



# GOOD NEWS

The official quarterly GSD community newsletter

SUMMER 2025

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## COMMUNITY EDUCATION ENJOYS 'GREASE' IN CHANHASSEN

On April 26, Grantsburg Community Education took a trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre to experience the nostalgia of high school back in the 1950s!

The event included transportation and a dinner everyone was able to enjoy before the performance of "Grease" began. It was a fantastic experience, and Community Education looks forward to offering another trip to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre in spring 2026.



## CHEF KWONG TEACHES MEXICAN COOKING

Chef Peter H. Kwong hosted a Mexican Cooking class for Community Education participants on April 3. The event, which was filled to capacity, featured the chef teaching participants how to make pico de gallo, beef fajitas and Spanish rice.

After all the cooking was completed, attendees sat down to enjoy what they created. Stay tuned for future cooking classes Chef Kwong will offer next fall—including Chinese & Thai!



## COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (CLC) AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM EXPANDS

The CLC After School Program had approximately 345 students registered and in attendance throughout this past school year. The program offered 55 different classes for students in Little Pirates up to eighth grade.

Expanded offerings during the third trimester included Lego Masters, Games & Activities, Fun & Games, and Volleyball Team Skills. Registration for Fall 2025 programming is online only and will open on Friday, September 12th, 2025.



## SUMMER SCHOOL IN GRANTSBURG OFFERS VARIETY, ENGAGEMENT

Summer School was in full swing across the Grantsburg School District! The program included foundational courses such as reading, math, and RTI/credit recovery, while also offering a broad selection of hands-on and creative classes for students of all ages.

Students participated in activities ranging from art, cooking, and sewing to gymnastics and physical education.

The curriculum also featured interactive and interest-based courses like Minecraft, GeoGuessr, and Card Games with Basic Spanish.

Opportunities in the performing arts included the GMS Summer School Play and Acting 101, while athletic options such as track and field, pickleball, and swimming lessons kept kids active and moving!





## BIOLOGY STUDENTS TAKE FLIGHT ON BIRD OBSERVATION TRIP

On May 28, Mr. Berg's Biology 2 students joined the Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation's Great Wisconsin Birdathon to raise awareness and gather data on northwest Wisconsin's unique habitats and birdlife.

Thirty students traveled to Interstate Park and photographed, recorded, and listed every bird they observed. The team "Gulls just wanna have fun" documented over 80 species of birds that call the St. Croix Valley home. The photos feature students who found a late-migrating common nighthawk sleeping on a river birch branch.

The group extends thanks to the Friends of Interstate Park and 100 Women Who Care (Burnett County Chapter) for funding the transportation costs.



## BREAKING RECORDS IN APPAREL AND DESIGN

Pirate Apparel & Design finished this year with record-breaking year-end totals. Students in the program designed and manufactured 1584 items for school, youth, and community groups. They billed over \$4,800 in merchandise within two half-block classes!

## CELEBRATING GHS CLASS OF 2025!

Grantsburg High School proudly celebrated the graduation of 62 students in the Class of 2025. The ceremony featured several student speakers, who reflected on their experiences and honored the achievements of their classmates.

GHS Valedictorian Andrew Roberts and GHS Salutatorian Josie Richards delivered keynote speeches, while Whitney Myers, Eliza Paulson, and Blandina Ayohua-Hernandez served as memory speakers. Once again, congratulations to our graduating seniors!





## BOYS GOLF SWINGS INTO SUCCESS

The Grantsburg High School Boys' Golf team had a strong and competitive spring season that showcased steady improvement and determination!

Led by Senior Alex McCormick, the team consistently performed well in conference meets and invitational tournaments. Several members also posted personal best scores. The team represented GHS with great sportsmanship and teamwork, closing out the season with shared excitement for future success.



## SOFTBALL TEAM CAPS OFF SEASON AS CONFERENCE CHAMPS

The Pirates Softball team finished a phenomenal spring season with an undefeated conference record and a claim to the conference title!

