



THE CHEETAH CHATTER

W.C. GIESE SCHOOL

May 2016

Volume 50

Number 9

Dear Giese Families,

Welcome to the May Edition of the 2015-2016 *Cheetah Chatter*. We are getting ready to begin Forward Exam. This assessment is for the 3rd – 5th graders. We just finished up our NWEA MAP assessments in reading and math for all Giese Cheetahs in grades K-5. We had a lot of growth this year.

If your child is in K-2, they will also take their final PALS test. Again, we will encourage your child to do their very best. This data will help us assess your child's strengths and weaknesses and allow us to better focus our instruction so that we can hit the ground running when we return in September.

The next PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 10th at 6:00 pm in the Giese Library. Please consider stopping by. We will be discussing topics for the remainder of the year and begin looking at ideas for next year. Volunteers are always welcome!

Our final 3-hour Early Release will be taking place on Friday, May 13th. Your child will be dismissed at 11:45am and lunch will be served on this day.


Summer School forms were recently sent home with your child. Summer school will run from June 15 – July 28 (M-Th) from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All elementary schools that are hosting Summer School will offer a specific curriculum that will incorporate reading, math and science based on Common Core State Standards. If you have not signed your child up for Summer School, please consider doing so.

Giese Elementary School also will have a special night with the Kenosha Kingfish Baseball team. Our scheduled night is June 1st for a 6:35 game. It is part of our reading program. Please look at the information that will be sent home with your child so we can have a tremendous turnout for the game.

The end of the year is approaching quickly but all of our Giese Cheetahs still have a lot of learning to do. Please remind your child each morning to come to school prepared and to give us their best effort each and every day!

Thank you for your time and continued commitment to Giese Elementary...the best kept secret in RUSD!

Respectfully,



Thomas Hyland
Directing Principal – Giese Elementary
"The BEST kept secret in RUSD!"
2014 Title I School of Recognition
2013 Title I School of Recognition

CONGRATULATIONS MR. ARNDT

After 38 ½ years with the Racine Unified School District our Head Engineer Mr. Arndt is retiring from Giese School. Giese School has the reputation as the "*cleanest*" school in the district. This is due to the diligent work of Mr. Arndt and his custodial staff. He takes great pride in keeping our school in great working order. From snow blowing all the sidewalks in the winter, retrieving balls off the roof, waxing halls during the summer, fixing anything broken, cleaning toilets, emptying garbage, setting up & taking down lunch tables, and the hundreds of other tasks he is asked to do each and every day, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all your dedicated and hard work you have given to Giese School over the years. Your Giese Family will truly miss you!

4 Year Old Kindergarten

May is an exciting month for Room 7. I am so proud of the progress that my students are making, especially on the skill of name writing. Thank you for all of your support at home. Pals testing will take place May 4-22. You can work on these early literacy skills by reading to your child every day. Our Family Involvement is a play date at Hantchel Park (next to Giese) on Friday, May 22nd from 1:30-2:30. Siblings are welcome at this event. We are planning a field trip to Castle Lanes and a class picnic in June. In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the family members who volunteered in the classroom, especially Jessica Lipari. Your time and dedication are what makes Giese school the best!

KINDERGARTEN

We are having a Mother's Day Concert and Tea starting at 1:30pm in the West Learning Center on Friday, May 6. All moms, grandmas, and aunties are invited to attend. Please send back your RSVP, so we can plan for this special day. We are getting close to the end of the school year but we still have lots of learning to do to be ready for first grade. Please continue to work with your child on learning all the sight words, blending letter/ sound skills, and counting including skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s. Please spend at least 10-20 minutes a night reading. Work on learning names and values of the coins, too. Finally, work on learning all personal information including birthday, address, and phone number. Our field trip to the Milwaukee zoo is on Friday, June 3. We appreciate all your help supporting our Krispy Kreme fundraiser to help offset some of the cost to attend. Thanks so much to those who have volunteered to chaperone, we will need lots of chaperones to make this a fun and safe day. Please remember that the weather continues to change from warm to cold and dressing in layers can help. We look forward to seeing the children grow even more this spring.

