



# Grant Community High School

## District Newsletter

### November 2024

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## Student of the Month

### Evan Weisheit



The Grant Community High School November Student of the Month is senior Evan Weisheit, son of Robert and Jill Weisheit of Lake Villa.

Evan's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during his junior year and Honor Roll each semester. He also serves as a member of the Superintendent's Cabinet. During his sophomore year he was recognized as a Scholar Athlete. Evan has taken numerous AP courses and a Dual Credit course. He has an impressive GPA of 5.147.



His extracurricular activities include being the oralist for the math team, president of the computer science club, member of the gamer's club, GSA, and the chess club. He has also previously been involved with the golf team, guitar club/music club and the jazz ensemble. Evan also assists his peers as a math tutor during TEAM time.

Evan has participated in various service opportunities through NHS. He volunteered at Proyecto Asis, a wildlife sanctuary in Costa Rica, for two weeks to aid with wildlife rehabilitation. Evan has been actively involved with Gavin schools and volunteers with the Gavin Involvement Group. He has assisted at Gavin's field day and school dances. Evan currently volunteers his time to attend and video record Grant's football games.

In addition to all of his activities, Evan is a private tutor, helping K-6 students with English and Math.

His plans for the future include attending a 4-year college to major in statistics and actuarial science, he also plans to minor in Spanish. Once this is completed, he plans on working as an actuary and returning to college to get his masters and possible doctorate.

## Board of Education

Kathy Kusiak, *President*  
John Jared, *Vice President*  
Shelly Booth, *Secretary*

Ivy Fleming  
Laurie Hembrey  
Ed Lescher  
Bob Yanik



# Excellence in Education Award Winner: Lauren Becmer



*Principal Schmidt (right) presents the Excellence in Education Award to Lauren Becmer (left).*

Lauren Becmer is an exceptional candidate for the Excellence in Education Award because she embodies the mission, vision, and values of Grant Community High School. Through her dedication to her students, her leadership within her Professional Learning Team (PLT), and her contributions to extracurricular activities, Lauren continually goes above and beyond in her role as an educator.

In the classroom, Lauren has quickly established a respectful, engaged, and well-managed environment. As a relatively new teacher, she has worked tirelessly to develop clear expectations and foster strong relationships with her students. Whether working one-on-one with a student or redirecting the entire class, Lauren consistently finds ways to bring students back on task, using both quiet conversations and motivating

class discussions when needed. Lauren's commitment to her craft is further reflected in her detailed lesson plans and innovative use of educational technology. She continually seeks out new tools and strategies to enhance student learning, and her PLT frequently looks to her for guidance. For example, Lauren introduced the team to "Diffit," a tool that has helped make the curriculum more accessible and engaging for students.

What truly sets Lauren apart is her unwavering belief in the importance of her work. Beyond the classroom, she invests in students by coaching dance and serving as a co-sponsor for the Academic Team, while previously contributing as a volleyball coach and Chess sponsor. Her dedication to student success is evident in every aspect of her professional life, including her pursuit of a Master's degree in History and ongoing professional development.

For these reasons and countless others, Lauren Becmer is undeniably deserving of the Excellence in Education Award. Congratulations!



## 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).



# Bulldogs Selected for ILMEA District 7 Festival

We have major news to share with you from the Music Department. After a rigorous audition process, two music students have been selected to represent Grant at the Illinois Music Education Association District 7 Festival on Saturday, November 9 at Glenbrook South High School. Junior, Myles Foreman, and Sophomore, Derrick Rios, will represent Grant at the festival as they earned some of the highest scores in their vocal audition!



Myles Foreman



Derrick Rios

During the Festival, Grant students will join forces with hundreds of other top musicians from all over District 7, which encompasses the far northeast corner of the state. Students will engage in a full day of rehearsals under the direction of collegiate-level conductors. The Festival day will conclude with a finale concert featuring performances by the District 7 Band, Choir, and Orchestra.

Congratulations to Myles and Derrick on this achievement, and good luck at the Festival!

## National School Psychology Week

*November 11-15, 2024*

National School Psychology Week (NSPW) is the perfect time to recognize and show appreciation for school psychologists, who support students' learning and mental and behavioral health, promote positive and inclusive school climates, serve on school safety and crisis teams, and collaborate with families, teachers, and administrators to improve student outcomes. This year's theme, "**Spark Discovery**," recognizes the work that school psychologists do to help their communities seek out new ideas, effect change, and expand horizons for children and youth. We are lucky enough to have three psychologists on our team: Mr. Fischer, Dr. Petrova, and Ms. Lesiak.

