



Grant Community High School

District Newsletter

April 2024

Page 2
Bulldogs Qualify for State

Page 3
Golden Globe
Meningococcal

Page 4-5
Grant's Got Talent

Page 6
MIOS

Page 7
Fido Festival

Page 8
Annie
Spaghetti Dinner

Page 9
P/SAT Testing

Page 10
Prom

Page 11
Parent University
AP Exams

Page 12
Reuse-A-Shoe

Page 13
GCHS Art

Page 14
Hall of Fame Nominations

Page 16-19
Athletics Updates

Page 19
Alumni Spotlight: Henry Kusiak

Page 20-21
Bulldog Happenings

Page 22
BPAC: Multicultural Festival

Page 23
Keep It RED

Page 24
Counselors' Corner

Page 25
Calendar

Student of the Month

Julia Podgorski



The Grant Community High School April Student of the Month is senior Julia Podgorski, daughter of Agnieszka and Marek Podgorski of Fox Lake.

Julia's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during her sophomore year, and qualifying for Honor Roll each semester. She will have taken 10 AP courses through her senior year and scored a perfect 5 on three AP exams. She received the AP Scholar Award and Scholar-Athlete Award, and was named an Illinois State Scholar. She holds a remarkable 4.926 GPA.



She attended Girls State, was nominated to attend the World Affairs Seminar, and participated in State Senator Craig Wilcox's Youth Advisory Council. She earned the Illinois Seal of Biliteracy in the Polish language and was recognized by the General Consulate of the Republic of Poland for completing Polish secondary education in the US. She was named a Questbridge College Prep Scholar and National Match Scholarship recipient. Additionally, she was chosen for the Social Studies Golden Globe award in January 2023.

Her extracurricular activities include Captain of the Debate Team where they placed 5th at a Public Forum competition and competed at multiple state tournaments, and Vice President of FBLA, where she and her group placed 5th at Nationals for Website Design. She is currently serving as Treasurer of NAHS and participated in Girls' Tennis, Academic Team, and Snow Dogs. She is the 2023/24 Student Representative to the Board of Education.

Julia volunteered in a variety of school events such as Parent University, Back to School Night, Wellness Fair, Eighth Grade Enrollment, Roadside Cleanups, face painting at football games, helped organize the Silent Auction, and raised money for the Grant Township Food Bank. She also assists her peers as a tutor in the English and Social Studies labs.

In addition to all of her activities, Julia helps out with her mother's self-owned business, works at the Wauconda Kumon Learning Center, and is the deputy intern coordinator for a local political organization in Lake County. She enjoys attending concerts, collecting vinyl records, reading, watching movies, and hanging out with friends.

Her plans for the future include attending Wesleyan University in Connecticut where she intends to double major in political science and English, and then on to law school.

Board of Education

Steve Hill, *President*
Kathy Kusiak, *Vice President*
John Jared, *Secretary*

Shelly Booth
Ivy Fleming
Ed Lescher
Bob Yanik



Bulldogs Qualify for State

Our Mathletes competed at Northern Illinois University on February 24 for their Regional competition and took 4th Place! On April 6, the team will be competing at Illinois State University for their State Finals. Congratulations and good luck to our 13 State Qualifiers!

**M
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State Qualifiers

Bella Raube
Nicole Sak
Cayden Zeller
Polina Kolosova

Joey Reiner
Sarah Schmidt
Evan Weisheit
Jirah Lanzar
Colin Noordyke

Taiseer Mumin
Hunter Seymour
Kristin Rose
Jameson Zeller



Regional Math Team



FBLA State Qualifiers Prepare for State Competition

After testing their knowledge and skills at the Northern Area Regional Conference, 39 Business Bulldogs walked away with a top-ten finish and are advancing to the FBLA State Competition on April 5 and 6!

State Qualifiers

Julia Podgorski
Skyler Johnson
Isabella Little
Diana Ngo
Ashlin Driscoll
Pam Oropeza
Jacki Bendfeldt
Sophie Lelchuk

Emeri Oliver
Vani Patel
Melanie Ruiz
Joseph Reiner
Izzy Ellington
Kyle Pohlman
Catherine Fabian
Kian Korach

Ava Delgadillo
Chloe Labuca
Milla Laskosky
Maria Olivares
Angelina Sosa
Braden Cornell
Casey McCleery
Vic Lin
Jasmine Bo
Angela Salamat
Annabelle Smith

Kiara Promenzio Napal

Jessi Von Helms
Zuzanna Janicki
Khushi Viramgami
Addison Smith
Miami De La Rosa
Brooke Horn
Jaelen Cournoyer
Natalia Fafrowicz
Izabela Podgorski
Bloom Dawson
Nicole Pawlus
Pam Oropeza

**F
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A**

**G
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R
D**

Winter Guard has been working hard all season, earning three top-five placements and 5 top-ten placements. In their most recent competition, Guard took 4th with a score of 45.460 - just 6 points away from the first-place score! They are competing on Saturday, April 6, at 5:49 PM at Victor J. Andrew High School in Tinley Park, IL. Good luck, Guard!

Team Members

Naomi Arnaiz
Xayy Basile
Emilee Beaudion
Madison Eagon
Zen Filipe

Abigail Johnson
Andy Montoya
Caylah Sanchez
Jessica Helms



Winter Guard

Social Studies Golden Globe Winners

Lauren Verde is March's recipient of the Social Studies Golden Globe Award!

Lauren was nominated by her teacher, Mrs. Thomas, because of her strong work ethic and constant engagement in class activities. No matter the day or unit, Lauren is focused on the content being discussed and actively works to make connections to the material. Not only does she contribute to class discussions, but she provides thoughtful responses on exams as well. Mrs. Thomas shared that when Lauren completes exams, "her responses are clear indications that she has learned the essential answers of our unit. She is able to formulate and provide examples and details that support her claim. I thoroughly enjoy reading what she has to say." Between her dedication to her studies and her overall "kind and friendly disposition," she is the perfect recipient of the Golden Globe Award.



The Social Studies Department presents Lauren with the Golden Globe award.



The Social Studies Department presents Zach with the Golden Globe award.

Zach Menendez is April's recipient of the Social Studies Golden Globe Award!

