging among students with diverse learning requirements is commendable.

In addition to her outstanding work with students, Cassi exhibits exceptional communication skills with staff, students, and families. She has a gift for articulating ideas and concerns effectively, fostering a collaborative and cooperative atmosphere within the school community. Cassi is always approachable, and her willingness to engage with other teachers, parents, and students reflects her genuine dedication to creating a strong partnership between home and school. This skill is particularly evident in the work she has done leading the 12th Hour Study Table Pilot Program, helping student-athletes maintain eligibility through after-school academic support. This work takes coordination and communication between student-athletes, teachers, coaches, and parents, as well as patience and resilience in working individually with student-athletes. This is no small feat, and it is just one example of how Cassi's ability to communicate contributes significantly to the overall success and well-being of our students.

Furthermore, Cassi is a shining example of integrity and positivity in all aspects of her work. Her "anything is possible" attitude is contagious, inspiring students and colleagues alike. She approaches challenges with a solution-oriented mindset and encourages her students to embrace a growth mindset. Her seemingly endless positivity creates an uplifting and motivating vibe in everyone she works with, fostering a feeling that we can accomplish anything we want to because no issue is too small and no problem is too big.

Cassi's commitment to her students, her effective communication skills, and her unwavering integrity make her a true asset to our school. She embodies the spirit of the Excellence in Education Award by consistently going above and beyond to create an inclusive and positive educational experience for all.

5Essentials Survey

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey window opened on January 30 and will remain open until March 29, 2024. Parents, students and teachers across Illinois have an opportunity to participate in the statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This opportunity allows stakeholders to share their thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about Grant Community High School. As a parent, we hope you will take this opportunity to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness at Grant Community High School. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child. As per state requirement, students and teachers will also be completing the [Illinois 5Essentials Survey](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or 5essentials@uchicago.edu.



BULLDOGS AT STATE

Speech

The Talking Bulldogs “walked it like they talked it” into the IHSA State Series with four qualifying individual events and a qualifying Performance in the Round.

Sammie Cruz worked hard on her Prose Reading throughout the season. She gained a Tournament Champion title at the Fremd Viking Varsity Tournament before snagging an impressive 2nd Place finish at the Palatine Pirate’s Booty Tournament. In one last hurrah before winter break, Sammie pulled off a 4th Place finish at our very own GCHS Winter Invite. She came in hot after her two weeks of rest, gaining a 3rd Place finish in the Next-In Finals for both the Illinois High Theatre Fest Virtual Tournament and the Downers Grove South Varsity Invite. Sammie Cruz revved up her engine for the IHSA State Series. She gained another Champion title in Regionals and gained a 2nd Place finish at the Rochelle Sectional, securing her spot for State. After competing amongst the State’s best, Sammie Cruz placed 12th in Prose Reading.



Talking Bulldogs State Send-Off



Left to Right: Sammie Cruz, Jacki Bendfeldt, Abby Sovsky, & Erin Neiweem

The Humorous Duo of sophomores Abby Sovsky and Erin Neiweem put up quite a fight throughout the past months. They began the season on the Talking Bulldogs Novice Team and shot all the way up to State Qualifiers. They competed, and placed, in many JV tournaments. They made their 23-24 debut at York’s Royal Court Invitational and placed 3rd in the Novice Final. Abby and Erin continued to show what they could do at Prospect’s Speechapalooza, with a 4th Place finish, and D211’s Novice Turkey Tourney, with a 2nd Place finish. After finding their footing, the duo received two Novice Tournament Champion titles at Hersey’s Ultimutt Dog Show Tournament and the Illinois High School Theatre Fest Virtual Tournament. As they prepared for the State series, they were recognized as Humorous Duet Acting (HDA) semi-finalists at the Downers Grove South Varsity Invite, their first step up to the big leagues. Abby and Erin gained a 4th Place finish in the

GCHS Regional and a 3rd Place finish in the Rochelle Sectional, guaranteeing them a spot at State. The two sophomores showed off what they could do and came out in 16th Place.

Jacki Bendfeldt knew how to make her judges laugh throughout her Senior season. She debuted her Original Comedy (OC) at York’s Royal Court Invitational and came home with the Tournament Champion title. Jacki began prepping a second piece to debut at Fremd Viking Varsity and broke in finals for both. She left the tournament with a 2nd Place finish in Humorous Interpretation (HI) and a 3rd Place finish in OC. She continued onto the D211 Varsity Turkey Tourney and ended with a 4th Place finish in the OC Main Final and a 6th Place finish in the HI Main Final. At the beginning of December, she gained another

Continued on Page 4...

BULLDOGS

Speech

Tournament Champion title in Original Comedy at the Elk Grove Espresso Tournament. Jacki sailed over to Palatine's Pirates' Booty Invitational and gained a 3rd Place finish in both events. In a final hurrah before winter break, she gained another Tournament Champion title in Humorous Interpretation and a 2nd Place finish in Original Comedy at the GCHS Winter Invite. After a tournament canceled for snowy weather, Jacki was recognized as a HI semi-finalist and placed 2nd in the OC Next-In final at the Downers Grove South Varsity Invite. Before venturing into the State Series, she competed one last time and brought home a 5th Place finish in OC at the Glenbrook North Tournament of Heroes. This Senior comedian was ready to show off what she could do as she began the State Series. Jacki became a double Regional Champ, pulling off a 1st Place finish in both of her events. When the Talking Bulldogs ventured to the Rochelle Sectional, she was the Sectional Champ in Original Comedy, yet again, and gained another 2nd Place finish in Humorous Interpretation, granting her two spots in the IHSA Speech State Competition. Jacki competed in many rigorous preliminary rounds and came home with a 9th-place finish in Original Comedy and an 11th-place finish in Humorous Interpretation.

As the State Series was rapidly approaching, the Performance in the Round (PIR) began prepping their rendition of "The Woodsman". After hosting auditions before winter break, the PIR began practicing as much as they could. The cast made up of Zach Langhoff, Kaitlyn Carpenter, Jessi Von Helms, Ian Hansen, Daivieon Charley, Ashlin Driscoll, Payton Evans, Lily Sobyra, Dianey Granados, and Michael Lamz, debuted their performance at the Speech Showcase before venturing out to Regionals the next day. After long hours of direction by Marissa and Jack Myers, their hard work paid off. The Performance in the Round gained the titles of both Regional and Sectional Champion. With two consecutive wins under their belt, they were ready to journey down to Peoria for the State competition. For the first time in Talking Bulldogs history, the PIR made it into the State final round. They gave it their all and competed for one last time, emerging as the State Runner-Ups in PIR, the highest an event as ever placed at Speech State in Grant history.



Performance in the Round Places 2nd at State

The Talking Bulldogs gave it everything that they had throughout this past season and we could not be more proud!

AT STATE

Wrestling



Left to Right: Coach Johnson, Ayane Jasinski, & Coach Jolcover

Ayane Jasinski started off her IHSA Girls Wrestling State weekend with a 6-1 win over Diana Lopez, Sectional Champ from Phoenix. She dropped her quarterfinal bout 5-3 in overtime against Ashlyn Strenz from Sandwich. With a 6-2 win over Corben Session from Richtown in the blood round, Ayane secured her place on the podium and became an All-State athlete for the third time in her career. Ayane went up against returning State Champ, Emma Engels from Bartlett, in the consolation semifinals and emerged with a 5-2 victory. She strapped up the black G singlet for her final State match and took down Rylinn Younker from Litchfield, 13-7, to secure third place.

She finishes her career as a Grant Wrestler with a season record of 22-4, a career record of 55-10, and a 3X All-State Wrestler placing 4th, 1st, and 3rd. We are incredibly proud of her resilience and grit, and for all she has done for Girls Wrestling. She goes down as one of the best to strap up the Grant singlet.

Erik Rodriguez and Vince Jasinski competed at the IHSA Boys Wrestling State Finals. These Sophomore Bulldogs went into their State competition with records of 34-13 and 33-13, respectively. Rodriguez started his weekend with a win over Damien Flores from Joliet Catholic and then took on Ben Davino from St. Charles East. He fell to Davino and went up against Ethan Sonne from Marist for wrestlebacks. Rodriguez won over Sonne in an 8-4 decision and advanced to the blood round. He fell in his final match to Evan Stanley from Mt. Carmel with a 12-5 decision and ended his Sophomore season with a 36-15 record. Jasinski dropped his opening match against Dom Munaretto, returning State Champ from St. Charles East, and then took on Max Cumbee from Joliet Catholic in wrestlebacks. He dropped that match (6-9) and ended his Sophomore year with a record of 33-15 and 26 pins. Erik and Vince, congratulations on a great season!



