

Eagle Express



Volume XIV • Issue 6
NOVEMBER 2019

From the Principal

Hello Eagle Families:

November is a great time to reflect on what we are thankful for. I too, would like to take a moment to give thanks. I am grateful to be the principal of Greenwood Lakes Middle School and to have an opportunity to work alongside of some of the very best students, families, educators and staff in the country for the past 4 years.

I am thankful for our students. They come to class every day and put significant effort into becoming more skilled and knowledgeable citizens. They are open to new ideas, new concepts, and new experiences, and we learn from them every day. They come from different circumstances and backgrounds to learn and grow together. That process is not always easy, but they struggle through the difficult moments together, and they celebrate their successes together. I am proud of all our students, and I am blessed to lead their school.

The parents at Greenwood are some of the most engaged and enthusiastic families I have ever worked with. Greenwood is an amazing place because of your support and our effective partnership. I invite you to continue to stay active in the educational process by checking our website, reading communications sent home or emailed, and participating in school events. Together, our students will succeed! Thank you.

What we do at Greenwood could never be achieved without the dedication of our amazing staff. They get up each and every morning ready to work, support our students, and give them the tools they need to learn. The persistence and initiative exhibited from everyone from our secretaries to our cafeteria staff is uncommon and I appreciate their professionalism to GLMS.

I could not do what I do without the help of Greenwood's administrative team and support staff. Their commitment to Greenwood is clear and their work is essential to establishing the organization, positive environment, and student-centered instruction that allow our students to grow and thrive. I am grateful every day for the opportunity to work and learn from them.

During this time of uncertainty in public education, I want to extend a very special thank you to our teachers. The teaching staff at Greenwood is determined. They constantly challenge their students and themselves to reach higher and accomplish more. Every day that I come to work I am renewed by their energy, enthusiasm and willingness to try new things while remaining grounded in foundational teaching practices. Our teachers are continually adjusting their instruction to help each child reach his or her potential. To Greenwood's teachers—and to teachers across our city—please accept my sincere appreciation as I say thank you for your service; your service to our students, our school, and to our city.

To all our students, families and staff, I wish you a very meaningful Thanksgiving.

Respectfully,
Breezi Erickson, Principal

Administration

Mrs. Breezi Erickson, Principal

Mr. Rendon Fletcher, Assistant Principal
Ms. Jacqueline Wick, Assistant Principal

Mr. Evan Sokolowsky
School Administration Manager (S.A.M.)

Ms. Lauren Fedi, Dean of Students
Ms. Megan Waller, Dean of Students

Mrs. Melanie Cavallaro, Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Kimberly Longarzo, Guidance Counselor

Office Telephone
407-320-7650



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Mission Statement

The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

Title I News

Parents, please visit the GLMS webpage for information on Family Engagement activities, district Parental Involvement opportunities, Florida School grades, and other Title I information. You can also visit the front office to review the Title I Binder which contains the School Improvement Plan (SIP), the Parental Family Engagement Plan (PFEP), the School-Parent Compact, and the Parents' Right to Know.

Be sure to check out the updated Title I Parent and Family Engagement website at www.scps.us/family for information on the Family Resource Center, school-home partnerships, and upcoming family workshops!

State Certified and Licensed Teachers and Paraprofessionals

All Title I schools are required to employ only state certified and licensed teachers and instructional paraprofessionals. If at any time your child is taught by a non-state certified teacher, your school will notify you. In addition, you have the right to:

- Request whether your child's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s) meet the state certification requirements for the grade levels and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Request whether a teacher and/or paraprofessional is teaching under emergency or other provisional status where state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Request information on the baccalaureate degree major of a teacher and/or paraprofessional and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and/or paraprofessional, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

From the Office of Student Services

We made it through the first quarter of the 2019-2020 school year! Middle school is a tremendous change from elementary school for both parents and students. Now is a great time to schedule a parent/teacher conference if your student is having difficulty in any of his or her classes, or if you have questions about how assignments can be accessed from home. Please contact Ms. Vargas at 407-320-7606 to coordinate a time to meet with your student's teachers.

The Office of Student Services have several resources available to help students and families. We have a food pantry on campus that houses non-perishable items that can be shared with students every Friday. We also have a limited amount of clothing and toiletry items if needed. Please contact Ms. Kimberly Longarzo at 407-320-7605 or Kimberly_Longarzo@scps.k12.fl.us for more information.

The holiday season is quickly approaching and we are always accepting non-perishable items for our food pantry. Please drop off any canned goods, boxed cereals or snacks that we can distribute for our families in need.

Please let us know how we can help!

Melanie Cavallaro, School Counselor
Students in 7th and 8th grade and 6th grade ESOL
407-320-7607

Melanie_Cavallaro@scps.k12.fl.us
Kimberly Longarzo, School Counselor
Students in 6th grade and all ESE
407-320-7605

Kimberly_Longarzo@scps.k12.fl.us



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GLMS Events Update

Stay updated on GLMS events...visit the GLMS webpage and click on the Calendars tab.
<http://www.greenwoodlakes.scps.k12.fl.us/>.



