



Gator News

April 7
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

April 12
Tennis Begins

April 12-16
Operation Cell Phone

April 19
Boys Volleyball Begins
Track Distance
Training Begins

April 23
Day Of Silence—see
page 3 for details

May 3-6
Wrestling Camp
8th Grade

May 10-14
Wrestling Camp
7th Grade

Book Fair

May 10
Speed and Strength
Begins

May 14
Early Release—11:20

May 31
Memorial Day—No
school

June 3
Last Day of School

When I was a student, I remember the feeling I would get after Spring Break. It was like standing in the prow of a ship and finally spotting land far off on the horizon. It's an exciting feeling to see the end of the year approaching even though we know we still have a lot of sailing to do to reach our destination.

April brings some new opportunities for students, including:

- We will be starting a trial period of allowing students to be maskless at recess. We'll continue to closely monitor our COVID cases and may need to reinstate masks if numbers dictate.
- We'll also be offering opportunities for runners (distance and speed) in place of our normal track program, as well as wrestling, tennis and boys volleyball programs. See more details later in this newsletter. Remember, middle school is a great time for students to try new things. Students don't need to have any experience or skills in a particular sport to join.
- In partnership with Kimberly-Clark, we are offering a Girls Who Code event on April 14. It's one part of our district-wide emphasis on computer science courses and experiences for our students.
- By the time you read this, students will have completed most of the Forward Exam, with one more testing date on Thursday, April 8.
- Congratulations to Greta Melzl and Kaitlyn Schmidt, Laila Gaffney and Madalyn Groshek, who were all winners in recent academic contests. See details later in this newsletter.

And looking into the future...

- While we can't take our normal end of year class trips this year, our teachers are starting to plan for an end of year celebration for all students, and for a recognition opportunity for our 8th graders.
- As mentioned earlier, we are looking forward to holding band and choir concerts this May with fans in the stands. Watch for more details later this month if your child is a band or choir member.

We appreciated the chance to meet with families at our March conferences and hope that it was a valuable experience for you. I was able to join about a dozen conferences and it was great to hear about how students have learned and grown this year. We have also enjoyed welcoming a new group of students back to in person learning from our online program. The online program will have a new look next year, and there are a few details later in this newsletter.

We want to finish the year strong, and that means keeping the focus on learning as well as our COVID risk mitigation procedures. It's very gratifying to have successfully reached the fourth quarter of in person learning in a strange and challenging year. Your support and encouragement throughout the year has been greatly appreciated! Please continue to encourage your child in their learning and in their COVID safety. We have a lot of time left to learn and grow, followed by new and exciting things over the horizon.

Eric Brinkmann, Principal

6th Annual Operation Cell Phone Information

From April 12-16, JRG will be holding our 6th annual Operation Cell Phone experiment. This student-driven event offers students and staff the chance to experience life without their cell phones, or any other devices they are willing to part with. In other words, students will be "screen-free" for a week. Devices can be and for some, are an addiction. By participating, students can learn things about themselves, such as:

- More face to face talking to parents and friends equals better communication
- Exploring new hobbies and interests when bored
- Getting outside and being more physically active
- Don't let your life be about your phone
- Life is not about "streaks"; it is about personal relationships

After the experiment is finished, we will be conducting a short survey about student's experiences during the challenge.

Art Club Opening to 7th Grade Students

Art Club is opening up soon to 7th grade students that have a desire to use their imagination, experiment with different art materials and create! 7th grade Art Club will be held on April 22, 29 and May 6, 13, 20.

Please complete [this form](#) by Friday, April 9 if interested in attending Art Club. Once a calendar for attendance is created, you will be contacted via email.

Art Club will meet on Thursday after school, 3:05-4:00 and will be limited to 14 students. Covid protocol mitigation strategies will be followed and students will need to provide their own transportation home.

Please contact Ms. Dagesse with any questions: rdagesse@kimberly.k12.wi.us

Forward Exam at JRG

All Wisconsin public school students in grades 3-8 are assessed annually using the Forward exam. At JRG, students will begin Forward Exam testing began 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:

7th and 8th Graders:

- **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.



Day of Silence 20-21

The Day of Silence is a national event started in the mid 90s by students like us. This is a day where people give up their right to speak for a day in order to remember and help support members of the LGBTQ+ community who cannot speak up for themselves. The Day of Silence is on **Friday, April 23rd** and is an optional event for students and staff. A Google Form will be available for those who want to participate. We are inviting both online and in person students to

join us in this event. All you have to do is complete the form by 3:30 on Tuesday, April 20th. Remember, if you choose to participate, you are sacrificing your speech during social times and attempting to be silent for the day.

FAQ:

Do I still talk during class?