Left to Right: Coach Jolcover, Vince Jasinski, Erik Rodriguez, & Coach Johnson

Girls Bowling



Left to Right: Coach Miller, Ella Avallone, Desiree Dickson, Savannah Dickson, Lizzie Gvozdev, Kyleah Baker, & Coach Dempsey

It has been a record-setting year for Savannah Dickson as she was our first bowler to be named Conference Champion and to qualify for the IHSA State Finals three years in a row. Savannah went into her State competition weekend with an impressive 208 average, a second-place finish at Regionals, and a second-place finish at Sectionals, where she punched her ticket to State. By the end of Day One at State, Savannah rolled a 1,254 series and secured her spot for Day Two. She closed out the weekend with a pin total of 2,445 and a 204 average. Her high scores secured her an 18th-place finish out of Illinois' top 222 bowlers. Congratulations on a strong and successful season, and good luck at Mount Mercy next year, Savannah! We cannot wait to see you break more records and continue to work toward your goals!

Bulldogs Explore Spanish Culture



Bulldogs at The National Museum of Mexican Art

Although there is a lot to learn within the classroom, nothing beats getting out in the world and experiencing different cultures. Students in Señora Catarino's Spanish 5 class have been doing just that and expanding their cultural knowledge.

Earlier this year, our students participated in a guided tour of the Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) exhibit at The National Museum of Mexican Art. At the completion of their tour, students were able to walk through the entire museum and explore all the exhibits, which included artifacts of Cesar Chavez, paintings by Diego Rivera, and the ofrenda wall. Some of our students added their own messages to the wall, writing

notes about or to their loved ones who have passed away. After leaving the museum, they took time to view some of the beautiful and intricate murals painted within the area. To finish their fall trip, they sat down for a family meal at Los Comales and enjoyed delicious dishes such as tortas, enchiladas, and burritos. Not only were they able to experience and learn about Spanish culture, but they had the added benefit of doing it together. If you are interested in taking a deeper look and expanding your knowledge on Spanish culture, check out The National Museum of Mexican Art's website for more information.



Bulldogs at The National Museum of Mexican Art



Community Mural

Our Bulldogs are getting ready for their next field trip to the Field Museum where they will learn about ancient civilizations of Latin America, and will participate in a hands-on class with a science expert, where they will analyze Mayan, Moche, Inca, and Aztec artifacts, among other great things! After their museum visit, they will have the opportunity to experience authentic Spanish cuisine. Keep an eye out for more updates on our Spanish 5 students as they continue to broaden their cultural horizons!



Bulldogs enjoy a meal at Los Comales



Bulldogs at The National Museum of Mexican Art



Bulldogs at The National Museum of Mexican Art



National Merit Scholarship Finalist

The National Merit® Scholarship Program has now determined which of the 16,000 Semifinalists named in September 2023 met all requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the competition, and we are excited to share that Raidon Uy is a Finalist!

The selection of some 7,140 Merit Scholarship® winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists is now in progress. In March, NMSC will begin notifying scholarship winners by email. Four major news media announcements of Merit Scholar® designees will be made by NMSC in April, May, June, and July.



Left to Right: Ms. Rohrbach, Raidon Uy, & Principal Schmidt

Mathletes Qualify for State

Our Mathletes competed at Regionals and took 4th Place! While they did not advance as a full team, they did have 10 Bulldogs qualify for the State competition! They will be competing at State on Saturday, April 6. Although the team did not advance as a whole, they have a very good shot to advance when at-large qualifiers are announced within the next two weeks.



Mathletes compete at Regionals

State Qualifiers:

- Bella Raube – 3rd Place (Geometry)
- Colin Noordyke – 4th Place (Algebra 2)
- Cayden Zeller – 5th Place (Geometry)
- Taiseer Mumin, Jirah Lanzar – tied for 6th Place (Algebra 2)
- Kristin Rose – 9th Place (Precalculus)
- Geometry Team (Raube, Zeller, Nicole Sak, Polina Kolosova, Joey Reiner, Sarah Schmidt) – 2nd Place
- Other noteworthy finishes:
- Algebra 2 Team, Precalculus team, Jr/Sr 8-Person team – 3rd Place
- Oralist (Evan Weisheit), Calculator team – 4th Place



FRESHMEN: TURN IN PROOF OF YOUR DENTAL EXAM

ALL 9TH GRADERS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A DENTAL EXAM. PROOF OF THE EXAM MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HEALTH OFFICE DURING THE STUDENT'S 9TH GRADE YEAR. PLEASE VISIT THE "HEALTH SERVICES" SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE FOR THE FORM.



Social Work Month

School Social Work Week: March 3-9

National School Social Work Week is just around the corner in March and serves as the perfect opportunity to celebrate all that School Social Workers do to help us succeed. Although March is National Social Work Month, we spend the first full week of March focusing on School Social Workers. Why? Because school Social Workers are a vital part of the educational team and their unique, graduate-level training in social work enables them to help students achieve goals in every aspect of their lives. Whether a student needs school or home assistance, School Social Workers maintain the ability to understand and interpret the many influences, obstacles, and opportunities available to each student.



*GCHS School Social Workers (left to right):
Ms. Kelley, Ms. Kalk, Ms. Skeels, & Mr. Gaughan*

Here at Grant, our Social Workers are confronted with challenges, heightened anxieties, and anticipated difficulties. However, they face these challenges with strength and resilience. School Social Workers face these challenges with strength and resilience - supporting their students, families, and school communities.

Spend some time this March to learn a little more about the positive impact this profession has on the world and reach out to celebrate your School Social Worker!

Illinois Science Assessment

Juniors will begin taking the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) the week of March 4, 2024. Most students who are currently enrolled in a Science class will take the exam during that class, over the course of three days: March 5th, 7th, & 8th. Students with an AP Science class will take the exam on Monday, March 4, during periods 1-3, to minimize missed instruction. Students without a Science class will take the exam on Wednesday, March 6, in the Lecture Hall. Make-up testing will be held the week of March 11.

The ISA aligns with our Illinois Learning Standards in science. This assessment helps families understand how well students are performing academically and see whether they are on track to succeed in college. The ISA represents Illinois' commitment to preparing all students for college and careers, including in the high-demand science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The assessment also satisfies federal accountability requirements. The ISA is designed to reflect classroom experiences. Students do not simply select an answer and fill in the bubble of a multiple-choice test. Rather, the ISA pushes students to apply their knowledge when they give answers, thus better preparing them for higher education and a career. All students deserve the opportunity to demonstrate what they know; they get to see how knowledge is applied to real-life situations. The ISA has three sections. The average student time-on-task is estimated at 120 minutes. The results provide administrators with important data to help them make broad curriculum decisions at the school and district levels. However, classroom educators will not use the results to make teaching adjustments year-to-year for individual students.

We encourage you to talk with your student(s) about the importance of doing their best on the ISA, while communicating that the assessment yields only one piece of information about them and their school's progress. Students' attendance, classroom work, homework, projects, performance on local tests, participation in sports and extracurricular activities, and contributions to the school's climate and culture all help them grow and learn.

GCHS is hosting a career fair for all students, grades 9-12, to help foster an exploration into the many career options available.



GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

The Annual Career Expo 2024

MARCH 20, 2024

9:15 AM - 3:10 PM

GCHS FIELDHOUSE

QUESTIONS?

**CONTACT BLYTHE MASURA (COLLEGE & CAREER COUNSELOR)
BMASURA@GRANTBULLDOGS.ORG**

Registration is required. Please register by March 6, 2024.

