



Gator News

March 3
2021

Learning, Leadership and Laughter...The JRG Journey

J.R. Gerritts Middle School • 545 S. John St. • Kimberly, WI • 920-788-7905

JRG At A Glance

March 5
7th Grade Scheduling

March 9
Online and In-Person
Learning Switch
requests due—see
page 2

March 11
Virtual Parent-Teacher
Conference—3:30-
6:30

March 12
Virtual College Tours
Early Release—11:20

March 14
Daylight Saving Time
Begins—Turn clocks
ahead 1 hour

March 22
End of Quarter 3

March 29-April 2
No School

May 14
Early Release—11:20

May 31
Memorial Day—No
school

June 3
Last Day of School

Message From Mr. Brinkmann

March is a great time for us to stop and reflect on what we've accomplished together this year. We are nearing the end of the third quarter, and I'm so thankful for our families and staff for taking on the unique challenges of this school year and successfully providing an in-person learning opportunity for any family that desires that option. As I visit classrooms, I can close my eyes and hear learning conversations occurring just as they do each year. It's great to hear students discuss, debate, challenge and support each other academically across the wide variety of classes on a given day. With my eyes open, I can see the great job our students and staff have done to make all of that happen in the context of masks, social grouping, learning remotely during quarantine, and all the other changes small and large that have been required this year.

March is also a very busy month at JRG, including:

- **Spring Conferences:** Our Spring parent-teacher conferences will be held virtually on Thursday, March 11 from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. Look for information on how to sign up later in this newsletter. We took your feedback and expanded the length of the conferences with our core subject teacher teams to 8 minutes, while Academy time slots will remain at 5 minutes. Our teachers may be reaching out to schedule a time for situations where a conference is a higher priority. As always, don't hesitate to communicate with your child's teachers outside of formal conferences. We want to be responsive to the needs and questions our families may have.
- **Virtual College Tours:** On the morning of Friday, March 12, our 8th grade students will have the opportunity to take virtual tours of both 2-year and 4-year college options, as well as hear from current KHS seniors who are pursuing 2-year and 4-year college plans, entering an apprenticeship and the military. It's a valuable tradition at JRG, and we are glad to be able to continue it virtually this year as part of our Academic and Career Planning experiences.
- **State Assessment:** Forward Exam testing also starts this month and continues into April. 8th grades will take the Science and Social Studies portions of the test on March 23, and all students will test on the mornings of April 6 and April 8. Look for more information on the Forward Exam later in this newsletter. The Forward Exam is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their growth, and provides us with valuable information to improve student learning.
- **The start of Quarter 4:** The fourth quarter also begins on Tuesday, March 23.
- **Spring Break:** Our Spring Break runs from Monday, March 29 through Friday April 2 this year. We hope that it's a great time for your family to enjoy some downtime and get reenergized for the last quarter of the school year.

We also continue to expand options for our students to participate in co-curricular activities with appropriate COVID risk management protocols in place. In the spring, we plan to offer opportunities in tennis and wrestling. And while the high school sports calendar this year means we can't run a traditional middle school track program, we plan to offer opportunities for students interested in distance running and speed & strength development this spring. We also have re-opened our library for class visits, and are in the planning process for in-person band and choir concerts in May. More information will follow, and attendance will be limited, but our students are looking forward to performing in front of a live audience!

We welcome your thoughts, feedback, questions and encouragement, so don't hesitate to reach out to our staff or to me. Here's to sunnier, warming weather that is surely just around the corner!

Eric Brinkmann, Principal

7th Grade Scheduling Information

Seventh grade students will be registering for their 8th grade classes on March 5th. At this time, our plan is to register and schedule students for an in-person and typical year at JRG. Keep in mind it is quite possible that courses may still need to be modified if Covid 19 continues to impact our plan in terms of risk mitigation and instruction. Students will receive more information about their course options later in February.

If you have any questions, please contact Rob DeLain, Assistant Principal, at rdelain@kimberly.k12.wi.us.

Requests to Switch Between In-Person and Online Learning Open Until March 9

Families may now request a switch to online or in person learning for Quarter 4 using [this form](#). Requests must be received by March 9. Quarter 4 begins on March 23. If you have questions, please contact Principal Eric Brinkmann or Assistant Principal Rob DeLain.

Forward Exam at JRG Starting March 23

All Wisconsin public school students in grades 3-8 are assessed annually using the Forward exam. At JRG, students will begin Forward Exam testing on Tuesday, March 23 following the schedule outlined below. Both grades complete assessments in Math and English Language Arts, while 8th graders are also assessed in Science and Social Studies. Our testing schedule this year will be:

8th Graders Only:

- **Social Studies and Science on Tuesday, March 23:** Students will start the test during their Block 3 / 4. They will stay in that location during Block 5 / 6 and complete their Social Studies and Science testing that morning.

