



# Grant Community High School

## District Newsletter

### February 2025

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## Student of the Month

### Hailey Kissinger



The Grant Community High School February Student of the Month is senior Hailey Kissinger, daughter of Jeff and Georgina Kissinger of Round Lake Heights.

Hailey's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during her junior year, she qualified each semester for Honor Roll, she scored the level of Qualified or Highly Qualified on three AP exams, and she earned the Scholar Athlete award. She also received the National Hispanic Recognition Program Big Future award and the Illinois State Scholar award. She holds an impressive 5.014 GPA.



Her extracurricular activities include Student Council member/officer, Volleyball from freshman to junior year, Junior Council member, Baking Club co-founder, FBLA member/state qualifier, and Senior Class Council.

Hailey participates in the National Honor Society volunteer activities such as material pickup, Pledge of Allegiance, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Enrollment Nights. She also helps with St. Bede Church events outside of school.

In addition to all of her activities, Hailey enjoys drawing and had the opportunity to have one of her artworks showcased at the NLCC Art Show. Additionally, she loves taking her dog on walks. Being out in nature brings her a welcomed calmness. She also loves to watch movies in her free time.

Her plans for the future include attending a 4-year university to earn a degree in the area of biomedical engineering. She will be applying to Grand Canyon University, the University of Georgia, and Auburn University.

## Board of Education

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

Ivy Fleming  
Laurie Hembrey  
Ed Lescher  
Bob Yanik



# BULLDOGS AT STATE

## Dance Places 8th at IHSA Dance State Finals

After an incredible season filled with resilience, hard work, and passion, the Grant Varsity Dance Team finished 8th in the state at the IHSA Dance State Finals! They brought all the fire and ferocity on Day Two, showing improvement in scores as the weekend went on, and secured a Top Ten finish in Illinois!

Congratulations to the team and coaches on an amazing IHSA season! Oh, and they're not done yet... Next stop: Nationals! Make sure to follow [@grantdanceteam](#) on Instagram for updates as they prep for Nationals!



Grant Dance performs at IHSA Dance State Finals.

## Myles Foreman Represents Grant at ILMEA All-State



Myles Foreman & Ms. Koske at ILMEA All-State

For the second year in a row, Myles Foreman qualified for the ILMEA Honors Chorus, the highest accomplishment at All-State, which includes students who scored in the top 5% in their voice audition. Myles traveled to Peoria, IL, at the end of January for four days of rehearsals, culminating in a finale concert on Saturday, February 1, featuring the best high school musicians in the

state. He did a great job representing Grant Choir and we look forward to seeing him grow his skills even more throughout his time at GCHS!

## Kyle Hobson Represents Grant at IHSA Boys Bowling State



Kyle Hobson

Kyle Hobson represented our Boys Bowling program well at the IHSA Boys Bowling State tournament and had a good day on the lanes. With his 2025 State performance, he makes history as he is only the third state qualifier in our Boys Bowling program. We can't wait to see him back in action next year!

# GCHS Nears Completion of Principal Search

Grant Community High School leaders are in the final stages of their search for a new principal, a process that has emphasized collaboration and input from stakeholders across the school community.

## A Comprehensive Selection Process

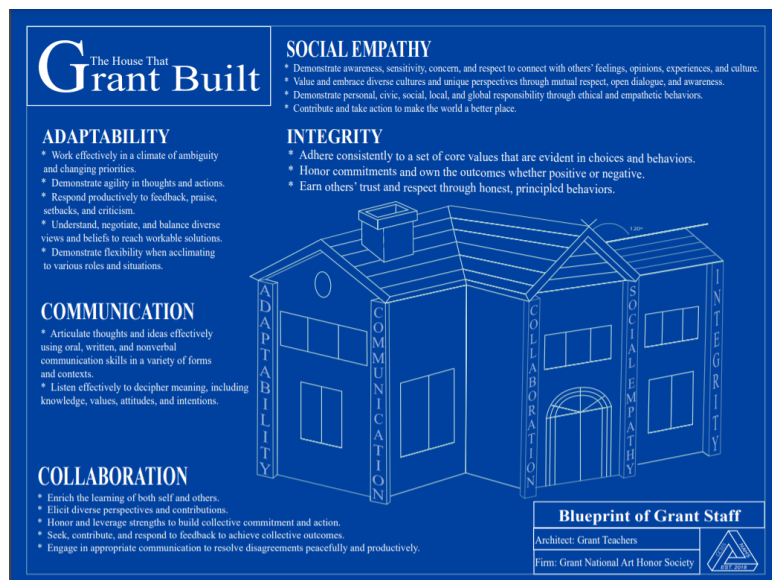
The search began in November with the application and careful vetting of qualified candidates who align with the District's mission and vision. The formal interview process began in January and focused on candidates who exhibited attributes defined in the "Blueprint of Grant Staff." Designed to capture multiple perspectives, the interview process included administrative-led interviews as well as panel interviews involving students, parents, faculty, and non-certified staff members, ensuring that voices from all areas of the school community were heard. This collaborative effort reflects our commitment to finding a principal who can connect with all stakeholders and lead with inclusivity and vision.

## Moving Forward

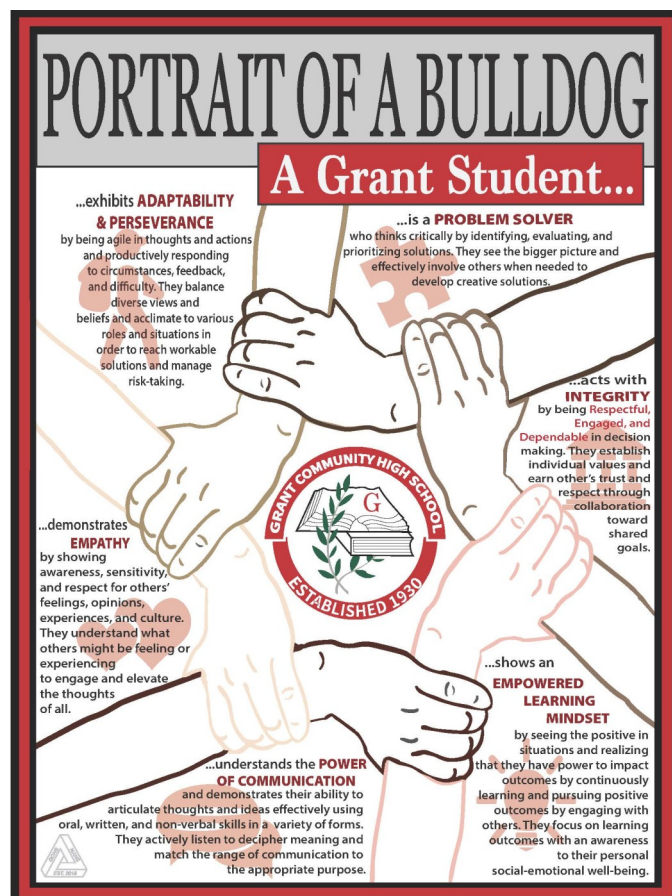
Once a decision has been made, the recommended candidate will be presented to the Board of Education for approval. An official announcement is expected in early spring.

"This has been a thoughtful and thorough process," shared Principal Schmidt. "We are grateful for the engagement and input from everyone involved, and we're confident this approach will result in selecting a leader who embodies the mission of Grant Community High School and will help our students achieve the competencies that comprise our Portrait of a Bulldog."

Thank you to everyone who participated in this important search. We look forward to introducing the next principal of Grant Community High School in the coming months. Stay tuned for updates!



The House That Grant Built—Blueprint of Grant Staff



Portrait of a Bulldog







# Business Bulldogs Qualify for FBLA State

FBLA members recently competed in the Northern Area Regional Conference. After testing their knowledge and skills, 29 Business Bulldogs walked away with a top-ten finish and will be advancing to the FBLA State Competition in March!

