



# The Eagle Times: Middle School Edition



October 2017 Issue

Gila Crossing Middle School

## School Wide News

Every Friday dismissal is  
@12:30 pm

Oct.5-Parent Teacher Conference  
1 pm-6 pm

Early dismissal @12:30 pm

Oct.5-Breakfast with the Principal  
@9 am

Oct.9-13-Fall Break

Oct.16-No School-

Professional Development

Oct.31-Halloween Parade

Ms. Molina, Ms. Yalencia  
& Mr. Tolbert  
5th Grade

We're pleased to welcome Dr. Tolbert to the 5th Grade team! Dr. Tolbert has been a great addition and has allowed us to keep our class sizes much smaller. This new split has allowed students to get more one on one attention.

We will be hosting parent/ teacher conferences next week and would love for all our parents and guardians to join us! This will allow many parents/guardians the opportunity to meet our new teacher as well as take a look at students' academic strengths and weaknesses.

5th grade has been working very hard and we all look forward to a much needed safe and restful fall break!!

8th Math  
Ms. Clark

The 8th grade has been working extremely hard this year, and have been making great progress. We are currently working on slope. We will be graphing, building, and creating equations based on slope. After we finish working on slope we will work on systems of equations.

## News from Administration

by: Mr. Copenhaver

I can't believe the 1st quarter of school has just ended. The time has flown by once again. I first want to thank everyone that attended and supported our Peter Piper Pizza night. We raised 830 dollars for our school on this day. I also want to invite everyone to Barro's night on 51st and Baseline which is on Monday, October 2nd. The time we get money back for our school is from 10 AM until 10:00 PM. Please come by to support our school. Finally, we have many events here at the school before fall Break. Please note dates and times.

The report cards from 1st quarter will be handed out at our Parent Teachers conferences on October 5th or sent home with the students on the 6th. Hope to see you at all these events.

7th Grade Math  
Ms. Antone-Morton

The 7th grade has been reviewing Order of Operations, rational numbers, absolute value, and being able to solve equations with positive and negative integers. We are looking forward to being able to solve multi-step equations.

## School Counseling

Mrs. Tang-Taylor  
520-550-4834 ext 253  
breonne.tangtaylor@gccseagles.org

### AUGUST STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Arya Pablo  
Miguel Rhodes  
Erica Pablo  
Spirit Percy

### SEPTEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Rose Lewis  
Sincere Antone  
Roy Lopez  
Kiyanna Charley

Congratulate these students on the exceptional progress they are making to represent Gila Crossing is a positive light.

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This past month there was a community service opportunity for students to earn up to 4 hours by participating in the "Yes 2 Life" poem, poetry and essay contest sponsored by the Gila River Tribal Education (TED).

We had winners who were recognized at an awards ceremony on September 25th. They were:

4th grade  
2nd place Art - Yancy Hernandez  
3rd place Art - Lillianna Lopez

6th grade  
1st place Essay - Alexis Juan  
2nd place Essay - Victor Enos  
3rd place Art - Victor Enos

Reminder all 5th - 8th graders are required to complete 10 hours of community service every school year.

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If you are ever in crisis please reach out for help:

GRIC Crisis Line - 1-800-259-3449  
Gila River Behavior Health Services:  
602-528-7100 or 520-562-3321 ext 7010  
www.grhc.org

### 6th Grade

Mrs. Ruiz, Mrs. Matus, & Ms. Muhammad

A special shout out to all of our 6th Grade Students and Parents who participated in our Family Night!

In Math we are digging into Integers!

*Integers are the set of whole numbers and their opposites. Author's Purpose... Ask your student about P I E.*

Please don't forget to attend Parent Teacher Conferences Next Thursday, Oct. 5th from 1 to 6 PM.

A special thank you to Stanley Miles for reading the Character Counts message everyday during announcements.

Congrats to Miguel Rhodes for being our 1st Students of the Month so far this year!

### Social Studies

by: Mr. Turnbow

In Social Studies the 7th grade will explore the aftermath of the Civil War through Reconstruction and Industrialization. Meanwhile in the 8th grade we will conclude our American Revolution unit and explore how this led to the writing of the Constitution and the formation of our government.