7th and 8th Graders:

- **English Language Arts on Tuesday, April 6:** Students will start the day in Block 3 / 4 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and will complete the English Language Arts portions of the test. Students then will follow their normal schedule with shorter class periods.
- **Math on Thursday, April 8:** Students will start the day in Block 3 / 4 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and will complete the Math portions of the test. Students then will follow their normal schedule with shorter class periods.

Please contact your child's teacher or the office with questions about the testing schedule.

Important reminders for the Forward Exam:

- We ask that whenever possible families avoid scheduling appointments or other pre-scheduled absences during the testing sessions.
- Remind your student to charge their Chromebook, since all testing is done online. Also, remember that students cannot use a personal device (laptop, Chromebook, etc.) for testing. We will provide those few students who typically opt to use their own device with a district Chromebook to use during testing.
- Students should bring headphones on testing days, as some portions of the test require them. Please note that Bluetooth (wireless) headphones do not work with the testing system.
- Phones, smartwatches and any other personal electronic devices cannot be used by anyone (students or staff) in the testing environment. When possible, students should leave them at home on testing days. Teachers will be collecting these devices during testing, and returning them at the end of the testing session.
- You can also help your child to perform at their best by ensuring that they get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast.

The results from state testing, along with local measures such as report cards, MAP assessments, classroom assessments and teacher feedback, provide meaningful information about students' academic achievement to parents, students, teachers and the school district. We use these results to identify ways we can improve our students' learning. If you have questions about the Forward Exam, please feel free to contact Eric Brinkmann, Principal.

Remote Learning Reminders

You may be aware that if a student is required to quarantine, and can't come to school, they are asked to continue learning and join their classes via Google Classroom and Google Meet. If your child is required to be in quarantine but is not ill, we'll let you know when remote learning is starting. The basic expectations are:

1. Join the Google Meet via the link in each of your classes Google Classrooms following your daily schedule (join the Classroom at the time your class occurs during the day).
2. Check for and complete the assignments in Google Classroom
3. Check your email each day
4. Ask your teacher questions via the chat feature in Google Meet, or email them.
 - A. Be patient, it may take the teacher a moment to get back to you.
 - B. If you have any questions or concerns about the lesson (volume of recording, unclear on the assignment, etc.) contact the teacher immediately

Remote Learning **is not** used for shorter absences, like a sick day, or for other types of absences like a vacation. We only use the remote learning plan when a student is home and healthy, but is not allowed to come to school. If your student will be absent for other reasons, they can still check Google Classroom if they are well, but won't have the option to join via Google Meet.

As always, but probably even more important this year - if your child is not feeling well, keep them home. See the district health screening and other information later in this newsletter. By working together, we'll be able to stay open and keep learning.

Spring Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences

Our spring virtual Parent Teacher Conferences will be held online on Thursday, March 11th from 3:30-6:30 PM. Parents will use My Conference Time to sign up for conferences. Please read the information below to guide you through your sign up process. [Click here for Parent/Teacher Conference Sign Up](#)

How to Sign Up For A Conference

- Go to www.myconferencetime.com/jrgerritts
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Core Teachers (Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies) will be meeting with you as a team for each conference. **Parents will not schedule individual conferences with each Core teacher.**
- To schedule a conference with your student's Core Team of teachers select the Folder titled GRADE 7 TEAMS or GRADE 8 TEAMS. Then select the team of Core Teachers that applies to your student(s) Our team names at each grade are Swampies, Glades, Lagoons, Bayous, and teacher names are listed in parentheses to help you identify the team you want to meet with. Each student has one core team of teachers.
- Academy Teachers (Art, Tech Ed, Music, Foreign Language, Computer Ed, Health, Phy Ed) have individual conference time slots available. Click on the folder: ACADEMY TEACHERS to sign up for conference times with those individual teachers.
- Resource Teachers also have individual time slots available by clicking on the folder titled: RESOURCE TEACHERS
- For each conference you are scheduling, select the desired time for your conference by clicking on "Sign Up"
- Submit the requested information

"Attending" The Virtual Conference

- Virtual Conferences will be held using Google Meet. We use this platform daily with our students and teachers. Once conferences have been scheduled you will receive a Google Meet calendar invitation from the teacher or team that you signed up to meet with. The invitation will be sent to the email that you registered with. This link is how you will connect virtually to meet with your student(s) teacher(s) on the day and time of your conference.
- If you have several children attending our school, click on "Register for Multiple Time Slots" (yellow banner) and follow the prompts to schedule your children for several conferences.
- Conference slots are 8 minutes long for Core Teacher Teams and Resource Teachers and 5 minutes long for Academy Teachers. Please do not try to join earlier than your scheduled time slot as teachers may be in an existing conference. If you think you require a longer, more involved conversation with your student's teachers it would be best to contact your student's teachers to set up a separate meeting when more time is available.
- When you join the Google Meet, you may need to wait briefly until the teacher admits you into the conference. Please be patient as teachers finish up a conference with another parent or guardian. If your request times out, please try to join with the link again.

