



Gator News

March 7
2018

Learning, Leadership and Laughter...The JRG Journey

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

- Celebrations
- Clubs and Activities
- JRG Policies
- Summer School



March Events - Celebrate Academics, the Arts, and Athletics

March is a busy month at JRG. Along with the increasing amount of daylight, this month brings a growing number of opportunities for students and parents to get involved in your child's academic success, as well as celebrate the arts and athletics.

- Our spring Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on **March 15 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.** This is a one-night event (as opposed to the two nights of fall conferences). More detailed information can be found later in this newsletter. Please join us if you can. If you can't attend but have questions about your student's progress, please don't hesitate to reach out to our teachers via email or phone. One of the primary reasons for JRG's success is our amazing and supportive families, so thank you for all you do to support your child at home.
- JRG's spring musical, High School Musical Jr., will be performed on March 8, 9 and 10 in our auditorium. Tickets can be purchased online at [ShowTix4U](#) and more information is available on the [JRG Theatre Facebook page](#). It's another great opportunity to celebrate and enjoy the arts at JRG. In addition, our choir and band students recently participated in Solo and Ensemble competition, and multiple JRG art students were recently honored at the WAEA Youth Art Month show (see the February 21 Gator Bytes).
- Every year, more JRG students participate in Track and Field than any other sport we offer. It's also one of the easiest sports for students to get involved in and have fun with, and it's a sport that allows students of all abilities to challenge themselves to grow and improve, which can mean many different things for different students. The season kicks off on April 4 (so, yes, that's technically not in March, but it's close!). Not interested in track? Why not give tennis a try. The season starts after school on April 9 with a meeting in Room 105.

March 5-9
National School
Breakfast Week

March 8-10
High School Musical Jr.

March 11
Daylight Savings Starts—
turn clocks ahead 1 hour

March 15
Early Release—2:00

Parent-Teacher
Conference—4:00-7:00
PM

March 16
Student-Staff Basketball
Game

Early Release—11:20

March 22
College Tours—8th
Grade Lagoons and
Glades

March 23
End of Quarter 3

College Tours—8th
Grade Swampies and
Bayous

March 30-April 3
No School—Spring
Break

In addition, we'll be hosting our annual Students v. Staff Basketball Game, a fundraiser for the Heart of the Valley YMCA, on the morning of March 16. In past years, we have raised about \$2000 annually for this worthy cause. The HOTV YMCA has traditionally had a strong relationship with JRG, providing access to students when families can't afford it and serving as a positive after school option for students who aren't currently involved in an activity at JRG. You can help by contributing to your child's TLC raffle basket. It's a fun event that our students and teachers look forward to every year.

When students know that their families care about their school success, and when students are involved in and connected to their school, their academic success increases along with their likelihood of achieving their potential in college, career and life. It's a privilege for us to be able to play a part in that process. Please don't hesitate to let us know how we're doing and how we can improve.

Student—Staff Basketball Game and Missing Assignments

The JRG Student Council is hosting an upcoming student-staff basketball game on March 16th to benefit the YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign. Every year, our goal is to raise over \$1,000 to benefit the local Heart of the Valley YMCA which helps many of our students in need.

Students with 2 or more missing assignments by March 13 at 3:00 PM will attend a study hall during the Student/Staff Basketball game to complete their missing work.

**Mr. Hoerth's Ex. Tech
Photo of the Week Winner
Theme: Black and White**

Congratulations to the following
winner:

Nathan Winters



Boys and Girls Track and Tennis Begin in April

Boys and Girls Track will begin Wednesday, April 4 and will continue into May. Practices will be held daily from 3:10 until approximately 4:30. Participants will receive a schedule during practice with more detailed information about meet dates and times.

Boys and Girls Tennis begins with an informational meeting on Monday, April 9 from 3:00-3:45 in Ms. Vanevenhoven's room. Tennis will run from April 10-May 18.

Please make sure you have all of the proper paperwork on file the office. You can find the JRG athletic form on our website by clicking [here](#).

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.