School psychologists are members of our Red Teams which support students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, and emotionally. As school psychologists, they provide direct support and interventions to students, such as learning assessments, academic and behavioral interventions, counseling, and social skills training. They also consult with families, teachers, and other educators to improve school-wide practices and policies.

Join us by taking this week to embark on a journey of discovery and explore how each person can join us in our mission of helping children thrive in school, at home, and in life. There are many ways caregivers can help children take on new challenges, learn new skills, and feel safe and valued. You can:

- Encourage your child to pursue new ideas and to map out a plan. As a parent, you can help them see what the small steps are and how overcoming obstacles is a part of their journey.
- Help them work through setbacks or lack of confidence by helping them identify negative thoughts that may suggest concerns about their ability to be successful.
- Praise attempts, as well as success, and make sure that you focus on the effort put in to boost their strengths.
- Demonstrate ways to explore new opportunities and learn about a variety of topics, letting them know that you, too, are learning new things and expanding your universe.
- Celebrate diversity and model how to accept others as they are. Take steps with your child to actively learn about others who are different from you.



# LET THE BIDDING BEGIN!

In light of the recent event cancellation, we will be hosting a fully online silent auction! This event will provide a wonderful opportunity to support the GCHS community & acquire unique & fabulous items—all from the comfort of your own home. Funds raised will assist students in financial need & provide for student scholarships. Each item will have a “Buy Now” option for those who wish to make an immediate purchase. Otherwise, you can keep monitoring your items on the auction website or in the Handbid App & continue to bid! Bidders must be 21 years of age or older & ID will be required for pickup of items with age restrictions.

## START

Friday,  
November 1  
@ 3:00 PM

## END

Sunday,  
November 3  
@ 5:00 PM

## DOWNLOAD

**HANDBID  
TODAY**

## MORE INFO

[www.grantbulldogs.org](http://www.grantbulldogs.org)

<https://events.handbid.com/auctions/grant-gala>



Grant Community High School Presents

# Alice in Wonderland

November 22, 23, 24 2024

◆ ♠ ♣ ♥

Friday, November 22nd 7 pm  
 Saturday, November 23rd 7 pm  
 Sunday, November 24th 2 pm

GCHS Auditorium  
 285 East Grand Ave.  
 Fox Lake, IL 60020  
 Tickets go on sale November 1st  
[www.grantbulldogs.org](http://www.grantbulldogs.org)  
 \$7.00 Adults  
 \$5.00 Student/Children

**GRANT**  
  
**THEATRE**

Adapted from Lewis Carroll by Brainerd Duffield  
 An amateur production by arrangement with Samuel French Limited

## 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).

[ONLINE TICKET PURCHASE](#)



*Alice In Wonderland Cast*

# Upcoming Parent University Program

*Working Together to Create Success for Your Student*



## November 6 - AP & Dual Credit Night

This is an informational evening for all parents whose students might consider AP or Dual Credit courses. Each AP or Dual credit course will provide a short presentation for parents. Parents may choose to attend three sessions in-person that evening.

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.



## Lucy Muelleman is the recipient of the October Social Studies' Golden Globe Award!

The Social Studies Department is excited to award the October Golden Globe to Lucy Muelleman for her outstanding work ethic and engagement in class. Her teacher, Mrs. Thomas, shared that Lucy consistently stays focused, makes meaningful connections, and contributes thoughtfully to discussions. Lucy completes her coursework on time, and her assessments are thorough

and detailed. Her dedication to learning and willingness to participate make her a standout student and a deserving recipient of this month's award.

Congratulations, Lucy! Keep up the great work!



*The Social Studies Department presents Lucy with the Golden Globe Award.*

## Katherine Danca is the recipient of the November Social Studies' Golden Globe Award!



*The Social Studies Department presents Katherine with the Golden Globe Award.*

The Social Studies Department is proud to award the November Golden Globe to Katherine Danca for her exceptional curiosity, insight, and enthusiasm for history. Her teacher, Mr. Robinson, shared that Katherine consistently makes unique connections, showing not only a deep understanding of what we're learning, but also why it matters today. Her questions—on history and current events alike—reveal a genuine drive to understand the world.