SIGN UP FOR CONFERENCES OPENS THURSDAY, MARCH 4TH AT 3:00 PM, AND CLOSSES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH AT 3:00 PM

We are looking forward to meeting with you! If you have questions regarding the Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences, please email jrg@kimberly.k12.wi.us or contact the main office at 920-788-7905.

WE Want to

Congratulate Madilyn Peach

On winning January's Yearbook
Submission contest:

Thank you Madilyn for submitting many photos!!!!



Boys Basketball 3 on 3

After finishing a socially distanced skills season, JRG's boys basketball players were able to participate in an in-school 3 on 3 tournament. Congratulations to all of the players and teams!



JRG ACP News



Volume 2, Issue 7

March 2021

What is ACP ?

Academic and Career Planning, or ACP, is a student-driven, adult-supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique and information-based visions for post secondary success, obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills.

Throughout their time at JRG, students will have a variety of opportunities to thoughtfully consider who they are as people and how that relates to future career options. Within the TLC time, students will complete interest inventories, career research, set academic and personal goals and reflect throughout the year with the support of their TLC teacher. Likewise, students will be exposed to a variety of hands-on experiences to help them begin narrowing the focus of possible career options.

| ACP 2018-2019 Career Cluster Plan | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| | Year 1 | Year 2 |
| SEPT | Hospitality & Tourism | Health Sciences |
| OCT | Human Services | Arts, Audio/Visual, Technology, & Communication |
| NOV | Government & Public Administration | Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security |
| DEC | Manufacturing | Finance |
| JAN | Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources | Architecture & Construction |
| FEB | Marketing | Education and Training |
| MAR | Transportation, Distribution & Logistics | Information Technology |
| APR | STEM | Business Management & Administration |
| MAY | Final Reflection | |

This month's focus cluster:

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A sampling of careers included in this cluster:

- Computer animator
- Quality controller
- Information security analyst
- Technical writer
- Video game developer
- Website developer
- Electrical engineer
- Computer Network Specialist
- Computer software engineer

Questions to ask your middle school student about this career cluster:

- Where do we see examples of these careers in our community?
- What personality traits would best fit this career cluster?
- What family members or friends are involved in a career in this cluster?
- What level of interest do you have in this career cluster?



Is your career in Information Technology?

We have an exciting opportunity for families to get involved with ACP. JR Gerritts is looking for parent volunteers to present their line of work to help the students gain a greater awareness of local occupations. On May 10, parents/guest

speakers will present their occupation to 8 different groups of students for 15 minutes each. Speakers will be expected to do the following within each 15 minute rotation:

- Discuss their job description
- Present props/visuals related to their job

(optional)

- Answer student questions

If your career is in Information Technology, and you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Brad Demmin bdemmin@kimberly.k12.wi.us.



Pop Tab Drive—Support the Ronald McDonald House

The Pop Tab Drive has started so be sure to start collecting! This drive benefits the Ronald McDonald House, a great charity that helps families of sick children with providing a room to stay in along with much more to help ease the situation. So before you recycle your aluminum can be sure to take off the tab to do your part! To donate drop your tabs off in the bin in student services or during lunch if you have a tab be sure to put it in the bin by the garbage. Start Collecting Today!



RECEIVE DENTAL CARE RIGHT AT SCHOOL!

- Oral Screening
- Dental Cleaning
- Fluoride Varnish
- Sealants
- Silver Diamine Fluoride
- Referral Assistance

Services are provided during the day and visits are held throughout the school year.

Enroll Now!

<https://enrollment.bbsmiles.org/>

Bridging Brighter Smiles, Inc. accepts Forward Health/BadgerCare Insurance Only.
Dental care in school is also available on a self-pay basis.

Any Questions Please Call Bridging Brighter Smiles at (262)896-9891 or visit www.bbsmiles.org

We Need *You*



We want our schools to remain open. To do that, we need your support. How can you help?

- ✓ Keep your child home if they are ill.
- ✓ Keep your child home if they have been tested for COVID until results are known.
- ✓ AVOID LARGE GATHERINGS.



CLEAN FACIAL COVERINGS/ MASKS ARE CRUCIAL!

A note from your school nurse:

DID YOU KNOW → Cloth face coverings/masks are designed to be washed after every use. They should not be worn multiple days in a row unless washed in between uses.

Here's how to care for your cloth face coverings/masks:

Washing:

Wash in a washing machine, using the warmest setting recommended for the fabric. Use your usual laundry detergent.

