

Grove Patterson Academy E-NEWSLETTER



Spirit Wear Dress Down Day
Tomorrow 12/3

Herneika L. Johnson-Principal ~Ardelia Shuler-Freeman-Counselor ~ Karen Bowman-Secretary

December 2, 2021

As many of you may know I have been out ill during October and November after experiencing a few complications from a routine surgery. Thanks for all the kind words, emails, Facebook messages and especially prayers as I continue to heal. During my absence if you sent an email or are in need of information, please re-send that so I can follow up. Charge that to my head and not my heart! During those rough times, I appreciate my GPA Family!

Mrs. J.

COVID PROTOCOLS

It is extremely important that you assess your child every morning before arriving to school. If your child has any of the following symptoms, they should remain at home. You should contact Nurse G. for further guidance:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle, body aches, head aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Close contact (within 6 feet for 15+ minutes) with someone who has a confirmed case of Covid-19 or someone who has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19.

If your child has any of these symptoms upon arriving to school they will be sent home.

FOOD DRIVE Grand Lodge Food Pantry December 6-15

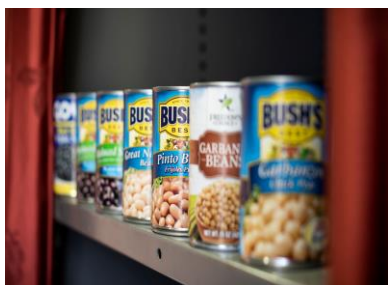
Many families in the Toledo area are in need more than ever and WE can help!

Grove Patterson Academy will be receiving donations for the Grand Lodge Food Pantry from December 6 - 15. Donation boxes will be placed outside each classroom door and each teacher will have raffle tickets. You must bring the food to the teacher so that they can award them a raffle ticket. If you have a lot to bring in, send 10 items in each bag so that the raffle ticket can be easily awarded.

3020 Marvin Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43606
419.671.3350 (Phone) 419.671.3395 (Fax)

Donation suggestions, but not limited to: peanut butter, cereal, saltine crackers, juice, macaroni & cheese, ramen noodles, dry pasta, dried beans, spaghetti sauce, ravioli, canned beef or chicken, spam, tuna, fish, stew, soups, canned vegetables, powdered milk, toiletries (soap, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant, tooth paste, laundry soap, feminine products, etc...). **Please no perishables or expired items.**

If you care to make a monetary donation, please Venmo our PTO at Venmo @grovepattersonpto In the memo line please put-**\$Food Drive.**



For every donation, you will receive a raffle ticket for the book fair. At least 20 names will be drawn from the bucket to be awarded a book from the book fair. The bucket will be in the book fair so please take the tickets to the book fair when you go.

Dental Clinic

The school based dental clinic will be here at GPA January 24th- Feb 4th. They will be performing full dental exams during the school day on the students that returned the purple permission forms. If you need another form, please contact Nurse G. at agillesp@tps.org.

Revised District Calendar

There was an error in the TPS Calendar regarding Winter Break. The last day of school for students will be Thursday, December 16th. Students will return to school on Tuesday, January 4th.

Old Newsboys-Does your child need a new winter coat or shoes?

The Old Newsboys have partnered with Toledo Public Schools and Grove Patterson Academy to provide new winter coats and/or shoes to 50 families whose families demonstrate financial need. If your son or daughter is in need of either or both, please email or call Ms. Freeman at 419.671.3350 or ashulerf@tps.org

Book Fair Information

Hello GPA Parents! The Book Fair will begin on Monday, December 6 and run through Thursday, December 16. In order for your child to purchase books, they need to have an eWallet. This is the same as the last few book fairs. You need to click on the following link, go to the bottom and click on the white button that says "get started" and that will take you to where you open an eWallet.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=grovepattersonacademy>

The first 100 students are receiving a free reusable Scholastic Book Fair bag if you put at least \$20 in the eWallet. I have already distributed some of those so you want one be sure to not delay in adding money to the eWallet.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at khouser@tps.org and I can help you out. Thank you for your support!

