

# Richard Chronicle

Promote Innovation → Maximize Potential → Embrace Community

Mary MacDonald-Barrett, Principal

April 2017

## Dates to

### Remember

**4/25/2017**

Instrumental Concert-Kerby

**5/2/2017**

Kindergarten Transition Day

**5/10/2017**

Spring Concert K,2,4,Choir

**5/19/2017**

**A.M. School Only**

**5/24-26/2017**

5th Grade Camp

**5/29/2017**

**No School**

**6/2/2017**

Field Day @ GPS

**6/14/2017**

**1/2 Day/A.M. School Only**

**6/15/2017**

**1/2/ Day/A.M. School Only**

**Last day of School**



Please go to our website for additional information and flyers.

Dear Richard Families and Friends,

Well, the month of May is here and another great year is going by quickly. Students are still engaged in learning and our faculty continues to challenge them each and every day. Our Richard families have continued to show positive support for our school in many ways through volunteering, donating supplies, and participating in PTO activities. Thank you for all you do to continue to encourage your children's learning. Your strong support continues to make a difference!

Our Spring Concert is scheduled for May 10 at 7:00 pm at Brownell Middle School. Students in Kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade and the Choir will perform.

On April 26, we welcomed Melvin (Buddy) Coughenour as our new building engineer. Please welcome him as you visit our building. He will be extremely busy as Richard is hosting the district's elementary Summer School program this year.

It's hard to believe, but we will soon be making plans for the 2017-18 school year. The teachers and I work together to recommend students for classroom placements for next year. Using information from past years regarding the social and academic needs of the students, we consider many factors in these decisions, including academic abilities and interests, gender balance, behavior, personalities, class size, and special needs, along with many others.

If you would like to share information regarding your child's learning style or academic and social needs, please fill out a Student Information Sheet that is available on our website. These sheets are due in the office by May 19. We do not accept a request for a specific teacher and please remember that staffing changes often take place over the summer.

We are excited that our Richard Elementary School Field Day will take place on June 2 (rain date June 5.) We will use the track and field at Grosse Pointe South. We look forward to this day of fun and exercise and encourage you to volunteer to help out on this day.

Warmly,

*Mary MacDonald-Barrett*

REMEMBERTO FOLLOW US ON...



@RichardRaccoons

Join our Closed Group  
on

**Facebook :**

**Richard Families**



**GPSS  
Mobile  
App**

June 7th  
4th Grade

End of Year Party

Farms Pier 11-3

June 8th  
Kindergarten

End of Year Party

8:30-11:30

June 9th  
2nd Grade

End of Year Party

Harbor Lanes 1-3

5th Grade Picnic

11-3 Pier Park

Volunteers  
are just ordinary people  
with extraordinary  
hearts.

They offer the  
gift of their time  
to teach, to listen,  
to help, to inspire,  
to build, to grow,  
to learn.

They expect no pay,  
yet the value of their  
work knows no limit. . .

They've known the  
unexpected joy  
of a simple hug.

They've planted tiny  
seeds of love  
in countless lives.

Volunteers  
are just ordinary people  
who reach out  
and take a hand  
and together  
make a difference  
that lasts a lifetime.

Question #1-How many siblings do you have?

## PTO News

Thank you to Helena Carroll and Angela Wohlfarth for organizing our wonderful 1st ever progressive dinner.

Thank you also to the families who helped host throughout the night.

The Fakh family graciously opened up their home to everyone for appetizers.

The Robinson, Sabourin, Fakh, Richards, Furricchia, and Wallace families kindly hosted groups for dinner.

The Wujek family warmly welcomed everyone into their home for desserts.

**Special Thanks to Shana Sine Cameron for her donations for the event!**

The PTO greatly appreciates all of the time and effort that went into making this a fabulous event!

Continue to send in Box Tops

Don't forget to register your **Kroger Card** in their community rewards program. It's a great way to help earn money for Richard.

