



The Grizzly News

GUDITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Martin, Principal

Ms. McInchak, Administrative Assistant

22700 Sibley Road Brownstown, MI 48193

Phone: 734-783-5386 Fax: 734-783-5389

**SEPTEMBER
2014**

- 2 School begins
9:10am until 3:50pm
- 9 PTO meeting 6pm
- 10 Open House
Vendor Night 5:30pm
- 23 **PICTURE DAY**
- 30 **DENTISTS R US**

October 2014

- 1 PTO Candy Bar Fund
raiser kick off
- 14 PTO Meeting 6pm
- 15 PTO Candy Bar
Fundraiser Ends
- 24 Fall family Fun Night /
Trunk or Treat

STAY CONNECTED...

**FIND US ON FACE-
BOOK - GUDITH
PTO**

**FOLLOW US ON
TWITTER
@GUDITHE**



LIGHTS ~ CAMERA ~ ACTION

Welcome to the World Premier of:

GUDITH 14-15 Starring... YOU!

This high energy, action packed learning adventure will take you deep into the many areas of school life; providing an experience that will engage, enlighten and empower each and every learner to become the leaders of tomorrow!

As we begin our new school journey, the scene is set, the costumes have been purchased, and the props have been gathered and organized. All we have left to complete is the script. This is where you, as the star, have some power.



Which CHARACTER will you portray?

What words and actions will define your role in our adventure?

What will you have gained by the end of the journey?

THE CHOICE IS YOURS!



The school year has been rated:

G

GUDITH AUDIENCES

All Learners Admitted

SCHOOL HOURS

START BELL— 9:10 AM

DISMISSAL BELL— 3:50 PM

HALF DAY DISMISSAL 12:10 PM

**STUDENTS ARE NOT TO BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE
8:50 AM UNLESS ENROLLED IN CHAMPIONS.**





Security at Gudith

In the interest of safety and security of our elementary school students, all parents and visitors are required to check in at the office. You must obtain a visitor pass if volunteering (see Volunteer Screening below) or participating in school activities. You must fill out an IChat form to volunteer.

Access to the school is limited. After the first day of school, parents are asked to say their goodbyes in the main lobby just outside the office. If you have a message for the teacher please send a note with your child or an email to the teacher. **WALKING STUDENTS TO CLASS IS NOT ALLOWED.**

Visitors and Volunteers

In an effort to keep our students safe, we require all those who volunteer within our building to have the appropriate background screening. Volunteering includes room parents, chaperones, etc.

There are two types of background screens available. The first is an I-Chat which is to be done every year and is free of charge. The second is to have live scan fingerprints completed. These fingerprints satisfy your background screening requirements throughout your time in the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District. An I-Chat will still need to be completed each year. Please see our website for screening forms and livescan pricing and locations or pick them up from the main office. Finger Print forms must be picked up at the Administration Building located at 24821 Hall Road, Woodhaven.



Early Pick-Up

All parents picking up students must first report to the office to sign out their student, and the student will be called down for pick up. **Students will be called for pick up once you arrive at the school.** *If you must pick up your student early, plan to pick them up prior to 3:30pm, however every effort should be made to alleviate this growing issue by honoring the school schedule and waiting till our 3:50pm dismissal.*

All parents picking up students must first report to the office to sign out their student, and the student will be called down for



School

Bus

Safety

Please talk to your children about bus safety. Students must understand that they are to stay seated, keep their discussions quiet, and be respectful of each other and the bus driver.

Also, safety at the bus stop is a concern. Students should have parental supervision at bus stops. What happens at the bus stop sets the stage for the rest of a child's day. **Please have a responsible adult monitor student behavior at the bus stop.**

Thank you for your patience with our transportation system! The first few weeks of school, our buses may be arriving late or adjusting their routes and bus stops.

Questions regarding Transportation can be answered at 734-789-2863.