Zach was nominated by his teacher, Mrs. Montemayor, because of his positive attitude and eagerness to learn. Regardless of the topic, Zach is engaged and prepared and takes a genuine interest in the content being discussed. Mrs. Montemayor expressed that Zach is one of the first students she can count on to answer a question when it has been posed to the class. His engagement reaches beyond the walls of their classroom as Zach takes extra steps to increase his knowledge and connect to various other subjects. Mrs. Montemayor shared that Zach takes the extra step to apply course content to current events or science-related topics. Most notably, Zach was able to expand the background knowledge of his teacher and classmates on how the Atomic Bomb was created which not only gives them contextual information but also adds to the history curriculum covered within his class. With his ability to participate regularly, make great connections, and keep himself and his peers engaged, he is the perfect recipient of the Golden Globe Award.

HEY JUNIORS!

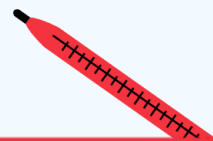
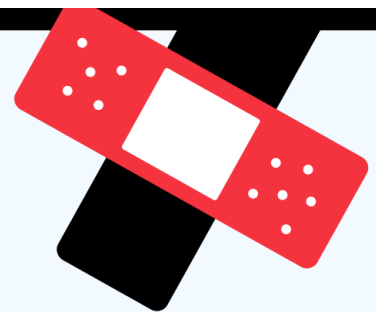
WE NEED PROOF OF YOUR MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE

MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE IS KNOWN AS MCV, MCV4, MENACTRA, OR MENVEO

Did you receive this vaccine after you turned 16?

- YES - Check with your doctor or pharmacy & get documentation for our Health Office.
- NO - Get your vaccine! It is required for Senior year.

Questions? Concerns? Contact the Health Office at (847) 973-3452/3453.
Email proof to HealthOffice@grantbulldogs.org or fax to (847) 587-1088.





First Place, Tumi Ademola



Second Place, Zach Langhoff & Myles Foreman



Third Place, Sofia Esparza



Audience Choice,
Phoenix Soloveychik



Allison Bolisay, Andrea Gomez, & Sammie Cruz



Emily Coronel & Audrey Simcoe

GRANT'S GOT TALENT



Cayden Zeller



Tyler Grendel



Marc Pineda



Jessi Von Helms & Elise Neiweem



Phoenix Soloveychik & Nox K.



Cast of Annie

Music In Our Schools

For more than 30 years, March has been officially designated by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) for the observance of Music In Our Schools Month® (MIOSM®), the time of year when music education becomes the focus of schools across the nation. The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music. MIOSM is an opportunity for music teachers to bring their music programs to the attention of the school and the community, and to display the benefits that school music brings to students of all ages.



MIOS Choir Concert Performance



MIOS Band Concert Performance

To celebrate Music In Our Schools Month in our community, the Grant High School Music Department hosted the Music In Our Schools (MIOS) Festival on Wednesday, March 6. Since 2007, Grant has welcomed the music programs of our surrounding middle schools to perform together and celebrate our shared passion for music. 340 band and choir students from Grant, Big Hollow, and Gavin South came together for an afternoon of rehearsals and an evening concert that featured band and choir performances by students from all schools. During the rehearsal day, students had the opportunity to improve their performance skills, connect with other students who enjoy singing and playing, and work with the music educators from each school. The efforts of students and

directors were showcased in the evening concert, culminating in a grand finale featuring all band and choir students. For those who could not attend or would like to relive the night, we have a full recording of our [MIOS Festival Concert](#).

The Grant Music Department would like to extend their sincere appreciation to the Boards of Education, Administrators, Music Educators, and Families of students from all participating schools for their support of this event. We are grateful to be part of a community that values Music Education!



MIOS Choir Concert Performance



MIOS Band Concert Speaker




MIOS Band Concert Performance

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!

EVENT INFO

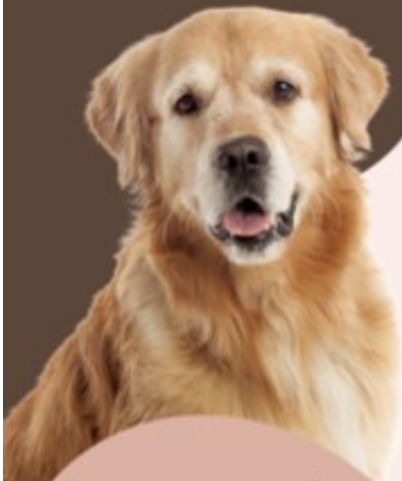
 ctrevithick@grantbulldogs.org

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

Wondering mutt's going on this month? The Canine Connections Club would like to invite you to our fur-st ever Fido Festival Adoption and Fundraising Event on Saturday, April 20, from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. This is a free event open to the community (humans only please) and will be here at Grant in the Commons. Meet some dogs from the four rescues that will be on-site and learn about each rescue's adoption process. Come find out what a Galgo is, discover the benefits of adopting a senior dog, meet some lovable Brittanys, and hear about what dogs are available through Rocky's Rescue.

We have many exciting events and doggone fun planned. Kids can get their faces painted for \$2 or "adopt" a Beanie Baby dog complete with its own adoption papers for \$5. And who wouldn't want a photo-op with Grant's own mascot Spike? Check out our 3 demonstrations starting at 11:15 AM. The Lake County K-9 Krew (a 4H group) will introduce you to an obedience-like activity called Rally-O, an instructor from the Wisconsin-Illinois Agility Group will entertain you with a trick dog performance, and the demos will wrap up with a paw-some K-9 performance by the Lake County Sheriff's Department.

The fun continues with 16 dog-themed organizations and vendors. Whether you want to talk with someone about doggy daycare, training, nutrition, or just want to pick up a present for your pooch, we have you covered. And if you get hungry from all that



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, FCCLA, National Honor Society, and the Grant Transition Program.

shopping, Mario's Cart Food Truck and Nothing Bundt Cakes will be on the premises too.

Make sure to bring lots of cash because we have some grrreat fundraising deals for you. Spoil your pup with tasty treats made by our Transitions program or fleece rope toys handcrafted by the Canine Connections Club and FCCLA. Whether you have a dog or not, we have a wide variety of painted rocks to decorate your home, workplace, or yard. One of our big highlights will be our raffle basket sales. We will have over 60 baskets with prizes ranging from fast food restaurants to fine dining, sports and entertainment items, beauty products, books, toys and games, lots of dog items, and much more. All profits from our fundraising sales will be split between the four rescues we are hosting. Get here early because the first 100 guests will receive a folder full of helpful canine-related information. We look forward to seeing you there!

