



Grand Ridge Grade School

NEWSLETTER

Week of Dec. 2 - 8, 2018

400 W. Main Street
Grand Ridge, IL 61325

Ted Sanders, Supt. — Terry Ahearn, Principal
"Large enough to educate you, small enough to know you."

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A Few Words from Mr. Sanders . . .

"Opportunity for distinction lies in doing ordinary things extraordinarily well."— American Proverb

It's about time to turn another page on the calendar. Maybe it's just the amount of busy activity that happens, or maybe as we get older time seems to speed up; whatever the case, it is hard to believe we are about to enter December (unless you look outside at the snow covering the ground, I suppose). The year is going very quickly and we have already passed midterms for the 2nd quarter. Before you know it, that Jolly Old Man in the big red suit will be making his annual fly-by.

To many people finding a level of wisdom and distinction in some field of their choosing is an important life goal. In the proverb above the keys to that success are made plain. There is a lot to be said about having patience and staying focused on your goals, having endurance to win the race, fighting the good fight, and learning to enjoy the journey; but one of the simplest and most straight-forward ways to find distinction in something you love is simply to do the ordinary things with extraordinary skill. So what does that look like, you may ask? Let's look at a few examples.

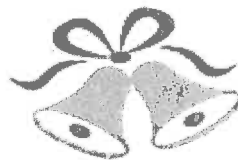
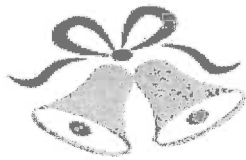
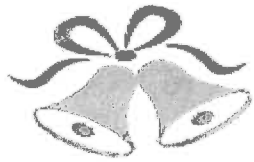
In 1952 there was a terrible outbreak of polio in the United States. Every summer parents were scared to death of the potential of their children contracting this horrible disease that could lead to paralysis. Many people still remember the frightening time throughout those years and before when children would hardly play outside with others for fear of spreading the disease. At just this time a young man with a medical background emerged. He was not satisfied in the field as a physician and had spent his life studying and researching. He did not feel his calling was in the day to day service of patients. Jonas Salk accepted an appointment to the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine and was given the task of developing a way of counting and disseminating the numerous variations of the polio virus. However, Salk was more interested in discovering a vaccine to eliminate polio. He assembled a team and they went about the work of creating the vaccine and vaccinating close to 2 million children. Salk and his team were considered miracle workers, and to this day Polio has almost been eradicated. How did they do it?.....through doing ordinary lab work (among other things) extraordinarily well.

Mother Teresa was born in obscurity, and little is known about her early life. As she grew she became interested in becoming a nun and was given the opportunity to learn in Ireland. After several months of training she was assigned missionary work in India, which would be the focus of her life thereafter. When she arrived her assignment was to be a teacher; but as Mother Teresa saw the depths of poverty and deprivation she was greatly moved to do more for the poor and suffering. She devoted her entire life to that service, to the point of having to beg for her own needs as she helped to serve those around her. She touched thousands and thousands of lives by simply feeding people who were hungry, taking care of the sick, and helping to meet the clothing needs of those without the means. She was famous for saying, "*Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.*" And that is very similar to the quote above.

Small things turn into big things. A simple lab experiment done well with great care can be the next miracle to save millions from disease. Taking time to do small things with great love can turn into a mission that saves millions from starvation and hunger. Remember, all the example we need is in the oak tree. What starts as a tiny seed, smaller than a coin, can become a large tree with strong branches that lasts for generations. When planted well and cared for, the smallest things can become the greatest. So take care in doing ordinary things with great skill and with great love.

****Christmas Program Grades K,1,2- Thursday, December 6
@ 6:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room**

****Winter Concert- Thursday, December 13 @ 6:30 p.m. in the
Multipurpose Room
(Fifth grade Choir, JH Choir, and Band will perform.)**



Grand Ridge CCSD #95 Parent Survey

Reason for Survey:

Periodically it is important for the school district to survey parents and community members to help inform decision-making. As part of this process we have developed an electronic survey that can be taken on your computer or mobile device. The answers we receive from this survey will help us in making decisions for the school and the children of Grand Ridge. The opinions of our community, parents, and guardians are very important to us.

How to Access the Survey

There will be several ways to access the survey online:

- **Use the information at the bottom of this sheet to take the survey. Simply read and follow the instructions for taking the survey, submit, and you are done!**
- **Parents and Guardians who gave us an email address in the registration packet will be invited via email to participate in the survey**
- **The instructions and link for the survey will be added to our webpage at grgs95.org.**
- **The weekly newsletter will also include all of the information for accessing the survey.**
- **If you need help taking the survey, we will have a station set up in the main office of the school for parents and community members to log in and take the survey. Call ahead to set up an appointment!**

Timeline for Results

After taking the survey during the month of November, we will compile the data and meet with our District Vision Committee in January. The committee will help us to determine priorities from the survey results and will give the Board of Education the information to use in helping to set our long-range goals for the school. We will share the results in future publications of our newsletter and on our website www.grgs95.org, so make sure to watch for updates!