## GCHS Northern Area Competition Standings

*1st Place*—Kelsey Franz for Job Interview

*2nd Place*—Reagan Barr for Accounting, Nicole Kubiak for Intro to FBLA/Intro to Business Procedures, and Miami De La Rosa for UX Design

*3rd Place*—Samantha Archuleta for Public Speaking, Riley Daniele & Lauren Verde for Sales Presentation, & Addison Smith for Financial Math

*4th Place*—Ryan Kadlec & Gainele Muntu for Business Ethics, Sophie Lelchuk, Vani Patel, & Emeri Oliver for Coding & Programming, & Kian Korach for Digital Animation

*5th Place*—Izabela Podgorski for Intro to Business Concepts & Elyanna Torres for Journalism

*6th Place*—Hailey Kissinger for Organizational Leadership

*7th Place*—Natalia Fafrowicz & Brooke Horn for Public Service Announcement

*8th Place*—John Dollinger for Broadcast Journalism, Jasmine Bo for Business Plan, Jose Luis Velazquez for Securities & Investments, & Nicole Pawlus & Grace Szczesny for Visual Design

*10th Place*—Micky Li for Financial Math & Sukhmanpreet Sandhu, Maryam Shamkhi, & Moksha Soni for Graphic Design



## **Matthew Escatel is the recipient of the February Social Studies' Golden Globe Award!**

Matthew's passion for history and commitment to academic excellence have made him a standout student and a well-deserving recipient of the Golden Globe Award. His dedication goes beyond the classroom—he consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, actively engages in discussions, and offers insightful perspectives that elevate the learning experience for everyone.



*The Social Studies Department presented Matthew with the Golden Globe Award.*

Ms. Voelker, who nominated Matthew for this recognition, shared, "Matthew consistently demonstrates an exceptional work ethic, always going above and beyond to engage with the material. His insightful responses in class discussions reflect a deep understanding of historical concepts, often offering perspectives that enrich the entire classroom experience."

His enthusiasm for history isn't limited to assigned coursework. Ms. Voelker has observed that he frequently spends his free time reading historical books, further expanding his knowledge and deepening his understanding of the subject. Beyond academics, Matthew serves as a role model through his respectful attitude and positive influence on those around him. "His commitment to academic excellence and respectful attitude towards others make him a standout individual," Voelker said.

Matthew's hard work, intellectual curiosity, and leadership make him a remarkable recipient of this award. Congratulations, Matthew—keep up the incredible work!



# National School Counseling Week

Helping Students Thrive

National School Counseling Week 2025 is scheduled for February 3-7. This week focuses public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems and how students are impacted as a result of what their school counselor can do for and with them. This week is sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) and works to highlight the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for careers.

School Counselors at Grant are actively engaged in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents; work in a partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world; focus on positive ways to enhance students' academic, postsecondary and social/emotional development; and work with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. School Counselors are certified, experienced educators with a master's degree in school counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program.



Grant Counseling Team & Assistant Principal Geist

With all that our counselors do to help students succeed, we encourage everyone to take a minute or two out of their day and send a note of appreciation to one of our amazing counselors—[Staff Appreciation Form](#). More information about National School Counseling Week, visit ASCA's website, [www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

## Summer School Information

Brochures and registration forms for summer school will be available in the Front Office and on our website. All classes are on a first come, first served basis. There are no refunds after the first day of class. Summer school is open to all students who reside within the District 124 attendance boundaries, and who have completed their Freshman, Sophomore, or Junior year. For further information, please visit our website ([www.grantbulldogs.org](http://www.grantbulldogs.org)) and see the headline listed: Summer School 2025.

## Save the Date for 2025 Parent University Events!

Parent University is a series of workshops and events designed to support parents, guardians, and caregivers. Throughout second semester, we will be hosting several events for parents focused on supporting our students, Career & Technical Education, financial aid, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL). [Pre-registration](#) for each event is encouraged, but not required.

- February 26—Career & Technical Education—6:30-8:30 PM
- March 6—Parent/Guardian Support Group—6:30-8:00 PM
- April 23—Financial Aid Night (Juniors) - 6:30-8:00 PM

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.





# **GRANT'S FIRST EVER PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH @ 9:00AM**  
**Grant's West Gym**

**Concessions  
Available!**

**Win  
Medals!**

**\$50 / \$30**

Per Adult Team

Per Student Team

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
GRANT'S FIRST  
GENERATION  
SCHOLARSHIPS!**

**SPACES LIMITED!  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
REGISTER BY 2/28!**



**Tournament Divisions:**  
**Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced**  
Questions? Please reach out to  
[counselors@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:counselors@grantbulldogs.org).





# HONOR ROLL



## FIRST SEMESTER 2024-25

### Grade 9

Anthony Adame  
Lee Adams  
Camila Alvarez  
Evey Aragon  
Joaquin Argueta  
Ash Avers  
Inyakee Josh Bactol  
Chase Beake  
Andrew Berger  
Haylie Blake  
Nathan Booth  
Dylan Bornhorst  
Joshua Bowker  
Emma Bradford  
Gera Buchanan  
Jacob Bychowski  
Addison Capko  
Stella Capulong  
Jasmyn Catalan Barrera  
Angela Christensen  
Madison Clack  
Lily Contreras  
James Cooper  
Addyson Czerwinski  
Paden Domek  
Abigail Domke  
Jasmine Dowell  
Isabella Duran  
Shawn Dzierzynski

Kaitlyn Edwards  
Liam Elich  
Sienna Enters  
Matthew Esparza  
Chloe Evans  
Jacob Fetter  
Aaliyah Fields  
Jackson Fudala  
Chatham Gehring  
Payton Govea  
Alexander Grimes  
Alexandra Grotowski  
Cayden Gullifor  
Sydney Halliday  
Alexa Haskins  
Sara Hawkins  
Daniel Hayes  
Kaitlin Herrmann  
Addison Ironside  
Leah Jackson  
Lorebella Jensen  
Aspen Johnson  
Piper Johnson  
Ethan Justen  
Jasmine Khaira  
Lillian Knapp  
Nicole Kubiak  
Robert LaMantia  
Arianna Larracas

Alexandra Leonce  
Sydney Lescher  
Kaitlyn Levy  
Gabriella Lima  
Teagan Lord  
Madison Lunardi  
Brody Lyons  
Evelyn Maggiore  
Cora Martens  
Isabella Martinez  
Madelyn McCart  
Johnathan McCollom  
Caelyn McDaniel  
Taleah Mcquarier  
Isaac Meiselwitz  
Jasen Melton  
Christian Menendez  
Ryan Miller  
Ruby Moll  
Kassidy Montes De Oca  
Matthew Muldowney  
Brady Myatt  
Sebastian Negrón Cruz  
Sierra Nieves  
Madalyn Oakes  
Aabreanna Ange Oso  
Michelle Paddock  
Alyssa Bianca Panares  
James Plescia

Joseph Popeck  
Carson Provost  
Payton Pruski  
Calvin Ramirez  
Sophia Raube  
Nathanial Reimer  
Tailiz Ribot Cruz  
Maria Rizon  
Ace Rodabaugh  
Athena Roman  
Jesus Sanchez  
Jashanpreet Sandhu  
Sukhmanpreet Sandhu  
Camdyn Schultz  
Jacob Sherman  
Tanner Shogren  
Kelsie Simmons  
Kanwalnain Singh  
Mariah Smith  
Ashlyn Soutar  
Teagan Statfield  
Brooke Stewart  
Mia Stollings  
Colton Swanson  
Andrew Tadewald  
Isabelle Tancun  
Sophia Tellez  
Melrose Tucibat-Townsend  
Adrian Vega

Caleb Wagner  
Tyler Wahls  
Iris Weisheit  
Andrew Wirth  
Anthony Zamora

### Grade 10

Zofiya Rae Abadilla  
Alexander Acosta  
Alexander Albiter  
Hunter Anderson  
Brianna Andrade  
Kimberly Andrade-Ceja  
Grace Ano  
McKenna Arnold  
Samantha Astorino  
Peyton Atkocaitis  
Viridiana Barcenás  
Cameron Barr  
Daniel Benitez  
Jordynn Berniczki  
Kayli Brook  
Ashlyn Bryant  
Natalia Cabrero  
Camila Cano  
Dominick Carlisi  
Kaitlyn Carpenter  
Jeylen Catalan  
Cameron Chavez  
Gerardo Chavez, Jr.  
Bartek Chrupek  
Sophie Connealy  
Nathanael Contreras-Loek  
Emma Corbett  
Cole Couture  
Kaylee Cuellar  
Katherine Danca

Nolan Davis  
Andrew DeRose  
Caroline DeYoung  
Sophie Dollinger  
Matthew Escatel  
Connor Evans  
Olivia Farley  
Zen Felipe  
Ryan Fitzgerald  
Thomas Franklin  
Carrera Frazier-Ortega  
Garrett Fries  
Alexis Fulghum  
Kobe Garcia  
Michael Gebhardt  
Gianna Gentile  
Jackson Georgia  
Andrew Grill  
Jesiah Hagge  
Avery Hamilton  
Abbigale Hamner  
Nicholas Hansen  
Brooke Harvey  
Evan Hogan-Dighero  
Aubrey Hopkins  
Ericka Hopkins  
Alexander Horbatenko  
Emily Horbus  
Joshua Huerta  
Anamaria Jasinski

