



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

Welcome Back!

Hello Falcon Family,

The start of a new school year brings many opportunities for growth and positive change. We are hoping that all of our Falcons and their families will begin new healthy and productive habits that make our students **S.O.A.R.!**

We are so appreciative all the support and encouragement you have provided to your child. Raising children is not easy! Here are some ways that you can continue to support your child through middle school.

S is for successful. Successful students work on learning every day. We suggest that you set a time every night when students are to do school work. Even when students don't have an actual homework assignment, there is always something they can do at home to prepare them

O is for organized. Organized students can easily find their materials and papers. Their lockers and notebooks are neat and clean. You may want to ask your child to bring home their notebooks once a month so you can see if your child is organized and ready to learn!

A is for in attendance. Students have to be at school in order to keep up with what's going on in the classroom. Consider keeping track of your child's absences from school. More than two absences per month is considered excessive.

R is for respectful. Learning is easiest when everyone in the classroom respects each other. Teachers should be respectful of students and students should be respectful of their teachers. If your child is having difficulty with a teacher, chances are the mutual respect has been lost. Schedule an appointment with our counseling department, 239-377-3815, so we can help solve the problem.

We are looking forward to a great year where all Falcons **S.O.A.R.!**

Valerie Hernandez

Valerie Hernandez, Principal

2701 48th Terrace SW
Naples, FL 34116

ph. **239-377-3800**
fax. 239-377-3801

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

www.collierschools.net/ggm

September 2019
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Issue 1

ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Valerie Hernandez
Principal

Mrs. Eugenia Burton
*Assistant Principal of
Curriculum & Instruction*

Mrs. Ashley Coloma
Assistant Principal of Discipline

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Volunteers Needed

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

239-377-6197

Rodriglr@collierschools.com

<http://www.collierschools.com/volunteer>

Student Council Sponsored

Salvation Army Can Drive

This year's Salvation Army Can Drive will begin Tuesday October 1st and run through Friday November 1st. Please start collecting canned goods for your child, to take into their iTime teacher. The classroom that collects the most cans will receive a pizza party. (Classrooms must receive over 100 cans to qualify) **OUT DATED CANS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Expired items must be thrown away and will not count towards the classroom total. Our community will benefit from this wonderful endeavor.

Back to School Fall Dance

Our Student Council Sponsored Back to School Fall Dance will take place on Friday September 13th from 7-8:30. The cost will be \$5.00 per ticket and will include: pizza, dessert, and refreshment. (Tickets, sold at the door, will not include the food and refreshment, as everything must be pre-ordered.) Tickets will go on sale September 5-11th. Correct change will be appreciated.

Technology Tidbit

Hello Falcon Family!

Can you believe it is already the 2019-2020 school year? Technology is getting off to a great start. We excited to learn all about the parts that make up a computer and begin practicing our keyboarding skills. This year, our goal is for each student to obtain Microsoft Office Specialist certification. This means they would be EXPERTS in three of the Microsoft software programs by the end of the year! The tech lab is sure to be a busy place this school year, and we are ready!

Ms. De La Vega
Business Education

Upcoming Dates To Remember!

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

September 13th - Interim Period Ends

September 20th - Interims Posted (View in Portal)

September 30th - No School (Rosh Hashanah)

October 1st - Salvation Army Can Drive (all month long)

October 9th - No School (Yom Kippur)

October 16th - End of First Quarter

October 17th -18th - No School (Teacher Planning)

October 24th - Report Cards Go Home

Important Information

Instructional Materials Notification for Parents

Parents may review their children's instructional materials at the school site. Parents may also schedule an appointment to review currently adopted instructional materials at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Administrative Center. Please contact Julia Lorenzo, Instructional Materials Manager at LorenzJu@collierschools.com or 377-0103.

YEARBOOK EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

\$20
IF YOU ORDER
BY
NOVEMBER 30th

**PRICE GOES UP
DECEMBER 1!**

NAME: _____

HOMEROOM: _____

GRADE: _____

STUDENT NUMBER: _____

Please return this form to Mrs. Boyd in the Media Center or the front office, with cash or check made out to Golden Gate Middle School.

Price after the presale will be \$25-\$30, determined by the number of books sold.

Golden Gate Middle School—Falcons Soar



MORE FORMS IN MEDIA CENTER

Counseling Corner

Our counseling department specializes in many different areas, making us a great team to assist with our student needs and growth. We are excited to be here at GGM for our 3rd year together. We welcome our new 6th grade Falcons and wish everyone a happy and successful school year.

