



# Grant Community High School

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October 2024

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## Student of the Month

### Ryne Dzierzynski

The Grant Community High School October Student of the Month is senior Ryne Dzierzynski, son of Scott and Carlene Dzierzynski of Round Lake.

Ryne's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during his sophomore year, Honor Roll each semester, and Scholar Athlete each year. He was named to the NLCC Leadership Conference twice, served on the Principals Advisory Committee, and has taken numerous AP courses and a dual credit course. He has a notable 4.83 GPA.



His extracurricular activities include Baseball each year where he earned Varsity Team MVP in 2024, All-Conference in 2023 and 2024, All-Area in 2024, Varsity Captain during his sophomore, junior, and senior years, along with playing a role in the 2023 Regional Championship.

Ryne has participated in many service opportunities through NHS, including graduation help, Back-to-School night, Parent/Teacher Conferences and more. He volunteers his time during the summer to the Youth Grant Baseball camps. He also assists his peers as an Academic Tutor and Big Dawg Mentor.

In addition to all of his activities, Ryne works as a GTAAA baseball and softball umpire during the summer months. He enjoys frisbee golf and fishing.

His plans for the future include playing baseball and earning a Bachelor's degree in Nursing at University of Wisconsin-Parkside. He would like to go beyond that degree to study to be an orthopedic surgeon.

### Board of Education

Kathy Kusiak, *President*

John Jared, *Vice President*

Shelly Booth, *Secretary*

Ivy Fleming

Laurie Hembrey

Ed Lescher

Bob Yanik





# HOMECOMING WRAP-UP

## Royalty

Noah Patrick & Sammy Hernandez



## Dancing with the Dogs



## Court & Attendants

Olivia Smith, Niko Dayment, Kyleah Baker, Ian Hernandez, Kelsey Franz, Cam Houghton, Larry Quirk, Myles Foreman, Connor Evans, Alexia Haut, Doltyn Longtin, & Kaylee Albovias



## Window Painting



## Powderpuff

The Juniors put up a good fight, but the Seniors ended the night victoriously!



## Football Game

The Varsity Football team battled against a tough Grayslake North team and ended the night with a score of 57-58.



## Parade



# National Merit Commendable Student



Principal Schmidt & Taiseer Mumin

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) a non-profit organization that was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 400 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence. NMSC has announced this year's Commended Scholars in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, and one of our Bulldogs made their list.

Congratulations to Taiseer Mumin on being named a Commended Scholar! About 34,000 Commended students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although these students will not continue in the 2025 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000

students who entered the 2025 competition by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).



## Michael Shulha is the recipient of the September Golden Globe Award!

The Social Studies Department is thrilled to award the September Golden Globe to Michael Shulha for his commitment to deepening his understanding of government and politics. His teacher, Mr. Boton, shared that Michael is the student every Government class needs—one who raises the level of discussion and challenges perspectives.

Michael's thoughtful questions and

dedication to finding accurate, well-rounded information inspire his classmates and even his teacher to be better. His respectful approach to different viewpoints and his genuine thirst for knowledge make him the perfect recipient of this award. Keep up the amazing work, Michael!



The Social Studies Department presented Michael with the Golden Globe Award.

## Military Information Student Directory

As part of federal legislation, schools are required to release directory information for all students as requested by military recruiters. Student Directory Information includes the student's name, address, and phone number. Parents have the right to request that this information not be disclosed without written consent. If a parent wishes not to disclose directory information about their student, direct a written or email request to [jmartin@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:jmartin@grantbulldogs.org) by **October 4, 2024**. **There is no reason for you to give a written or email request for your student if you already have done so.** The written or email request will remain on file for the remainder of the student's high school career.



# Parent University Programs

*Working Together to Create Success for Your Student*



## **October 9—GCHS Auditorium— Tech Safety & Digital Citizenship**

This is an opportunity for families to learn about internet safety, cyberbullying and child exploitation prevention. Robert Beach, Special Investigator for the Lake County State's Attorney's Office will be demonstrating detection work of his Electronic Detection Dog, Grip.

## **November 6—GCHS Auditorium— AP & Dual Credit Night**

This is an informational evening for parents whose students might consider AP or Dual Credit courses. We will have a keynote speaker, Amanda Harmer, who is the new Program Manager for College Readiness and Dual Credit at the College of Lake County. Also, each AP or Dual credit course will provide a short presentation for parents. Parents may choose to attend three sessions in-person that evening.

## **November 7—GCHS Library—Social Emotional Health Session #2: Family Emotional Safety**

This series runs as a support group format for parents to learn more about teens' emotional health and talk to other parents. All parents and caregivers are welcome.

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.

Parent University is a series of workshops and events designed to support parents, guardians, and caregivers.

[Pre-registration](#) is encouraged, but not required.