Yes, you are only giving up your speech during social times (lunch, passing period, social media, etc.). You will still participate during your classes (group work, discussions, responding to questions, etc.) as you normally would.

Do I have to participate?

No, it's 100% optional.

How do I let others know I am participating?

You will receive an adhesive tag from your 1st hour teacher the morning of the event with your reason for participating listed on it. After the event, pick up a pin from student services to keep as a memory from the event!

If you have questions please see Ms. Startup, Ms. Stupka, a member of JRG's Alliance group, or stop in Student Services!

Link to sign up form:

<https://forms.gle/vBJaURzAq69mYZFq8>





National History Day 2021

National History Day is an exciting academic enrichment program that helps students learn about historical issues, ideas, people, and events. This year-long academic adventure fosters students' enthusiasm for learning and their love for history. The theme for this year is "Communication in History - A Key to Understanding".



Greta Melzl and Kaitlyn Schmidt presented their impressive project at the regional competition at UW Green Bay and won a spot at the state competition. They were asked by the judges to explain their thinking and their process:

How did you choose your topic and how does it relate to the annual theme?

We decided to work together because we have similar interests but different skill sets. Both of us are musicians and we have experienced the strong feelings music can communicate. We wondered in what historical time period music played an important role, and the Civil Rights Era was the obvious choice. Music told about the shared history and

also provided a message of unity and strength. As recent events have taught us, the struggle for justice for all is far from over. Songs will continue to communicate the lessons we have learned from the past and will continue to inspire us to work towards a better future.

How did you conduct your research?

In a normal year, we might have met 2-3 times a week in an NHD class to create our project and our teacher would have guided our work. This year because of Covid restrictions the class wasn't offered, so most of our work was done at home. Occasionally we arranged meetings with our teacher to discuss our project. The two of us sometimes met on Google Meet to discuss the topic and what needed to be done. Most of the time, we worked independently on our own. We weren't able to go to any archives in person this year, so we used the Library of Congress and the National Archives, along with library books, and numerous other online sources to conduct research. We both found wonderful recording sources online and watched outstanding documentaries on PBS.

How did you create your project?

Even though we had never made a documentary before, we decided that our topic could best be presented with a film. The music needs to be heard and experienced if one wants to understand its impact. Once most of our research was completed, we wrote a script and started to storyboard the video. This helped us visualize the combination of the verbal message, the images, and the sounds together. We used a software called WeVideo and while it is cool to learn how to make a film, it was also very challenging and often frustrating. We had to learn everything on our own and occasional glitches could take hours to fix.

What is your historical argument?

Songs played a central part of the Civil Rights Movement during the 1950s and 60s. They told the shared story of the African Americans peoples' struggle, they united people, reinforced protesters' messages, and spread hope, courage, and determination. Songs uplift people in ways that words alone can't. Many activists of the movement incorporated the power of music to communicate the fight for justice and freedom.

In what ways is your topic significant in history?

Our topic is significant because the civil rights movement gained many rights for African Americans. It paved the way for a more equal nation, a land free from the oppression of the past. It wasn't done through violence and war, but with peaceful protests that often were accompanied by music. African Americans wanted the rights that were rightfully theirs under the United States Constitution, and they showed that they wouldn't back down. Music played a key role in their peaceful fight for equal rights.



Congratulations Greta and Kaitlyn and Good Luck at State!

(FYI: A safe distance was kept at all times with the exception of the 30 seconds it took to take the pictures)

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.

Athletic Opportunities for the Spring



Boys Volleyball

Sign up: March 15th-26th

First Day of practice: Monday, April 19th

There will be a parent meeting at 6:00pm in the small gym at JRG. Practice will start after the meeting.

[Brief Description](#)

Co-Ed Tennis

Sign up: March 15th-26th

First Day of Practice: Monday, April 12th

The first practice will just be an informational meeting and will meet at 3:10-3:45.

Brief Description: We will be running practices more like a clinic/camp that will have a heavy focus on skills and drills. All skill levels are welcome! A practice schedule and more information about the program will be handed out at the meeting on Monday, April 9th.

Track Distance Training

Sign up: March 22nd-April 9th

First Day of Practice: Monday, April 19th at 3:10-4:15.

Brief Description: Unfortunately we will not be having a track season, but will be offering 2 sessions of track training. The first session is our distance running program, which would include training for those who would be interested in running the 400, 800 (½ mile) or 1600 (mile).

Wrestling Camp

Sign Up: April 12th-23rd

Camp Dates and Times: 8th Graders Camp will be May 3rd-6th 3:30-5:00
6th and 7th graders will be May 10th-13th 3:30-5:00

[Brief Description:](#)

Speed and Strength

Sign Up: April 19th-30th

First Day of Practice: Monday, May 10th 3:10-4:15

Brief Description: Unfortunately we will not be having a track season, but will offer a 3 week speed and strength program. This program will be an introduction to the summer strength and speed program. The main focus will be on running form and technique with also an emphasis on strength training.

