



Grant Community High School

District Newsletter

October 2026

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Student of the Month

Kaitlyn Carpenter

Kaitlyn Carpenter, the daughter of Kim and Jason Carpenter of Lakemoor, is an exceptionally accomplished senior at Grant Community High School who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, academic excellence, and continuous dedication to the arts. Maintaining an impressive 4.824 GPA, Kaitlyn has been named to the Honor Roll every semester of her high school career. Her academic portfolio features completed AP coursework in World History, 2D Art and Design, and Language and Composition, alongside current enrollment in AP Literature, AP Psychology, AP Statistics, and Dual Credit Biotechnology. Her academic achievements have been formally recognized with the College Board AP Scholar Award, the NLCC Distinguished Artist title, and repeated roles as an NLCC Art Show Student Ambassador.



Kaitlyn's extracurricular leadership spans across performance, fine arts, and student government. She serves as a Team Captain of the Grant Speech Team. Kaitlyn has earned the title of IHSA's Speech Performance in the Round State Runner-Up in 2024 and holds executive positions as Social Media Manager for Grant Theatre and Historian for the National Art Honor Society (NAHS). In music, Kaitlyn is a member of the Chamber Singers and holds multiple roles on the Choir Leadership Team, including Section Leader, Publicist, and Celebration Coordinator. Her talents are also featured prominently across campus as an official National Anthem Singer, performing at over 30 school athletic games, assemblies, and graduation ceremonies annually.

Service and mentorship are central to Kaitlyn's involvement, supported by more than 90 cumulative volunteer hours. She serves as an Art Peer Tutor and Student Ambassador while contributing extensive service through the National Honor Society and NAHS, where she has led projects ranging from community face painting and mural design to organizing events like Grant's Got Talent and volunteering at Fox Lake Festivals. Her professional experience includes working as a swim instructor at JEM Swim, where she taught aquatic safety and technique to children. In her personal time, Kaitlyn enjoys reading, true crime documentaries, traveling, and making art. Following graduation, she plans to study criminology and minor in legal studies or forensic science at Ball State University or the University of Iowa, with the career goal of becoming an FBI criminal profiler to advocate for victims and improve community safety.

Kaitlyn views the honor of Student of the Month as a call to action and a platform to advocate for her peers. She intends to use the opportunity to represent the fine arts program, build a positive school culture, and promote growth and inclusivity across the entire student body.

Board of Education

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

Ivy Fleming
Laurie Hembrey
Ed Lescher
Bob Yanik



Times Square at Midnight

Homecoming Recap

Royalty

Bartek Chrupek & Alexa Haut



Senior Window Painting



Court & Attendants

Row 1: Steven McLaurin, Ayden George, Alexa Haut, Bartek Chrupek, Garrett Fries, Noah Zequeida, Kennedy Inman, Mia Peters

Row 2: Olivia Farley, Juliette Yerushalmi, Tailiz Ribot, Giuliana Haut, Jacob Morales, Sheryl Castillo



Dress-Up Days



Football Game

Our Varsity Football team beat Grayslake North 24-21!



Parade



Principal's Corner

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2026 Homecoming a success. Homecoming offered numerous events throughout the past week to engage our students in building community and culture around what it means to be a Grant Bulldog. It was exciting to see so many of our students in competition throughout the week as we hosted a full schedule of athletic events daily. Throughout the week, students had the opportunity to earn stamps in their Homecoming Passport, which encouraged participation in Homecoming events and attendance at athletic events throughout the week. Students completing the passport were entered into a drawing for free Homecoming Dance tickets. The parade and dance offered us a chance to celebrate what it means to be part of our school community and celebrate our newest Hall of Fame Inductees. It was truly a great week, and I am thankful to the many people involved who made it a memorable experience for our students.



