



Richard Chronicle

Promote Innovation → Maximize Potential → Embrace Community

Mary MacDonald-Barrett, Principal

December 2017



Dates to Remember

12/23-1/2
Christmas Break

1/3/2018
School resumes

1/11/2018
AHE parent meeting
7:00-gym

1/15/2018
MLK Day-No School

1/18/2018
Kindergarten Info. Night
7:00 Library

1/19/2018
AM school only/PM
Specials

2/17-25/2018
Winter Break

Please go to our website for the Calendars, highlights, and important information.

[https://](https://mi01000971.schoolwires.net/gprichard)

mi01000971.schoolwires.net/gprichard



REMEMBERTO FOLLOW US ON...

Follow us on 

twitter

@RichardRaccoons

Join our Closed Group on  **Facebook** : 

Richard Families



GPPS
Mobile
App



@ must for **Richard Families**



New Grosse Pointe Public Schools Mobile Communications App

Free Blackboard download

- View news stories
- View calendar info
- View sports news
- Access school and staff info
- Receive important alerts
- Access MiStar Parent Portal







WINTER IS HERE!

Students are expected to come prepared for outdoor recess everyday. This is extremely important as our weather can change dramatically from the morning to the afternoon and vice versa.

ALL Richard students go outdoors for recess two times each day throughout the school year unless it is raining hard or the wind chill or temperature is below zero degrees Fahrenheit.

Please be sure that your child leaves for school dressed properly for the weather. All students must have **boots and snow pants** to play on the wood chips or playfield once the snow is on the ground—otherwise they must stay on the blacktop only. Appropriate dress includes boots (preferably waterproof), snow pants, hats, gloves/mittens (preferably waterproof), scarves etc.



I Did Nothing Today

Author Unknown

When children come home at the end of the day,
The question they're asked as they run out to play
Is "Tell me what did you do today?"

And the answer they give makes you sigh with dismay.

"Nothing, I did nothing today!"

Perhaps "Nothing" means that I read a book,

Or...with a teacher I got to cook.

Maybe I painted a picture of blue,

Or heard a story of a mouse that flew.

Maybe I wrote in my journal myself,

Or found a great book on the library shelf.

Maybe I helped a friend today,

Or went to my favorite area alone,

Maybe today was the very first time

That my scissors followed a very straight line,

Maybe I sang a song right to the end,

Or worked with a special brand new friend.

When you're three, four, or five your heart has wings

And "Nothing" can mean so many things



Kindergarten

Lesha*Tawile*Rabaut





December

Students of the Month



Service

- Caroline Weldon
- Morgan Duff
- Jake Chaptini
- Natalie Alderman
- Sylvie Ritchie
- Isabella Riddle



Safety

- Ethan Beard
- Monroe
- DeSmyter
- Evan Bernard



Peer2Peer

- Isabelle
- Romolino

PTO News



Thank you to Sara Koch, Mindy Ulrich, Kim Romolino, and Jeannine Harris for chairing our Book Fair!

Explorations V
Children's Museum



Thank you to Helena Carroll and Angela Wohlfarth for a fun and successful Craft Fair and Holiday Mart!

Our next PTO meeting is January 17th, 6:30 P.M. in the Library.





Student Council

Thanks you!

Student Council would like to thank everyone at Richard who made the Food Drive for Gleaners Community Food Bank such a wonderful success!



Celebrate Black History Month

I Have a Dream



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character — that is

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”



SUPER STARS!



Golden Note Award Winners:

K-1 – Ms. Lesha

2-3 – Mrs. Murphy

4-5 – Mrs. Wallace



Golden Shoe Award

Winners:

K-2 Ms. Lesha

3-5 Mrs. Wrosch



Golden Paintbrush Award Winners:

K-2 Ms. Lesha

3-5 Mrs. Wallace



Golden Book Award Winner:

Mr. Havern



Gottcha!

Way to go Mrs. Murphy's class!

One day I was casually walking the halls and noticed this display! Mrs. Murphy's class definitely gets the award for keeping the hallway neat and tidy. Thank you for helping make our school look beautiful.





Specials

Gym—

Reindeer Games!!! Always do your best...You Better Watch Out!

Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year!

Art

In Mrs. DeBow's art class we have all been enjoying some time with clay! Students are creating a variety of works from pinch pots to Picasso relief sculptures. Look for these artworks to begin coming home before and after the holiday break. After clay Kindergarten will be working on landscapes, First and Second will be creating some fun Penguin drawings. Third will be making some snowman perspective drawings. Fourth will be creating African shields while Fifth will be creating some origami relief sculptures. I hope everyone has a wonderful and restful break.



