

Grimmer Middle School

August Newsletter

Welcome Back & Welcome In!



Great Things Happening at Grimmer!



In the top picture, Mrs. Spivak's class celebrates winning the state competition of We The People. Mrs. Spivak's classes have won this event three years in a row. In the bottom picture, The Grimmer Boys Track and Field Team captured the conference championship back in May!

Important Dates for August and Back to School

- **August 7 - Open Building from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**
 - This is a great day to find your locker and drop off supplies
 - Our halls are open for you to map out your routes to classes
 - Principals will be here to answer any questions
- **August 13 - First Day of School!**
 - Grimmer open its doors at 8:15 AM each morning
 - First Period begins at 8:47 AM
 - Our Day ends at 3:40 PM
- **August 13 - Grimmer Open House**
 - 5:30 - 7:30 PM
 - We will reach out to you on Aug 11, through Parent Square, to let you know which teachers will be in attendance so you can plan accordingly.
- **August 15 - Picture Day**
 - Event Code is [0132BBF](#)

About the Morning Drop Off Line

- We share a building with Watson Elementary. They begin their day right around 8:00 AM. The first day of school is always a big deal, but especially at the elementary level with kindergarten. The drop off line will be crowded. It will move slower than usual on day one. Grimmer does not open its doors until 8:15. We do not start class until 8:47. If you are able to arrive after 8:15 on August 13 then you may have an easier experience in the drop off line.
- We are going to open up the main lot for drop off. Please follow these guidelines:
 - Grimmer parents may use two lines to drop off their child (each day / all year)
 - Line 1 - wraps around the back of the building and ends at Watson's playground
 - Line 2 - is the front row of our parking lot and exits out of the side
 - Please avoid parking in the front two rows if you must park
 - Parents should not attempt to exit out of the entrance

[Grimmer Spirit Wear can be purchased here!](#)

Athletic Announcements

- **Football** begins August 6 (Wednesday)
 - Football is open to 7th and 8th grade students
 - Click [here](#) for more Grimmer Football information



- **Volleyball** tryouts are after school August 13 - 15
 - Volleyball is open to 7th and 8th grade
 - Click [here](#) for more Grimmer Volleyball information



- **Boys and Girls Cross Country** will have call out meeting when we return to school
 - Cross Country is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students



Attention 7th Grade Families!

Do you want to be in NJHS during your 8th grade year?

NJHS Criteria:

- 2 School Activities (such as school sponsored sports or clubs)
- 2 Out of School Activities (such a club swimming and piano)
- 3.3 Cumulative Grade Point Average
 - Find all NJHS information on page 6 in your student agenda

***We want you to have this information now so you can plan accordingly**

Grimmer First Semester Reward Field Trip

This year, Grimmer is sponsoring a reward field trip for students who meet the following criteria during the first semester:

- **No Grade lower than a C- on their quarterly report cards**
 - We will run a 2nd quarter grade check on December 8 at the end of the day
- **No more than 6 absences (full day) for the first semester**
- **No disciplinary infractions greater than a detention**
 - No more than 2 detentions for the semester

Our goal is to provide a fun incentive for students to work towards. We want to prepare students for real world working experiences, and many careers offer incentives. This trip is an extra incentive. There is no academic negative impact for not qualifying for this incentive.

Grimmer Cell Phone Policy

- **Cell Phones**
 - Are not to be visible in the classroom nor can they be a classroom disruption
 - Are not permitted at lunch and should not be visible in the cafeteria
 - Should not be visible in the hallways
 - We understand that students may check their phones while at their lockers.
- **Headphones and AirPods**
 - The only time a student should be wearing headphones is under the direct supervision of a teacher during class through a Chromebook activity.
 - Students are not permitted to wear headphones in the hallways during passing periods.

We implemented this policy last year and found it to be positive. We observed students building positive relationships with their peers through healthy face to face communication. We want all students to be able to focus on classroom instruction without the distraction of a phone going off. It is our belief that these continued steps will increase student participation in all aspects of their school day while also decreasing anxiety. We are asking for your support and understanding as we work to create a structure that students can thrive in. The consequence for a student having a phone out, when they should not, begins with a Friday School.