In the past month, we hosted our second Parent University of the year, "College 101, Financial Aid, SchoolLinks, and Tech Campus." We were happy to welcome nearly 50 parents and family members to join us for an evening designed to provide valuable information and resources to help guide our students on their journey toward college and career readiness. With over 76% of our students pursuing admission to a college or university, and 21% pursuing admission to a technical school, an apprenticeship, a career, or military service, this night helps set the stage for how each student and family can successfully prepare themselves for college and career pursuits. Throughout the evening, families gained important insights into the college admissions process, expectations for enrollment, and key information every family should know heading into senior year. Families also learned about financing college from a guest presenter from Lake Forest College, who shared information about FAFSA, scholarship opportunities, and grants. We also highlighted the work students are doing on SchoolLinks, our all-in-one college and career readiness platform, and highlighted the Lake County Technology Campus and the opportunities they provide to prepare students for their next step. Our next Parent University will be on October 14th and will focus on college and career pathways. Please [register here](#) to attend.

October also takes us into our first rotation of testing. On October 2nd, students will take the first round of the State Seal of Biliteracy tests. When students take these tests and demonstrate proficiency in English and another language, they become eligible for advanced placement in language programs at Illinois colleges and universities, and may also earn between 8 and 12 hours of college credit. There will be multiple rounds of testing for this throughout the year. Students will also have the opportunity to take the NMSQT exam on Saturday, October 21st, where students may become eligible for National Merit Scholarships. Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior students will take the PreACT on October 13th in preparation for ACT testing in the Spring. Preparation for these tests is important. We have made ACT preparation available to every student through our Edgenuity program. Students can enroll in the classes and work through the modules during TEAM and/or outside of school. We have also partnered with Verdant Tutoring, which will offer paid preparation classes after school for students working towards strengthening their scores for college admissions and scholarship opportunities.

On the topic of testing and academic achievement, we are excited to celebrate the work our students did on their AP exams at the end of last school year. 297 students took 566 exams as part of last year's AP testing. 82.15% of students testing earned a 3 or higher on their test. 45 of our students earned the honor of AP Scholar, 20 earned the honor of AP Scholar with Honor, and 36 earned the honor of AP Scholar with Distinction. This performance is a testament to the hard work of our students and AP teachers throughout the year. We are also happy to announce that three Grant students were recognized as Commended Scholars as part of the National Merit Scholarship Program. We are excited for all of these students and are thankful for their high level of engagement in their academic pursuits.

October will be another month full of excitement, and I look forward to what we will accomplish together!

Go Bulldogs!

Mr. Blair Schoell
Principal





National Merit Commendable Students

Three Bulldogs Named Commended Scholars

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is a non-profit organization that was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 400 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence. NMSC has announced this year's Commended Scholars in the 71st annual National Merit Scholarship Program, and three of our Bulldogs made the list.

Congratulations to Kayli Brook, Carter McCleery, and Cole Tellez on being named Commended Scholars! About 34,000 Commended students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although these students will not continue in the 2027 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2027 competition by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).



ARE YOU AT RISK?

MEDICAL SUSPENSION DAY OCTOBER 15

IF YOUR STUDENT IS AT RISK, YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVING LETTERS IN THE MAIL, PHONE CALLS, & EMAILS. DO NOT IGNORE THESE MESSAGES.

Freshmen

We have either not received the appropriate forms such as the Certificate of Health Form/vaccines, or there is an issue with missing vaccines.

Seniors

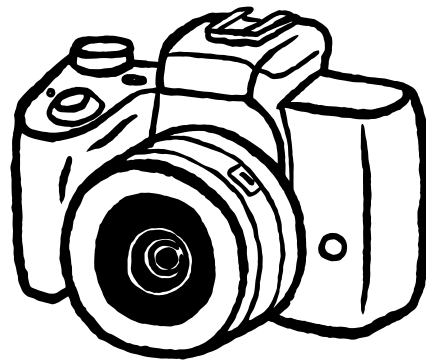
We need proof that your student has received the MCV4 vaccine AFTER THE AGE OF 16. It is also called Menveo, Menactra, or MenQuadfi. This can be given at doctors' offices or pharmacies. (Note: MenB vaccine is NOT the correct vaccine).