Music-Ms. Weinhaus

Happy Holidays from the music department at Richard!

The new year brings new activities for the music room; 5th graders will begin the note-taking process for their Composer Scavenger Hunt, 4th grade continues with their recorder unit, 3rd grade works on instruments of the orchestra (with perhaps some guests performers???), and K, 2, and 4 as well as the choir will begin work on the Spring Concert soon.



Library

Mrs. Hermon's Kindergarteners, 1st and 2nd graders all prepared their parent packets for conferences. Kindergarteners identified parts of a book and both read and sang nursery rhymes as part of our literature study. 1st graders reviewed parts of a book and the importance of a table of contents. 2nd graders hunted for copyright dates and explored the importance of mobile libraries to children around the world. 3rd graders practiced finding the "just right" book and how to locate fiction and nonfiction in the library. We also learned how to identify the best resource to match our information needs. 4th graders explored appropriate book choices with corresponding movies. We inventoried our favorite authors, titles and interests in the hopes of expanding our reading selection. The 5th graders practiced searching titles, authors and keywords using the online card catalog (all 17 libraries in the GPPL network). We reviewed smart researching skills when using databases and Internet resources. We also discussed what 5th graders can do to avoid plagiarism when conducting research.





Lost & Found

Items will remain up until the winter break. Any items remaining during the winter break will be donated to charity.

PLEASE
Check out the "Lost and Found"



Sickness



Parents, please remember students must be fever/symptom free for 24 hours (without the aid of medication) before returning to school.



Office Reminders

It is best to make sure your child is prepared in the morning with their winter gear, lunch, homework or any other needed items. This reduces the many visits to the school by parents. This also minimalizes the amount of classroom interruptions during the school day. If you must bring in an item please be sure it is labeled with your child's name and their teacher.

Many parents have been calling and leaving messages to be given to their children on the school voicemail. The office is a very busy place and messages are checked first thing in the morning. We do not always get the messages left at the end of the day. Please make sure you talk with a secretary if a message needs to get to your child. Again, please try and have all of your after school plans arranged before your child comes to school.

Drop Off and Pick Up of Students

1. When dropping off or picking up students, please remember NOT to double park in front of the school. It's very dangerous.
2. McKinley Ave. is a NO PARKING ZONE. Please be considerate of others (neighbors across the street from our building), by using this area for drop off and pick up only. **Police will ticket anyone** parked in front of our school. Parents, you are encouraged to call the Farms police and report any repeat offenders.
3. Don't leave kids unattended in your cars. Never leave your automobile. If you must come into the building, park in the circle (PLEASE DON'T DOUBLE PARK) on McMillan or behind Rite Aid. **Never park in the STAFF LOT (RICHARD STAFF STICKER REQUIRED) or handicap spot**, as we have parents/teachers who need those spots in the parking lot.
4. Consider parking down the street and crossing Ridge Rd. with the crossing guard. This works well for many of our students and eliminates the Kercheval-McKinley "bottleneck."
5. **Never use Ridge Rd. as a drop off or pick up location.** It's dangerous and your car would be parked on the wrong side of the street.

Grosse Pointe Schools
Takes The Great Kindness Challenge



All levels of Grosse Pointe Schools- including Barnes, nine elementary buildings, middle school groups and high school representatives and staff have all come together to participate in The Great Kindness Challenge, January 22-26, 2018. The Great Kindness Challenge is a positive, proactive bullying prevention initiative that reaches millions of students during the last week January every year. GPPSS has added a community service project to engage in socially conscious leadership and promote caring, compassion and collaboration to support others in need. Students and staff will be collecting items for Kindness Care Kits during the week of January 22-26 that will be donated to Crossroads social service agency. Other activities related to kindness and to help promote a safe and caring school environment may also take place during the week and beyond. GPPSS is happy to be a part of The Great Kindness Challenge which was created by the non-profit Kids for Peace.



The Great Kindness Challenge

Jan. 22-26, 2018

Please help create
KINDNESS CARE KITS!
(for Crossroads)

#OneGP

Barnes: hats/gloves (children, adults, men/women)

Pre K/Young 5s: Gallon or quart size baggies

Kindergarten: Soap or Body Wash

Grade 1: Body Lotion

Grade 2: Toothbrushes

Grade 3: Toothpaste

Grade 4: Shampoo or Conditioner

Grade 5: Deodorant

Staff/community: Socks, Hats, Diapers

THANK YOU for your kindness!