Leon Jiron  
Elijah Johnson  
Evan Johnson  
Neeliah Johnson  
Felicia Kawewki  
Kaitlyn Kelly  
Nathan Kempf  
Isabella Kloss  
Kian Korach  
Madison Kozak  
Elsie Kramer  
Emily Kunzer  
Michael Lamz  
Amanda Lay  
Cassidy Ledger  
Madeline Levandowski  
Chloe Lewkowicz  
Sianna Lorenzo  
Alexander Luna  
Ariana Maldonado  
Ryleigh Marshall-Kwasny  
Benjamin Martin  
Chase Martin  
Abigail Martinez  
Keni Massey  
Mia Mata  
Reese Mateja  
Carter McCleery  
Lily McCollom  
Emily McCormick

James Meeks  
Justin Liam Morales  
Chase Muir  
Kyle Neuber  
Erioluwa Obisesan  
Riley OGrady  
Keeleigh Olson  
Karis Packard  
Juliana Palmer  
Liam Paquette  
Valeria Perez  
Zendrea Pfau  
Aliyah Phachan  
Izabela Podgorski  
Elisa Portilla Dehn  
Andy Rendon-Urbina  
Ava Renn  
Derrick Rios  
Emily Roach  
Gabrielle Saavedra  
Caylah Sanchez  
Kara Scanlon  
Piotr Schab  
Everett Schneider  
Noah Schweiss  
Kev Schweitzer  
Evan Sigler  
Hayden Silverberg  
Audrey Simcoe  
Colton Skinner

Maria Soto Valdes  
Ava Spectre  
Alysse Sutschek  
Charles Swiderski  
Kailee Tao  
Sophia Taylor  
Cole Tellez  
Leah Terryberry  
Ava Timm  
Sophia Trinidad  
Ashlynn Unruh  
Christopher Urbina  
Joey Vasco  
Evelyn Vasey  
Vincent Viramontes  
Penelope Von Bargaen  
Ethan Weiher  
Anyah Whiting  
Sarah Whitson  
Ajani Williams  
Caream Williams  
Lukas Wilson  
Brody Worklan  
Livia Yaras  
Brianna Zeiger



## Grade 11

Ramzi Abdelhak  
Conner Altergott  
Sarah Alvarez  
Sophia Anzelmo  
Natalie Araujo  
Samantha Archuleta  
David Ascencio  
Alexa Barahona  
Ashlyn Bartlett  
Kaitlyn Bartlett  
Elizabeth Becerra  
Johnathan Beller  
Gavin Belletynee  
Gabiella Bendinelli  
Patrik Bene  
Cody Berg  
Ashley Jacel Calaunan  
Sierra Campbell  
Aiden Carlson  
Fiona Carlson  
Christian Castillo  
Ryan Caulder  
Dulce Cervantes  
Imanol Cervantes Valdivia  
Camila Chacon  
Mya Clark  
Zachary Collins  
Samantha Cummins  
Kahlen Davis  
Mya Davis  
Miami De La Rosa  
Gianna Deacon  
Desiree Dickson  
Berit Diedrick  
Caley Dionne  
John Dollinger

Marissa Dominguez  
Isabelle Ellington  
Mariam Eshaba  
Sofia Esparza  
Sofia Esparza  
Natalia Fafrowicz  
Gavin Farley  
Krysteanna Feliciano  
Ethan Fessl  
Jackson Findley  
Myles Foreman  
Katilyn Franzua  
Jayden Gil  
Casey Gipson  
Matthew Gipson  
Dianey Granados  
Jacob Gregory  
Cole Guild  
Madison Guild  
Anthony Gutierrez-Montero  
Ava Guzman  
Maxwell Haas  
Isaiah Haque  
Grayce Haschak  
Ethan Henney  
Hayden Henningsen  
Linna Hidrogo  
Caden Hitzler  
Kyle Hobson  
Matthew Honeywell  
Brooke Horn  
Amelie Hosler  
Caleigh Houdek  
Jaslene Huerta  
Tristan Huizar  
Julianna Janicki

Jiada Jefferson  
Destiny Jenkins  
Landon Jones  
Ryan Kadlec  
MaKayla Kamanda  
Penelope Karczewski  
Cael Kelley  
Cameron King  
Victoria Kirk  
Polina Kolosova  
Joanna Kowal  
Ana Larson  
Lance Ioannes Lavajo  
Sophie Lechuk  
Micky Li  
Stone Ligeza  
Vic Lin  
Sarah Lobont  
Jared Lopez  
Lilianna Ludford King  
Emma Malak  
Averie Martin  
Lesly Martinez Ruiz  
Kyle McDonough  
Maddox Meade  
Jayden Medina  
Madison Mesmer  
Gavin Meyer  
Logan Miller  
Cole Munaretto  
Gainele Muntu  
Raelynn Murillo  
Erin Neiveem  
Peyton OBrien  
Aaliyah Ocampo  
Emeri Oliver

Patrick Ornom  
Areli Ortiz  
Elizabeth Osorio  
Kelsey Palomo  
Vani Patel  
Cole Pemberton  
Vanessa Pendell  
Jay Pole  
Diego Popoca  
Kaidan Quarnstrom  
Lawrence Quirk  
Eros Dave Rabor  
Eric Ramirez  
Miranda Isabella Raube  
Jeffrey Reda  
Joseph Reiner  
Vic Rich  
Emily Riley  
Erik Rodriguez  
Ava Roth  
Nicole Sak  
Hayden Schmidt  
Sarah Schmidt  
Madeline Schneider  
Baylie Schultz  
Makary Sekulich  
Kolton Selders  
Alessandra Serrano  
Camila Serrano  
Lairek Shulman  
Spencer Sica  
Alyssa Siong  
Carli Sipe  
Isabella Sison  
Aiden Skindingsrude  
Logan Sledzik

Sabelle Slightam  
Audrey Smetters-Boling  
Addison Smith  
Annabelle Smith  
Jameson Soco  
Ravi Soni  
Sohan Soni  
Abigail Sovsky  
Makayla Spence  
Logan Swanson  
Landon Terryberry  
Logan Terryberry  
Caitlyn Themanson  
Allison Thomas  
Reece Timm  
Madison Tomassetti  
Elyanna Torres  
Destiny Torres-Ocampo  
Addison Ullrich  
Jorge Vazquez-Reyes  
Leah Wagner  
Aliyah Wallace  
Natalee Whitson  
Genevive Winberg  
Raniyah Winters  
Alivia Wisniowicz  
Chloey Wolff  
Ryelle Marie Yasona  
Jacob Zaleski  
Cayden Zeller  
Elijah Zerbe

## Grade 12

Kerrie Adams  
Ciana Addison  
Evan Ahlgren  
Annabelle Alonzo  
Jiratchaya Arunkittiporn  
Kyleah Baker  
Stacey Banegas  
Gael Barcenaz  
Reagan Barr  
Bradley Belletynee  
Heith Berryman  
Maximilian Bishop  
Ashley Biundo  
Allison Bolisay  
Dylan Burke  
Robert Burns  
Shayan Butt  
Ashtin Cabrera  
Liliana Calenda  
Lily Capulong  
Paola Carranza Duran  
Roxan Castro  
Francesca Causgrove I  
sabella Chirinos  
Kevin Christesen  
Devin Chrusniak  
Samantha Collins  
Kendell Cook  
Caimin Corbett  
Riley Daniele  
Melanie Davila  
Nikolas Dayment  
Ava Delgadillo  
Etta Diedrick  
Koen Diedrick  
Olivia Dippong  
Logan Dishman

Jareli Duque  
Jackelyn Duran  
Ryne Dzierzynski  
Madison Eagon  
Landon Enters  
Madelyne Escobedo  
Aliyah Evans  
Payton Evans  
Christian Faria  
Lily Ferguson  
Anthony Fornero  
Kelsey Franz  
Tate Frazier  
Madeline Fredendall  
Kairi Fuqua  
Jairo Garcia-Tellez  
Jasmine Garza  
Taylor Glover  
Cassidy Graham  
Braylon Gray  
William Grooms  
Hannah Gwate  
Zachery Hahnlein  
Abby Hamm  
Kellyn Harmer  
Jayse Hartmann  
Abigail Hauschild  
Linnea Hauser  
Lea Hawkins  
Malia Henriot  
Nevaeh Hermann  
Gabriel Hernandez  
Samantha Hernandez  
Maria Hernandez Mendez  
Madeline Hurley  
Gavin Hutchinson  
Abigail Johnson

