

GARY GAZETTE 2024 2025

DONDE SOMOS LECTORES DE DOS IDIOMAS

SERVING: D33 K-5 TWO-WAY DUAL LANGUAGE FAMILIES

EN ESPAÑOL

If you need anything this year, please feel free to call or text.

Amie Correa, Gary School Principal

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correaa@wego33.org

Jessica Raiser, Gary School Assistant Principal

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raiserj@wego33.org



QUICK LINKS

[School Calendar \(Spanish\)](#)

[School Calendar \(English\)](#)

[Gary School Website](#)

[D33 Website](#)

[Principal Correa's Bio](#)

[Assistant Principal Raiser's Bio](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Breakfast Menu](#)

[Gary Plan on a Page](#)

GRADE LEVEL NEWSLETTERS

EACH GRADE LEVEL WILL SEND OUT A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. PAPER COPIES WILL BE SENT HOME WITH YOUR CHILD. YOU CAN FIND AN ELECTRONIC COPY BELOW.

| Kinder | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | Specials |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| September | September | September | September | September | September | September |
| October | October | October | October | October | October | October |
| November | November | November | November | November | November | November |
| December | December | December | December | December | December | December |
| January | January | January | January | January | January | January |
| February | February | February | February | February | February | February |
| March | March | March | March | March | March | March |
| April | April | April | April | April | April | April |
| May | May | May | May | May | May | May |
| June | June | June | June | June | June | June |

[UPCOMING ITEMS PARENT GAZETTE](#)

D33 Parent Newsletter: [Week of January 13](#)

D33 Parent Newsletter: [Week of December 16](#)

UPCOMING DATES: ADDITIONS/CANCELLATIONS ARE HIGHLIGHTED

- 1/21 ACCESS testing opens
- 1/27: Trimester MidPoint
- 1/31: Midterms go Home
- 2/4: Orchestra Concert @6pm
- 2/5: Band Concert @ 6Pm
- 2/5: PTO @6pm
- 2/6: BOE Meeting @ Gary
- 2/18: 3rd Grade CAP Presentations
- 3/12-3/21: IAR
- 3/19: No Afterschool Activities
- 3/21: Spring Pictures
- 4/7: Smile Squad
- 4/8: Smile Squad
- 4/23: No Afterschool Activities
- 4/29: 4th Grade STEM Fair
- 5/15: Literacy/Math Night
- 5/21: No Afterschool Activities
- 5/30: International Night
- June 24 to Thursday, July 24: Summer School

STAY IN THE KNOW!

Gary School has a [Parent Google Calendar](#) that you can add to your calendars. It is filled with upcoming events that you will want to know about.

WEAR IT WEDNESDAY:

Our [Spirit Days](#) are every Wednesday with a few extras once in a while.

FAMILY VOLUNTEERS

We are so thankful for our volunteers! This month we are highlighting the value of small group leaders. When teachers ask volunteers to lead a small group in a classroom, the volunteer is given an activity to guide students with a specific skill which provides students an opportunity to get more positive individual attention as they develop reading, writing, math, fine motor skills, or social skills.

| | Trimester 2 |
|-----------------|---|
| 4 de diciembre | Gary Gear - Wear Gary Gear or Gary Blue |
| 11 de diciembre | Year 3000 (future) |
| 16 de diciembre | Grinch Day (Green) |
| 17 de diciembre | Wonderland (snowflakes, blue & white) |
| 18 de diciembre | Holiday Sweater Day/Holiday T-Shirt |
| 19 de diciembre | Candy Cane (red & white) |
| 20 de diciembre | Winter PJ Day |
| 8 de enero | Look alike Day |
| 15 de enero | Safari Day: Wear animal print |
| 22 de enero | Career Day: What job do you want when you are older? |
| 29 de enero | Art Spirit Day: Dress like your favorite artist or in your favorite color |
| 5 de febrero | Book Character Day |
| 12 de febrero | Where's the Love? Day - Red/Pink/White |
| 19 de febrero | Dress like a Gary Staff member day |
| 16 de febrero | Vaquero Day |
| 5 de marzo | Disney Day |
| | |
| | |



IAR: ILLINOIS ASSESSMENT OF READINESS

In the classroom, we work on practice problems for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness with our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. Please take the time to look at the problems with your children as well.