****We will not accept any registrations beyond that date****

For the registration link click or scan here:



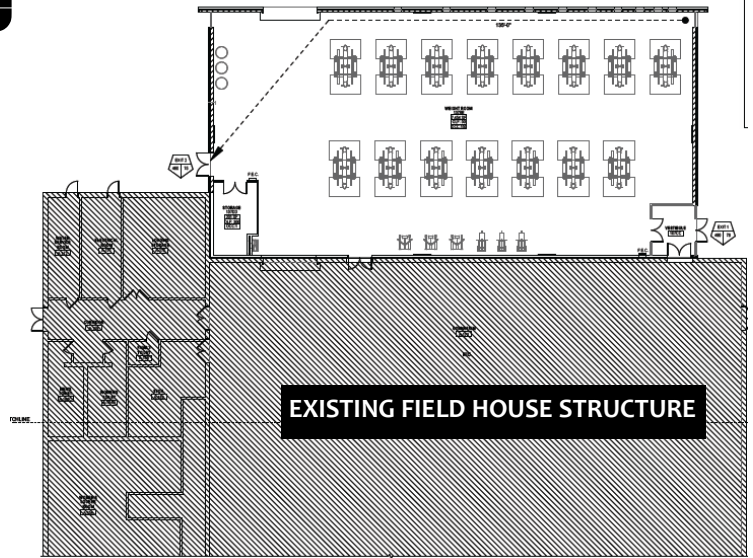
CAREER REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE PROVIDED AN 8-FOOT TABLE, WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS, AND ACCESS TO ELECTRICAL OUTLETS IF NECESSARY. LUNCH AND SNACKS WILL ALSO BE SERVED.



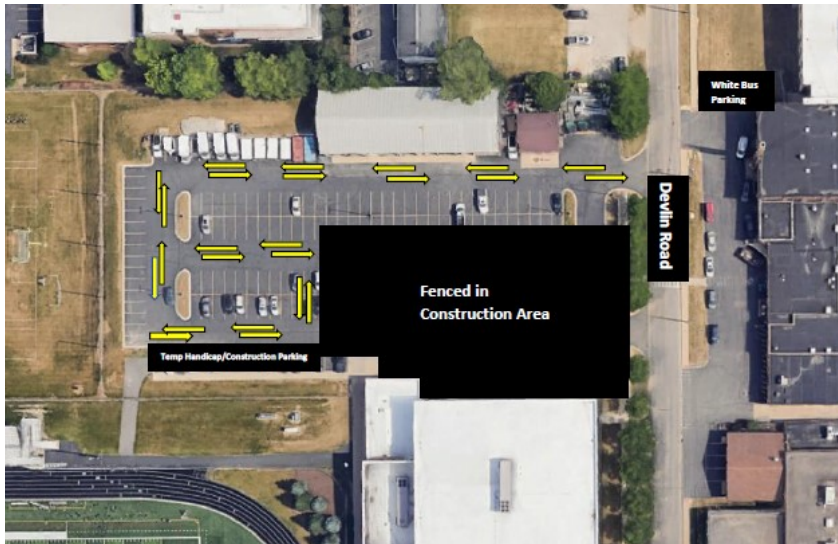


GCHS Hardhat Update

Located within the central core of our campus, lies a cornerstone of physical fitness and athletic skill – the weight room. The weight room currently resides next to the West Gym, and houses our Health and Wellness classes, including Strength and Conditioning, as well as the weight training of our student athletes. Over the past four years, this hub of activity has witnessed constraints due to the incredible growth of the Health and Wellness program. The Strength and Conditioning classes have more than quadrupled in enrollment, topping out with an anticipated enrollment in 2024-2025 of 632 students. This is a remarkable increase, mirroring the exponential growth of our student body's passion for health and fitness.



In an effort to accommodate this growth, the Board of Education has worked with our architects, the Site and Facility Committee, Health and Wellness teachers, coaches and administrators to design an addition to the Field House which will be approximately 8,000 square feet. This addition will be a state-of-the-art weight room, built to house the large number of students enrolled in classes during the school day, as well as student athletes before and after the school day.



Construction fences are estimated to begin going up the week of March 11, 2024. Work on this project is expected to go through January of 2025, with classes beginning in the new space during the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year. The below diagram shows the area of the field house parking lot that will be blocked off for construction and the flow of traffic during construction. We recognize this is a key parking spot for school events throughout the year, and we are actively discussing each event to plan for additional parking. We appreciate your patience and commitment to our students' health as we work to build an improved weight room for all students.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please reach out to Beth Reich, Business Manager/CSBO at breich@grantbulldogs.org or 847-587-2561.



Student Representative to the Board of Education

Beginning with the 2022/23 school year, a student representative has participated as a non-voting representative to the Board of Education. The goal of the student representative is to give input on matters that affect all students and work together with the Board of Education to promote open communication between the Board and the students of District 124. The student representative serves as an “ex officio member,” meaning they are encouraged to participate in discussions, but may not vote on them.

The District 124 Board of Education is a policy-making body responsible for selecting the superintendent and adopting and enforcing all necessary rules for the management and governance of the school district. The Board of Education consists of seven elected members. Additional information regarding the Board of Education may be found on the [Board of Education section](#) of our website.

All interested students should apply through the [Student Representative to the Board of Education Application](#). Applications must be received by 3:30 PM on Friday, March 8, 2024.

[Student Representative to the Board of Education Position Information](#)



This year, a committee of GCHS staff will be choosing the graduation ceremony speeches and any interested Senior on track to graduate is invited to submit a speech for consideration. The first round of applications is to write a speech and submit the draft through the [Graduation Speech Google Form](#). The firm deadline for submissions is March 20, 2024. After the first round is evaluated, students selected to move forward to the next round will present their speech to our Graduation speech committee in April. The committee will choose speeches for our graduation ceremony in May. Those interested

in submitting a speech should check their student email for speech guidelines. If you have any questions regarding submitting a speech, please contact Mrs. Lesperance at slesperance@grantbulldogs.org or Mrs. Frett at nfrett@grantbulldogs.org.



MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS CONCERT

6 MARCH 2024
7:00 PM
GCHS FIELDHOUSE

featuring:
The Choirs & Bands of Grant High School

with special guests:
The Choirs & Bands of Big Hollow & Gavin South

HONOR ROLL



FIRST SEMESTER 2023-24

Grade 9

Zofiya Rae Abadilla
Alexander Acosta
Nana Adubofour
Alexander Albiter
Jazmin Albiter
Brianna Andrade
Kimberly Andrade-Ceja
Grace Ano
Karla Antunez
McKenna Arnold
Sebastian Arteaga
Peyton Atkocaitis
Viridiana Barcenas
Jeffrey Bayer
Emilee Beaudion
Jordynn Bernicchi
Camila Blancas
Maeghan Blanquel
Evan Blough
Kayli Brook
Ashlyn Bryant
Eli Butler
Daniyal Butt
Natalia Cabrero
Camila Cano
Dominick Carlisi
Kaitlyn Carpenter
Cameron Chavez
Gerardo Chavez, Jr.
Bartek Chrupek

Sophie Connealy
Nathanael Contreras-Loek
Emma Corbett
Cole Couture
Ena Cranmer
Alexandra Cruz
Kaylee Cuellar
Katherine Danca
Nolan Davis
Caroline DeYoung
Sophie Dollinger
Matthew Escatel
Connor Evans
Olivia Farley
Zen Felipe
Ryan Fitzgerald
Amelia Foy
Lauryn Francis
Carrera Frazier-Ortegel
Garrett Fries
Alexis Fulghum
Kobe Garcia
Kaiti Gardner
Kahrsten Geary
Michael Gebhardt
Jackson Georgia
Athenna Goebel
Gabryela Gonzales
Nicholas Goyes
Andrew Grill

Avery Hamilton
Abbigale Hamner
Brooke Harvey
Alexa Haut
Steve Herrera
Jadyn Herron
Jaiydyn Hoffman
Evan Hogan-Dighero
Aubrey Hopkins
Erica Hopkins
Anamaria Jasinski
Leon Jiron
Elijah Johnson
Emmett Johnson
Evan Johnson
Neelah Johnson
Lukas Jonota
Aaliyah Kaganovsky
Felicia Kawecki
Kaitlyn Kelly
Nathan Kempf
Alton Kimuli
Isabella Kloss
Kian Korach
Madison Kozak
Elsie Kramer
Emily Kunzer
Madilynn Ladewig
Michael Lamz
Amanda Lay

Cassidy Ledger
Chloe Lewkowicz
Sianna Lorenzo
Alexander Luna
Makanaka Manzanga
Ryleigh Marshall-Kwasny
Benjamin Martin
Abigail Martinez
Keni Massey
Reese Mateja
Carter McCleery
Lily McCollom
James Meeks
Justin Liam Morales
Chase Muir
Kyle Neuber
Riley OGrady
Kathleen Olsen
Jorge Osorio
Karis Packard
Liam Paquette
Zendrea Pfau
Aliyah Phachan
Leta Plunkett
Izabela Podgorski
Benjamin Pongetti
Aiden Ramirez
Andy Rendon-Urbina
Ava Renn
Charlie Renn