Follow JRG on Instagram, Twitter and 'Like' Us on Facebook

Our Facebook page is Facebook.com/JRGerritts and you can find us on Twitter @JRGerritts. In addition, JRG can now be found 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.



National School Breakfast Week—March 5-9

Please take a moment next week to thank our Chartwells staff for all of the work they do each day preparing nutritious, well-balanced meals for our students before and during the school day.



20th Annual Fox Valley Junior Math League Meet in Kimberly

170 Mathletes from Appleton, Neenah, Menasha, Greenville and Kimberly met at JR Gerritts Middle School for the final math meet of the 2017-2018 season. As always, the excitement and friendly competition rivaled the Olympics. Pizza and snacks added to the fun. A great big **THANK YOU** goes to all the people who made this event possible: **Parents** who scored the tests, prepared the food, set-up the commons, **teachers** who brought their students to the meet and supervised them throughout the afternoon, **students**, who gave their little grey cells an extreme workout, **janitorial staff** who cleaned up the mess,

Mrs. King, who emceed every one of the 20 meets, and **Mrs. Balistreri** who founded the Math League and organizes these events.



Individual Results:

Gr. 7

1. Allison Weiher
2. Jack Statz
3. Kale Twombly
4. Nina Tremble
6. Olivia Duval



Gr. 8

2. Vienna Melzl
3. Sofie Schumerth
4. Mason Freund
5. Brayden Mau
6. Sofie Langenhuizen



Team Results

Gr. 7/8

1. Mason Freund, Kendall Sullivan, Sofie Schumerth, Brayden Mau, Vienna Melzl, Sofie Langenhuizen
2. Grayson Peake, Allison Weiher, Kale Twombly, Nolan Marx, Marley Pozniak, Jack Statz
3. Erin Featherstone, Olivia Duval, Julia Loritz, Haley Gudeman, Nina Tremble
5. Erin Poggemann, Sainithya Attota, Corrine Riese, Norah Lom, Natalie Zimmerman

J.R.G. Parent/Teacher Conferences March 15, 2018

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

Things to know about Conferences at JRG:

- **Conferences are on a first come, first served basis. Lines can be lengthy. Please consider prioritizing which teacher(s) you would like to meet with first.**
- Location of staff:
 - Grade 7 Core Teachers (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies)– Large Gym
 - Grade 8 Core Teachers (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies)– Small Gym
 - Academy Teachers (Art, Computer, World Language, Music, Phy Ed, Health and Tech Ed)– Commons
 - Resource Teachers– in the teacher's classroom
- Check with your student to circle the names of his/her teachers on the back of this sheet. The list also indicates where the teachers will be located for conferences.
- Park in the stadium parking lot at JRG and **enter the building through the gym doors (17S)**. As you enter, we'll provide a guide to our parent-teacher conferences.
- ***Prior to conferences please print off copy of your child's first quarter grades and schedule at home. If you do not have access to a printer please contact the main office prior to conferences.***
- Please feel free to bring your student along to conferences!
- Please limit your conferences to five minutes when other parents or families are waiting. Remember that longer, more involved conversations work better when parents and teachers set up a separate meeting when more time is available.

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

Last names A through K:

Thursday, March 16th, 4:00 to 5:30 PM

Students are dismissed at 2:00 PM this day.

Last names L through Z:

Thursday, March 16th, 5:30 to 7:00 PM

Students are dismissed at 2:00 PM this day.

These times are suggestions only to help balance our attendance numbers. Feel free to attend at the time that works best for you. If you are not able to attend at any time between 4-7pm on March 15th and wish to meet with a specific teacher, please feel to contact your child's teacher via email or phone to make alternative arrangements.

Welcome to Conferences – Spring 2018

Note: The office will be closed during conferences.