FIRST GRADE

As the school year begins to wrap up please encourage your child to show good behavior and work to the best of their ability. It is important that your child comes to school each day on time. There is so much that we need to teach and that the students need to learn before second grade. We have had a great year, but there is still work to be done.

Our next topics in Math will be data and graphs. We will wrap up the year with fractions and double-digit addition and subtraction.

PALS testing begins Monday, May 2nd through Friday, May 13th. Please make sure your child is here on time, well rested and fed on those days. Thank you!

SECOND GRADE

MAP testing has been completed. Overall, improvement was shown. PALS testing is next. Remind your child to do his best.

All of the children seemed to enjoy their field trip to the hospital where they were engaged in various interesting activities.

More field trips are coming up. Please check your child's backpack for permission slips and sign and return them as soon as possible.

On May 20, we will be going to the Milwaukee Art Museum. We have received a grant from Kohl's which will cover both the admission and transportation.

On June 1, we will go to the Kansasville Fire Department. This is an all-day event which previous second graders have thoroughly enjoy.

Volunteers are needed for both of these field trips. In order to volunteer, you must be an approved Wings volunteer. Applications forms are available in the office.

In addition to the hospital and Milwaukee Art Museum field trips, we have gone twice to the Golden Rondelle at no cost to the students.

~~However, each student will have to pay for bus transportation to the fire station.~~
You will be receiving more information about this field trip.

Other events for our students to look forward to are the Smoke House and field day.

We hope that our students appreciate all of the opportunities that are being given to them. The best way for them to show their appreciation is to behave in the classroom and work hard.

THIRD GRADE

The end of the year is quickly approaching! It is important that we all work cooperatively to keep the students focused on school and learning. Students should continue to work on basic math facts at home, as well as reading on a daily basis. We will be taking the state Forward Exam the first week of May. Please make sure you encourage your child to exhibit good behavior and work habits as we move toward the end of the school year. Giese's 10th Annual Spelling Bee will be held on May 27th. Details will be sent home. Information about our end of the year field trip will be coming home soon. We will be going to the Racine Gymnastics Center on Friday, June 3rd.

FOURTH GRADE

-Thank you to everyone who ordered carnations for Mother's Day. It's a great fundraiser for our end of the year bowling field trip. The flowers will be given to students to bring home on Friday, May 6th. There will be a few extra to buy that day if anyone would like a few more.

-Reading-Please review the weekly spelling and vocabulary words with your child. These words have been getting more difficult as the year is coming to a close.

-Science/Social Studies-We will be moving on to the plants chapter in science. We just finished up learning about the 11 eastern United States (chapter 3). In the next couple of weeks, the students will have a 50 states and capitals social studies test. We've been working on this all year. Please keep studying!

-Math-Keep using Compass Learning to practice your math skills.

-Look for progress reports to come home soon. Please sign and return them to school.

-As we get closer to the end of the year field trips and fun activities, please remind your child that behavior needs to continue to be his/her best. We'd like everyone to participate in all the fun events as the year winds down.

FIFTH GRADE

Hooray! We are getting closer to the end of the year. We still need to do a good job on the Forward exam which takes place next week. There are many fun things planned ahead for our fifth graders before they leave Giese. Let's have a great end to their elementary career. A note was sent home last week but if you missed it, here again are the important dates to remember:

May 2-6	Forward Exam
May 9th	Orchestra and band concert
May 12th	Classroom Spelling Bee
May 18th	Walking field trip to visit Starbuck
May 27th	School-wide Spelling Bee
May 31st	Walking trip to McDonald's
June 1st	Milwaukee field trip (Boat ride & Imax)
June 2nd	Rain date for McDonald's
June 3rd	Fifth grade completion ceremony 1:10pm
June 6th	Field day
June 7th	Last day of school-Star Roller Rink trip

SUMMER SCHOOL 2016

Summer School brochures are available now and your child should have brought one home last week. Sign-up for Summer School is completely online. If you do not have access to a computer or need help signing up, please feel free to come into the Giese Office and we will help walk you through the process.

