



Tiger Times



Edition 2—August/September 2017

A Note From The Principal

Gardner Parents,

The year is off to a great start. We had an exciting day learning about the solar eclipse and had all students in the gymnasium to watch live streaming together. Unfortunately with the overcast weather and some glitches with technology it didn't go as well as we hoped it would! Currently we are in the midst of our first round of MAP testing for this year. We are working through the Reading and Math portions. These results, along with your child's individual PARCC report will be available for you at our first round of parent/teacher conferences. Coming up on September 26th from 10-11, students in grades 5-8 will be provided an assembly on cyber bullying and internet safety. This is an hour program that gives them information and tools to deal with the ever present dangers that can be found lurking on the internet. Also, on this same day we will be having picture retakes. For any students who missed our initial picture day this will be another opportunity to get fall pictures. The week of September 18th is Fire Safety Week. We will be conducting a fire drill that week in conjunction with our fire department and they will again be having a "Fire Safety Poster Contest". There will be more details coming as the date gets closer.

Again, this year is off to a great start and I look forward to working with your children this year... and for years to come! If there is ever a time you have questions or concerns regarding anything at school please don't hesitate to contact me in the office.

Thank you, Mr. Harris

Introduction Of New Gardner Tiger Staff!

We have two new staff members joining our team this year. Mrs. Tracy Kociss has been hired as a para-professional working with special education students and Mrs. Heidi Van De Voort is replacing Mrs. Marla O'Keefe as our music teacher. We did make arrangements for a spare room to be utilized specifically for music this year. This allows our music teacher and Mr. Leone to have their own classroom rather than having to share as it has been in the past. Mrs. Kociss is new to working in a school, however is a mother which provides her with much experience working with children. Mrs. Van De Voort comes to us with a M.S. in Music Education and has 3 years of prior experience. We welcome both of them and are happy they have become part of our Tiger Team!

Some Dates For Your Calendar!

Tuesday, August 29th from 5:30—6:30 Open House

Friday, September 1st—First All-School Fire Drill

Wednesday, September 6th PTG Meeting at 7pm

Monday, September 4th—NO SCHOOL in recognition of Labor Day

Wednesday, September 13th—11:30 Dismissal/School Improvement

Friday, September 15th—First Quarter Mid-Terms

Friday, October 6th—Annual Grandparent's Day! (11:30 Dismissal)

Monday, October 9th—NO SCHOOL/Columbus Day



School Safety & Security

As some of you may have noticed we have installed a new front window to the main office. This is with the intent to increase the safety and security of our students, which is of utmost importance to ALL of us. Also, once the school day begins all external doors will be locked and any visitors to the school must be buzzed into the main entrance. We encourage, and ALWAYS welcome parents and visitors but, please help us in ensuring the safety and security of the students, staff and building by following these simple protocols.

We have also had an issue with students finding their way into the building during non-school hours when there is not a school function or purpose for them to be in the building. With that in mind we have posted signs at all entrances communicating that no students are allowed in the building after school hours unless for a specific school function and supervised by a coach or sponsor. Again, I respectfully ask for your help in this endeavor. Thank You! :)



SCHOOL



SAFETY

Teacher Spotlight!

Miss Laura Lenzie—Junior High Reading and Language Arts

Miss Lenzie is currently in her fourth year teaching, however served as a para-professional the year prior to that. She is a native of Gardner and went through Gardner Grade School and GSW High School. She still resides in the area. She went to Aurora University where she earned a B.S. in Elementary Education with middle school endorsement in Science, Social Studies and Reading/Language Arts. In the near future she has plans on continuing her education through a graduate program, however is undecided on where to go. Miss Lenzie is not only a teacher but also coaches softball as well as 7th and 8th girl's basketball. She loves to spend time with her family and friends whenever she gets a chance. Miss Lenzie is LOVED by all her students and is an excellent member of the Gardner staff, community and most importantly the students who pass through her classroom.

