

Garfield Elementary Newsletter

November, 2022

Greetings from the Principal:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy November and Happy Thanksgiving! As I reflect on things I am thankful for, the Garfield students, staff, and families are at the top of my list. I am very grateful for the support and kindness you show to the school, and the support and guidance you provide for your children. Research shows that students do their best when schools and home work collaboratively.



We are especially grateful for all of your wonderful support and generosity during our October fundraiser! Our students sold an amazing 2202 pizzas which amounted to roughly \$9,000 being placed in our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) activity fund. The PAC is working hard to determine how to use those funds to impact our students. There are many ideas floating around and we hope to make a decision soon so your students can see the fruits of their efforts! Because the students worked so hard to sell so many pizzas, our building met our goal and we celebrated with an assembly in the gym. While students probably are talking about duct taping their principal to the wall, I am especially thankful to Cenex of Alexandria and Garfield for donating a brand new bike that was drawn at random for a top seller. The looks on their faces and the cheers from their peers were amazing! The top sellers in each classroom will also be having lunch with me in the coming week. Thank you to all for giving your time and money to help support all of our students.

A very large thank you to those who have served our country in the armed services. Garfield Elementary School is very thankful for you and the sacrifices you have made. We will be honoring Veterans on Veterans Day through an in-person event. Times will be sent to you and we hope you share it with the Veterans in your family.

A final note of gratitude for the staff and parents working towards a new playground for our Garfield Community. Through the work of our playground committee, we have recently been certified as a 501c3 which allows for charitable donations. This new designation allows for more flexibility as we continue to work towards upgrading our facilities and the team has a plan on how to begin that process. While all eyes are on the playground, we are also taking bids for a new HVAC system and secured entrance within the building. The bids will be analyzed by our budget / facility board sub-

committee on Tuesday, November 15 and then brought to the school board for acceptance on Monday, November 21. Along with providing funds for those items, the school district is committed to helping fund the construction of a new playground. Once outside money has been secured, we hope to begin the process of replacing our structures.

The school-wide Social and Emotional Learning theme for November is empathy. This month we will be reminding students to identify their own feelings and the feelings of others, notice and respect when feelings are the same and different, and show compassion. When students can identify, understand, and respond in a caring way to how someone else is feeling, it creates a positive and accepting school climate.

It's going to be a great month!

Warmly,

Troy Wunderlich
 GMC Principal
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Common Vocabulary

All parents want their child to do well in school. One way to help your child is to help them build their vocabulary. Beginning readers use knowledge about words to help them make sense of what they're reading. The more words a reader knows, the more they are able to comprehend what they're reading or listening to.

Talking to and reading with your child are two terrific ways to help them hear and read new words. Conversations and questions about interesting words are easy, non-threatening ways to get new words into everyday talk. Here are some common vocabulary words we are using at school:

Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	Specials Areas
author	add	Genre	Genre	Character Traits	interpret	r-controlled vowels
illustrator	subtract	difference	Difference	Summarizing	mentor (text)	magic e words
cover	stamina	fact family	Clarifying	Factor	theme	Veteran, service
whole body listener	grit	moral/lesson	Perseverance		perspective	
	good citizen	ownership			quotient	

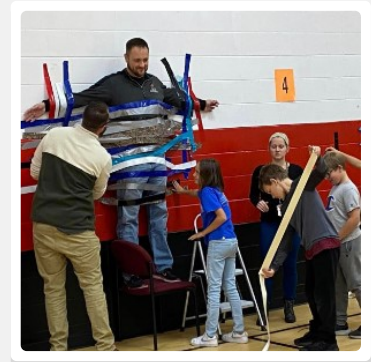
Pizza Fundraiser Results

The Heggie's fundraiser was a huge success!! Thank you to everyone who sold and bought pizza's. The goal was to sell 1,500 pizza's and the students sold an amazing 2,202!! Because they reached the goal - they were able to duct tape Mr. Wunderlich to the wall. Thank you to the PAC and the parent volunteers who helped hand out the pizzas!

The Kindergarten class sold the most pizza's - 649 - and they went to the new Shananigans!

Grayson Ranweiler is the winner of the bike (bike was donated by the Garfield/Alexandria Cenex - Thank you!)

Harper Sasse is the winner of the Scooter



Upcoming Events:

- November 6th - Daylight Savings ends, Fall Back
- November 7th - No School Professional Dev Day
- November 11th - 8:00 Veterans Day Program
- November 17th - Holiday Meal (must sign up by 11/2)
- November 24th-25th - No School Thanksgiving Break
- December 15th - Holiday Meal
- December 23rd-January 2nd - No School
- January 3rd - School Resumes
- January 9th-13th - Skating Unit
- January 16th - No School



Critical Bus Driver Shortage

Transportation is short on bus drivers! If you would be interested or know of anyone interested in driving a bus please apply on-line at www.alexschools.org. Or call the transportation department at 320-762-3317.



Garfield Elementary School

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