[Elem Calendar](#)

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Family Liaison, Martha Camarillo

Hello! I am the new Family Liaison at Gary Elementary School. This is my fourth year in District 33 and I am so proud to be a part of this amazing community and be able to work with families. In the past, I have worked as a Parent Liaison, Truancy Liaison, and Attendance Dean in the East Aurora School District. I have been in the educational field for about 8 years. I was previously the PreK Family Liaison at Trinity, then continued my work at the Pioneer building. On my personal side, I have been married for 20 years and have two wonderful children (17 years old and 12 years old) and a cute dog (a Shit Zhu named Max). I am very energetic and passionate about what I love to do! and I enjoy eating delicious food. I am so excited for my future career serving and helping the families of Gary Elementary School!



Second Grade Teacher, Eunice Uhlhorn

iHola! I'm Eunice Uhlhorn (A.K.A. Mrs. U.). I made Gary School my home back in 2002 when I moved to the western 'burbs. I taught first grade for 17 years in Room 110 before moving up to second grade. I live with my hubby, Mike, and my three loving sons - Ethan (20), Michael (16), and Steven (15). Besides teaching, I enjoy exploring the DuPage prairie paths on bike, taking scenic walks along the Naperville Riverwalk, reading everything from historical fiction to psychological thrillers, and theatergoing. My boys keep me busy volunteering for the NVHS Marching Band, attending Jazz Band performances, cheering on the stands at baseball and basketball games, and ringing a cowbell at Cross Country meets. As an eternal foodie, I love visiting Ethan at U of I in Urbana Champaign and partaking in international cuisine.



Third Grade Teacher, Emily Larson

Hi! My name is Emily Larson. I grew up in the Chicago suburbs and attended Augustana College. I am a sequential bilingual and learned Spanish in high school, college, and studying abroad in Ecuador. I have been teaching for 15 years and have enjoyed being in 3rd grade dual language every year. This is my 12th year teaching at Gary School. At the end of the school day I look forward to spending time with my husband, two sons, Will (7) and Sam (5), and our spoiled pup, Lilly. Together we love to bike, travel, read, and play board games. I also love to run, play piano, and improve my gardening skills in the summer.



RAMPING UP FOR THE 2025 2026 SCHOOL YEAR

It is time to start thinking about next year. Our first step is to find all of our kindergarteners who will begin with us in the fall. [2025-2026 Registration Calendar.docx](#) has the events outlined in a calendar for those of you who are involved in the process or just curious.

SUMMATIVE DESIGNATION

Below you will find slides that explain our summative designation of Commendable this year. You will see that the majority of the score comes from IAR. Half of the points come from Growth in Math and Reading, and 15% of the points come from proficiency in Math and Reading. While it is the 3-5 grade teachers that administer the test, it is the responsibility of us all to do all we can to ensure that Gary School is earning the highest possible score in the designation area. Primary grades should be looking at the practice problems so that you are informed as to where your current students are expected to be working once they enter 3rd grade. Continue to push hard to ensure that they have the background knowledge and building blocks that they will need to be successful when they leave the primary section of the school. Something that all of us can work on is attendance. After IAR, attendance is the next area where we can earn a good amount of points. In order to receive credit for attendance for a child, they need to have been in school for at least 91% of the school days. Today marked the 96th day of school. That means that any child that has missed 10 days as of today is considered chronically absent.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Exemplary | Schools performing in the top 10 percent of schools statewide, with no underperforming student groups . |
| Commendable | A school that has no underperforming student groups , a graduation rate greater than 67 percent, and whose performance is not in the top 10 percent of schools statewide. |
| Targeted | A school in which one or more student groups performing at or below the level of the "all students" group in the lowest performing 5 percent of schools. |
| Comprehensive | A school that is in the lowest-performing 5 percent of schools in Illinois and any high school with a graduation rate of 67 percent or less. |

