Galion Intermediate School

Newsletter

Courage to Climb

Mid-Year

TEST PRIDE



This year we are intentionally growing TIGER Pride using our House's Action Team. Students will be learning about important Galion alumni, participate in pep rallies, and do community building activities.



For elementary night all students learned the fight song. Special shout out to Mr. Rinehart's 4th grade class who sung the fight song at the pep rally.



Our passion/community involvement action teams are already at work planning how students can have service opportunites to feel the positive effects of helping others and support our great community.



Having fun and learning about why school pride, city pride, and country pride matters is all apart of the learning process.



Discover Your Spark

📅 February 25
⏰ 6:00–7:30 PM
📍 Galion Intermediate School (GIS)

You're Invited!

Parents, families, and students are invited to join us for Passion Night, an exciting evening showcasing student learning across 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades!

All students will present Passion Projects.
This year, students and teachers selected a personal passion they wanted to learn more about. Groups range from creative arts and science to leadership, sports, technology, and more!

- Students met in Passion Clubs 3 times throughout the year
- Each session lasted 30 minutes and focused on exploration and learning
- During Passion Week, students dove deeper into their interests
- Students created a project or presentation that they are excited to share

Why Passion Night Matters

These experiences help students:

- Take ownership of their learning
- Build confidence in speaking and presenting
- Explore interests and role models that inspire them
- Develop creativity, collaboration, and perseverance

Come celebrate our students' passions, curiosity, and hard work!
We can't wait to see you at GIS Passion Night on February 25

Communication Matters

At Galion Intermediate, we are always trying to build stronger partnerships with parents and community members. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the office when you have a concern or question. Ways we communicate:

- Rooms
- Bi-Monthly Newsletters
- Emails
- Letters Home in Tiger Folders or Mail Letters Home
- Facebook/Instagram

PBIS

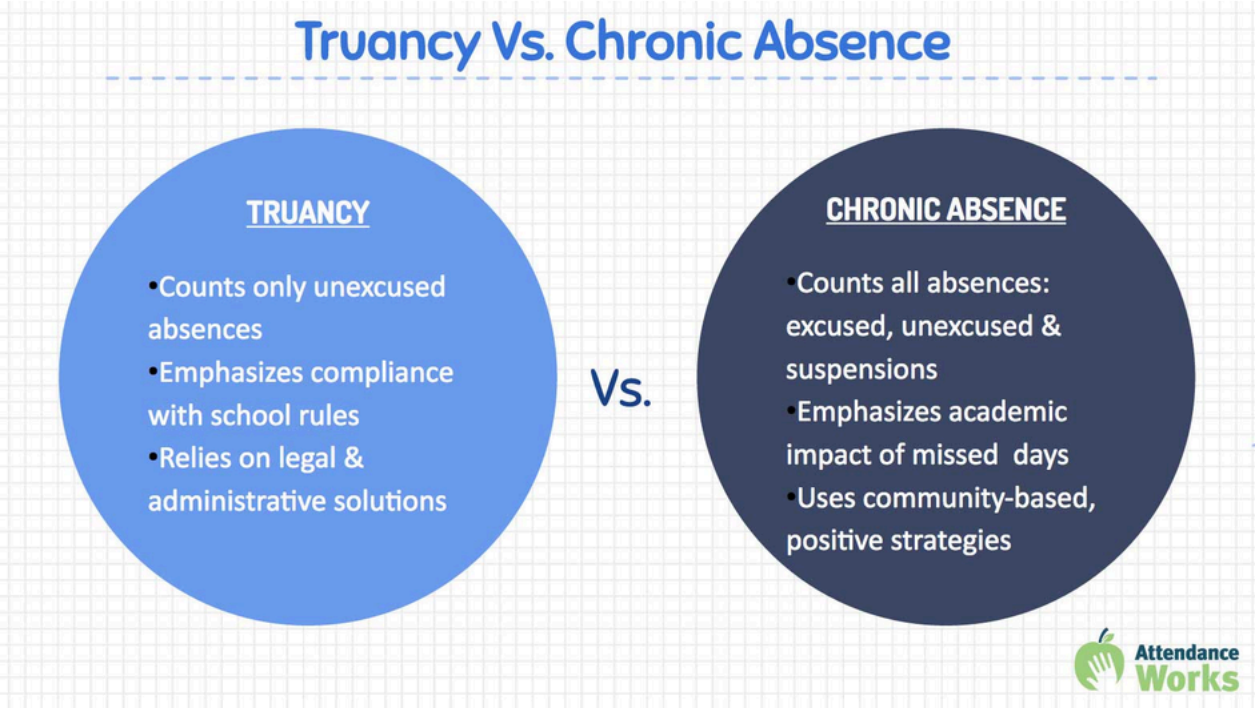
We're halfway through the school year, and we're proud to share that 90% of Galion Intermediate students earned our most recent PBIS incentive!

Through Courage to Climb, our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program, students practice being safe, respectful, and responsible throughout the school day. They earn Tiger Pride tickets when they show those behaviors and work toward monthly incentives.

Families and school staff are on the same team. When students hear the same expectations at home and at school, it's easier for them to put those habits into practice. Using the same words, like "Be responsible and put away what you used," and noticing when kids follow through helps reinforce what they're learning at school.

Attendance

This year, the state has made a switch to evaluating schools based on Chronic Absenteeism. Below is a diagram explaining the difference between Truancy and Chronic Absence. The key takeaway is that every day matters regardless of the reason your student misses.



