

GERVAIS SCHOOL  
DISTRICT#1  
290 FIRST STREET  
P. O. BOX 100  
GERVAIS,  
OREGON 97026  
www.gervais.k12.or.us



### Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 7th-8th.  
Please call your child's office to schedule an appointment.

### Superintendent Evaluation Survey

A survey will be available to parents regarding the superintendent evaluation. The survey will be published on the district's website on February 7th and will close on February 15th.

### Honoring Gervais Alumni

The district has put up a board to honor alumni students who are serving or have served in the military and students who have been successful in other areas. Please send your pictures if you would like your alumni to be honored.

Coming soon: Opportunity to serve on a Career Technical Education (CTE) Committee .

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Teachers Live Forever  
In The Hearts They  
Touch.

Volume 1 Issue 2

January 29, 2018

## From the Desk of Superintendent, Matt Henry

Developing and Influencing our GSD students ...Our Future Community Leaders '**Greatness is determined by service**'...**Martin Luther King**

Welcome to 2018 - parents, students, staff and Gervais community members! A sincere hope, from the Superintendent's desk, is that fall and now the winter months of the 2017-18 school year have been the very best educationally for your child... our students in the GSD.

An important part of the mission of the Gervais School District is to develop and guide each student into an adult who can stand confidently and seek opportunities to participate and fully experience diverse learning environments, in our district classrooms, as well as in other extracurricular activities. With this most recent celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy, it is fitting to think about the quote **above** in connection to the impact we **all** have on young people today in the area of their current and future leadership opportunities. We are always striving and hoping our young students, at all levels, will develop age-appropriate attitudes around serving others, as well as a strong and natural curiosity for learning. Our school district cannot meet this mark after the first year of a child's education or after the fifth year or the eighth year - it indeed takes the combined effort of all years and all experiences spanning all 12-13 years of a child's education.

Essentially, what we are striving for is long-term development of *future societal leaders*, a sobering and very important task. Leadership is key to developing students who are willing to act on their own, develop convictions, stand for what is right, resist what is wrong and pursue their passions toward making our world a better place. Leaders do not "watch from the sidelines". You may recall that GMS students, in a student-led fundraiser, raised \$1,800 for the Hurricane Harvey victims! That was a perfect example of our young people stepping up and out in this very successful Harvest Festival event last fall. As our students spend a significant amount of time learning in classes every day, we strive to provide them opportunities (see the Strategic Plan) to allow for the continual development of leadership skills. With this important goal before us, we know our students will become better-educated children and productive members of our community. So where can you help in the cultivation of our young leaders? Become involved in our co-curricular athletics and activities and other after-school programs such as: sports, clubs, the Gervais Sports League, 4-H, FFA, drama projects, and outside of school; church groups and work experiences are also excellent foundational activities for developing leadership.

MLK realized that for leadership to move from thought to *reality*, one must actually do something to help and serve others. Please look for and encourage our students, in and out of school, in doing positive activities towards the service of others. Support them in their efforts to be leaders. Challenge your own children, grandchildren, neighbors or friends to find ways that they can develop our future community, state, national and world leaders.



**GES Students Leading the National Anthem**

## Gervais School Board of Directors

### Board Recognition Month of January

**Thank you School Board Members for your dedication to kids!**

- Three board members volunteer on a regular basis at the elementary helping students in reading groups, recess duty, and lunch duty.
- One board member has been actively involved for approximately 15 years bringing a variety of sports offerings to our community youth.



**School Board Recognition on January 18, 2018**



**Winter Community Festival**

**“We can do anything we want to, if we stick with it long enough.”  
-Helen Keller**

## Gervais Elementary Highlights



**GES Music Concert**

- ◆ On Tuesday, January 30th, 2018, Mr. Gerardo Jimenez (GES/GMS school counselor/social worker) will be teaching an informational parent workshop on dealing with stress. Information will be shared on why some elementary-aged children make poor decisions that cause stress at home, and advice on how parents/guardians can respond to that stress in positive and helpful ways. The one-hour event will be held in the GES Library. Dinner, childcare, and interpreters for our Spanish-speaking families will be provided.
- ◆ In February 2018, Gervais Elementary is excited to partner with and help Gervais Middle School to support Operation Gratitude, which is a drive to help gather healthcare items in packages together with personal letters of appreciation to send out to troops, first responders, veterans, military families and wounded heroes and their caregivers. Please look for a letter that will be sent home in the near future with a list of items we'll be collecting from February 5th—February 17th. On Wednesday, February 21st, we're excited to close out this drive with an assembly that will be attended by Ms. Cindy Hunt, the Acting Chief of Staff for the Oregon Department of Education.
- ◆ On February 14th, the entire 5th-grade class will be traveling to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in downtown Portland to hear a concert put on by the Portland Youth Philharmonic (PYP). Thank you to the PYP for a grant that pays for the entire event including transportation!
- ◆ Many great things are happening at Gervais Elementary School every day. Dr. Helms is always welcoming of parents who would like to sit down (preferably over coffee) and listen to any celebration, questions, comments, or concerns you may have. If you'd ever like to speak with him, please schedule an appointment by contacting Ms. Weidemann in the front office.