- [Summative Designation Details](#)
- [IAR Practice Calendar](#)

STEM FAIR

I am excited to share with you that D33 will be hosting our 1st annual STEM Fair this school year! The STEM fair will take place at Lemman Middle School from 5:30-8:00 PM on Tuesday, April 29th, 2025. All 4th-grade students will complete projects related to their science unit "Earth's Changing Surface and Earthquakes." Winning projects will be featured during the evening event. More details are linked [here](#).

LMS MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS: CHECK OUT OUR 3RD GRADE NEWSANCHORS!

Last week I took a group of 3rd graders to LMS to help put together their morning announcements. They both had fun and did a great job! Check out the announcements below.

ESPAÑOL

<https://youtu.be/E1JjSrglwYQ>

ENGLISH

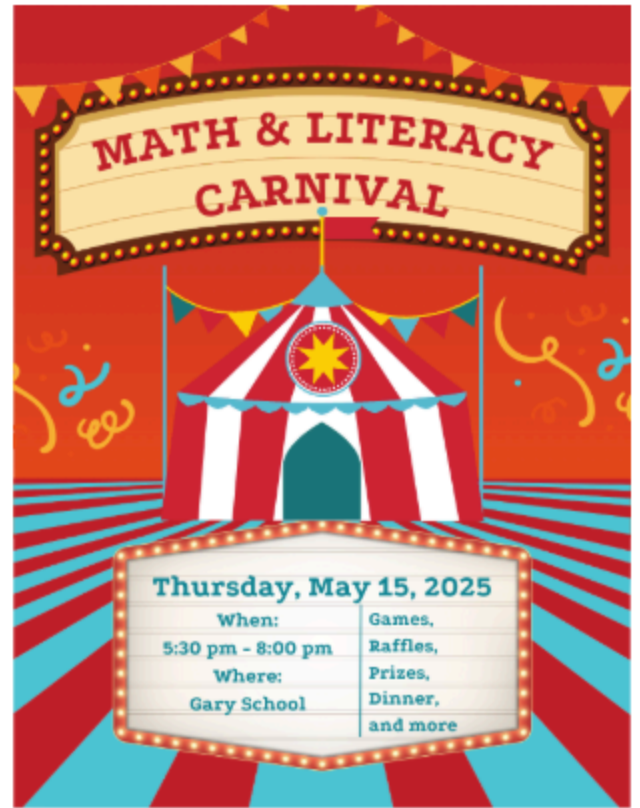
<https://youtu.be/c1WHCrYt80w>



UPDATED TRIMESTER CELEBRATION DATES

Trimester 2 Awards: Assembly: 3/28, Reception: 4/9

Trimester 3 Awards: Assembly: 6/2, Reception: 6/9



GLOW PARTY VOLUNTEER

Welcome to our first Glow Party event on February 21st. Set up time starts at 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Clean-up time is 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Any and all help is welcomed. [Volunteer Form](#).



GET INVOLVED!

Parents play an important role in supporting and enhancing the school community by volunteering their time and skills. For example, they can share their professional expertise as musicians, doctors, nutritionists, or dentists by leading workshops or informational sessions for students. Parents can also help organize team-building activities, which promote collaboration and social skills among students. Participating in these volunteer opportunities not only enriches the school experience but also strengthens the connection between home and school. Volunteering benefits the school and allows parents to connect with their children in meaningful ways. For more information on the advantages of parent involvement, parents can refer to the articles titled "[Parental Involvement as an Important Factor for Successful Education](#)," or "[The Positive Relationship Between Family Involvement and Student Success](#)" which provide useful insights.

