



GES on pace to continue IREAD success

The IREAD-3 takes place in March and it is a year-long effort of preparation to get second and third graders ready for the statewide literacy assessment.

Greensburg Elementary students have experienced significant success as the school has consistently tested above the 94% passing rate for the past several years.

Principal Mary Beth Meyer attributes that to a number of factors with the first being the educators in the classroom.

"I am continually amazed by the dedication of our teachers. They go above and beyond every single day to support all of our students, both in the classroom and beyond," Meyer said.

GES has daily classroom instruction that is carefully designed to build strong reading foundations and there is also targeted interventions for students who need extra support.

If a second grader passes IREAD-3 they are not required to take it again in third grade.

The school also has options for the students who struggle with the assessment. GES offers summer school for second graders to give them additional reading instruction.

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For third graders who do not pass in March, they receive intense interventions before a retake in May. Summer school is also an option if need be.

“It truly takes all of us working together, and I am proud to say that every staff member at Greensburg Elementary is on board and dedicated to our students’ success. Our team approach—teachers, support staff, and administrators—ensures that no child faces this challenge alone,” Meyer said.

The principal added that parents and guardians also play a pivotal role in the development of literacy skills.

“As we prepare for the IREAD-3 assessment, our goal is always 100%. While we know this is a high bar, it is what our students deserve, and we strive toward it every day,” she added.

GJHS students design yearbook cover

The Greensburg Junior High Yearbook will feature the artwork of two students this year.

Eighth grader Ariel Arias was inspired to create a deep ocean theme that drives home what Pirates are all about.

“Honestly, Pirates are kind of scary and intimidating and I feel like the deep ocean is kind of scary too. So, I thought a shipwreck and a giant octopus fit well with this idea,” Arias said.

Sixth grader Isabelle Macku created a design that showcases the subjects taught at GJHS, including history, science, math and art.

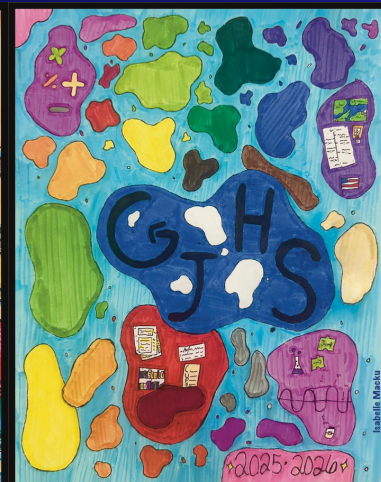
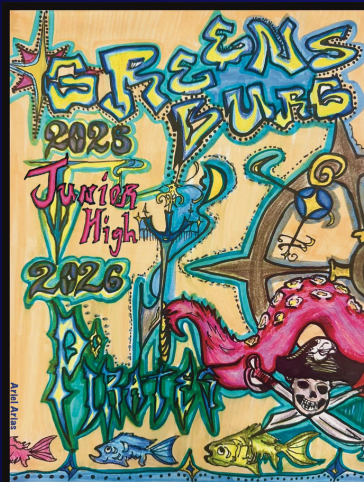
Both students say they are honored to have their artwork selected for the yearbook.

“I had people tell me that mine was pretty good, but I didn’t think so, so I am pretty surprised to be selected,” Macku said.

Ariel and Isabelle are in different grades but both say they are having a great experience at GJHS.

They enjoy the freedom and opportunities they receive compared to when they were younger.

“We have to show more responsibilities, getting to class on time, remembering your schedule. But, its just a lot of fun and there’s a lot of sports here too,” Macku said.



PIRATES ARE PRIMED THEME OF THE MONTH PERSISTENT

The Pirates Are PRIMED initiative is to answer one critical question: What do we hope every student will gain from their PreK-12 experience? PRIMED is our guiding acronym and it represents the core attributes that define what it means to be a Pirate.

In March, our focus is being Persistent. No matter what grade you are in, students can persevere through challenges, identify the root cause of problems and craft potential solutions.

For Kindergarteners, persistence can be solving small challenges like tying your shoes. While seniors demonstrate persistence through fulfilling major academic achievements.

STUDENT EXAMPLES



Senior Elizabeth Balser knows what it means to be persistent when pursuing a goal.

She had knee surgery this past summer and had to learn how to walk again.

"I had to use persistence when learning to walk and remain continuously focused on improving and exercising," she said.

Greensburg Jr/Sr Virtual School registration underway

The inaugural year of Greensburg Jr./Sr. Virtual School has been a tremendous success!

More than 90 students have taken advantage of the tuition-free, fully accredited online public school for grades 6–12.

Students receive live instruction from licensed educators using the Indiana Online curriculum, and each student is provided with a Chromebook at no cost.