Griffin Johnson  
Anastasia Johnston  
Angela Jones  
Jacob Kaufman  
Camryn Kempf  
Hailey Kissinger  
Meghan Klipstein  
Logan Knuth  
Nicholas Kouimelis  
Dominic Koutsianelos  
Anthony Koza  
Piper Krueger  
Maria Kucher  
Jirah Gabrielle Lanzar  
Rayna Lapointe  
Cameron Lazansky  
Matthew LeClear  
Oliver Lee  
Arizona Lessner  
Hannah Levine  
Xavior Ray Liles  
Brienne Lopez  
Yahir Lopez  
Brianna Lund  
Riley Lyons  
Ella Malak  
Chloe Malueg  
Amber Martin  
Angela Grace Martinez  
Ryann Mateja  
Tanner Matthews  
Casey McCleery  
Payton McRae  
Uzziel Medina  
Hugo Mejia  
Arielle Mitchell  
Andy Montoya

Larson Morrow  
Angelle Motino  
Taiseer Mumin  
Carlos Negron Cruz  
Colin Noordyke  
Aubrey OMara  
Kimberly Parker  
Keira Parmley  
Kevin Patel  
Noah Patrick  
Noelle Patrick  
Nicole Pawlus  
Anahi Prieto  
Sydney Pulaski  
Ashley Quinn  
Andrew Rabe  
Antonio Rangel  
Sallan Rangel  
Anakari Remback  
Kamryn Richter  
Camryn Rios  
Addison Robanske  
Christian Ross  
Jazlin Salas  
Sydney Sampson  
Oswaldo Sanchez  
Israel Sanumi  
Cooper Schiller  
Aaron Schultz  
Haley Schuster  
Karlo Serrano  
Hunter Seymour  
Jessa Sherman  
Angaddeep Shoker  
Leandro Silva-Quesada  
Simranpreet Singh  
Olivia Smith

Faith Sobyra  
Evan Soco  
Nathan Sosnowski  
Cole Sparkman  
MacKenzie Stadfield  
Kyle Stigler  
Sophia Strine  
Grace Szczesny  
Amelia Szopinski  
Andrea Szopinski  
Raluca Tanta Anabelle  
Taylor Jasmine Tellez  
Jordy Torres  
Angelina Vavalle  
Diego Vazquez  
Mauricio Vega  
Lauren Verde  
Michael Villagomez  
Joanna Von Hoene  
Katherine Vaughn  
Evan Weisheit  
Adam Whiting  
Ethan Willey  
Kaya Williams  
Autumn Wisniowicz  
Karah Wiswald  
Brandon Wolkowitz  
Gavin Worklan  
Kaylin Worley  
Janelle Wornyo  
Zachary Wyton  
Grace Young  
Chase Zeman  
Briseis Zequeida

# Talking Bulldogs Make it a Moment

## Competitions, Showcases, & Fundraising

The Talking Bulldogs have been on fire this January, showcasing their incredible talent and teamwork in various competitions.

In early January, they hosted their annual Speech Invitational and absolutely crushed it. Congratulations to Allison Bolisay and Maddie Mesmer for taking 2nd in Dramatic Duet Acting, Abby Sovsky for placing 4th in Impromptu, Dianey Granados for earning 5th in Prose, Kaitlyn Carpenter for securing 6th in Dramatic Interpretation, and Payton Evans for taking 6th in Original Comedy! It was a stellar start to the competition season for the team.

The following weekend, the Talking Bulldogs took their skills to Rolling Meadows and continued their strong performances. Payton Evans placed 6th in Humorous Interpretation and 3rd in Next-In Original Comedy. Sammy Hernandez earned 2nd in Next-In Special Occasion Speaking and 6th in Next-In Original Oratory. Joanna VonHoene also placed 6th in Next-In Radio. These impressive finishes continued to showcase the team's depth and versatility.

At Downers Grove South the next weekend, five Bulldogs made it to the Semi-Finals: Mesmer in Info and Dramatic Duet Acting (with Bolisay), Sovsky in Impromptu, Hernandez in Special Occasion Speaking, and VonHoene in Radio. The team's continued success in these tough competitions proves their hard work is paying off.

Looking ahead, the Talking Bulldogs are gearing up for their annual Speech Showcase on Friday, February 7, at 6:00 PM in the auditorium. This event is free to attend and will give the team a chance to show off all the events they compete in, including the debut of their Performance in the Round act. Afterward, they will host Regionals and compete for a spot at Sectionals.

In addition to supporting the team at the Showcase, there's another fun way to show your support! The Talking Bulldogs are hosting a "Pie A Teacher" fundraiser. For every dollar you donate, you'll get a chance to pie one of your favorite teachers or security guards. Don't want to pie anyone? You can contribute to nominate your favorite teacher to be pied. Donations are being accepted through the bookstore until Wednesday, February 12.

Be sure to follow [@gchs\\_talkingbulldogs](#) on Instagram or [@gchs\\_speech](#) X for updates, join them at the Showcase, and donate to help them continue to shine!



## FRESHMEN: TURN IN PROOF OF YOUR DENTAL EXAM

ALL FRESHMEN ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A DENTAL EXAM.  
PLEASE TURN IN PROOF OF A DENTAL EXAM, DATED  
WITHIN THE LAST YEAR. FORMS CAN BE FOUND UNDER THE  
HEALTH SERVICES SECTION OF THE GCHS WEBSITE.

FORMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF OR EMAILED TO  
HEALTHOFFICE@GRANTBULLDOGS.ORG. FOR QUESTIONS,  
CALL THE HEALTH OFFICE AT (847) 973-3452.





# STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER

Nicholas Kouimelis - Cybersecurity  
Reece Timm - Construction Skills & Management I  
Tyler Wolf - Welding/Fabrication II  
Anahi Prieto - Medical Assisting

The Lake County Technology Campus released its "Student of the Quarter" list and we are excited to share that 4 Bulldogs were selected for Second Quarter!

Each instructor at the Tech Campus has the opportunity to select a program "Student of the Quarter." The criteria for selecting this student include; academic achievement, good attendance, demonstration of various employability traits including possessing a positive work ethic and attitude, active participation in program activities, and involvement in Tech Campus extra-curricular activities.

Congratulations to our Bulldogs - keep up the great work!



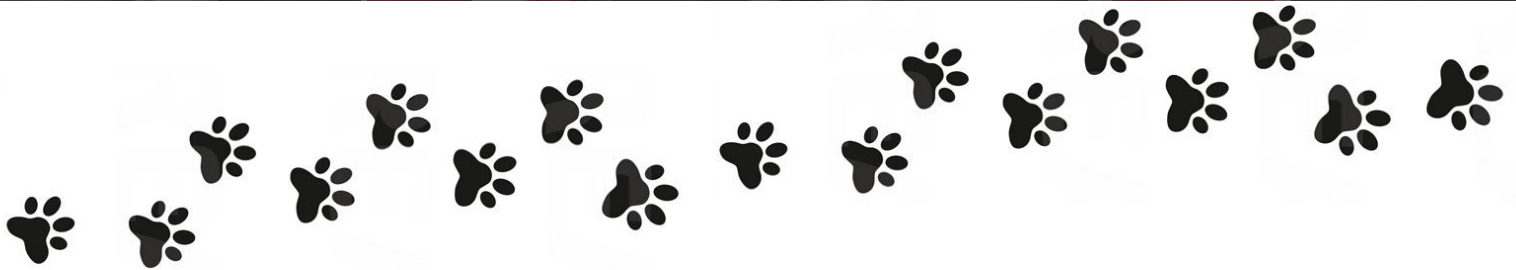
## SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION

- Track & Field (Boys & Girls)
- Baseball
- Badminton (Girls)
- Lacrosse (Boys)
- Softball
- Soccer (Girls)
- Tennis (Boys)
- Volleyball (Boys)

Spring Sports Registration is open!  
All spring athletes must complete the  
[online registration process](#)

and must have a current physical on file. For more information, reach out to the Athletics Office or your sport's head coach.

Most sports begin before at the beginning of Match so register ASAP!



## 5Essentials Survey

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey window is scheduled from February 18-March 28, 2025. Parents, students and teachers across Illinois have an opportunity to participate in the statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This opportunity allows stakeholders to share their thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about Grant Community High School. As a parent, we hope you will take this opportunity to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness at Grant Community High School. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child. As per state requirement, students and teachers will also be completing the [Illinois 5Essentials Survey](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or [5essentials@uchicago.edu](mailto:5essentials@uchicago.edu).