You can contact Ms. Hammen at mhammen@kimberly.k12.wi.us or (920) 423-4106 with any questions you may have.

IMPORTANT UPDATE



ONLINE PROGRAMMING FOR 2021-2022

Kimberly Area School District plans to return to full-time, in-person learning as the primary learning model for the 2021-2022 school year. An online option will only be available for students in grades 7-12. For questions or more information, please contact John Schultz at jschultz@kimberly.k12.wi.us



Congratulations to **Madalyn Groshek**, Grade 7, for winning First Place in the Code/Art National Coded Self-Portrait Contest! Madalyn wrote a computer program to generate her self-portrait. No gifs, jpegs, pngs, or images from other pre-made graphic files were used!

Madalyn's self-portrait advanced to the National Level earlier this month and on Saturday, March 21, she was voted as the winner of her division during the Code/Art Fest (Virtual Coding Conference for Girls)!



Honorable Mention-
Laila M. Gaffney



- > 8th Grader – JR Gerritts Middle School, Kimberly
- > Clare Marshall, Teacher
- > Mr. Eric Brinkman, Principal

Influential Women Essay Contest Recognition

Congratulations to Laila Gaffney for being an Honorable Mention winner of the AAUW Influential Women STEM Essay Contest! She wrote her essay about Katherine Johnson and her important contribution to women's STEM history. Laila was recognized at a virtual reception on March 16th where she shared her essay. What an incredible way to celebrate Women's History Month!

Way to go, Laila!

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!



WE'RE HAVING A BOOK FAIR!

Dear Parents and Families:

We are working hard to keep kids reading and provide students with books for summer by offering a spring Scholastic Book Fair. We are so excited to be able to offer students a sense of normalcy and joy after they've missed so much this year.

Our Fair will connect your kids to notable books and inspiring characters — helping them become lifelong readers. And all purchases will directly support our school!

Important information for our Fair, held May 10-14

Safety First: The safety and well-being of your child is our priority. We're taking extra precautions to host a safe, socially distanced Fair at our school, focusing on preventive measures. Learn more at bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/articles/safety

Shop Online: While we will invite students to visit the fair in-person, parents and families can experience the Book Fair fun by visiting our Book Fair online! You can shop over 6,000 products — and all orders ship direct to your home (with free shipping on book-only orders over \$25*)! All purchases made during the Fair, both in-person or online, will bring our school 25% in rewards. <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/gerrittsmiddleschool>

We look forward to seeing your child at the Fair! Thank you for continuing to support our school.

Happy reading,

Erin Wedemeier
K-8 Library Media Specialist
Kimberly Area School District

SAVE THE
DATE!

J.R. Gerritts's Book Fair

Book Fair dates: May 10-14, 2021
during school hours

*Free standard shipping is available on book-only orders of \$25 or more, after all discounts are applied. Free standard shipping (books) must be selected during checkout. Orders containing products other than books are not eligible for this shipping promotion.

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 2020-2021 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:

Business Management & Administration

A sampling of careers included in this cluster:

- Advertising copywriter
- Legal secretary
- Health care administrator
- Logistics specialist
- Media buyer
- Office manager
- Mortgage broker
- Recruiter
- Purchaser
- Title examiner
- Statistician
- Economist

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 Business Administration?

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 Business Management and you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Brad Demmin bdemmin@kimberly.k12.wi.us or (920) 788-7905

2021-22 Kimberly Papermakers Dance Team Tryouts

Attention 8th graders!

**Love to dance? Want to be part of a fun
and hard working team?**

The Dance Team is holding tryouts in April/May!

**No experience necessary at our JV level,
just a desire to learn and improve your skills!**

**Been dancing for years?
Learn more about our competitive varsity team!**



**Tryout open gyms/clinic information on our website:
www.kimberlydanceteam.com
Or contact us at kimberlydanceteam@gmail.com**

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.

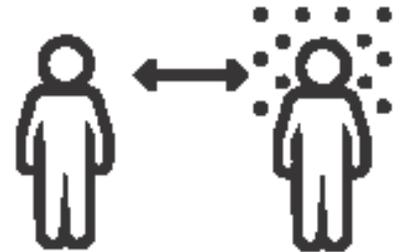
For information on awaiting test results and quarantining please go to, www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/updates/covid-19-protocols.

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.



