



FALCON FORUM

**G O L D E N
G A T E
M I D D L E
S C H O O L**

Our Falcons Soar!

Principal's Corner

2701 48th Terrace SW
Naples, FL 34116

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday:
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

www.collierschools.net/ggm

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ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Mason Clark

Principal

Valerie Hernandez

*Assistant Principal of
Curriculum & Instruction*

James K. Saunders

Assistant Principal

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers, and Members of the Community,

As we move into second semester, we are really proud of all the great work our students and teachers accomplish every day. Have you followed our school on Twitter? Follow us at @GGM_SOARS to tune in to recycling, science experiments, math achievement, concert footage, community engagement, sports, and more!

Third Quarter will end on Thursday, 29 March. This is a great time to review with your students the requirements for promotion. Students must earn at least one passing grade (one quality point) in second semester in order to be promoted. This is in addition to the requirements for a final grade of D, C, B, or A. Additionally, students must remember that courses with an end-of-course assessment (Civics, Algebra IA/IB, Algebra I Honors) have a final exam weighted at 30% of the final grade. Other 7th and 8th grade courses carry a 10% final exam, and 6th grade courses carry a 5% final exam.

Students must also remember that many of their courses carry high school credit. Did you know that some of our students are leaving Golden Gate Middle School with seven or eight high school credits? That is really exciting for them, because it opens up new opportunities for them in their high school schedule. Algebra IA, Algebra IB, Algebra I Honors, Culinary Arts, Digital Information Technology, Geometry Honors (at GGH), Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE), Pre-AICE Global Perspectives, Spanish I, and Spanish II all carry high school credit. We want our students to excel in every class, but it is particularly important that students put their "best foot forward" in these classes!

Speaking of "best foot forward," testing season is approaching. This is the time of year when our students prepare to demonstrate their mastery of learning standards in math, English language arts, science, and civics. Parents, your students have really shown us a growth mindset, and I know that they will earn excellent gains! The FSA Writing test will be administered on 03 April, and the other tests will begin a week or two after that.

SOARingly yours,

Dr. Mason Clark, Principal

Volunteers NEEDED

To volunteer at our school, please contact our parent involvement coordinator, Saylys Carrillo. We have several exciting events throughout the year and we would appreciate the help!

239.377.2073

EMAIL: carris2@collierschools.com
www.collierschools.com/volunteer

GGM Afterschool Program (ASP)

Before school program runs Monday-Friday 7:20-8:20. If you need to drop your child off to school, prior to 8 am, they must sign up for the before school program and report to the media center. Registration forms are located in both student services and the media center. Before school fees are \$10 per quarter.

Afterschool runs Monday-Thursday 3:50-5:15. Club choices include but are not limited to homework help, baking, computer fun, ceiling tile art, etc. Clubs are \$10 per session with the exception of Baking Club. If you choose baking, you will need to include an additional \$5.00. Session 3 dates are 2/26/18-5/10/18. Registration forms are located in student services and in the media center.

See Mrs. Coloma if you have any questions.
 Email: coloma@collierschools.com



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Student Council

The Student Council's Pasta for Pennies is in full swing, raising money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, to benefit children in living in SWFL. The Homeroom that raises the most money, per student, will receive a wonderful lunch provided by the Olive Garden. The fundraiser runs January 8-February 2nd.



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY®

fighting blood cancers

The Student Council will be hosting their Spring Dance on March 2nd from 7-8:30. The cost will be \$5.00 per ticket and the dance is only open to GGMS students. Tickets sold at the door, the night of the dance, will require showing the staff your ID before being given a ticket. ***Note- Parents, please make sure you are waiting to pick your child up by 8:30.** It will be a fun night!

GGM Athletics



With the second semester beginning inside the school, outside we're in the midst of our winter sports season. As of this writing, the boys soccer team is undefeated and has yet to give up a goal through three games. Girls soccer has zero losses on their record thus far. Boys and girls basketball teams are also representing Golden Gate Middle well both on and off the court. After four regular season contests, the playoffs will begin for all four teams. Opponents, times, and locations will be determined by seeding. In late February, our spring sports move into focus. This includes boys and girls track & field, as well as golf. Be on the lookout for more information on those sports as the quarter continues!

Greg Parks
 GGM Athletic Director



From the Falcon Counselors

Counselor assignments by student last name:

Ms. Irigoyen	A-F	377-3818
Email: irigoe@collierschools.com		
Dr. Meyer	G-N	377-3806
Email: meyermi@collierschools.com		
Ms. Gray	O-Z	377-3817
Email: Grayd1@collierschools.com (Director of Guidance)		
Crystal Guadalupe – Guidance Secretary (Bi-Lingual)		
Email: guadalcr@collierschools.com 377-3816		

During the second semester, most students will be facing a variety of tests, finals, and EOC's (end of course exams). Some of them will be routine exams, while others may be state mandated standardized tests (FSA). Some students have increased anxiety and stress before and during testing. It is impossible to remove all anxiety; however being prepared is one of the best ways to reduce stress. Students want to avoid last minute cramming before a test, as experts have found that cramming can actually increase test anxiety!

Being prepared involves planning ahead for tests.

