



April 20, 2018
Volume 19
Issue 32

A Weekly Newsletter
for Grand Traverse Academy
Families

Dates to remember

Friday, April 20 – Mustang Madness Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament, Immediately After School, Gyms

Saturday, April 21 – Mustang Derby Dinner & Silent Auction, 6:00-8:00 pm, Big Gym

Monday, April 23 – Family Council, 6:30 pm, Onyx 1

Thursday, April 26 – Prom Resale, 4:00-6:00 pm, Silver 1

Friday, April 27 – JH Boys' Lock-In, 10:00 pm-6:00 am

Children with Hair Loss Drive, 1:30-6:00 pm, Small Gym



Secondary Students of the Month named

Congratulations to the following, who were chosen as March Students of the Month for their demonstration of the character trait of Caring:

Ethan Schwabe, grade 7, is the son of Sheila & Craig Schwabe. He likes anything involving computers, video games, engineering and 3-D printing.



Ethan's goals are to be dual enrolled at Northwestern Michigan College in high school, earn a 4.0 GPA (or at least all A's and B's) to be optimistic every day, and "to be the tallest kid

in school"! After graduation, he is interested in becoming an engineer or software designer, or work in IT support.

Norah VanWingerden, grade 7, is the daughter of Brad & Janet VanWingerden. She has been involved in tennis, cheerleading, volleyball and the Builders Club at school and volunteers with Single | MOMM.



Norah has four very specific goals for high school: 1) Take all the Advanced Placement classes offered, 2) Earn straight A's, 3) Be eligible for and join the National Honor Society, and 4) Be accepted into an Ivy League school once she graduates.

Bereket Kladder, grade 9, is the daughter of Holly & Ben Kladder. She enjoys babysitting and volunteering in her church's nursery. Bereket is an avid reader, and loves to write, draw portraits and sleep!



She has several goals: 1) Travel the world, visiting at least four new countries, 2) Experience college and its benefits, 3) Do something crazy

and adventurous, such as sky diving or SCUBA diving, 4) Know God better and maybe become a missionary, and 5) "Just make it through high school"!

Jacob White, grade 9, is the son of Melissa & Wesley White. He enjoys volunteering at the Humane Society, running and jumping hurdles. Jacob's interests are varied and include art, music, threadwork and traditional Hispanic/Latino and Japanese culture. His goals, after successfully finishing high school, are to learn several languages, build God's kingdom, minister in Japan, and to "die humbly and honorably."



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Children with Hair Loss Benefit planned

If you have at least eight inches of hair you'd like to part



with for a good cause, here's a great opportunity: Grand Traverse Academy's Key Club is hosting a haircutting event **next Friday, April 27 from**

1:30-6:00 pm in the Small Gym. Professional stylists will do the trimming and hair donations will benefit Children with Hair Loss (CWHL), a Michigan-based organization that makes wigs and donates them to children with medically related hair loss. If you can't donate hair, cash donations to the organization are also accepted. Hair donations must be at least eight inches in length and must not be damaged by color treatment (although color treated and gray hair are both accepted, it must simply be in good condition).

Junior High boys' lock-in next week

GTA boys in grades 7 & 8 are invited to an all-night, live active Nerf Fortnite competition **next Friday, April 27 from 10:00 pm-6:00 am Saturday.** Boys should bring their Nerf guns and ammo and we'll provide the pizza and ice cream! The \$20 cost per player includes snacks and extra ammo. Interested boys should sign up in the Secondary office right away to reserve their spot!

Prom tickets on sale now

This year's Junior-Senior Prom, an "Under the Sea" Gala, takes place on **Saturday, May 12 at Blue Bridge Event Center in Grawn (1950 Ellis Road) from 7:00-11:00 pm.** Tickets are \$35 per person and are available for purchase in the Secondary Office. Students who wish to bring a guest from another school must complete a Dance Visitor's Form, available in the Secondary Office, and turn it in to Mrs. Van Houzen **by Wednesday, May 9.**

Prom dress resale event planned

Does your daughter have formal dresses that she doesn't plan to wear again? Is she going to the prom and would like to save some money on a dress? Here is a great opportunity: Our first ever Prom Resale is planned for **Thursday, April 26 from 4:00-6:00 pm in Silver 1.** Dresses, either to sell or donate, should be brought to Ms. Snyder by Tuesday, April 24 to be organized, cataloged and tagged. Questions may be directed to her at snyderk@mygta.us or 932-6935.

Summer School offered

Secondary students who receive less than a "C" in a class have the opportunity to earn credit by attending GTA's Credit Recovery Summer School. Two two-week sessions are available at a cost of \$175 each. Due to the time constraints of Summer School, students will need special permission to be eligible to recover math or Spanish courses. On-line options are also available at parent expense. Details and a registration form, due back by May 18, are attached. Please contact Stephanie Patrzik, guidance counselor, at 932-6024 or patziks@mygta.us with any questions.

Spring assessments continue

Standardized testing continues as follows:

Date	Test
April 30	Grades 3, 4 & 6 M-Step
May 1	7 th Grade M-Step
May 2	7 th Grade M-Step (headphones needed)

It is especially important during this time that students arrive at school promptly in the morning. Plenty of rest the night before and a high protein, low carbohydrate, low sugar breakfast will help them stay alert and focused. Other tips to help your child prepare and reduce any test anxiety are attached to this newsletter.