Back To School 2019-2020

Counseling Assignments By Student Last Name:

Ms. Irigoyen:	A-Garb	irigoe@collierschools.com	377-3818
Dr. Meyer:	Garcia-O	meyermi@collierschools.com	377-3806
Ms. Gray:	P-Z	grayd1@collierschools.com	377-3817
Ms. Guadalupe (Guidance Secretary)		guadalcr@collierschools.com	377-3816

What is a school counselor and what do they do?

According to the American School Counselor Association, "School counselors are certified/ licensed educators with the minimum of a master's degree in school counseling and are uniquely qualified to address the developmental needs of all students through a comprehensive school counseling program addressing the academic, career and personal/social development of all students."



Why Do You Say SCHOOL COUNSELOR Not Guidance Counselor

"In 1958, Congress passed the National Defense Education Act, Which sent millions of dollars to train "guidance" counselors, whose primary responsibility was to "guide" talented students, mostly male, to jobs that would help the United States compete in the space race and defend the country during the Cold War. All the "guidance" counselors trained from NDEA funds were teachers. (However, today) the role of "school" counselor is much broader than simply guiding students toward specific professions. School counselors engage not just in individual planning but small group and classroom guidanc." – Kwok-Sze Wong, Ed.D. (American School Counseling Association)



Learning In Action

The Kona Ice truck came to visit the MC classes on Friday, August 30th. The MC students were able to purchase an ice cup and enjoy it with their classmates. They are learning about money, purchasing items and using their manners.



FOLLOW US ON



Positive Referrals WIN BIG!

Golden Gate Middle School was once again recognized as a Positive Behavior Support (PBS) model school last year by the state of Florida. Our main focus is to ensure that students receive consistent positive recognition. We use the acronym SOAR as a framework for PBS at GGM: **S**uccessful, **O**rganized, **A**ttendance, and **R**espect.

We recognize students with positive referrals (over 2000 the last two years), which allow them to spin the prize wheel for awards every Friday in the cafeteria. Quarterly we have 1) behavior incentives for students with no referrals, 2) "no tardy parties", and 3) honor roll and perfect attendance certificates. Finally we have student of the month awards which allows teachers to recognize students who have exhibited exemplary behavior and citizenship traits. We appreciate all the hard work our parents do to help our students SOAR and also all the community businesses who provide us with prizes!



After School Program – Grace Place

Grace Place puts faith into action, providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families. One way we do this is through our School Age Afterschool Program. At the middle school level Grace Place provides dinner, intentional homework help and tutoring, socioemotional help, enrichment classes, and more at no cost! We run Monday through Thursday from 3:50-6:00p.m. You can contact Monica Tovar, Student and Family Coordinator, for more information at 239.255.7217 or at monica_t@graceplacenaples.org.

Grace Place also has a variety of programs from mom and tot, afterschool programs, English language learning classes, and one of the larger food pantries in Naples. Please contact us to get more information on any of these or visit our website at <https://graceplacenaples.org/>.

Attendance and Discipline

At Golden Gate Middle School, our mission to provide exceptional educational opportunities that motivate and engage each student. This mission supports our vision of a school where every student SOARs. Students are **S**uccessful, **O**rganized, **A**ttend class, and are **R**espectful.

Be In School On Time, All Day, Every Day.

School is one of the most important things in our lives! The attendance rate is important because students are more likely to succeed in academics when they attend school consistently. It's difficult for the teacher and the class to build their skills and progress if a large number of students are frequently absent. School serves a number of purposes from building confidence to teaching children the importance of teamwork and working with others. Missing 2 days a month is equivalent to missing 10% of the school year. Please do your best to be here each and every day.

I am looking forward to an exciting 2019-2020 school year!

Be Kind to One Another,
Ashley Coloma
Assistant Principal

GGM Athletics
Our Falcons Soar!



From the Athletic Director

After what was a 2018-2019 season of deep playoff runs by volleyball, basketball, and soccer, coupled with record breaking events by track and field, the Falcons are soaring into 2019-2020 with high hopes!

The fall season is gearing up with cross country and volleyball tryouts. Announcements are posted on almost every door around the school - so keep your eyes up when you are walking, you do not want to miss them!

Physicals and consent forms are required to participate once a student is added to an athletic roster. We are working with the community to bring in a medical professional to perform athletic physicals after school in the hopes of giving every student who wants to play a greater opportunity to fulfill this requirement. More information on that to follow.

In the winter, students can look forward to basketball and soccer. In the spring, track and field will begin along with golf which will be overseen by the Golden Gate High School golf instructor and The First Tee of Naples organization. Information will be provided to students once those seasons begin. I invite you to come out and support your Falcons this school year!

Jeff Costa

GGM Athletic Director