Mrs. Houser

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/auz-jjbq-zac>

[Lock Down Drill-December 8 @ 9:30.](#)

On Wednesday, December 8th the school will hold an official A.L.I.C.E drill. TPS Security will be in the building on that day conducting the drill. It is important that parents speak with their children regarding this drill and what to expect. Students may be asked to evacuate or they may be asked to remain in their classrooms. We must be as prepared as possible as in American schools today this is a real reality that we could potentially face. Staff members have discussed and practiced throughout the school year.

Here are some videos you can watch with your child. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out.

[ALICE Video 5-8](#)

[ALICE Video 6-8](#)

[ALICE 3-8](#)

[I'm Not Scared I'm Prepared Read-Aloud](#)

[Arrival](#)

Please remember that students who are dropped off in the morning by car must remain in their vehicles until 7:55 a.m. Over the last several weeks I have noticed more and more students coming into the building earlier than they are supposed to. We must maintain a certain level of distancing that requires only bus riders (and a limited other exceptions) to enter the building before 7:55 a.m. Students will be asked to return to the vehicle if it is before the time. I apologize in advance.

[Parent Teacher Conferences-October](#)

Congratulations to all of our families! We had 100% attendance at our Parent Teacher Conferences during the month of October. Way to go!

[Background Checks-Updated with new link](#)

We appreciate your interest in volunteering your time with our students - either as a parent, a community member, or in coordination with one of our valued community partners. Toledo Public Schools aims to produce competitive college and career ready graduates, and we will not succeed without partners like you!

TPS offers a variety of activities you may choose from when volunteering your time. **Simply complete and submit a Volunteer application and upon approval you will receive instructions on next steps.**

It is very important that the **information you enter on the application matches your government issued identification card** including your full legal name. It is important that you **provide a valid email address** so you can be notified as to the status of your application and for future communication. All information collected on the application will remain confidential and not be shared outside the volunteer program.

If you have any questions about the application, please call **419-671-0410** or email volunteer@tps.org.

Thank you,

TPS Community Liaison

<https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/NTI3OTplbi1VUw==>

You can also find it on our website following this link: https://www.tps.org/discover_tps/news/new_volunteer_application_now_available

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

School Opportunities

- Lunchroom
- Stock the Lounge (Snacks, drinks, whatever you would like to send in)
- December Book Fair
- Attend PTO Meetings
- Board Games (Uno Cards, Connect Four)
- Gift Card Collection for Teachers. Every \$10 Gift Card is worth 1 Volunteer Hour. Please send in an envelope addressed to PTO.

Parents will be expected to track their hours through the Track-It Forward App. I hope to have this information to everyone by January. Thanks for your patience. This email will come from Track-It-Forward. All volunteer hours will be tracked this way. A reminder all families must have 10 hours per family per year.

Lunch

Lunch times will be as follows:

K-10:30-11:00

7/8 11:05-11:35

¾ 11:40-12:10

5/6 12:20-12:50

½ 1:00-1:30

No outside lunches can be dropped off if a lunch is forgotten. Students will receive a school lunch. Additionally, no lunches can be ordered/delivered through apps such as Uber Eats, etc. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Lunch menus are available on the GPA App and the Toledo Public Schools website. www.tps.org. This weeks lunch menu will differ from what has been posted due to issues outside of our control. Feel free to email Ms. Heather at hstover@tps.org if you would like to know the menu this week.

MASK POLICY-MASK UP!

Please ensure that your child has a mask (or several) to get them through the school day. We have extra in the building, however some students are stopping by the office on a daily basis to pick them up. Thanks in advance for your understanding and support!

Bussing Information

We are excited to announce that you have access to a new smartphone app that helps to improve communication, school bus safety, and efficiency. The Transportation Portal (aka Edulog Parent Portal) app provides you with planned time and location information for your child's bus ride to school. On a daily basis, the app will show you the GPA location of the bus and send you a push notification when it is nearing your bus stop.

The app is free of charge for our parents, caregivers, and students. In addition to displaying the location of your bus and sending the notifications, you can also receive time sensitive messages from our transportation department. You

will also receive notification when a substitute bus is running your route due to scheduled maintenance on your regular bus, for example.

The app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store-either of which can be accessed by pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code:

Additional information about using Transportation Portal (aka Edulog Parent Portal) is available on our website at: https://www.tps.org/departments/transportation_services. If you have additional questions regarding the app, please contact our transportation department at: 419-671-8541.

