

# THE GLEN ESTE GAZETTE

February 2008

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## Message from the Principal . . .

*I feel compelled to write again this school year, after recent parent requests, about the importance of monitoring your child's use of the Internet after school. There have been some recent issues that I've addressed that concern me about the safety of our students. Too often, the students provide information about themselves on sites such as MySpace.com that make themselves open to child predators. Predators can find out the child's address, phone number, and have a picture of the child in minutes. This happens all too often and without the parents knowing. I would strongly advise not allowing your child to visit MySpace.com and I would DEFINITELY not allow them to set up an account. I have come to the conclusion that middle school-aged children are not mature enough to handle using such sites. It is a disaster waiting to happen.*

*The second issue that I want to address is cyber bullying. At GEMS we've stepped up our efforts in dealing with and preventing bullying during the day. I've been very pleased by the efforts of our students and staff in identifying and dealing with bullying situations. The one area that I don't feel we've been able to reduce bullying or harassment has been the cyber bullying that occurs after school on the Internet. On too many occasions, we've had to deal with angry students who have been arguing over email or on MySpace.com. Threats are made over the Internet and the language used has been appalling. In each of these cases, I've brought it to the attention of our school Resource Officer to handle. Arrests have been made in the past and I don't want this for any child at GEMS. Parents, please take the time to view the "history" under Internet options in Internet Explorer to see what sites your child is visiting.*

*It used to be that parents just needed to worry about protecting us from strangers in the neighborhood. Today's technology has made our job of protecting our children much more difficult. Please make an effort to sit down with your child to discuss the importance of staying safe by using the internet appropriately.*

## Important Dates

### February

- 7 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library
- 13 Intramural Soccer Begins
- 15 NO SCHOOL, Mid-Winter Break
- 18 NO SCHOOL, President's Day
- 22 7th/8th Grade Dance, 7-9 p.m., MPR

### March

- 4 Washington, D.C. Info Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Gym
- 6 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Library
- 13-19 Book Fair
- 14-15 GEMS Talent Show
- 20 End 3rd Quarter Grading Period
- 21 Spring Break Begins
- 31 School Reopens

## Students of the Month

The following students have been selected by their teachers as "Students of the Month." GEMS students of the month are chosen for displaying determination and self-motivation. Congratulations on this fine honor!

### January 2008

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 6-1 Meaghan McGraw  | 7-1 Trey Adkinson   |
| 6-2 Carley Wilson   | 7-2 Kristen Godfrey |
| 6-3 Stephanie Bogan | 7-3 Caitlyn Riley   |
| 8-1 Chloe Dennis    |                     |
| 8-2 Toni Mills      |                     |
| 8-3 Megan Barnes    |                     |

## Honor Orchestra

Congratulations to **Lauren Jacobs** (violin), **Alisha McDaniel** (violin), **Peter Jones** (violin), **Marissa Craddock** (cello) and **Rebecca Cass** (bass) for being selected for the District 14 Honor Orchestra. They will rehearse and perform a concert on March 15 at Princeton High School.

## Talent Show Coming Soon!

The 2008 Glen Este Middle School Talent Show will take place on Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15 in the Performing Arts Center. More information regarding the cost and the time will come shortly.

**Attn: 7th Grade Students & Parents**  
**Washington, D.C. Info Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 4, 7:00 p.m. in Gym**  
*Please plan to attend this meeting  
for information regarding  
next year's Washington, D.C. class trip*

### Glen Este Middle School Mission Statement:

*The Glen Este Middle School staff is committed to empowering all students in a safe environment for changes and challenges of the 21st century, through a shared responsibility between home, school, and community.*

## SPORTS NEWS

### Wrestling

The wrestling team finished the season with a bang! They placed 4th out of 17 teams in the Fort Ancient Valley Conference. Placers were as follows: **Matt Noble, 1st place; Jonathan Kirschbaum, 2nd place; John Mikolay, 2nd place; Drew Kearns, 3rd place; Connor Meranda, 3rd place; Mike Mullinex, 4th place; Tyler Gibbs, 5th place.** Congratulations! Thanks to coaches Brett Branson and Chris Redmond and also to team "mom" Mrs. Gibbs for all her help!

### Basketball

The 7th grade girls basketball team is 10-2! This record guarantees a tie for 1st place, with two games left to play. Tournaments for the boys and girls will be February 9. The girls will play at Loveland and the boys at Wilmington. Thanks to the following coaches: 7th grade girls, Chris Vandergriff; 8th grade girls, Bill Blair; 7th grade boys, Jeremy Hatfield; 8th grade boys, Dave Habig.

