

Partners in Learning

Excellence in Education: Learning and Leading for Today and Tomorrow

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Register today

If you have a student entering kindergarten this fall, please call the enrollment office at 313-432-3093 today. All forms are online at www.gpschools.org. We offer full day kindergarten in every elementary school and half day kindergarten at Ferry Elementary.

Live Well update

Watch for details on the Chamber of Commerce *Live Well* initiative bringing safe bike routes through all of the Pointes to naturally support healthy lifestyles and our local businesses.

Distinguished Volunteers

Every spring the Board of Education recognizes distinguished volunteers. Help us thank this year's recipients: Michele Bauer, Margaret Biglin, Steve and Paula Burguron, Lisa Cooper, Dr. Dona Johnson Beach, Catherine Kinnaird, Anne Nyboer, John Pomaville, Gretchen Schock, and Karen Zoia.

Brownell Middle School students packed 1500 meals in partnership with Kids Against Hunger. This SERVE project was made possible by the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education through the Anne R. Hudson Memorial Fund. Community service is an integral part of our educational environment.



Building upon a tradition of excellence



Excellence is not an option. The Board of Education, administrators, staff and I have been hard at work developing the Continuous Im-

provement Plan for the district in order to meet the high expectations we all share for our community schools. With the mission, vision and measurable district-level goals now approved, we continue our focus on the building level school improvement plans.

Each of the 23 SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely) short-term goals fall under one of these five categories:

- Teaching and Learning - Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction
- Teaching and Learning - Literacy
- Teaching and Learning - Professional Learning Communities
- Leadership - Establishing a Culture of Shared Leadership
- Leadership - Operational Integrity and Marketing

The new cut scores introduced by the State of Michigan this winter give us a new standard of excellence to strive for, but the end result remains the same. We will prepare our youngsters for a lifetime of learning and employability in a global economy.

Intricately tied to this process, budget development has also been underway for months with the goal of maintaining the programs and services that set our district apart while still being wise stewards of the funds entrusted to us. This year we will see the unique salary formula approved by all bargaining groups put to use to maintain an agreed upon fund equity level. At the same time, all groups are working to provide creative ways to cut costs and keep funding focused on the classroom.

Details, including budget documents and key indicators of success for our goals, are posted on the district website www.gpschools.org. I encourage your active participation and feedback and thank you for your involvement.

- Dr. Thomas Harwood, Superintendent

BOARD BULLETIN

Dear Community Members,
I would like to welcome Lois Valente and Dan Roeske to the Board of Education. They joined the board in January and got right to work. Working with administration the school board has already approved a Head Start program at Poupard Elementary, developed measurable district goals, and is finishing up the Continuous Improvement Plan which will guide the administration in developing programs and goals to improve student outcomes.

Not only are student outcomes important, but ensuring that our students are being accepted at the college or university of their choice is an issue Dr. Harwood and I feel is important information for the district to review. It is a priority that our students are achieving their individual higher educational goals.

Other items the board will be focusing on this year include:

- Effective use of technology in the classroom.
- Continued partnerships with community businesses to offer enhanced educational opportunities for our students.
- Dual enrollment options with local colleges and universities. In addition to our strong advanced placement offerings, this is a way to continue to offer challenging options for our students.

As board president I feel a strong communications program is imperative to keep the community informed and maintain a dialogue that ensures expectations are being met. There are several ways for the community



Back Row:
Tom Jakubiec,
Lois Valente,
Dan Roeske,
Judy Gafa,
Brendan Walsh

Front Row:
Cindy Pangborn,
Joan Dindoffer

to participate in that dialogue. We encourage the community to attend Board of Education meetings which will be held at 7 p.m. in the Grosse Pointe North High School library through June. Please note the earlier start time to allow for more student involvement.

While I encourage everyone to attend board meeting, I understand busy schedules. So, the meetings are also televised on Comcast channel 20/902 and AT&T channel 99. You can also view meetings online through our site www.gppsstv.phanfare.com or listen to the podcast at www.gpschools.org. Follow the district on Facebook (Grosse Pointe Public School System) and Twitter (GPSchools). Participate in school improvement planning teams and watch for surveys and forums on topics of interest.