'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, the musical, opens Friday, April 19 at 7:00 PM. A Saturday, April 20 performance is scheduled for 7:00 PM, and the musical will wrap up on Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students and children. Tickets can be purchased [online](#) starting April 1.

Grant Community High School Presents

Annie

You're Never Fully Dressed

Without A Smile!

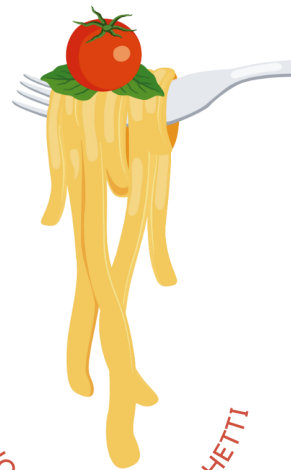
Do you enjoy dining out and catching a show but don't want to pay outrageous prices?

The Grant Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) has a deal for you! Before enjoying the opening night of the Spring musical, "Annie," on Friday, April 19, enjoy all-you-can-eat spaghetti, breadstick, dessert, and a drink all for just \$7! Plus, children who are preschool-age or younger eat for free! Takeout is also available.

We will be gladly serving patrons from 4:30 - 7:00 PM.
Tickets can be purchased from any member of NHS
and can also be purchased at the door.

We look forward to serving you dinner before the show!

DON'T FORGETTI



TO JOIN US FOR SPAGHETTI





PSAT TESTING

Grant Community High School will be administering the **state-required digital SAT Suite of Assessments** to all freshmen through juniors on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

This WILL NOT be a flex start day. Students will report to their assigned testing locations by 7:40 AM, and it is important that students are on time that morning. Students should bring a school-issued, fully charged Chromebook and their charging cords. Breakfast will be served before school in the commons, and a snack will be provided during testing. All testing will be completed around 12:30 PM (with the exception of some accommodated testing), and normal bus transportation will be provided after testing.

On Thursday, April 4, freshmen, sophomore, and junior students will receive a notice through their TEAM room that indicates the test the student is scheduled to take, the testing room location to report to that morning, and the necessary materials the student needs to bring for testing. Parents should make sure their student has received that information. Below you will find some more specifics about the tests

the students may be taking.

Seniors – *Most seniors will not be in attendance on Wednesday, April 10.* Only those seniors who have been notified that they need to take the school-day test to meet graduation requirements will attend. We strongly encourage seniors to use these two days for college visits, finishing up college entrance paperwork, job shadowing, or job searches.

Juniors – All juniors are required to take the state-required SAT with an essay exam as a graduation requirement. This is a college-reportable SAT score. The make-up date for juniors to take the SAT exam will be on Tuesday, April 23.

Sophomores – All sophomores are required to take the PSAT 10 from the College Board to better prepare them for the SAT exam they will take next year as part of the state-required college and career readiness exam. The make-up date for sophomores to take the PSAT 10 exam will be in the afternoon of Wednesday, April 24.

Freshmen - All freshmen are required to take the PSAT 8/9 from the College Board to better prepare them for the SAT exam they will take their junior year as part of the state-required college and career readiness exam. The make-up date for freshmen to take the PSAT 8/9 exam will be Monday, April 22.

For all three of these exams, students should bring their Grant Student ID, a calculator, and a fully charged Chromebook on the testing day of Wednesday, April 10.

*Good luck on
testing day, Bulldogs!*



GCHS PRESENTS
PROM 2024

A Starry
Night to
Remember

MAY | 3 | FRI

5PM - 12AM

BELVEDERE BANQUETS

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL

TICKET INFORMATION

\$80

SALES APRIL 8 - APRIL 18

This year's Prom, A Starry Night to Remember, is quickly approaching! Prom is Friday, May 3, and the destination is the Belvedere Banquets in Elk Grove Village, IL. In order to attend Prom, students must be a Junior or Senior currently enrolled at GCHS. Students wishing to bring a Freshman, Sophomore, or out-of-school guest are allowed. Early grads are considered out-of-school guests and must have a current student bring them as a guest. Students bringing an out-of-school guest will need to complete the [Grant Dance Guest Approval Form](#). Out-of-school guest forms must be completed and turned in to the Deans by Friday, April 5.

Tickets to the event will be sold at \$80.00 per ticket. Prom tickets will be on sale online or in the Bookstore from April 8 through April 18. Only check and cash payments can be made in the Bookstore. All GCHS Senior and Junior Students must purchase tickets individually. Senior and Junior Students may not purchase two tickets under the same ID#. If you are purchasing a ticket for your date who is an underclassman (Sophomore/Freshman) or out-of-school guest, you must use that student's name and student ID#. Seniors/Juniors who are bringing a guest are responsible for their guests. When purchasing tickets for you and your guest, please select the appropriate ticket purchase. Students who have been approved to bring an outside guest will select the Senior/Junior taking an out-of-school guest ticket. If your guest has not been pre-approved, the student will not be allowed to attend.

Prom is a school function; all school rules and regulations, as stated in the Student/Parent Handbook, apply to all students attending prom. Students who behave improperly will be referred to a GCHS administrator and parents will be notified. All students and guests will be required to ride school-sponsored bus transportation to and from Prom. This bus transportation is included in the price of the ticket and is mandatory. Students are not allowed to utilize private transportation to or from Prom. Students who do so will not be admitted to Prom.

Prom check-in will begin in the Field House at 4:45 PM on Prom night. Students must present their ticket and current ID upon check-in to the Prom. Outside guests must present a valid state-issued photo ID to be admitted to Prom. Students who do not have proper identification will not be allowed to board a bus. Buses will depart beginning at 5:30 PM. All students must be present for the entire school day on Friday, May 3, in order to attend Prom. No absences, tardies, or passes off campus will be excused for students attending Prom.

All questions can be directed to event organizers Ms. Highley at (847) 973-3742, thighley@grantbulldogs.org, or Ms. Crambes at (847) 973-3455, tcrambes@grantbulldogs.org. For more information on Prom, visit our [Prom 2024 headline](#).