If you would like to request bus transportation for the 2021-2022 school or make changes to your current stop, it is imperative that you contact Karen in the Main Office at 419.671.3350 as soon as possible. Any additions/changes could potential take 1-3 weeks.

Currently there is an approximate 2 week wait on new bus requests/changes.

District/State Testing

Students in grades K-8 will be taking the Reading and Math Winter Diagnostic Assessment. It is important that students are taking their time on this Diagnostic so teachers can close any educational gaps that exist as well as help enrichment academic performance. As we wrap up our Diagnostics students will be responsible for 30 minutes of Reading and 30 minutes of Math each week. This is a minimum goal. Students CAN work at home and should have their username and password. The maximum time spent should be 45 minutes per week.

How can you help?

- Have your students log-in and go to the My Progress Tab.
- Look at the following
 - Time on Task
 - Lessons Passed
 - Lesson Streak
 - Completed Work
- Acknowledge your child for receiving a 75% or higher.
- Reinforce that students are to take this seriously and remind them that we all want to see them be successful!

It is important to remember that this test is a Third Grade Reading Guarantee qualifier and any 3rd grade student that receives a 505 or higher will be considered to have passed and will be exempted from being retained in the 3rd Grade. 3rd OST Scores from the Fall Test Administration will be sent to us the week of December 13th. We will notify you of their scores.

It is important that all families speak with their child about the important of this test.

Teachers should have notified you on when students will be taking this Diagnostic. If you do not have this information, I encourage to speak with your child's teacher.

Parent Portal/Google Classroom

The Parent Portal gives parents and guardians access to pertinent student information such as attendance records, class schedule, class work, report cards and transcripts. You can access the site by clicking on this

link: <https://parentportal.tps.org> under the Registration Section. If any of these items need to be updated, we ask that you contact Karen in the main office. If you have questions, view the parent portal guidelines and questions:

[**PARENT PORTAL USER GUIDE - UPDATED**](#)

[**PARENT PORTAL USER GUIDE \(SPANISH\)**](#)

FAMILY APP DIRECTIONS

All assignments for the 2021-2022 school year for grades 3-8 will be posted through a digital format. This may be done by a Google Site, Google Classroom, or Parent Portal. Your scholars' teacher will verify what format they intend to use. This will take the place of a formal agenda book that we have used in the past. It is your responsibility (as stated in the Parent Contract Agreement) to ensure all assignments that are posted have been completed and returned. We have found that often times our wonderful children will tell the parent it is done but in actuality, it is not and a blank assignment turned in. You want to check and verify it is completed and accurate.

YMCA After-School Care

If you are interested in your scholar receiving YMCA after school care, you can contact Rachelle Wells they can email me at rachellewells@ymcatoledo.org or call me at 419-214-1875.

Communication

It is very important that we stay connected. Please make sure that the front office has your most current contact information on file. Please make sure you read all your emails and follow us on social media. Listed below are different ways you can stay connected with Grove Patterson Academy.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Phone: 419.671.3350 Fax: 419.671.3395

3020 Marvin Avenue

Toledo, Ohio 43606

Teacher's Hours: Monday - Friday: 7:55am – 2:45 pm.

Teachers are teaching throughout the school day. They may not be able to respond to questions until they have a break. Teachers will offer office hours during the week. These times can be located on the teacher's google classroom page.

Questions submitted after 3:00 p.m. may not be answered until the next school day. We will try to return most messages within 24 hours.

School E-mail

See <https://www.grovepattersonpto.org/staff-directory>

School Website

<https://www.grovepattersonpto.org/>

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GrovePattersonPTO/>

GPA Communication/App.

Download the Grove Patterson Academy App in your App store.

District Communication

Download the Toledo Public Schools App in your App store.

Weekly Newsletter

Parents will receive the weekly parent newsletter via GPA App. It will also be posted online via our website. This newsletter contains important updates, school and district information, educational resources (link), and information about upcoming events, training, and workshops.



- 12/3 1st Friday Spirit Wear Dress Down Day
- 12/6-15 Food Drive
- 12/8 Lock Down Drill 9:30 a.m.
- 12/16 Parent Panel
- 12/16 Last Day of School for Students
- 12/17-1/3 Winter Break! Enjoy!

PARENTS!
Remember to ask your child about how they are doing in I-READY each week.