While we always encourage solving problems at the level closest to the issue, please feel free to contact the Board of Education at schoolboard@gpschools.org.

- Judy Gafa, President
Grosse Pointe Board of Education

Board Meetings

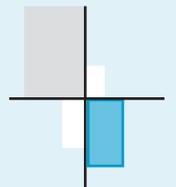
Board meeting dates and agendas are listed at www.gpschools.org and posted in the Administration Building at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230. Upcoming regular meeting dates and locations include:

- May 21 - North library
- June 25 - North library
- July 23- Brownell Multipurpose Room (MPR)
- August 27 - Brownell MPR

Please note board meetings now start at 7 p.m.

2012 Board of Education

President Judy Gafa
Vice President Lois Valente
Secretary Dan Roeske
Treasurer Brendan Walsh
Trustee Joan Dindoffer
Trustee Tom Jakubiec
Trustee Cindy Pangborn



Elementary Summer School

Grades Kindergarten-6
Dates: July 16–August 2
Days: Monday-Thursday
Times: Session 1: 8:15-9:45 a.m.



Session 2: 10-11:30 a.m.

Location: Maire Elementary,
740 Cadieux, Grosse Pointe
Pricing: Varies \$100-\$240/course

K-2 Course Highlights: Grades K,1,2
Readiness, Building Blocks for Math,
Author's Workshop, F.A.S.T Reading,
Art Explorations, Spanish and Man-
darin Immersion Camp, Recreational
Sports and Games

Grades 3-6 Courses: Building Blocks
for Math, Author's Workshop, Instru-
mental Music, Art Explorations, Mid-
dle School Preparation Courses (6th
only), Techno-Art Animations, Junior
Scientists, Spanish and Mandarin Im-
mersion Camp, Young Actors' Guild,
Meet the Artists, Fit Kids, Advanced
Math Enrichment Workshop (5th and
6th grades only)

For more information contact Andrea
Lappin-Roth at 313-432-5463, email
andrea.lappinroth@gpschools.org, or
visit www.gpschools.org and click
"Summer School."

Secondary Summer School

Middle Level Summer School

Dates: July 9-August 2
Days: Monday through Thursday
Times: Session 1: 8-10 a.m.
Session 2: 10:10 am-12:10 pm

Location: South High School
Pricing: \$160 per course
Deadline: After July 4th there will be a
\$20 late fee
Highlights: Strengthening courses are
offered in English, math, study skills
and computer skills.

8th to 9th Grade Summer School

Dates: July 9-August 2
Days: Monday through Thursday
Times: Session 1: 8-10:30 a.m.
Session 2: 10:30-1:00 p.m.

Location: South High School
Pricing: \$200 per course
Deadline: After July 4th there will be
a \$20 late fee
Highlights: Stepping up to high school
English, Math and Study Skills.
Keyboarding is also offered for those
entering 9th grade.

High School Summer School

Dates: July 9-August 3, Monday
through Friday.
Hybrid courses include an on-line

component with help Monday through
Thursday.

Semesters:
Semester 1: July 9-July 20
Semester 2: July 23-August 3
Time: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Location: South High School
Pricing: \$275 for 1 semester (.5 credit)
or \$500 for a full year of the same
course (1.0 credit)
Deadline: After July 4th there will be a
\$20 late fee.
Deadline for Michigan Virtual High
School: June 8th (must have counselor
approval in advance).

Continued programs for the summer of
2012: On-line Biology, hybrid options
for most courses (meet part in class-
room, part online), Physics, Power of
Language, oil painting, 3D animation,
and ceramic pottery.