Please follow Gervais Elementary on social media. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/GESBeehive/](https://facebook.com/GESBeehive/). Follow us on Twitter at [@GESBeehive](https://twitter.com/GESBeehive), and Instagram at [GESBeehive](https://www.instagram.com/GESBeehive).

## Gervais Middle School Highlights

- ◆ Student-Led Conferences were a huge success. Our students prepared and shared their academic progress with their parents in English and in Spanish.
- ◆ The attendance rate for our student-led conferences was 87%.
- ◆ Our Fall Fundraiser earned \$2,500 for our student incentives. We hosted our first dance on December 15<sup>th</sup> with a DJ.
- ◆ We had our first-trimester celebration of student success by recognizing our students who made the honor roll, attended 95% or more of school, and participated in sports in the fall.
- ◆ Over 80 students in the school qualified to go the Portland Trailblazer Game on January 16th by earning all A's and B's first trimester.

## Gervais High School Highlights

- ◆ **Academics**-We are in the middle of our second trimester with progress reports going out this week and parent conferences approaching quickly. Staff are beginning discussions on the courses we will offer next year. "Invitation" letters have been mailed to families of students who should be attending our after school credit recovery program, taking place every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 3:15 – 4:15. Bus transportation home is available.
- ◆ **Expansion of Career & Technical Education (CTE)**-Our Animal Sciences area at the back of the campus continues to progress. A final draft of our Health Occupations strand plan will be sent to ODE this week. A 'needs assessment' has been completed as part of the requirements for receiving next year's High School Success dollars. The next phase is to create a four year plan. Any parents wishing to help draft that plan should contact Ken Stott at 503-792-3803, ext. 3010.
- ◆ **Staff Trainings**-Brad Simmons attended a conference on strategies for teaching students who have suffered trauma. Ken Stott (and others) will attend a scheduling training in anticipation of building next year's master course schedule.
- ◆ **Student Participation**- Mr. McCargar has begun taking students from his robotics class to week-end competitions. Ms. Dilson continues to take students around the state to FFA competitions. On January 18 Gervais FFA competed with five other FFA chapters in a public speaking contest. Ali Cullet presented a prepared speech on horse slaughter and won third place in her division. Brianna Steinlicht presented a prepared speech on vegetarianism and won second place in her division.



**Arts Night Event**



**Veterinary Science Competition**

## Samuel Brown Academy

- ◆ Two students received awards at the end of the first trimester for exceeding their academic goals. One of them completed six classes, and the other completed twelve classes. Both students were recognized for their outstanding work ethic.
- ◆ SBA students have completed 58 classes so far this year.
- ◆ SBA is celebrating a steady increase in enrollment since the first day of school from 17 students to a current count of 54.
- ◆ Enrollment reflects a daily average of 21 students, of which 80% are present from 8 am to 3 pm.
- ◆ Four students are working on General Equivalency Diploma (GED) preparation courses with the goal of completing the GED by June.
- ◆ Three students enrolled through SBA are currently attending courses at Chemeketa Community College.



**SBA Students Working Hard**

## Preschool & Daycare Highlights

- ◆ We are excited to report that the preschool/daycare handbook will be available soon!
- ◆ The infant and toddler daycare is currently full! We are also looking forward to welcoming our new staff.
- ◆ The daycare currently has a winter theme throughout the building, snow, snowflakes, and snowmen and mittens.
- ◆ We are happy to announce that we currently have 51 children enrolled in both the AM and PM preschool classes!
- ◆ The preschool has had the opportunity to do some sensory activities like making playdough and playing with corn meal.
- ◆ The preschool class has also been working on their letters and writing their name. Each week they have a new letter to practice and combined with a craft this week they worked on the letter N.
- ◆ Also our Ready for Kinder parent classes will be February 6th 2018 at 6:00 p.m. They will be located in the preschool room next to the Welcome Center.

If you have any questions regarding our programs, please call the Gervais School District Welcome Center at (503)792-3803 x1022.