Daniel Reyes
Derrick Rios
Emily Roach
Caylah Sanchez
Kara Scanlon
Piotr Schab
Everett Schneider
Noah Schweiss
Evan Sigler
Hayden Silverberg
Audrey Simcoe
Colton Skinner
Maria Soto Valdes
Ava Spectre
Alysse Sutschek
Charles Swiderski
Cole Tellez
William Teplan
Leah Terryberry
Ava Timm
Andrea Torres
Ian Trinidad
Ashlynn Unruh
Evelyn Vasey
Liana Viscarra
Penelope Von Bargen
Ethan Weiher
Sarah Whitson
Livia Yaras
Brianna Zeiger

Grade 10

Ramzi Abdelhak
Estrella Allen
Conner Altergott
Sarah Alvarez
Sophia Anzelmo
Samantha Archuleta
David Ascencio
Alexa Barahona
Ashlyn Bartlett
Kaitlyn Bartlett
Elizabeth Becerra
Johnathan Beller
Gabriella Bendinelli
Patrik Bene
Caleb Berryman
Gabriel Betancourt
Ashley Jacel Calaulan
Wyatt Cappert
Aiden Carlson
Fiona Carlson
Zachary Collins
Samantha Cummins
Kahlen Davis
Miami De La Rosa
Gianna Deacon
Ryel DeLeon
Desiree Dickson
Caley Dionne
John Dollinger
Isabelle Ellington

Mariam Eshaba
Natalia Fafrowicz
Gavin Farley
Kaelee Feliciano
Jackson Findley
Adaly Flores
Myles Foreman
Carlos Garcia
Jayden Gil
Matthew Gipson
Yatniel Gomez- Maldonado
Dianey Granados
Jacob Gregory
Cole Guild
Madison Guild
Ava Guzman
Maxwell Haas
Grayce Haschak
Ethan Henney
Linna Hidrogo
Caden Hitzler
Kelley Hobbs
Thomas Holt
Matthew Honeywell
Brooke Horn
Amelie Hosler
Caleigh Houdek
Jaslene Huerta
Tristan Huizar
Julianna Janicki

Destiny Jenkins
Cynthia Jimenez
Ryan Kadlec
Penelope Karczewski
Cael Kelley
Cameron King
Victoria Kirk
Polina Kolosova
Ana Larson
Lance Ioannes Lavajo
Conner Leclair
Sophie Lelchuk
Micky Li
Lydia Love
Lilianna Ludford King
Emma Malak
Averie Martin
Lesly Martinez Ruiz
Kyle McDonough
Maddox Meade
Jayden Medina
Madison Mesmer
Gavin Meyer
Logan Miller
Ailani Mora
Cole Munaretto
Gainele Muntu
Michael Munwam
Raelynn Murillo
Raylani Nano

Erin Neiweem
Antoinette Novak
Emeri Oliver
Vani Patel
Cole Pemberton
Vanessa Pendell
Kaidan Quarnstrom
Lawrence Quirk
Eros Dave Rabor
Eric Ramirez Miranda
Isabella Raube
Jeffrey Reda
Joseph Reiner
Emily Riley
Ava Roth
Nicole Sak
Angela Nicole Salamat
Haley Schadle
Sarah Schmidt
Madeline Schneider
Shane Schuelke
Baylie Schultz
Makary Sekulich
Kolton Selders
Julian Serna
Camila Serrano
Julianne Shanahan
Lairek Shulman
Spencer Sica
Alyssa Siong

Aiden Skindingsrude
Logan Sledzik
Sabelle Slightam
Addison Smith
Annabelle Smith
Jameson Soco
Ravi Soni
Sohan Soni
Abigail Sovsky
Logan Swanson
Chase Tcholakov
Landon Terryberry
Logan Terryberry
Caitlyn Themanson
Allison Thomas
Reece Timm
Elyanna Torres
Destiny Torres-Ocampo
Addison Ullrich
Jorge Vazquez-Reyes
Leah Wagner
Aliyah Wallace
Natalee Whitson
Alivia Wisniowicz
Chloey Wolff
Jacob Zaleski
Cayden Zeller
Elijah Zerbe

HONOR ROLL



FIRST SEMESTER 2023-24

Grade 11

Giselle Mae Abellana
Ciana Addison
Xiomara Agripino
Evan Ahlgren
Emma Anzelmo
Jiratchaya Arunkittiporn
Kyleah Baker
Stacey Banegas
Gael Barcenas
Alyxys Barillas
Reagan Barr
Bradley Belletynee
Ashley Biundo
Allison Bolisay
Makenzie Borys
Dylan Burke
Shayan Butt
Abel Cage
Liliana Calenda
Lily Capulong
Rosely Castaneda
Francesca Causgrove
Kevin Christesen
Jacob Chrzastowski
Dakota Cleaver
Samantha Collins
Gianna Connard
Kendell Cook

Caimin Corbett
Riley Daniele
Melanie Davila
Nikolas Dayment
Ava Delgadillo
Olivia Dipping
Allison Dulany
Jareli Duque
Ryne Dzierzynski
Madelyne Escobedo
Aliyah Evans
Payton Evans
Christian Faria
Tyler Fleming
Kelsey Franz
Tate Frazier
Taylor Glover
Katherine Goebel
Cassidy Graham
Braylon Gray
William Grooms
Hannah Gwate
Zachery Hahnlein
Abby Hamm
Kellyn Harmer
Abigail Hauschild
Linnea Hauser
Lea Hawkins

Malia Henriot
Gabriel Hernandez
Samantha Hernandez
Maria Herrera
Madeline Hurlay
Gavin Hutchinson
Abigail Johnson
Jady Johnson
Anastasia Johnston
Jacob Kaufman
Zahara Keller
Camryn Kempf
JuZha Kiatoukaysy
Hailey Kissinger
Meghan Klipstein
Logan Knuth
Nicholas Kouimelis
Piper Krueger
Maria Kucher
Alexandra Lamb
Katelyn Lantz-Werner
Jirah Gabrielle Lanzar
Cameron Lazansky
Matthew LeClear
Oliver Lee
Arizona Lessner
Xavior-Ray Liles
Brianna Lopez

Yahir Lopez
Brianna Lund
Ella Malak
Ravel Mann
Amber Martin
Natalia Martin
Angela Grace Martinez
Ryann Mateja
Tanner Matthews
Casey McCleery
Uzziel Medina
Samuel Mendez
Arielle Mitchell
Andy Montoya
Ariel Morales Pacheco
Larson Morrow
Taiseer Mumin
Isabella Murillo
Carlos Negron Cruz
Braden Neuwirth
Colin Noordyke
Aubrey O'Mara
Keira Parmley
Kevin Patel
Noah Patrick
Destiny Patterson
Nicole Pawlus
Rio Prayogga

Anahi Prieto
Sydney Pulaski
Andrew Rabe
Antonio Rangel
Sallan Rangel
Anakari Remback
Kamryn Richter
Christian Ross
Jazlin Salas
Sydney Sampson
Maximus Schlottman
Payton Schopper
Haley Schuster
Karlo Serrano
Hunter Seymour
Leandro Silva-Quesada
Simranpreet Singh
Olivia Smith
Faith Sobyra
Evan Soco
Nathan Sosnowski
Cole Sparkman
MacKenzie Statfield
Kyle Stigler
Grace Szczesny
Andrea Szopinski
Jasmine Tellez
Angelina Vavalle

Mauricio Vega
Alfredo Vela
Lauren Verde
Joanna Von Hoene
Lukas (Kassidy) Wahl
Taylor Walker
Katherine Waugh
Evan Weisheit
Kaya Williams
Autumn Wisniowicz
Karah Wiswald
Brandon Wolkowitz
Jake Woods
Gavin Worklan
Zachary Wyton
Grace Young
Briseis Zequeida

Grade 12

Leen Abuhayyeh
Oluwanifemi Ademola
Oluwatuminiu Ademola
Nana Adubofour
Jennifer Aguilar
Jocelyn Albitzer
Amelia Arndt
Rylan Art
Gabriella Avallone
A'viance Balog
Ahren Barnickel
Joseph Beach
Kimberly Becerra
Mia Beltran
Jacqueline Bendfeldt
Kolten Bergl
Delaney Blancett
Giovanni Bottalico
Abigail Bowker
Emily Bowker
Breanna Brezinski
Sean Buchenberger
Nicolas Bush
Miah Bustamante
Jimena Camargo-Medina
Braeden Carlson
Juliana Catalan
Kieran Chatterjea
Braden Cornell
Jaelen Cournoyer
Mya Couture
Samantha Cruz
Kylie Dabrowski
Julia DallaValle
Addison Dampitz
Christopher Davis
Kayleigh Davis
Ava (Bloom) Dawson
Savannah Dickson
Alexander Dominguez