The team was supported by strong pitching, solid defense, and clutch hitting. That momentum was carried into the postseason, when they captured the regional championship. Way to go, Pirates!



## TRACK & FIELD TEAM MAKES HISTORY

The GHS Track and Field team made school history this spring, with both the boys and girls winning conference and regional titles in the same season. Athletes delivered standout performances in sprints, distance, relays, jumps, and throws all season long!





## MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK FINISHES STRONG SEASON OF GROWTH

The Grantsburg Middle School Track and Field team finished a fun, successful season marked by teamwork, growth, and impressive individual performances.

Student-athletes showed great improvement throughout the spring by setting personal bests and gaining valuable experience in a wide range of events. The team competed with energy and enthusiasm from sprinting and distance running to relays, jumps, and throws. They built a strong foundation for future success!



## GRANTSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADERS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL JOB SHADOW DAY

In early May, 8th grade students at Grantsburg Middle School participated in the annual Job Shadow Day, an event designed to promote career readiness and real-world learning.

Students spent the day observing a wide range of professions across the region, gaining insight into various career paths and the technical and transferable skills required in each field. This year's job shadow locations included:

- Bass Lake Lumber
- Bjelland Shavings
- Burnett Dairy
- Burnett Medical Center
- Colors by Craig
- Edina Realty
- Fyzical
- Grantsburg Elementary School
- Grantsburg High School
- KSTP-TV Channel 5 Eyewitness News (Weather Division)
- NOAA Weather Service Station
- Parker-Hannifin Corp.
- Pine Technical & Community College
- The Grind

Students expressed appreciation for the opportunity to explore diverse careers and better understand the skills and education needed for success in the workforce!





## GMS RECOGNIZES QUARTER 4 OUTSTANDING STUDENT CITIZENS

On June 5, Grantsburg Middle School held a schoolwide assembly led by members of the **GMS Hope Squad** to honor students recognized as Quarter 4 Outstanding Student Citizens.

Teachers and staff expressed their appreciation for students who demonstrated respectful, responsible, and safe behavior throughout the final quarter. These students consistently worked to be their personal best and supported their peers in doing the same.

Congratulations to all students recognized for their positive contributions to the school community!



## HOPE SQUAD MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR LEADERSHIP, SUPPORT

On June 4, **GMS** recognized its **Hope Squad** members during a school assembly. Fourteen students from grades 6-8 were acknowledged for their time, leadership, and contributions throughout the school year.

Hope Squad members serve as positive role models, helping to promote school spirit, raise awareness about mental health, support substance use prevention efforts, and provide peer-to-peer encouragement.



## HONORING THE 2024-25 STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

During the June assembly, **GMS** recognized students who were named Student of the Week throughout the 2024-25 school year.

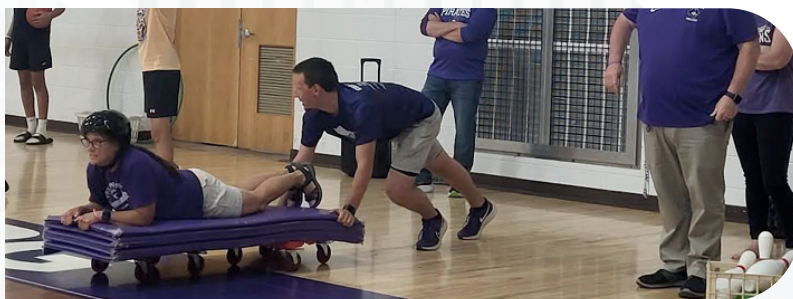
This recognition highlights individuals who consistently demonstrated positive behavior, strong effort, and contributions to the school community. The assembly served as a celebration of their hard work and dedication over the course of the year!



## GMS BIDS FAREWELL TO MRS. LUND, MR. HENDERSON

As part of the final schoolwide assembly of the year, the **GMS Student Council** organized a series of relay races to bring students and staff together in celebration. One memorable moment captured Mrs. Lund in action!