**Preschool Playing with Cornmeal**



**Daycare Playing with Cornmeal**



**Preschool Playing with Playdough**

### **Social Media Safety and Trends All Parents Should Know About**

- \* Social media can be fun and exciting for students. But new threats and applications (apps), which will continue to evolve, pose a safety risk.
- \* Staying attentive and very involved in your child's social media activity lives is important to help protect your children.
- \* Please be aware of recent statistics:
  - 88% of teens have seen someone be mean or cruel to others on social media.
  - 67% of teens say they know how to hide what they do online from parents.
  - 30% of teens say they've received inappropriate online advertising.
  - 39% of teens admitted to lying about their age to access websites.
  - 1 in 5 youth received a sexual approach or solicitation online.
- \* Tips for Parents and Students: What Can You Do? Think before you click: Would I tell a stranger this? Would I show my teacher or parent this? With whom am I chatting and do I know how or what they are saying?
- \* Here are basic rules for a safe online experience:
  - Restrict time online and on phones.
  - Encourage your children to report to you if they witness cyberbullying, inappropriate data images or someone spreading rumors online.
  - Monitor what your children watch on TV, do on the internet, and post online.
  - Request your child always ask permission before registering to a website, social media site or downloading programs. Encourage your child to be careful when disclosing personal information or clicking on questionnaires or free giveaways and contests.
  - Limit access to internet enabled devices to common areas and shared spaces within your home.
  - Talk about the risks associated with meeting online "friends" in person.
  - Learn about the sites/apps your child enjoys, so you can spot when they deviate from their normal routines.
  - Learn about the methods that the "dark web" uses and familiarize yourself with proper social media sites and their capabilities.
  - Check your child's privacy settings and make sure they are set to the strictest levels.
  - Use filtering software to monitor your child's internet usage.
  - Be a role model on how to use social media. From Superintendent, Matt Henry.

## Future Events

### February:

**February 5th-17th-**Operation Gratitude-Drop donations at GMS

**February 7th-8th-**Parent/Teacher Conferences

**February 13th-**Social Media 101 at GMS @ 5:30 p.m.

**February 15th-**School Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. DO Conference Room

**February 19th-**No School-Presidents Day

### March:

**March 9th-**No School-Teacher Work-day

**March 15th-**School Board Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. DO Conference Room

**March 26th-30th-**No School-Spring Break

### **NO Early Release Wednesday:**

**February 21st**

**March 7th**

**April 4th**



Thank you  
United Way of the  
Mid-Willamette Valley  
for the generous  
gift in the amount of \$3,600.

## Gervais School District #1 Mission

*We, with the involvement of our culturally rich and dynamic community, will provide an educationally creative, enriching and safe learning environment, that will instill a desire to become life-long learners, ready to enter the 21st century workforce and to be responsible citizens.*

### 2017-2018 District Goals

The District process of developing and implementing our Strategic Plan has entered year three. The Strategic Plan will guide our district and schools and continues to help us formulate our mission, vision, goals, and benchmarks for measuring the success of all PK-12 students for the next three to five years. Sub-goals below:

- Continue and sustain our excellent high school graduation rate;
- Continue to build instructional expertise and capacity toward relevant instructional practices leading to 21st-century employable skills for all students; and
- Expansion and sustaining of Career Technical Education programs.

### Exceptional Leadership Award



**Henry Bustamante**  
was recognized at the  
**December 21, 2017 Regular Board Meeting**  
for 15 years of exemplary volunteer and community service with the Gervais Sports League.

### Exceptional Employees

#### Gervais High School

Teacher: **Tim Bowman**

Helps encourage/nudge/cajole our seniors.

Classified: **Estella Moreno**

Star member for our students and staff.

#### Gervais Middle School

Teacher: **Kristin Camat**

Takes a leadership role in every situation.

Classified: **Kimberly Gieselman**

Always has a kind word for our students.

#### Gervais Elementary School

Teacher: **Barb Koos**

Creative in physical education games.

Classified: **Steve Buchheit**

Hardworking, loves candy, and very positive.

#### Preschool/Daycare

Teacher: **Alejandra Martinez**

Outstanding coaching abilities.

Classified: **Anastasia Londura**

Comforting presence to students, parents and staff.



Contact your child's school.



<http://www.facebook.com/gervaisd/>

## Amazing Students!

### High School

#### FFA Group:

Josue Aguirre, Josiah Pierce, Alice Cullett, and Bri Steinlicht for participating at the Veterinary Science Teams in Hermiston Oregon.

- \* The group brought home a 2nd and 3rd place from agriculture sales contest in Mt. Angel.
- \* Participated putting together Christmas food boxes for needy families at Sacred Heart Church.

**Athletes of the Week Honored by the Woodburn Independent: Elvis Vallejo & Alexys Zepeda-January 10, 2018**

### Middle School

#### Harvest Carnival

Paul Adame, Anya Andres, Addi Arnzen, Eramay Avgi, Sarahy Beltran, Lauren Ferschweiler, Gavin Hecock, Bella Hernandez, Ashlyn Hughes, Dalia Kozina, Nolan Miller, Jamie Morales, Citlali Munoz, Estella Murillo, Leslie Murillo, Daniel Phelan, Alex Rodriguez, and Alex Zharkoff,

- \* Students raised \$1800 for a school that was impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Funds raised were used to purchase classroom supplies.

### New Payment Option for Parents

As of December 1st the business office will no longer accept credit card payments for childcare and daycare over the phone. We are still taking cash and check payments. You may make a credit card, E check or ACH payment on the following secure link that you will find on the District website.  
<https://secure.cpteller.com/terminal/portal/?op=OJ2qi7Mgm3uj>