



Learning, Leadership and Laughter...The JRG Journey
J.R. Gerritts Middle School * 545 S. John St. * Kimberly, WI * 920-788-7905



JRG Significantly Exceeds Expectations On State School Report Card

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has released their annual School Report Cards, and we are excited to have [earned the highest category in the Overall Accountability Ratings](#) (Significantly Exceeds Expectations). Congratulations to our teachers for their hard work to improve student learning, and thank you to our families for all you do to support your JRG learners!

While we are proud to have earned this level of recognition, we also know that we still have room to grow and improve. Readers of previous issues of this newsletter will know that a key focus for us this year is helping students take ownership of their learning by better understanding learning expectations, seeing their gaps, making a plan to improve, and reflecting on their successes and opportunities. That work, along with other things we are working on, is designed to help our students be stronger problem solvers who are better prepared for future college, career and life opportunities. All of this will have an impact on student achievement and growth, which we think will be reflected in many ways, including our future School Report Cards.

If you have any questions or concerns after reviewing our school report card, please feel free to contact me.

Eric Brinkmann
Principal

Overall Score



Significantly Exceeds Expectations

Overall Accountability Ratings	Score
Significantly Exceeds Expectations	83-100 ★★★★★
Exceeds Expectations	73-82.9 ★★★★☆
Meets Expectations	63-72.9 ★★★☆☆
Meets Few Expectations	53-62.9 ★★☆☆☆
Fails to Meet Expectations	0-52.9 ★☆☆☆☆

Parent—Teacher Conferences on November 14 and 15

Parent—Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, November 14 and 15 from 5:00-8:00 PM. Students will have a 2:00 release on Wednesday only. Conferences are on a first come, first served basis and last approximately 5 minutes per teacher. If you feel you will need more time to discuss your student's progress, please contact the teacher to set up a meeting outside of conferences. More information is available on page 3 of this newsletter.

Please Check Our Lost and Found

Our lost and found area, which is located outside of Student Services, has been collecting a lot of items. Please have your student check if they have misplaced anything. All lost and found items will be available during Parent—Teacher Conferences on November 14 and 15. Any remaining items will be donated.

Final Opportunity For 8th Grade Group Conference—Tonight 6:00 PM

Please note that tonight, Wednesday, November 14 is the final opportunity to participate in the 8th Grade Group Conference. The conference will be held at 6:00 PM in the auditorium. Please click [here](#) to register. You must attend a group conference prior to scheduling the individual planning conference with your student.

State Championship Football Game on Friday, November 16

Congratulations to the Kimberly High School Football team on their great success this year! The Championship game will be held in Madison on Friday, November 16 at 4:00 PM. We will follow our normal class schedule that day, which includes an early release at 11:20.

JRG will not be providing a fan bus, however, a permission form was emailed to families and interested students were also provided a paper copy of the permission form on Tuesday during TLC. Permission forms are also available in the Main Office, and on page 4 of this Gator Bytes.

Please complete the attached permission form on page 5 and return it to your child's TLC teacher or the main office by Thursday morning if your student will be attending the game. Time missed will be considered a Vacation Day as game attendance is optional and not a JRG sponsored event. This form must be on file by Thursday for all students attending the game.

Please contact the office with any questions at 788-7905.

November 12-16

Book Fair

November 14

Early Release—2:00

Parent Teacher

Conference—5:00-8:00

November 15

Parent Teacher

Conference—5:00-8:00

November 16

Early Release—11:20

November 21

Student Council—7:00 AM

in the Small Gym

November 22-23

No School

December 3-9

Hour of Code week

December 3

Choir Concert—7:00 at

Kimberly High School

December 4

Fundraiser Pickup—3:0-

6:00 in the Commons. All

money due at this time

December 5

Student Council—7:00 AM

in the Small Gym

December 18

Band Concert—7:00 in the

Large Gym

Procedures For Parents Entering JRG Before, During, and After School Hours

Occasionally parents will need to be in JRG before, during, and after school hours. For safety reasons, we ask that all parents stop in the Main Office prior to entering the building. During school hours, parents will be asked to sign in and receive a visitor badge. Outside of school hours, we ask that parents simply check in with the office secretaries prior to entering the building. If you would like to meet with a teacher, we ask that you call or email to verify their availability as often times they are in meetings or working with students before and after school hours.