**GMS** students and staff extend their heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Mrs. Lund and Mr. Henderson as they prepare for retirement. They will be missed!





## 2ND GRADE “BUG” SMARTS

This spring, 2nd grade students in Mrs. Polzine’s class explored the world of insects through research, writing, and creative projects. As part of their learning, they partnered with Mrs. Vilstrup’s 1st grade class to share the informational reports they had written about their insect of choice.

In addition to presenting their reports, the 2nd graders showcased puzzles they had designed and taught the 1st graders an insect-themed dance. The collaboration provided a fun and educational way for students to demonstrate their learning and build connections across grade levels!



## PIRATE CUP DRAWS RECORD CROWD, THRILLING FINISHES



On the morning of May 23, Grantsburg Elementary held the 8th edition of the biannual 3rd Grade Pirate Cup at the Grantsburg High School track. Under sunny skies and near-perfect weather, the event was marked by friendly competition, good sportsmanship, and strong community support!



## 1ST GRADERS ENJOY ‘U’ DAY IN ABC COUNTDOWN

Grantsburg Elementary first graders are wrapping up the school year with an **ABC Countdown**, celebrating each remaining day of school with a fun, letter-themed activity!

The day was “**U**” Day—**U** is for “**Under**”—and students had the unique experience of working under their tables. Laughter and creativity filled the classroom as students embraced the change in perspective.





# Mt. Olympus Water & Theme Park

**Back to School Kickoff Event**  
**August 1, 2025**

**BEST PRICE!**  
**\$20.50**  
Per Person

Ticket includes admission, parking & lunch!

GATE OPENS AT 10 AM! ALL DAY PARK ACCESS!  
\*IFORWARD STAFF WILL BE LEAVING AT 4:00 PM\*

\*Lunch Includes: Pizza, Chips & Fountain Drink!

\*Tickets may be purchased from June 1st-July 1st.

If you have any questions or need additional information please reach out to Sylvia Stockman at 715-463-4904 or [sylvia.stockman@iforwardwisconsin.com](mailto:sylvia.stockman@iforwardwisconsin.com)



## AGRICULTURE COURSES, FFA CHAPTER COMING TO IFORWARD

Beginning in the 2025-26 school year, iForward will expand its curriculum to include a selection of agriculture courses. The new offerings are designed for students interested in topics such as food production, land and animal management, and agri-business.



Planned courses include:

- Agriscience 2a: Exploring Horticulture
- Agriscience 2b: Sustaining Human Life
- Growing Food and Flowers at Home
- Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Wildlife, Fish, and Forestry

In addition to the new classes, Mr. Kahl will launch an official FFA (Future Farmers of America) chapter at iForward. FFA provides students with opportunities for leadership development, community service, competitions, and other activities related to agriculture and natural resources.

These additions aim to broaden educational options for students interested in agriculture and related fields!

## MIDDLE, HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY ARTS CLASSES OFFER MORE THAN RECIPES

At iForward, Middle and High School students enrolled in culinary arts courses are gaining skills that go beyond basic cooking techniques. The program emphasizes creativity, cultural awareness, and practical life skills that help students become more independent and confident in the kitchen.

Students learn about nutrition, global cuisines, meal planning, baking fundamentals, and even aspects of the food service industry like catering and cost management. Each lesson encourages students to experiment with flavors, try new recipes, and understand the connections between food, culture, and community.

