



Griggsville-Perry Tornado Alerts



School Competitions

This year, the school started a new incentive to try to improve students' attendance, not just in school but also in after-school activities. Every quarter we will celebrate with different variations of games and competitions. I asked 1 member of each class how they felt about the new class competitions that Mr. Buescher brought over to our school. First, I interviewed first-year student Mason Lipcamon. He said he was excited about playing basketball and volleyball, but my team might be a little outmatched. Sophomore Knox Dunham responded "Only the sports I excel in because I hate losing." Junior Kason Brown was asked if he thought this incentive would help him be better at participating in school activities. He responded, "No, because I only enjoy watching basketball and there is no girls' basketball team for our school". Senior Brian Embree was asked if the incentive would help students participate more. He said it would because it would motivate students to participate in school activities. Our school counselor, Ms. Dokey was asked if she was excited about the games, and she said, "Yes, it will bring some fun to the school day and give students a well-deserved break." When asked which class was going to win, 2 out of the 5, said the freshman class because they are a part of the class with Ms. Dokey being the "best class sponsor" while the other 3 said seniors because they have the most athletic class, and they would want to have the highest school spirit in their last year of high school. In conclusion, there are potentially rewarding things that could come out of this if students just participated in the events.

By: Hunter Brown



Griggsville Apple Festival

Along with the fun at the festival, the four classes at GP set up stands to raise money. The freshmen class sold fish and lemonade, while the sophomores sold pulled pork sandwiches, nachos, and dirty sodas. The juniors sold walking tacos and sodas. Overall, each class had a successful fundraiser. In addition, the senior class also holds a raffle at the festival each year. This is one of the big contributors toward the senior trip. This year's prizes included a Blackstone, AirPods, and a MacBook Neo.

We asked some students what they liked most about the festival. Emma K. said that she liked being with her class, working the stand, and having fun with them outside of school. Peyton C. said her favorite part was Willy's Bean Co., where they have "really good caramel frappes." When asked what her favorite part of the festival was, Alexas W. responded, "food." The class of 2027 brought a new event to the Apple Festival this year. The class held a pickleball tournament at the school to help raise money for the senior trip. We asked Seniors Hunter B. and Aaron K. how the tournament went; they said it was a success, and even the school board president came out and had some fun.

By: Ryan Phillips

Fall Edition 2026

GP GETS A FACELIFT

Griggsville school district wraps up \$5.2 million facility renovation.

by Ryan Phillips

Students returning to GP this school year found new air-conditioned classrooms and an updated parking lot after a summer facility overhaul.

As last school year ended, general contractor Omni prepared for the \$5.4 million renovation. Crews moved into the school to begin work on the upgrades, which focused on geothermal HVAC, installing dropped ceilings, improving the parking lot, and fixing the elementary and middle school roofs.

Superintendent Bill Capps met with GP's media team on Wednesday, September 9th to discuss the project and plans. He walked them through the process and explained to the class that the main reasons the district chose geothermal was its energy efficiency and a 50% rebate from Ameren.

Renovations began the day following Memorial Day. Mr. Capps believes four companies were here from day one, working hard from the get-go to ensure the buildings would be ready by August.

Within four to five years, a second phase of renovations is expected to begin. The second phase is likely to include upgrades to the second grade through fourth grade hallways, the pre-K hallway HVAC, new floors in all three gyms, and major roof upgrades. According to Capps, the planned HVAC upgrades for the elementary school will likely be individual classroom units because the limited space doesn't allow for the wells required for geothermal.

Though Mr. Capps jokes that the renovations may have given him more grey hairs, everyone seems satisfied with the facility overhauls.

GPHS FFA Continues to Thrive

The Griggsville FFA was officially formed in 1940. Since then, the FFA has earned more than 300 awards and had 12 members receive their American degree (Only 1% percent of members receive it). It is safe to say that the FFA has definitely left a mark in the section. Today, the FFA is still prospering and continuing to grow and evolve with their 57 members. In the last few weeks, the FFA was practicing for the forestry contest on September 23, 2026. The FFA competed amongst many other schools at the event.

Under the leadership of the advisor, Mrs. Scranton, the FFA had a stand at the Griggsville Apple Festival where they sold baked potatoes and toppings to raise money for the chapter. A lot of the money raised each year is used to go to the FFA National Convention. This is when the officer team and a select few members get to go to Indianapolis, Indiana where FFA members nationwide all meet once a year. This year's 99th National convention runs from October 21 - 24, 2026. At the end of the school year, the FFA holds a chapter banquet. At this banquet, they recognize donors, awards for members, and elect the new officers. The FFA receives many donations every year from amazing sponsors and donors in the area. We are very thankful for each and every person or business that donates to help ensure that the FFA chapter will have a great year.

by Casen Shoemaker

Meet the New GP Staff

Griggsville High School is proud to welcome back Mr. Buescher as our new Head Principal

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Bringing 37 years of dedicated experience in education, Mr. Buescher has loved every single year of his career. He has always held Griggsville in high esteem, dating back to his previous time with the district as a P.E. teacher and head basketball coach.