*Grip, Lake County State's Attorney's Office  
Electronic Detection Dog*

**Grant Community High School Foundation  
27th Annual**

*Gala Dinner Dance*

**Live and Silent Auction**  
Saturday, November 2, 2024  
Maravela's on Route 59, Fox Lake

Committee Members/Volunteers Welcome!  
Contact: Christy Sefcik, Ed. D.  
(847) 587-7940 or [csefcik@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:csefcik@grantbulldogs.org)

# Conferencing Tips for Parents

The checklists below might help you learn more about parent-teacher conferences and how you, as a parent or guardian, can use the meeting to ask questions that will help your child. It is important to remember that you and the teacher both want the very best for your child. You can help your child by working together as a team. The conference with your child's teacher will be more efficient and productive if you do some preparation beforehand. Below are some steps to prepare for the conference:

## Talk with your child

Ask your child what his/her strongest and weakest subjects are, and which subjects he/she likes most and least. Ask your child if he/she would like you to speak about anything particular with the teachers.

## Prepare a list of questions

Preparing a list of questions will help you have a productive conversation with your child's teacher. Prioritize the questions in case you run out of time during the conference. The following questions are examples that will help you learn more about your child's progress in school:

- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- Does my child hand classwork and homework in on time?
- Does my child participate in class?
- Does my child seem happy at school?
- What can I do at home to help?
- Has my child missed any classes other than his/her excused absences?

## During the conference

- Be on time for the meeting.
- End the meeting on time. Other parents will probably have a conference after yours.
- Relax and be yourself.
- Ask the most important questions first.
- Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand.
- Ask your child's teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.
- Thank the teacher.

## After the conference

- Talk about the conference with your child.
- Talk about the positive points, and be direct about problems.
- Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- Keep in touch with the teachers during the school year.

Adapted from [Colorín Colorado](#).

## Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Thursday, October 24

5:00-8:00 PM

Friday, October 25

8:00-11:00 AM

Check your email or the Grant website for more information on conferences & how to schedule meetings with your student's teachers.

# Understanding the Chain O'Lakes Ecosystem

Curriculum Highlight—Biology

Last month, Biology students participated in the annual lake sampling survey at the Chain O'Lakes, kicking off their Ecology unit. The activity focuses on the interactions between organisms and their environment, with a central theme of energy flow through ecosystems. By sampling the lake, students gathered qualitative and quantitative data, identifying various organisms and determining their roles in the aquatic food web. This hands-on experience allowed students to explore how energy is passed through ecosystems, especially the critical role microscopic invertebrates play in the Chain O'Lakes freshwater ecosystem.



*Students obtain samples from the Chain O'Lakes.*

Located just a few hundred yards from GCHS, the Fox Chain O'Lakes consists of nine major lakes connected by natural and dredged channels, covering over 29 miles. These freshwater bodies, originally formed by receding glaciers around 12,000 years ago, are part of a vital waterway fed by the Fox River, which eventually flows into the Illinois River. This unique environment provides a home to a variety of microorganisms and larger organisms, including autotrophic algae, diatoms, and desmids that perform photosynthesis, as well as heterotrophic organisms like flagellates and amoebas that feed on others to acquire energy. Plankton, worms, and arthropods such as water beetles and insect larvae also inhabit the lake's sediment.



*Students obtain samples from the Chain O'Lakes.*

By studying these organisms and their interactions, students gained insight into the complexity of freshwater ecosystems and their energy flow, further preparing them for the broader topics in their Ecology unit. This annual lab activity offers a unique and enriching opportunity for students to connect classroom lessons with real-world ecological research.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17  
7:00 PM  
AUDITORIUM

FALL CHOIR CONCERT

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR ADMISSION,  
HOWEVER DONATIONS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED.  
THE BULLDOG BOOSTERS WILL BE SERVING  
REFRESHMENTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONCERT.

GCHS' FRESHMAN CLASS COUNCIL & NHS PRESENT:

# DODGEBALL

# TOURNAMENT

Get ready to dodge, dip, duck, dive, and dodge at our upcoming Dodgeball Tournament!

## WEDNESDAY

23 OCT 2024  AT 3:45 PM

GCHS' East Gym

- Student and Staff teams welcome
- Create teams of 5 with up to 2 alternates
- Prizes for Winners, Best Dressed & Best Team Name
- Double Elimination- guarantee at least 2 games
- Spectators are **FREE!**
- \$10 registration fee per team

Register your team  
with the link below

**\*ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE\***

Questions? See Mrs. Barker in Room 231

SCAN ME 



# A T H L E T I C S



Teammates cheer as starting lineup is announced.

The **Girls Volleyball** program is off to a fantastic start, showcasing their grit and determination in several matches and tournaments. The Sophomore team recently secured a thrilling victory over the Antioch Sequoits in three intense sets, with scores of 25-27, 25-21, and 25-22. Despite the long match, the Bulldogs fought hard and came out on top, demonstrating their resilience and perseverance. The Sophomores also competed in a tournament at Conant, where they finished in 5th place with a 3-2 record. Their energy remained high throughout the day as they battled tough opponents, proving their tenacity on the court. In an exciting achievement, the JV2 team brought home the trophy from the Wauconda Quad, earning first place in the tournament. A big congratulations to the Bulldogs and Coach Weber for her first Quad win! The team's hard work and dedication are paying off, and we look forward to seeing more success as the season continues.