# AP Exams

**The 2025 AP Exams will be administered in schools during the first two full weeks in May: May 5-9 & May 12-16. All remaining fee balances must be paid by Friday, February 21.**

Students with a new second semester AP course (US Government or Macroeconomics) need to communicate with their instructors if they DO NOT wish to take the spring AP Exams by Friday, March 7. Once a student indicates that he or she is taking the test, parents should go to our [RevTrak system](#) to pay for the exam(s).

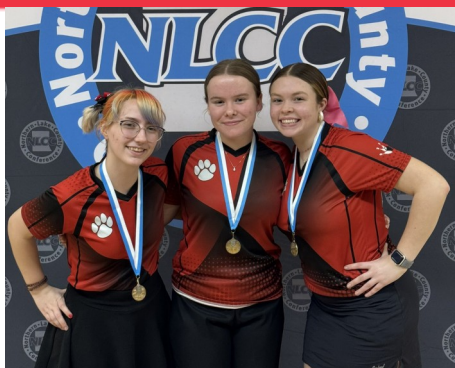
If your student receives free or reduced lunch, you may choose the AP Exams (Reduced Price) button within RevTrak. We will certainly work with individual students and families to make sure every qualified student is able to take Advanced Placement exams.

Important Deadlines for second semester AP Exam Registrations:

- Friday, March 7: Students in a second semester only AP course, need to notify teachers if they DO NOT plan to take the AP exam.
- Monday, March 17: All exams must have the remaining balance paid or the exam will be canceled and the student will forfeit the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee.

Please feel free to contact your student's teacher or the Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Office at (847) 973-3800 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 good luck as they continue to prepare for these important exams.

AP Exam Schedule—May 2025		
Week 1	Morning 8:00 a.m.	Afternoon 12:00 p.m.
Monday, May 5	Biology	Microeconomics
Tuesday, May 6	Chemistry	United States Government & Politics
Wednesday, May 7	English Literature & Composition	Computer Science A
Thursday, May 8	Statistics	World History: Modern
Friday, May 9	United States History	Chinese Language & Culture Macroeconomics
Week 2	Morning 8:00 a.m.	Afternoon 12:00 p.m.
Monday, May 12	Calculus AB & Calculus BC	
Tuesday, May 13		Environmental Science
Wednesday, May 14	English Language & Composition	Physics C: Mechanics
Thursday, May 15	Spanish Language & Culture	Computer Science Principles Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
Friday, May 16	Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Psychology



Kyleah Baker, Kaitlyn Bartlett, & Desiree Dickson  
at NLCC Tournament

The **Girls Bowling** program has been rolling strong this month, showing off their skill, determination, and sportsmanship across multiple competitions.

The team kicked things off by hosting their annual invite, where they had a fantastic day on the lanes. The JV team secured an impressive 2nd place finish, with three Bowldogs earning individual honors. Congratulations to Karis Packard for taking 6th, Viviana Cordero for 8th, and Aspen Johnson for 10th. At the Varsity level, Desiree Dickson rolled an outstanding 629 series with a high game of 241 to earn 2nd place. It was a day full of incredible performances for the Bowldogs!

Next, Varsity competed in the Wauconda Invite and represented Grant with pride. Kaitlyn Bartlett rolled a new personal best twice and earned a medal for the 3rd highest game of the day with a 223. Dickson placed 2nd after a remarkable 5-game series of 1,009 pins, including a high game of 234. These standout performances helped the team continue their successful season. Varsity faced tough lane conditions but still managed to place 3rd at the NLCC Tournament. Bartlett's leadership and positivity earned her the NLCC Sportsmanship Award, and her steady presence has been key to the team's success. Kyleah Baker's consistency led her to a 2nd place finish with a 1,200 pin fall (200 average), earning her All-Conference Honors. Dickson also earned All-Conference Honors, placing 8th at the event. Meanwhile, the JV Bowldogs placed 6th at the Jim Cogar JV Tournament, with Cordero leading the way in 15th place.

Looking ahead, the Varsity team will compete at Regionals on Saturday, February 8, at Lakes Bowl. Best of luck to the team as they continue their exciting season! Follow [@grantgirlsbowling](https://www.instagram.com/grantgirlsbowling) on Instagram or [@grantgirlsbowling](https://www.x.com/grantgirlsbowling) on X for the latest updates and highlights.

The **Cheer** program kicked off the new year with impressive performances, continuing to build on their success throughout the season.

The entire program started strong at the D117 All of the Lights Invitational, where all three levels gave their best effort. Varsity finished the day in 4th place, setting the tone for the rest of the season. At Grayslake North, all three levels hit ZERO in their performances, marking an outstanding achievement. Large JV had an incredible comeback from their last invite and secured 9th place out of 27 teams. Varsity also had a solid performance, taking 6th place out of 23 teams. The program returned to North for the NLCC competition. Small JV delivered a stunning exhibition performance, Large JV earned 1st place, and the title of NLCC Champs, while Varsity had their strongest performance of the season, earning 2nd place. For their final regular season invite, Varsity competed at Huntley, where they placed 5th out of 19 teams, rounding out a successful regular season.



Varsity Cheer takes 2nd place at Sectionals.

The biggest highlight came after a hard-fought Sectional performance when the Bulldogs secured 2nd place in their Sectional, earning their ticket to Bloomington, IL, for the State competition on Friday, February 7, at 7:20 PM. We can't wait to send our Cheerleaders off and cheer them on from the sidelines as they compete at State! Follow [@grant.cheerleading](https://www.instagram.com/grant.cheerleading) on Instagram and [@GrantCheer](https://www.x.com/GrantCheer) on X for updates on their State journey.



JV Dance team takes 2nd place at JV Championships.

The JV **Dance** team wrapped up an outstanding season, demonstrating remarkable talent and dedication throughout multiple competitions. Their hard work paid off, culminating in impressive results that highlight the strength of the team.

At the Huntley Invitational, JV earned a well-deserved 3rd-place trophy, delivering a performance that was full of energy, leaving a lasting impression on judges and the audience alike.

The team then excelled at the Grayslake Central Invite, where they dominated the competition and claimed 1st place. Their growth and determination were evident as they brought their best performance to the floor.

The team competed at their Championships and ended the season on a high note, placing 2nd out of 16 teams. It's been an exciting season for our JV Dancers, and we can't wait to see what they'll bring to the floor next season and beyond!

The **Wrestling** program had an impressive month, showcasing their talent and determination at several high-level competitions.

The Boys Varsity team had a strong performance at the Cheesehead Invitational, with Vince Jasinski, Erik Rodriguez, Aaden Arroyo, and Casey Gipson advancing into the championship bracket on Day Two. Rodriguez secured his 100th career win, finishing in 9th place. Jasinski and Gipson took 7th place, while Arroyo finished in 13th, marking a successful tournament for the team.



Varsity Boys Wrestling team wins the Lake County Invite.

The Varsity wrestlers continued their momentum at the Conant Quad, where they added two more wins to their record by defeating Libertyville and Conant. Meanwhile, the Freshman team competed at the St. Patrick's tournament and dominated the competition, claiming 1st place and outscoring the second-place team by an impressive 92 points. The Girls Varsity team also had a strong showing at the Hoffman Estates tournament, with Veronica Vera placing 6th and Myla Reyes finishing in 8th.

At the Lake County Invite, both the Boys and Girls Varsity teams had remarkable results. The Girls team earned 2nd place, with seven Bulldogs finishing in the Top Four, including Jaiydyn Hoffman in 1st, and Brooklyn Eggins-Smith, Reyes, America Camacho, Vera, and Cassidy Graham in 3rd. Amaryllis Ramos took 4th place. The Boys team also made history, claiming the title of Lake County Champions for the first time since 2014. They had 12 place-winners and three champions: Arroyo, Jasinski, and Rodriguez. Jasinski also earned his 100th career win with a pin in the county finals over a returning state-placer. The Freshman Bulldogs continued their dominance, securing their 4th Tournament Champion title of the season at the Ott Bay Tournament.

Varsity clinched a 48-21 victory over Antioch to secure the conference title, capping off a fantastic regular season with a 17-8 dual record and the County Championship. Reyes and Camacho placed at Regionals and will advance to the IHSA Girls Sectional on Friday, February 14. The boys team will compete at Regionals on Saturday, February 8, as they aim to continue their strong season. Be sure to follow [@grant\\_wrestling](#) & [@grantgirlsvarsitywrestling](#) on Instagram and [@Grantwrestling1](#) on X for the latest updates and results.

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Varsity Boys Basketball players stand during the national anthem.

The **Boys Basketball** program has been on fire, racking up wins and securing multiple program sweeps. To top it off, Varsity has won five of their last six games, climbing to second in the conference.