Ashlin Driscoll
Madison Dunski
Chloe Dupree
Teya Edwards
Gabriel Esparza
Catherine Fabian
Dominik Florczyk
Connor Froehlich
Sydney Fruehling
Reese Fulham
Elaina Gaedtke
Nikolai Gartner
Alyssa Marie Gelig
Zachary Glore
Ryan Golden
Andrea Gomez
Sebastian Gonzalez
Tyler Grendel
Ella Groh
John Patrick Grosskopf
Angelina Guziak
Carmelita Guzman
Reese Guzman
Elizabeth Gvozdev
Joseph Hageli
Emma Hansen
Claire Henney
Pablo Hernandez
Yveth Hernandez
Ryan Herndon
Kyle Herrera
Abigail Hobbs
Melanee Hobson
Nevada Holm
Noelia Huizar
McKaylah Inman
Jael Ivory
George Jackson
Zuzanna Janicki
Ayane Jasinski

Francesca Jasinski
Josiah Jefferson
Sophia Jimdar
Laura Jimenez
Rechell Johnson
Skyler Johnson
Finn Joiner
Leo Kelley
Sommer Khi
Ella Kilmer
Kennedy Kilmer
Neil Kirschner
Jessica Klister
Magdalen Kolar
Fred Kunzer
Alecxy Samantha Labtis
Chloe Nicole Labuca
Mason Lancaster
Zachary Langhoff
Milla Laskosky
Kendall Levy
River Ligeza
Jenny Lin
Isabella Little
Joshua Lobont
Cristal Lopez
Bailey Luther
Jack Martin
Erika Martinez
Emma Matoka
Kyla McCarte
Benjamin McKenzie
Pryde Mendoza
Aiden Miller
Connor Mirocha
Elaine Molsen
Viviana Morales
Luis Mota
Bella Muir
Savannah Mumford

Austin Murrell
Luigi Natalino
John Nehmzow
Elise Neiweem
Lara Neiweem
Diana Ngo
Frank Niecikowski
Gabriela Nieto
Alvin Ntege
Emma Nunez
Clara O'Brien
Shane O'Donnell
Maria-Luna Olivares
Lizbeth Orozco
Julian Ortiz
Rubi Ortiz
Sydney Palladino
James Pecora
Bryce Pemberton
Kimberley Pemberton
Lydia (Twig) Perez
Layna Peters
Ava Petrik
Julia Podgorski
Kyle Pohlman
Kylie Pongetti
Kiara Promenzio Napal
Kylee Pugesek
Karen Ramirez
Morgan Ritchey
Messiah Robinson
Nyriah Robitson
Aubrey Ronsman
Kristin Rose
Alexandra Ross
Katelyn Rossini
Madison Routledge
Melanie Ruiz
Kyle Saldivar
Arlette Sanchez

Nicolas Schiavo
Abbey Schiller
William Schubert
Adele Scoggin
Mikayla Sekulich
Chinguun Sergelemtsetseg
Charles Shaw
Ayden Sheppard
Austin Smith
Grace Sobacki
Manav Soni
Angelina Sosa
Nicholas Szopinski
Joseph Thier
Kylie Tilleman
Roselyn Torres
Julia Torres-Ocampo
Josephine Torrey
Dylan Tripp
Caleb Tyree
Taylor Ullrich
Raidon Uy
Molly Vezensky
Martin Villalobos
Saul Villegas
Khushi Viramgami
Amelia Vogt
Regan Wegner
Amber Wentz
Thomas Whitson
Cayla Williams
Kairi Williams
Vanessa Wodrich
Alexander Woods
Dominick Worklan
Kaleb Wright
Sophia (Mars) Wylie
Nina Yaras
Armaan Yazdani
Jameson Zeller



ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY

During the spring semester of the 2023-2024 school year, schools within the city of Chicago and throughout the state of Illinois have the opportunity to conduct the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) with students in 8th, 10th or 12th grade. This year, Grant Community High School's 10th and 12th graders will participate on March 5, 2024.

WHAT IS THE ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY?

The purpose of the IYS is to better understand youth attitudes and behaviors that can impact student problems and academic success. The survey will ask about topics including nutrition, physical activity, bullying, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. Students taking the survey will be asked to complete the survey (with no names or identification numbers) that will be confidentially administered during one class period. The survey will be administered electronically, is completely voluntary, and privacy will be strictly protected. While the survey asks personal questions, students can skip any or all questions if they feel uncomfortable.

WHAT IS THE SURVEY DATA USED FOR?

The Illinois Youth Survey will provide Grant with a local report of the combined student results which will help to determine programs that may be needed to keep students safe and healthy. The IYS is funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services and is coordinated by the Center for Prevention Research and Development at the University of Illinois and the Lake County Department of Health. For more information, please visit the [Illinois Youth Survey website](#).

DO I HAVE TO DO ANYTHING TO ALLOW MY CHILD TO PARTICIPATE?

No, however, if you do not wish for your child to participate in the survey, please contact the principal's secretary, Jamie Martin, at jmartin@grantbulldogs.org by March 4, 2024. In the email, indicate that you deny permission for your student to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey. Even if you allow your child to participate, every student will also be given the choice to participate or not.

The National Art Honors Society Presents



MARCH 8TH

6:45pm, \$5 at the door!

Who will walk away with the first place trophy?

Who will win the audience choice award?

Don't forget to bring spare change to help vote for the Audience Choice.

The act with the most change will win Audience Choice!



Hall of Fame

Nomination Information

The Hall of Fame has been established to recognize and showcase outstanding graduates and dedicated staff as part of our efforts to promote excellence and achievement for learners in Grant Community High School District 124.

The Hall of Fame was designed to honor exemplary individuals who have achieved distinction, outstanding accomplishment, or significant contribution within their professions, communities, schools, families, or personal lives.

Nominations

Nominations will be accepted for the Hall of Fame, Class of 2024, until April 22, 2024. Visit [GCHS Hall of Fame](#) for the nomination forms.

Criteria to be Considered for Alumni

- Graduates of Grant Community High School are eligible for consideration, provided that graduation occurred at least ten years prior to the year in which they are nominated.
- Graduate has made a significant contribution within their profession, community, school, family, or personal life.
- Graduate positively promotes Grant Community High School.

Criteria to be Considered for Staff

- Staff of Grant Community High School are eligible for consideration if they have a minimum of twenty years of service to District 124 and provided they are either retired or have ceased active employment at least three years prior to the year in which they are nominated.
- Staff member has made a significant contribution at Grant Community High School, in their community, family, or personal life.
- Staff member positively promotes Grant Community High School.

Procedures for Nominations

- Nominations may be made by families, friends, alumni, faculty, staff, administration, and community members of District 124.
- In order to be considered, the nomination form should be fully completed and submitted as outlined on the form.
- Nominations will be kept on file and considered for a total of five years following submission. After five years, a candidate may be re-nominated.

Selection of Inductees

- The selection committee is comprised of a member of the Board of Education, administration, staff, alumni of Grant Community High School District 124, and community members.
- Selected inductees will be contacted by July 1, 2024.

Induction

- New members of the Hall of Fame will be inducted at a ceremony during Homecoming Week 2024.
- New members will be asked to participate in a variety of Homecoming activities, including a reception and awards ceremony at a meeting of the Board of Education, an all-school pep assembly, the varsity football game, and the Homecoming parade. While the intent of this program is to honor graduates and Grant staff, it is also to provide positive role models and inspiration for current students.

Grant Community High School Presents

Annie

*You're Never Fully Dressed
Without A Smile!*

'Leapin' Lizards' Grant Community High School is proud to present: *ANNIE!* *Annie* is a heartwarming and uplifting musical that tells the story of a young orphan girl named Annie, who dreams of finding her long-lost parents and escaping the harsh realities of life in an orphanage during the Great Depression. Despite facing adversity and the cruel Miss Hannigan, Annie's indomitable spirit and unwavering optimism inspire those around her, including the wealthy industrialist Oliver Warbucks.