RICHARD RECYCLES • paper • cardboard • plastic • GPS units

- cell phones
- glass
- cans
- styrofoam
- markers
- laptops
- clothing

- inkjet printer & toner cartridges
- books
- juice & snack squeeze pouches



- digital cameras
- graphing calculators
- small electronics

Report to PARENTS

So Many Activities, So Little Time

Students who are involved in extracurricular activities—from chess club to cheerleading to chorus—tend to have higher self-esteem and stronger connections to school. But an overloaded schedule with too many activities can have the opposite effect, leaving your child—and you!—stressed. Keep these tips in mind for managing your child's activity load.

Aim for 3 activities.

Though every child is different, psychologists often suggest involving a child in no more than three activities at a time: one social activity (like Boys' Club or a church group); one physical activity (like gymnastics, swimming, or basketball); and one artistic activity, such as an art class or music lessons.

Limit involvement.

To avoid burnout, keep involvement in any one activity to just a day or two a week, unless your child absolutely begs for more. Check with them periodically to make sure they are still eager to attend; if not, scale back.

Broaden their horizons.

Although following your child's interests is important, introduce your child to something new, whether it's a new sport, a musical instrument, or a group like Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts.

The secret to keeping enthusiasm high is to start slowly and gauge your child's interest before committing beyond the first few sessions.

Be supportive, not critical.

No matter what your child is interested in, remember that your job as a parent is to be supportive. The point of activities is to expand your child's interests and abilities, not to transform him or her into a child prodigy or the next sports superstar.

Schedule downtime.

Children need time to ponder, explore, and play—but an overloaded schedule prevents that. Make sure that when the day is over and the homework is done, there's still time for your child to be a kid.

Change it up.

Specializing in one activity—especially a sport—at a very young age can be harmful. Pediatricians discourage the kind of repetitive movements that come from concentrated effort in one sport. Plus, kids who dedicate themselves to a single sport early can burn out later and may regret not trying other sports.

Watch for signs of stress.

The stress of trying to keep up with too many planned activities can take a physical toll on your child. Watch for signs of stress, including stomachaches and headaches, difficulty paying attention, a drop-off in interest in activities he or she used to enjoy, and increased "clinginess" with a parent or other close adult (e.g., teacher, babysitter). If you notice any of these signs, chances are your child needs to cut back on activities and de-stress.

Decompress at home.

Make sure there's room in your schedule for family time. Children need to have meals with their parents, hear bedtime stories, share chores, and play games. Extra-curricular activities can help children learn and grow, but remember that what your child needs first and foremost is to feel special and loved.



Report to PARENTS

Setting Goals

The middle of the school year is a great time for families to check in with students on goals. Setting academic and personal goals helps motivate, energize, and focus students, and it is a valuable skill that will benefit learners throughout their lives. Parents can help students set and achieve these goals.

Goal-setting can be tedious, even intimidating, for some students. Parents can support students in this process by following these steps: pick it, map it, do it, own it, and celebrate it.

Pick it. Encourage your child to consider his or her dreams and passions and pick goals that are important and meaningful. Guide your child to think about, “What motivates me? What would inspire me to give my best effort? What would make me feel good while I’m doing it? What achievement would make me feel proud?”

Map it. After your child picks a goal, help map the path from where he or she is now to where the child wants to be. Offer the following analogy: If we want to drive across the country from New York to California, we don’t just get in our car and start driving—we get a map, pick a route, and follow it until we get to California.

With your child, analyze different approaches and define clear steps to reach their goal. For instance, if the goal is to get a higher test grade in a tough subject, each quiz or project is a step on the path to the higher goal: earning an A.

Do it. Once you and your child have mapped a path to their goal, encourage him or her to take action, focus on the first step and give it his or her best effort. Remind your child that no goal is ever reached without focused action.

Own it. As your child makes progress toward their goal, help him or her to take responsibility for making it happen. Teach the mantra, “If it’s to be, it’s up to me!” Reflect with your child. Ask, “How are you doing? What’s

working? What’s not working? What can you or your family change to get to this goal?” From there, analyze the map, and make changes to the plan if necessary.



Help your child keep a positive attitude and own mistakes as well as successes. Remind your child that if something comes along that holds him or her back temporarily, to look at the experience as feedback. Failures, or bumps in the road, can provide us with information we need to succeed. Reinforce the message that we can learn from our mistakes and move on with new, valuable knowledge.