<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>



# Thank you!

# CONGRATULATIONS APRIL WINNERS

## Golden Note Award Winners:

K/1 = Tawile

2/3 = Murphy

4/5 = S. Schmitz



## Golden Shoe Award Winners:

K-2: K. Schmitz/Shirar

3-5: Mr. Stemmler

Physical  
Education



## Golden Paintbrush Award Winners:

Mrs. Tawile

Mrs. Wallace



## Golden Book Award Winner:

Mr. Swansey



## Service Members of the Month:

Edmund S.

Olivia K.

Mira L.

Ethan B.

Malake S.

Aliana R.



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## Registration and Enrollment

1. **All new students** must be registered and enrolled in the district. Kindergarten enrollment no longer requires an appointment, enrollment is on a walk-in-basis. Hours for enrollment are Monday through Thursday 8 am to 4 pm and Friday 8 am to 3:30 pm at 389 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe. Question #2- What is your favorite summer activity? We need this information early so the district can budget and staff appropriately. If you're not certain if your child will be attending the public schools next year, please contact us anyway. District staff can answer questions about placement and programming and provide additional information that may assist you.

Children turning five years of age before September 1, 2017, are eligible for Kindergarten in the 2017-2018 school year. If you know of a new neighbor or family in the Richard district with children, please let them know to register their child for Kindergarten!

We welcome all of our young learners to the district! All necessary kindergarten enrollment forms can be found at [www.gpschools.org](http://www.gpschools.org) and on the kindergarten link on the Richard Home page.



# SPECIALS



## Gym: Mr. Ciaravino

Congratulations to all of our Jump Rope for Heart participants! **\$1,662** was raised for this great cause. Question #5– Favorite place to watch a hockey game? Thank you all for making a difference.



## Music

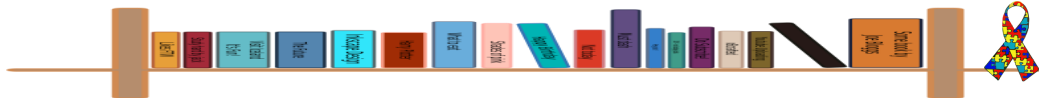
We are busy in the music room! Grades K,2,4, and the choir are in full concert mode as we put the finishing touches on our Spring Concert – May 10 @ 7pm @ Brownell . Please see my website for more information. I will be sending a note home closer to the date as well. Hope to see you in the audience!!



## Art:

5<sup>th</sup> grade artists are finishing up their monster plush/felt dolls. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders are busy finishing up their Picasso portraits and some are onto the Advertising project for Grosse Pointe businesses. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have all finished their Incan masks and are now onto the Advertising project as well.

## Library



**Kindergarten** began the zookeeper research project with animal-sound bingo (we were so surprised at the sound a rhino makes!) and non-fiction books about zoos. Which animal did your kindergartener choose to be zookeeper for? **First graders** practiced ABC order this month, especially as a tool for locating picture books on the shelves. **Second graders** were masterful scavenger hunters as we practiced using call numbers to locate books throughout all five library “neighborhoods.” Coming soon: Scranimal Island! **Third graders**, fresh from their Spanish rotation, recalled and challenged catalog searching skills. Our “Mystery Michigander” research project begins with an exploration of print and online encyclopedias. **Fourth graders** have been brainstorming this month--familiar authors, biography components, and research resources--laying the groundwork for an author biography research project. Encyclopedia articles offered **fifth graders** some of the first answers to their “expert” research focus questions. We’ve practiced note-taking and used the library catalog to identify and interlibrary loan a “just-right” book to further our research. Next time you’re in the library, enjoy some of the titles in the mini-library our students created to celebrate National Library Week...but remember to use a (mini) shelf stick!

3<sup>rd</sup> graders in Mr. Swansey’s class learned about the OPAC, our online card catalog and how we can access materials from 17 libraries with a click of a mouse! We also learned about cyber-safety and the important distinction between personal and private information. We will also begin accessing online databases to conduct research.

