



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES - (Every Monday is Early Dismissal at 1:56 pm)

February	19 – 23	PRESIDENT’S WEEK – NO SCHOOL
	28	GOMS Sexual Health Education – Parent Preview Night, Multi at 6pm
March	1	Spring Picture Day
	16	Career Day
		End of 3rd Quarter
	26-30	SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL

Attendance Matters!

Our efforts to improve attendance district wide has prompted a special February Attendance Matters campaign in February. Families will be receiving friendly reminders as well as seeing District Social Media posts surrounding the importance of daily attendance and the impact attendance has on student success.

Our attendance campaign in February is a friendly reminder that Attendance Matters!

For a fun, yet informative video starring some fantastic principals and our Superintendent: [CLICK HERE](#)
10 Facts About School Attendance You Might Not know: [CLICK HERE](#)

We are also using valuable information from Attendance Works, a national and state initiative that pushes for better policy and practice to improve school attendance and student success.

GOMS Sexual Health Education – Parent Preview Night

The RUSD Board of Trustees, upon recommendation from a committee of parents, teachers, nurses, and district administrators, has recently adopted Positive Prevention Plus as the seventh-grade Comprehensive Sexual Health Education in compliance with the "California Healthy Youth Act" (AB 329). The curriculum will present information based on current scientific evidence which empowers students to make healthy decisions, recognizing the family as the primary provider of information regarding healthy relationships. All teachers participated in a 2-day training to ensure effective implementation of the 13 lesson curriculum. The parent preview night will be held on February 28, 2018, from 6-7p.m. in the GOMS multi-purpose room. The curriculum binders will also be available for viewing in the front office March 1-9, 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Dress Code

As the weather gets warmer, it is important to once again remind students and their families that the following clothing is prohibited as they are not conducive to a positive learning environment:

- Pajamas
- Skirts or shorts worn shorter than mid-thigh
- Tank tops, off the shoulder shirts, tube tops, halter tops and see through blouses (tank tops must have straps wider than 2 inches)
- Crop tops and any shirt that shows the stomach (even when hands are raised)
- Visible undergarments (including straps from lace bralettes, bandeaus, and sports bras)
- Frayed, holed or torn clothing which is revealing

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to change and, depending on the number of violations, can be subject to detention and/or merit loss. Students who refuse to change may be subject to disciplinary consequences. Please review pages 18-19 of the student handbook with your child for more detailed information using your Aeries Parent Portal access.



Granite Oaks is looking for someone to coach Boys Volleyball in the Spring. The season is from early March to early May. This is a paid position.

Anyone interested can contact Mr. Ryan at jryan@rocklinusd.org

SPRING PICTURE DAY – Thursday, March 1, 2018

This is an option picture day that will be held during your student's lunch time. They are to report to the Multipurpose room at the start of their lunch if they are taking Spring Pictures. To order, please go online to:

https://my.lifetouch.com/mylifetouch/#/pictureDayId/CR057521Q0?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=DTC_Pp_Pr1_S18&utm_content=undefined

Enter Picture ID: CR057521Q0

Yearbook

Purchase your yearbook for \$55.

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK ONLINE at: <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A01005442>

Parents - If your GOMS student participated in or attended any of these events this year, we would LOVE to have a photo for the upcoming yearbook: International travel, Quarry Bowl/ Quarry Cup, GOMS dance Team
Please send the photos to: cwillson@rocklinusd.org



JOIN GRANITE OAKS STUDENTS, STAFF AND FAMILIES IN A MORNING OF EXERCISE AND FUN

Granite Oaks Physical Education has another big "TEAM" participating in the annual RUN ROCKLIN. This event takes place Sunday, April 8th, 2018. Proceeds benefit the Matt Redding Memorial Scholarship- serving Rocklin students.

ANYONE can join our "Team" – students, staff, parents, siblings... anyone! There are no meetings or practices, but you do get a shirt with our team name printed on the back. Just Click Register Now, View Teams and Search Granite Oaks Phys Ed on the following link: <http://www.runrocklin.com> RUNNERS AND WALKERS OF ALL SPEEDS WELCOME!

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to be a presenter for our **CAREER DAY** scheduled for Friday, March 16, 2018 at Granite Oaks Middle School.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CAREER DAY HAS BEEN CHANGED TO FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018.

Here is a quick overview of what Career Day is like. We begin the morning at 8:00am with a continental breakfast. Presentations will start at 8:45am and end at 11:30am. Speakers will give their presentations to four consecutive classes, each class lasting about 30 minutes (20 minutes of prepared presentation and 5-10 min of Q & A). Lunch will be provided for all guests/speakers starting at 11:30am. Spots fill up rather quickly, so if this is something you are interested in being apart of, please let me know as soon as you can so I can reserve your spot.

If you know of someone else that would be interested in volunteering, please feel free to send this email to them and have them contact Julie Kilkeny directly at: jkilkenny@rocklinusd.org

Help Your Child Succeed in School
School success goes hand in hand with being in school every day!

Did You Know?

- **Many absences, even in kindergarten,** can cause children to fall behind in school.
- **Missing just a day or two every month can make it harder to learn** to read by the third grade.
- **Students with too many absences struggle to catch up,** even with take-home assignments.
- **All families have hopes and dreams for their children.** Being in school every day will enable children to do well in school, and graduate from high school ready for work or college.

What Can You Do?