Beyond her insightful contributions, Katherine's curiosity for each upcoming topic is a joy to witness. Her teacher added, "It's so refreshing to see a student so engaged and passionate about history!" Congratulations, Katherine! Keep inspiring us all.



# AP Exam Registration

It is time to pay for the AP exams or provide a pre-registration fee so it can be ordered on your student's behalf if your student is enrolled in one or more Advanced Placement (AP) courses this year at Grant Community High School. After a student has decided that he or she is taking the test, parents should go to our RevTrak system at [grant.revtrak.net](http://grant.revtrak.net) to pay for the exam(s). A pre-registration payment must be made no later than November 14 in order for the exam to be reserved for your student.

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, simply select AP Exams (Reduced Price) within RevTrak. We will certainly work with individual students and families to make sure every qualified student is able to take Advanced Placement exams.

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

- Monday, November 4, 2024: Students taking the exams must pay a minimum \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee per test.
- Monday, 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.
- Wednesday, 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.
- Friday, 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.
- Friday, 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 our students all the best as they continue to prepare for these important exams.

Thank  
you!

Thank you to every parent and student that attended our Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences! We appreciate you taking the time to meet with your student's teachers and look forward to many more meaningful conversations in the future.





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 Since 1977

# A TASTY WAY TO RAISE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

MENTION FUNDRAISER AT THE TIME OF PAYMENT TO HAVE 15%  
 OF THE PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

**GRANT HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPT.**

*Monday • November 11, 2024*



PICK UP / DINE IN / DELIVERY

**Fox Lake or Antioch locations**

Fundraiser must be mentioned at time of payment.  
 Share with your friends & family.



ANTIOCH PIZZA SHOP - FOX LAKE, IL  
 847-629-5035  
 LUNCH / DINNER  
 10:30 AM - 9:00 PM

ANTIOCH PIZZA SHOP - ANTIOCH, IL  
 847-395-6777  
 BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER  
 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM

PICK UP / DINE IN / DELIVERY



# Empowering & Exploring

Curriculum Highlight—Project Lead The Way & Transition Program

In October, 60 Bulldogs participated in an exciting field trip to Johnsburg High School, hosted by Johnsburg and SkillsUSA. This hands-on event offered students a unique opportunity to delve into the worlds of agriculture and construction, directly experiencing career pathways and gaining insight into industry demands.

Throughout the day, students operated heavy machinery, explored various equipment, and engaged with industry professionals, learning firsthand about the technical skills required in these fields. A highlight for many was the chance to interview with representatives from the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, who shared insights on career trajectories within the industry.



Students operate heavy machinery.



Students operate heavy machinery.

This field trip tied directly to our Project Lead The Way curriculum, highlighting the growing demand for skilled engineers and technicians in agriculture and construction. Events like these are instrumental in showing students the real-world applications of their studies, expanding their understanding of career options, and inspiring them to explore pathways in engineering and skilled trades.



Transition students visit CrossFit MFC.

The Grant Transition Program collaborated with the MetCon Fitness Center on Thursday, October 24, to go through a workout. Jordyn Jauch, co-owner, was able to put the Transition students through an hour workout, where modifications were made to meet all the students' fitness requirements. The integration of MetCon Fitness into the Transition Program is and will make a difference, and provide valuable resources and support the students in their fitness goals.

MetCon Fitness Center has not only enhanced physical fitness but also fostered a sense of belonging and motivation among the students. It's inspiring to see how

MetCon Fitness Center empowers our students to achieve their personal goals within such a welcoming environment.

A big shout out to Jordyn and MetCon Fitness Center for their continued efforts in making a positive impact on the students through fitness!

MetCon Fitness Center is located at 1803 Holian Dr, Spring Grove, IL 60081

For more information about the MetCon Fitness Center, you can visit their website—

[CrossFit MFC](#)



Transition students visit CrossFit MFC.