### Words from Mrs. Salguero & Mrs. Olivas

We are excited about Fall being here! The weather is getting cooler, so we are planning to cover information on all four seasons using poems. We will have fun exploring the different genres of poetry and developing understanding of figurative language. As we finish 1st quarter with many achievements, we are excited to share their work with you on October 5th for Parent Teacher Conference from 1-7.

### The Reading Corner

Mrs. Bowers & Mrs. Ford

You may have seen your child come home with a brand new book last month! Each student who has perfect attendance (zero absences and no tardies or early check-outs) for the month will get to choose a brand new book of his/her choice! We want the students to build their libraries at home. Please encourage your children to read at home!

*'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.'*  
~ Dr. Seuss ~



### Middle School Nurse News (For Grades 5-8)

By: Nurse Collette

Please check your student's backpack often for communication from the Nurse Office. Over the next couple weeks, you will be receiving 2 important envelopes. One will be the results of the Annual School Health Screenings that were completed in September. The other will be information and consents for the school flu clinic which will be coming up soon. Dates still to be determined. Annual flu shots are strongly encouraged for everyone 6 months of age and older.

### News from Music

by: Mr. Stein

As this quarter comes to a close, I've been pleased and impressed with the progress that many of our MS students have made with their keyboard skills. GO EAGLES! The 2 week blocks of instruction seem to be the reason why. As far as our singing goes, I am looking forward to combining grade levels on our patriotic songs for the Veterans' Day Assemblies in November. I hope to see many family members and friends present for this concert.

### Student Council

Ms. McQueen and Mrs. Tang-Taylor



Our Student Council Students are on the move with being an active group on the GCCS campus.

#### 2017 - 2018 Elected Officers:

President - Annie Hernandez  
Vice President - Olivia Bread  
Secretary - Spirit Percy  
Treasurer - Adrian Carrillo  
Sargeant At Arms - Angel Butler

In August, the Student Council President and Vice President promoted the 1st Peter Piper Pizza Night for GCCS by inviting families out in a video that was distributed on various media outlets.

In September, along with other students, the Student Council assisted with the Native American Day meal (09/19) by being servers to students and to the community. They assisted with delivery of over 200 meals to classrooms for grade K-3 in order to ensure that these students had lunch in a timely manner while the festivities in the cafeteria were going on.

The Student Council has also starred in multiple 1 minute videos to remind the community about Parent Teacher Conferences, Barros Pizza Night and Spirit Week.

Stay tuned and help support these students as they strive to be influencers of change for our school and community.

### Language Arts

7th Grade  
Ms. Anderson

Great job on a successful 1st quarter! The students have shown amazing effort in all that they've accomplished thus far, and I hope that it continues throughout the year. We have completed our unit on plot and setting. Next, we'll be emphasizing character analysis and point of view, while reading *Holes*, written by Louis Sachar.

## Math Matters

Mr. Murdock

Ms. Fowler

Our new math curriculum is being taught across grades K-6. Those grade bands are also continuing to teach target skills practices to students during Walk To Math class. I have seen some really great things going on so far this year and will continue to work with teachers to strengthen math instruction.

Math interventions are also ongoing with specific 3-6 grade students.

Please call Mr Murdock if you would like to discuss ways to help in your student's math activities at home.

## Technology

By: Mr. Buckles

Grades 3-8 are all working on typing skills. Both accuracy and speed are essential to reaching grade level targets.

Top Q-score for each grade:  
3rd-Nathan Hernandez 246, 4th-Laura Flores 248, 5th- Jeriah Thomas 258, 6th- Richard Francisco 264, 7th- Tiauna Barehand 265, 8th- Angel Navasie 270.

Grades K-2 are working on mouse and keyboard skills. The web-site ABCya has many fun activities to practice these skills.

