



Superintendent's Message
Dr. David Daigneault

GSD Establishes Campus Police Department

In order to provide more effective and efficient security for our students, Grenada School District has created an officially recognized Campus Police Department. The establishment of a GSD Department will provide many benefits for our District and will operate following best practices by adhering to standards of the Mississippi Department of Education and POST (Mississippi Board of Peace Officers Standards and Training).

Grenada School District Campus Police Department was granted agency ORI (Originating Agency Identifier) on February 26, 2014. School-based police officers will be provided special training beyond the standard training provided in the police academy. Topics such as special education laws, school law, crime prevention through environmental design, and school emergency-crisis planning will be included in the Campus Police training that are typically not on the agenda in regular police academy training.

The presence of armed officers and patrol cars will deter much of the activity that would disrupt the educational process. Our SRO's (Security Resource Officers) are integrated into the schools' culture and will differentiate between disciplinary issues and crime problems. They will respond appropriately and will de-escalate school-based incidents whenever possible, minimizing the use of law enforcement intervention. Response times will be 1-3 minutes, compared to 3-7 minutes from dispatched officers.

Clear, strong, and ongoing communication between school-based law enforcement officers and school administrators will be maintained. The establishment of the Campus Department will also enable GSD the authority to carry the officers' commission, eliminating a problem of outside officer certification.

Grenada Campus Police Department jurisdiction is limited to each campus plus 500 feet, with any situation out side of that perimeter answered by the appropriate agency. In the City the jurisdiction will be the Grenada Police Department, and in the County support will be provided by the Grenada Sheriff Department.

"Grenada School District has always taken a very proactive stance to address needs of our students, teachers and administrators," said GSD Security Coordinator Benji Britt. "I am honored to be part of the process and look forward to serving the needs of our District."

Grenada School District Parent of the Year

The Grenada School District has selected Sandy Grass, nominated by Grenada High School, as the District-wide Parent of the Year for 2014. Her daughter Claire is an eighteen-year old senior at GHS and her daughter Allie is a GSD graduate. Sandy and her husband Gene are co-owners of Grenada Nissan. She has been actively involved with several organizations assisting our District, including volunteering her time, assistance, and financial support. She has been especially helpful to the athletic program, helping players with college applications and course selection, sponsoring pep rallies at Nissan, and holding receptions for athletes signing with colleges.

GSD Athletic Director Marshall Whittemore says, "Sandy has been an asset to our students, community, schools, and our athletic programs...Her willingness to donate her time to our schools is above and beyond anything that I have ever seen... Mrs. Grass' perennial support of our school district has had a huge impact on the suc-

cesses that we have had in athletics."

"She has supported our entire school," states GHS Principal Jerry Williams. "Not only volunteering her time and assistance and attending events to cheer for the teams, Sandy has helped financially with football, basketball, softball, cheer, and baseball... Her rapport with our kids is remarkable."

Sandy states, "It takes a whole village to raise a child... I would like to thank the Grenada School District for this award and allowing me to be a part of this great village. We are very blessed to live in a community where so many are involved with the education and growth of our children. A very heartfelt thank you to everyone working in our school district for many countless hours in the classroom, working our athletic events, keeping our children safe and putting up with us parents. May God continue to bless our village."

Grenada High School and Grenada School District are fortunate to receive the assistance from a parent so deeply involved



2014 Parent of the Year Sandy Grass

and so committed the students. Congratulations to the 2014 Parent of the Year, Sandy Grass.

GMS Organizes Support Group



GMS Teacher Lisa Mann holds the T-shirt that supporters sold to provide financial support while she battles cancer.

By Cindy Long
GMS Librarian

At Grenada Middle School, a group of close friends has come together in support of one of their own with some pretty amazing results. Lisa Mann, a veteran sixth grade teacher, is currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer. It is her third time to be diagnosed with this devastating disease. As Ms. Mann struggled to come to terms with yet another diagnosis and another round of debilitating treatments, a group of teachers who regularly go on vacations together decided that they needed to do something to ease her burden.

A meeting was held and a plan of action was put into place. Step one was to help emotionally—every day for the past 3 months, little "happies" have appeared on Ms. Mann's desk, reminding her that the "third time's the charm". Next, the group focused on helping ease

the financial burden that comes with the days missed from work, medicines, and treatments. A soup and sandwich luncheon at Grenada Middle School raised a little over \$700, and a t-shirt drive raised over \$1,600. In addition, Kirk Academy organized a "pink out" at the elementary school and raised \$825!

Ms. Mann has been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of the people in her school, church, and the whole community who have reached out to her. Through these donations and fundraisers, she has been able to cover her deductibles for the year. On a recent trip to the doctor Ms. Mann said, "I was able to pay the total amount I owed to the doctor, and I just stood there and squalled. It was such a relief to not have that bill hanging over my head." To date, approximately \$3,500 has been raised on her behalf.

Anyone else interested in helping can contact Cindy Long at gmslib@yahoo.com.

Grenada Elementary Hosts Preschool Tours



Students from Grenada County preschools recently toured Grenada Elementary in preparation for the upcoming school year. Future students were able to meet the faculty and observe students in the classroom. Kim Graves, GES Counselor, explained, "The school tours are important for students to become familiar with the school and ease anxiety for their transition next fall." Pictured are (front, l to r) future students Zoe Beane, Harper Newcomb, Luke Beckwith, Lannie Tilghman, and Connor Brower. (back, l to r) Jean Freeman of Freeman's Little People's Place is accompanied by counselor Kim Graves and parents Angie Beckwith and Brittany Brower.

Photo by Martha Liberto