4<sup>th</sup> graders in Ms. Schmitz’s class learned all the ways students can avoid plagiarism. These 4<sup>th</sup> graders as well as Mr. Gulian’s 5<sup>th</sup> grade class learned about the dangers of oversharing on social media as part of our cyber-safety lessons. We also reviewed strategies for online research and how to access online databases via the GPPL resource page.

# Classroom Scoops!

## Congratulations to Mr. Swansey's Poets!

During April, National Poetry Month, Mr. Swansey's students all participated in a national poetry contest sponsored by Creative Communication, a contest/publishing company. We are excited to report that the following students were chosen for publication in their annual anthology of writing entered by students from across the country: Camden B., Alex B., Oliver B., Lucy E., Stella F., Jack G., Kate G., Chase G., Stanton K., and Ben K..

***Way to go, Mr. Swansey's class!***

Question #3- Spring or Fall?



## Fun on the Run







**Save the Date –Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## **Richard Elementary Field Day & Fun Run**

**Calling all Richard parents, neighbors, friends and relatives.....we need your help to make field day a success! We are looking for at least 50 volunteers to join us for a fun filled day to run various games, serve as fun run lap counters, donate items or help with water stations. Come spend one of the last days of the school year with the Richard students.**

**When: Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2017 (K-2<sup>nd</sup> in the AM, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in the PM)**

**Rain date -Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Where: Grosse Pointe South Track**

**Mr. C – Physical Education**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a4da5af29a31-2017>

5

## ***Grosse Pointe Youth Team Tennis***

From the **USTA Midwest** and **Grosse Pointe Community Tennis Association**

### **Tuesdays and Thursdays**

June 20<sup>th</sup>– Aug 1

Matches Tuesday

Practice Thurs

6:30-7:30pm 5-8yrs

7:30-8:30pm 9-11yrs

**Sign Up: [MidwestTeamTennis.com](http://MidwestTeamTennis.com)**

Questions, contact

Coach Chip Fazio, USPTA Elite

Professional [chipfazio@gmail.com](mailto:chipfazio@gmail.com) 313-

670-3277 (cell)

Elworthy Field Tennis Courts

389 Saint Clair Ave

Grosse Pointe, MI

Registered by **May 19<sup>th</sup>** - \$125


Registered by **June 20<sup>th</sup>** - \$145

Volunteers are needed, contact Coach

Chip 313-670-3277



# May 2017 M-Step Testing

| Sun   | Mon                                      | Tue                              | Wed                               | Thu                                      | Fri                                      | Sat |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-----|
|   | 1  | 2<br><b>Grades<br/>3 &amp; 4</b> | 3<br><b>Grades<br/>3 &amp; 4</b>  | 4<br><b><u>Makeup</u><br/><u>ELA</u></b> | 5<br><b><u>Makeup</u><br/><u>ELA</u></b> | 6   |
| 7   | 8<br><b><u>Makeup</u><br/><u>ELA</u></b> | 9<br><b>Grades<br/>3 &amp; 4</b> | 10<br><b>Grades<br/>3 &amp; 4</b> | 11<br><b>Grade 4<br/>Science</b>         | 12<br><b><u>Grades<br/>3 &amp; 4</u></b> | 13  |
| 14  | 15                                       | 16                               | 17                                | 18                                       | 19                                       | 20  |
| <b>Grades 3 &amp; 4 Makeup all subjects</b>   |  |                                  |                                   |  |  |     |
| 21  | 22                                       | 23                               | 24                                | 25                                       | 26                                       | 27  |
| 28<br> | 29                                       | 30                               | 31                                |  |  |     |

## Testing Tips for Students

- \* Make sure they get a good night's sleep before a test and eat properly the day of a test. ☐
- \* Maintain a pleasant home environment and avoid unnecessary conflicts. Try to make the morning of the test a pleasant one. Do not add to their stress. ☐
- \* Make sure they have taken any necessary medications. ☐
- \* Question #4- Did you attend GP schools?
- \* Ensure that they are present during testing. (Children generally perform better when taking tests in their groups rather than at a make-up time). ☐
- \* Get them to school on time the day of the test. ☐
- \* Wish them luck each morning of the test. Remind them that they are special and that you believe in them. ☐
- \* Remind them that the test is important and encourage them to do their best.