Follow the Volleyball program's journey this season through their Instagram ([@grantgirls vb](#)) and make sure to catch their next home game!

The **Varsity Girls Golf** team has been competing fiercely, with several impressive performances on the course. Earlier in the season, they took down Grayslake North in a commanding victory, winning 216 to 258. However, their next match saw them fall to Libertyville, 201 to 179. The Bulldogs quickly bounced back, defeating Wauconda 165 to 179 in a strong showing. Continuing their competitive streak, the team faced Grayslake Central in a closely contested match, falling by just one stroke. They didn't let that setback slow them down, though, as they came back strong in their most recent match against Antioch, defeating the Sequoits by 15 strokes. The team's resilience and determination are evident as they look forward to their Regional match on Tuesday, October 1.



Girls Golf athletes have some fun on the course.



Boys Golf athletes line up their next shot.

The **Varsity Boys Golf** team has been putting forth a strong effort across several matches and tournaments this season. The team started strong at the Grant Triangular, where they took first place with a score of 177, defeating Richmond-Burton (200) and Zion-Benton (190). Notable individual scores included Paul Gravedoni with 43, Eros Rabor with 44, Jackson Georgia with 44, and Ben Martin with 46. However, the team faced challenges in their next matches, falling to Wauconda with a score of 189 to Wauconda's 174, followed by a tough loss to Lakes, where Grant shot 195 to Lakes' 156. The Bulldogs hosted their annual Lee Oler Invite, and Martin shone with a 5th place finish and a score of 88. The

team continued their season against Grayslake Central but fell short with a score of 187 to 163. Individual standouts included Evan Ahlgren with 49, Martin with 48, Rabor with 46, and Doren Lundberg with 44. At the Roger Alm Invitational, the team earned 12th place, with strong individual performances by Martin (95), Jayse Hartmann (93), Georgia (89), Lundberg (87), and Rabor (78). The boys then faced Lakes again, falling by 39 strokes. Capping off their recent competitions, the Varsity Boys Golf team participated in the NLCC Boys Golf Tournament. Highlights included Hartmann earning the NLCC Sportsmanship Award and Rabor being named to the NLCC All-Conference team. Individual scores included Hartmann with 95, Ahlgren with 92, Georgia with 87, and Rabor with 84. Congratulations to the Bulldogs for their hard work and accomplishments! Good luck at Regionals on Wednesday, October 2!

Check out the [Girls Golf](#) and [Boys Golf](#) teams on social media to stay up-to-date on their season.



Our **Girls Varsity Tennis** team had a strong showing at a tough tournament, finishing 6th out of 16 teams. Veteran players Emeri Oliver, Angie Vavalle, and Sophie Lelchuk led the way with impressive performances. Oliver competed in 1 Singles, while Vavalle and Lelchuk teamed up for 1 Doubles, demonstrating their skill and determination throughout the event. The program will be back in action against Grayslake North on Tuesday, October 1. Make sure to follow them on X ([@GrantCHSTennis](#)) for updates.



Girls Varsity Tennis Athletes



Boys Varsity Soccer Team

The **Varsity Boys Soccer** team kicked off their recent string of matches with a thrilling 1-0 victory against McHenry, thanks to a penalty kick from Alex Luna and stellar goalkeeping from Jayden Bueno, who stopped all 9 attempts at goal. In their next challenge, the Bulldogs hosted a three-day tournament. On day one, they faced Cary-Grove. After tying in regulation, the match was decided by penalty kicks, where Grant ultimately fell to the Trojans. Shout out to Luna and Imanol Cervantes for putting Grant on the scoreboard! Most recently, the Varsity team celebrated Senior Night in style, securing a commanding 4-0 win over North

Chicago. The program is back in action on Tuesday, October 1, as they travel to Wauconda. For more information on their matches, follow them on Instagram ([@gchsboysoccer](#)) and X ([@grantbsoccer](#)).

The Varsity **Football** team opened their season on the road against Mundelein, where they put up a strong fight but fell short with a 42-27 loss. In their home opener, the Bulldogs secured an exhilarating 35-28 victory against Glenbrook North. Matt Gipson connected with Cam Houghton for the first touchdown, followed by a 2-point conversion to Zach Collins. Gipson also found Max Hembrey for a 75-yard strike, giving the Bulldogs a 21-0 lead by halftime. Although Glenbrook North closed the gap, Logan Myers' crucial 65-yard interception led to another Gipson-Hembrey touchdown. Tyler Zdon sealed the win with a 50-yard touchdown run and a field goal, wrapping up the game 35-28. The team continued their winning streak in North Chicago with a 23-7 victory. The Freshman-Sophomore team also had an impressive 32-0 win. Fans packed the stands for Homecoming against Grayslake North, where both teams battled intensely. Despite the Bulldogs' best efforts, a last-minute touchdown gave Grayslake a narrow 58-57 win. The night was made memorable with spectacular halftime performances by the Marching Bulldogs, Cheerleaders, and Dancers. Most recently, the team traveled to Wauconda for the annual Battle of the Bulldogs. While the Freshman-Sophomore team triumphed 30-0, the Varsity squad faced a tough 24-point loss.