Helping your Reading Student

DID YOU KNOW that your child's reading skills have the potential to substantially impact other academic subject areas? Strong reading skills enable your child to access, interpret, and engage with the curriculum effectively. Listen for examples of how your child is performing reading tasks across different content areas:

Mathematics: Reading comprehension is essential for understanding word problems, instructions, and mathematical concepts presented in text form.

Science: Proficiency in reading enables your child to grasp scientific texts, follow experimental procedures, and understand complex concepts and vocabulary.

Social Studies: Good reading skills help in comprehending historical texts, analyzing primary sources, and understanding geographical and cultural information.

Support Your Child's Literacy Development at Every Age

Tips for Boosting Early Literacy at Home

- Recite nursery rhymes, sing songs, use your hands for shadow plays, and have conversations together.
- Speak (and read) to your child in your home language.
- Notice words that sound the same and play rhyming games together.
- Notice and read environmental print - McDonald's sign, traffic signs, grocery store labels, etc.
- Read aloud to your children and point to and talk about the print.
- Talk about letters and the sounds they make using alphabet cards and magnetic letters, tracing letters in salt, forming letters with Play-Doh, and other activities.
- Play word games, talk about the meaning of words, and use interesting words while speaking.
- Model different kinds of writing daily - Label household objects, make grocery lists and write notes. (Encourage scribbling and drawing for younger children!)
- Allow children to explore and create using a variety of materials - scissors, crayons, markers, glue and Play-Doh. Talk about their creations.

Tips for Enhancing Your Older Child's Literacy at Home

- Talk about school, hobbies, newspaper or magazine articles, and current events.
- Model joyful literacy by reading and writing daily in front of your older reader!
- Provide a wide selection of reading materials for older readers to choose from. Offer a variety of fiction and non-fiction and include topics of interest. Visit the library together.
- Encourage your readers to ask and answer curious questions before, during, and after reading to build background knowledge.
- Incorporate technology! Listen to audiobooks together in the car or on a walk. Talk about the story.
- Play word games together like Scrabble, Boggle, or Wordle. Have a competition and make it fun!
- Focus on vocabulary. Talk about interesting words and use distinctive words while speaking.



Tools and Resources for Families

Additional resources to support literacy development can be found at education.ohio.gov/literacy.

Department of Education & Workforce

Helping your Math Student

NCTM | NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

Supporting Parents and Families: Helping Your Math Students
Based on NCTM President J. Michael Shaughnessy

Parents don't need to be math experts to help their children succeed in mathematics. They can make a big difference by creating a positive attitude toward math, working through problems together, and encouraging students to think independently.

Three Ways to Help:

1. Be Positive: Everyone can learn math through practice and perseverance. Avoid negative comments about math.
2. Ask, Don't Tell: Encourage students to explain their thinking. Ask, "What do you know?" or "How could you start?"
3. Make Math Real: Connect math to everyday activities like shopping, cooking, budgeting, and problem-solving.

Six DO's for Families

- Be positive about mathematics.
- Connect math to everyday life.
- Make mathematics fun.
- Explore careers that use mathematics.
- Have high expectations for your children.
- Support homework, but don't do it for them!

The Big Takeaway: Parents don't have to know all the answers. The most important thing they can do is encourage curiosity, ask questions, support perseverance, and help children develop confidence in their ability to solve problems.

2026-2027 Important Dates

December

- **1-4:** Book Fair
- **2-4:** Bowling
- **8-11:** Choir to Nursing Homes for Caroling
- **15-18:** Holiday Shop + Christmas Spirit Week
- **17-18:** Classroom Christmas Parties
- **18:** Last Day of the Quarter / Early Release
- **21-Jan. 4:** Christmas Break

January

- **15:** MLK Day Assembly
- **15:** Winter Dance (3pm-5pm)
- **18:** MLK Day; No School

February

- **5 + 10:** Movie Trips
- **12:** Valentine's Day Parties
- **15:** President's Day; No School
- **22-25:** Start with Hello Week
- **29:** World Heart Day (Wear Red)

March

- **5:** Cereal Domino Challenge
- **12:** Last Day of the Quarter / Early Release
- **16-19:** Right to Read Week
- **19:** World Down Syndrome Day (Crazy Socks)
- **26-April 2:** Spring Break

April

- **6:** Autism Awareness Day (Wear Blue)
- **13-16:** Military Spirit Week
- **14-16:** Altitude Trips

No School Dates

Sept. 7 – Labor Day
Nov. 3 – Election Day / Teacher In-Service
Nov. 24-27 – Thanksgiving
Dec. 21-Jan. 4 – Winter Break
Jan. 18 – MLK Day
Feb. 15 – Presidents' Day
March 26 -April 2 – Spring Break

Incentives

subject to change based on weather/funding

- **December**
  - Christmas Movie/Popcorn
- **January**
  - Movie @ Cinemark
- **February:**
  - Dodgeball
- **March**
  - Altitude Trampoline Park
- **April/May**
  - Luau

May

- **3-7:** Teacher Appreciation Week
- **4:** Brain Tumor Awareness Day (Wear Grey)
- **6:** 4th/5th Choir Concert @ GHS
- **20:** 4th Grade Field Trip to COSI
- **21:** Field Day
- **28:** Last Day of the School / Early Release

SAFE SCHOOL REPORTING

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Canvas Parent

Galion City School District