



The Girard Way, All Day, Every Day!

GIRARD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme *in candidacy*
600 Girard Avenue, Dothan, AL 36303
334-794-1426

Principal: Beth Bouchard
Assistant Principal: Dr. LaVonda Senn

Our school empowers all students to embrace learning, achieve their personal best, and build their emotional, social, and physical well-being to equip them with the skills and mindset to thrive and then take on the world.

THE GIRARD GAZETTE

January 2021

Happy New Year and welcome to 2021! The theme for January is Respect, and our IB Learner Profile for the month is Communicators. As strong communicators, students understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. Students collaborate effectively by listening carefully to the perspectives of others and share ideas respectfully.

Informed by the International Baccalaureate (IB) mission to develop active, compassionate and lifelong learners, the IB program fosters a distinctive set of attributes. These qualities are embodied in the IB learner profile and prepare our students to make exceptional contributions; they are: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, *communicators*, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective.

Students will participate in a *reflective* writing project in January that culminates with the selection of outstanding essays about Martin Luther King, Jr. Teachers will be presenting the writing prompt to students the first week of January.

Our school's Science Fair exhibits will be viewed on Friday, January 15h. Each classroom will have a class project to display.

Important Information:

Our "*Pennies for the Playground*" project continues throughout the school year. This sixth-grade school-wide project will collect change for the purpose of improving our playground. We appreciate all donations!

Girard Intermediate t-shirts are now available for \$5.00. Again, thank you to the Girard Intermediate School Parent Organization for making this happen!

Attendance and On-time Arrival to school are very important to the success of your child's education. Be sure to notify your child's teacher and the office if your child is absent.

Our International Baccalaureate Parent Organization (IBPO) meeting and School Improvement Committee meeting are scheduled for Tuesday, **Feb. 23**, 3:30 PM in the Media Center (Physical Spacing will be in place and masks are required) or by Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98772410710?pwd=Ujk2S21qV243UW1YYU1OZXpsTVY0UT09> Meeting ID: 987 7241 0710 Passcode: 852494. Parents are encouraged to attend.

We continue to implement our new snack program "Healthy Food for a Happy World" to address childhood nutrition through a Healthy Food Initiative and the DCS Wellness Policy for Snacks and Special Events. We appreciate your support with providing healthy snacks for your child.

Please remember that students are to maintain physical spacing when possible, to wear a mask on the bus and at school, and to keep hands to one's self. Our goal is for everyone to remain healthy and well!

Please remember that students do not attend school on Monday, January 18, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.