## Special Education

Ms. Jones

Parent conferences will be coming up soon. We encourage you to visit with your children's teachers, including all the special teachers. If your child receives special education services, you will be receiving a progress report from the special education teacher. This report addresses the IEP goals. Whenever you have concerns or any questions, please contact me or your student's special education teacher.

Have a refreshing and relaxing fall break! It will finally start to cool off during the day!

## Success Academy

Mr. Twitchell, Dr. Holzer & Mr. Flores

Success Academy is attempting to reduce repeat referrals by students and to decrease numbers of student days lost to suspension. We are taking many actions to work towards this goal. Here are several of those actions: first, we are counseling students while they are in Success Academy on choosing different actions when they are experiencing frustration and/or anger; next, we are working with all school staff to ensure that students are supervised appropriately to prevent misbehavior; and students are encouraged to behave positively through posters with slogans and rewards for exemplary behavior.

## Athletic News

Mr. Hernandez

&

Ms. Molina

*What an amazing first season of sports we had here at Gila Crossing. Congratulations to both the Girl's Volleyball and Flag Football team for securing 2nd place in the league. Our next sports up are going to be Girl's Basketball & Boy's Soccer. NOW is a good time to get those Physicals turned in and your grades picked up if you are needing to. Let's make this next season an amazing season.*

**GO EAGLES!!!!**

## News from the Library

Mrs. McQueen

Sara Dillon

We are going to have a  
**SPOOKTACULAR**  
October  
Reading Fest

We will be reading Edgar Allen Poe. Some of his writings are pretty weird and goolish. We will be acting some of his poetry for those who dare. We will also highlight Goosebumps and Stories to tell in the Dark.

Language Arts

8th Grade

By: Sherri Miller

What a great start for our 8th graders. This is the last stretch of our elementary and middle school years before we make our way into high school. In language arts, there are 67 common core standards that students are working diligently to master. Please continue to send your student on a daily basis with necessary supplies.

## Science

By Renee Sullivan

Science Students will continue to work on locating multiple research sources related to a question and distinguish between reliable and unreliable resources. Both 7th and 8th grade students will engage in Science experiments which consist of chemical reactions and present their findings.

## News from Garden

by: Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Van Druff

We had an amazing first quarter learning about Mosquitoes, seeds and how to read a seed packet. This quarter we will be focusing on the fall season and what specific types of plants and vegetables need to be planted during the Fall month of October. We are hoping to get into the garden with some activities and learn more about the agricultural process.



**SPOOKY READING !!!!!!!**

**Culture Corner  
Miss. Joyce & Ms. Parsons**

**“Shap ai masma, Shap ai Chuig!”  
“Mxothik?”**

**“It is a good day to be Indigenous”**

The GCCS Culture Program is trying, on a trial basis, a new schedule where a class will come to culture every day for two weeks. Since August 1<sup>st</sup> to date, Pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grades students have been to the culture classroom, this makes 26 groups that have had two weeks of lessons.

The Culture teachers have been busy reviewing Days of the Week, Months in O’otham, and Time with the students. If you want to have fun and learn at the same time, ask your children what the O’otham word is in any topics mentioned above. Help us teach your children so they can go over it with you, or they can teach you.

The culture program has also started the *Wijiḍ Mashchammakuḍ Ñe’etham ch Chuthktham A’al*/Gila Crossing School Singers and Dancers. The group is looking forward to active culture awareness learning through practicing and sharing singing and dancing.

The Culture Program invites you to visit the class and staff will appreciate your involvement on any suggestions, such as subjects you want your child to learn, or with comments and corrections regarding Culture Way of Life and Language at any time.

**We hope to see you.**

**“Man tho va em ñei.”  
“Nyyuunthxa.”**

**“Every minute is good to be  
Indigenous”**

**News from P.E.**

**by: Ms. Haywood**

**Guess what? We are already a quarter down. I hope you all are excited about getting stronger and being ready for the next level.**

**Taking care of our bodies will be one of the most important jobs we have. The earlier we know what to do.....the earlier we have to get it in “tip top” condition, and keep it that way. Make sure you are doing your fitness assignments everyday until you see me again! You are awesome! Go hard and watch the results.**