Students should first put test dates in their planner or phone calendar and then begin studying as early as possible. For the best results, spread the preparation out over several days or weeks. Study by reviewing class notes, homework, assignments and reading. If a teacher provides you with a study guide, use it to your advantage. Find the answers in your textbook or notes and study them! Some students also benefit from reviewing and studying with a partner or in groups.

It also helps to be physically and mentally prepared for all tests. Get a good night's sleep, up to two nights prior to the test. Also, eat a good dinner the night before and a good breakfast the morning of. This will provide your brain with the rest it needs for rejuvenation and the body with the nourishment it needs for energy and focusing. If you're still feeling anxious, try some relaxation techniques as the test approaches. Practice relaxing by closing your eyes, taking several deep breaths and thinking positive thoughts such as how well you're going to do on the test.

One way to reduce stress during the test is to recall and use the test taking strategies you have learned throughout the years. If you still feel yourself getting tense during the exam, close your eyes again, take a few big breaths and focus on your posture and breathing before getting back to work. GOOD LUCK STUDENTS!

Students of the Month



November 2017



December 2017

Upcoming Dates To Remember!

Check our website for more updates and GGM sports schedules: <http://www.collierschools.com/ggm>

February 23	Distribution of interim reports
March 2	GGM Spring Dance
March 12 – 16	Spring Break - No school for teachers or Students
March 29	End of Quarter 3
March 30	No school for students - Teacher Planning Day
April 6	Distribution of Report Cards

FSA Testing Dates

April 3	Writing All grades
April 23 – April 24	7th Grade Language Arts
April 25 – April 26	8th Grade Language Arts
April 30 – May 1	6th Grade Language Arts
May 2 – May 3	8th Grade Math
May 7 – May 8	7th Grade Math
May 9	8th Grade Science
May 9 – May 10	6th Grade Math
May 15	7th Grade Civics
May 16 – May 17	Algebra 1 EOC

PTO is hosting Golden Gate Middle's Annual Multi-Cultural Festival, Thursday March 1st, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. We are looking for cultural dish donations to be shared that evening. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Mrs. Coloma coloma@collierschools.com or Mrs. Higgins (higgij@collierschools.com)

Ashley Coloma, President

Jane Higgins, Vice President

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement is about involving our parents within our school. Here at Golden Gate Middle School our focus is on helping our students SOAR and succeed at their highest



potential. A huge factor in our student's success, is parent involvement. Our goal is to have our parents become involved in our school and feel like they are part of the Falcon family. Here are some ways you as a parent/guardian can get involved:

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), Student Advisory Council (SAC), and volunteering.

If you are interested, please feel free to contact Mrs. Carrillo at (239)377-2073.

Attendance and Discipline

With state testing approaching fast, student attendance is crucial. If a student is 15 or more minutes late on a state testing day, they will have to make up their test another day.

The following rules are for attendance if a student has not turned in a doctor's note:

1. 5 Days absent is a phone call home.
2. 7-10 Days absent a letter is sent home.
3. After 10 days a truant deputy visits the home.

The following rules are for student tardiness:

1. 5-8 times they will serve a lunch detention
2. 9-12 times is afterschool detention the next day
3. 13+ times is In-School Suspension (ISS)

Be kind and S.O.A.R.!

James K. Saunders
Assistant Principal



Naples Chalk Art on 5th



Golden Gate Middle School represents at the Naples Chalk Art on 5th Avenue. What a beautiful job the young men did creating this piece of art! Thank you, German Juan (6th), Andy Romano (8th), and Seddrick Morgan (6th), and Ms. Boggs for all of your hard work.

PBS- Positive Behavior Support

Positive referrals continue to ROCK at GGM! At the end of first semester, GGM teachers had written 1115 positive referrals for 620 students, and the number continues to grow fast. Comparatively, there were 652 corrective (discipline) referrals written during the first semester. We are proud that almost 90% of our students have zero or one referral only. Our goal is that we will have fewer discipline referrals this year because of increased positive reinforcement and a focusing on a growth mindset. A third quarter goal is to increase the percentage of students receiving a positive referral from 56% to 75%. The prize wheel for positive referrals continues to be a huge success, and the PBS committee wishes to thank the local restaurants and the SAC committee for their donations to this great cause!

Honor roll ceremonies were held for each grade level near the end of January to recognize students on the A and AB honor rolls. Seventy-five students were also recognized for having perfect attendance with no tardies, which is a huge accomplishment considering Hurricane Irma's disruption this year! A total of sixty students were recognized for the A honor roll and 166 students for the A/B Honor roll. Seventh grade students, teachers, and parents can take pride knowing they had the greatest number of students receiving each of the three awards! Congratulations 7th graders!

Every month, four students from each grade level continue to be recognized as the student of the month. This month we are moving the party from a pizza luncheon to a morning breakfast during iTime. Students will continue to celebrate with Principal Clark and receive a certificate and a shirt. We are so proud of the students who get honored each month!

The second quarter incentive for students who had no referrals and no infractions will be on Valentine's Day. A "Dress to Impress Day" will allow students how earned this to dress up and/or wear Valentine colors and clothes. CCPS dress code will apply, with dresses at least fingertip length and no spaghetti straps on top. Parents can help by ensuring that only students who have earned this privilege dress out of uniform that day.