Thank you for your help in making JRG a safe and healthy place for our students to learn.

Veteran's Day Celebration

Last Friday's Veteran's Day program was a moving success. The program also marked the final presentation by JRG's own Mr. Schulz who is retiring at the end of this year. Thank you Mr. Schulz for all of your work over the years to make this program so special. Thank you to all of our Veterans for your service to our country. Photos of the program are courtesy of Aimee Froze, Samantha Stephan, Mckenzie Vosters and Hannah Hlaban.



Healthy Options: JRG Students Track Walking Miles at Lunch

In partnership with Safe Routes to School, JR Gerritts Middle School recently started a frequent walker program during 7th grade lunch recess. Students use a QR code to scan each lap they complete around our track.

In October, JRG seventh graders could choose to sign up for the program and walk the track during their lunch recess. Students earn incentives as they reach milestones. Students who track 25 miles by our holiday break in December will have their names in a drawing for gift cards. On average, students have been walking between a ½ mile to 1 mile per lunch hour. It's a great healthy activity option to add to other recess options such as intramurals and activities in our LMC.

At semester, students will have the option to choose the walking program as part of our intramural program and will be able to continue earning incentives.

Safe Routes to School is an international movement that promotes walking and biking to school. This program started in Denmark in the 1970s to address the number of accidents and fatalities near schools, and by the year 2000 had reached communities across the United States. Our portion of the state is served by [East Central Wisconsin Safe Routes to School](#), who provided the training, software, and prize incentives to get our program started.



J.R.G. Parent/Teacher Conferences November 14, 15 2018

Thank you for taking an active role in your child's education! Research confirms that parent involvement is strongly linked to gains in students' achievement, attendance and attitude. Conferences are a great opportunity to meet your child's teachers and get an overview of his/her progress. We want your conference experience to be a good one, so please read on for important tips and information.

Things to know about Conferences at JRG:

- **Conferences are on a first come, first served basis. Lines can be lengthy. Please consider prioritizing which teacher(s) you would like to meet with first.**
- Location of staff:
 - Grade 7 Core Teachers (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies)– Large Gym
 - Grade 8 Core Teachers (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies)– Small Gym
 - Academy Teachers (Art, Computer, World Language, Music, Phy Ed, Health and Tech Ed)– Commons
 - Resource Teachers– in the teacher's classroom
- Park in the stadium parking lot at JRG and **enter the building through the gym doors (17S)**. As you enter, we'll provide a guide to our parent-teacher conferences, along with a copy of your child's first quarter grades.
- Please feel free to bring your student along to conferences!
- Please limit your conferences to **five minutes** when other parents or families are waiting. Remember that longer, more involved conversations work better when parents and teachers set up a separate meeting when more time is available.
- Visit our Book Fair in the gym hallway.

In hopes of limiting overcrowding and longer lines, we are suggesting you attend as follows:

Wednesday, November 14

Last names A through K:

5:00 to 6:30 PM

Last names L through Z:

6:30 to 8:00 PM

**** Students are dismissed at 2:00 PM this day. ****

Thursday, November 15

Last names L through Z:

5:00 to 6:30 PM

Last names A through K:

6:30 to 8:00 PM

**** This is a full day for the students. ****

These dates and times are suggestions only to help balance our attendance numbers. However, if the suggested date or time does not work, please feel free to attend on the date and time that works for you.

Junior Achievement Technical Careers Challenge

Are you looking for an AWESOME career exploration opportunity for your students and/or children? Don't miss the 2019 Junior Achievement Technical Careers Challenge. Registration opens on December 1st at 8:00am!