OR

Wash thoroughly by hand, using soap or laundry detergent and warm/hot water.

Drying:

Dry in a dryer, using the warmest setting recommended for the fabric.

OR

Allow to air dry completely.

**Thanks for coming to school ready to learn
with a CLEAN facial covering/mask every day!**

WHEN TO STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL

Keep your child home when:

- ✓ They are sick (please see [student illness guide](#) and when to get tested)
- ✓ They are diagnosed with COVID-19
- ✓ They are being tested for COVID-19
- ✓ They are a [close contact](#) of someone with COVID-19



Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I keep my child home if someone in my household is being tested for COVID-19?

A: Send your child to school if your child is symptom free.

OR

A: Keep your child home if your child has COVID-like symptoms.

Do I keep my child home from school if someone in my household is a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19?

A: Send your child to school if the household member who is the close contact is symptom free.

OR

A: Keep your child home if the household member who is the close contact has COVID-like symptoms. (The household member who is the close contact is considered a probable case of COVID if he/she is showing symptoms while awaiting test results and everyone in your household at that point is considered a close contact and will need to quarantine.)

**For additional frequently asked questions please visit,
www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/updates/frequently-asked-questions**

STUDENT ILLNESS GUIDE AND WHEN TO GET TESTED

People with the below symptoms or combination of symptoms may have COVID-19. The table below outlines WI-DHS recommendations of who should receive COVID-19 testing in Wisconsin. If you have these symptoms, **stay home, call your school office and get tested.**

Box A (any one symptom present)

- Cough (above baseline) Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing New loss of taste or smell

OR

Box B (any two symptoms present)

- Congestion or runny nose (above baseline) Chills or fever (100.4) Nausea or vomiting
 Diarrhea Fatigue Muscle or body aches Sore throat (above baseline)

If you choose not to get tested, you must remain home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset AND at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of medicine AND other symptoms have improved.

OR

Box C

- I am a close contact of someone with COVID-19

For all other illnesses, follow typical school illness protocol by staying home, calling the school office and once symptoms have improved and your child is fever free for 24 hours they may return.

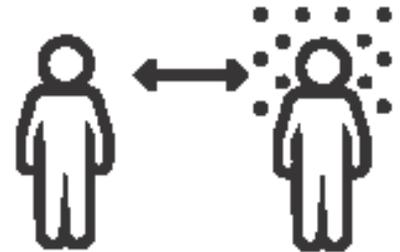
For information on awaiting test results and quarantining please go to, www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/updates/covid-19-protocols.

CLOSE CONTACT GUIDE

What does it mean to be a close contact of someone with COVID-19?

You are a "close contact" if any of the following situations happened while you spent time with the person with COVID-19, even if they didn't have symptoms:

- ✓ Had direct physical contact with the person (for example, a hug, kiss, or handshake)
- ✓ Were within 6 feet of the person for more than 15 minutes
- ✓ Had contact with the person's respiratory secretions (for example, coughed or sneezed on; contact with dirty tissue; shared a drinking glass, food, towels, or other personal items)
- ✓ Live with the person or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person



EXAMPLE

Your child was playing outside with a neighborhood friend when he drank from the friend's water bottle without thinking. The following day, the friend developed symptoms and subsequently tested positive for COVID-19. **Your child is a close contact.**

EXAMPLE

I went out to eat with a friend yesterday and we were within 6 feet of each other for 30 minutes. The following day my friend tested positive for COVID-19. I am now a close contact. What about my child? **Your child is NOT a close contact** as your child did not spend time with your friend.

If you had contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 you may be at risk of infection. Follow these recommendations for 10 days since your last close contact with someone with COVID-19.



As a close contact, what does it mean to quarantine?



- Stay home
- Avoid travel
- Go out only if absolutely necessary
- Postpone all non-essential medical appointments until your quarantine is over
- Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis
- Wear a face cover when you are around others
- Continue to monitor your symptoms for a full 14 days and if you develop symptoms from day 11 to 14, quarantine and contact your healthcare provider.

[See Next Steps: close contacts of someone with COVID-19](#)

Morning Traffic at JRG

If you drop your child off at JRG in the morning, you know that the times between 7:10 and about 7:25 a.m. are busy and congested. This year there are some additional factors, including that more parents are choosing to drive their student to school this year over having them ride the bus, and that we have recently welcomed a significant number of students back from online. Snow cover can also can block off areas that otherwise would allow students to easily exit the vehicle before entering our front circle drive.

A JRG committee is currently reviewing our processes to look for ways to improve traffic flow. In the meantime, you can help the flow by making sure your child has their materials ready to quickly exit the vehicle, pulling all the way forward to the main entrance before stopping to drop off your child, and exiting the front circle drive by turning right (north) onto John Street.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to seek ways to improve our traffic safety and flow.