**SECTIONAL QUALIFIERS**

*Boys Cross Country Sectional Qualifiers*

**Cross Country** competed at Regionals on October 26 and set several new Personal Best times. Our Girls Team finished the race in 10th Place with new Personal Bests from Amelia Szopinski, Lexi Fulghum, Nicole Kubiak, Hayley Leanes, Ashlyn Bartlett, and Diana Avitia. Our Boys Cross Country team has qualified for the IHSA Class 3A Hoffman Estates Sectional, marking their 5th consecutive year advancing as a team to this level! Join us in cheering them at Busse Woods on Saturday, November 2, at 11:15 AM. Congratulations to our runners: Maxx Haas, Niko Dayment, Nathan Kempf, Tyler Wahls, Logan Terryberry, Landon Terryberry, and Jacob Kaufman. Good luck at Sectionals, Bulldogs!

**Girls Flag Football** wrapped up its first season, a journey filled with growth, determination, and team spirit. This inaugural squad laid the foundation for a promising program, gaining valuable experience and strengthening their skills throughout the season. Their journey culminated in a hard-fought Regional match against Jacobs, where, despite the loss, the team displayed resilience and teamwork. With this season setting the stage, our athletes are excited to carry their momentum into next fall. We look forward to watching this program grow and seeing where the Girls Flag Football team will go from here!



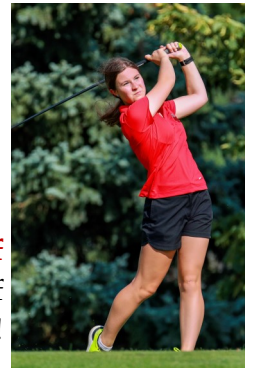
*Alessandra Serrano attempts to remove an opponent's flag.*



*Eros Rabor*

On October 7, Eros Rabor competed at the IHSA **Boys Golf** Sectional held at Randall Oaks Golf Club. He finished his Junior season with a score of 95. Congratulations to Eros on his performance, and to the entire team for a fun season!

On October 7, Riley Daniele competed at IHSA **Girls Golf** Sectionals and posted a score of 89 to finish out her Grant Golf career. Congratulations on a strong finish to the season, Riley!



*Riley Daniele*

Our Varsity **Boys Soccer** team gave a commendable performance in their Regional Semifinal match against Rockford East. Despite a narrow 2-1 loss, our players showcased determination and skill, representing Grant with pride through every moment of gameplay. Their hard work and sportsmanship were evident on the field, reflecting the strength and unity of our team. Congratulations to the boys on a season filled with effort and passion!



*Varsity Boys Soccer Team*



*Left to Right: Vani Patel, Angie Vavalle, Natalia Fafrowicz, and Vanessa Pendell*

At the IHSA **Girls Tennis** Sectional Tournament, our Bulldogs won 3 out of 4 opening-round matches, ending the season with some great tennis. Angie Vavalle and Vani Patel beat McHenry's 1 Doubles, and Natalia Fafrowicz and Vanessa Pendell beat Jacobs' 2 Doubles before bowing out of the tournament. Vavalle ended her illustrious tennis career with multiple All-Conference nods and with a State Qualifying bid in 2022. Emeri Oliver and Sophie Lechuk competed amongst the best tennis players in the state and are poised to go even further when they return as Seniors next season.



Girls Volleyball Pink Out Night

On October 21, the **Girls Volleyball** program held their annual Pink Out event, an inspiring evening dedicated to raising awareness and funds for breast cancer research. With the help of the entire Bulldog community, the event was a tremendous success, bringing in over \$2,000 to support the Susan G. Komen Foundation's mission to end breast cancer. The energy in the gym was electric, with players, coaches, and fans all dressed in pink to show their support. In addition to the fundraising efforts, the night was capped off with an exciting win by the Sophomore team, who closed out their season with a victory over

Mundelein. A huge thank you goes to all the Bulldogs who participated, donated, and cheered, making this event both memorable and impactful.

Our Varsity Volleyball team traveled to Round Lake the week of October 28 for Regionals and started off strong by taking down the Panthers in two. For their second-round match, they took on Libertyville and fell to the Wildcats in two sets. Regardless of the score, the team ended their season with tough plays and great team spirit.