Summer School classes are held Monday-Thursday 8:00-1:00 p.m. Classes run from June 15, 2016 until July 28, 2016. Breakfast and lunch will be served at no cost. There is no transportation for Summer School. If you have any further questions, please contact the Giese School Office at 664-8250.

Giese Bully Prevention Family Bingo Night

Please join us for some bingo fun and cash/gift card prizes. Students need to attend with an adult. We hope to see you!!

When: Wednesday May 11th

5:15pm - 6:30pm

Where: Giese Gym

What: Bully Prevention Bingo Night



Enroll NOW!

3-and 4-Year-Old Programs

There are three important steps to enroll and select a school or program for your child.

STEP 1

Enroll

Enroll your child in the District (enrollment is now open) online at www.rusd.org/district/enrollment or in person at the Welcome Center, 3109 Mt. Pleasant St. The Welcome Center is open M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

STEP 2

Submit Forms

Bring your child's **birth certificate or baptismal record, proof of address and immunization record** to the RUSD Welcome Center. There, you will receive your Infinite Campus activation code. **You will need this code in order to select a school or program for your child.**

STEP 3

Select School

Starting Feb. 27 at 10 a.m., select your school or program online at www.rusd.org/district/enrollment or at the Welcome Center or the Racine Early Education Center Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

A Note from the School Counselor and Social Worker

April's focus was on citizenship. We did all sorts of activities in the classroom. Grades 2-4 decorated grocery bags that will be returned to the Pick N Save on Spring/Hwy 31. Kindergarten and First grade listened to the awesome story "If Kids Ran The World". They decorated their classroom door with ideas on how to make our world better! We also talked about picking up litter, listening, helping and saving water as well as paying attention to our actions and choices.

We made a huge difference with our Pennies for Patients Fundraiser! Congratulations to Mr. Joling and Mrs. Martinez (5th) for raising so much money! Bonus recess goes to these classrooms: Mrs. Lewno, Mrs. Hanson and Mrs. Gayle!! We raised \$1000!!! Way to go in helping others!

Our Buddy Bingo night is Wednesday, May 11th. Stay tuned for more details!!

We are still noticing a few concerns lately as well. Some of the children are not making it for breakfast and have a hard time at school when they are hungry. We have breakfast here from 7:30-7:45 am and we know it is cold, but if they don't eat at home please send them so they can eat here. Otherwise some students (if their dinner was at 5pm) are waiting up to 16 hours to eat again as they wait for lunch at school. Meals with plenty of protein are necessary! Please make sure they are getting enough sleep too. Our students should be sleeping approximately 10-12 hours a night.

Thank you for all you do at home to keep your child successful at school.

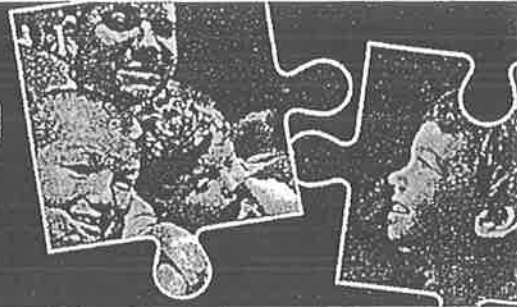
Feel free to contact us at anytime or visit us at conference time! Helpful websites:
www.loveandlogic.com, www.kidshealth.org and
<http://www.racinecountyfoodbank.org/>

Racine County Food Bank: (262) 632-2307
Mrs. Howard (counselor) 664-8282
Mrs. Podskarbi (social worker) 664-8262
Attendance line – 664-8255





**AMC Sensory
Friendly Films**



**AMC Theaters – Sensory Friendly Films
In Partnership with the Autism Society**

AMC theaters have partnered with the Autism Society to bring sensory friendly films to families affected by Autism and other disabilities. This program has expanded to showcase up to four movies every month and provide an environment that is sensitive to special sensory needs.

The lights are turned up and the sound is turned down! You can also bring in your own gluten-free, casein-free snacks, and viewers are even invited to get up out of their seats and dance, shout, walk or sing-a-long with the film! Tuesday evening showings have been added, and family-friendly films will continue to show on Saturday mornings.