New Course Highlights: On-line
Mythology, On-line Explorations in
Reading, On-line Film Literature

For more information on any second-
ary summer school course: contact
Brian Shelson at 313-432-5357 or
Brian.Shelson@gpschools.org

Safety Town

Safety Town will be offered
through GPPSS and commu-
nity partners. This two-week
\$160 course for students enter-
ing kindergarten and first grade
teaches safety and good citizen-
ship. Topics include fire, water
and bike safety, when to dial
911, and recycling. Call 313-
432-3009 or visit the website for
details on this program housed
at Barnes Early Childhood Cen-
ter. Half-day sessions start June
18, July 9, July 23, and August
6. There is also a reduced rate if
you combine Safety Town and
Camp O'Fun for all day care.

Camp O'Fun

Camp O'Fun is open 7:15 a.m.
-6:15 p.m., Monday through
Friday from June 18-August
24. The cost is \$215 per week
per child for residents and
\$230/child for non-residents.
The daily rate is \$50 including
days with scheduled field trips.
Advance notice and payment for
daily use is required. Preschool,
elementary and middle school
options are described at
www.gpschools.org. Enroll on-
line or call 313-432-3067 with
questions.

Camp Invention

Parcells Middle School will host
Camp Invention June 24-29 for
students entering grades 1-6. To
learn more, call 800-968-4332,
visit www.campinvention.org,
call director Debra Duffey at
313-432-5341 or email debra.duffey@gpschools.org. The pro-
gram places a heavy emphasis
on STEM (Science, Technology,
Engineering and Math).

Library partnership extends learning

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is grateful for its many community partnerships. To ensure we remain good neighbors with our partners in the Grosse Pointe Library System, we would like to take this opportunity to remind patrons of rules that will help us all utilize this community resource to its fullest potential.

Just as in school, there are guidelines for behavior and supervision at our local libraries. The library has a document entitled "Guidelines on Behavior" that will be enforced. It is available for review at the Youth Desk, but here are a few highlights we would appreciate your help in maintaining:

Visiting the Library

- We encourage all patrons to work together to ensure a safe, positive learning environment.
- Loitering outside the library, or excessive entrance and exit, is disruptive to this environment designed to support study, reading and other quiet activities.
- Please remember the Woods branch parking lot off Mack Avenue is locked during drop-off (7:30-8:30 a.m.) and pick-up time (2:45-3:30 p.m.) for the safety of our children.
- Our libraries are busiest from 3:15-5:30 p.m., so it may be helpful for other patrons to visit at non peak hours.
- Children under the age of 9 cannot be left unattended. Guardians or caregivers must be age 13 or above themselves to watch younger students in the library. The library staff is not responsible for supervision of your children. Childcare

is available for a fee through the GPPSS Kids Club and details can be found at www.gpschools.org or by calling 313-432-3067.

Computer Use

- Students need a valid library card or knowledge of their card number to use computers.
- Livetutor.com is available free of charge from 3-10 p.m. every day of the week.
- Computer use is limited to 30 minutes to ensure equitable access.
- Only one student is allowed to sit at a computer.
- No food or drinks are allowed at the computer.
- Students may bring earphones to use with computers; the library does not provide these.
- Printing is available for a small fee (10¢ per black and white page, \$1 for color).

Working Together

- An expired library card or excessive fees may prevent patrons from using the computers or borrowing materials.
- Any patron, including students, with a pattern of disruptive behavior will be banned from the library.
- To keep track of library usage in those busy times, student patrons will be asked to sign in for programming or quiet study using their library card.

Please remember, this is our community library. Working together, parents, students, community members, and personnel will maintain a positive library environment and experience for all.

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Partnership for Different Learners welcomes you

Does your child or children receive special services through the GPPSS - a 504 plan or an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)? If so please consider participating in the Partnership for Different Learners. PDL works to provide information and support to parents who have children that learn differently.

Please consider attending our next Partnership for Different Learners meeting at 7 p.m., Thursday, May 16, Barnes Early Childhood Center, 20090 Morningside, GPW.

Summer Music Festival

Grosse Pointe Summer Music Festival will be held at Brownell Middle School July 9-20. Payments and registration are made online, and the deadline is June 1. Register before May 1 and save. Primary and Extension courses are offered. For more information, call John Donnellon 313.432.4656 or visit www.gpschools.org.