The **Grant Cheerleading** Annual Spaghetti Dinner was a huge success! The program would like to express their sincerest gratitude to all of their donors and sponsors for their generous support. Your contribution helped make this event a tremendous success, and they couldn't have achieved it without Bulldogs like you!

|                              |                                 |                         |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| FE Moran                     | Center for Therapeutic Services | Fisher Family           |                                 |
| Dog N Suds - Ingleside       | Antioch Pizza                   | Ray Family              |                                 |
| El Puerto Perricone's        | Evolution Nails                 | Lewis Family            |                                 |
| Cooper's Hawk - Gurnee       | Twisters Elite                  | Omar Family             | Vichy Salon                     |
| Venture Athletics            | LA Tan - Antioch                | Gentile Family          | Twisted Burger - Round Lake     |
| Moretti's - Fox Lake         | LA Tan - Fox Lake               | Marquez Family          | Mijo's - Fox Lake               |
| The Kross                    | LA Fitness - Round Lake         | Biundo Family           | Grant Transition Students       |
| Starbucks - Round Lake       | Starbucks - Volo                | Nelson/Franz Family     | Applebee's - McHenry            |
| GJB Cheerleading             | Bobby's Barrel Inn              | Slightam Family         | Buona - Lakemoor                |
| Fratello's                   | Lynn Catherines                 | Lane Family             | Buffalo Wild Wings - Round Lake |
| Fanella's                    | Main Street Tacos               | Dorgan/Lewkowicz Family | UniquelyQ                       |
| Foxy Nails & Spa             | Reylee Rose Boutique            | Sheppard/Justice Family | ICE - Barrington                |
| Crystal Ice House            | Premier Family Law              | Corkill Family          | VonBargen Family                |
| Schaumburg Honda             | Dockers - Fox Lake              | McNellis Family         | Nothing Bundt Cake - Fox Lake   |
| Big Great Lakes/Johna Sommer | Renn Family                     | Lantz-Werner Family     | Country Club                    |
| Galati's - Lake Villa        | Burmeister Family               | Johnston Family         | Shoreline Graphics              |
| Central Clothing Company     | Mandy Peczkowski                | Inman Family            | The Meadows - Lakemoor          |
| Dick's Sporting Goods        | Carrie Joray                    | Tomasetti Family        |                                 |
| Werner Engraving             | Moll Family                     | Califf Family           |                                 |
| O Salon                      | Spectre Family                  | Home Depot - Round Lake |                                 |
| Fitness 120                  | Ironside Family                 | SLYCE - Wauconda        |                                 |

**Special thank you to the GCHS Kitchen Staff, GCHS Maintenance Staff, and GCHS for helping make this event a success!**

# 2025-2026 Curriculum Updates

## MISSION

What is our fundamental purpose;  
why do we exist?

Grant Community High School will educate each and every student to be a responsible and productive citizen who will be able to effectively manage future challenges. Students will be provided with the opportunity to develop intellectually, emotionally, and physically in a safe and supportive environment.



## VISION

What must we become in order to  
accomplish our fundamental purpose?

Because all students can learn and belong, we will become a united community of empowered, engaged, and intentional role models who foster a culture of reciprocal trust and accountability.



## VALUES

How must we behave to achieve  
our mission, vision, and goals?

Grant staff demonstrate: adaptability, communication, collaboration, social empathy, and integrity.



## GOALS

How will we know if we are making a difference?

Grant students demonstrate: adaptability and perseverance, problem solving, integrity, empathy, power of communication, and an empowered learners mindset.

It is the mission of Grant Community High School to educate each and every student to be a responsible and productive citizen who will be able to effectively manage future challenges. In the spirit of our mission, the Grant administration proposed several curriculum changes to the Board of Education for approval at the October meeting. All changes were approved.

The curriculum work is guided by the district's mission, vision, values, and goals. The recommendations were a result of focused efforts to improve future student achievement including:

- Standards, assessments, and curriculum alignment work within departments
- Student data analysis at numerous levels within the organization
- Continued development of the MTSS structure
- Prioritization of professional development
- The development of the College and Career Pathways structure to support College and Career Readiness

These recommendations are about creating opportunities for more students. The following information outlines all approved curriculum changes for the 2025-2026 school year.

- We are very excited to begin offering 2 new music courses for next year – Beginning Percussion and The Ultimate Playlist: Exploring music, careers, theory, and production.
- As part of an ongoing plan, we are compacting English 11 and Advanced English 11.
- The Digital Art course will be revised with curriculum changes and the course title will now be Digital Illustration and Design.
- World Geography will be removed from the curriculum guide due to overlapping standards with Global Insights. Beginning next year Global Insights will become open to all grade levels.
- EL Study Hall is transitioning to EL Resource to reflect increased academic expectations, including targeted intervention for students during that time. This will now be a credit-bearing course.
- Driver education will shift to being optional for students, rather than a graduation requirement. We will continue to offer our quality driver education program for all interested students while providing students greater control over their own educational planning.