Parent University is a series of workshops and events designed to support parents, guardians, and caregivers. There are two Parent University sessions coming up in April focused on supporting our students creatively and throughout the financial aid process for college.



April 3—Writer’s Week

As part of Writer’s Week, we are hosting a Writers Expo! This two-day event celebrates established and aspiring writers and is an inaugural event this year.

We have two Illinois authors who will share their stories during the school day on April 3 - Peter Dankelson, author of *How I Learned to Rock My Life: The Peter Dankelson Story*, and Toya Wolfe, author of *Last Summer on State Street*. Beginning at 6:30 PM, students and staff will take the stage in the auditorium to share excerpts of their writing. This is an open-door, drop-in event, and concessions will be available through the Dawg Bowl for all in attendance.

April 24—Financial Aid Night (Juniors)

Whether you are new to the financial aid process, halfway through your application, or need help determining the correct educational path, join our School Counselors on April 24 for information about college applications, FAFSA, and more!

For all sessions, the doors open at 6:00 PM for [registration](#). We recommend parking in the student lot and entering through Door 9. Sessions begin at 6:30 PM. Check out the [Parent University](#) section of the Grant website for more event information.

AP Exams

The 2024 AP Exams will be administered in schools during the first two full weeks in May: May 6-10 & May 13-17.

AP Exam Schedule—May 2024

Week 1	Morning 8:00 a.m.	Afternoon 12:00 p.m.	Afternoon 2:00 p.m.
Monday, May 6	United States Government and Politics	Art History Chemistry	
Tuesday, May 7	Human Geography Microeconomics	Seminar Statistics	
Wednesday, May 8	English Literature & Composition	Comparative Government & Politics Computer Science A	
Thursday, May 9	Chinese Language & Culture Environmental Science	Psychology	
Friday, May 10	European History United States History	Macroeconomics Spanish Literature & Culture	
Art & Design: Friday, May 10 (8 PM EST), is the deadline for AP Art & Design students to submit their three portfolio components as final in the AP Digital Portfolio.			
Week 2	Morning 8:00 a.m.	Afternoon 12:00 p.m.	Afternoon 2:00 p.m.
Monday, May 13	Calculus AB & Calculus BC	Italian Language & Culture Precalculus	
Tuesday, May 14	English Language & Composition	African American Studies Physics C: Mechanics	Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
Wednesday, May 15	French Language & Culture World History: Modern	Computer Science Principles Music Theory	
Thursday, May 16	Spanish Language & Culture	Biology Japanese Language & Culture	
Friday, May 17	German Language & Culture Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Latin Physics 2: Algebra-Based	

SWALCO REUSE-A-SHOE



Accepted Footwear:

Athletic Shoes, Dress Shoes, Fashion Shoes, Casual Shoes, Dress and Fashion Boots, Cleats, Children's Shoes (including light-ups), Work Shoes & Work Boots, Hiking Boots, Slippers, Loafers, Rain Boots, Crocs, Sandals, Flip-flops, Clogs, & more.

**PLEASE TIE SHOE LACES IF THEY HAVE LACES,
OR IF NO LACES, RUBBER BAND PAIRS TOGETHER**

Drop off Shoes during Business Hours

***All sizes, all brand in most any condition will be
accepted—New, Gently Worn, Used/Worn.***

This Reuse-A-Shoe
Drop-off Site Hosted by:



**Grant Community
High School**

If you would like more information
on SWALCO and the Reuse-A-Shoe
Program contact Merleanne Rampale at
SWALCO, 847-377-4954
or visit www.swalco.org.

Each
year millions of shoes will end up in
landfills. SWALCO partners with
organizations, communities, &
groups to reuse/recycle
worn-out and unwanted
shoes of all
kinds.



Bulldogs Get Creative

GCHS Art Classes

With so many different academic classes and extracurriculars placed within a student's schedule, it can be difficult to break away and find a creative outlet. GCHS offers students so many opportunities to experience new things and develop a multitude of new skills, which includes the various art electives provided by Mr. Austin, Mr. Carlson, and Mrs. Jacobs. Here at Grant, students have the opportunity to take Introduction to Art, Drawing I & II, Painting I & II, Sculpture, Ceramics I & II, AP Studio Art, Digital Art, and Digital Photography. Each course teaches different artistic abilities and allows students to create their own masterpieces in countless forms.



*Alyssa Siong & Ella Groh
install Digital Art sticker*

One of our creative teachers, Mr. Carlson, shares that taking an art class is beneficial because it provides constant chances for an individual to "grow and improve". Mr. Carlson teaches a variety of courses, including Intro to Art, Ceramics I & II, Digital Art, and Digital Photography. He is beyond happy to have access to the use of Wacom Pads in both of his digital classes. He shared that "The Wacom Pads are a wonderful piece of technology for the students to be able to use, especially since it is something used in the professional art world. These pads are used for every project in Digital Art and Digital Photography."



*Amelia Vogt installs Digital Art
sticker for Mrs. Richards*

Every student is encouraged to connect with not only the teachers and their peers, but with the work that they are producing. Ella Groh shares the pride that she takes in the large sticker she made in her Digital Art class for Ms. Stump's desk in the library. She is so happy to be able to see her hard work pay off in the end. When asked if she was enjoying the elective that she had opted to take she said, "I like art because it gives me a mental break during my day. I get to just be creative, and fun, and not really think." Rylan Art gives a similar sentiment as he shares that "It is a way to get away from school and stressful deadlines." Art is a place that he, and many other students, look forward to going to each day.

Grant's art department also works to continue this artistic passion throughout the lives of the students who take the courses. Amelia Vogt, Senior art student, has taken five art classes in her past four years at Grant. She shares that the skills she's learned during her time here will help her in her secondary education, as she hopes to pursue "a career in art, possibly in animation" after attending an art college. Katilyn Franzua has taken Intro to Art, Sculpture, and Digital Art, with a plan to take Ceramics next school year. She has thoroughly enjoyed every moment she gets to create art during her school day, as it continues her drive to be creative. To keep this spirit alive and share her skills with the world around her, Katilyn is thinking about "doing art commissions."

There is so much that the art course here at Grant has to offer for each student. So much so, that every student who has taken an art class encourages their fellow Bulldogs to seize their opportunity. Alyssa Siong says that other students should "definitely take it. It's really fun and nice to see the results of what you created. It's kind of rewarding because it's your own thing."