For specific event details, please see the attached flyer on page 8. Students are welcome to attend with their school or on their own. This year's event is open to both 7th and 8th graders; with challenge preference being awarded to 8th graders first. To register, visit www.fvtc.edu/mscorner after 8:00am on December 1st and click on "Junior Achievement Technical Careers

JRG Club Information

Student Must Be a ROCKS Member to participate

Coding Club—3:00-4:00

Contact: Ms. Froze, Room 111 (afroze@kimberly.k12.wi.us)

November: 19, 26, 29

Art Club - 3:00-4:00

Contact: Ms. Dagesse, Room 436 (rdagesse@kimberly.k12.wi.us)

Sign up outside the Art Room by the Friday before if you plan to attend if possible for supply planning

November: 26

December: 3, 17

Emergency Medications

Please be aware that emergency medications that are provided for use during the school day will not be accessible before or after school hours. Parents and students must plan ahead to have emergency medication available during school activities such as clubs and sports. If an emergency arises and a student does not have their emergency medication available, 911 will be called.

KHS Football - State Championship Game 11/16/18 Excused Absence Form

Congratulations to the Papermaker Football team, who will take on Muskego on Friday! Kickoff for the Division 1 State Championship Game is 4:00 p.m.

Friday, November 16, is a planned 11:20 a.m. dismissal day at JRG. Regular classes will be held that morning. JRG is not sponsoring a fan bus for the game and JRG students are not permitted to ride the KHS fan bus. However, we realize that a number of our families will choose to travel to Madison to cheer on the KHS football team on that day. If your JRG student will be attending the game and will be leaving prior to the 11:20 dismissal time, please complete the form below and return it to your child's TLC teacher by Thursday, November 15. Absences will be considered a family vacation, as attending the game is the parent's decision and not a school-sponsored activity for middle school students.

Normally, our policy is that only a child's parent or guardian may sign a student out from school. However, we have traditionally made an exception to this policy for students who will be attending the game on November 16, in order to allow families to carpool should they choose to do so. No student will be allowed to leave school with a non-family member (and absences will not be considered excused) **unless we receive the completed parent permission form below.** This form gives your permission for another specific adult to sign out your child from school on November 16.

State Championship Game Excused Absence Form

Student Name: _____

- My student will not be attending school at all on Friday, November 16
- My student will be attending school for part of the day and will be picked up at _____.

___ I will be picking up my student **only**

___ I will be picking up my student as well as the following students:

___ I am giving _____ permission to sign my student out of school at the time noted above.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____



WE WANT YOUR BABY OR TODDLER PICTURES FOR THE YEARBOOK!

Who: 8th Graders

What: Baby or Toddler Pictures

When: Friday Nov. 9th-Tuesday Nov. 27th

Where: Email to 23mmcginnis@kimberly.k12.wi.us or 23sharke@kimberly.k12.wi.us or bring photo to Ms. Froze's Room 111

We will not be accepting any late photos!



The Lion King @ the Fox Cities P.A.C. Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Leave JRG via bus @ 6:00 P.M.
Return to JRG via bus @ 10:30 P.M.



Join us for a night at the theater! In February, we will be attending the P.A.C.'s production of the Broadway musical, The Lion King. The show begins at 7:30 PM and is expected to last 2 ½ hours.

Cost: \$25.00 for a "family circle" student seat for the show & bus transportation

If desired, students will need to bring extra money to purchase from concessions.

**** Students do not need to bring or print the Eventbrite "ticket."**

Tickets will be sold online at rockslionking.eventbrite.com starting Wednesday, November 14th at 3:15 PM until sold out or Friday, November 30th at 11:59 PM.

**** Note: For safety and planning purposes, no late registrations will be accepted for any reason. No exceptions.**

Additionally, you must be in school and be in good disciplinary standing on the day of the event to attend. Any requests for exemption must be addressed prior to the event in order to be considered for approval by administration. No refunds will be given for this event. If your student is registered for this event but does not show, you will not be notified and we will not issue a refund.



Dear JRG Families,

Our school is hosting a Follett Book Fair!

Supporting a love for reading is critical to student success. Supporting your school is just as important. The Follett Book Fair encourages your child's reading habits, builds their personal libraries and raises funds for the school, all at the same time.