With greater course and internship opportunities than ever before, the primary goals of curriculum development are to provide high-quality learning opportunities and flexibility for students in selecting coursework that aligns with their academic or career interests.

Continues on page 13...

The curriculum proposals this year support our mission of preparing students for the world beyond Grant Community High School to become responsible and productive citizens who will be able to effectively manage future challenges.

## School Board Member Appreciation

November 15 will mark the official statewide observance of School Board Members Day in Illinois. This honorary day is an opportunity for the district and community to show support for our Board of Education and their commitment to the students of GCHS.

School board members serve the public as unpaid volunteers for the benefit of the students and community residents. They are the front-line advocates that provide a local voice and vision for the District and seek to create meaningful educational opportunities for each and every child.

Board members dedicate a significant amount of their own personal time to the District. They attend monthly meetings, committee meetings, participate in professional development activities, attend a variety of school functions, and work to ensure students have access to the educational resources they need to succeed. This dedication often takes them away from time that could be spent with their own family.

Successful communities have high quality public schools that are a source of local pride among residents. The leadership and vision exemplified by board members directly impacts not only the school district, it touches the lives of nearly every resident in one way or another. November 15 has been designated as School Board Members Day in Illinois. Leadership for our community and our schools begins with the tireless work of the local board of education. Please recognize the efforts of our local school board members on this honorary day.

*Thank you!*

Kathy Kusiak  
President

John Jared  
Vice President

Shelly Booth  
Secretary

Ivy Fleming

Laurie Hembrey

Ed Lescher

Bob Yanik



## SAVE THE DATE FOR FIDO FEST

April 26, 2025

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!

## College & Career Center News

With so much happening in the world of higher education and in our workforce, make sure to check out the [College & Career Center Newsletter webpage](#) every month for assistance with navigating the opportunities available to you. If you are looking for guidance regarding your post-high school plans, contact Mrs. Masura and set up an appointment today.

# TOUR OF TECH

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2024 | 4:30PM-7:30PM

19525 West Washington St, Grayslake IL, 60030



## VISIT US!

Come to our open house and see all the opportunities that Tech Campus has to offer. Make sure to bring your friends and family. No sign-up is required!

- ☑ TOUR THE BUILDING
- ☑ MEET INSTRUCTORS

## ACTIVITIES

- ☑ SEE THE CLASSROOMS
- ☑ Q & A

## NEED A MAP? SCAN HERE!



## CONTACT US

☎ (847)-223-6681

✉ LCTECHCAMPUS

🌐 TECHCAMPUS.ORG

**THE FUTURE IS NOW  
MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGER TIPS**



**HOW IT WORKS: (IPHONES AND ANDROID PHONES)  
USE YOUR CAMERA TO SCAN THE QR CODE  
THE LINK WILL POP UP AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN**

**CRISIS HOTLINES**

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  <p><b>NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER</b><br/>CALL<br/>1-800-273-8255</p> |  <p><b>CRISIS TEXT LINE</b><br/>TEXT "CONNECT"<br/>TO 741741</p> |  <p><b>TEEN LINE</b><br/>TEXT "TEEN" TO<br/>310-855-4673</p> |  <p><b>THE TREVOR PROJECT</b><br/>TEXT "TREVOR"<br/>TO<br/>202-304-1200</p> |
|--|---|--|--|

**YOUTH FRIENDLY RESOURCES  
RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH**

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p><b>YOUNG WOMEN'S HEALTH</b></p>  |  <p><b>YOUNG MEN'S HEALTH</b></p> |
|  <p><b>MINDFULNESS FOR TEENS</b></p> |  <p><b>MOOD 24/7</b></p>          |
|  <p><b>SHINE TEXT</b></p>            |  <p><b>GO ASK ALICE</b></p>       |