Planning out the Year at Grimmer

Grimmer School Wide Events

- Open Building - August 7 from 10:00 - 6:00 PM
- First Day of School - August 13
- Open House - August 13 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- [Picture Day: August 15](#)
- Book Fair - October 6-10
- Picture Day Retake - October 17
- Halloween Dance - October 17 from 6-8 PM
- Fall Break
- Veterans Day Ceremony - November 7: Breakfast at 8: Ceremony at 9
- First Semester Reward Trip - December 11 & 12 (Thursday 5th & 6th) (Friday 7th & 8th)
- Winter Dance - February 6 from 6-8 PM
- Penny Wars - February 2 - 6
- Straight A Breakfast - February 13 at 8:45 AM
- 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament - March 9-20
- End of Year Celebration - May 21 (Thursday) Rain Date is May 22 (Friday)
- 8th Grade Ceremony - May 28: Ceremony begins at 10:30. Doors open at 10.
- 8th Grade Dance - May 28 from 6-8 PM

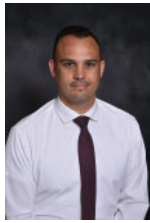
Early Release Days - Grimmer dismisses at 1:10 PM

- September 9
- October 14
- November 11
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12

LC Vacations & Holidays - No School

- Labor Day: September 1
- Fall Break: October 24-27
- Thanksgiving: November 26-28
- Winter Break: December 22 - January 5
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 19
- President's Day: February 16
- Spring Break: March 23-27
- Easter Break: April 3-6
- Memorial Day: May 25

Early Release Day Schedule (No Advisory)		
5th Grade	8:47AM - 9:50AM	ELA or Math Block 1
	9:55AM - 10:56AM	ELA or Math Block 2
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 6
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Lunch
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
6/7/8th Grade		
	8:47AM - 9:17AM	Period 2
	9:22AM - 9:50AM	Period 3
Grade 6	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Lunch 6A
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 4
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 7	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Lunch 7B
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Period 5
Grade 8	9:55AM - 10:23AM	Period 4
	10:28AM - 10:56AM	Period 5
	11:01AM - 11:29AM	Lunch 8C
	11:34AM - 12:02PM	Period 6
	12:07PM - 12:35PM	Period 7
	12:40PM - 1:10PM	Period 8
Early Release Dates:		
September 9th	February 10th	May 12th
October 14th	March 10th	<i>No Early Release Days in</i>
November 11th	April 14th	<i>August, December or January</i>



Principal's Message

Welcome Back and Welcome In!

Dear Grimmer Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year. I would like to welcome all of our returning students and extend a special welcome to all new students. It wasn't that long ago that my family was new to Grimmer. We strive to accomplish three objectives at Grimmer each and every year:

1. We love to set big goals
2. We want all students to find their niche
3. We like to have fun

I am entering my fourth year as the Principal of Grimmer Middle School. I have served in public education for over twenty years. I spent a decade teaching and coaching before moving into administration. My first administrative role was at Angola Middle School where I served for seven years. Why did I move to LC? I would imagine it's for very similar reasons that all of you live here, an abundance of opportunities for my three children.

Our entire Grimmer team is proud of what we have accomplished over the past three years. We believe every student can grow and that growth will lead to success. Guided by that belief, Grimmer has established itself as one of the highest academic achieving middle schools in Northwest Indiana. More importantly, we have strived to create a school that kids enjoy. We built a walking track in our cafeteria so kids had a system in place to move around more. Each Friday we have a themed dress up day along with playing music during passing periods. We have a number of other events, all in the name of building a strong school community. We know middle school can be challenging. We want Grimmer to be a positive experience.

We are looking forward to a great school year. Our custodial team has been hard at work preparing the building. Our Language Arts Teachers have gone the extra mile preparing to implement a new curriculum. Our guidance counselors have worked hard balancing our master schedule. A number of individuals have been hard at work behind the scenes. We are ready...but there's still a couple of weeks of summer left to enjoy.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions: rbounds@lcscmail.com. Every school year is a journey in itself. I'm looking forward to taking this journey with all of you.

Sincerely,

W. Ryan Bounds