Appointments and Forgotten Item Drop-Off

Attendance is managed through the Main Office at JRG. If your student will be arriving late to school, please call the Main Office so we can update attendance as soon as possible. We also understand that students need to leave school during the day for various reasons. If you are aware that your student will be leaving during the day, please call or have them stop in the Main Office with a note in the morning to get a pass.

Your student's teachers are notified through Infinite Campus of any absences.

If you know that someone other than yourself is picking up your student, please let the office know in advance. For safety purposes, we cannot allow a student to leave with someone other than a parent, guardian, emergency contact or an individual you have specified. A staff member will need to contact you prior to allowing entry into the building if someone other than one listed above arrives to pick up your student.

If you are dropping off a forgotten item for your student, we have a table located in the Main Office vestibule for your convenience for items other than money and electronics. Please ensure that all items are labelled clearly with your student's name. We will email the student to let them know something has arrived for them.

Thank you for your help in making JRG a safe place for our students.

Attendance Messages

Your child's safety is our top priority. For this reason, we send a message home via phone, email and text if a student has been marked absent for 2 or more periods. This is not intended to be a negative message, but rather a verification that your student is safe.

At times, our voicemail system has been known to drop, or not save messages properly which may be why we try to contact you even though you have called in prior to the start of the school day.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at 788-7905.

Collecting Homework Due to Illness

If your student is missing school days due to illness and you would like to gather their homework, please have your student check their Google Classroom for assignments or have them email their teachers directly. Teacher email addresses consist of the teacher's first initial, last name@kimberly.k12.wi.us (eg. Joe Smith would be jsmith@kimberly.k12.wi.us). If you expect books or paperwork to be brought to the office by your student's teachers, please call the office first to ensure the work is available.

Student Services TikTok Account

With our face-to-face time with students somewhat limited this year, Mr. Demmin and Ms. Diamond created a private JRG Student Services TikTok account! We are trying to find creative ways to stay connected with kids learning both virtually and in person, as well as make school feel a little more fun in the time of COVID. **Please note that your child does NOT need a phone or a TikTok account in order to join in the fun.**

Each time the counselors create a video, it is saved to Google Drive and a link is sent to each and every student via their school email. Some of the videos created so far include introducing our pet goldfish, promoting Spirit Week dress up days, and promoting the October Trick or Can food drive (the counselors even learned a dance for that one, thanks to a little bit of help from the 8th graders)! Our hope is that these videos will share valuable information, and also give our students something to smile and laugh about behind their masks.

Food Service Information for In Person and Online Learning Families

The power of breakfast is an amazing thing. It provides a strong start to the day and helps students remain energized and focused. A missed morning meal or snack can often have adverse effects such as headache, upset stomach, and fatigue. JRG offers a to-go breakfast program each morning beginning at 7:10 AM for \$1.55 (no cost for free and reduced). JRG also offers a wider variety of menu items during the lunch hours. Please [click here](#) for detailed breakfast and lunch information as well as information on applying for Free and Reduced meals.

Breakfast and lunch menus can be found [here](#).

Students that have opted to participate in Online Learning this year also have the opportunity to order school lunches through Nutrislice.

A few things to note with online ordering:

- * Orders must be placed by 11:30 p.m. the evening before.
- * Pick up for all meals is at JRG door 1W in the front of the school from 10:30am-11:00am. JRG is located at 545 S. John St., Kimberly, WI 54136.
- * Please provide Chartwells with the name and school of your student when picking up meals.
- * If your student's school offers breakfast you may order a breakfast and pick it up at the same time you pick up their lunch.
- * Your student's food service account will be debited at the end of the day.

School Fees and Lunch Payments

Just a reminder that you are able to pay school fees and add money to your lunch account online through Infinite Campus. You are now able to pay fees and add money to your lunch account at anytime during the year without being charged the \$1.75 by using the **e-check method**. You will still be charged \$1.75 if you choose to use a credit card to recoup some of the credit card fees that the district is charged. Please remember when you use an e-check it is similar to using a paper check and if this check would be rejected by your bank due to non-sufficient funds, you will be charged a \$25 NSF fee.

My Child Doesn't Feel Well While at School—What Should They Do?

If your child is at school and does not feel well, our health room is located in the Main Office. Students will then be evaluated by the Health Assistant or an office staff member. **We ask that students not contact home on their own without first being evaluated in the health room.** For most concerns, 10-15 minutes of rest helps tremendously and the student is able to return to class for the remainder of the day. All students are encouraged to carry a water bottle with them to stay hydrated throughout the day.