**BREAKING THE STIGMA AND  
HELPING A FRIEND IN NEED BY  
OFFERING:**

**Elyssa's Mission ACT:**  
**Acknowledge - Care - Tell**

**Acknowledge:** Listen to your friend, don't ignore threats

**Care:** Let your friend know you care.

**Tell** a trusted adult.



**REACHING OUT TO SCHOOL  
STAFF CAN BE THE FIRST STEP**

**YOUR POSITIVE SUPPORT GROUP CAN  
CONSIST OF:**

**COUNSELOR, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST,  
SOCIAL WORKER, SCHOOL NURSE**

**Text A Tip: text "LAKECO" to 844-823-5323**

**BULLDOGS KEEP IT RED BY TAKING CARE OF MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS**

# Bulldog Happenings

## Fall Choir Concert



*Choir students performing*



*Choir Program*



*Choir students performing*

Our singing Bulldogs hosted their annual Fall Choir Concert on October 17 and provided the audience with a night full of great performances. In addition to their rehearsed pieces, current Choir members were joined on stage by returning alumni looking to support the program.

## Dodgeball Tournament



*Wodrich Dodgeball Academy*



*Dodge Dawgs in action*



*Senior Citizens in action*

The Freshman Class Council & NHS hosted their 2nd Annual Dodgeball Tournament on October 23, and Wodrich Dodgeball Academy walked away as champions for the second year in a row! Congratulations to our champs on the first-place victory, to the Dodge Dawgs on winning “Best Team Name,” and to the Senior Citizens for winning the “Best Dressed” award!

## Collaborating with the Fox Lake Police Department

Izabela Podgorski, Class of 2027, and a talented member of our Canine Connections Club, has brought creativity and community spirit together with her latest project. She designed a set of coloring pages featuring Hank, the Fox Lake Police Department’s beloved comfort dog, “in action” around the community. These delightful illustrations capture Hank’s role as a comforting presence and are a fun way for people of all ages to connect with him. Izabela’s artwork not only showcases her talent but also celebrates the important work comfort dogs do in supporting our community!



*Coloring page designed by Izabela Podgorski, Class of 2007*



*Hank visits Grant*



# Bulldog Happenings

## Cooper Burr Earns Top Placements

Cooper Burr, Class of 2026, delivered an outstanding performance at the 2024 High School Upper Midwest ACUI/SCTP event, held in Mason, Michigan, at the MTA Homegrounds. Competing in this prestigious Association of College Unions International (ACUI) and Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) event, Cooper proved his skill in high school shooting sports, bringing home multiple medals across three disciplines.

In American Skeet, Cooper demonstrated pinpoint accuracy, hitting 95 out of 100 targets. His impressive score earned him 1st Place Overall in the Men's Senior Division and 2nd Place among all Senior Division athletes. Cooper's dominance continued in American Trap Singles, where he hit the mark in every way. His excellent performance won him 1st Place in the All Athletes Senior Division and 1st Place in the Men's Division. In the challenging Sporting Clays event, Cooper's consistency remained strong, scoring 71 out of 100 targets. His efforts culminated in 1st Place Overall in the Men's Senior Division.

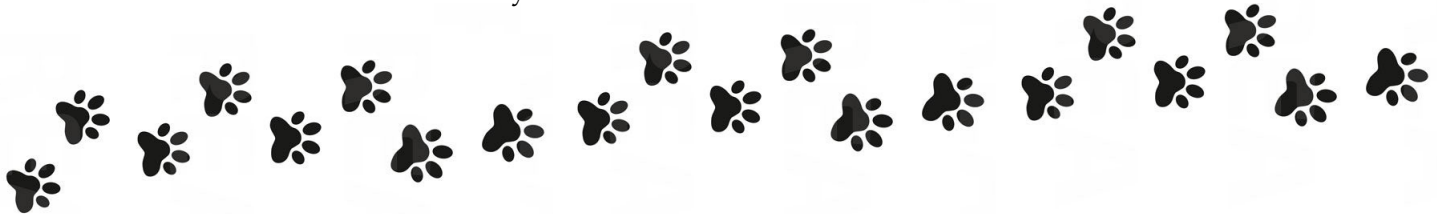


Cooper Burr competing at the 2024 High School Upper Midwest ACUI/SCTP event.



Cooper Burr at the 2024 High School Upper Midwest ACUI/SCTP event.