The closest participating theater near the Racine area:

AMC Theater - Mayfair Mall

2500 N. Mayfair

(Hwy 100 & North Ave.)

Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Guest Services: (414) 777-0467

January Showings: (date, film & admission prices are subject to change at any time)

Captain America: Civil War – May 10 – 7 PM

Captain America: Civil War – May 14 – 10 AM

Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising – May 24 – 7 PM

Alice Through the Looking Glass – May 28 – 10 AM

Special admission price: Adults \$9 and Children \$7

**** Share your photos and posts of your experiences with #AMCSensoryFriendly**

For more information, contact Mayfair Mall's AMC Theater or
Giese's Speech Language Pathologist, Mrs. Cronin at 664-8265.

Visit the following web sites for more listings:

Autism Society: <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/events/sensory-friendly-films/>

AMC Theater–Mayfair Mall: <http://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>

May is Better Hearing & Speech Month!

Each May, The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) celebrates Better Hearing and Speech Month. This annual event is designed to raise awareness and promote the treatment of communication disorders. Some communication deficits include: hearing loss, stuttering, delayed language skills, speech sound production errors, non-verbal, socially inept, memory or reasoning problems, voice quality concerns, or difficulties with swallowing. For 2016, the theme is "Communication Takes Care."

ASHA is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for more than 127,000 speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists. Contact your local speech-language pathologist or audiologist if you have concerns about your loved one's communication skills and needs.



Did you know that you are a Title I Parent?

Your entire school is a Title I school therefore every family has the benefit of visiting the Title I Parent Center.

The Title I Parent Center has FREE reading and math resources for at-home instruction for grades 4K through 8.

The Title I Parent Center is located inside of Red Apple Elementary School 914 St. Patrick St, Racine, WI.

* Appointments are required. To make an appointment, please call or text Ale Briones at (262) 221 - 5396.

Title I Parent Advisory Council - The Council meets only 4 times a year at each meeting childcare and dinner are provided.

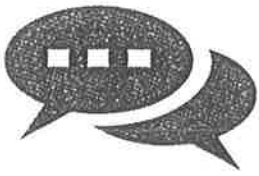
Our mission is to:

1. Share accurate Title I Racine District Information.
2. Provide tools and support for at-home learning in reading and math.
3. Give parents a voice in decision-making.
4. Empower and therefore encourage leadership.

Our next two meetings are on Tuesday, March 22nd and Tuesday May 31st. Dinner starts at 6 p.m. with work session following from 6:30-7:30 p.m. We always meet at ASC (3109 Mt. Pleasant St. Building 1) in the Mygatts room and childcare is always provided.

*If interested in participating please call/text Ale Briones at (262) 221 - 5396.

Thank you for your input on the RUSD Start and End Time, Calendar and Transportation Survey!



We Asked.

You Shared.

We're Listening.

Survey Results:

Survey Dates: March 8 – March 22, 2016

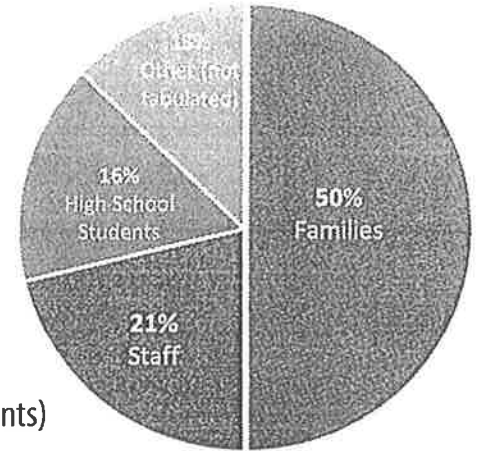
Audience: Sent to RUSD families, staff and high school students