Kimberly Area School District
HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT
Grade 7-8

Dear Parent or Guardian:

It is important that our youth have knowledge about human growth and development to understand body changes, maintain a healthy lifestyle, and make healthy, responsible decisions which fit with their personal values and yours. It is important for you to be the primary source for information and education, and our schools will provide support to assist your efforts.

4 year-old-kindergarten through twelfth grade human growth and development objectives guide learning in our schools. These objectives were designed by a committee of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members to be developmentally appropriate and were approved by the Board of Education. The objectives for your child's grade level are printed here along with our philosophy for your review. Your child's teachers will provide opportunities throughout the school year for your child to learn these objectives. To provide the best learning situations, we connect this information with other things about which the child is learning. Because of this, human growth and development learning may occur throughout the year when it is most appropriate, but there may be times when the learning is more focused.

Films related to the physical and emotional changes that occur with puberty are used in grades 4, 5, and 6. When the class is viewing one of these films, the teacher or counselor will notify you in advance so that you can have the opportunity to preview the film. We encourage you to take time with your child to discuss the film together after it is shown in class. This discussion provides another opportunity for you to share your values and expectations and to understand your child's perspectives. We have additional resources to help parents connect and speak with their children about human growth and development issues. For more information about available resources, speak with your child's teacher or counselor.

If you have any questions or concerns about what your child will be learning, please talk with your child's teacher or counselor. If you prefer that your child not participate in human growth and development instruction, you need to make that request in writing to the teacher or school principal in advance and an alternative educational opportunity will be provided for your child during that time. Students whose parents exempt them from instruction related to human growth and development will still receive instruction on other health-related topics such as basic hygiene and sanitation, the effects of controlled substances and alcohol on the human body, symptoms of disease and the proper care of the body. Instruction is also provided for elementary students on effective means by which students may recognize, avoid, prevent and halt physically or psychologically abusive or intrusive situations, such as child abuse, child enticement and sexual abuse.

If you would like more information about the district's health curriculum, including the complete human growth and development curriculum, or the instructional materials, please contact me at (920) 788-7900, Extension 4181.

Sincerely,
 John Schultz
 Director of Student Improvement

PHILOSOPHY

The Kimberly Area School District recognizes human growth and development as a lifelong educational process. The responsibility for this education belongs first and foremost to parents, church, and community. The district recognizes the obligation of the schools to support and supplement this aspect of education. Since students are in school for a large portion of their lives, it seems appropriate that the school offer to assist parents in these areas.

This human growth and development program has been planned with the active, constructive involvement of parents, teachers, students, community leaders, and administrators with approval by the School Board.

The Kimberly School District is committed to provide human growth and development instruction as part of a comprehensive education program. Human growth and development instruction refers to the process of growth in the intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social phases of individuals and their human relations.

Human growth and development should not be an isolated special facet of education. Sequential, well-planned units appropriate for developmental needs will be integrated through the 4K-12 curriculum. Our goal is to provide accurate information in a non-threatening environment which includes dialogue between parents, students, and teachers. This accurate information will allow students and educators to use correct terminology when referring to human growth and development topics.

The Kimberly Area School District recognizes its responsibility to promote in our students positive self-concepts, healthy interpersonal relationships, and responsible decision making. This curriculum will help students examine their own attitudes and behavior in relation to the norms and values of parents, church, and community.

OBJECTIVES FOR GRADE 7

1. Apply the basic steps involved in the decision making process.
2. Recognize the alcohol and drug use can affect decision making.
3. Identify qualities/characteristics of a healthy relationship.
4. Know that family structures vary, explain ways that families change and describe the responsibilities of all family members to create social, physical and mentally healthy family members.
5. Explain the difference between acceptable, respectful physical contact and sexual harassment.
6. Know how to respond to situations involving sexual harassment or abuse.
7. Describe interrelationships of and disparities among physical, mental and social changes occurring at puberty.
8. Identify abstinence as the only responsible choice for teens to protect their social, mental and physical health.
9. Differentiate between gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation.
10. Communicate respectfully with and about people of all gender identities, gender expressions and sexual orientations.

OBJECTIVES FOR GRADE 8

1. Apply the basic steps involved in the decision making process.
2. Explain qualities that make healthy relationships.
3. Identify the influence of personal values and beliefs (as well as other outside influences such as the media) that impact a healthy relationship.
4. Describe physical, mental, and social changes that occur as they mature physically and sexually through puberty.
5. Identify and explain the structure and function of male and female reproduction system.
6. Explain sexually transmitted infections, their potential impact on one's health, and prevention and treatment options.
7. Know why abstinence is the only responsible choice for teens to protect their social, mental and physical health.
8. Identify reliable community resources, including parents or other trusted adults, that they can go to for information or if they are or someone they know is being harassed, abused or assaulted.

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