Celebrate it. Acknowledgment and celebration are huge parts of achieving goals. Acknowledge every effort and celebrate your child’s mini-successes along the way to achieving a goal. This builds his or her confidence and motivation. Your child will feel good and understand that perseverance will result in another mini-success and finally goal achievement.

Try going through the goal-setting process as a family. Pick a family goal (perhaps a charitable activity) and work together to achieve it. After the family experience, have each family member pick a personal goal. Support and acknowledge one another as you move through the above steps.

Success is assured when students believe in themselves and in their ability to achieve. Parents are key to helping them believe and succeed.

This Report to Parents was written by Bobbi DePorter of Quantum Learning Network.

♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

Grosse Pointe Public School System

Kindergarten
Info Night

Head to your home elementary school

7 p.m., Thursday, January 18.



Grosse Pointe Public School System



Middle School
Info Night

Head to your home middle school

7 p.m., Tuesday, January 16





Digital Picks

From your Elementary Library
Media Specialists

January 2018
Volume 7 Issue 1



Selected by the elementary library media specialists for the families of Grosse Pointe Public Schools. Please enjoy this month's educational, informational, and entertaining websites and apps—"digital picks." We hope you find our reviews helpful, and welcome your suggestions.



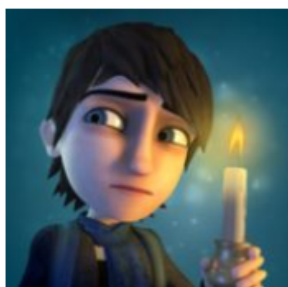
[Monkey Word School Adventure](#) - Age 5+
iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, Android | \$1.99

This is an early-reading app for preschoolers and young elementary-school-age kids. It's the next step up from THUP's [Monkey Preschool Lunchbox](#), which focuses on colors and sorting. *Monkey Word School Adventure* is for kids who are ready to start recognizing letters and words. It is well-designed with young learners in mind, challenging kids age 4 to 7 by using technology that quickly adjusts the words to the appropriate level.



[Farfaria Story Books](#) - Age 4+
iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, Android, Fire Phone, Kindle Fire | Free for first month

This app contains a digital library of over 1,000 ebooks for kids, with new books added each week. Parents and kids can browse the books by genre and within each genre can search by title, release date, and reading level. The format of the books are simple, with illustrations and text boxes on each page. Kids can choose to read the books themselves, listen to them read on auto-play, or read along. After a free trial, parents need to subscribe on a monthly, yearly, or lifetime basis.

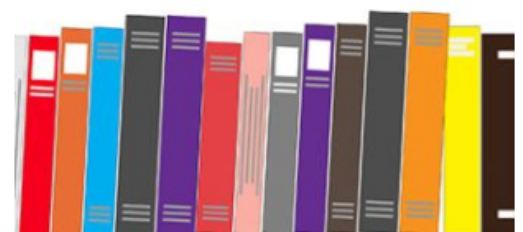


[Weirdwood Manor](#) - Age 8+
iPad | \$2.99

This app is an interactive fantasy storybook that follows three remarkable children as they're invited to the home of a mysterious benefactor. One character has been removed from several foster families after mysterious things have happened to him. Since each additional chapter costs another \$2.99 and the premium package is \$8.99, parents will need to decide how much to invest ahead of time.

Elementary Library Media Specialists

- **Danielle Gostomski:** Kerby, Mason, Poupard, Richard
- **Amy Hermon:** Kerby, Maire, Poupard, Richard
- **Sherry Martin:** Defer, Ferry, Mason, Monteith, Poupard
- **Cheryl Quinlan:** Defer, Kerby, Maire, Mason, Monteith
- **Rachel Walpole:** Defer, Richard, Trombly





Richard Elementary School
176 McKinley
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48230

Phone: 313-432-4900
Fax: 313-432-4902
webmaster:

On the web at <http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/gprichard/site/>

Grosse Pointe Public School System www.gpschools.org

Our Vision: One GP – where everyone learns, every day

Our Mission: Promote Innovation → Maximize Potential → Embrace Community

Chronicle Contest!

In every issue of the Richard Chronicle, there will be a contest to find the secret pictures. When parents and students read the chronicle, they will need to count the number of secret pictures they find and submit their count to the office. The picture for this month is:



The winner for November is... Grace Berchulc !!!!!

Print and use this sheet or fill out your own.

Student's Name _____

Teacher _____

How Many _____?

Please return to the office by: January 26th

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