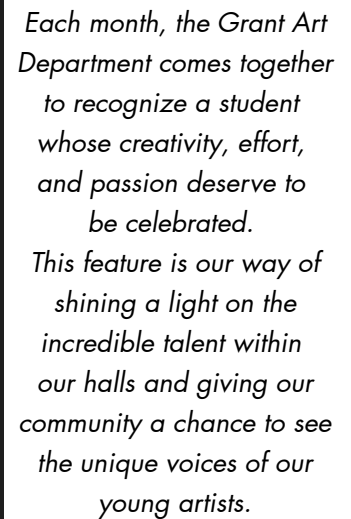
If you are unsure what is missing, please call the Health Office at (847) 973-3452/3453. Per Illinois law, your student will be excluded from school/activities/sports starting October 15. Exclusion continues until the required information is turned in & deemed in compliance. Email forms (PDFs only) to HealthOffice@grantbulldogs.org, or fax to (847) 587-1088. Forms can also be dropped off at the Main Office or Health Office.

Picture Day & Ordering Information

GCHS Picture Days were held on September 29 and October 1. If your student was unable to have their photo taken, Picture Day Retakes are scheduled for November 5.

After picture day, you'll be able to view your images, order packages, and select your image for your yearbook. We ask that all students select their yearbook photo ASAP. If a photo is not selected, a photo will be selected for them. All orders will be delivered to your home. After pictures have been taken, you can search for them at vipis.com. Enter your student's information and your email to receive an email when your photos are ready to view. If you need further assistance, contact VIP at support@vipis.com.





I've been creating art ever since I was old enough to hold one of those triangular-shaped jumbo crayons and scribble all over a page. Year after year, new pages of scribbles hung up on the fridge, drawers filled with sheets of vibrant colors, clothes and countertops decorated with chicken scratches and paint splatters. It's safe to say that I've always been the "art kid," but starting around middle school, I discovered a new reason to fall in love with art: it could express the most complex of thoughts and emotions more effectively than words ever could. That's probably the main reason I love art. Oftentimes when I'm struggling, I'll doodle something that encapsulates my grief, or I'll simply use the act of creating to decompress. The pictures aren't always pretty, nor do they always make sense, but they help me take my problems out onto my pencil. Thus, for this reason, art has always been very special to me.

In my artistic journey at Grant, I have taken Intro to Art, Painting I, Painting II, Drawing I, and am currently taking Drawing II. Taking these classes has undeniably helped me improve as an artist and, on top of that, has helped me discover different mediums I enjoy. For instance, I hadn't been much of a painter prior to high school; however, when I took painting freshman year, I really enjoyed it and became a pretty skilled painter! Even with drawing, which has always been my go-to, I realized how much I enjoy colored pencils, despite not using them much before. Discovering these new techniques and mediums has expanded my opportunities for future creations.

My favorite memory from taking art classes would be the final project for Painting II, in which we would paint a tapestry to be displayed in the library. This project was special because I enjoyed working at a larger scale and feeling accomplished as everything came together. I also loved taking my mind off of everything as I brushed away at the canvas. Once it was finally completed, I felt proud of the finished product and excited that my piece would be displayed in the school for years to come.

Taking art courses at Grant has improved my high school experience by meeting others who share my passions, offering me a creative outlet, and providing an opportunity to discover myself. Within Grant's art program, I have met so many wonderful, supportive people who reciprocate my love for creativity. One of the best parts of attending art class is being surrounded by friends who are so kind and encouraging of each other's artistry, as well as sharing with them the experience of creating something spectacular. Additionally, having forty to fifty minutes to escape from the clamour of the school day and create art is incredibly valuable, especially as someone who can get overwhelmed easily. Finally, pursuing the arts at Grant has helped me define my passions, learn to persevere through challenges, build confidence, and develop my artistic voice. What Grant's art program has provided me has helped me navigate high school's obstacles and find a community where I feel accepted.