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PBS Update

Hello SOARing Eagles! We hope Quarter 2 has gone well for you all. The Nest, our PBS school store, has continued to see a lot of student interest at Wednesday lunches. Students love receiving SOAR bucks from their teachers to spend at the store. We are always accepting monetary or item donations (such as school supplies, Rubik's cubes, headphones, phone cases, pop sockets, etc) for The Nest.

Congratulations to our September and October Student and Teacher of the month! GLMS September Students of the Month: Julianna Savitz (8th grade), Jayden Santiago (7th grade), and Jackson Pepper (6th grade). GLMS September Teacher of the Month was Mrs. Maloy. GLMS October Students of the Month: Chase Snyder (8th grade), Elayna Gledhill (7th grade), and Caleb Rice (6th grade). GLMS October Teacher of the Month was Ms. Schlottfeldt. We are so proud of our teachers and students going above and beyond GLMS expectations!

Thank you so much for everyone that participated in our Red Ribbon week events during the week of October 21st – 25th! The PBS team was pleased to see so many students dressed up in orange for Unity Day on October 23rd. On Unity Day, students completed a pledge in their 2nd period classes for how they plan to help make GLMS a “Bully-Free” school! These pledges were hung on our “brick Unity wall” in the cafeteria at lunch time. Remember, any student or adult can report a concern or issue to any adult on campus, either dean, or through the P3 Campus or Speakout Hotline. On October 16th students had a SOAR Time lesson on bullying, where they reviewed the definition of bullying and the types of bullying. The definition of bullying can be found in the SCPS Code of Conduct.

Thank you to everyone that came out to the PBS Spirit Night on October 8th at Huey Magoos and on November 14th at Chick Fil A! We loved seeing everyone there.

The PBS Quarterly celebration for Quarter 2 will be a winter dance, held on December 13th from 4:15 – 5:45 pm. Students can buy tickets from one of the deans at lunch with ten SOAR bucks. The tickets will go on sale starting Monday, December 9th. We are now accepting donations of chips, candy, and cans of soda to be sold at the dance. If you would like to donate, please drop off your items in the front office!

And As Always, Let's SOAR Eagles!

Your GLMS Deans,
Lauren Fedi and Megan Waller



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Language Arts

Happy Second Quarter from the ELA Department!

6th Grade:

We cannot believe we are already into the second quarter! Sixth grade students are very excited to be participating in the Tropicana Speech Competition. Through taking part in the competition, students are learning how to conduct research, reinforcing writing skills, and practicing public speaking. While challenging, the speech competition proves to be a very successful and beneficial experience for our students year after year.

Students participated in their first Write Score assessment on November 6th and 7th! This practice, FSA-style writing experience provides us with specific, individualized feedback in order to help students improve their writing in ways that are meaningful to each individual student.

As always, be sure to keep up with your student's grades through Skyward. You can even download the Skyward App onto your phone for even easier access!

7th Grade:

Our amazing seventh graders are working on writing essays! We have been working on an argumentative essay, and learning how to incorporate a counterclaim into our writing. The students are working on revising their essays and practicing skills to help them with introductions, finding evidence, elaboration, counterclaims, and writing conclusions! Please continue to check Skyward for grades and updates!

8th Grade:

The eighth grade team is working on a Horror Unit, focusing on suspense, dramatic irony, and imagery. In this unit, the students will read classic horror tales like the "Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allen Poe and "The Monkey's Paw" by W.W. Jacobs, as well as an informational article about the genre. Additionally, we are getting ready to dive into writing with two planned FSA-style writing activities during the 2nd quarter. We will discuss how to write a claim, support it with evidence, and elaborate on points. The DBQ writing students have done recently in their history classes will help build writing fluency and build connections across content. Please make sure your child is reading at home at least thirty minutes a night to help develop their reading fluency and comprehension, as well as their overall vocabulary.

And as always, let's SOAR Eagles!

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Science Department

6th Grade:

Students are learning all about homeostasis in ecosystems! They are able to Explain and illustrate the roles of/and relationships among producers, consumers, and decomposers in the process of energy transfer in a food web. They can also Compare the relationships among organisms such as mutualism, predation, parasitism, competition, & commensalism. Students will soon understand and identify the impact that humans have had on Earth, such as deforestation, urbanization, desertification, erosion, air and water quality, and changing the flow of water.

7th Grade:

Students are going into the Beyond our World unit! They will be able to describe and classify specific physical properties of stars: apparent magnitude (brightness), temperature (color), size and luminosity (absolute brightness). They can also compare and contrast properties of objects in the solar system.

8th Grade:

Students will be working on interactions among the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. Students will also be able to describe how the composition and structure of the atmosphere protects life and insulates the planet. They will have to recognize that fossil evidence is consistent with the scientific theory of evolution and what methods are used for measuring the age of the Earth and its parts.

Reading Department

The Reading Department in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade just finished up the i-Ready Growth Monitor Assessment. The data from i-Ready has been shared with your students. All three grade levels are working on completing lessons in class weekly. Students are expected to complete 46 minutes on i-Ready each week with a score of 75% or more on each lesson(s). Classroom time has been set aside to allow the students enough time to complete their required minutes. If your student is absent, please have them work on their i-Ready lessons at home if possible. We also encourage you to have your students read for 20 minutes each night. Reading 20 minutes each night helps your child build reading stamina which will help them on lengthy FSA reading passages.



