

August 2025

Dear 7th & 8th Grade Parents,

I just wanted to resend this now that school is about to start back up!! Summer flew by!

This is the 4th sending of this letter so if you got it, you can ignore it... for those who never saw it or it got lost in your inbox, I will just reiterate what was said before...

If your child participated in sports at GMS this year or is interested in joining a sport for the first time (new to GMS or an incoming 7th grader), this message is for you.

Meet Your Athletic Team

Kate Breazeale – Athletic Secretary
kbreazeale@gpsbulldogs.org

Kim Thornton – Athletic Director
kthornton@gpsbulldogs.org

Middle School Sports Overview

GMS athletics offer four sports seasons (compared to three at the high school level) giving students more opportunities to explore and participate in a variety of sports.

To view a list of all sports offered at GMS and through Community Education (side 2 of linked sheet) view this one page sheet for quick referral: [GMS Sports Program Sheet](#).

FinalForms Registration – Opened May 8, 2025

Register your child for sports using the [FinalForms link](#).

- Parents of returning athletes: Log in, choose the sport(s) and re-sign/submit forms.
- New athletes to GMS: Parents create an account and begin registration.

If your child is unsure what sport they want to participate in, I recommend you still pick a sport, it can easily be removed or changed later. Reasoning for this: once you select a sport, ALL the required forms will open up that need to be completed. This also means you will be included on any emails from the coach, A.D. or myself closer to the start of that sport's season.

You can pay after they make a final decision, but before the 1st day of practice.

For tryout sports, do not pay unless they make the team.

Pay-to-Play Fee Information

- Fee: \$45 per sport, paid through FinalForms. (**except football**)
- **Football:** Fee is handled separately through this link at: [Community Education](#), but you still need to register your child on FinalForms for football and upload a sports physical.

Free/Reduced Lunch:

- If your child qualifies for free/reduced lunch, the fee will be waived (except for football)
- For non-football school sponsored sports, email Kate Breazeale to confirm eligibility and verification with the Business Office. kbreazeale@gpsbulldogs.org
- Need financial help with the football fee, please contact Coach Stiegel directly: estiegel@gpsbulldogs.org

Cut Sports:

- Only pay the fee if your child makes the team.
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2025–26 Sports Physicals – Important Information

All student-athletes must have a valid sports physical dated April 15, 2025, or later in order to participate in any school-sponsored sport during the 2025–26 school year.

If your child still needs a **physical**, please bring the [MHSAA Physical Form](#) to the appointment. Hard copies are also available at the GMS or GHS office.

FALL Season Sports Physical Deadline:

Physicals must be submitted no later than **August 13, 2025**, to ensure adequate time for processing before the season begins.

Submission Options

Physical forms can be submitted in one of the following ways:

- Upload to FinalForms
 - Drop off at the GMS Office
 - Email (scan or clear photo) to: kbreazeale@gpsbulldogs.org
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Fall Sports Start Dates

Boys Soccer

Tryouts: August 19, 20 & 21 (attendance required all three days)

- 7th Grade: 5:00–6:30 PM — GMS field by softball field (located off of 52nd St entrance)
- 8th Grade: 3:15–4:45 PM — GMS field by softball field (located off of 52nd St entrance)

Girls Volleyball

Tryouts: August 25, 26 & 27 (attendance required all three days)

- 7th Grade: 3:00–4:30 PM — GMS Main Gym
- 8th Grade: 4:30–6:00 PM — GMS Main Gym

Boys Tennis

First week of Practice: August 19-21 After that 1st week, practices will be held Mondays - Fridays

- 7th & 8th Grades: 3:00–4:30 PM — Oakestown Intermediate tennis courts
 - Students will be bused from GMS to Oakestown for practices

Cross Country (Coed)

First week of Practice: August 19-21 After that 1st week, practices will be held Mondays - Fridays

- 3:00–4:30 PM — Meet in the cafeteria the first day of practice with all school backpacks and athletic gear (students will not be able to get back in the building after practice)

Football: TBD

Tryout vs Non-Tryout Sports

Tryout-Based Sports (payment required only after making the team):

- Girls Volleyball
- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Boys & Girls Basketball
- Girls Dance
- Girls Competitive Cheer

Non-Tryout Sports (payment due before the first practice):

- Boys & Girls Tennis
- Boys & Girls Swim & Dive
- Coed Cross Country
- Coed Track & Field
- Coed Wrestling
- Football

General Reminders

- Sports physicals are required for all middle school-sponsored sports
- Physicals must be submitted before any tryouts or practices
- Physicals must be dated April 15, 2025, or later
- FALL season submission deadline: August 13, 2025
- Winter I (October), Winter II (January), and Spring (March) sports: physicals must be submitted before the first day of tryouts or practice

Club Sports (Handled through Community Education)

For additional sports opportunities, visit the [Club Sports Info](#) (page 2).
Registration and payment are handled through Community Education.
A physical is only required for football.
Upload football physicals via FinalForms or turn into the GMS office.
Football fee paid through Community Ed
For questions, contact Community Ed at 616-254-6553.

Contact Information

Kate Breazeale
Athletic Secretary – GMS
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Phone: 616-254-6611

CC: Kim Thornton
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