If your child will be late for school or absent for the day, please notify the office by 8:30 am. Parents will be called to verify any unexcused absences after that time.
Elementary 995-0665 / Secondary 932-6038

Three-Mile Road TART Trail extension the topic of public input session

The Grand Traverse County Road Commission is hosting its first public information meeting for their East-West Mobility Transportation Study on **Monday, April 23 from 6:00-8:00 pm at East Middle School.** The purpose of the meeting is to gather information about public's transportation experiences and values. Since this study includes Three-Mile Road, this is your opportunity to voice your support for the proposed extension of the TART Trail from Parsons Road to Hammond to give students and others a safe place to bike or walk – not only to school, but to the library, township offices and shopping.

**26TH OF
APRIL**

PROM RESALE

DO YOU HAVE ANY FORMAL
DRESSES IN YOUR CLOSET THAT
YOU HAVE ONLY WORN ONCE?
HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE
SOME MONEY JUST BY CLEANING
OUT YOUR CLOSET!

ARE YOU STILL LOOKING FOR A
PROM DRESS BUT DON'T WANT
TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY?

HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY!

**4-6 PM
SILVER 1**





Grand Traverse Academy Credit Recovery Summer School Two Sessions, Starting June 18 & July 9, 2018

Sessions focus on credit recovery for classes in which students earned less than a "C"

Monday-Thursday
8:30 am-12:00 pm

Session 1: June 18-21 & 25-28
Session 2: July 9-12 & 16-19

\$175 per 2-week session

- ⚙ Students may recover 0.5 credit per two-week session
- ⚙ Students may recover a total of 1.0 credit for both sessions (four weeks)
- ⚙ Due to the time constraints of Summer School, students will need special permission to be eligible to recover math or Spanish courses. Students who would like to be considered for math or Spanish credit recovery should see Mrs. Patrzik or Mr. Coneset
- ⚙ On-line options also available at parent expense. Please call Stephanie Patrzik at 932-6024 for details and cost.

Please complete and return the registration form below to the Secondary Office no later than May 18.

2018 Credit Recovery Summer School Registration

Credit recovery for math and Spanish may not be available due to the time constraints of Summer School.

Student Name _____

Session 1 Class for Credit Recovery _____

Session 2 Class for Credit Recovery _____

Parent Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Student Testing

What Parents Can Do to Help Students Prepare

As a parent and your child's first teacher, you can help your child understand and prepare for the assessments they will take in school. Here are some points that will help your child perform their best:

Find out the facts: To start, review the Michigan Department of Education's Parent/Student Information at: www.michigan.gov/mstep, which includes valuable information on state assessments and the Spring testing calendar.

Talk to your child about testing: Let them know that assessment is a regular part of learning. Make sure they understand why they are being tested and how it is important to their future.

Keep state tests in perspective: Reduce your child's anxiety about the test by reminding them that it is just one measure of learning, and another way to find out where their academic strengths and weaknesses are. Remind them of what they do well, and how they have improved with effort.

Take a look at the state practice opportunities and encourage your child to practice at home: Not only will this help you better understand the types of questions your child will be answering, it will help familiarize your child with the test format and features. If your child is struggling, let the teacher know so when your child takes the test, the focus can be more on test content and less on test navigation. Links to the below information can be found at www.michigan.gov/mstep in the parent/student section.

- Elementary and middle school M-STEP sample test items can be found at: www.michigan.gov/mstep/
- High School PSAT and SAT sample test items can be found at: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat> or the MDE assessment high school page: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice>

Make sure that your child is well rested and eats a high protein, low sugar/carb breakfast: Children who are tired, hungry or have too much sugar and carbs are less able to pay attention in class or to handle the demands of a test.

Remember—Attending school matters: Tests reflect children's overall knowledge and achievement. Missing school means missing instruction.

Meet with your child's teacher as often as possible to discuss progress: Ask the teacher to suggest activities for you and your child to do at home to increase and reinforce student learning.

Learn what your child should be learning in English language arts, math, social studies, and science: Michigan learning standards can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/mistatestandards>. In addition, the PTA has developed the PTA Parents' Guide to Success, which gives descriptions of the skills and knowledge your child is expected to gain every year.



Testing Facts to Share with Your Child

- Tests are just one way teachers, schools, districts, and states use to measure what students know and how well they are learning what is taught.
- The purpose of a state assessment is to ensure our state's schools do the best job possible in preparing students to become successful, based on a set of agreed-upon standards.
- Because the state test is exactly aligned with Michigan's standards, test questions should be a natural extension of what students are learning every day in their classrooms.

Hair CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD TO A *Child!*



If you have 8 inches of hair you would like to donate, stop by! One of our volunteer stylists will cut it for you. If you don't have enough hair to donate, we will also be accepting cash or check donations. Haircuts provided by Radiant Salon stylists.

Where?

**Grand Traverse Academy
1245 E Hammond Road**

When?

**April 27, 2018
1:30pm-6pm**

Why?

To help children with medically related hair loss receive hair pieces, free of charge.



**Stylists from: Radiant Salon 1-(231)-879-4590
Shawnee Haines**



Grand Traverse Academy Key Club