Grant Football

Next up, our Bulldogs head to Round Lake for another NLCC match. Let's show our support as they take on the Panthers! Make sure to check their X ([@GrantFootball1](#)) account for updates.



Grant Flag Football

We're excited to highlight our inaugural **Girls Flag Football** team as they push through an action-packed season! These athletes have shown incredible dedication and hard work, building a strong foundation for this new program. Their teamwork and commitment to improvement are truly commendable. In their latest matchup on Senior Night, the team played hard, executing plays and showing their skills on the field. The game was competitive, and the hard work throughout the season paid off with a well-deserved victory, making it a memorable night for our senior athletes.

The team will take the field again on Tuesday, October 1, at Round Lake High School.



Boys Varsity Cross Country Team  
Places Second at Harlem Invite

Our **Boys and Girls Varsity Cross Country** teams have kicked off the season with impressive performances. At the Lake County Invite, the Boys team secured 6th place overall, with standout individual efforts from Max Haas, who earned 10th place, and Niko Dayment, who finished 11th. The Girls team finished 12th, showing promise for the season ahead. Special recognition goes to Nicole Kubiak for running the second-fastest time of the day and Austin Roman for setting a new personal best. More recently, the Bulldogs hosted the 25th Annual James Taylor Invite, where both teams excelled. The Boys Freshman-Sophomore team claimed 3rd place, with Dayment securing 3rd place individually. The Varsity Boys team took 2nd place overall, and Haas capped off the day with a stellar 1st-place individual

finish! Both teams are showcasing their dedication and talent as they move through the season. Cross Country will be back in action against Grayslake North on Monday, October 7.

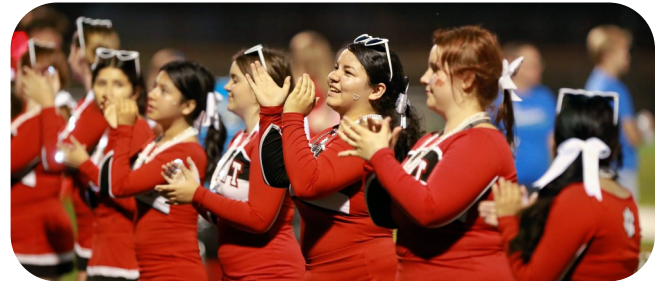
Follow the Cross Country program on X ([@grantxcbulldogs](https://twitter.com/grantxcbulldogs)) for more runner/race information as they near the end of their season.



## Spaghetti Dinner

*See you at the table!*

Your Grant Cheerleaders will be hosting their annual Spaghetti Dinner on Thursday, October 17, from 4:00-8:00 PM in the Grant Community High School Commons. The cost is \$5 for adults and students, and children 5 & under are free. Tickets will be sold at the door and to go orders are available. Raffle tickets for great prizes and gift certificates will be sold at the dinner. See any Varsity, Large Junior Varsity, or Small Junior Varsity Cheerleader for details and tickets. You can contact the Head Coach, Marissa Kelley, or Assistant Coach, Joey Califf, with any questions or if you have any donations that you would like to contribute!



*We appreciate your support of our program!*



## Ordering Yearbook Photos

Looking for your student's photos from picture day? Ordering and packaging information can be found on our [VIP GCHS Landing Page](#). After pictures are taken, families are encouraged to visit the landing page and search for their student's photos in the "Portrait" gallery. If you need assistance with ordering photos, contact [VIP \(support@vipis.com\)](mailto:support@vipis.com).

## Retakes

October 29  
7:30-1:30 PM  
Auditorium Lobby



# Cybersecurity

A Top Priority for Our School District

Grant Community High School is making cybersecurity a top priority to safeguard the personal data and sensitive information of both students and staff. Our Technology Department emphasizes that cybersecurity must be integrated into the culture. Cybersecurity doesn't just stop and start with the Technology Department. It involves every teacher, staff member, and student who uses district technology. This approach aligns with Illinois law requiring public schools to implement and maintain reasonable security procedures that meet or exceed industry standards.

## Cybersecurity Assessment

The District recently participated in a Cybersecurity Assessment administered by their cyber liability insurance coverage consulting firm, Secure Halo. This evaluation compared the District against best practices curated by the Learning Technology Center (LTC) and aligned with globally recognized cybersecurity standards. The assessment also included additional best practices to support legislative compliance and provide a solid foundation for cybersecurity strategies. Director of Technology, Tom Furlan, stated "Having an outside firm perform an assessment of our technology readiness is great for our district. There are never enough safeguards to keep our information secure, it's about putting as many layers of protection around us as possible."

