

November Newsletter

November 14, 2022



Grimmer Honors Veterans

Grimmer Middle School is grateful for the courage and sacrifice of our Veterans. It was our privilege to honor over 100 Veterans through our breakfast and program on Thursday.

What's Happening at Grimmer?



Grimmer students continue to enjoy playing games during lunch. Our 7th & 8th band put on a wonderful Halloween concert. Our Spell Bowl team was runner up in the regional competition...just 1 point shy of winning it all.



Fun Fridays in November:

- **November 18: Flannel Friday** - wear your flannel shirts and pants
- **November 22: School Spirit Day** - wear Grimmer Blue & White
- **December 2: Band or Musician Day** - wear your favorite band's shirt
- **December 9: Decades Day** - wear clothes from your grade level decade
 - 5th grade: 1950s
 - 6th grade: 1960s
 - 7th grade: 1970s
 - 8th grade: 1980s
 - Staff: 1990s

Grimmer Reward Field Trip

This year, Grimmer is sponsoring two reward field trip for students who meet the following criteria:

- **No Grade lower than a C- on their quarterly report cards**
 - **We will run a 2nd quarter grade check on December 9 at the end of the day**
- **A 90% attendance rate**
- **No disciplinary infractions greater than a detention**
 - **No more than 2 detentions for the semester**

Our goal is to provide a fun incentive for students to work towards. We want to prepare students for real world working experiences, and many careers offer incentives. This trip is an extra incentive. There is no academic negative impact for not qualifying for this incentive. We understand there are doctor appointments and other things that come up. We will offer this incentive again for the second semester.

The first semester trip will take place on December 16

Students who qualify need to turn in their permission slip and waiver ASAP

- **They have already been passed out**

The trip is free. There are no expenses for students.

There will be another rewards field trip at towards the end of second semester



The Halloween Dance Was a Success!



Over 500 Grimmer Students Attended

We'll have another dance again in February

A big thank you to our PTO for supporting and organizing this event

A big thank you to all of our staff who volunteered to help

December 13 is an Early Release Day!

Early Release Day Schedule (No Advisory)		
5th Grade	8:47AM - 9:50AM	ELA or Math Block 1
	9:55AM - 10:56AM	ELA or Math Block 2
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 6
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Lunch
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
6/7/8th Grade		
	8:47AM - 9:17AM	Period 2
	9:22AM - 9:50AM	Period 3
Grade 6	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Lunch 6A
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 4
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 7	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Lunch 7B
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 8	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 5
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Lunch 8C
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Period 6
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
Early Release Dates:		
September 13th	February 14th	No Early Release Days
October 11th	March 14th	in August or January
November 8th	April 11th	
December 13th	May 9th	

Principal's Message for November

We are into the full swing of the school year. Quarter 1 has come and gone, and Quarter 2 will be over in nearly a month. Just like that, we are nearing the halfway point of the school year. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Grimmer family.

One universal theme that I notice from all of the schools I have served at is the concept of blended learning. What is blended learning? It is the combination of traditional classroom best practices blended with the use of technology. What are some examples of blended learning? Students access their textbooks online through their chromebook. In fact, some *textbooks* are now called *techbooks*. This is a compilation of texts, videos, and activities, curated into an online platform for student learning. The term *Chapter* becomes replaced with the term *Module* because there is more to the unit than reading the content. There are positives and negatives to more and more technology blending into student learning.

I remember when I had just taken my administrative job at Angola Middle School. I was their new Assistant Principal. My wife and I were in the process of selling our home in Elkhart so I was driving an hour each way. One day, my truck lost heat. It lost the fan that blows any air whatsoever. It was early December. I did not have the time or money to park my truck at a shop and be without it for multiple days. I went to Youtube. I needed two parts and a socket wrench. I ordered the parts from Advanced Auto. I woke up on a Saturday morning and in less than an hour had my truck fixed.

The way I fixed my truck was not an option for my father. We have access to more information and resources than ever before. We want our students to know how to utilize these resources. We want our students to be critical thinking problem solvers. With that said, reading is the foundation that produces critical thinkers who can successfully navigate technology.

We appreciate technology at Grimmer Middle School, but never at the expense of the tried and true best practices of consistently reading and and writing. Since the beginning of this school year, we have committed to be a school that values reading. Every month our teachers document what is being read, and I go through the documentation.

I've mentioned before that I love endurance sports. Being successful with endurance sports is not complicated, you do the miles on a regular basis. I believe in order to be a successful critical thinking problem solver, you have to read the pages on a regular basis. Feel free to ask your child what they have been reading in their classes because Grimmer is a school that reads.

Have a Wonderful Thanksgiving!

W. Ryan Bounds

[Check out our webpage](#)