JRG is equipped to offer certain stock medications in pill form only. These medications include regular and extra strength acetaminophen, ibuprofen, and Benadryl. To dispense these medications to a student, we need to have a form completed by a parent indicating which medications we can provide as well as the dosage. This form was included in this year's Annual Update. If your student needs cough drops, Tums, or non-pill forms of pain relieving medications, you may provide them from home in their original containers. They will be kept in the health room for those times your student needs them.

Our main goal is to help students return to class and continue learning. If their temperature is over 100 degrees or other symptoms dictate, parents will be contacted by the health assistant, office staff, or permission will be given to the student to call.

Additionally this school year, if a student presents 2 or more symptoms on the COVID-19 screening, a parent will be contact to pick up their student. A letter with the steps needed to return to school will be provided at that time.

Please take a moment to discuss this process with your student. If you have any questions, please call the office at 788-7905.

A Note From The Health Room

If your student is carrying their own inhaler to school, please make sure it has their name or initials on the inhaler itself. Throughout the year, inhalers are a common item left behind and having initials on it will allow us to return it to the proper person.

Emergency Medications

Please be aware that emergency medications that are provided for use during the school day will not be accessible after school hours. Parents and students plan ahead to have emergency medication available during after 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.

When does the Forward Exam take place?

The Forward Exam will be given in schools between March 22 and May 14, 2021. Schools are permitted to select their own testing dates within this window.

What type of scores will be provided?

The Forward Exam is a summative assessment that provides information about what students know and can do in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. Students receive a score based on their performance in each content area. Each score will fall in one of four levels:

- **Advanced** – Student demonstrates thorough understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Proficient** – Student demonstrates adequate understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Basic** – Student demonstrates partial understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.
- **Below Basic** – Student demonstrates minimal understanding of and ability to apply the knowledge and skills for their grade level that are associated with college content-readiness.

Where can I find sample or practice test questions?

An Online Tools Training (OTT) and practice items are available for students at <https://doi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/sample-items>. The OTT gives students the opportunity to practice using the tools available on the Forward Exam, as well as allow them to familiarize themselves with the testing platform. The Item Samplers include a sample of the type of content and items students will encounter on the exam. The OTT and Item Samplers are not scored, and do not cover the full range of content on the exam. These are intended to provide examples of items and give students practice taking an online test.

For more information contact the Office of Educational Accountability at oesmail@doi.wi.gov.



dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward

August 2020

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.



Wisconsin

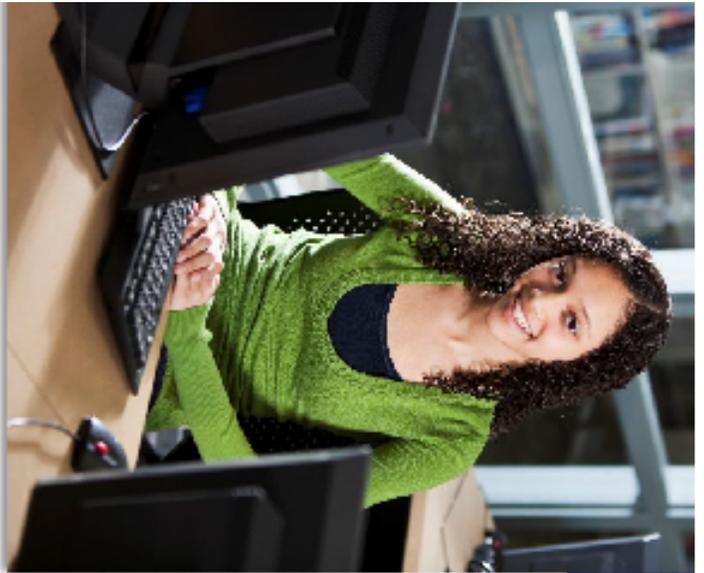
Forward Exam

Information for Families

2020-21



Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction



The Forward Exam includes several question types:

- **Multiple-Choice (MC)**
Question that has four answer choices, including three distractors and one correct answer.
- **Enhanced Selected Response (ESR)**
Question which may contain combinations of MC, short-answer, and technology-enhanced.
- **Evidence-Based Selected Response (EBSR)**
Question which has two parts. The student answers Part A, then provides evidence in Part B to support answer in Part A.

- **Text-Dependent Analysis (TDA)**

Question used on the ELA test. The TDA is a text-based analysis, based on a passage that is read by students during the assessment. In order to develop a comprehensive, holistic essay response, students must draw on basic writing skills while inferring and synthesizing information from the passage. Students have up to 5000 characters to formulate their response.

- **Technology-Enhanced (TE)**

TE questions allow for a more engaging, interactive assessment. A wide variety of TE questions are present on the Forward Exam including:

- Clock Input
- Angle Draw
- Short Input
- Bar Graph
- Number Line

- Coordinate Graph
- Line Plot
- List
- Drag and Drop
- Drop-Down List
- Pictograph using Drag and Paste
- Circle Graph
- Matching
- Highlighting Text

Accommodations and supports for students with disabilities and/or English learners are built into the system so that the progress of students can be accurately measured.