## Key Recommendations

Based on the assessment results, the District scored very well and is implementing several key recommendations that were provided:

- Investing in impactful security measures to monitor unauthorized devices and users
- Developing a comprehensive prevention and response plan for security incidents and cyberattacks
- Ensuring proper identification, protection, and management of sensitive information

## Ongoing Efforts

The District has proactively implemented several security measures including:

- Mandatory cybersecurity training for all staff
- Multi-factor authentication
- Regular software updates
- Continuous phishing and ransomware training for staff

The main topics covered in district cybersecurity training sessions typically include:

- Creating strong and unique passwords
- Identifying phishing attempts
- Avoiding suspicious links and downloads
- Handling sensitive information securely

Cybersecurity is everyone's responsibility, and together we can create a safer digital environment for our school community.

### Cybersecurity Measures You Can Take On Your Own

Check to see how strong your password is with [Bitwarden](#).

Check to see if you can pass a [Phishing test](#).

Check to see if your email address has been in a [data breach](#).



## John Welter to be Inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame



We are proud to announce that John Welter, a legendary coach and beloved figure in our community, will be inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame - Illinois Chapter this October. This prestigious honor is a testament to his incredible 53-year career in coaching, during which he has guided countless athletes across various programs. A dedicated mentor, Welter was previously inducted into the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association (IWCOA) Hall of Fame in 2018 and served as the Grand Marshal of the IESA State Tournament in 2009. His legacy has been recognized locally as well, with inductions into the Grant Community High School Hall of Fame in 2014 and the College of Lake County Hall of Fame in 1994.

Welter's connection to Grant runs deep. A graduate of the Class of 1967, he was an all-state athlete at GCHS, excelling in multiple sports but always carrying a special passion for wrestling. His wrestling journey continued at the College of Lake County, where he earned a National Championship, before completing his undergraduate degree at Northern Illinois University and his graduate degree at Concordia University.

Throughout his 32 years as a public school teacher and over 40 years of coaching wrestling—25 of those years right here at Grant—Welter has led his teams to remarkable success. His coaching career includes two state wrestling championships and the representation of numerous teams and finalists at the state competition level. Even with decades of accomplishments, Welter's dedication to the sport and his students remains unwavering, as he continues to coach and mentor the next generation of wrestlers at Grant.

Welter will be formally inducted during the National Wrestling Hall of Fame - Illinois Chapter Annual Honors Banquet on Sunday, October 6, 2024. The ceremony will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Alsip, IL, located at 5000 W. 127th St. This event will honor Welter's remarkable contributions to the sport of wrestling and his lasting impact on the athletes he has mentored. Congratulations to John Welter on this well-deserved honor!

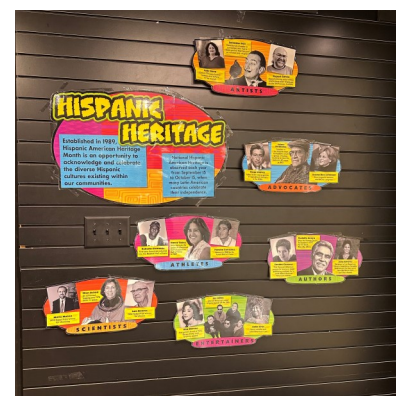


Hispanic Heritage Month Display

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15 to October 15, is an important opportunity to recognize the rich cultural contributions of Hispanic Americans. Each year, Señora Catarino and her students bring this celebration to life by decorating the display case outside the Senior Café. The display features facts about the month, highlights prominent Hispanic American figures, and shares key statistics provided by NBC News. Through these efforts, Señora Catarino encourages our community to reflect on and

celebrate the vibrant Hispanic cultures that enrich our lives. We encourage all students to stop by, explore the display, and gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity that enhances our community.



Hispanic Heritage Month Display

# BLOOD DRIVE



Young Donors are  
**THE FUTURE**  
of Our Nation's  
Blood Supply.

## Grant Community High School Blood Drive

Friday, Oct. 18  
7:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.  
West Gym