I would one thousand and one percent recommend any other student to take art. It is an excellent way to discover a new hobby and/or find an awesome community of supportive people. Art is also intellectually beneficial, as it engages both the creative and critical thinking sides of the brain. So, if you want to improve your critical thinking skills and ingenuity (which, I don't know why you wouldn't) then definitely consider taking art! But even if art classes don't fit into your schedule, I would encourage anyone to make art in their free time or find an art-related extracurricular like art club, NAHS, or set design for theater. I'm aware many people are deterred from creating art because they're "not good enough" or "can barely draw a stick figure," but none of that even matters. Any art is good art as long as you made it and enjoyed the process!

As for my future, while I do intend on going to college, it's unlikely that I will attend an art school or major in art. Despite this, art will always remain a way to express myself, navigate challenges, and be something I can keep improving at.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

Spaghetti



ONLY
\$5

OCTOBER 8
4:00-8:00 PM
SEE A CHEERLEADER FOR TICKETS!

RAFFLE PRIZES, GIFT CARDS, 50/50
CASH RAFFLE, & NOTHING BUNDT CAKE



GCHS CHEER PROGRAM



GRANT VOLLEYBALL *Pink Out Night*

Join us on

OCTOBER 8

for our annual Pink Out as we raise funds for the
Susan G. Komen Foundation!

JV2/Sophomore/JV - 5 PM
Varsity - 6 PM

Raffle baskets will be on display in the Field House
(cash only, must be present to win)

*Show your pink
pride & support
a great cause!*



AP Scholars

We are thrilled to celebrate the remarkable academic achievements of our students who have earned AP Scholar Awards from the College Board based on their exceptional performance on last year's Advanced Placement (AP) Exams. This prestigious national recognition honors high school students who demonstrate college-level mastery across multiple disciplines. Earning an AP Scholar distinction is a significant accomplishment that our students can cite on college applications and resumes, showcasing their readiness for the rigors of higher education.

The AP Program grants recognition at three primary levels. The criteria for each award are based on both the number of qualifying scores and the student's average score across all AP Exams taken:

- AP Scholar: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.
- AP Scholar with Honor: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.
- AP Scholar with Distinction: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

We are immensely proud of the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our students who have achieved these impressive academic honors. Congratulations to our students on their accomplishments, to their families for their guidance and support, and to their teachers who fostered their learning and supported their dedication.

AP Scholar		AP Scholar with Honor	AP Scholar with Distinction	
David Ascencio	Micky Li			
Elizabeth Becerra	Madison Mesmer			
Nathan Booth	Cole Munaretto	Sarah Alvarez	Estrella Allen	
Ashlyn Bryant	Kyle Neuber	Fiona Carlson	Gavin Belletynee	
Kaitlyn Carpenter	Emeri Oliver	Isabelle Ellington	Ashley Calaunan	Vanessa Pendell
Helena Cranmer	Liam Paquette	Matthew Escatel	Bartek Chrupek	Eric Ramirez Miranda
Jaeden Dayson	Vani Patel	Kobe Garcia	Mariam Eshaba	Isabella Raube
Miami de la Rosa	Michaela Pole	Avery Hamilton	Myles Foreman	Emily Riley
Andrew DeRose	Lawrence Quirk	Julianna Janicki	Dianey Granados	Nicole Sak
John Dollinger	Jeffrey Reda	Ana Larson	Caden Hitzler	Angela Salamat
Natalia Fafrowicz	Joseph Reiner	Maddox Meade	Matthew Honeywell	Piotr Schab
Krysteanna Feliciano	Charlotte Renn	Logan Miller	Caleigh Houdek	Sarah Schmidt
Garrett Fries	Kara Scanlon	Ailani Mora	Destiny Jenkins	Madeline Schneider
Casey Gipson	Shane Schuelke	Gainele Muntu	Ryan Kadlec	Sabelle Sligtham
Cole Guild	Lairek Shulman	Izabela Podgorski	Polina Kolosova	Addison Smith
Abbigale Hamner	Evan Sigler	Ava Renn	Sophie Lelchuk	Annabelle Smith
Isaiah Haque	Audrey Simcoe	Tyler Roepke	Carter McCleery	Alysse Sutschek
Brooke Harvey	Isabella Sison	Jameson Soco	Jayden Medina	Elyanna Torres
Ericka Hopkins	Aiden Skindingsrude	Ravi Soni	Justin Morales	Chloey Wolff
Brooke Horn	Sohan Soni	Abigail Sovsky	Chase Muir	Cayden Zeller
Kian Korach	Logan Terryberry	Ava Timm	Erin Neiweem	
Gavin Lawrence	Caitlyn Themanson	Evelyn Vasey	Karis Packard	
	Ethan Weiher			