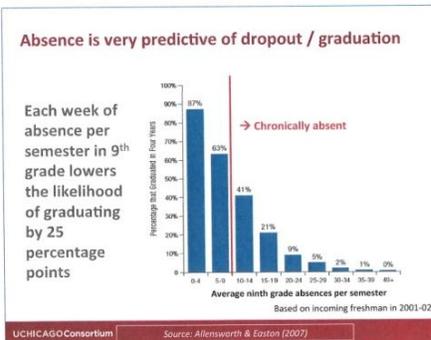
- **Develop a regular bedtime** and morning routine.
- **Help your child lay out clothes and pack backpacks** the night before.
- **Make sure your child has the required shots** before school starts.
- **Avoid missing school unless a child is truly sick and seek help if chronic illness is a challenge.** Check with our school nurse or office staff if you are not sure about when to keep your child at home due to illness.
- **If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other families for advice** on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- **Reach out to a family member, a neighbor, or another parent** if you are having trouble getting your student to school.
- **Arrange medical appointments** when school is not in session.
- **Avoid extended vacations** when school is in session.

Find more about school readiness and tips for helping families address chronic absence on the Attendance Works website: <http://www.attendanceworks.org/>

Let families know that you care about their child and believe they can do well in school, but you are concerned that their child has begun to fall behind in his studies because he or she has missed so many days of school so far this year. Tell them how many days the student has missed.

What to Say to Families of Teens

- **Almost all parents have hopes and dreams for their children.** Consider asking them to share their dreams for their child. Let them know that being in school every day will enable their child to do well in school, graduate ready for the work force or go on to college.
- **Ask them if they know that students who miss as little as two days a month are at risk** of not graduating from high school.
- **Tell them that even strong students with good grades in elementary school can quickly fall off course** in middle and high school if they miss a few classes. Lessons build on one another and move more quickly in the upper grades. They risk failing their classes!
- **Let them know that while it may not seem like it, students can't make up for too many absences** with take-home assignments.
- **Suggest that the parents talk to their teen about being in school every day.** Many teens don't think it matters to skip a class during the day, but it does.
- **Help caregivers to identify what the barriers might be that keep their child from getting to school.** Is the student staying home during the day to watch a younger sibling? Is she concerned about bullying? Ask them what approaches might help them address these challenges.
- **Be sensitive when talking about tough challenges families may be facing,** such as a lack of access to health care or food, as well as unstable housing or poor transportation. Parents may feel embarrassed or ashamed about not being able to provide for their children. If your school has this information, offer to put the family in touch with resources that offer help for the whole family.



Dear Parent/Guardian:

This note is part of a special 'Attendance Matters' campaign we are doing district-wide in February! Our goal, as you know, this year is to ensure that every student attends school regularly.

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school - regardless of the reason - it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent - which means missing 18 or more days over the course of an entire school year. Research shows:

Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.

By 6th grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.

By 9th grade, good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every months!

Clearly going to school regularly matters!

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.

Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before. Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.

Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.

Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.

Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information please contact us.

Sincerely,
 Jay Holmes, Principal

High School Information for GOMS 8th Grade Parents

1. Friday, February 16, 2018

To prepare the 8th graders for high school, Granite Oaks counselors will present about diploma requirements, college entrance requirements, and the course selection process for freshman year. We will see all 8th grade academies in the multi for one class period.

2. Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Counselors from each high school (WHS and RHS) will be on the Granite Oaks campus. Students will be assigned to a classroom during academy time based on the high school they should attend per AERIES to hear the presentations. Students will be given a COURSE REQUEST FORM (gold for Whitney HS and blue for Rocklin HS) for them to complete for their class choices, including advanced level course requests. Students requesting advanced courses will need a signature of recommendation from their current 8th grade teacher.

In addition, instructions will be given on how to access the student AERIES Portal to input their course selections. It is expected that students will complete this on their own with their parents at home. COURSE REQUEST FORMS must then be turned into homeroom teacher by March 16, 2018.

Granite Oaks counselors will be available in the library every day from March 12-16 during 8th grade lunch to assist any students who need support with accessing the portal and making course requests.

Granite Oaks counselors will also be available in the computer lab after school on Tuesday, March 13 from 3:15-5:00 for any parent who wishes to have support for accessing their student's portal to request courses.

Attached is a copy of the Course Request Forms for your reference only. There is no need to print this form for use unless your student loses the form given to them on February 27th.

[Whitney High School Course request form](#)

[Rocklin High School Course request form](#)

3. Monday, March 5, 2018

High School Showcase Night - both High Schools will host an evening of orientation for parents and students. The agenda includes tours, elective information, and presentations on the course selection process. ALL students who plan to attend WHS or RHS should plan to attend the evening with their parent/guardian.

[Rocklin High School Showcase Flyer](#)

[Whitney High School Showcase Flyer](#)

4. March 6-16

[AERIES Student Portal](#) will be open for students to input their HS course selections.

If your student has not already created their Aeries Portal, here are step-by-step instructions on how to do that. They will also receive an email from the high school to remind them to create their portal. That can be done at any time prior to the course selection window (March 6-16).

[Aeries Portal creation handout](#)

Need some guidance on entering course requests in the Student portal?

[Step by step Video](#) (Instructions found toward the end of the video)

or

[PowerPoint instructions](#)

5. March 16

Final deadline for inputting course requests into the student portal.

COURSE REQUEST FORMS are due to homeroom teachers.