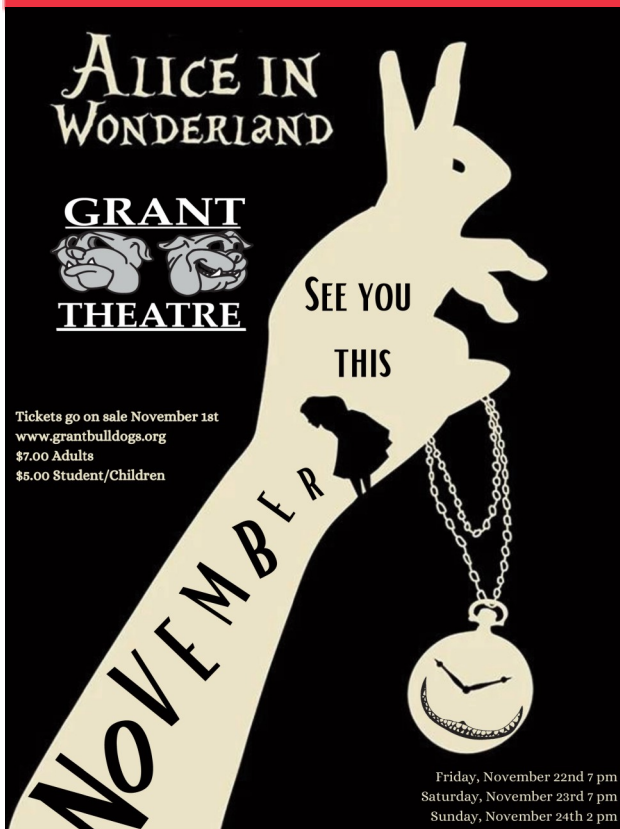
Please sign up after  
the presentations on  
October 9th or email  
[thighley@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:thighley@grantbulldogs.org)

PREPARE PROPERLY:  
EAT WELL, HYDRATE, BRING ID

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Presenting donors will  
receive a coupon for a  
Papadia Flat Bread  
sandwich from  
Papa Johns.

vitalant<sup>SM</sup>



## Grant Thespians Prepare for Fall Play

This season the Grant Theatre family would like to invite you to take a trip down the rabbit hole. GCHS proudly presents Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. *Alice in Wonderland* is a classic children's novel that has captured the imaginations of readers for generations. Imagine a world where talking animals, playing cards, and a mad hatter rule the day! That's the zany universe Alice (Kaitlyn Carpenter) stumbles upon after chasing a mysterious rabbit (Payton Evans) down his rabbit hole. Join her on a wild adventure as she navigates a maze of riddles, outwits a Queen of Hearts (Allison Bolisay), and discovers that sometimes, the most absurd things make the most sense. It's a topsy-turvy tea party you won't want to miss!

The theatrical adaptation written by Brainerd Duffield is a vibrant and whimsical stage production that faithfully captures the spirit of Lewis Carroll's original stories. The play is filled with memorable characters, catchy songs, and a touch of slapstick humor that appeals to audiences of all ages. Alice's journey through Wonderland is full of

twists and turns, as she encounters a variety of strange and wonderful creatures. The play features iconic characters like the Mad Hatter (Audrey Simcoe), the March Hare (Keni Massey), the Cheshire Cat (Reagan Croteau), and the Caterpillar (Ena Cranmer), each with their unique quirks and personalities.

Duffield's play includes several original songs that enhance the storytelling and dancing to create a lively atmosphere. The production features elaborate costumes and props, scenic design which were all student-created. As well as special effects that bring the world of Wonderland to life. Duffield's *Alice in Wonderland* is a delightful and entertaining play that is perfect for families and children. It's a timeless classic that continues to captivate audiences with its imaginative storytelling and whimsical charm.

Grant's production of Brainerd Duffield's *Alice in Wonderland* opens Friday, November 22, curtain opens at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children and GCHS Students. Our second show is on Saturday, November 23, at 7:00 PM, and closing on Sunday, November 24, at 2:00 PM. Be sure to follow us on Instagram:

[@grant\\_theatre](https://www.instagram.com/grant_theatre).



*Alice In Wonderland Cast*

## SAVE THE DATE FOR FIDO FEST



### Adoption and Fundraising Event

The Canine Connections Club would like you to save the date for their 2nd Annual Fido Festival Adoption and Fundraising Event on Saturday, April 26.

The Fido Festival will be held in Grant's East Gym from 11:00 AM - 2:30 PM.

The Canine Connections Club will be joining forces with several other clubs and programs to raise money for the four dog rescues that will be on-site that day. All proceeds from the sale of raffle baskets, dog treats and toys, face painting, and painted rocks will go directly to these rescues. There will also be several vendors, animal-related organizations, and food available through the Dawg Bowl. Additionally, there will be a different dog demonstration each hour.

Mark your calendars now for this family-friendly event and watch for more details to come as we get closer to the date!

## Environmental Club Is Keeping It Green

The GCHS Environmental Club was formed to raise awareness about keeping Grant High School green and clean. Our club helps us take steps to create a better environment for our students and staff while also looking out for the community. Not only is the Environmental Club a great way to be of help to the school, but it's filled with great people and fun activities!

Our efforts as a club have led to wonderful contributions to our school and community in Fox Lake. GCHS Environmental Club is responsible for successfully obtaining a textile bin on the school campus for an easy and accessible place to recycle old worn and unwearable clothing items. 85% of textile items go into our landfills per year and are extremely harmful to the environment. It is important to our club to minimize that percentage in any way we can. Make sure to recycle your old worn-out clothes, hats, gloves, Halloween costumes, and even pet attire in our SWALCO bin located on the side of the school building off of Devlin Road.