With so many course selections that could be made, there is a surefire way to find a class that works the best for every individual. Every GCHS is welcome within the art department to find their true artistic potential.



*Katilyn Franzua installs
Digital Art sticker*

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.



2024 INDUCTIONS

This month, the Grant Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) is welcoming 61 new members to the organization. The inductees were selected based on their character, leadership, and willingness to serve others. As members, the inductees will be empowered with opportunities to further develop these characteristics and to leave a positive mark on our school and community, all while balancing their academics as they are required to maintain a 3.5 grade point average and be passing their academic classes.

All NHS members volunteer for a minimum of six hours of ongoing service per quarter. This can include being a Big Dawg mentor during TEAM, a peer tutor in one of the academic labs, or volunteering with a community organization. Members are also expected to volunteer for five separate events throughout the school year. This year, members have served at Back to School Night, Lake Villa Fall Festival, Fox Lake Pumpkin Jubilee, the local Rotary Holiday Party, and 8th Grade Enrollment Night among many others. The NHS advisers, officers, and current members look forward to working with the 2024 inductees!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

WE NEED YOU



After taking a one-year hiatus, Grant Community High School is actively beginning to plan for the November 2, 2024, Foundation Gala event. The Foundation has been instrumental in enriching opportunities for our students since its inception in 1985. The Foundation provides invaluable assistance for school-related expenses for families in financial need, scholarships for outstanding

student achievements, and funds for innovative classroom projects and instructional technologies. All of these initiatives have contributed significantly to the growth and success of our students.

The primary fundraising source for the Foundation is the Annual Gala Dinner Dance and funds raised on this evening enable us to continue providing essential support to our students. The success of the Gala depends not only on the generosity of donors but also on the dedication of volunteers who contribute their time, energy, and resources to make it a memorable and impactful evening.

Your involvement as a volunteer can make a tremendous difference in the lives of our students. Whether you can assist with event planning, securing donations, setup, decorations, assistance at the event, or any other aspect of the Gala, your contribution will be highly valued and appreciated. By volunteering for the Gala, you will not only support a worthy cause, but also have the opportunity to network with fellow GCHS stakeholders, strengthen community bonds, and experience the joy of giving back to our school community. Your participation will showcase our collective commitment to education and student success.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information about how you can contribute to the Gala, please contact Kris Olk, assistant to Superintendent Christy Sefcik, at kolk@grantbulldogs.org or (847) 973-3414. Thank you for considering this invitation, and we look forward to seeing our school community come together to make this year's Gala a resounding success!

ATHLETICS



Aaden Arroyo Takes First at IWCOA

To officially close out the 2023-2024 wrestling season, **Aaden Arroyo** traveled to Springfield for the 28th Annual IWCOA Freshman-Sophomore State Championship. He started his State experience with an 8-2 win over Dalton Oakman from East Peoria and then took down Alen Bautista from Addison Trail 17-2. Aaden went up against Colin Peyton from Batavia for this quarterfinal match and earned another win, securing his spot in the semifinals. He took on Colton McKee from Morton and picked up another victory with a final score of 6-5. In the championship round, Aaden faced Abram Davidson from Unity. His final match went into overtime and ended with a takedown from Aaden, not only securing this match win but

also the top spot on the podium for the 165 lbs weight class. Congratulations on your First Place victory and IWCOA Champion title, Aaden!

Makary Sekulich has been making a name for himself in Wheelchair Basketball, and this year, he's heading to the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) Junior Nationals. Makary plays for the Wisconsin Marquette Junior Golden Eagles (WASA) and has been busier than ever. With a top-three placement at the 2023 IHSA Wheelchair Basketball State Finals, Makary's dedication and passion for his sport have increased exponentially since last season concluded. Not only does he give 100% effort on the court, but he also commits to a one-and-a-half-hour car ride just to practice with his team. Over the next couple of weeks, Makary and his team will prepare for Junior Nationals as they are set to compete against some of the toughest teams around. His team is currently ranked 13th in the country and is scheduled to go up against #2 Charlotte Rollin' Hornets Purple at noon on April 5. Check out [NWBA's website](#) for more [bracket information](#), and make sure to wish Makary the best of luck before he leaves on April 4.



Makary Sekulich
Source: Natalie Sekulich



Vanessa Pendell & Alyssa Siong Regan Wegner & Angela Martinez Laura Jimenez

Badminton competed at Elgin High School for their first quad and brought home multiple Champions! Congratulations to our Doubles teams made up of Vanessa Pendell, Alyssa Siong, Regan Wegner, and Angela Martinez, and to Laura Jimenez for earning First in Singles. For their home opener, they hosted Zion-Benton and took down the ZeeBees 12-3 at the Varsity level

and 13-2 at JV. The program will be hosting Warren on April 18, so mark your calendars and come out to support our athletes!

Lacrosse opened their season with a win over Crystal Lake South! Matthew Warmowski and Tyler Fleming worked hard to get points on the board as Pryde Mendoza dominated the full field and Jack Hembrey shut out the Gators in the second half. Come out and support our athletes as the program hosts Lakes on April 10!



Grant JV Lacrosse Team



Grant Varsity Lacrosse Team

Baseball hosted Johnsburg on Wednesday, March 13, and Varsity took down the Skyhawks 11-1. Braden Otahal gave up zero runs and struck out four. The team took on Woodstock North for their second game and shut out the Thunderbirds with a score of 16-0. They took on Crystal Lake Central next and secured another win with a final score of 4-2. Although it was spring break, the team had a packed week with games against Vernon Hills, Massac County, Woodstock, and Harrisburg. In their game against Vernon Hills, the Cougars put up quite a fight but our Bulldogs took them down 3-2.



Grant Baseball Program

Due to weather, the team was unable to play against Massac County, and all that saved energy helped them against the Woodstock Blue Streaks. They added another win to their record with a score of 10-1. For their final spring break game, they took on Harrisburg. Our Bulldogs gave it their all, but it wasn't enough to overtake Harrisburg. They ended the game 3-9.



