

Giant Steps Newsletter

Inspiring Our Students

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It's August! It must be time for baseball and softball season at Giant City!

Practices began the last week of July with games beginning in the middle of August. Coach Crombar and Coach Hicks are ready to practice hitting and fielding this year! Coach Robison can always use a few more girls for softball. Even if you have never played softball before, now is a great time to

Go Giants!

learn.

In August we have the following home games:

Aug. 14- 4:30 GCS Baseball vs. UCS

Aug. 15- 4:30 GCS Baseball vs. Elverado

Aug. 17- 4:30 GCS Softball vs. NSH

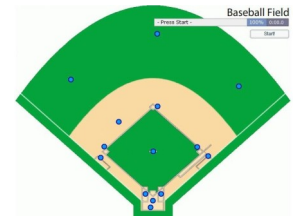
Aug. 22- 4:30 GCS Softball vs. P204

Aug. 24- 4:30 GCS Baseball vs. OLMC

Aug. 28- 4:00 GCS

Softball vs. Desoto

Aug. 29- 4:30 GCS Softball vs. Crab Orchard



Special thanks to all of our volunteers: Lance Crombar, Katrina and Mickey Sanford, and Kate Crombar!

Helping people makes this world a better place! Thank you!

Special points of interest:

- Aug. 14- Teacher Institute
- Aug. 15-1st day of student attendance
- Aug 16-1st day of Kids Klub!
- Aug 21-NO SCHOOL
- Aug 28- Board Meeting-7 pm

Required Change in Lunch Prices by NSLP

New regulations from the federal government (Nat. School Lunch Program) force Giant City School to raise their lunch prices for the school year.

Beginning in the FY18 school year, the meal prices will be

changed to the following:

Extra milk-\$0.35

Student breakfast-\$1.60

Adult breakfast-\$2.50

Student lunch-**\$3.00**

Adult lunch-\$3.50





Giant City Foundation

The Giant City Foundation was established a decade ago to allow families and businesses to make donations to benefit the Giant City Community Consolidated School District 130. The foundation may accept monetary donations as well as property, or large items (such as a boat or car) for

resale.

Proceeds from any donations will be utilized for the benefit of the district which serves children in kindergarten through eighth grades. This public school district prides itself on academic excellence. Upon receiving a donation, the

GCSPA organization will form a committee to decide the best use of the bequest.

To make a donation of any kind please contact Giant City School at (618)457-5391.



August 21, 2017

As previously reported, Giant City School will be closed due to possible congestion in the Carbondale

area on August 21, 2017. Please keep in mind that looking directly at the sun at any time can damage eyes permanently. Giant City will send a pair of eclipse glasses home with each student on Aug. 18th!

FALL FESTIVAL— OCTOBER 21st

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

On October 21, 2017 the GCSPA Organization will try a new event for Giant City! The Fall Festival will feature exciting activities such as a chili cook-off, pumpkin decorating or pumpkin chunkin', inflatables for the kids

(and adults?), and a silent auction.

We are very excited about this event. GCSPA will need several helpers and donations to make this event really fun for the whole family.



Student-Led Parent/Teacher Conferences

This year Giant City School will continue student led P/T conferences. The Student-Led P/T Conference helped to put students in the “driver’s seat” with regards to their learning and progress last year.

Students and teachers will continue to work together to develop a student portfolio of work. Each student will choose a vari-

ety of good and needs improvement work samples for each subject. Students will write their own academic and personal goals for each subject.

At the Student Led/Teacher conferences students must attend with their parent to explain their progress towards the goals they have defined.

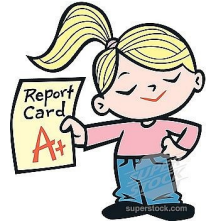
In FY17 Giant City School will hold two conference days:

Oct. 25 & 26 from 3-6 p.m.

And

**March 9, 2018
from 8 am-3pm**

Please mark your calendar!



Handbook Changes

Each year the administration and the Board of Education review the handbook and make necessary changes. A few of the revised rules are:

- 1) A new homework policy. See page 16
- 2) Determination of honor roll, valedictorian and salutatorian. Page 17

- 3) A change in the Giant City Vision and Mission Statements were completed at the end of July by the Board of Education. Please see the page 4 of this newsletter for details.

OPEN HOUSE

Students, parents, and families are cordially invited to attend the Open House on **August 29, 2017**. K-5th grade families may attend from 5-6:30; with 6-8th grade families attending from 6-7:30 p.m.

Please join us!

Fall Pictures

September 6, 2017

Student and class pictures will be taken on Sept. 6, 2017! Be prepared to look beautiful or handsome as the case may be! Order forms will be available at the beginning of September.

Staff Changes

At the end of the 2017 school year, and due to the retirement of Terry Montgomery, several teachers will be taking on new assignments this year.

Lori Opp– Kindergarten

Jessica Carsrud-4th Grade

Michelle Bradley– Jr. High
Social Studies/Tech

Caryn Skiles– Jr. High ELA/RtI
Interventions

Chrissy Miller-Title 1/Jr. High
Reading

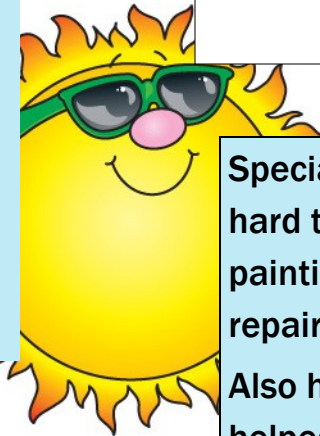
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"Inspiring Our Students"

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CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABEL AND BOX TOPS

The Giant City School is still collecting soup labels and box tops. Labels and box tops may be dropped off in a collection container by the office. A competition will be underway for which class can collect the most labels and box tops.

Special thanks to our custodians who worked very hard this summer polishing floors, cleaning, painting, mowing, moving gravel and mulch, and repairing many items!

Also hats off to the ladies (and gentlemen) that helped with Summer Kids Klub and Little Giants Daycare. The children really seemed to enjoy themselves this summer!

Re-evaluating the Goals for Giant City School

Periodically, the Board of Education schedules a retreat to discuss the progress of the school and re-evaluate the goals set forth for the administration.

This year's retreat occurred on July 26, 2017. The Board met to review the Vision and Mission Statements of the school, then review and update short and long term goals. The meeting seemed productive with a new Vision and Mission statement, and four new long-term goals, with short-term targets in each category. These will be listed in the next two columns. Due to the amazing work ethic of our front office staff, the handbooks for the school year were already printed!

Vision

Inspiring Our Students

Mission

Giant City School, in partnership with families and the community, encourages students' active participation and ownership in lifelong learning, inspires students to develop confidence to explore new ideas, and supports the social, emotional and academic success of every student.

GOALS

1) **Academic Rigor**-Our mission will be achieved through exploring options to expand curricular offerings, integration of a district-wide writing program, develop best practices for technology literacy and increased mathematics, and encourage collabo-

ration with the community for health and wellness.

- 2) **Organizational Effectiveness:** Our Mission will be achieved by incorporating the Vision/Mission into district culture, improving articulation with schools in Jackson County, encourage faculty for improved peer to peer communication and development of a collaborative PLC for faculty.
- 3) **Facility Planning:** Our Mission will be achieved by improving air quality, increasing facility safety, improving efficiency in district lighting, and removal of safety hazards to improve risk management.
- 4) **Financial:** Our Mission will be achieved by maintaining a sound budget, developing a process of transparency for use of Facility Sales Tax Funds, and pursuit of grant opportunities.