Aside from the textile bin, the Environmental Club also runs a battery recycling operation in the school. This reduces the toxic chemicals from batteries leaking into our soil and disrupting the environment. With our operation, we can properly dispose of these batteries in order to make a change. Our battery recycling bins are located in the math lab, library, and TSI room. We are accepting 9-volt, AAA, AA, C, and D alkaline batteries.

As a club, our members participate in a yearly campus cleanup where they tidy up our school campus and pick up as much trash as they can find. Cleaning up represents our appreciation for our school campus and the environment. The environmental club has a strong passion for gardening as well. As a club, we also value gardening and the importance of the earth, having volunteered at the Fox Lake Community Garden in the past years. This year we are aiming to do fulfilling garden-related activities in our club once again and we are staying green at every meeting! If you are interested in caring for your environment, partaking in fun green activities, and meeting new friends, join the Environmental Club! Environmental Club meetings are every first and third Wednesday from 3:10 to 4:00 after school in Room 159.

## Winter Guard Season Starting Soon

The GCHS Winter Guard is a competitive, performance-based sport. Using flags, rifles, choreographed movement, & dance, everything comes together to create fun & exciting shows. Winter guard uses equipment & dance to create entertaining & competitive routines. The group competes in various competitions throughout the latter part of the winter season.

If you have any questions or want to join contact the Winter Guard Director Mrs. Gier at [rgier@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:rgier@grantbulldogs.org) or the Assistant Director Mrs. Stephens at [astephens@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:astephens@grantbulldogs.org).



# College & Career Center

Check out the [College & Career Center's website](#) for the most up-to-date information & let's start planning your future together!

## Tech Campus

We invite all sophomores interested in Tech Campus and juniors planning to attend or re-register for next year to join us for the following meetings:

- October 8: Tech Campus field trip for sophomores and juniors not already attending Tech Campus. After the trip, students will meet in the Lecture Hall to register for next year.
- October 23: For juniors already attending Tech Campus, registration will take place in the Lecture Hall once students return from the field trip.
- October 24: During TEAM, any students not attending the Tech Campus field trip but interested in going next year can meet in the Lecture Hall.

Registration for Tech Campus is a request, and students must meet the following requirements:

- 10.5 credits
- No discipline referrals
- Good attendance

Please note that incoming seniors already attending Tech Campus will receive priority for next year. If you have any questions, reach out to Mrs. Masura.



## Women in Manufacturing

Learn about the variety of opportunities and career paths for women in the manufacturing field. A panel of female industry leaders, manufacturing apprentices and a parent of a manufacturing student will share their experiences and answer questions.

**Tuesday, October 15**  
**4:30-6 p.m.**  
**Advanced Technology Center**  
**7735 Grand Ave., Gurnee**



College  Lake County



# Advanced Placement Exam Registration

AP exams are an important part of all AP courses. This is a standardized test created by the College Board that is administered across the nation and serves as a benchmark in recognizing your student's ability. Although participation in the exam is optional, we do encourage all students to take the exam. With a successful score, college credit or advanced placement may be earned at various colleges through this examination. The examination fee is less than the college tuition for taking this same course.

There is a fee associated with this exam. The total cost for taking each AP exam is \$99.00. The College Board and the State of Illinois also offer programs to subsidize fees for students who receive free or reduced lunch. If this is the case, the exam fee is \$63.00 per exam. If your student receives free or reduced lunch and is paying the reduced exam fee, please contact Mrs. Jones in our Curriculum Office or via phone at 847-973-3800. We will certainly work with individual students and families to make sure every qualified student is able to take Advanced Placement exams.

Students must have a College Board account created and be enrolled in the AP Classroom for that course in order to take the exam. Parents should go to our RevTrak system to pay for the exam(s). RevTrak can be found on the Grant website under the parent tab in the Student fees and payments section.



## Important Deadlines for AP Exam Registrations for Year-Long or Semester One Courses:

- November 4, 2024: Students taking the exams must pay a minimum \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee per test.
- November 11, 2024: AP teachers will verify with all students that exam registration is accurate in the system and pre-registration fees have been paid.
- November 13, 2024: AP Exam registration is finalized. Any exam registrations that do not have the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee paid by then will be canceled.
- November 15, 2024: Late registration fees or test cancellation fees go into effect. If students sign up for a year-long or first semester course AP exam on this date or after, an additional \$40.00 late fee will be incurred. If a student decides to cancel an exam on this date or after, the student forfeits the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee.
- March 14, 2025: All exams must have the balance payment paid or the exam will be canceled and the student will forfeit the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee.
- Second semester AP courses will have a different set of deadlines and will be notified at the beginning of the second semester.

Please feel free to contact your student's teacher or Dr. Noisey, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, if you have any questions regarding the Advanced Placement program. On behalf of our faculty and administration, we would like to wish all of our students all the best as they continue to prepare for these important exams.