Encourage good choices

GPPSS, the North Parents Group and South Mothers' Club are all helping share information about the national *Parents Who Host Lose the Most* program to encourage healthy life choices and discourage teen drinking.



Don't miss A Day in the Life of GPPSS

To commemorate the district's 90th birthday, twelve local professional photographers captured A Day in the Life of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools in a limited edition, hard-cover book.

Mary Ann Ismail, Dana Kaiser, Renee Landuyt, Cat Ruffner, Sheila Springsteen, Lisa Vreede, Brian Widdis, Kathy Widdis, and yearbook students of Shari Adwers and John Cilluffo - Amy Zaranek, Suzie Vyletel and Margaux Forster.



by John Greilick



by John F. Martin

Bill Scott, South alum, of Scott Advertising then laid out those images from the first school bell to the setting of the sun over the North-South football game.

Local photographers who volunteered their time and talent to this project include: Lead Photographer and Editor John F. Martin, Christine Crossley, Gary Duncan, Rebecca Fannon, John Greilick,



by Christine Crossley

- Posterity: A Gallery, GPC
- Small Favors, GPW
- The League Shop, GPF
- Wild Birds Unlimited, GPW

the GPFPE which has already given \$1.6 million in grant funding to our public schools.

Whether you use it as a graduation or retirement gift, a Mother's or Father's Day present, a birthday present for an alum, a teacher gift, recruitment tool, or



by Kathy Widdis

Or you can visit either high school bookstore or the special education worksite Full Circle Upscale Resale in the Park.

Proceeds go back to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for future grant programming in our schools. The GPFPE covered the cost of printing and is using the book as its latest fund-raising initiative. This is a small but significant way our community can show they support the work of



by Renee Landuyt

place it in your office or waiting room, you will be captivated by the full-color images.

To learn more about this project, please visit www.gpfpe.org.
8500 Students • 16 Schools • 1 Day



Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit #82
St. Clair Shores, MI

2012 Board of Education

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Secretary Dan Roeske
Treasurer Brendan Walsh
Trustee Joan Dindoffer
Trustee Tom Jakubiec
Trustee Cindy Pangborn

Dr. Thomas Harwood, Superintendent

389 St. Clair Avenue • Grosse Pointe, MI 48230 • 313-432-3010 • www.gpschools.org



One Book, One School a huge success

Last school year Trombly Principal Walt Fitzpatrick found the idea *One Book, One School* in a professional journal and thought it would be a great program for March is Reading Month to have all families read a book together and have students participate in age-appropriate activities in each classroom. Teacher leaders at Trombly agreed, so they joined the organization Read To Them, and obtained funding from some very interested parents, PTO and the school budget. It was such a success they chose to participate again this year. Last year Trombly read *Cricket in Time Square*; this year they read *James and the Giant Peach*.

Poupard chose to do *One Book One School* this year to help build listening and reading comprehension. Teacher Lori Ann Woznicky said they wanted to bridge and strengthen our school and family bonds. "We believed, if everyone was reading and listening

to the same story, more conversations would occur, increasing excitement, and expanding vocabulary." She said Poupard specifically chose *Frindle* by Andrew Clements because it was a book about the power of words and how kids can have the power to make positive change.

Poupard's P.T.O. purchased membership, and the school received two grants, one from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and another from Super Teacher. Eastside Bagels helped sell Bagels for Books, and anonymous donations helped them meet their goal.

Poupard held a free Parent Reading Workshop Dinner, explaining the program and how to get their family to buy into this idea. Pre- and post-surveys were conducted and the school received comments such as, "we loved this, it was a great family time."

Senior Citizen Gold Card

Free admission to various athletic functions and dramatic and musical productions is our way of thanking local senior citizens for the support they have provided the school system. If you are 60 years of age or older and wish to obtain a Gold Card or event calendar, please call 313/432-3007.

All our schools are Green

For the third year in a row, every GPPSS school earned some level of Michigan Green School certification. Ask your Green Team how you can support their efforts.