Morning Drop-off and Afternoon Pick-up

When dropping off and picking up students we ask you observe the following safety procedures:

- The drop-off lane is ONE WAY! You should drop off from north to south with your passenger door closest to the building. The drop off lane will be closed off at dismissal.
- Please pull all the way forward to the sign when dropping off students.
- At pick-up time, we ask for you to **park your vehicle**, pick up your students as they exit the building and **walk together** back to your car. **Please do not stand in the fire line! Students will not be allowed to cross the drop off lane unless escorted by an adult.**
- School begins at 9:10am, for safety reasons, students need to be dropped off **after 8:55am**. Also, school **ends at 3:50pm** (12:10pm on half days) **please be on time to pick up your child (ren).**

Attendance Counts

Children can only thrive in school if they are present in school. Listed below are our definitions of and policies pertaining to attendance.

- Absence**—An absence is any day that a student misses school.
- Excused Absence**—Any **medically documented absence**, funeral days, or other absence approved by the attendance office will **not** be counted against the student in the ten (10) day limitation.

Excessive Absences

- If a child accumulates **10** absences in a school year, the building administrator will **send a letter** to inform the parent/guardian of this and of our concerns.
- If the child reaches **15** absences in a school year the building administrator will **inform the local police department of a potential truancy issue**. The police department will then contact or visit the child's home to discuss the truancy with the parents.
- If the absences reach **20** in a school year, **referrals must be made** to the Local Police Department and possibly, the **Wayne County Prosecutor's Office**.

*Parents are encouraged not to take their children out of school for vacations. **Vacation days are considered unexcused.**

Join Gudith's Email Information Group

In order to save on paper and copying costs, this is the first and **only Newsletter that will be sent home in a paper format**. All other Newsletters / Announcements will posted to our website and sent out to Gudith families through the **Gudith Email Information Group**. To join, send an e-mail message to Ms. McInchak at mcinchj@wbsdweb.com with "add to email group" as the subject.

Birthday Celebrations



Think
healthy
treats or
prizes at
Birthday
Time!

Every child's birthday is important, and celebrating with their classmates is a highlight of the school year. However, with the adoption of a district Wellness Policy, **we strongly encourage *non-food*** items like pencils, stickers, or erasers as being excellent treats. Between student food allergies, student diabetes, and our national push for healthy eating, food items have become increasingly inappropriate for the classroom. If you wish to send a healthy treat, like your child's favorite fruit cup or pre-packaged food item (ingredients must be listed on the package), you will need to drop them off at the office on the morning of your child's birthday celebration. Please label the treats with your child's name and classroom teacher. We will notify your teacher of the delivery and they will pick up and distribute the treats at a time of the teacher's discretion. **Parents will not be allowed to deliver treats to their child's classroom** unless such arrangements have been approved by the classroom teacher in advance.

Food Service News

Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications—Forms are available on the District website or in the main office. Please return the completed application to the building Secretary ASAP.

Returning students—your 2013-14 applications expired on June 30, 2014 which means a new application must be filled out and returned for processing by October 1st. After October 1, you will become a "full pay" student.

New Students—You must pay full price for all food while your application is

being processed and until notified of your status change.

Balances—Account balances, both positive and negative, follow students from year to year. Balances can be checked online using "Parent Connect". If you do not currently have access, contact the Secretary.

ALL NEGATIVE BALANCES MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOUR CHILD CAN PURCHASE ANY FOOD.

Charges—If your child forgets his/her lunch or lunch money he/she will be extended the maximum

of two (2) courtesy meals. Students who continue to come for lunch without enough money to pay for lunch will receive a cheese sandwich and milk until the negative balance is paid. Please pay promptly so your child can receive the meal offered on the menu.

2014-2015 Pricing
Breakfast \$1.25 (\$0.30 reduced)

Lunch \$2.70 (reduced \$0.40)

Dress Code

The primary function of a school is to develop a student: academically, socially, and emotionally. Student dress should not come into competition or conflict with this goal. Studies have shown that behavior is influenced by how students are dressed. Proper dress promotes a positive self-image. Please dress your student appropriately to learn. The following guidelines will be used in all Woodhaven-Brownstown Elementary Schools.