PTO is a great way to get involved at Gary School! Not only are you supporting your own children, but it is a great way to get to know other parents and the staff at Gary School! Meetings are once a month in the library. We hope to see you there!

| | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|---------|-------------|
| 5 | FEB 2025, WED | ● | 6 - 7pm | PTO Meeting |
| 5 | MAR 2025, WED | ● | 6 - 7pm | PTO Meeting |
| 7 | MAY 2025, WED | ● | 6 - 7pm | PTO Meeting |
| 4 | JUN 2025, WED | ● | 6 - 7pm | PTO Meeting |

External Teacher Helper

Thank you to everyone who has been involved and a part of Gary School by volunteering so far this school year! We would like to put a spotlight on a different type of volunteering: external teacher helpers. This simply means helping our school by completing something on your own time, away from the school building. Some ideas include: cutting out shapes for the students to later use in class, creating a bulletin board display, stapling items together, sorting things into groups, and more. Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher for more ideas!

Cougar Cart Volunteers Needed

Every month, the Cougar Cart is brought out. Students look forward to using their Cougar Cash to purchase goods and experiences at Gary. We need parents to "man the store" and supervise the process. The Cougar Cart (Store) is open from 11:00am to 3:00pm. It is usually at the STEM Lab, but if it's being used for another activity, we bring the cart to the classrooms. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the form below. Thank you for your interest!

Sign up using [this form](#).

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS COMING SOON!

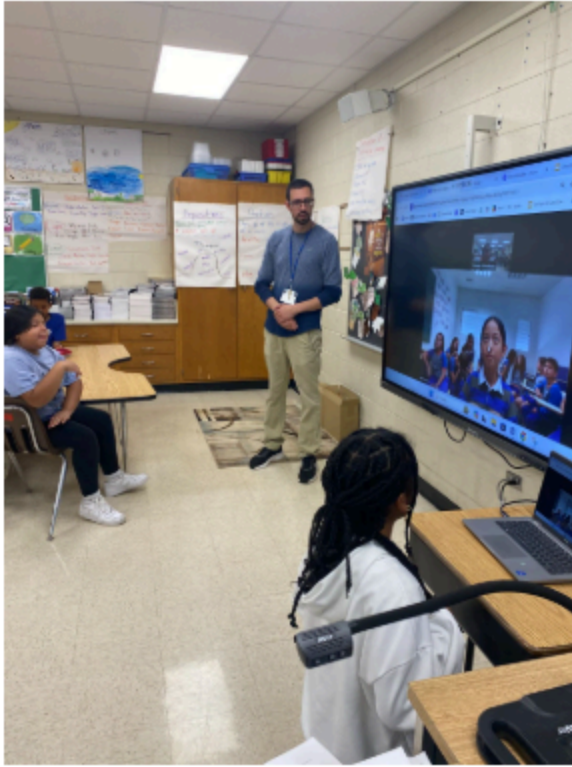
There will be presentations in the month of February on Dual Language is District 33 geared towards families with incoming kindergartners. Spread the Word! **Kindergarten Registration at Gary School will be on February 24th from 9am to 6pm.**

>>> **February 2025** Goal of the month:

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|--|--------|----------|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Dual Language Parent Presentation Gary LLC 5:00 - 6:30 pm | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Dual Language Virtual Parent Presentation 10 am Spanish & 2 pm English | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 <i>President's Day</i> | 18 | 19 | 20 Dual Language Parent Presentation Gary LLC 5:00 - 6:30 pm | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 1 |

CONNECTING WITH SPAIN: COLEGIO MAGDA

This year marks the second annual collaboration between Mrs. Christodoulou and Mr. Rodriguez from Gary School and Colegio Magda in Spain. The students started the year with 'getting to know you' introductory videos shared between the two schools. Our upcoming plans include activities that support our students' use of Spanish and assist the Spanish students with their English skills. The students will also have the opportunity to play simultaneous engaging games that enhance and promote their oral literacy in a fun and interactive way. This collaboration not only helps our students improve their language skills but also fosters a climate of acceptance and respect among them.



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
WE ARE BETTER
together