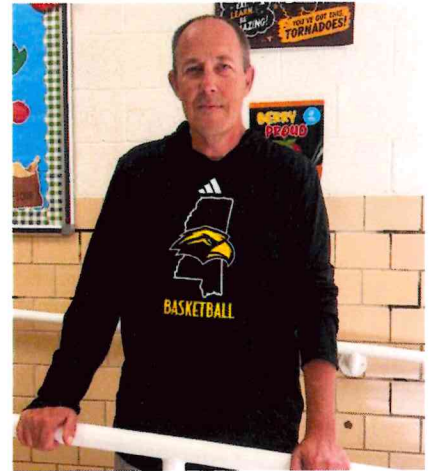
When asked what inspired him to return to Griggsville, Mr. Buescher highlighted the top-notch staff and the deeply respectful students.

While switching districts always means rebuilding relationships with a brand-new student body, he is incredibly excited to connect with everyone and get to know the kids again.

Mr. Buescher has one goal while he's here, "to make all the kids happy and want to show up to school." But he isn't just a principal; he really enjoys cooking in his free time and spending quality time with his wife.

One thing you can expect from him is that he will always listen and try his best to help everyone, and when it comes to discipline, he will be firm but fair so everyone has equal opportunity.

by Mario Rodgers



MR. CALHOUN

If you have been enrolled in a health class this school year at GPHS, you've most likely been with Mr. Calhoun. He attended college at the University of Mizzou and has been teaching for over twenty-four years!

Initially, before he became the teacher he is today, he was a football coach. I also asked him what he would have done differently if he had never decided on becoming a teacher; he responded, "I would have probably been a professional golfer, but I didn't have the skills for it."

Much like us, he also played his part in high school athletics, which included football and track. I also questioned if there is anything we would be surprised to know about him; he said he likes Christmas caroling, which definitely surprised me. On my final question, I asked him about his overall impressions of GPHS; he said that it has a very close-knit community feel. So far, I have learned a lot about Mr. Calhoun, and I believe that he is a very brilliant and interesting person.

by Brian Embree

Ms. Lacio

We are happy to welcome Gerlie Mae Lacio, the newest addition to the Griggsville-Perry High School as our new science teacher. Bringing her passion for teaching science and expanding students' knowledge, she came from the Philippines to explore, experience and learn the culture of America.

Ms. Lacio originally grew up in her family's hometown of Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental, in the Philippines. She mentioned that when she was younger, her family would travel back and forth between towns. Coming from a large family, Ms. Lacio is one of the middle siblings. According to her, education runs in the family, with five of her siblings also being teachers. She taught in the Philippines for six years and has now spent three years teaching in the U.S.

In Ms. Lacio's opinion, life in the Philippines felt like being raised with an entire community where people interacted daily and treated each other like family. Although she enjoys it here in the U.S., she deeply misses her family, hanging out with friends, hiking the mountains, and the delicious street food back at home.

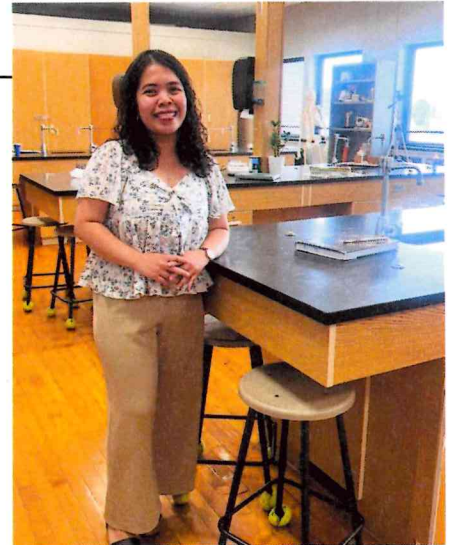
Before moving to the United States, Ms. Lacio and her friend had planned to go visit other countries, including Thailand, Israel, and Japan. Unfortunately those plans did not work out as they hoped. She explained that America wasn't always her dream destination to explore but eventually she developed the desire to give it a chance. Through the Cultural Exchange Program, Ms. Lacio was able to take the next step and experience life in a new country.

by Marlee Bonner

When Ms. Lacio arrived in the U.S. on September 13, 2024, she hoped to find a similar sense of community to the one she had experienced in the Philippines. The most challenging part of being here in the U.S. was figuring out everything especially without reliable transportation. She eventually acquired her driver's license, which helped her become more independent. Ms. Lacio had mentioned that it was difficult at first to trust the unfamiliar people around her, however, she eventually found the courage to step out of her comfort zone and interact with new people.

