



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

April 16 - RUSD Phase 2 Distance Learning Program Begins

April 22 - 8th Grade Educational Plan/Elective Selection Worksheets emailed

May 1 - 8th Grade Educational Plan/Elective Selection Worksheets Due

Order your yearbook online NOW! [CLICK HERE TO ORDER YEARBOOK](#)

Dear GOMS Families,

The GOMS staff hope that you and your family are happy and healthy during our current COVID 19 shut down. We have now commenced with our RUSD Phase 2 distance learning program. Our teachers have spent many hours preparing meaningful lessons and activities for our students. We recognize that every family has different constraints regarding distance learning and are here to help you mitigate any issues that your family may be facing during this difficult time. Please encourage your student to take part and put as much effort as they can into our new distance learning program. Our GOMS staff is heavily invested in the learning for your student and will be placing assignments, schedules, and office hours for student support in Schoology. Again, we know that families have different abilities and constraints during our RUSD Phase 2 distance learning and we are here to help and support families during this difficult time. Please reach out to your students' teacher if you have any questions or you can email the GOMS Leadership Team and counseling team. Stay healthy and happy!

Best wishes to you and your family,

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Message from the Library

Announcing our first-ever Granite Oaks Virtual Book Club! Starting next week, you can join Mrs. Mangels for a lunchtime book club! Join the Google Meet, talk about books, and sit back and enjoy being read to again. Mrs. Mangels will share some of her favorite books, beginning with *Savvy*, by Ingrid Law. *Savvy* is the story of 13-year-old Mib who comes into a super power on her birthday. Meetings will be on Wednesdays and Fridays at noon, beginning on April 22. "See" you there!

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/eaz-mpub-uaa>
Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 409-923-0229 and enter this PIN: 198 338 328#

GOMS COUNSELOR CORNER - April 17th, 2020

Hello Falcon Families!

Even though there are many changes happening, some things remain the same at Granite Oaks Middle School. One of those things is our important task of creating your soon-to-be 8th grade student's schedule for next year. The following are the dates/deadlines to help us facilitate the elective request/selection process:



Wednesday, April 22

2020-21 8th Grade Educational Plan/Elective Selection Worksheets will be emailed to our current 7th grade/soon-to-be 8th grade families. This is the form that your student will use to rank their choices for electives. We highly encourage you to have your student submit this form by the due date, otherwise they could be placed in an elective that they may not be interested in. Please note that the counseling staff will do their best to place your student into their preferred elective class choice. However, due to class offerings/class size limitations, this is not always possible.

Friday, May 1

Due Date for 8th Grade Educational Plan/Elective Selection Worksheets

Phase II of Distance Learning began yesterday and hopefully, we are all settling into this new temporary "normal". We hope you are all staying not only physically healthy, but also taking care of your mental health needs. While our student's education is very important, we feel that emotional health is just as, if not more, important. This is especially true during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Please know that the GOMS teachers understand that each day may be different for your student. Their mission is to provide a sense of normalcy and the opportunity for students to continue learning. We encourage you to communicate your concerns or, even better, have your child email or talk to their teachers if he or she needs help or has questions. Most importantly, please remember that we are all learning together at this time. In fact, some of the students have taught us a few things about technology!

With all the changes taking place there is a collective sense of loss surrounding us and on any given day, you and your children may be feeling this too. The following is an article that addresses and explains the emotions that many people are experiencing at this time and what may help: [Coronavirus Has Upended Our World. It's OK To Grieve](#)

In addition, this website is a wonderful resource aimed at helping teens and young adults ages 13-26: <https://gritx.org/> We highly encourage you to share this website with your teens and older children to help them deal with a range of issues. The website includes many positive self-care activities such as journaling, creating dream boards, and putting together self-care tool kits. It is important to help foster a sense of resiliency and hope for the future in our children during this time of uncertainty.

Speaking of the future, please check upcoming E-Blasts for more information on 8th Grade ADV LA, SOAR, C-STEM, Dance Team auditions, ASB applications, etc. Our principal, teachers, and staff are very busy making plans for next year, even as we are in the final stretch of this historical and eventful school year.

Please visit our GOMS COVID-19 Website for resources to help students and families during this challenging time: <https://sites.google.com/rocklinusd.org/goms-counseling/home>

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**THE 8TH GRADE ADVANCED LANGUAGE ARTS APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN FOR
THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Students in the advanced course engage in a highly-differentiated curriculum in order to help prepare them for advanced classes in high school. In addition to analyzing text and writing academic essays, students participate in literature circles, Socratic seminars, expert panel discussions, blog posts and 20time projects. Students are also exposed to higher-level learning through an introduction to Shakespeare and literary criticism theory. Students are admitted into the program through an application in the spring. The expectation is that students have a strong foundation in reading and writing upon entering the program.

Applications are being accepted starting **April 21st, 2020** until the deadline on **Friday, May 8th, 2020**.

Please note that there is no guarantee that you will get into the ADV ELA program. Upon completion of this application, we will review your information, contact your 7th grade ELA teacher to see if he/she recommends you for the course and we will look at class size availability. After turning in your application, you do not need to do anything else to be considered for ADV ELA. If you are accepted, you will automatically be enrolled for next year.

Application Link here:

[Advanced ELA Application 2020-2021](#)

**Questions? Contact Megan Persinger at
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