Grant Varsity Softball Team



Grant JV Softball Team

Upcoming **Softball** Home Games:

- * April 16 - Varsity vs. Antioch @ 4:45 PM
- * April 19 - JV vs. Warren @ 4:45 PM
- * April 22 - JV vs. Richmond Burton @ 4:30 PM
- * April 23 - Varsity vs. Lakes @ 4:45 PM
- * April 24 - Varsity vs. Johnsburg @ 4:30 PM

- * April 1 - JV2 vs. Richmond Burton @ 4:30 PM
- * April 4 - Varsity vs. Grayslake Central @ 4:45 PM
- * April 9 - JV2 & JV vs. Grayslake North @ 4:45 PM
- * April 10 - Varsity vs. Carmel @ 4:45 PM
- * April 11 - JV2 & JV vs. Wauconda @ 4:45 PM
- * April 13 - JV Triangular @ 10:00 AM
- * April 26 - JV vs. Dundee Crown @ 4:30 PM
- * April 27 - JV2 vs. Fremd @ 11:00 AM
- * April 30 - JV2 & JV vs. Grayslake Central @ 4:45 PM

Upcoming **Boys Tennis** Home Matches:

- * April 1 - Varsity vs. Woodstock @ 4:45 PM
- * April 3 - JV vs. Mundelein @ 4:45 PM
- * April 4 - JV & Varsity vs. North Chicago @ 4:30 PM
- * April 8 - Varsity vs. Johnsburg @ 4:30 PM
- * April 9 - JV vs. Grayslake Central @ 4:30 PM
- * April 12 - Varsity vs. Grayslake North @ 4:30 PM
- * April 16 - Varsity vs. Wauconda @ 4:30 PM
- * April 17 - JV vs. McHenry @ 4:30 PM

- * April 18 - JV vs. Antioch @ 4:30 PM
- * April 24 - JV vs. Mundelein @ 4:45 PM
- * April 25 - Varsity vs. Round Lake @ 4:30 PM
- * April 27 - JV Quad @ 9:00 AM



Grant Boys Tennis Program



Grant Girls Varsity Soccer Team



Grant Girls JV Soccer Team



Grant Girls JV2 Soccer Team

Girls Soccer took on Richmond Burton, and Varsity finished the match with a tie. Ryan Kadlec broke the ice with our first goal, followed by Giselle Morales-Cobian. The program will be hosting Grayslake North on April 17 and Wauconda on April 18. Come out and support our athletes as they battle against the NLCC!

17 and Wauconda on April 18. Come out and support our athletes as they battle against the NLCC!



Grant Boys Track & Field Program

Our **Boys Track & Field** team competed in the Sequoit Showdown last Friday and had several top-ten placements. For the Triple Jump, Nana Adubofour took 5th Place with 12.71 meters. Braden Cornell took 6th Place in the Pole Vault with 3.49 meters. Drake Madsen competed in the High Jump and took 7th Place at 1.77 meters. For the Long Jump, Jimmy Pecora took 2nd Place with a distance of 6.13 meters. Maxx Haas secured 1st Place for the 800-meter run with a time of 2 minutes and 4.98 seconds. Ryan Golden and John Nehmzow both competed in the 3200-meter run and took 4th and 2nd, respectively. Niko Dayment and Nathan Kempf competed in the 1600-meter run and took 4th and 6th, respectively. Our 4x800 meter relay team made up of Dylan Tripp, Jacob Kaufman, Michael Johnson, and Eric Ramirez took 5th Place. Our 4x200 meter team made up of Cole Pemberton, Noah Patrick, Adubofour, and Jerry Schlaf took 2nd Place with a time of 3 minutes and 38.77 seconds. The 4x400 meter team of Patrick, Adubofour, Schlaf, and Haas took 2nd Place. Ayden Sheppard competed in the 60-meter hurdles and took 5th Place with a time of 9.31 seconds. Norman Tillery competed in the 60-meter dash and earned 6th Place with a time of 7.39 seconds. Pemberton competed in the 200-meter dash and secured 8th Place with a time of 24.13 seconds.

The Boys and Girls Track & Field programs will be hosting Antioch for a meet on April 22. Follow the program on social media for more meet information and how you can support them throughout the season!

Boys Volleyball traveled to Lake Zurich for their season opener. Varsity fought hard but fell a few points short of the win. In their second game of the season, the program traveled to Huntley, and our JV and Varsity teams both brought home wins. The program will be hosting Round Lake on April 11 and the Varsity Lake County Invitational on April 12-13. Come out and support the program as they take on multiple Lake County teams



Grant Boys Varsity Volleyball Team



Grant Boys JV Volleyball Team



Grant Boys JV2 Volleyball Team

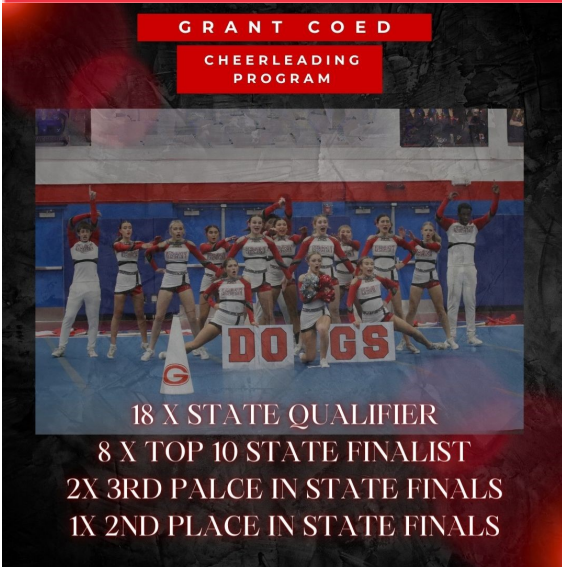
CONDITIONING

TRYING OUT? COME TRAIN WITH US!

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
April 2-18 3:30 - 4:30 PM

GRANT DANCE

Are you interested in joining the **Grant Dance** family? Make sure to mark your calendars and join the coaches from April 22-25 for tryouts! They will be hosting open gyms from 3:30-4:30 PM every Tuesday and Thursday in the dance studio. These open gyms will focus on getting dancers ready for tryouts with an emphasis on strength and skills. For more information on open gyms and tryouts, reach out to Coach Shifley or DM their Instagram page (@GrantDanceTeam).