Channels: Online, print version mailed to all parents/guardians

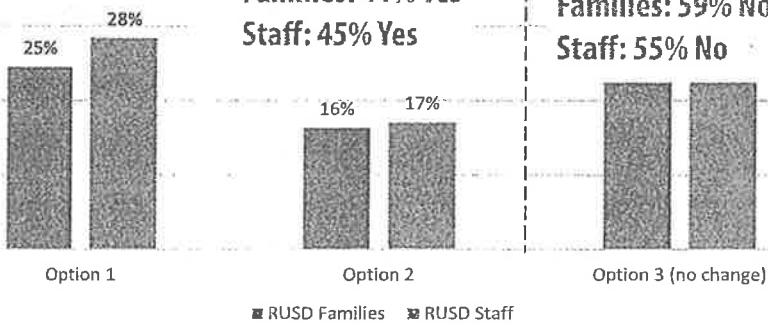
Languages: English and Spanish

Total of 8,458 participants

(7,373 RRUSD families, staff and high school students)



At this time in the communication process, parents and staff are not supportive of a change in start and end times



Takeaways:

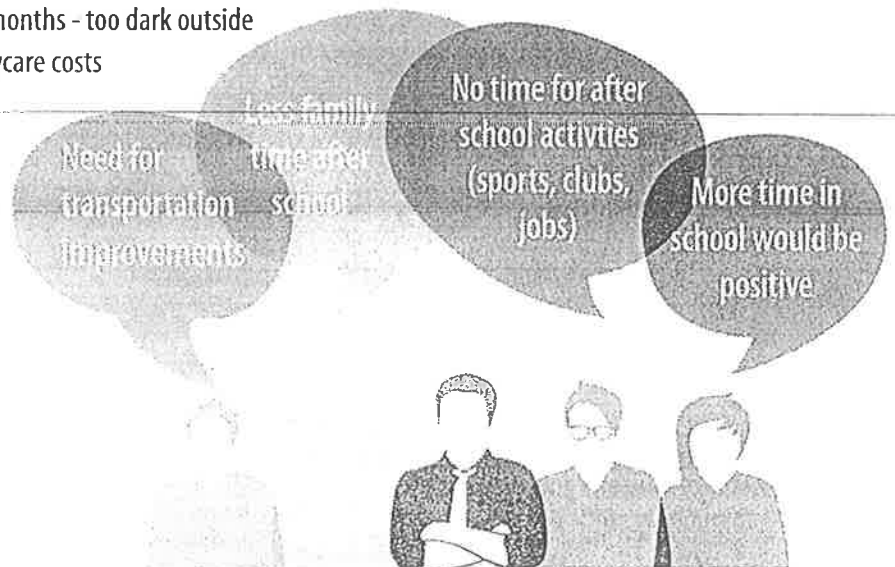
- Full-day releases are preferred by 72% of families and 59% of staff and 47% of HS students
- Early release/full-day release days should be on Fridays – 84% of families, 73% of staff and 77% of students
- There is support for extending class time for art, music and physical education at the elementary level – 55% of families, 61% of staff
- Families repeatedly expressed appreciation for the opportunity to provide their feedback

Comments Section Themes - Start and End Time Change Feedback:

- Transportation and routine would cause families to make adjustments in work and life schedules
- Later end times present a problem during winter months - too dark outside
- Potentially could add to the need for daycare & daycare costs
- Later start time for older kids would be positive

Next Steps:

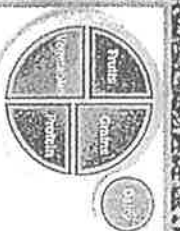
- Look deeper into comments
- Develop new options
- Re-engage community & staff fall 2016
- Continue dialogue with community
- Implement supported changes



May 2016



Racine Unified Elementary Lunch Menu



Arbor A+ Nutrition Standards

- ✓ Encourage nutritious & delicious Fruits & Vegetables
- ✓ Chicken raised Cage-Free and Grain-Fed with NO added Hormones/Steroids
- ✓ Fat Free or 1% Milk with NO Artificial Growth Hormones
- ✓ Whole Grain Rich products every day
- ✓ Baked instead of Deep Fried
- ✓ Minimal Saturated Fat, Added Sugars, Artificial Ingredients and Sodium
- whenever possible!

Arbor Harvest

Make Choices for a Healthy Lifestyle!

Questions about the menu?