Teacher	Class	Area
Appleton, Ashley	Grade 8	Small Gym
Appleton, Clare	Grade 8	Small Gym
Baetke, Abby	Grade 7	Large Gym
*Balistreri, Ulrike	G/T	Room 446
Barnes, Lana	Counselor 8	Room 160
Behnke, Emily	Spanish	Commons
Berger, Megan	Health	Commons
Bertrand, Megan	Grade 7	Large Gym
*Braeger, Billie	Resource	Room 208
Brinkmann, Eric	Principal	Office
Bumgardner, Matt	Dean of Students	Room 160
Chalupny, Mike	Health/PE	Commons
Dagesse, Rebecca	Art	Commons
DeLain, Rob	Asst Principal	Office
Demmin, Brad	Counselor 7	Room 160
*Eckerman-Ambas, P.	Resource	Room 234
Fellner, Wendy	Grade 8	Small Gym
Freund, Angie	Resource	Room 102
Froze, Aimee	Computer	Commons
Hagmann, Christina	Grade 7	Large Gym
Hammen, Mary	Phy Ed	Commons
Hank, Aaron	Grade 7	Large Gym
*Henshaw, Julie	Grade 8	
Hermus, Ryan	Grade 7	Large Gym
*Hietpas, Craig	Band	Commons
Hoerth, Brad	Tech Ed	Commons
Hoerth, Holly	Grade 8	Small Gym
Hubers, Bailey	Resource	Room 322
Jamrose, Monique	Resource	Room 233
Jansen, Jason	Grade 7	Large Gym
Jochimsen, Jason	PE	Commons
Johnson, Lance	Grade 8	Small Gym
Johnson, Sandy	Grade 7	Large Gym

Teacher	Class	Area
Kamm, Jennifer	Grade 7	Large Gym
King, Jodi	Grade 8	Small Gym
Leih, Eric	Choir	Commons
*Lenz, Jessie	Resource	Room 235
*Nji, Julie	French	Commons
O'Donnell, Marty	Band	Commons
Ott, Scott	Grade 8	Small Gym
Pearson, Cathy	Grade 8	Small Gym
Peterson, Shannon	Grade 8	Small Gym
Scholz, Kurt	Grade 8	Small Gym
Schutt, Chris	Tech Ed	Commons
*Simon, Jeff	Grade 8	Small Gym
Skarie, Allison	Grade 7	Large Gym
Stockwell-Jansen, Erin	Grade 7	Large Gym
*Stupka, Becky	Psychologist	Room 160
Swanson, Holly	Grade 7	Large Gym
Tank, Mark	Grade 7	Large Gym
Tenpas, Tamara	Resource	Room 226
Van Zeeland, Kristen	Spanish	Commons
Vanevenhoven, Althea	Grade 8	Small Gym
*Verboomen, Chad	Grade 7	Large Gym
Weber, Maggie	Resource	Room 120
Wedemeier, Erin	Resource	LMC
*Weyenberg, Allyson	Resource	
Wild, Stephanie	Grade 8	Small Gym

Staff Availability for Conferences

- *Ulrike Balistreri – **Not Available**
- *Patricia Eckerman-Ambas – **Not Available**
- *Julie Henshaw – **Not Available**
- *Becky Stupka – **Not Available**
- *Chad Verboomen – **Not Available**
- *Allyson Weyenberg – **Not Available**
- *Billie Braeger – Available 3:30-4:30 & 5:30-7:30
- *Craig Hietpas – Available 3:00-6:00
- *Jessie Lenz – Available 4:00-6:00
- *Julie Nji – Available 5:00-7:00
- *Jeff Simon – Available 4:00-6:00

Cell Phone Usage During the School Day

Cell phones provide a great opportunity for friends and family to keep in touch at a moments notice. JRG phone policy allows students to use their phones before school, after school, during lunch, and between classes. Any other time of the day needs teacher or supervisor approval.

We find that the most common reason students contact their parents during the day is because they do not feel well, and would like to go home. If this happens, we ask that parents direct their student to the health room in the Main Office where our staff can evaluate their symptoms and provide assistance. In many cases, a few moments of quiet rest will allow students to return to class and continue on with their school day. Should symptoms dictate that the student go home, parents will be contacted by our office staff or permission will be granted to the student to call home.

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. There they will be asked to complete a brief form to indicate their concerns. 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. You can find this form on our website under Forms and Documents. 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.

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

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 announce 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 and can be found later in this newsletter. Submission of a request does not guarantee assistance.