**MUSIC NOTES**

Our Spring concert is fast approaching. Kindergarten, grades 2, 4, and the choir will all be participating on **May 10th, 7pm @ Brownell**.

Hope to see you there. Check Ms. Weinhaus' music website for more info.

## Please Update Your Contact Info in the Parent Portal

The district would like to take this opportunity to remind families to update their contact information through [MiStar Parent Portal](#). For the 6,000 who have downloaded the New and improved district app (available free for Apple and Android) thank you. Now **please take the important Step 2 and select GPPSS and your school(s)** if you have not done so already! Without that you won't receive important school and district texts straight to your phone. In return, the district will add the App to our emergency notification process and continue to review and update our safety protocol regularly.

This also provides an opportunity for you to **review all appropriate safety precautions with your children** and urge them to use caution and common sense in any situation that feels uncomfortable or dangerous to them. Please be sure that your children know to **report any incident immediately** to an adult. Remind your student that school staff and parent volunteers are present at arrival, dismissal and lunch/recess. Being polite is not as important as being safe. Our most important priority, like yours, is keeping our students safe. We appreciate your continued support in helping us do that.

## No Safety Patrollers

Due to our 5th graders attending camp, there will be **NO Safety Patrollers** at their posts on **Wednesday, May 24, Thursday, May 25, and Friday, May 26**.

Please be sure to make alternative plans to and from school on the above stated dates, for your child's safe journey.

I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Dorothy Wrosch





# Richard Read- - Thon

## Congratulations

All of the students worked so hard and made this fundraiser a huge success! The PTO would like to recognize 14 students who went above and beyond during this 2 week event. Our highest fundraiser, earning \$345 for the PTO was Randi K. (1st grade). We had 9 students who earned honorable mentions by reading over 1,000 minutes. Those students were Duncan R. (4th grade), Lucy F. (5th Grade), Jake C. (3rd Grade), Makenzie W. (2nd Grade), Rex W. (5th Grade), Niko T. (4th Grade), Isabella C. (1st Grade), Robert L. (Kindergarten), & Ayden L. (2nd Grade).

**Our grand prize winners are** Sara M. (2nd Grade) reading 1,160 minutes; Ben C. (4th Grade) reading 1,710 minutes; Sofia B. (4th Grade) reading 2020 minutes; and our Grand Prize Winner was Ava S. (5th Grade) reading a whopping 3,385 minutes. Great job to everyone, you are all winners in our eyes! Your hard work helped raise over \$5,000 for Richard Elementary.



## Dress Code Reminders

The school staff encourages parents to choose clothing which is adequate for the weather and supportive of health and safety considerations. Girls may not wear short shorts, tank tops or halter tops (bare midriff). Shoes and shirts must be worn. Any words that are on the clothing worn by Richard students should be AP-PROPRIATE for a school environment. Hats are NOT appropriate attire in the building. Flip Flops, sandals without a back strap, heeled shoes (shoes with wheels in them) are not allowed.





Dear Parents,

We have been trying to boost the popularity of our newsletter! It is jam packed with useful information and also lots of fun stuff too. Keeping up to date with the newsletter, and also becoming familiar with our website will definitely keep you in the loop for future happenings and important information.



We are challenging you once again! There are five hidden questions for parents in the newsletter. Please return your answers to the office by May 22nd. This challenge can help win a pizza party for your child's classroom. I am hopeful to get 100% participation. (1 per family) Let's see who is reading and keeping up with Richard. Thanks for playing!