Throughout her experience, Ms. Lacio has noticed several differences between the school system in the U.S. and the Philippines. In the Philippines, the students are expected to stand up when a teacher enters and exits the room. She has also noticed the difference in class sizes. At GPHS, classes are smaller compared to the Philippines, where she said an average number of students altogether is about 40-50 students. According to Ms. Lacio, the structure of learning at American high schools is similar to what students in the Philippines might experience in college.

Today, Ms. Lacio absolutely loves it here at GPHS. She especially appreciates the sense of community, all of the wonderful students and just the idea of how small our community is. As all of us are still adjusting to life, Ms Lacio has been fortunate to have our advanced English teacher, Ms. Long, as her mentor.



**GPHS 2026 -2027 YEARBOOK
ON SALE NOW**

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE



GP Yearbook Staff Members are in the beginning stages of creating a memorable yearbook. We have a brand new staff who is ready to learn and work hard to create pages that the entire student body will cherish for years to come. Staff members include Seniors Ashtyn Wainman and Marlee Bonner; Juniors Baily Lemons and Andrea Davis; and Freshmen Hattie Martin and Adeline Hillman. The yearbook class is being taught by Allison Dokey and Brandi Bennett.

BUY Yours NOW



GP Sports

2026-2027 LADY TORNADOES VOLLEYBALL



The 2026 Lady Tornadoes volleyball team had to come in with open minds as they received new coaches this year. The new coaching staff included Head Coach Kaitlyn Mountain and Assistant Coaches Christy Kunzeman and Abbie Murphy.

In talking to the players, it is evident that they have some differing opinions of the season. When asked, "What is one area where you think the team has improved the most?", Senior Marlee Bonner responded with "Communicating and covering". I asked Senior Emily Lemons, "What do you think our coaches emphasize most?" She said, "Talking." Junior Annabel Kunzeman stated, "I think we have a rough team chemistry. We are all friends and supportive of each other, but I feel like we don't play as a unit." Sophomore Emma Kurfman stated "Our biggest challenge is probably not being able to overcome a simple error, so it doesn't multiply and bring the whole team down". Lastly, one of our freshmen, Adeline Hillman, was asked, "What is something outsiders may not realize about the team?" She replied, "That we are way closer than we seem".



Head Coach Katlyn Mountain stated that her first impression of the team was that they were very loud. She told us that her favorite part of coaching a new team is "gaining 17 daughters," but the hardest adjustment has been "Learning how to mesh 17 different personalities. They are all unique in their own way." She also said, "Change isn't a bad thing. Learning different jobs should be fun." Lastly, she was asked, "What has this team taught you as a coach?" Her response was, "How much I have missed coaching".

There are 2 big events coming up that we hope to see everyone come out for. Senior Night is October 14th and Volley for Hope is the following night on the 15th where we hope to see the gym packed in pink.

by Ashtyn Wainman

Wolves Football wraps up the 2026 season



This year is the second year that GPHS has co-oped with Pleasant Hill and Western schools for football. The combination of the three schools means more talent on the field. GPHS has contributed six kids this year to the gridiron. This puts the Wolves with over twenty kids on their roster.

I had the opportunity to talk to the starting quarterback of the Wolves, Talon Waters. Talon, a Junior at Pleasant Hill High School, has been the backbone of the Wolves offense for the last two years. Talon's number one goal for this year is to make the playoffs and become an All-Conference player.

Pleasant Hill football has come a long way since 1962. Thanks to the 3-school co-op, the Wolves have a good roster size and talent they need to keep evolving. Led by quarterback Talon Waters, this team is ready to make a playoff run and inspire the next generation. We are excited to see what the future will bring.

by Brody Rush

GPHS GOLF

"We had another fun golf season this year. Every kid showed improvement and seemed to really enjoy it. We will miss our 4 seniors: Ryan, Brian, Aaron, and Hunter next year for sure though! Some highlights included a 2nd place finish at the PCC where Brian Embree, Hunter Brown, and Aaron Kurfman earned all conference honors. Brian Embree also became the 2nd ever golfer from GP to qualify for sectionals. At sectionals he had an impressive 85 at a hard course at Waterloo to take 28th place out of 112 golfers and fell just 3 strokes short of going to state. We also had 2 girl golfers on the team for the very first time this year with Ruby Waters and Karsyn Miller! Overall it was a successful season."

Coach White

Season Recap

The 2026 golf team was composed of eight boys and two girls. The team is led by Head Coach Garrett White. This is the first year that any girls have joined the team. The golf team had its first senior night on September 23rd 2026 where we celebrated Ryan Phillips, Brian Embree, Hunter Brown, and Aaron Kurfman. The rest of the team includes Kason Brown, Logan Sidwell, Knox Dunham, Mason Lipcaman, Ruby Waters and Karsyn Miller. The golf team did very well this year by getting second at the Ryder Cup at Winchester. The high school golf team has won several meets this year including The Links meet, Arrowhead Heights, and Plum Creek.