As Annie's infectious optimism begins to melt the hardened hearts of those she encounters, she not only finds a loving home but also teaches everyone the true meaning of family, love, and the power of

hope. With its memorable songs, endearing characters, and timeless message, *Annie* reminds us that even in the darkest of times, a little bit of hope and a lot of love can change lives and create miracles.

Holding onto hope when times are tough can take an awful lot of determination, and sometimes, an awful lot of determination comes in a surprisingly small package. Little Orphan Annie has reminded generations of theatergoers that sunshine is always right around the corner, and now the best-loved musical of all time is set to return in this new production – just as you remember it and just when we need it most. This celebration of family, optimism, and the American spirit remains the ultimate cure for all the hard knocks life throws your way.

Hailed by the Chicago Tribune as, "one of the best family musicals ever penned!" *Annie* features the book by Thomas Meehan, music by Charles Strouse, and lyrics by Martin Charnin. All three authors received the 1977 Tony Awards for their work.

Annie opens Friday, April 19th, at 7:00 PM, with a Saturday, April 20th performance at 7:00 PM, wrapping on Sunday, April 21st, at 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students and children. Tickets can be purchased online starting April 1st.

GOT BOOKS?

**DONATE TO BERNIE'S
BOOK DRIVE & HELP
CHILDREN AGES 1-12
EXPLORE NEW WORLDS
& STRENGTHEN THEIR
READING SKILLS.**

EMAIL MRS. BARKER OR MS. WEAVER WITH ANY QUESTIONS
SPONSORED BY THE FRESHMAN CLASS COUNCIL




DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FEBRUARY 28 - APRIL 3
& CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE GCHS LIBRARY OR
BOOKSTORE. STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE ONE RAFFLE
TICKET FOR EVERY BOOK DONATED. PRIZES
INCLUDE GIFT CARDS & A DONUT PARTY.

GCHS CANINE CONNECTIONS CLUB

FIDO FESTIVAL

Adoption and Fundraising Event!

 **From 11am-2pm
April 20, 2024!**

Join us for dog demonstrations from 4-H Club, Wisconsin-Illinois Agility Group, and the Lake County Sheriff's K-9 Unit.

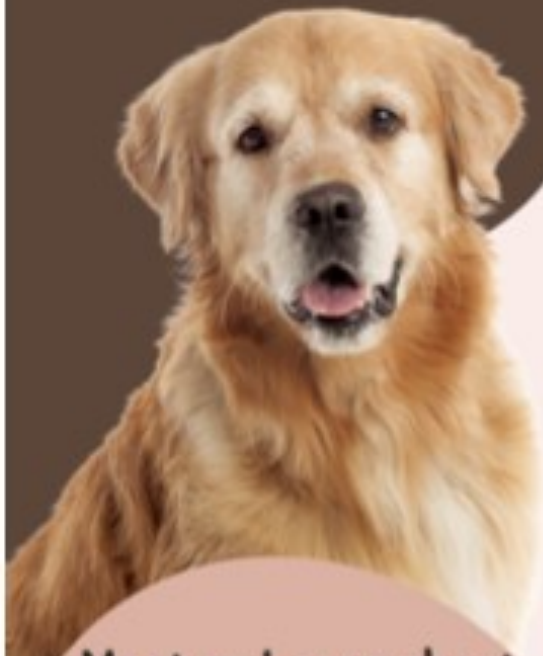
Shop and meet local vendors and organizations.

Fundraising events such as painted rocks for sale, dog toys, and face painting will be available!

Raffle baskets and fundraising events that benefit our four rescues will be cash only.

First 100 guests receive free packets on helpful information about dogs!

Human guests only, please leave your dog at home!



Meet or Learn about Adoptable Dogs from:

- ✓ American Brittany Rescue
- ✓ Love, Hope, Believe Galgo Adoption
- ✓ Rocky's Rescue
- ✓ Young at Heart Senior Pet Adoptions


Mario's Cart will be present! They have tacos, burritos, quesidillas, and more!



Sponsored by Canine Connections Club, National Art Honor Society, Student Council, FGCLA, National Honor Society, and the Grant Transition Program.

EVENT INFO

 ctrevithick@grantbulldogs.org

 Grant Community High School
285 East Grand Avenue,
Fox Lake IL, 60020

ATHLETICS



Grant Dance Team at Nationals

Our Grant **Dance Team** officially wrapped up their season with a 14th Place-finish at Nationals! This was the first year our Dance team competed at Dance Team Union Nationals in Orlando, Florida, and it was a great experience that they are looking forward to repeating. Between the memories made, killer performance, and making it to the final round, our Dancers and coaches have a lot to be proud of. Congratulations on an amazing season and incredible finish, GDT!

[Varsity Grant Dance Nationals Performance](#)
Choreographer - Maddy Robinson

The Varsity **Boys Basketball** team traveled to Jacobs High School for their Regional game against McHenry. Our Bulldogs worked to keep scores close all night and played a strong fourth quarter - giving it their all until the end. They came up short and ended their season with a score of 64-71. With the end of their season comes Conference recognition and we are excited to share that Braylon Gray and Landon Enters were both named to the NLCC All-Conference team! Congrats, Bulldogs!



Coach Bosworth talks to the team during a timeout



Teammates cheer on their team during Regionals

The Varsity **Girls Basketball** team ended their season after a tough Regional match against Warren. Both teams put up quite the battle, but Warren outshot our Bulldogs in the end (40-59). With the end of their season comes conference recognition, and we'd like to send a special shout-out to Nevada Holm and Alyssa Sandquist for being selected as NLCC All-Conference athletes! Nevada finished this season with an average of 11 points, nine rebounds, and two steals. Sandquist wrapped up the season with an average of 15 points, six rebounds, and three steals. Congratulations on your All-Conference recognition!

Congratulations to our **February Athletes of the Month** - Landon Enters, Madelyn Dunskis, Savannah Dickson, Griffin Johnson, Olivia Haut, and Ayane Jasinski! These Bulldogs have put in a great deal of effort all season and have represented their programs well. We look forward to seeing them achieve even more, on and off the court/lane/mat!

<p>Landon Enters Boys Basketball</p> <p>Landon averaged over 13ppg, 3ppg, and 10ags while shooting over 54% from the field in the month of February.</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Madelyn Dunskis Girls Basketball</p> <p>Madelyn made a huge difference for us at the end of the season. She is one of our best shooters, and made game changing baskets in multiple games. Madelyn worked hard all season long and ended things strong!</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Savannah Dickson Girls Bowling</p> <p>This month alone, Savannah Dickson set three school records: highest average, NLCC Conference Champion, and third time in a row State Qualifier. Savannah finished 18th out of 222 of Illinois best bowlers. We look forward to her future on lanes at Mount Mercy University.</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Griffin Johnson Cheerleading</p> <p>Griffin has grown tremendously as an athlete this year. He demonstrates consistent level 4 tumbling, jumps, and stunting. He gained a new skill this year with his feet hands extension and was committed even when she had to recover, jumped right back into the routine and put 110% into every practice space when to request her strength. She is in so many of our routines, moments and never conflicts. Always doing her part for the big picture goal for the team.</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Olivia Haut Dance</p> <p>Olivia always works so hard and is ready to rock the floor. She consistently puts in the time and effort to do her best to achieve our team's goals. Olivia has been working through an injury most of the season and was committed even when she had to recover, jumped right back into the routine and put 110% into every practice space when to request her strength. She is in so many of our routines, moments and never conflicts. Always doing her part for the big picture goal for the team.</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>	<p>Ayane Jasinski Wrestling</p> <p>Ayane Jasinski placed 3rd at the 2024 USA Individual Girls Wrestling State tournament. She finished as a 3X All-State Wrestler placing 4th, 1st, and 3rd, capping her career off with four straight wins, and the next best thing. She goes down as one of the best to strap up the Grant singlet.</p> <p>Athlete of the Month FEBRUARY</p>
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Our Freshman and Sophomore **wrestlers** competed in the IWCOA Fresh/Soph Regional and finished their weekend with four Regional Champions, 13 Sectional Qualifiers, and a Team Champion title after earning 312 points! Not only did they take the top spot as a team, but their score was more than DOUBLE the second-place team - amazing! They are heading to Lake Zurich this Sunday for Sectionals. Check out Grant Wrestling's social media for more updates on their Sectionals competition.



