



The Titan Way



Issue # 2

September 9th, 2016



Middle School and High School Information & Important Dates

- **NO SCHOOL** Friday September 16th
- Homecoming Week is September 26th – 30th
- Middle School MAP testing: Tuesday Sept. 13th & Wednesday Sept. 14th
- **School picture day is Wednesday, Sept. 21st in both buildings**

Elementary Information and Important Dates

- Elementary Flag Football starts next Saturday September 17th at 9am
- GT Kindergarten field trip to the Ft. Dodge Apple Orchard will be this Thursday leaving Graettinger at 8am and returning around 3pm.
- Graettinger and Terril Pre-School field trip to Center Creek Orchard will be September 12th
- 4th and 5th grade field trip to Spirit Lake for the Glacial Landmark Tour will be on September 15th

Teacher Spotlight



Jennifer Ulrich is starting her 7th year of teaching Kindergarten at Graettinger-Terril. She loves it here and cannot imagine teaching anywhere else! Mrs. Ulrich is married to Brad Ulrich and they live in West Bend. Brad is employed by Manske Farm Drainage, out of Algona, IA. They have 2 kittens, Noodles and Milo, who pretty much rule the house. In their spare time they enjoy camping and spending time with their friends and family. They have 12 nieces and nephews that help keep the, busy, with all of their activities. She loves teaching at Graettinger-Terril because it feels like a second family!

Titan Athletics

The Titans Volleyball team had just 1 event this week. They took on Manson Northwest Webster at Graettinger on Thursday. While they came out on the losing end, you could tell they have taken great strides this year. These girls are a fun group to watch with how they get along and play as a team.

On Friday Night the GTRA football team took on a tough Newell-Fonda team that played in the State Tournament last year. It was a wet and chilly night in Ruthven and although they did not win, they fought right until the end.



Why MAP Testing?

Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) creates a personalized assessment experience by adapting to each student's learning level—precisely measuring student progress and growth for each individual. You'll have essential information about what each student knows and is ready to learn within 24 hours.

- Measure the growth of every student over time regardless of on, above, or below grade level performance—and even if standards change
- Engage students and families in goal-setting
- Create and reinforce evidence-informed instructional practices
- Evaluate programs and identify professional development needs
- Compare and predict student achievement and growth over time via exclusive normative and growth information

Based on over 30 years of solid research, our computer adaptive interim assessments do more than create personalized test experiences for every student: they provide **the most stable scale and data in the assessment industry**. Educators around the globe trust MAP and **our interactive MAP Learning Continuum** to deliver instructional insights that helps them accelerate student learning.

Teachers

Personalize instruction in order to maximize every student's academic growth

Principals

Track the achievement and growth of individual students and classrooms and help evaluate the success of your programs

Educational Leaders

Understand the progress of every student, classroom, and school in your district

From the Desk of Elementary Principal, Mr. Myers

Dear Parents,

Our school year is off to an awesome start! Our new intake day was a great time to let teachers know face-to-face about your concerns and child's needs as well as for you to get to know the teachers.

The children are settling into their regular routines and getting used to a regular school day. No matter where I have been and how long I have been in this business, it always takes a while for the kids to get used to the day. In the beginning, they are ready for lunch by 10:30 and are looking to take a rest/nap by around 12:30.

School days are tough. We pack a lot of learning into a day. Every waking second of the day, we are trying to learn new things. However, it is not always academic things that we are learning. We also learn a lot of social things such as taking turns at the water fountain or at a game at recess. We are learning that having some brain breaks helps our students learn even more.

Last year, at the end of the spring, we had 82% of our children at or above the benchmark for reading. This is a great achievement, but we want more. We are going to set a goal for state reporting that we can get 83% at or above benchmark for reading. One of the best things that you can do to help in this effort is to simply talk to your children, ask them what signs say along the road, and/or read to them as often as you can.

If there is a chore they are supposed to do after school, write them a simple note as to what needs to be done. If there is a snack they get to have, change the places where you put the snack and leave them a note as to where to find them. When the students have a reason and motivation to read, it is surprising how well they can work out words, sentences, and paragraphs to get the information.

So, we are off to a great start and I am positive that this will continue. We thank you for all of the support that you can give to your child and all of the support you can give to our educators. We look forward to continuing to serve the community. Have a great weekend and then week.

Sincerely,

Chris Myers

GT Elementary Principal/Shared Curriculum Director

TITAN LIFE

Finding micro-scholarships with Raise.me

During our Friday Advisory, our Graettinger-Terril students in grades 9-12 activated accounts with Raise.me in order to accumulate micro-scholarships for postsecondary education. In just 40 minutes, our students raised over \$80K in micro-scholarships!

Through this new program, your student can automatically earn scholarships from colleges each time he or she achieves any of the following goals in school:

- **Get an A in a course (\$100 - \$1,000)**
- **Get a B in a course (\$50 - \$600)**
- **Participate in a school club or sport (\$25 - \$250)**
- **And much more**

Our school is among the first in the country to take advantage of this opportunity, which is funded in part by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and U.S. colleges.

Here is how you can best support your student to get the most from this opportunity:

- **Ensure that your student created an account at www.raise.me.**
- **Congratulate your student for regularly adding good grades, community service, extracurricular activities, and other achievements to his or her raise.me “Portfolio” in order to earn “Micro-Scholarships” from colleges. Your student is eligible to receive scholarship money for each achievement from the start of 9th grade until midway through 12th grade.**
- **Visit www.raise.me/parents for more information.**

We hope using raise.me will make your student’s path to college both more fun and affordable.

If you have questions, I encourage you to contact our 6-12 School Counselor, Mrs. Cook, or send an email to support@raise.me. Increasing numbers of public and private colleges continue to join the raise.me program. Colleges are added on a monthly basis and you can request colleges at any time. Your student will automatically get related Micro-Scholarships from all new colleges as they become available.

For more information and more assistance planning your student’s path to postsecondary education and training, be sure to follow the G-T Counseling Facebook page and website:

www.facebook.com/gt.counseling/

www.gtcounseling.org/