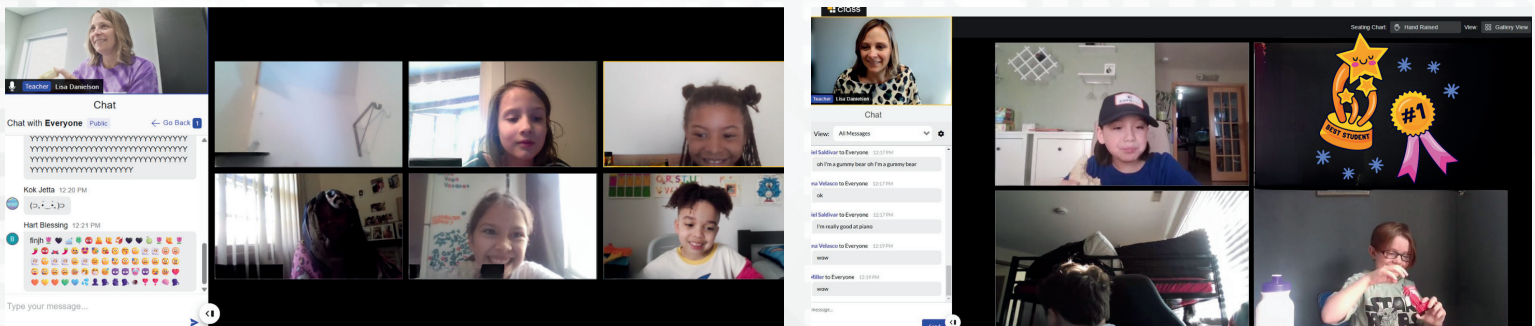
In addition to practical skills, the culinary arts classes also promote relaxation, self-expression, and the satisfaction of sharing a meal with others—all while preparing students for potential future opportunities in the culinary field.



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH ENJOY LUNCH WITH MRS. DANIELSON

Throughout the school year, iForward Elementary Students of the Month were invited to have lunch with Mrs. Lisa Danielson, Assistant Principal. These gatherings provided an opportunity for students to get to know one another and discuss a variety of topics, including their interests, school experiences, pets, families, favorite games, and more.

This special time has been a positive experience for students and will continue next school year!





## 3RD GRADE STUDENTS WRAP UP A YEAR AS 'SUPERHEROES IN TRAINING'

This past school year, the iForward 3rd grade classroom embraced the theme “Superheroes in Training.” Students, known as the “Super 3rd Graders,” balanced laughter with learning and showed great enthusiasm throughout the year!

Staff extend their congratulations to the entire class for their hard work and positive spirit. We look forward to welcoming them as 4th graders in the fall!



## CRIMINOLOGY STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH ON TOPICS OF THEIR CHOICE

This year, students in iForward’s Criminology class had the opportunity to choose their own research topics and share their findings through live presentations. The project allowed students to explore areas of personal interest within the field of criminology and practice public speaking skills. Check out some of the topics they covered!



## DUOLINGO PRACTICE WINNERS RECOGNIZED IN HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH

Each high school Spanish student at iForward is provided a Duolingo account to support independent language practice outside of class. The student in each course level who logs the most practice hours or maintains the longest continuous streak receives a Duolingo Owl plushie, delivered to their home!

### This year’s recognized students include:

- **Arianna Lange (Spanish 1):** Completed the most hours in Duolingo and also shared Mexican family recipes and Spanish music with the class.
- **Elizabeth Olson (Spanish 2):** Logged the most practice hours in her level, demonstrating great dedication.
- **Kristen Nichols (Spanish 3):** Maintained a perfect daily streak throughout the entire semester.
- **Zane Fletcher (Spanish 4):** Achieved a remarkable Duolingo streak of over 500 days. ¡Muy bien, Zane!

Please note that not all winners are listed for privacy reasons. Congratulations to all students for their commitment to language learning!





## DRUM EARNS HONORS AT SCHUBERT CLUB SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

iForward student Lexi Drum recently participated in the Schubert Club Scholarship Competition, placing third in the brass and woodwind division. In addition to her performance, Lexi was selected to present a bouquet of flowers to Emmanuel Pahud, an internationally renowned flutist often regarded as one of the best in the world. She also presented him with a gift bag of homemade chocolates prepared by her mother!

The Schubert Club Scholarship Competition, established in 1922, recognizes talent across 15 categories. Each category awards three cash prizes intended to support continued musical education. Winners are also invited to perform in the annual “Musicians on the Rise” recital.



