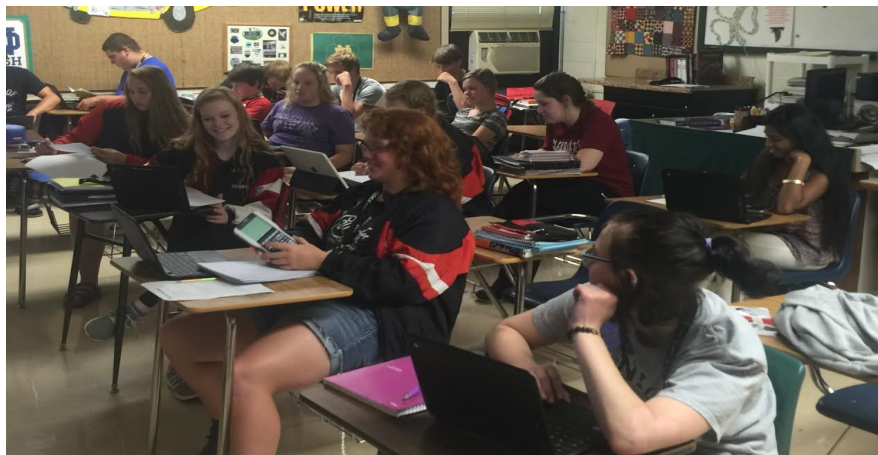




Falcon Flyer

ONLINE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY AT GCMS HIGH SCHOOL

GCMS is partnering with Parkland College for a dual credit Statistics class this fall. It's a bit different than our other dual credit offerings in that its delivery method is primarily online. A Parkland instructor is teaching the class and his material is supplemented by one of our math teachers, Susan Riley. The students are assigned to her classroom during 8th hour where they have use of one of our Chromebook portable labs. The class is self-paced where students read material online and may choose to have small group discussions of topics with Miss Riley or they may work by themselves on the online quizzes. All work is completed in an online format and students will travel to Parkland for the final exam in December. Students who successfully complete the course will earn 3 hours of credit in MAT 108 from Parkland College.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Most of our students' textbooks are available online.

- * Go to www.gcmsk12.org
- * Click on "Ebooks" under the "Quick Links"
- * Find the link for the book you need to access
- * Check with your students' teachers for the specific logins to each ebook.

BUILDING MATH SKILLS AT HOME

The positive attitude parents exhibit about math at home is easily transferred to the student's attitude in the classroom. You can set your student up for success as a mathematician by modeling your thinking for them. Talk out loud about your thinking as you work through a problem and show them that there are always multiple ways to get to the right answer.

There are many different websites and apps available to families which offer opportunities to reinforce math skills at home. Many GCMS teachers recommend the website Xtramath.org because it provides individualized activities for each student. Parents can setup and monitor accounts for their children for free by visiting the website.

Kahn Academy is also often recommended by GCMS math teachers. Students and parents can watch short, informative videos on the Kahn Academy website which address specific math skills and strategies. High school Algebra teacher, Heather Killian, states, "When students tell me that they are struggling with the homework at night, I recommend that they search for videos of people using the skill on Kahn Academy. Watching other people practice in the videos helps our students picture themselves solving the problems".

FREE E-BOOKS AVAILABLE THROUGH GCMS DIGITAL LIBRARY

Data from the 2015 Fall Survey of GCMS Families showed that 50% of students 'sometimes' read on an electronic device. E-Reading devices have become more popular in recent years and many students even prefer to read on their phones. Purchasing books through services such as iTunes and Amazon can become expensive for students who read a lot!

The GCMS Middle and High School Libraries offer students the ability to download free e-books through the GCMS Digital Library. Hundreds of new and popular novel selections are available for checkout. Recent additions to the collection include: *Caged Warrior*, *DNA Analysis*, and *Prisoner of Night and Fog*.

A link to the digital library can be found by clicking on the E-Books label at www.gcmsk12.org. Or the Overdrive can be downloaded from the app store (after downloading, go to "Add a Library" in the menu tab and search for "GCMS"). Students need their Library Card Numbers in order to access the digital library. Card numbers can be obtained at the front desk in each library.

Please call the front office of your student's school to schedule a conference for Oct. 19 or Oct. 20.

October 7: Homecoming Football Game
October 10: Columbus Day
October 14: End Quarter 1
October 19: 2:20 Student Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences
October 19: PSAT Testing at the High School for 9th-11th graders
October 20: 2:20 Student Dismissal for Parent Teacher Conferences
October 20: Author Visits at Elementary and Middle Schools
October 21: No School
October 24: Teacher Institute Day
October 31-November 4: Red Ribbon Week (Grandparent Visits)
November 3: Family STEAM Night at the Elementary School
November 11: Veteran's Day Assembly and 11:30 Student Dismissal
November 22: 2:20 Dismissal
November 23-27: Thanksgiving Break