College & Career Center

The College & Career Center has several important opportunities and resources available for students and families this fall. Be sure to check out the latest College & Career Center Newsletter for information about FAFSA, College of Lake County (CLC), application workshops, Tech Campus opportunities, and upcoming field trips.

A few important dates to keep in mind:

- October 1: FAFSA opens for the upcoming financial aid cycle.
- October 15: [Illinois Regional College Fair at CLC](#). This is a great opportunity for students and families to connect with college representatives and explore postsecondary options.
- October 29: ASVAB testing. Students interested in taking the ASVAB should complete the [registration form](#) in advance.

Be sure to review the full [newsletter](#) for additional information, upcoming opportunities, and registration links.



Parent University

Working together to create success for your student.

Parent University is a series of workshops and events designed to support parents, guardians, and caregivers. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.

RSVP by completing our [Parent University Registration Form](#).

October 14 - Collaborative Conversations on Career Paths

This is an opportunity for families to learn how to start meaningful conversations that support students in career exploration and readiness based on their interests. NOTE: Parent/Guardians AND Students are encouraged to attend together. Students should bring their Chromebooks to access SchoolLinks.

Save the Date: November 4 - AP & Dual Credit Night

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

For all sessions, the doors open at 6:00 PM for registration. Parents should park in the student lot and enter through Door 9. Sessions begin at 6:30 PM.



National School Lunch Week

National School Lunch Week is October 12-16! This year's theme, "Cafeteria Circus," shines a spotlight on the creativity, teamwork, and dedication that make school meals a daily success. It's also a great opportunity to recognize the important role school meals play in providing students with nutritious options each day. At Grant Community High School, our Food Service team works hard to offer a variety of healthy and delicious choices for students.

During National School Lunch Week, students can look forward to some extra fun in the Commons! From October 13-16, students will have the opportunity to enter a daily raffle, receive fun freebies, and sample special menu items. Be sure to stop by the Commons, check out what's happening, and help us celebrate our Food Service team during National School Lunch Week!

ACT Testing

ACT Practice Available to All Students in Grades 9-11

All students in grades 9, 10, and 11 now have the four Virtual Tutor ACT Prep courses (English, Math, Reading, and Science) assigned to them in Edgenuity. The site should be bookmarked on students' Chrome browsers and use a single sign-on option. We strongly recommend that students complete the practice test and spend some time in modules throughout the school year.

PreACT Testing - Tuesday, October 13

On Tuesday, October 13, Grant Community High School will administer the PreACT assessment to all students in grades 9, 10, and 11. Seniors will not attend classes on October 13.

What Students Can Expect

Students will report to their assigned testing locations by 7:40 AM. Each student should bring their school-issued Chromebook (fully charged) and charging cord. Breakfast will be served before school in the Commons, and a snack will be provided during testing. It is important that students arrive at school on time.

Testing is expected to conclude around 10:45 AM for students with standard testing times, and 12:30 for students with accommodated, extended time testing. Normal bus transportation will be provided after testing for both standard testing times and accommodated, extended testing times.

Testing Room Assignments

On Tuesday, October 6, students will receive a notice in their TEAM room with their testing room assignment and a reminder of the materials they should bring. Parents/guardians are encouraged to confirm that their student has received this information.