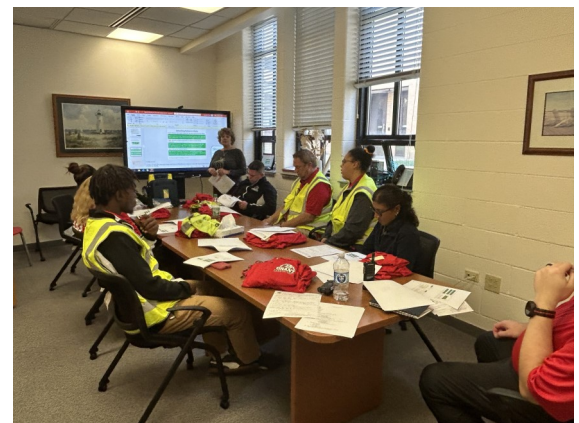
Congratulations to Cooper on his remarkable achievements at this event, where he solidified his position as one of the top competitors in high school shooting sports. His dedication, skill, and competitive spirit serve as an inspiration to his peers and community alike.



## Safety Officer Training

Our Safety Officers have recently completed a rigorous series of emergency response trainings to enhance campus safety and preparedness. Their training covered essential lifesaving techniques, including CPR and AED operation, Narcan administration, anaphylaxis response with EpiPen usage, and critical bleeding control through the Stop the Bleed program.

These comprehensive skills ensure our Safety Officers are well-prepared to respond to a range of emergency situations, reinforcing our commitment to the safety and well-being of all students, staff, and visitors on campus.



Safety Officers train with Nurse Bengston on several techniques.



# KEEP IT RED



We've made it to November and although it feels like we just started the new school year, we are just weeks away from finishing the first semester.

We are happy to announce that we have celebrated another round Bulldog Pride winners, Bulldog Buck winners, and staff members for their RED behaviors! Whether they are helping fellow Bulldogs, putting in the extra effort to keep their grades up, or helping various members of the community, these Bulldogs are great examples of what makes up a Grant Bulldog.

During October, we provided an activity to TEAM rooms focused on anti-bullying. Our Expect Respect lesson incorporates the SWAT and SBL method introduced several years ago. During the Expect Respect lesson, students are taken through a scenario in which a student is being harassed and goes to a teacher for help. While talking to her teacher, this student is encouraged to stand up for herself by following the SWAT method. If someone is bothering you, you should ask the person to STOP. If the behavior doesn't stop, you should then WALK AWAY from that person. If the person follows you and continue the behavior, that is when you should TALK and tell a trusted adult.

If you find yourself in a similar situation and another person is telling you to STOP, you should use the SBL method. The SBL method focuses on STOPPING the behavior, taking a minute to BREATHE, and LEAVING the situation if necessary. In case students run into similar situations, we have placed posters throughout the school that outline these methods for reference. We found these acronyms very helpful and look forward to seeing how our Bulldogs utilize these methods.



# C A L E N D A R

## November

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Nov. 1-3   | Grant Gala—Online Auction  |
| Nov. 5     | Election Day, No School  |
| Nov. 6     | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start<br>Parent University: AP & Dual Credit Night |
| Nov. 11-15 | National School Psychology Week  |
| Nov. 11    | Music Department Fundraiser—Antioch Pizza  |
| Nov. 13    | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start  |
| Nov. 14    | School Board Meeting<br>Tour of Tech   |
| Nov. 16    | NLCC Chess Tournament (Round Lake)   |
| 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   |

## December

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Dec. 4            | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start<br>Parent University: Mental Health Awareness |
| Dec. 7            | Math Team Invite  |
| Dec. 10           | Band Holiday Concert  |
| Dec. 11           | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start   |
| Dec. 12           | Choir Holiday Concert   |
| Dec. 18-20        | Semester Exams  |
| Dec. 19           | School Board Meeting  |
| Dec. 23 - Dec. 31 | Winter Break  |

## January

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Jan. 1 - Jan. 3 | Winter Break   |
| Jan. 6          | School Resumes   |
| Jan. 8          | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start  |
| Jan. 11         | NLCC Speech Competition  |
| Jan. 15         | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start  |
| Jan. 16         | School Board Meeting   |
| Jan. 20         | Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Legal School Holiday   |
| Jan. 22         | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start<br>Parent University: What Parents Need to Know (online)<br>8th Grade Enrollment Night |
| Jan. 23         | 8th Grade Enrollment Night<br>NLCC Math Conference (Grayslake Central)   |
| Jan. 29         | School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 am Flex Time Start<br>Scholastic Bowl (Lakes)   |