*congratulations* to Mrs. Brown & Mrs. Cantalupo's 1st grade class!  
**Pizza Winners** 

**WIN A PIZZA PARTY FOR YOUR CHILD'S CLASS**



Find the hidden questions for parents only. Fill out this slip with the answers. The 1st class to have 100% return will win a Pizza Party!

Parent Answers:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print student name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_



GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM'S

Why Safety Town?

Children of all ages should learn the essentials of safety and good citizenship. Our program is designed to equip our youngest learners with the tools they need to remain calm and safe during emergency situations. Children also are encouraged to keep their surroundings safe through litter prevention and recycling.



June-August  
9:00-11:30 am + 12:30-3:00 pm

Equipping children for a lifetime



# Safety Town

Thank you for considering "Safety Town" as part of your family's summer plans. Safety Town was created for the purpose of equipping children for a lifetime of safe living. Your Safety Town camper will be educated in traffic, bicycle, home, water and fire safety, as well as litter prevention and recycling.

Parents are encouraged to also get involved with Safety Town. A parent informational meeting will be offered once during each two-week session where you will learn safety tips to help your child get the most out of their Safety Town experience.

## Sessions\*

Session One—June 19-30

Session Two—July 10-21

Session Three—July 24-August 4

Session Four—August 7-18



\*All sessions meet @ BARNES EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER.

## What is Safety Town?

Safety Town is a fun-filled two week summer program where kids learn various safety lessons including: water, stranger and fire safety. Children also will be going through the Fire Safety House.

## Who Can Attend?

The Safety Town program is geared toward children entering kindergarten or first grade in the fall.

## What are the Dates?

Two-week sessions begin June 19th and run through August 18th (Note: there is no Safety Town the week of July 3rd).

## What Time?

The morning session begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 11:30 AM. The afternoon session begins at 12:30 PM and ends at 3:00 PM. You may choose for your child to attend either the morning or afternoon session on a first come, first serve basis.

## What is the cost?\*

The cost is \$165/session, payable to "GPPSS Safety Town."

313.432.3067

## Who's In Charge?

Safety Town is under the direction of the Grosse Pointe Public School System's childcare office. This program is presented by trained Safety Town instructors, as well as public safety officers and representatives from other community organiza-



## Grosse Pointe Public School System

### Childcare Office

389 St. Clair #218  
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230  
side Drive

Phone: 313.432.3067

Fax: 313.432.3079

Email: childcare.billing@gpschools.org—Billing

Email: andrea.sanders@gpschools.org—Coordinator

### Safety Town Location

Barnes Early Childhood Cr.  
20090 Morning-

GPW, MI 48236



## Sample Schedule

### WEEK ONE:

**Monday:** Welcome, Orientation  
—and— Meet the Police Officer;  
Eddie the Eagle presents "Gun Safety"

**Tuesday:** General Pedestrian  
Safety/Traffic Lights; Earth Safety

**Wednesday:** Bicycle Safety —  
and— First Aid

**Thursday:** Water Safety —and—  
Car/Seat Belt Safety

### WEEK TWO:

**Monday:** Fire Safety Day One

**Tuesday:** Fire Safety Day  
Two (Fire Safety House)

**Wednesday:** Weather Safe-  
ty —and— Electrical Safety

**Thursday:** Poisons/Drug  
Awareness -and- Playground  
Safety/Stranger Awareness



Richard Elementary School  
176 McKinley  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48230

Phone: 313-432-4900  
Fax: 313-432-4902  
webmaster: linda.fiscus@gpschools.org

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

Grosse Pointe Public School System [www.gpschools.org](http://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 April is:



**March winner: Lucy and Anna W.**

**Print and use this sheet or fill out your own.**

Students Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

How Many \_\_\_\_\_?

Please return to the office by: May 26th.