## IFORWARD STUDENTS CELEBRATE PROM ‘UNDER THE STARS’

On Thursday, May 1, iForward students gathered at Three Bears Resort in Warrens for the school’s annual prom. This event’s theme, “*Under the Stars*,” set the scene for an evening of good food, dancing, and time spent with friends. Students and staff alike enjoyed creating special memories that will be remembered for years to come!



## IFORWARD CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2025

On Saturday, June 7, iForward held its graduation ceremony at Monona Terrace in Madison. The event provided an opportunity to honor each graduate and recognize their hard work and achievements. Congratulations to the iForward Class of 2025!





## ANNUAL SPRING FAMILY FIELD TRIPS BRING FAMILIES TOGETHER

On May 2, iForward hosted its Annual Spring Family Field Trips at various locations throughout Wisconsin. These gatherings provided students, families, and staff with an opportunity to spend time together outside the classroom and connect with others in their local communities.

The event had an excellent turnout across the state, offering families a chance to meet fellow students and build relationships with iForward staff members. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to making this year's experiences successful!



## RECORD ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL BREWERS GAME & TAILGATE PARTY

On May 16, iForward hosted its annual Milwaukee Brewers Game and Principal's Tailgate Party, drawing nearly 250 attendees—the largest turnout for this event to date!

Families, students, and staff traveled from across Wisconsin to gather in Milwaukee and watch the Brewers take on the Twins. Before the game, the Principal's Tailgate Party featured burgers, brats, and a variety of side dishes. Attendees also enjoyed a "Getting to Know You" bingo game with prizes, and had the chance to create custom posters to cheer on their favorite team.

## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS CREATE BILINGUAL ABC BOOK

The iForward ABC Book is now completed, showcasing the creativity and collaboration of more than 80 elementary students in grades K-5!

Under the guidance of Art teacher Mrs. Kuennen and guest artist Jeanne Styczinski, students explored collage techniques to design colorful and expressive pages for each letter of the alphabet. Adding a bilingual element, Señora Keane, Spanish teacher, incorporated Spanish words and translations, creating a vibrant celebration of both language and art.

The finished hardcover book features 86 student-designed pages and highlights the creativity, teamwork, and talent within iForward's elementary program. A special thanks go to the teachers, guest artists, and students whose dedication brought this project to life.





## KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS CELEBRATE GRADUATION

Congratulations to iForward's Kindergarten graduates! This past year's Kindergarten class has successfully completed an important milestone and is ready to move up to first grade in the fall.



## REPRESENTING IFORWARD AT THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE

In April, iForward student George Kyser qualified for, and participated in, the National Geography Bee held in Arlington, Virginia!

The competition followed a buzzer-based format and was structured similarly to a professional sports tournament—with playoffs, semifinals, and finals. After tying with three other participants for the final semifinal spot, George won a tiebreaker round to advance. He finished 48th out of 137 participants. Way to go!



## IFORWARD NHS STUDENTS DEDICATE TIME TO VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is an important way to create positive change in communities, and iForward's National Honor Society members have fully embraced this commitment!

Recently, they devoted a day to service activities, giving their time and energy to support others and make a meaningful impact.

Their dedication reflects the core values of the NHS and sets an example for the entire iForward community!



## ESPORTS TEAM TAKES 2ND PLACE IN SPLATOON 3, CENTRAL DIVISION

The iForward eSports team finished the season strong, earning 2nd place in the Central Division of the Splatoon 3 League!

Players participated in regular strategy sessions and demonstrated consistent growth, communication, and sportsmanship. In addition to excelling in gameplay, the team embodied key iForward values such as perseverance, respect, and teamwork. Congratulations to the eSports team for a successful and memorable year!



## 5TH GRADERS SHOWCASE CREATIVITY WITH CHAMELEON ART

As part of a fun end-of-year activity, iForward's 5th grade students learned how to draw chameleons! The project gave students a chance to express their creativity while practicing artistic techniques.