# Seal of Biliteracy

The next administration of language proficiency testing for the State Seal of Biliteracy is on October 18th! The Seal of Biliteracy is a recognition for students who demonstrate proficiency in English and one or more other languages. When earned, the Seal of Biliteracy will appear on the student's official transcript and diploma. Students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy are also allowed to earn early college credit. All public colleges and universities in the State of Illinois have criteria for how this credit is awarded. Students should reference the college or university website for their criteria about how the specific institution recognizes the Seal of Biliteracy for college credit.

To qualify for the State Seal of Biliteracy, a Grant student must accomplish one of the following to demonstrate proficiency in English:

- Earn a minimum score of 480 on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing portion of an official administration of the SAT, a 20 on the ELA portion of the ACT, or a composite SAT score of 21 or above
- Earn a minimum score of 4.8 on the ACCESS test
- Earn a score of 5 on the AP English and Language Composition Test
- Earn a score of I-5 on the AAPPL English Test

To demonstrate proficiency in another language, each student must also meet one of the following criteria:

- Earn a score of 4 or higher on the AP Spanish Test
- Earn a minimum score of I-5 on the AAPPL test in the chosen language

## Testing Dates

### AAPPL Testing

- October 18, 2024
- Lecture Hall
- Report Time—7:40 AM
- Testing Concludes—1:00 PM

Students wishing to earn the Seal of Biliteracy are encouraged to discuss the opportunity with their counselor. The AAPPL test fee varies based on the language selected. To review fees and pay for your test, visit [RevTrak](#). To register for the test, please also complete the [Seal of Biliteracy Language Proficiency Exam Registration](#) by October 9, 2024.

SET SAIL FOR A  
WEEK OF DELICIOUS  
ADVENTURES!



2024 NATIONAL  
SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

SCHOOL LUNCH PIRATES  
FIND YOUR TREASURE!  
OCTOBER 14-18, 2024

## National School Lunch Week

National School Lunch Week is October 14-18, 2024. The theme, "School Lunch Pirates: Find Your Treasure," highlights the importance of a healthy school lunch to a student's success both in and out of the classroom. National School Lunch Week emphasizes the healthy foods that are offered daily at Grant Community High School. During the week, students will have the opportunity to enter a daily raffle, receive some fun freebies, and sample some specials. Make sure to stop by the Commons and check out what our Food Service team has going on during National School Lunch Week!



# Keep It RED



At GCHS, bullying of any kind by any person is unacceptable. All students should be free from worries about being bullied. Students who bully others must be taught other, appropriate ways of interacting with peers. Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors is an important GCHS goal.

Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
3. Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
4. Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying, intimidation, and/or harassment may take various forms, including, without limitation; threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.

This month, all students will learn or go through a refresh lesson on the bullying intervention program we practice at GCHS called [Expect Respect](#) and were shown the [Expect Respect Video](#). In addition, all students will be made aware of the [Anonymous Report- Bulldogs Against Bullying](#).

GCHS staff members are asked to respond immediately and compassionately to a student who reports bullying or school violence. After evaluating the situation to determine if an immediate referral is needed, a dean or designee will work with the student(s) to take the report of potential bullying. You will be informed whenever your child is involved in a bullying report. The Board's entire policy may be found on the District's website, [School Board Policy-7:180 Prevention and Response to Bullying](#). If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to Mr. Geist, Assistant Principal, or any of the Deans.



*Bulldog Buck & September Bulldog Pride Winners*



*Freshmen & their Big Dawgs enjoy a sweet treat after winning the Be On Time Challenge.*

# C A L E N D A R

## October

Oct. 2	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Oct. 8	Tech Campus Meeting (College & Career Center) ASVAB Testing
Oct. 9	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Blood Drive Sign-Up Parent University: Tech Safety & Digital Citizenship
Oct. 11	Institute Day, No Student Attendance
Oct. 14	Columbus Day, Legal School Holiday
Oct. 15	Progress Report
Oct. 16	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Oct. 17	Fall Choir Concert, 7:00 PM
Oct. 18	Blood Drive Seal of Biliteracy Testing
Oct. 23	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Dodgeball Tournament Tech Campus Meeting (College & Career Center)
Oct. 24	Tech Campus Meeting (College & Career Center) Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences, 5:00-8:00 PM
Oct. 25	Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences, 8:00-11:00 AM No Student Attendance
Oct. 29	Yearbook Picture Retakes
Oct. 31	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Oct. 31	Halloween

## November

Nov. 2	GCHS Foundation Gala Dinner Dance
Nov. 4	AP Exam \$40 Pre-Registration Fee Due
Nov. 5	Election Day, No School
Nov. 6	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Parent University: AP & Dual Credit Night
Nov. 7	Parent University: Social Emotional Health Session #2: Family Emotional Safety
Nov. 13	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Nov. 18	Progress Reports
Nov. 20	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Nov. 22-24	Fall Play
Nov. 27-29	Thanksgiving Recess, No School