Additional Opportunities Available on 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.

The Kimberly Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, (including limited English proficiency), ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, homelessness status, sex, including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity, disability, age (except as authorized by law), military status or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability in any of its student programs or activities.

JRG Club Information

Art Club - 3:05-4:15 Room 436

Upcoming Dates: March 12, 19
 April 9, 16,23,30
 May 7 (last meeting)

Contact: Mrs. Dagesse with questions. rdagesse@kimberly.k12.wi.us

Coding Club - 3:00-4:00 Room 111

Upcoming Dates: March 8, 13, 22, 26
 April 5, 9, 12, 17, 19, 23, 26, 30
 May 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24 (last meeting)

Contact: Ms. Froze with questions: afroze@kimberly.k12.wi.us

Cooks in the Kitchen Cooking Club - 3:30-4:45 Room 446

Must have Signed up in Student Services prior to March 1 to participate

Upcoming Dates: March 12, 19, 26

Contact: Mrs. Kane (kkane@kimberly.k12.wi.us) or
 Mrs. Laundrie (jlaundrie@kimberly.k12.wi.us) with questions

SUMMER SCHOOL

At The Kimberly Area School District

www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/summer-school

ACCOUNT SET-UP

Account set-up started **March 1st**. Everyone will need to create a new account. They do not carry over from year to year.

We encourage you to set up your account up prior to registration.

WOODLAND (ENTERING GRADES 4K-9):

Ng085 North Coop Road, Appleton

June 5 – June 29 (Mon. through Fri.)

8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Summer School Attendance: 920-423-4117

♦ Recommended classes for Grade 9 will be held at Kimberly High School

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL (ENTERING GRADES 9-12):

1662 East Kennedy Avenue, Kimberly

Session 1: June 4 - June 22 (Mon. through Fri.) 8:00-11:30 am

Session 2: June 25 - July 13 (Mon. through Fri.) 8:00-11:45 am

♦ No classes July 4th

Summer School Attendance: (920) 423-4171

To register for credit recovery courses please contact Student Services at KHS (920) 687-3031

SWIM LESSONS (ENTERING GRADES 4K-9):

Sunset Beach, 1010 W Fulcer Ave, Kimberly, WI 54136

Session 1: June 11 - June 28 (Mon. through Thurs.)

Session 2: July 9 - July 26 (Mon. through Thurs.)

Questions during registration: 920-423-4117

During Summer Session: 920-731-9229

REGISTRATION DATES

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Account Set-up begins at 9 a.m.

*Everyone needs to set-up a new account

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Sports/Swimming Registration begins at 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Summer School Registration begins at 9 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Summer School Registration closes at 4 p.m.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

General Registration Information:

The District Office (425 S. Washington St., Combined Locks) will be open from 9:00 to 11:00 am on March 24.

Computers will also be available at Kimberly's Administration Office starting **Monday, March 26**.

Classes fill fast! We recommend that you find an alternative class in case your first choice is full.

There is **no waiting list**. Should a child drop from a class an opening will be created. It will be the parents' responsibility to check the website periodically for openings.





PROJECT STARFISH

.....one matters

J.R. GERRITTS MIDDLE SCHOOL Grant Application

Date _____

Name _____ Grade _____

Student Team: Everglades Swampies Lagoons Bayous

Activity/Event: _____

Your request (Describe in detail how much money is needed and what you hope to learn.)

Amount requested \$ _____

(Project Starfish can be used for Mini-courses for ½ of the total amount due, to a maximum of \$20. Please note that Project Starfish will not give money directly to students. Items will be purchased for the student or forwarded directly to supplier/program administrator on behalf of student recipient).

Please review some of the opportunities for volunteering below and check how you would like to fulfill your volunteer hours.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LMC | <input type="checkbox"/> display cases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grounds clean-up | <input type="checkbox"/> hall clean-up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sweep the gym | <input type="checkbox"/> clean lunch tables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clean Student Services | <input type="checkbox"/> hang posters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clean kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> clean computer labs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ | |

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Amount Approved \$ _____

Principal Signature _____ Date _____

ALL COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO STUDENT

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