The Bulldogs swept Clinton with Freshmen winning 48-31, Sophomores 65-46, and Varsity 73-68. Two days later, they swept Wauconda in the Battle of the Bulldogs, with Varsity securing a 75-70 win. Against Grayslake Central, Varsity won 52-37, taking down the conference's top team, while Sophomores remained undefeated. Another program sweep followed at Lakes, keeping their momentum strong.

With eyes on the top spot, the Bulldogs aim to continue their winning streak. Follow [@grant\\_hoops](#) on Instagram, [@GrantBoysHoops](#) on X, or [Grant Community High School Boys Basketball](#) on Facebook for season updates!

The **Girls Basketball** program recently hosted a special Teacher Appreciation Night, honoring the educators who make a difference in students' lives. In a heartfelt tribute, teachers were introduced to the crowd in a "starting lineup" format, giving each a well-deserved moment of recognition. The event was a highlight of the season, as players personally selected teachers who have impacted their academic and athletic journeys. As each teacher's name was announced, they took center court to applause and cheers, creating a memorable and meaningful experience for all involved.



Girls Basketball Teacher Appreciation Night

Follow [@grantgirlshoops](#) on [Instagram](#) or [X](#) for more updates as the program continues its season with dedication and pride!



Varsity Boys Bowling gears up to compete at Regionals.

The **Boys Bowling** program had an action-packed month filled with competition and achievements. They started by competing in the Blue Devil Invite, finishing in 6th place and gaining valuable experience at Bertrand Lanes in preparation for Regionals. A special congratulations to Seth Sider, the high roller of the day, and to JV standouts Jax Hartmann and Logan Knuth for their impressive performances. In their final regular season match, the Bulldogs hosted Warren. Varsity overcame a tough first game to take down the Blue Devils, while JV secured a victory by 22 pins, led by Matthew Plachcinski's 500 series.

At Regionals, three Varsity bowlers—Sider, Payton Govea, and Kyle Hobson—qualified for Sectionals. They competed at Bowlero Vernon Hills, where they put forth strong efforts. Despite the challenging conditions, Hobson advanced with a total pinfall of 1,327, while Sider narrowly missed qualification. Govea gained valuable experience in his first year with the program, setting the stage for future success. The Bowldogs displayed resilience and determination, proving they are a program on the rise.

Great job, Bowldogs, on an incredible season!

# Grant CARES Program

*Connecting People to Treatment*

Grant Community High School District 124 is proud to announce the launch of the Grant CARES Program, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at improving access to mental health resources for students and families in our community. This program, in partnership with ReferralGPS, is designed to bridge the gap between those in need and the critical services that can support their well-being and success.

The Grant CARES Program stands for **Community, Advocacy, Resilience, Engagement, and Support**—values that form the foundation of this initiative. Leveraging the expertise of ReferralGPS, which facilitates a similar model in multiple districts across Illinois, the program ensures that students and families receive timely, effective, and equitable care.

The Grant CARES Program offers students and families the ability to access treatment without long waitlists or financial barriers. With 8 initial visits provided free of charge—and the possibility to continue care based on funding and clinical need—this initiative ensures that everyone has a fair chance at receiving the support they deserve.

Many families seek help for challenges such as depression, anxiety, and parenting strategies, and the CARES Program is designed to meet these needs with tailored, evidence-based solutions.

## Program Highlights

- **Enhanced Access to Care:** Leveraging technology and community partnerships, the program ensures seamless connections to mental health resources, so no one falls through the cracks.
- **Tailored Support Services:** From individual therapy for depression and anxiety to parenting strategies and psychiatric medication management, the program provides a range of evidence-based solutions designed to meet unique needs.
- **Breaking Down Barriers:** Financial, logistical, and systemic challenges that often prevent families from seeking care are eliminated.
- **Community Engagement:** Collaboration with schools, community leaders, and mental health providers ensures resources are accessible, effective, and aligned with the needs of the community.

“The CARES Program is an essential step toward building a supportive environment where every student can thrive. By working with community partners, we are breaking down barriers to care and ensuring that families in our district receive the resources they need. This program exemplifies our dedication to student success and well-being.” said Dr. Christy Sefcik, Superintendent of District 124.

## Join the Movement for Better Mental Health

Your involvement is crucial to the success of the Grant CARES Program. If your student or a family member could benefit from therapeutic or psychiatric support, take the first step by visiting <https://referralgps.com/124cares> to learn more and get started. Together, we can ensure every student and family has access to the care they need to thrive. Let's create a brighter, healthier future for our community.

THE NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY PRESENTS

# *Grant's* *got Talent*



**FRIDAY  
14 MARCH**

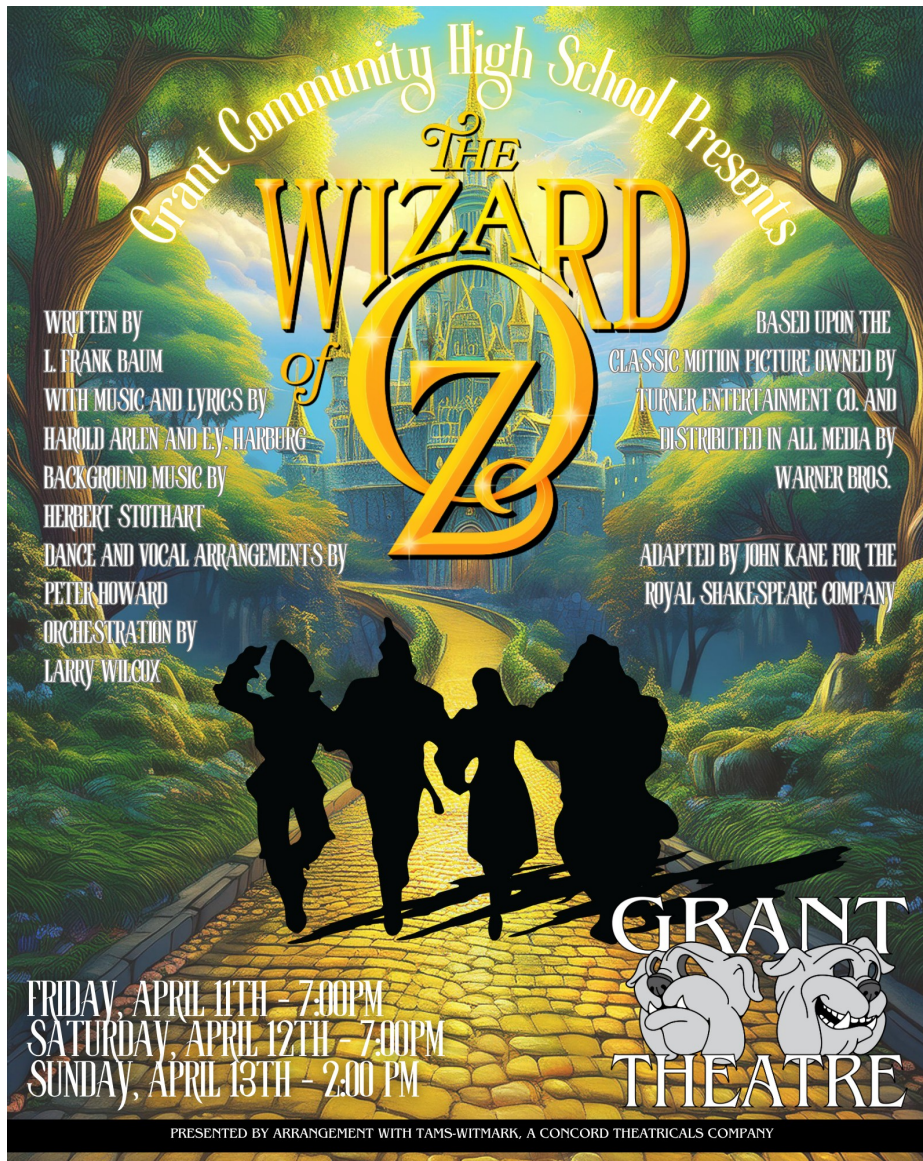
**7 PM**

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

The act with the most change will win  
Audience Choice!



# Get Ready for a Magical Adventure Down the Yellow Brick Road!



The Grant Theatre Family is proud to present L. Frank Baum's timeless classic, the musical "The Wizard of Oz." Join us in April and allow the Grant Theatre to whisk you away to the fantastical Land of Oz, where anything is possible. Follow Dorothy (Junior, Maddie Mesmer), a Kansas farm girl, as a terrifying tornado transports her and Toto to this vibrant and whimsical world, setting her on an adventure guided by the good witch Glinda (Senior, Allison Bolisay).

