



Grant Christian Parents,

Happy summer! We hope all is well for all of you and you are enjoying the special time with family and friends that the summer months provide!

Please allow me to briefly introduce myself. My name is Michael Roskamp, and I am pleased to be serving as the new Grant Christian School Principal. My wife and I are both "Pure Michigan" natives, although we recently arrived back in Michigan after spending 3 years in St. Petersburg, Florida. We moved to Florida, when, after 14 years teaching at Zeeland Christian School and 15 years serving as a professor at Calvin College and Grand Valley State University, I made the decision to return to K-12 Christian school education in a leadership role. After 3 years serving as a 6th -12th grade principal at a 400 student Christian school in Florida, my wife and I decided to return to our roots in Michigan to be back with parents, children(4), grandchildren(4), and friends. I am excited to be joining the Grant Christian School community and look forward to working with all of you to continue to make Grant Christian School a Christ-centered school of excellence. But enough about me... feel free to stop in some time and learn more!

It is that time of the summer when we are beginning to ramp up for the start of the school year, so we wanted to take a minute to share some important information with you.

1. **IT'S A TAILGATE PARTY! ... AND YOU'RE INVITED! SAVE THE DATE...AUGUST 20, 6:00 pm.**

On August 20, at 6:00 pm we would like to celebrate Grant Christian School, our families, and the start of our 72nd school year. We will provide the burgers, dogs, and chips, we would like you to provide the grills, salads, deserts, and smiles! More details coming soon!

2. **OUR THEME FOR THE YEAR- "Growing Together in Christ"**

Our theme for the coming school year will be "Growing Together in Christ." This year we would like to focus our attention on what it means to be intentionally Christian in a school community setting. How do we grow together? How do we grow in Christ? How do we together, grow in Christ? What does that growth look like, and what fruits does that growth produce? We will explore the answers to these questions and more as we dig into this year's theme.

3. **MUCH INFORMATION, AND SEVERAL DOCUMENTS INCLUDED!**

There will be several documents handed out to you at the tailgate party that will need to be filled-out, signed and returned to school. Please return these documents the first day of school. Your attention to these details will make our lives so much easier. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

4. STOP IN SOON!

If you have not already done so, please stop in soon to say hello and introduce yourself. As the new guy in the neighborhood, one of my goals is to learn as many names as possible as quickly as possible. Please stop in and help me get started!

School Information:

- **School Year Start Date & End Date for 2018/2019:** August 22 & May 31
- **School Start/End Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. (Preschool – 8th grade)
(The first bell will ring at 7:50 a.m. to enter and class will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m.)
- **Tardy Policy:** As we strive for excellence in education, the Grant Christian School board and staff recognize the importance of students arriving to school on time. It is our belief that students being in class when the bell rings, not only benefits the flow of classroom instruction, but that it also reinforces the important life skill of being on time for work, appointments, etc.... In an effort to encourage promptness and in compliance with our parent/student handbook, the following tardy policy will be enforced. Students arriving after the bell to begin class will be asked to check in at the office and will be held out of class until 8:10, so as not to disrupt devotional time.
- **Bus Transportation:** If you plan to have your child(ren) ride the Grant Public School bus please contact the bus garage before school begins @231-834-5964.
- **Hot Lunch:** Hot lunch will begin in October and be offered on M, W, and F. Hot lunch forms will be sent home with your students in September. Please send forms back in on the designated date as late forms will not be counted, thank you for your cooperation and understanding.
- **School Directory Information:** Please call, send or email me your name, address, phone number and email address for the school directory. Attach a business card if you would like it advertised in our school directory for free!
- **Facebook:** Check us out on the G.C.S. Facebook page for pictures and posts throughout the school year.
- **Chapel:** Praise Chapel will be held the 1st Wednesday of every month and regular chapel the 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
- **Dress Code:** Shoes & socks (or tights), sandals; logos and pictures in good taste; sweatshirts; t-shirts; shirts covering midriff when hands are raised; jeans, slacks, sweat suits; modest dresses, skirts, shorts (minimum length being to the bottom of the finger tips when arms are extended at sides); boots, snow pants, hats, mittens; neat haircuts.
- **Extra Help:** Students are encouraged to come in for extra help as soon as they begin to struggle in any subject. Early intervention can make for a much smoother, successful year. If you do not understand something, talk with your teacher right away and make arrangements to come in early or stay late to clear

up any questions you may have. Sometimes a little extra explanation or practice makes a huge difference! We want your child(ren) to be successful and are here to help.

- **Lines of Communication:** Please know that you and your family are very important to us, and we realize for students to truly succeed, we need to work together. If you ever have ANY concerns, *please* do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher. Often, situations can be resolved quickly by speaking directly to the teacher as soon as you have a concern. If you are not satisfied, ask to meet with the principal and teacher. In the unfortunate case that the situation has not been taken care of to your satisfaction, your next step is to address the Education Committee. A beneficial way of doing this is to write your concerns in detail and request a special meeting. Board contact is the final contact in these Biblical lines of communication as outlined in the parent and policy handbooks. Our desire is to keep the lines of communication open!
- **Medication:** All medication must be kept in the office and administered by office personnel and labeled with your child's name. It must be in the original container and dropped off in the office by the parent with a written note and permission to give as needed. Non-prescription medications (Tylenol) will be administered by office personnel only with parent authorization on the emergency information card.
- **Enrichment Classes:** To optimize your child(ren)'s learning experience, please make note of the days your student(s) will be participating in Enrichment Classes. By doing this, your child(ren) can be best prepared for class. For example: tennis shoes for physical education, books to return on library days, music and instruments for band. We will be offering: Art, Computers, Choir/Band and Physical Education. These will be offered for Kindergarten through 8th grade.

**TAILGATE PARTY 2018 –
August 20 at 6:00. See you there!**