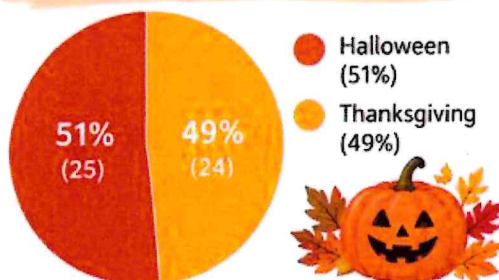
by Aaron Kurfman

FALL FAVORITES: THE STUDENTS HAVE SPOKEN

Fall This or That

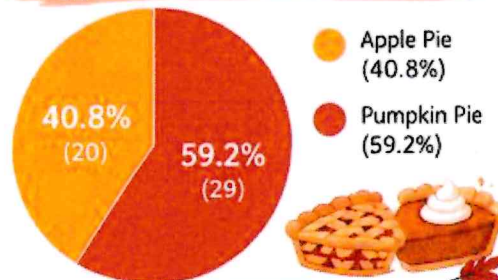
Here's how 49 of our students voted in this fall's "This or That" poll!

Halloween or Thanksgiving?



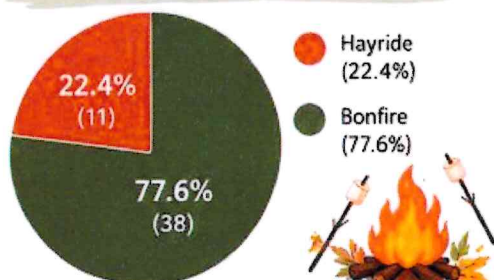
Halloween just barely edged out Thanksgiving!

Apple Pie or Pumpkin Pie?



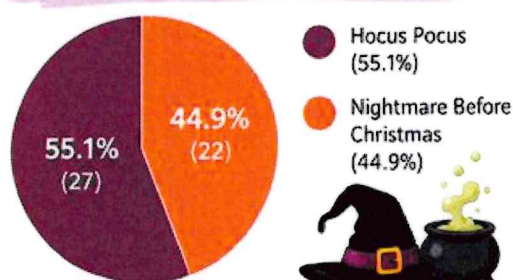
Pumpkin pie is the clear favorite!

Hayride or Bonfire?



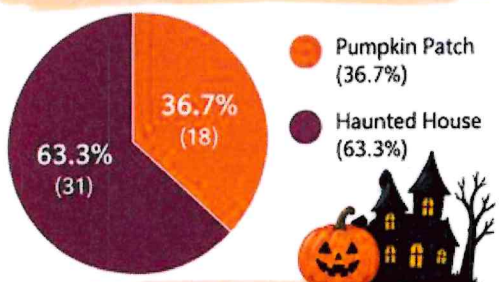
Bonfire wins by a cozy margin!

Hocus Pocus or Nightmare Before Christmas?



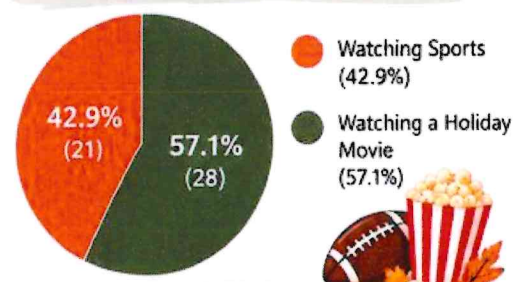
Hocus Pocus cast a spell on most!

Pumpkin Patch or Haunted House?



Haunted House is the clear favorite!

Watching Sports or Watching a Holiday Movie?



Holiday movies won this round!

GPHS Senior Advice

CONOR B. *"Some advice I would give to an underclassman would be to not procrastinate on their work and use class time. I procrastinated on a lot of work which can really stress me out"*

LUKAH M. *"My advice would be to make the most of your high school years and always have fun."*

ALEXIS W. *"Don't be afraid to ask for help from other students or teachers."*

LAYNI S. *"Try to take as many dual credit classes as possible and don't take everything so seriously."*

ASHTYN W.

"ADVICE I WOULD GIVE TO OUR UNDERCLASSMEN AS A SENIOR WOULD BE TO TAKE SCHOOL SERIOUSLY, BUT ALSO HAVE FUN AND MAKE MEMORIES. WHILE YOU WANT TO MAINTAIN GOOD GRADES, YOU SHOULD ALSO HAVE FUN IN THESE 4 YEARS."

BRODY R.

"Advice I would give is to make sure you study for all your tests, they're weighted heavy."