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Social Studies

6th Grade:

During the month of November, 6th grade students will be working on units six and seven. Unit six discusses Ancient China and will include the second DBQ of the year. Unit seven will cover Ancient Egypt and will begin at the end of November and continue through December. Both units will discuss cultural achievements and legacies of both Ancient Civilizations.

7th Grade:

During the month of November, 7th grade Civics students will be working on units six, seven, and eight. Unit six discusses the Declaration of Independence and will include our first DBQ of the year. Unit seven will cover the Articles of Confederation and why the first government of the United States did not work. Unit eight will cover the creation of the United States Constitution and start at the end of November.

8th Grade:

During the month of November, 8th grade American History students will be working on The Declaration of Independence and a DBQ on the American Revolution. In December, we will begin learning about the government system we currently have in the United States.

Cross Country

Cross Country is under way! Please come out and support the teams! JV runs first @4:30pm with Varsity immediately following JV.
Nov 6 @ GLMS
Nov 13 @ GLMS
Nov 20 @ Markham
Dec 4 @ Millennium
Dec 7 County Meet - Lake Mary HS @ 8AM

Math Department

In **6th grade standard**, the students will continue to work on Unit 5-Expressions, in which students will be learning about coefficients, constants, terms, variables and how to write expressions. Please encourage your child to come to class ready to learn, with their needed supplies and ready to SOAR. Students should be reviewing skills on a daily basis to help them be proficient in the 6th grade math standards.

The **6th grade advanced** math classes have a busy schedule for the second 9 weeks. Students begin with an extensive study of writing and evaluating numerical algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities. This leads right into the study of rational number concepts where students will apply previous knowledge to the system of rational numbers. The 9 week period concludes with students venturing into the 7th grade standard of rational number operations. They will use their knowledge to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers. We are up for the challenge!

In **GEMS**, the second 9 weeks will focus on 7th and 8th grade geometry standards. Students will draw and construct geometrical figures, solve problems involving angle measures, and explore area and circumference of circles. This will lead into students solving real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area and volume. The students will continue their Virtual Bridge independent study of geometry. It is important that students complete these assignments as they tie in directly with the higher level standards that are covered in class. The next virtual bridge assignment will cover the 6th grade standards involving ratios, proportions, and percents.

The **7th grade standard** math students will be mastering skills involving simplifying expressions and solving one and two-step equations. Students then will conquer writing and solving one and two-step inequalities. We really want to stress the importance of students having their TI-30Xa calculator and a pencil with them every day along with a ready-to-learn attitude!

In **7th grade advanced** math, students are learning about angle relationships. Students will be able to find angle measures formed by parallel lines and transversals, along with finding the sum of angles in triangles. After learning how to find the sum of angles in polygons, students will move onto similar triangles and scale drawings. Students will know how to solve for unknown supplementary and complimentary angles and how to construct triangles given angle and side conditions.

Pre-Algebra classes are working on linear functions, where they are learning how to construct graphs, data tables and equations that all work together to represent proportional and non-proportional relationships between the data. Students are learning terms like slope, y-intercept, proportional, non-proportional, unit rate, and function. Understanding linear functions is one of the most important pre-algebra concepts for students to master going into high school.

Algebra I students are continuing to deepen their knowledge on linear functions. Linear functions are 1 of 3 types of functions explored this year. They will be looking at similarities and differences of linear equations and how to solve systems of linear equations using any of the 3 methods. They will finish the quarter by looking at exponential functions and relationships.

Geometry Honors is moving right along as they look at angle relationships and parallel and perpendicular lines in the coordinate plane. They will translate into looking at how triangles are congruent as well as the attributes and properties of triangles. They will end the quarter by studying how triangles relate to all polygons, and how understanding triangles will enhance the understanding of all polygons.

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Art Club

The Art Club is officially in full action after school on Thursdays from 4 to 4:45 pm. Pick up a permission form from Mr. Shaffer's classroom (4-001) to join the club. We look forward to seeing you there.

Table 1. Performance Levels

1	2	3	4	5
Inadequate:	Below Satisfactory:	Satisfactory:	Proficient:	Mastery:
Highly likely to need substantial support for the next grade/course	Likely to need substantial support for the next grade/course	May need additional support for the next grade/course	Likely to excel in the next grade/course	Highly likely to excel in the next grade/course

JROTC

JROTC is working diligently on our theme "Leaders are Readers".

We have decided to include in our efforts another phrase.

ROTC Is going to strive for five.






FCA

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) is back at GLMS on Monday mornings from 7:45-8:45am! Meetings will be announced weekly since we are sharing the gym access with the seasonal sport. Generally, we can be found in either the gym, 8-001, or the pavilion. The new sponsor is Ms. Schlottfeldt. If you have any more questions or want to find out more information, please feel free to reach out to her: Stephanie_schlottfeldt@scps.k12.fl.us or (407) 320-7629.

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& FCA