What makes Follett Book Fairs different?

Follett has been supporting schools for more than 140 years which means you can expect an awesome selection of titles, from a wide range of publishers. These are the books your kids *want* to read.

Worried about sending cash to school? Don't have cash to give your student? **Visit www.follettgift.com to purchase a Follett gift card for your student.**

Book fair dates: November 12-16, 2018

Times: Students can shop during the school day; parents can shop during parent/teacher conferences on Wednesday and Thursday from 5-8 pm.

Support your school and the avid readers in your family by visiting the book fair. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Erin Wedemeier, Library Media Specialist

All sales benefit the school. Find out more about Follett Book Fairs online at follettbookfairs.com.



Junior Achievement®

Technical Careers Challenge

Presented by Miller Electric

2019 Challenges

Agriculture: What's in my milk?

Automotive: Convertible Tops and Spark Plugs

Culinary Arts: The Great Wrap Race

Diesel: Big Rig Repair

Healthcare: Healthcare Immersions

Information Technology: Web Design

Manufacturing: "Brake" Into Welding and Metal Fabrication

Compete against one another, as you discover how education can bridge the gap between your passion and your future dream career. Race against the clock, with a team of middle school students, FVTC Instructors and business professional to bring home the trophy! Learn and play, as you participate in one of seven real-world, hands-on career scenarios.

Details:

Thursday, February 28th, 2019

9:00a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Fox Valley Technical College
1825 N Bluemound Drive, Appleton

Parents: Please join us for the awards luncheon at 11:30 (Use entrance 10 and follow signage to E130)

Preregistration is required: www.fvtc.edu/JAChallenge

EMPOWER THE FUTURE

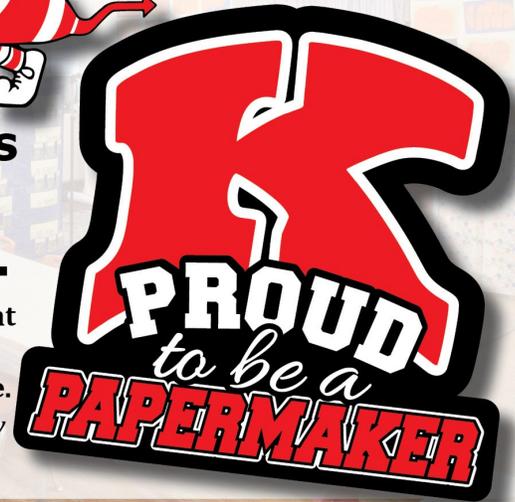


All **GATORS** grow up to be **PAPERMAKERS!**



Support Kimberly public schools
with a **FREE** vehicle decal.
Pick one up in the school office.

These decals were printed by our own Papermakers - students at Kimberly High School! A limited quantity of the vehicle decals are available on a first come, first serve basis in the school office. *(If you're concerned about the permanency of the decal - please know that they are removable, but not reusable because they tear during removal.)*



Follow JRG on Instagram, 'Like' Us on Facebook

JRG can be found on Facebook at Facebook.com/JRGerritts.
In addition, JRG is now on Instagram at JRGMSOfficial.



These resources are used to provide occasional school-wide updates and for reminders about various upcoming events. Families also find it's fun to check out the hundreds of pictures of students participating in events, activities and other learning experiences at JRG.

Additional Opportunities Available on the KASD Community Events Page

While many community opportunities are included in our weekly newsletters, additional events and opportunities are also posted on the District webpage under Community Events, or by clicking [here](#). Links to items such as Park and Rec opportunities, community dances, educational opportunities, speakers, and local festivals can be found there.

November Kimberly-Little Chute Library [STEAM ROLLER activities](#)
Monday, November 12 - [After School Story Adventures](#) at Kimberly Library
Tuesday, November 13th - Family [Movie](#) Night at Kimberly Library
Outagamie County [4-H Opportunities](#) for all ages
Monday, December 17th - [Appleton Boy Choir Auditions](#)



CAPTURE THE NOW



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