



Gehmans Mennonite School

Newsletter – October 4, 2017

Volume XXV #2



I would like to take this opportunity to remind us all of the dress code policy that we have here at school. Following is an excerpt from our Student Handbook:

Good judgment should be exercised at all times in choosing clothing appropriate for the occasion and weather. The girls shall have their skirts and slits covering the knee when standing and shall wear a dress or blouse. Students shall not wear tee shirts that are immodest, gaudy, or have offensive words or pictures. All clothing shall express Christian ideals of simplicity and modesty. Decorative jewelry and noticeable make-up shall not be worn (this includes nail/toe paint or polish).

I ask you as parents to be mindful of what your students are wearing to school and to help guide/train them in appropriate attire for school. Research studies have shown that students who ‘dress up’ for school tend to do better in their studies. Our goal is to have an atmosphere that induces learning and the attire of our students is part of that atmosphere.

Sycamore School - <https://app.sycamoreeducation.com>

Sycamore School is a web-based Student Information System (SIS). Sycamore School basically brings everything related to school operation, management, and record keeping into one place. While it has many features and options, we are currently mainly using it for grade keeping, attendance, library, and events (calendar).

You could think of Sycamore School as having ‘2 sides’ to it, the teacher side and the family side. The family/student side gives you the avenue to log in and see current grades of your children. The teachers are expected to have all grades current by Wednesday of each week.

You should receive an email with login information on Thursday, Oct. 5. I encourage you to log in and click around to familiarize yourself with it. This is a tool to help you stay more in touch with your student’s academic process. If you do not receive an email, please check your spam or junk folder. If you are unable to find it or didn’t receive it, let us know, and we will check to make sure we have the correct email address for you and then we will have another invitation sent to you.

There is also a Sycamore App available for Android or iOS for your smartphone or tablet.



Parent Teacher Conferences

It is time to begin planning and scheduling the annual conferences between parents and teachers. These conferences are planned to take place on Monday, November 6 and Tuesday, November 7. This time is geared towards evaluating the performance of student(s), communicating what your family’s experience is at GMS, and establishing healthy expectations. To aid in the scheduling of time blocks for each of your children, **please return the attached form by Oct. 19**. You will later receive the schedule for your family.

Matching Fund

In May, we were given a \$75,000 matching fund! All donations given to the school from the end of May till Dec. 1 will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$75,000. This is a wonderful opportunity to give to the needs of the school and have it *doubled*. To date, we have received \$40,639.10 in donations, leaving **\$34,360.90 needed to reach the \$75,000 goal by December 1.**

Fiscal Year Status

Below is an indication of our current operating budget status. Please help with the school's needs as the Lord directs you. Thank you for your support!

	Income to Date	Annual Budget	Still Needed
Church Offerings	\$528	\$17,500	\$16,972
Donations-Business	\$250	\$12,000	\$11,750
Donations-Patrons	\$4,204	\$41,000	\$36,796
Donations-Grandparents	\$2,300	\$13,000	\$10,700
Fundraisers	\$0	\$54,000	\$54,000
Foundation Donations	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000
Other Donations	\$100	\$7,000	\$6,900
Special Education Fund	\$5,341	\$22,000	\$16,659
TOTALS	\$12,723	\$173,500	\$160,777



Flu Season

We are entering flu season and we want to be cautious so that we don't have an outbreak of the flu here at school. It is recommended to frequently wash your hands. Also, surfaces that are frequently touched or handled should be regularly cleaned and disinfected.

Height, Weight, and Vision Screening

Our annual Height, Weight, and Vision screening that we are required to do is scheduled for Thursday, November 9. Please note this date as any student who misses this screening will need to be screened on a make-up date, or taken to Brecknock Elementary to be screened there.

Schedule of Events

October

Fri	6	KG Field Trip
Fri	6	1st Grade - Field Trip
Tue	10	Mom's Prayer Group
Wed	11	Hearing Screenings
Wed	11	6th Grade – Soccer vs. EMS, starting at 1 P.M. at GMS
Thu	12	6th - Colonial Lodge
Tue	17	2nd Grade Field Trip
Wed	18	Jr. High Soccer vs. FCS, starting at 12 P.M., at GMS
Thu	19	1:00 Dismissal/Staff Retreat
Fri	20	No School/Staff Retreat
Mon	23	Jr. High Soccer vs. EMS, starting at 12:15 P.M., at GMS
Thu	26	Fundraiser Hot Lunch
Fri	27	End of 1st Quarter

November

Mon	6	11:30 Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conferences
Tue	7	11:30 Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conferences
Thu	9	Height, Weight & Vision
Fri	10	6th - Ten Thousand Villages
Tue	14	Mom's Prayer Group



GEHMANS MENNONITE SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov. 6 & 7

On November 6 & 7, Monday & Tuesday, school will dismiss at 11:30 AM followed by conferences in the afternoon & evening. Please return this form by **Thursday, Oct. 18.** We will do our best to accommodate your preferences. You will be informed of your scheduled time.



Circle your preference & cross out all unsuitable times:

Monday, Nov. 6th

Tuesday, Nov. 7th

Noon	(12:00-3:00)	Noon
Late Afternoon	(3:30-5:00)	Late Afternoon
Evening	(5:00-8:00)	Evening

Name: _____