Preparing for Test Day

Students can review sample questions and test-taking tips by visiting the ACT student website at www.act.org/preact. Becoming familiar with the test format and question types will help students feel more confident and prepared on test day.



The PreACT helps prepare students and staff for the state-mandated spring testing, which includes an official ACT for juniors, the PreACT Secure for sophomores, and the PreACT for freshmen. Spring testing is scheduled for April 6, 2027.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
7:00 PM
AUDITORIUM

FALL CHOIR CONCERT

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



Keep It RED

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

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

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

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

Building a Culture of Respect

Preventing bullying also means helping students understand how their choices and interactions, both in person and online, can affect others. At the end of September, TEAM rooms discussed what it means to be a responsible digital citizen. While it is easy to post or share something online, that does not mean everything should be posted or shared. Students were reminded that choices made in the digital world can have real-world consequences.

As part of our ongoing bullying prevention efforts, all students will also review the bullying intervention program practiced at GCHS, Expect Respect, and will view the Expect Respect video. Students will also be made aware of the [Anonymous Report: Bulldogs Against Bullying](#), which provides a way to report concerns about bullying.

GCHS staff members are asked to respond immediately and compassionately to a student who reports bullying or school violence. After evaluating the situation to determine if an immediate referral is needed, a dean or designee will work with the student(s) to address the report of potential bullying. You will be informed whenever your child is involved in a bullying report.

The Board's entire policy may be found on the District's website under [School Board Policy 7:180: Prevention and Response to Bullying](#). If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. Geist, Assistant Principal, or any of the Deans.



Bulldog Buck Winners



Be On Time Challenge Winning Donut Party



Bulldog Buck Winners

GCHS Digital Citizenship & Online Safety

Think Before You Post, Share, or Send

Technology allows us to connect, create, and communicate in ways that were unimaginable just a few years ago. With those opportunities comes responsibility.

Important Reminders

- Anything shared online can be copied, saved, or redistributed, even if a platform claims content disappears.
- Sharing photos, screenshots, or messages without someone's permission can have serious consequences.
- AI-generated images and edited content can still cause harm, even when they are not real.
- What may seem like a joke can have lasting impacts on another person's reputation, relationships, and well-being.



If you receive inappropriate content:

- Do not save it.
- Do not forward it.
- Do not share screenshots.
- Tell a trusted adult immediately.

If you are concerned about something online:

Talk to a parent, guardian, counselor, teacher, dean, coach, administrator, or another trusted adult. Asking for help is always the right choice.

Be a Positive Digital Citizen

At GCHS, we strive to demonstrate respect, integrity, and responsibility both in person and online. Before posting, sharing, or commenting, ask yourself:

- Is it respectful?
- Is it responsible?
- Would I want someone doing this to me?

The choices we make online matter. Together, we can help create a safer and more positive digital community for everyone.



Conferencing Tips for Parents

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

Talk with your student

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

Prepare a list of questions

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

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

During the conference

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

After the conference

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

Adapted from [Colorín Colorado](#).

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Thursday, October 22

5:00-8:00 PM

Friday, October 23

8:00-11:00 AM

Information on how to schedule meetings with your student's teachers will be emailed to you.

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

GRANT THEATRE

NOVEMBER 12TH 13TH 14TH AND 15TH

The Play That Goes Wrong

Get ready for an unforgettable night of non-stop comedy as Grant Theatre proudly presents The Play That Goes Wrong. Part Monty Python, part Sherlock Holmes, this Olivier Award-winning whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show: an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead, collapsing sets, missing props, and actors who trip over everything from the scenery to their own lines.

Behind the scenes, our frantic student tech crew fights to keep the set standing, while on stage, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds, medical advice, and the laws of physics to reach their final curtain call. The scenery may shatter, and dignity will certainly be lost, but our amazingly talented cast is determined to push through the madness for an evening of pure, unadulterated disaster that is guaranteed to leave you aching with laughter!