Interested in joining the **COED Grant Cheerleading** team? Tryouts are scheduled for May 10 and 11. There will be a pre-tryout parent/athlete meeting on May 6 at 5:00 PM in the Lecture Hall. Tryout paperwork and requirements will be posted on Cheer's social media.

Join the coaches at their April and May open gyms to prepare for tryouts. They will be holding open gyms for all incoming 8th graders and current Grant students (Freshmen-Juniors) from 3:30-5:00 PM in the West Gym on April 3, 9, 17, and 24, and on May 1 and 8. We can't wait to see you on the mat!

Reach out to Coach Kelley or DM their Instagram account (@Grant.Cheerleading) with any open gym or tryout questions.

In addition to the Cheer opportunities provided to incoming and current Bulldogs, our Cheer program will be hosting a youth skills clinic on Saturday, April 27, for student-athletes in Kindergarten through 8th Grade. Participants will work with the GCHS cheerleaders to learn a sideline cheer, as well as tumbling, jumps, and stunting techniques. Participants will also learn a small routine and perform it at a showcase for family and friends. This skills camp is open to all K-8th grade students. Registration forms must be turned in by 2:00 PM on April 22. We look forward to seeing you there!

[Grant Cheer Youth Skills Clinic Registration Paperwork](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:
Henry Kusiak

Class of 2019

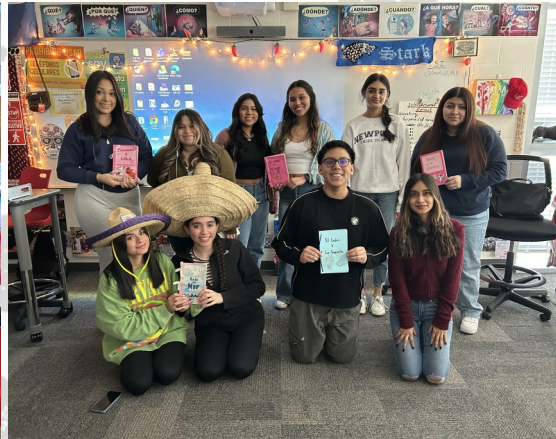
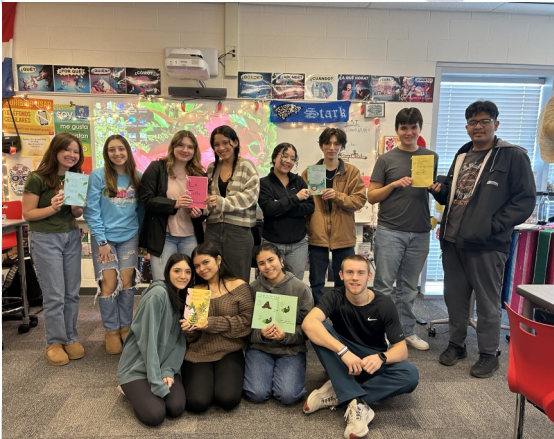
Henry Kusiak went from being a two-year letter winner at Grant, hitting a .415 with 13 doubles, to breaking Missouri Southern State University's (MSSU) All-Time Hits record as a starting senior. In their March 3 game, the MSSU Lions went up against Newman and took down the Jets 11-9. Henry first put the Lions on the board with a home run to left field. With that home run, Henry tied MSSU's all-time hits record at 257. He added another hit to his record with an RBI single and set a new program record of 258. Not only is adding the title of all-time leading hitter to his stat sheet, but he also now holds the record for career at-bats at 776!



This season alone, Henry has appeared in and started in all 62 games at shortstop. According to [MSSU's stats](#), Henry currently has a ".313 average, 249 at-bats, 63 runs scored, 78 hits, 18 doubles, one triple, 13 home runs, 58 RBIs, 29 walks, 13 HBP's, two sacrifice flies, two sacrifice hits, five stolen bases in eight attempts, 69 putouts, 154 assists and helped turn 30 double play. Kusiak finished with a .550 slugging and .410 on-base percentage for a .960 OPS." In addition to his stats, Henry was named Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) Hitter of the Week twice during his senior season.

Henry Kusiak
Source: [MSSU Baseball](#)

Bulldog



Honors Spanish 5 students created children's books centered around an original fable. After coming up with the idea for their fable, they put together creative stories and illustrations to help convey the moral of the story.

Students in AP Spanish 4 tested their spelling skills in a game of Giant Scrabble!



Daniel Proa, Class of 2027, competed in the 2023 Voice of Democracy scholarship contest with the Fox River VFW Post 4600 McHenry and was designated as an outstanding spokesperson of the future and earned a \$500 scholarship!

We held our annual career fair on March 20 and had many wonderful representatives present to speak with our students. From CLC to the Sheriff's Department to Bella's Bouncies, this fair proved just how many career possibilities are available to our students. Thank you to all the professionals who joined us and helped share career knowledge with our Bulldogs!



AP Environmental Science students competed in the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon and had a great time discussing this year's theme - Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future. Each group had the chance to listen to professionals in their assigned topic's field and was then challenged to complete a written test and lab practical. They also gave a presentation on their renewable energy scenario.

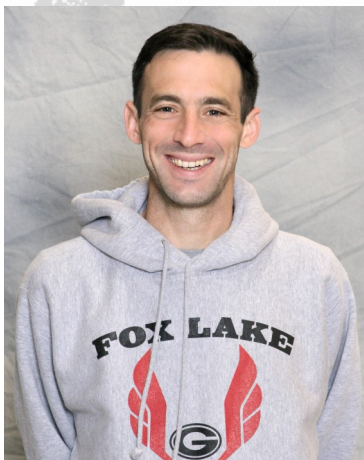
Happenings



After securing the title of NLCC Champions, our Academic Team brainiacs competed in their IHSA Regional competition on Monday, March 4. The team went up against Hampshire and took the Whippurs down 560-180. They finished out the day taking on Crystal Lake South and earned another win, 450-270. With two match wins, not only did they take the title of Regional Champions, but they also obtained a well-deserved Sectional spot. At Sectionals, our Academic Team fell to Rockford Auburn and Belvidere but brought home a win against Crystal Lake Central. While Sectionals marked the end of their competitive season, the team still has a lot to celebrate as they are the first-ever Academic Team to win Regionals! Congratulations on a successful season, A-Team!



As part of our French and Spanish classes, our Bulldogs traveled to France and Spain over spring break for a true cultural deep-dive.