Wrestlers at IWCOA Regionals

Regional Champs:

- Carter Hutchinson
- Kyran Gebert
- Grayson Lennon
- Matthew Longabaugh

Sectional Qualifiers:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Carter Hutchinson | Grayson Lennon | Matthew Longabaugh |
| Larry Quirk | Aaden Arroyo | Ryel DeLeon |
| Kyran Gebert | Tyler Zdon | Landon Jones |
| David Ascencio | Mikey Cronkrite | |
| John Von Hoene | Casey Gipson | |

Congratulations to our **February Sportsmanship Winners** - Brandon Wolkowitz, Mya Clark, Desiree Dickson, Kyleah Baker, Lizzie Gvozdev, Ella Avallone, Aubrey O'Mara, and Jiada Jefferson! No matter the situation, these Bulldogs continue to show respect for their coaches, teammates, and opponents, put their best foot forward, and bring a positive attitude with them every day. Thanks for setting an example of what it means to have good sportsmanship and showing your fellow Bulldogs how to Keep It RED!

Brandon Wolkowitz
Boys Basketball

Brandon is the perfect example of the team-first mentality constantly giving 100% and bringing energy to the team day-in and day-out.

Sportsmanship Winner
FEBRUARY

Mya Clark
Girls Basketball

Mya stepped up the second half of the season for us. Mya is one of the best 3-point shooters with a noticeable 10 points against Highland Park and Round Lake. Mya leads with her consistency and love for the game. She is a staple of our team!

Sportsmanship Winner
FEBRUARY

Aubrey O'Mara
Cheerleading

Aubrey really stepped up this year as a leader. She constantly uses mat talk to encourage and guide her teammates. She gives positive pointers to other athletes, and her teammates respect her opinions.

Sportsmanship Winner
FEBRUARY

Jiada Jefferson
Dance

Jiada is always outgoing and friendly with everyone. She engages with the whole team and is excited to be at practice everyday. Jiada always has a smile on her face and is a very positive outlet, giving tons of encouraging feedback. She is uplifting in and out of practice and continues to build strong relationships with all her teammates.

Sportsmanship Winner
FEBRUARY

Desiree Dickson, Kyleah Baker, Lizzie Gvozdev, & Ella Avallone
Girls Bowling

These four athletes supported Savannah Dickson at the IHSA Girls Bowling State Tournament. Surrounded by an extremely loud and boisterous crowd for over 16 hours, they not only cheered on their teammate (Savannah), but they also encouraged the bowler from Lakes Community High School and Richmond-Butler High School. Many of the competing athletes mentioned how admirable it was for the whole squad to come out and support their teammate although their personal seasons were done.

Sportsmanship Winners
FEBRUARY

Za'Meer Franklin
Athletic Training

Za'Meer Franklin has been incredibly helpful in the Athletic Training Room. Za'Meer will come down during his study hall to help our Athletic Trainer with rehab, cleaning, & preparing for after-school activities. He is always willing to go above and beyond to help others!

Volunteer of the Month
FEBRUARY

We're shining a light on an amazing volunteer and are excited to announce that Za'Meer Franklin was selected as our **February Volunteer of the Month!** Za'Meer has been a big help in the athletic training room. Regardless of the task, he brings so much positivity and is willing to assist in any way he can.



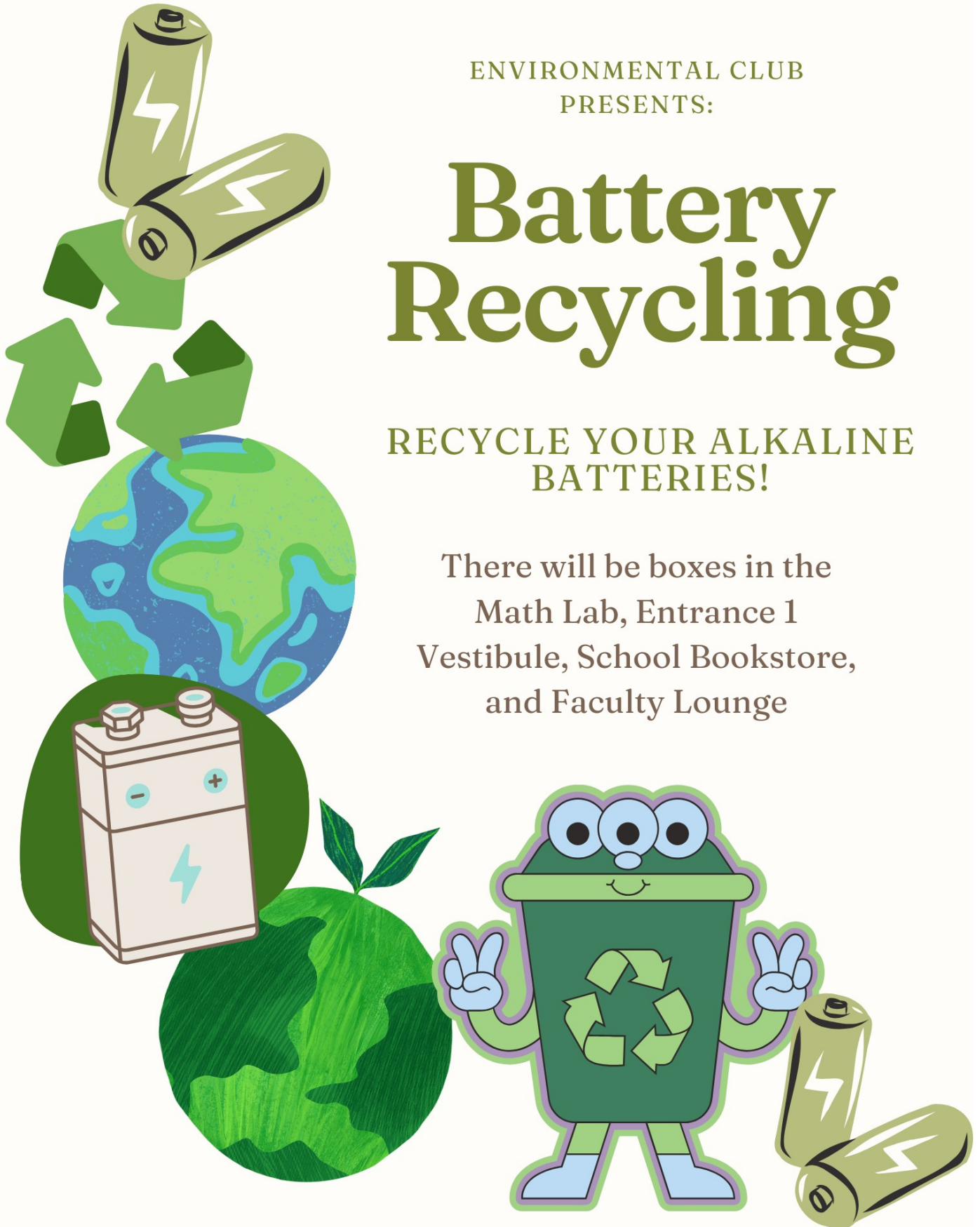
**A
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ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB
PRESENTS:

Battery Recycling

RECYCLE YOUR ALKALINE
BATTERIES!

There will be boxes in the
Math Lab, Entrance 1
Vestibule, School Bookstore,
and Faculty Lounge



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Hannah Trock

Class of 2022

Favorite Skill: Standing Full



Hannah Trock

Hannah started performing on spring floors with Allstar and transitioned to hard floor routines when she joined Grant Cheer. While there are a lot of similarities between Allstar and Grant Cheer, there are a handful of differences that make a big impact. For one, Allstar Cheer performs on spring floors, and Grant Cheer is all hard floor. Another major difference is that Allstar Cheer focuses on competitions only. Our Cheerleaders split their time between competitions and sideline cheering during the winter season. Hannah shared that she had never cheered at a game before performing for Grant. Although this can be a nerve-racking experience the first time, Hannah said it helped her prepare for college game days. After graduating from Grant in 2022, Hannah enrolled in Morehead State University in Kentucky, where she is continuing her education and Cheer career. Even though she has a busy schedule, balancing academics and athletics, Hannah wanted to push herself and reach for an even higher goal. With the support of her Morehead coach, Mark Coleman, Hannah

was ready to take on the challenge and try out for the US National team. Hannah proved herself at tryouts and earned a spot on the US National Premier Coed Team! Along with five of her Morehead State teammates, Hannah will be competing at the ICU World Championships in Tampa, Florida from April 24-26. She will be heading to Dallas, Texas for a training later this month and then will see her team again on April 14 for their final training. After competing in April, Hannah's team will continue to train as they have been invited to compete in Germany, Croatia, and Canada this summer!