Families may choose a hybrid model that combines virtual learning with in-person classes, synchronous live teacher-led classes, or asynchronous coursework that students can complete at their own pace.

Students and families can stop by the Greensburg Learning Center anytime to work in the classroom and receive in-person support for four-year planning, scheduling, and technology from experienced staff.

Students in the virtual school enjoy a full student life with extracurricular activities, dances including Prom, participation in Greensburg Community School's commencement, and sports. The program also hosts year-round events to bring peers together.

To enroll or get more information, contact Coordinator Jennifer Bowles at (812) 663-7176 or email jbowles@greensburg.k12.in.us. Reserve your student's spot today — enrollment for next fall is open!



SEBASTIAN'S CORNER

Article by GES 4th Grader Sebastian Russell

Unexpected Lessons, Lasting Legacies

Sebastian Russell is a GES fourth grader who met with Kindergarten Teacher Sherry Dunn and First Grader Teacher Jenni Welage ahead of their retirement later this year!

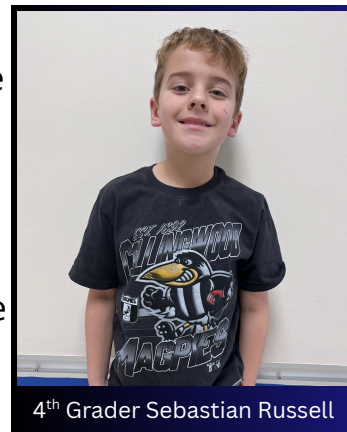
Have you ever seen a mouse crawling through the ceiling light or a kindergartener going to the restroom during a severe weather drill? Well, Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Welage have! Teachers experience all of this and more! Teachers have amazing amounts of patience while dealing with unplanned situations. Greensburg Elementary School has two great teachers, Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Welage, who are retiring this year.

Mrs. Dunn has taught for 35 years and is currently a kindergarten teacher. Her favorite part about teaching is seeing kids get excited about work and showing growth during the year. Mrs. Dunn helps students develop the skills to move onto first grade, like learning how to write basic sentences, and becoming more independent. Outside of school, she has a husband who is an engineer and has worked in the Air Force, she has three grown children, and a grandson.

Mrs. Welage has taught for 28 years and is currently teaching first grade. Her favorite part is seeing students at the start of the year and seeing the lightbulb "click". Students figure out how to go through difficult tasks, such as the introduction of science and social studies to the classroom. At home she has a husband who is an optometrist and three grown children.

Both of these teachers have made a definite impact on our school. We were so blessed to have them here.

Every student has a teacher who they will always remember. I was fortunate to get the opportunity to have two great teachers, and they are about to retire! Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Welage both showed me how much they loved teaching kids. They helped me build a strong foundation for everything I have learned. Their kind, funny, and passionate personalities made learning incredibly enjoyable. Thank you Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Welage for your dedication to Greensburg Elementary School!



4th Grader Sebastian Russell



GCHS students lead fundraising efforts

Six GCHS students participated in the Decatur County Meals on Wheels Dancing With the Stars Fundraiser in late February.

The students were Carmin Ripperger, Brenley Jameson, Wade Schutte, Declan Bruns, Adrienne Swango and Eli Rayles.

JAG Teacher Jessica Barker assisted the students in fundraising efforts and they raised \$2.2K!

The GCHS team did a great job dancing and also earned a trophy for fundraising the most money out of any group!

FFA members host petting zoo at GES

(**GREENSBURG, Ind.**) – Greensburg FFA members hosted a petting zoo for young children on Thursday, February 26.

The annual program allows elementary students to see and learn about pigs, beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, rabbits and other livestock.

“It is great to see how happy the kids get when they see animals, and we tell them about the animals,” said FFA member Madelyn Bedel.

The petting zoo is part of Greensburg FFA’s programming during National FFA Week.

FFA member Carlie Case said, “Some of these students don’t get to see farm animals up close so it is really good to bring this opportunity to them.”

The FFA members also braved the cold by driving their tractors to school that week!



PIRATE FUN FACTS

**GREENSBURG OFFERS A ROBUST CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION PROGRAM!
MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS EARNED CAREER CERTIFICATIONS
LAST YEAR!**

Gold With Distinction



**Madeline Schrader had a strong performance
at the ISSMA State Solo & Ensemble Contest!**

**She was a ½ point away from a perfect score
as she earned a Gold medal with Distinction!**

Preparing students for success

Juniors participated in mock interviews in early March.

It was organized to prepare students for real life interviews they will soon have for Work-Based Learning opportunities.

The students say it was beneficial to find out what employers expect and will ask of them.

It can be nerve-racking but you have to relax and be confident,” said junior Faith Anderson.