Come out and support our hard-working Grant Theatre Family as they attempt to survive the chaos. This year, Grant Theatre is doing something new: we have SO many AMAZING Bulldog Thespians that we are having TWO separate casts. And we are running TWO additional performances! Tickets go on sale November 1st. Performance dates and times are listed below. So, mark your calendars, gather your friends, and secure your seats for a night of epic theatrical fun you won't want to miss!

- Thursday, November 12th, 7 pm
- Friday, November 13th, 7 pm
- Saturday, November 14th, 2 pm
- Saturday, November 14th, 7 pm
- Sunday, November 15th, 2 pm

Follow us on Instagram: @grant_theatre

Follow us on YouTube: @GrantTheatre1936



ONLINE AUCTION

GCHS FOUNDATION

Get ready to bid and support the students of Grant Community High School!

The GCHS Foundation's annual online auction begins November 1 and will feature a variety of exciting items and experiences. Whether you're looking for something fun for yourself, a great gift, or a unique way to support our Bulldogs, there will be plenty of opportunities to bid.

Mark your calendar for November 1 and stay tuned for more details, including a link to the auction and a preview of this year's offerings.

Your participation helps support the GCHS Foundation and its efforts to enhance opportunities for students at Grant Community High School.

FUNDING FUTURES, ONE BID AT A TIME.



The auction opens on November 1
& closes after November 7.

Your participation helps support the GCHS Foundation & its efforts to enhance opportunities for students & staff at Grant Community High School.



Bulldog Happenings



On Sunday, September 13, the **Marching Bulldogs** traveled to the Grayslake North Marching Knights Tournament. After lots of rehearsals, sectionals, and hard work, they placed second and received best auxiliary!

In one year, the Marching Bulldogs have grown from 39 members to 58 members. We are so excited about the growth in the program not only in numbers, but also in skill. Their next competition is Saturday, October 10, at the Prospect Knight of Champions Competition. Come out and watch them rock the competition!

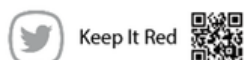
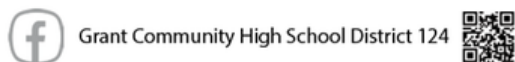
This year, students in our **Dual Credit U.S. History** course visited the grounds and museum at Cantigny Park in Wheaton for a day of learning beyond the classroom.

During their visit, students participated in lessons focused on the First Amendment and wartime, while also researching primary source documents connected to America's military history. The experience gave students an opportunity to explore historical topics through artifacts and resources from the museum.

And, of course, students also had the chance to climb on tanks and get an up-close look at some of the military vehicles on display!



Connect with GCHS



TEAM Live is back! Every Friday we are bringing announcements straight to your TEAM room beginning at 8:40 AM. If you ever miss a [TEAM Live](#) or are looking for more information, check out our [Digital Announcements](#).



FOLLOW ON SPOTIFY OR
YOUTUBE FOR STORIES ABOUT
OUR BULLDOG COMMUNITY



Advanced Placement Exam Registration

AP exams are an important part of all AP courses. This is a standardized test created by the College Board that is administered across the nation and serves as a benchmark for 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 of 3 or better, college credit or advanced placement may be earned at various colleges through this examination. The examination fee is much 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. Scholarships for students in need are available through the Educational Foundation. We will certainly work with individual students and families to make sure every qualified student is able to take Advanced Placement exams.

Students must have a College Board account created and be enrolled in the AP Classroom for that course in order to take the exam. Parents should go to Skyward's Qmlative Family Access to use our RevTrak system to pay for the exam(s).



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

- November 11, 2026: Students taking the exams must pay a minimum \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee per test.
- November 12, 2026: AP teachers will verify with all students that exam registration is accurate in the system and pre-registration fees have been paid.
- November 13, 2026: AP Exam registration is finalized. Any exam registrations that do not have the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee paid by then will be canceled.
- November 14, 2026: Late registration fees or test cancellation fees go into effect. If students sign up for a year-long or first semester course AP exam on this date or after, an additional \$40.00 late fee will be incurred. If a student decides to cancel an exam on this date or after, the student forfeits the \$40.00 Pre-Registration Fee.
- March 12, 2027: All exams must have the balance 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 the Curriculum, Instruction, and 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 all the best as they continue to prepare for these important exams.