Call Arbor Management

262-664-8701, Stacy.Brandt@rusd.org

Comprehensive nutrition & allergy guides are available under "Food Service" on the RUSD website.

This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Lunch \$2.45

(Milk Included with Meal)

Milk 45¢

Skim White, Skim Chocolate

V=vegetarian option available

*Contains beef ingredients.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Pizza Dippers ^v w/ Marinara Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Orange	3 Lucky Tray Day! Cheese Quesadilla ^v Golden Sweet Corn Tortilla Chips Salsa Red Delicious Apple	4 Hot Diggity Dog Baked Beans Crunchy Baby Carrots 100% Apple Juice	5 Cheese Pizza ^v Celery Sticks Crunchy Baby Carrots Petite Banana	6 Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll Steamed Carrots Cucumber Slices Applesauce
9 Chicken Nuggets Baked Beans Cucumber Slices Diced Pear	10 French Toast Sticks w/ Sausage Patty Baked Hashbrown Triangle 100% Dragon Punch Vegetable Juice Applesauce	11 Pepperoni Lil' Bites Spaghetti Sauce Fresh Cauliflower Orange Slices	12 Crispy Chicken Sandwich Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Broccoli Buds Golden Peaches	13 Early Release Chef Chicken Salad Dinner Roll w/ Ranch Dressing Mandarin Oranges
16 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Cucumber Slices Fruit Medley	17 Juicy Cheeseburger Golden Sweet Corn Fresh Cauliflower Red Delicious Apple	18 Hot Diggity Dog Steamed Broccoli Crunchy Baby Carrots 100% Apple Juice Ranch Dressing Special Treat Day!	19 Cheese Quesadilla ^v Seasoned Green Beans Tortilla Chips Salsa Red Delicious Apple	20 Popcorn Chicken Dinner Roll Steamed Carrots Fresh Broccoli Applesauce
23 Strawberry Chicken Nuggets Baked Hashbrown Cucumber Slices Crunchy Baby Carrots Fruit Medley	24 Milk Pizza Dippers ^v Spaghetti Sauce Romaine Salad w/ Ranch Dressing Golden Peaches	25 Available Meatball Hoagie w/ Sweet Garden Peas 100% Apple Juice	26 This Crispy Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Cucumber Slices Red Delicious Apple	27 Week! Cheese Pizza ^v Celery Sticks Crunchy Baby Carrots Petite Banana
30 No School	31 French Toast Sticks w/ Sausage Patty Baked Hashbrown Triangle 100% Dragon Punch Vegetable Juice Applesauce			



This menu follows USDA National School Lunch Program guidelines. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

* Contains beef ingredients.

Elementary menus are pork- and nut-free.

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 "C-DAY"	3 "A-DAY"	4 "B-DAY"	5 PBIS Luncheon Cheerleading Practice 2:45-4:15 "C-DAY"	6 Kindergarten Mothers Day Concert & Tea 1:30 p.m. "A-DAY"	7
8 Mother's Day	9 "B-DAY"	10 "C-DAY"	11 Buddy Bingo Night (5:15) "A-DAY"	12 Junior Achievement Day Cheerleading Practice 2:45-4:15 "B-DAY"	13 Hr. Early Release 11:45 dismissal Classroom Spelling Bees held-C-DAY	14
15	16 "A-DAY"	17 Transitions Program Gr. 5 (10-11:30) "B-DAY"	18 K-to Golden Rondelle 9:00-10:30 Gr. 5 to Starbuck for Transitions Program "C-DAY"	19 Orchestra/Band Concert 9:15 & 1:15 Transitions Program Gr. 5 10-11:30 2:45-4:00 Cheerleading	20 Grade 2 to Milwaukee Art Museum 8:30-12:00 "B-DAY"	21
22	23 Schools of Hope Breakfast 9:00-10:00 "C-DAY"	24 "A-DAY"	25 "B-DAY"	26 Cheerleading Practice 2:45-4:15 "C-DAY"	27 Spelling Bee for Gr. 3,4,5 "A-DAY"	28
29	30 NO SCHOOL! Memorial Day	31 "B-DAY"				