- **Hats, caps and bandanas** are not worn in school at any time.
- **Jeans or Pants:** Rips in jeans and/or pants may not be more than 5 inches above the crease in the back of the knee. Pajama pants or see-through materials are not allowed.
- **Shorts** are allowed in August, September, May and June unless otherwise designated by the principal. Shorts must be at least 5" from the crease in the back of the knee. No jogging shorts, cut offs or spandex shorts allowed.
- **Skirts:** skirts must be no more than 5 inches above the crease in the back of the knee and slits in skirts must be not more than 5 inches above the crease in the back of the knee.
- **Shirts:** No tank tops, no see-through, mesh, or mid-torso length shirts.
- **Dresses:** No tank or spaghetti straps. They must be modest and an appropriate length.
- **Shoes and Boots:** Tennis shoes are required for gym classes. They should be white soled, as the black soled tennis shoes mark up the gym floor. Turf shoes and spiked shoes are not allowed. Socks must be worn to school. Sandals must have back ankle straps and be worn with socks. Boots are encouraged for rainy and snowy days, but shoes must be brought to school for classroom use. Shoes with wheels inserted in them should not be worn to school.



For kids, coping with difficult situations and people are tough everyday problems that never go away – problems they must learn to handle in order to protect themselves and learn lifelong conflict resolution skills.

Learning how to deal with these problems is a core skill that your students need now, and will use throughout their lives.

Once again we will utilize the Be Cool program to help our students gain the skills needed to successfully cope when faced with difficult problems.

The Be Cool program includes a video and discussion series including the following topics:

- 1) Coping with Criticism
- 2) Coping with Teasing
- 3) Coping with Bullying
- 4) Coping with Anger

Don't be HOT

Don't be Cold

"BE COOL"

Join our PTO!

Gudith Elementary School has a very active PTO. You are encouraged to be a part of the action. Highlights of our yearly events include: Santa's Workshop, Pizza Bingo, Parent/Child Banquets, Ice Cream Social and a host of other activities. Whether your time is plentiful or limited or if you're crafty and resourceful we need your help! Please join us on September 10th at 6:00p.m. to check out the fun and be a part of a dynamic organization that is vital to our overall success!

Rosa Caldwell, President
 Jessica Stahl, Vice President
 Barb Parkham, Treasurer
 Pam Vasquez, Secretary

Box Tops for Education

Big G Box Tops for Education is a fund raiser program from General Mills that helps pay for a variety of school needs. The funds go towards various extra supplies, field trips and programs throughout the school! Simply save the Box Tops for Education logo from the following products:

☺ General Mills	☺ Betty Crocker	☺ Chex Cereals
☺ Fruit by the Foot	☺ Sunrise	☺ Gushers
☺ Lucky Charms	☺ Fruit Snacks	☺ Trix
☺ Fruit Roll-Ups	☺ Golden Grahams	☺ Buckaroos Kix
☺ Betty Crocker Mixes	☺ Oatmeal Crisp	☺ Multipack Yogurt
☺ Hamburger Helper	☺ Wheaties	☺ Tuna Helper
☺ Bisquick	☺ Suddenly Salad	☺ Loyds BBQ Buckets
☺ Yoplait	☺ Go-Gurt	

ALL Fund raising dollars support student activities!

We have a very active PTO.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month.

WE NEED YOU!

Thanks to the Campbell's Soup Company, the "Labels for Education" program has helped support our media and computer education programs. Because so many families use Campbell products, we are asking everyone to help by saving the labels. Please visit the Labels for Education website at <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/participating-products.aspx> for a list of participating products.

Positive Behavior Support—The Positive Behavior Support program is designed to further advance the social skills of our students and enhance our overall positive school climate.

Components of our PBS program include:

1. Weekly Prizes

- ✓ Students are awarded tickets for following expected behaviors and place them in their classroom bucket.
- ✓ Each Friday the teacher will draw winning tickets from the bucket to receive Grizzly prizes

2. Student of the Month

We are proud to continue our "Student of the Month" program this year.

- ✓ Students are nominated by their teacher and celebrated in front of their classmates during our monthly grade level assemblies for their good choices and model behavior throughout the month.
- ✓ Letters/certificates of acknowledgement are sent home to inform the parents of their students positive influence at school.

Grizzlies are: SAFE—RESPONSIBLE—RESPECTFUL!