Lake County School Facility Sales Tax

On November 3, Lake County voters will see a countywide question on the ballot regarding a County School Facility Sales Tax (CSFT). This update provides factual information regarding the upcoming countywide ballot measure to help our community understand how it relates to Grant Community High School District 124. To learn more about the School Facility Sales Tax on a countywide scale, visit the [Regional Office of Education's website](#).

Under Illinois school law, a County School Facility Sales Tax question is placed on the countywide ballot when school district boards representing more than 50% of the county's student enrollment approve resolutions requesting that the question be submitted to voters. That threshold was reached in Lake County, which means the question will appear on ballots throughout the county. Grant Community High School District 124's Board of Education was among the school boards that passed a resolution to place the question on the countywide ballot, allowing voters the opportunity to consider the CSFT question.

If approved by county voters, this sales tax would provide an alternative revenue source for school facility needs, currently funded primarily by property taxes. Items normally subject to sales tax are included; however, there are exceptions. Items such as groceries, prescriptions, wholesale purchases, vehicles, and services are not included in the CSFT.

Illinois law is very clear about how the revenue can be used. Revenue generated from the proposal could be used for capital projects, facility maintenance, improving school facilities, retiring new or current building bonds, or for school resource officers and mental health professionals. It cannot be used for general school salaries, instructional materials, or other operating costs.

This approach broadens the funding base beyond local property owners to include visitors within the county. Because sales tax applies to retail purchases made within Lake County, revenue is generated by both residents and visitors purchasing goods within the county.

The purpose of providing this information is to give community members a better understanding of the proposed tax prior to Election Day and how the CSFT may be utilized within District 124. It is not intended to advocate for or against the measure.

What Can Funds Be Used For?



**School Facility
Upgrades &
Improvements**



**Security
Upgrades**



**Property Tax
Reduction for
Existing Bonds**



**SROs &
Mental Health
Professionals**

This document is published by Grant Community High School District 124 strictly for educational and informational purposes. District 124 does not endorse, urge, or oppose any ballot proposition.

C A L E N D A R

October

Oct. 1	Picture Day FAFSA Opens
Oct. 2	Seal of Biliteracy Testing - Fall Administration
Oct. 7	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Oct. 8	Cheer Spaghetti Dinner Girls Volleyball Pink Out Night
Oct. 9	Institute Day, No Student Attendance
Oct. 12	Columbus Day, No School
Oct. 13	PreACT Testing No School for Seniors
Oct. 14	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Parent University: Collaborative Conversations on Career Paths
Oct. 15	Progress Report Board of Education Meeting Fall Choir Concert
Oct. 17	National ACT Testing at GCHS
Oct. 21	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start NMSQT Testing
Oct. 22	Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences, 5:00-8:00 PM
Oct. 23	Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences, 8:00-11:00 AM No Student Attendance
Oct. 28	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Oct. 29	ASVAB Testing

November

Nov. 1	GCHS Foundation Online Auction Begins
Nov. 4	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Parent University: AP & Dual Credit Night
Nov. 5	Picture Retakes
Nov. 7	Last Day of GCHS Foundation Online Auction
Nov. 10	SchoolLinks Activity Schedule
Nov. 11	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start Veterans Day Event AP Exam Pre-Registration Fee Due
Nov. 12	Board of Education Meeting Opening Night: The Play That Goes Wrong, 7:00 PM
Nov. 13	The Play That Goes Wrong, 7:00 PM
Nov. 14	The Play That Goes Wrong, 2:00 & 7:00 PM
Nov. 15	The Play That Goes Wrong, 2:00 PM
Nov. 16	Progress Report
Nov. 18	School Improvement Meeting, 9:25 AM Flex Time Start
Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving Recess, No School