What does this mean for my child?

The Forward Exam is a summative assessment that gauges your child's achievement in the content areas tested compared to other students in the state. Along with local measures such as report cards, school-wide assessments, and other information about your child's progress in school, the results from the Forward Exam provide insight into how well your child is doing on a broad measure of achievement.

What are the test times?

The estimated time for test administration in each grade is approximately:

- 70 minutes for ELA,
- 80-105 minutes for mathematics,
- 90 minutes for science, and
- 70 minutes for social studies.

These are estimated times, for the purpose of scheduling, as the Forward Exam is not a timed test.

What is the Wisconsin

Forward Exam?

The Wisconsin Forward Exam is designed to gauge how well students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready. The Forward Exam is administered online in the spring of each school year at:

- grades 3-8 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics,
- grades 4 and 8 in science and,
- grades 4, 8, and 10 in social studies.



BE BRAVE, NOT PERFECT

MICROSOFT GIRLS WHO CODE EVENT

Wednesday, April 14th, 2021

4:00 -5:30 p.m. via Zoom

The Kimberly Area School District will be hosting our first WIT Wisconsin - Microsoft Girls Workshop, open to all 5th through 8th grade girls in the district. This event is sponsored by Kimberly-Clark, who is generously providing presenters and Adafruits for all attendees. Participants will discover new technology through the use of the Adafruits Playground Express Circuit Boards and hear from female role models in the tech world who are excited to share their passion for computer science! The girls will need their Chromebooks in order to participate virtually via Zoom from home.

If you have an enthusiasm for computer science or are interested in learning more, we encourage you to join us! Registration will be open March 15th-19th. Due to limited materials, we are only able to accept 50 students to participate in this event. If more than 50 girls sign up, a lottery will be held to randomly select 50 participants. To register, complete the [WIT Girls Who Code Registration](http://bit.ly/390A3bM). (<http://bit.ly/390A3bM>) between March 15th and 19th.

If you have questions about this event, please contact:

Aimee Froze (JRG) at afroze@kimberly.k12.wi.us

Emily Berndt (Woodland/Mapleview) at eberndt@kimberly.k12.wi.us





Register Now



*Spring soccer registration is open for
Academy & Recreational leagues*
Register Online at kasasoccer.org

click on "2020-2021 Registration", on the bottom of the page click on "Youth (only)"

Academy program: Interested in a *competitive, educational yet fun environment*? Our Academy program offers a higher level of commitment through advanced training and development models. Kids born in 2011-2014, who have already been introduced to soccer and love it, are encouraged to join. Practices are 2 nights a week and games are on Saturdays. Game and training jerseys are included with registration fees.



Recreational teams are formed for players, ages 4- adults. Recreational league is a development program with a primary interest in fun, fitness, and friendships. Activities emphasize enjoyment and development to foster a love of soccer. Birth years of 2016 and earlier are eligible to participate. Register early to request and ensure a spot on a roster with your friends as registration will close when team rosters are full.



Spring season begins in May

Early Bird fees are extended through March 15th
If you have any questions, please contact us at
registrar@kasasoccer.org

KASA is following the COVID guidance of US Youth Soccer, Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and our government and health experts. Making sure we maintain the health and safety of our families is our highest priority.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING



SAY SOMETHING



IF YOU
See something
Read something
Hear something
Know something
Then you should
SAY SOMETHING

TELL YOUR
Parent
Teacher
Principal
School Counselor
School Secretary
Librarian
Any Trusted Adult

Or Call 911 for
Emergencies

We are encouraging school and community members to become the eyes and ears of the Kimberly Area School District in order to provide information that keeps our students, staff and schools safe.

It sometimes can be difficult to define:

- Take your time to pay attention to your surroundings and to the behaviors of others around you.
- Know what suspicious or concerning behaviors look like.
- Does the activity look strange to you?
- Are you worried someone you know is thinking about hurting others or themselves?

Report it, don't just repeat it.



**Kimberly Area
 School District**

*See Something, Say Something® is modeled after
 the Department of Homeland Security's program.*

rev 11/6/19

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.

Community Events

[Want to share an event? Click Here](#)

Please complete the linked form to request information to be distributed by the Kimberly Area School District. Submit requests at least two weeks prior to your event. Distribution level and type may be approved differently than requested. We reserve the right to deny any request.

***Are you on our mailing list?***

We want to ensure parents of young children (age 0-5) in our District are on our mailing list, so you can receive information relative to your child's age group, such as early childhood screening information or 4K and 5K registration information. We also need to have information for all children age 0-21 for state reporting. Click on this link <https://goo.gl/DFjSne> to complete the census form, or complete and mail the census form found here <https://goo.gl/TkNvX6>. If you know of other families with children in our District that may not be in our system, please help us by sharing this information with them.