Mr. Nenni is running the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15! He has been placed in Wave 1 Coral 7 with a start time of 9:00 AM. Although he will be over 1,000 miles away, we'll be tracking his progress and cheering our Bulldog on from home. To keep an eye on Mr. Nenni as he runs, download the BAA Racing App ([Apple](#) or [Google](#)) and enter his bib number (6798). Good luck, Mr. Nenni!



Four Project Lead the Way students competed in the first-ever Lake County METT Team-Based Challenge at the CLC Advanced Technology Center. It was a fantastic day of learning and teamwork as our Bulldogs worked alongside industry professionals to help solve real-world problems in manufacturing, engineering, technology, and trades.



MULTICULTURAL Festival



The **Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC)** of sponsoring Districts invites you to share your family's culture, traditions or where your ancestors came from. A great way to do this is to bring to this event something to share like: food, dance, and music!

Where:

The event will be held at **Grant Community High School** at 285 Grand Ave. Fox Lake, IL 60020. **Use main entrance!**

Date & Time: Saturday April 27th, 2024, from 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

Come dressed in your favorite cultural or traditional attire!

Music

Food

Ethnic Dances

Raffles

Keep It RED

Since the introduction of PBIS at Grant in 2015, we have been working to create and maintain a “Keep It RED” culture where all Bulldogs are respectful, engaged, and dependable. Depending on the environment, these characteristics can be viewed differently. With the majority of their time on campus being spent within classrooms, we took time to discuss with students what it means to be respectful during class. The key behaviors we focused on were getting to class on time, sitting in your assigned seat, keeping food outside of the classroom, responding to teacher instructions, listening to and collaborating with peers, and remaining in your seat until the dismissal bell rings. When students are respectful of their peers and teachers, we can effectively provide environments that are conducive to learning for all. As we make our way through the remainder of the school year, we look forward to having more conversations with students about how they can Keep It RED in all areas of Grant.



Bulldog Buck & Bulldog Pride Winners



Bulldog Buck Winners



Bulldog Buck Winners



Staff Omelet Day



Staff Omelet Day



Staff Omelet Day

Counselor's Corner

Junior Week will be occurring this year the week of April 15! Students will be able to sign up and participate in a variety of activities to explore their post-secondary options ranging from College Rep Visits, College 101 Presentations, College Fairs, Career Speakers, and more. Parent University this month will focus on Financial Aid which will be offered for students and their families the evening of April 24.

[Post-High School Planning Dress-Up Days](#)

ASVAB:

Are you interested in taking the ASVAB this spring? ASVAB stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and is required testing to enter the military but is also an excellent **career assessment** to explore future career options. Test scores are not shared with the military but only shared with you and your School Counselor. The test will be given on Thursday, April 18 from 3:10- 6:30 PM. Transportation from school that evening will not be provided. Reach out to your School Counselor with any questions.

[ASVAB Sign-Up Form](#)

Financial Aid Information:

Just a reminder for the class of 2024 it is a graduation requirement for every senior to do one of two things: complete a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) OR complete the non-participation form in place of the FAFSA. Either of these things must be completed by Wednesday, May 15. Below are some helpful links for these options:

- [Illinois State Board of Education - FAFSA Update](#)
- [Website to sign electronic opt-out waiver for FAFSA](#) (Scroll all the way to the bottom of the page to access it)
- [FAFSA Application](#)
- [Alternative Application For Illinois Financial Aid](#)

Senior Shout-Outs:

Did you receive a scholarship or award (not including the Grant Community Scholarships)? We want to know and we want to acknowledge your accomplishments! Please contact Mrs. Schroeder at jschroeder@grantbulldogs.org by April 19, 2024, so we can make this happen!




JUNIOR WEEK SCHEDULE

Sign up for ALL events here

4/15 M	College of Lake County Presentations 3rd and 10th period Career Exploration Workshop 4th and 11th period
4/16 T	Marines Visits <i>Lunch periods in Commons</i> Career Exploration Workshop 3rd and 10th period - Lecture Hall Next Steps for College Workshop 4th and 11th period - Lecture Hall
4/17 W	Air Force <i>Lunch periods in Commons</i> Field Trip -Health Science and Engineering <i>College of Lake County - 9:30-12:30</i> College Rep Visit - College & Career Center <i>Northern Illinois University 9:25 am</i> Trades Panel 10:30 -11:15 in Lecture Hall
4/18 TH	Johnsburg College Fair-Field Trip <i>Johnsburg High School 12:00-2:30 pm</i> College Rep Visit <i>Marquette University 10:00</i> ASVAB TEST <i>After School in the Lecture Hall</i>
4/19 F	Trauma Day-Field Trip <i>Advocate Condell Hospital - All Day Event</i> Next Steps for College Presentation 1:25pm-10th period Lecture Hall Career Presentation: Sales 10:00am-4th Period



C A L E N D A R

April

April 1	School Resumes
April 3	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start NHS Inductions Parent University: Writer's Week, 6:30 PM
April 5	Out-of-school guest forms for prom due
April 8	Prom ticket sales begin
April 10	PSAT/SAT Testing Activity & Athletic Fair—Class of 2028
April 15	Mr. Nenni runs the Boston Marathon! Junior Week begins
April 17	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
April 18	Final day of prom ticket sales ASVAB Testing, 3:10 PM Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM
April 19	Progress Reports Deadline for senior shout-out submissions NHS Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-7:00 PM
April 20	Opening night of Annie, 7:00 PM Fido Festival, 11:00 AM—2:00 PM Annie, 7:00 PM
April 21	Annie, 2:00 PM
April 22	Hall of Fame nominations due
April 24	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Parent University: Financial Aid Night (Juniors), 6:30 PM
April 27	BPAC: Multicultural Festival, 12:00-3:00 PM

May

May 1	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
May 3	Early Release, 1:35 PM Prom, 5:00 PM
May 6	AP Exams begin
May 8	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
May 14-15	Final Exams (Seniors)
May 16	Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM
May 17	Final Exams (Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors)
May 19	Graduation, 2:00 PM
May 20	Final Exams (Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors)
May 21	Final Exams (Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors)
May 31	Memorial Day

June

June 10	Semester one of summer school begins, 8:00 AM
June 20	Board of Education meeting, 7:00 PM
June 27	Last day of semester one of summer school