US National Premier Coed Team

We are excited to see Hannah and her team take the floor in April - you got this, Hannah!



Superintendent Lt. General Richard M. Clark presents Mike Kazlauskys with Brigadier General Malham M. Wakin Award

Source: Air Force Falcons Athletics

After graduating from Grant, Mike Kazlauskys attended the United States Air Force Academy to continue his educational and athletic career.

After serving two years in the United States Air Force, Mike returned to the Air Force Falcons

Baseball team as an assistant coach. He then returned to active service at the Charleston Air Force Base as a Boeing C-17 Globemaster III pilot before joining the team and becoming an instructor at the Academy in 2000. After two and a half years of deployment, Mike returned again to the Academy and served his third tour as an assistant coach from 2006-2008. In 2011, Mike served as interim

head coach and then took on the official role in 2012. With his longstanding commitment to the Academy and Falcons, Mike was the perfect recipient of the Brigadier General Malham M. Wakin Award! Superintendent Lt. General Richard M. Clark awarded Mike with honor for his "commitment to developing leaders of character." As one of our Hall of Fame members, we could not think of a better Bulldog to receive this award - congratulations, Mike!

To learn more about Mike Kazlauskys and the Brigadier General Malham M. Wakin Award, check out the [GCHS Hall of Fame](#) and [Go Air Force Falcons](#).

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Mike Kazlauskys

Class of 1987

Bulldog



The 6th Annual NLCC Invitational Honor Band Festival was held on February 5 & 6, 2024, at Wauconda High School. This year, we had four Grant Band students selected to participate! Grant was represented in the 9th & 10th Grade Honor Band by Freshmen Cole Tellez (Clarinet) and Zen Felipe (Bass Clarinet), and in the 11th & 12th Grade Band by Junior Linnea Hauser (Tenor Saxophone) and Senior Braden Cornell (Trombone).



It was a night of champions as the NLCC joined together for the annual Buddy Ballers Tournament! Our Special Olympics team took on Round Lake and Antioch, ending the night with one win and one loss. Regardless of the score, it was a fun and competitive experience for our Bulldogs. Thank you to everyone who came out to support, and congratulations to all our NLCC athletes!



Choir performed in the annual NLCC Honor Choir Festival. Pictured is all participating NLCC Choir students following the final performance.



Canine Connections Team

The Canine Connections Club challenged the Academic Team in their annual Bow-Wow Bowl. There were some great answers from both teams, but the Canine Connections Club secured their win and proved to be the top dogs of the canine trivia world.



Academic Team

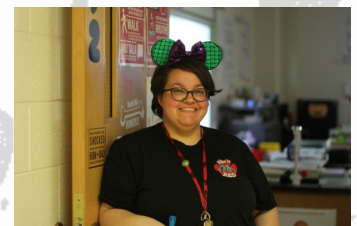
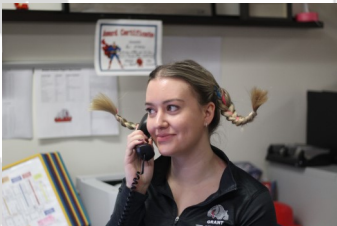
Happenings



Our Transition students have been busy Bulldogs! Between baking dog treats, working at job sites, and community outings, they are growing their skills more and more every day. To start off their February, they took a trip to the Mundelein High School Transition Center to learn more about the voting process and to register. With the help of the Lake County Clerk's Office, our Bulldogs were able to engage in a real-life voting simulation, familiarize themselves with the Express Vote machine, and more. Learn more about their trip in the [Lake County Clerk's February newsletter!](#)



"Tangled" With a Twist Winter Dance Spirit Week





Keep It RED



Being on time is something we all strive for. It's a simple concept but can sometimes be tough to achieve. Whether it's two or ten minutes, being late to class disrupts learning for more than just the tardy student. For the sake of our students' success, we ran another Be On Time challenge to encourage the importance of being on time. Students were incentivized with the possibility of winning an ice cream party for their grade, Bulldog Cup points, and winter dance tickets. For the first time, the Senior Class won the challenge! Not only did they take the overall win, but they had the lowest tardy counts week-to-week. It's quite an impressive feat and we hope this upperclassmen win sets an example for all our Bulldogs. In addition to the grade level win, all Bulldogs with ZERO tardies during the challenge were entered into a raffle for dance tickets. Congratulations to Kaylee Cuellar, Anamaria Jasinski, Charlie Renn, Abilane Bermudez, Olivia Farley, Jonathan Beller, Rica Alvarez-Espinoza, Carli Sipe, Cameron King, Kolton Selders, Kellyn Harmer, Jayse Hartmann, Jaydin Joplin, Elias Newsome, and Taylor Pannell on your well-earned prize!



ACADEMIC LAB RESOURCES

SUBJECT AREA	LOCATION	HOURS OF OPERATION
Art Lab	110	TEAM
English Lab	241	Per 1, TEAM, Per 3-11
French Lab	278	TEAM
Health & Wellness	Gymnasium	TEAM
Math Lab	157 159 (TEAM only)	Per 1, TEAM, Per 3-11 Monday-Thursday 3:15-4:05 PM Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00-7:35 PM
Music Lab	143	TEAM
Science Lab	187	TEAM
Social Studies Lab	241	TEAM
Spanish Lab	290	TEAM
Testing Center	Library	Per 1, TEAM, Per 3-11

Counselors' Corner

Future Course Request Deadline:

Friday, March 22, 2024, is the deadline for all freshmen, sophomore, and junior students to make any changes to their future course requests. Please reach out to your school counselor to make any changes by March 22.

Tackling Test Anxiety:

With PSAT and SAT testing right around the corner many students have had experiences with anxiety when it comes to taking a test. Check out [Princeton Review's helpful tips](#) on how to battle test anxiety!

Book/Website Resources:

- [College Board](#)
- [ACT](#)
- [Khan Academy/SAT test Prep](#)

College & Career Center News:

- [March Newsletter](#)
- Career Fair is March 20
- It's time to complete your FAFSA! FAFSA Office Hours are available to students during the school day and you can sign up through [Mrs. Masura's calendar](#).
- Bulldog Career Explorers will be meeting during TEAM in the auditorium on March 4 and March 7. We will have speakers from the Health Sciences program at CLC on Monday, March 4, and speakers from the Engineering program at CLC on March 7.
- Seniors, if you plan on attending CLC next year, make sure you are taking the necessary next steps—fill out your [CLC application](#) and make an appointment with our CLC representative, Ms. Landmann, through [Calendly](#)
- [Upcoming College Visits](#)



Introducing FIRST GEN BULLDOGS

A group created to assist first generation students in the college-going process.

Would you like to be the first in your family to go to college?

Have you started to think about what you want to do after high school, but don't know where to start?

First Generation (adjective) Student:

A student whose parent(s) or guardian(s) have not completed a post-secondary degree.

Sign up
& join today!



C A L E N D A R

March

March 4	Illinois Science Assessments begin (Juniors)
March 5	Illinois Youth Survey
March 6	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start Music In Our Schools Concert
March 8	Student Representative to the Board of Education applications due Grant's Got Talent
March 11	Spring MAP testing begins Fieldhouse/Weight room construction begins
March 12	Blood Drive
March 13	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start
March 14	Parent University: Social-Emotional Learning—Technology & Emotional Health
March 20	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start Career Fair Graduation speech applications due
March 21	Board of Education Meeting
March 25-29	Spring Break

April

April 1	School Resumes
April 3	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start Parent University: Writer's Week NHS Induction
April 10	PSAT/SAT Testing Activity & Athletic Fair
April 17	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start
April 18	Board of Education Meeting
April 19	Progress Reports NHS/Rotary Spaghetti Dinner Opening night of spring musical—Annie
April 20	Fido Festival & Adoption Event—Canine Connections Spring musical—Annie
April 21	Final spring musical performance
April 22	Hall of Fame nominations due
April 24	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start Freshman Honors Breakfast Parent University: Financial Aid Night (Juniors)
April 26	Spring pep assembly NLCC Art Show

May

May 1	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25am Flex Time Start
May 2	Spring Band Concert
May 3	Early Release, 1:35pm Prom
May 6	AP Testing begins
May 8	Senior Honors Night
May 14	Spring Choir Concert Final Exams (Seniors)
May 15	Final Exams (Seniors)
May 16	Board of Education Meeting
May 17	Final Exams (Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors) Final day of AP Testing
May 19	Graduation
May 20-21	Final Exams (Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors)
May 27	Memorial Day