This dazzling musical bursts with unforgettable songs like "Over the Rainbow" and "We're Off to See the Wizard," and introduces you to a quirky cast of characters: the Scarecrow (Senior, Sammy Hernandez) yearning for brains, the Tin Man (Senior, Payton Evans) desperate for a heart, and the Cowardly Lion (Junior, Cayden Zeller) seeking courage. Together, they embark on a thrilling journey to the Emerald City to seek the wisdom and power of the Great Oz (Sophomore, Xander Jurgaitis), facing treacherous obstacles and outsmarting the wicked Witch of the West (Senior, Maddy Hurley) along the way.

Through countless hours of hard work, laughter, and pure magic, the Grant Theatre family has created a show that will transport you to another world. The backstage crew has been diligently working since January, designing elaborate sets, gathering and creating countless props, and handcrafting over seventy-six costumes to bring the stage to life. Our amazing pit orchestra has been practicing tirelessly to bring you every toe-tapping note you remember from the classic musical. Meanwhile, the ensemble cast has been hard at work perfecting over twelve different dance routines and songs. Get ready to be amazed, inspired, and reminded that the greatest adventures often begin within ourselves.

The Wizard of Oz isn't just a fairy tale; it's a mirror reflecting our own lives. Dorothy and her friends embark on a journey seeking something outside themselves – brains, a heart, courage. However, their journey reveals a powerful truth: the answers they seek lie within. In today's world, we often chase shiny objects and forget to look inward. The Wizard of Oz reminds us that true strength, kindness, and courage reside within each of us.

The Wizard of Oz opens Friday, April 11, at 7:00 PM. Tickets will go on sale soon.

## 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.

## THE STUDENT 6 STEP FAFSA *checklist*



### Step 1

Create an FSA ID at [studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account](http://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account)

\*You will need your Social Security Number



### Step 2

After your FSA has been verified start the FAFSA at [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov) and select Start New Form



### Step 3

STUDENTS fill out the student section



### Step 4

Invite Contributors (click or scan the code to see who would be your contributor)

\*To invite you will need: name, date of birth, social security number, and email address



### Step 5

Parents can complete the parent section after receiving the email invite to complete the FAFSA



### Step 6

Review and Submit



CLC AND GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL



# CLC PLACEMENT TESTS

Math Placement Test  
Friday - February 28th  
5th period  
Lecture Hall



English Placement Test  
Friday - March 7th  
9th period  
Lecture Hall



Application/Onboarding Assistance  
Friday - February 21st  
Sign up for time on SchoolLinks  
College & Career Center





ONE CLICK COLLEGE ADMIT IS ILLINOIS' DIRECT ADMISSION PROGRAM INTO THE STATE'S PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES! WITH ONLY YOUR GPA, YOU ARE DIRECTLY ADMITTED TO ONE OR MORE ILLINOIS PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES!

START YOUR JOURNEY

## OneClickAdmit.org

WHAT IS ILLINOIS ONE CLICK COLLEGE ADMIT?

ILLINOIS ONE CLICK COLLEGE ADMIT IS A DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM ON COMMON APP MANAGED BY THE ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IBHE). THE PROGRAM WORKS LIKE OTHER DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAMS ON COMMON APP, BUT THERE ARE A FEW DIFFERENCES.

FOR THIS PROGRAM, EACH COLLEGE WILL SET ITS OWN GPA REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENTS MUST BE ILLINOIS RESIDENTS.

THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES PARTICIPATE IN THE ILLINOIS ONE CLICK COLLEGE ADMIT:

- CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY
- EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
- GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
- NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
- NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
- SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE
- SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE
- WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

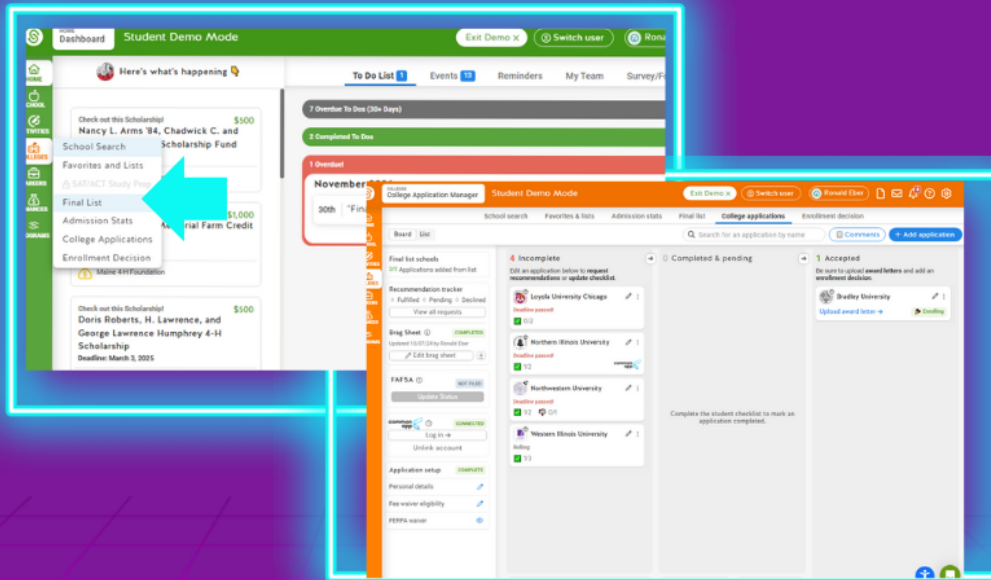
JUST LIKE THE OTHER DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAMS ON COMMON APP, WHEN YOU ANSWER THE COMMON APP TAB QUESTIONS RELATED TO DIRECT ADMISSIONS ELIGIBILITY, YOU MAY NOT SEE YOUR OFFERS IN THE APPLICATION RIGHT AWAY. STARTING IN JANUARY THROUGH MAY, WE'LL NOTIFY YOU IF YOU HAVE ANY NEW OFFERS.

Frequently Asked Questions - Scan Here





# SENIORS! DON'T FORGET UPDATE YOUR COLLEGE LIST ON SCHOOLINKS



## Introducing FIRST GEN BULLDOGS

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

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

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

***First Generation (adjective) Student:***

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

**OPEN TO CURRENT JUNIOR FIRST GEN STUDENTS**



scan to sign up

Meeting Dates: Feb 13, March 4, April 1, May 6  
10th period - LECTURE HALL





# **PARENT UNIVERSITY**

**P R E S E N T S :**

**FINANCIAL AID 101**

**WEDNESDAY - APRIL 23RD**

**6:30-7:30 PM**

**GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH  
SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**Students and Parents of all grades are welcome**

**Brought to you by:**



# Bulldog Happenings

## Special Olympics Qualifies for Basketball State



Our Special Olympics Basketball team wins their Regional game.

The Special Olympics team had an incredible showing at their Regional tournament, and their hard work has paid off as they are heading to State! In their first game, the Bulldogs faced off against the D128 Storm and delivered a dominant performance, winning 36-14 and advancing to the Gold/Silver Round. The team continued to impress in their second game against Crystal Lake Central Orange. Although they trailed for the first three quarters, the Bulldogs showed true resilience, rallying back in the final moments to secure a thrilling 37-34 victory. Key three-pointers from James Meeks, Rio Prayogga, and Julien Tennyson played a crucial role in the comeback, highlighting the team's determination and teamwork. With this exciting win, the Special Olympics team has earned a spot at the State competition, which will be held at Illinois State University from March 7-9. The Bulldogs are ready to bring their best to State, and we couldn't be more proud of their journey so far. Follow [@GCHS\\_SpOlympics](#) on X for more updates.

## Winter Guard Shines at Back-to-Back Competitions



Winter Guard

Winter Guard took the floor for back-to-back tournaments at the end of January, showing impressive growth from one competition to the next. Their hard work paid off as they wrapped up the weekend with a strong 5th place finish in their division. We can't wait to see how they continue to progress throughout the season.

## Sophomore Class Council Shoe Drive

The Sophomore Class Council truly knocked it out of the park with their recent Shoe Drive Fundraiser! Thanks to their hard work and dedication, along with the incredible generosity of our students, staff, and community, we were able to collect an impressive 86 bags of shoes, totaling 2,150 pairs! A special thank you goes to Avon Township for their donation of over 200 pairs (thank you, Maria Cuevas), many staff members who contributed 25 pairs or more, and Fox Lake Jazzercise Center for their collective donation of more than 500 pairs (thank you, Linda Carrol). We also want to recognize all the surrounding community members who dropped off shoes or arranged for a pick-up. Your support made this drive a huge success! The funds raised will go toward the Class of 2026's Prom costs, and we're excited to announce the total amount in the coming weeks. Thanks again to everyone who contributed and a big round of applause for the Sophomore Class Council for organizing such a successful event!