### Intramural Soccer

**Intramural soccer will begin Monday, February 13 from 2:15-4:00 p.m. and run through Thursday, March 7. Intramural soccer is open to grades 6, 7 and 8. Sign up early! Cost is only \$15.00. For more information you can call Mr. Mulvaney at 947-7717 between 10:20 and 11:20 a.m. or email mulvaney\_r@westcler.org.**

### Track News

There will be a track workshop March 3-7 after school. **The official track season begins Monday, March 10.** Track is open to students in the 7th or 8th grade. The first meet is April 1 at home. Track athletes **MUST** have a physical on file in order to practice. Physical forms are available in the office. Physical exams and emergency medical information are matters of state law. The coaches and athletic director are not free to make exceptions. Second trimester grade point averages must be 1.51 or higher to participate. Sign-up times will be announced. Listen to WGEM for more information. **\*\* Be sure to check out more athletic news on the GEMS website. Log on to [www.westcler.org/gm/](http://www.westcler.org/gm/) and click on the "Athletics" link.**

### **Congratulation, Ms. Hilan!**

**Congratulations to our own Ms. Hilan and the rest of Team Lachey, Winners of the "Clash of the Choirs." Your team was awesome! We are very proud of you, Ms. Hilan!**

*(Team Lachey will be performing at the Grand Opening of Ikea on March 12 at 6:00 a.m.!)*

### Photos on Display

Be sure to stop in soon and see our new photos on display outside the office. On the bulletin board there are photos of Students of the Month, the Straight-A Luncheon, Student Council and the Battle of the Brains team. We also have two large "thank you" posters to **bigg's**, thanking them for their continuous support to GEMS.

*News from school psychologist, Carrie Urshel:*

**This month's highlight is Study Skills**  
**Get information about helping your child do better with homework, studying and organization at [www.westcler.org/gm/schoolpsychologist](http://www.westcler.org/gm/schoolpsychologist).**

## PTO NEWS

*Next PTO Meeting:*

**Thursday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.**

**GEMS Library**

### Thank You, GEMS Parents!

Glen Este Middle School PTO and staff want to thank all parents who donated desserts for the winter parent-teacher conferences. They were very much appreciated!

### 7th/8th Grade Dance

PTO will be sponsoring a 7th and 8th grade dance on February 22 from 7-9 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. (School fees must be paid to attend.) Tickets will be on sale February 19-22 during lunch times for \$4.00. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.00. Snacks and drinks will be for sale at the dance. Parent volunteers are needed to sell tickets and also to chaperone on the night of the dance.

### PTO Website

To get up-to-date information on all PTO activities or to volunteer at GEMS, go to [www.gems-ptu.org](http://www.gems-ptu.org).

**"Straight-A"**

**Reds Tickets Applications Are Here!**  
**If you qualify, pick yours up in the front office!**

### Thanks to News Operators

Mrs. Meredith would like to thank the following students for their help operating the Channel One newscast and the WGEM broadcast every day:

6th Grade: **Gabrielle Ruehlman, Alexis Carta**

7th Grade: **Madison Landon, Jessica Klatzke**

8th grade: **Payel Patel, Summer Clark, Peter Sheldon**

Glen Este Middle School thanks these very dependable helpers!

### West Clermont Medication Policy

It is the West Clermont Local School District's policy that no student is permitted to carry medication with them either prescription or over-the-counter (except for cough drops). The school nurse can dispense medication if a parent/guardian completes a West Clermont medication form signed by the doctor and returns the form to the school nurse. All medication must be brought to school and picked up from school in the original container by a parent/guardian. (Students with chronic health problems like asthma and diabetes are allowed to carry medication to self-medicate. A West Clermont medication form and a Health Alert must be on file in the nurse's office.)

### Stock Market Game Club

The Stock Market Game Club will begin soon! Join a team of 6th, 7th and 8th grade students to compete in an internet computer simulation of buying, selling and trading stocks. The club will meet every Monday from 2:15-3:15 p.m. beginning February 11 in room 339 with Mrs. Walls and Ms. DeMougin. Be sure to download the permission form on the school website. For more information go to [www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org).

**BOOK FAIR COMING**  
**MARCH 13 - MARCH 19!**  
*(More info will follow)*