Project Starfish Intended to Help Families in Financial Need

Limited Financial Assistance is available for activities, events and programs at JRG Middle School through Project Starfish.

In partnership with U. S. Ventures, Inc., JRG is proud to Continue its participation with Project Starfish. Project Starfish provides an opportunity for students to develop a plan to volunteer within the school community and "pay it forward" in an effort to make a difference to others. This could be anything from helping clean up school property; helping in the office, weeding, or an approved project the student may self select. Participants in Project Starfish remain confidential, must demonstrate financial hardship and must complete their volunteer work prior to the activity.

Forms to participate in Project Starfish can be picked up in the Student Services office. Submission of a request does not guarantee assistance.

Family Move - Outside of the Kimberly Area School District

When a family moves outside of the Kimberly Area School District, students may continue to attend the school where they are currently enrolled if they qualify for a Tuition Waiver (obtained from the district office). Students who qualify for a Tuition Waiver are entitled to continue their enrollment through the waiver period. However, they are required to apply for Open Enrollment during the next Open Enrollment application period if they want to remain in the Kimberly Area School District after the Tuition Waiver has expired.

For additional information, please contact Jen Bixler at (920)423-4166 or email her at jbixler@kimberly.k12.wi.us

Family Move - Within the Kimberly Area School District

When a family move occurs within the Kimberly Area School District, students may continue to attend the school where they are currently enrolled even though their residence has changed to another Kimberly Area School District attendance area.

Parents who wish to have their student(s) remain in the same school after a move within the school district must complete the School Request Form located on the district website under Student & Parents>Enrollment>Attendance and return it to the district office Attn: Sara Vogel.

For additional information regarding school request contact Sara Vogel at (920)423-4122.

Kimberly Area School District



School-Based Counseling for Students in 5K – 12th Grade

The [Kimberly Area School District](#) and [United Way's PATH \(Providing Access to Healing\) for Students](#) program are working together to provide students in the District with the opportunity to receive outpatient [mental health](#) services within their school.

New for this school year:

- Opportunity for school-based counseling services expanded to students in 5-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade. *(Previously only available for grades 7-12.)*
- These services are designed to meet the needs of students and families who would otherwise be unable to access mental health therapy.



Counseling is an excellent way to:

- Learn new skills
- Develop self-confidence
- Become more aware of others' views and experiences
- Practice new behaviors
- Better understand how to deal with the problems life presents



If you are a parent and think your child may benefit, or if you are a student and feel you may benefit from counseling, you are invited to contact your [school counselor](#) for further screening.

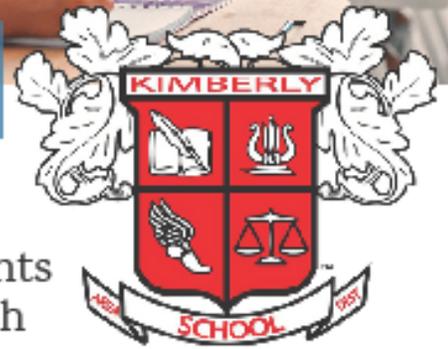
If you have any questions about mental health resources for students, you can also contact Tim Fosshage, Director of Pupil Services, at (920) 788-7900.

Rev. 9/25/2018

OUR STUDENTS NEED YOU

SEEKING TEMPORARY STAFF

substitute teachers • support staff • entry level



Kimberly Area School District (KASD) is seeking support from our community. Help us keep students in the classroom and our schools open. Find which opportunity is best for you!

— *Explore the possibilities* —

| POSITION |  EXPERIENCE LEVEL |  PAY |  FLEXIBILITY/ SEASONAL |  IMMEDIATE OPENINGS |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Substitute Teacher | Associates or Bachelor's | \$115/PER DAY | ✓ | ✓ |
| Classroom Facilitator | High School Diploma | \$90/PER DAY | ✓ | ✓ |
| Substitute Paraprofessional | High School Diploma | \$9.50/PER HOUR | ✓ | ✓ |

Do you enjoy working with children while maintaining a flexible work schedule? Are you home for the holidays and looking for temporary work? Have you considered becoming a classroom facilitator, substitute paraprofessional or even a substitute teacher? Learn more at www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/careers

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



IF YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter



In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation



In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station



Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference and is feasible.
 - * If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.

If you believe your children may be eligible, contact the local liaison to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.



Local Liaison
Rob DeLain
KASD Homeless Liaison
920.788.7905

State Coordinator
Kristine Nadolski
608.267.7338

If you need further assistance with your children's educational needs,
contact the National Center for Homeless Education:
1-800-308-2145 * homeless@serve.org * www.serve.org/nche