## Mathletes Excel at NLCC & Hononegah Competitions



Math Team competes at NLCC Meet.

The Mathletes had a strong showing at the NLCC meet, finishing 4th overall. Top performers included Bella Raube, who took 1st in Algebra 2, Nicole Sak and Jirah Lanzar, who placed 3rd in the Junior-Senior 2-Person Team event, and John McCollom, who earned 4th in Algebra 1. The team continued their success at Hononegah High School, where McCollom placed 2nd in Algebra 1, Raube took 3rd in Algebra 2, Taiseer Mumin finished 3rd in Pre-Calculus, and Sak earned 4th in Algebra 2. Additionally, the Algebra 2 team of Sak, Raube, Cayden Zeller, and Joey Reiner secured 2nd place.





**CELEBRATE TODAY,  
OWN TOMORROW!**

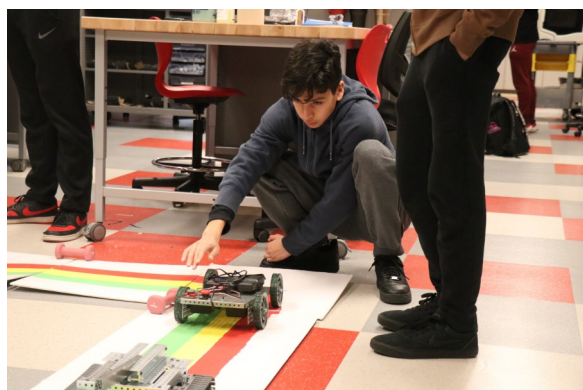
February is CTE (Career and Technical Education) Month and we are using that to celebrate the opportunities for our students through the CTE department. Over the past several years, our staff has worked hard to expand access and opportunities for our students to explore their career interests and expand their capacity through rigorous new curricula. In that time, our CTE department has launched courses in entrepreneurship, mobile application design, technology support, engineering, and education. The expansion in our curriculum has included dual credit courses, internships, and opportunities for students to earn industry credentials. These changes to our curriculum and our attention to developing career pathways for our students have led to exciting opportunities for our students.

In our entrepreneurship pathway, students have been engaged within the IncubatorEDU curriculum over the past four years. Students in this course have the opportunity to take an idea for a product and build their business

plan through the "lean start-up model". As they do this, our students have the opportunity to engage with nearly twenty industry professionals and leaders to learn firsthand about how to start and run a business. Our students present their plans at minimum viable product pitches and then again at a final pitch to our Board of Advisors who select the best business plan within the group.



*Mobile Maker*



*Project Lead the Way*

Our future engineers have immersed themselves in our engineering pathway as they have worked through our Project Lead the Way course sequence. Through these courses, students learn critical thinking skills and the technical skills to prepare for undergraduate study in Engineering. Students engage with industry professionals in this course as they learn about the Engineering career and receive professional feedback about their work. Within these classes, students work to understand and use CAD programs, 3D printing, programming of robotic arms and belt systems, and the milling of material.

Grant's future educators have jumped into their future careers by taking our new dual credit Introduction to Education course. As part of this class, our students are interning for nearly 60 hours at our feeder schools helping teachers in their classrooms.

Students in our Tech Support Internship (TSI) have earned over 200 industry credentials. These credentials include, but are not limited to, Microsoft Office Specialist Certification and the CompTIA ITF+ certification. Students also certify to fix our Chromebooks and offer all first-tier technical support for Chromebook issues across the school. These students have proved to be valuable assets to our teachers and students across the building.



*TSI*

*Continues on Page 24...*



Food Preparation

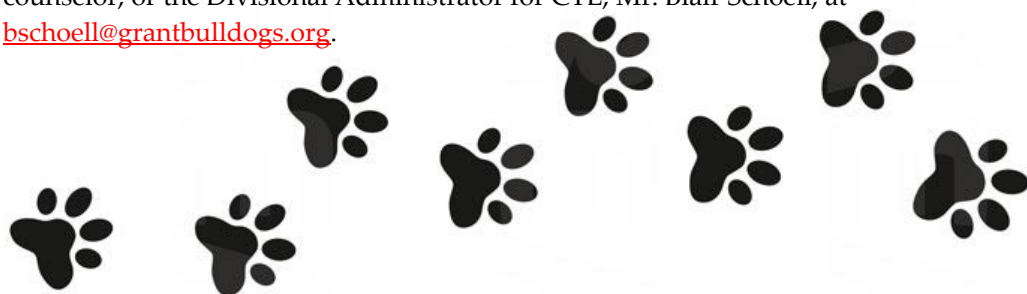
Across all of our classes in the CTE department, we work to open doors to opportunities so that our students can be college and career ready. Whether you want to go into carpentry or manufacturing and are exploring our woods classes, fixing small engines in our Technology Exploration classes, learning culinary skills in our Food Preparation and Nutrition courses, or creating the next generation of iPhone app in our Mobile App Design course, we have a pathway for every student.

We encourage every student to go full steam ahead and take advantage of the opportunities available through the CTE department to prepare themselves for the workplace of tomorrow!

To learn more about CTE at Grant Community High School, please attend the February 28 Parent University highlighting CTE programs at Grant Community High School. If you would like information about course registration please contact your student's counselor, or the Divisional Administrator for CTE, Mr. Blair Schoell, at [bschoell@grantbulldogs.org](mailto:bschoell@grantbulldogs.org).



Fashion Construction



# Keep It RED

To get us all started on the right foot, we challenged our students to another Be On Time Challenge and the Senior Class was determined to win. Within the first two weeks of our challenge, the Seniors became the clear front runner and held onto their lead throughout the final week. The Freshman Class gave them a run for their money as the final week began, but with 370 tardies, the Seniors secured their win along with an ice cream party and Bulldog Cup points. Follow us on X ([@KeepingItRED](https://twitter.com/KeepingItRED)) for updates on challenge winners.



Bulldog Buck Winners from the Week of January 31



December/January Bulldog Pride Winners & Bulldog Bucks Winners from the Week of January 24



**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 ON YOUR SCREEN**



**CRISIS HOTLINES**



**NATIONAL SUICIDE  
PREVENTION  
CENTER  
CALL  
1-800-273-8255**



**CRISIS TEXT LINE  
TEXT "CONNECT"  
TO 741741**



**TEEN LINE  
TEXT "TEEN" TO  
310-855-4673**



**THE TREVOR  
PROJECT  
TEXT "TREVOR"  
TO  
202-304-1200**

**YOUTH FRIENDLY RESOURCES  
RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH**



**YOUNG WOMEN'S  
HEALTH**



**YOUNG MEN'S  
HEALTH**



**MINDFULNESS  
FOR TEENS**



**MOOD 24/7**



**SHINE TEXT**



**GO ASK ALICE**

**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**



# C A L E N D A R

## February

Feb. 3	Start of National School Counseling Week (2/3-2/7)
Feb. 5	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Progress Reports
Feb. 7	Speech Showcase
Feb. 8	Speech Regionals
Feb. 10-11	NLCC Honors Band Festival (Wauconda)
Feb. 12	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Feb. 13	Winter Pep Assembly
Feb. 14	Staff Institute Day, no student attendance
Feb. 17	President's Day observed, no school
Feb. 18	NLCC Choir (Antioch)
Feb. 19	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Blood Drive Sign-Up
Feb. 20	Best Buddies (Grayslake North) Board of Education Meeting
Feb. 26	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Parent University: Career & Technical Education
Feb. 28	Blood Drive

## March

Mar. 5	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Music In Our Schools Concert
Mar. 6	Parent University – Parent/Guardian Support Group
Mar. 9	Pickleball Tournament
Mar. 11	Progress Reports
Mar. 12	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Mar. 14	Grant's Got Talent
Mar. 19	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Career Fair
Mar. 20	Board of Education Meeting
Mar. 24-28	Spring Break

## April

Apr. 2	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start NHS Induction
Apr. 8	Spring ACT Testing
Apr. 9	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Activity & Athletic Fair (Class of 2029)
Apr. 11-13	Spring Musical – The Wizard of Oz
Apr. 16	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Apr. 17	Progress Reports Board of Education Meeting
Apr. 18	No School
Apr. 23	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Freshman Honors Breakfast Wellness Fair Parent University: Financial Aid Night (Juniors)
Apr. 25	NLCC Art Show (North Chicago)
Apr. 26	Fido Fest
Apr. 30	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start