Access the Survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N8JBSK6>



Grand Ridge Grade School Community Survey

Grand Ridge District 95 is issuing a community survey for everyone in the Grand Ridge school district. We want your input and will use your comments and survey results to help direct and guide our decision-making. There are a couple different ways to access the survey:

1. Go to our website: www.grgs95.org and click on the community survey link. Follow the directions when you are prompted.
2. If you would like to take the survey on your device or phone, you may enter the survey into your browser bar at this address:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/JKRLQMQ

Thank you again for taking time to fill out our brief survey that takes less than 10 minutes. For any questions please call the office at 815-249-6225.

Calendar of Events

Mon. Dec. 3 - Santa's Secret Shop

Tues. Dec. 4 - Santa's Secret Shop

Wed. Dec. 5 - 2:20 Dismissal
 7/8 Boys Basketball @ TCA 5:00 p.m.
 8th Grade Girls Basketball Sectionals
 6:00 p.m. PTO Meeting
 Santa's Secret Shop

Thur. Dec. 6 - 7th Grade Girls Basketball State
 6:00 p.m. Christmas Program K, 1, 2
 Santa's Secret Shop

Fri. Dec. 7 - Santa's Secret Shop

Sat. Dec. 8 - 8th Grade Girls Basketball state

Special Birthdays

Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec. 4 Arya Shah Sacora Pratt	Dec. 5 Parker Poundstone	Dec. 6	Dec. 7 Bianca Reilly Xander Shelton	Dec. 8 Keiran Black
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PLEASE NOTE:
 MENU IS SUBJECT TO
 CHANGE WITH
 AVAILABILITY

Lunch Menu

	Monday Dec. 3	Tuesday Dec. 4	Wednesday Dec. 5	Thursday Dec. 6	Friday Dec. 7
Breakfast Menu	Cereal PB Toast Fruit Juice	Cereal Pop Tart Fruit Juice	Frudel Fruit Juice	Honey Maid Yogurt Fruit Juice	Cereal String Cheese Fruit Juice
Lunch Menu	Spaghetti Salad w/ Dressing Pears Bread / Butter	Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Goldfish Crackers Applesauce	Walking Taco Lettuce & Cheese Cup Cowboy Salsa Orange Smiles	Turkey Wrap w/ Lettuce & Cheese Green Beans Fruit Cheese Puffs Condiments	Grilled Chicken w/ Cheese on Bun Curly Fries Fresh Fruit Condiments

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Santa's Secret Shop	4	5 7/8 Boys Basketball @ TCA 5:00 p.m. 8th Grade Girls Basketball Sectionals Dismiss 2:20 6p PTO	6 7th Grade Girls Basketball State 6p Christmas Program K, 1, 2	7	8 8th Grade Girls Basketball State
9	10 PBIS Store 5/6 Boys Basketball vs TCA 5:00 p.m. 7/8 Boys Basketball @ Flanagan 5:30 p.m.	11 5/6 Boys Basketball vs Central 5:00 p.m. 7p School Board Mtg	12 Dismiss 2:20 p.m.	13 8th Grade Girls Basketball State 6:30p Christmas Program Grades 5 - 8	14	15
16	17 5/6 Boys Basketball @ Lincoln 5:00 p.m.	18 5/6 Boys Basketball vs Marquette 5:00 p.m. 7/8 Boys Basketball @ Deer Park 5:00 p.m.	19 Dismiss 2:20 p.m. 12p Senior Lunch	20 7/8 Boys Basketball vs Waltham 5:00 p.m.	21 Dismiss 11:50 a.m.	22
23	24 Christmas Vacation Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28 5th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament Holy Family	29
30 Christmas Vacation	31 New Years Eve					

Santa's Secret Shop

We are having our annual PTO Santa's Secret Shop December 3-7 for all grades during school hours. The children will have an opportunity to shop for great Christmas presents at low prices for their families and pets. The teachers will sign up their homeroom to shop and let the students know when they will be doing their shopping. The gifts will be bagged and ready to put under your Christmas tree.

To volunteer to help the kids shop, purchase, or bag their gifts, please call or text Paula Krohe at (815) 257-3772. It is such a rewarding experience to see the children's excitement and joy when they can give to others.

The list below is especially helpful when volunteers assist the younger children while they shop and wrap their gifts. Gift items are priced \$.25 - \$3.00. If necessary, please help your children budget and make their lists using the following:

My Shopping List

Relative/name:

I can spend:

1.

\$

2.

\$

3.

\$

4.

\$

5.

\$

~Names may be added for larger families.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!



Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Saturday, Dec 1, 9 - 11 am
Farm Ridge TWP Hall in Grand Ridge

Admission: Please bring a non-perishable food item
for the Grand Ridge District Emergency Fund Food Drive.

*KIDS! Bring letters to Santa! Mail Box will be at the Hall
All letters must be received by Dec. 15
so Santa has time to answer all your letters before Christmas.*



Sponsored by The Grand Ridge Community Fest, a Registered 501(c)3