

# 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**

(630) 935-8764 Cell Phone

[correaa@wego33.org](mailto:correaa@wego33.org)

**Jessica Raiser, Gary School Assistant Principal**

630-974-9864 Cell Phone

[raiserj@wego33.org](mailto: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
<a href="#">September</a>	September	<a href="#">September</a>	September	<a href="#">September</a>	September	<a href="#">September</a>
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](#)

# SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

UPCOMING DATES: ADDITIONS/CANCELLATIONS ARE HIGHLIGHTED

- 9/11: Gary Curriculum
- 10/3: Picture Day
- 11/14: Picture Retakes
- 2/18: 3rd Grade CAP Presentations
- 3/21: Spring Pictures
- 4/7: Smile Squad
- 4/8: Smile Squad



Trimester 1	
	Gary Gear - Wear Gary Gear or 9/4 Gary Blue
9/11	Fictional Character Day
	Mexican Independence Day - 9/16 Red/Green/White
9/18	College Gear Day
9/25	Fall Colors Day
	Wear Orange for Bullying 10/2 Prevention
10/9	Sports Team Day
	Dress like a Gary Administrator 10/16 Day
10/23	Disney Day
	Dia de los muertos- Wear yellow & 10/30 orange
11/6	Super Hero Day
11/11	Veterans Day - Red/White/Blue
11/13	Camping Day
11/20	Backwards Day

## WEAR IT WEDNESDAY:

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

## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

### LBS1 Jennifer Buchanan

Hello- I'm Jennifer Buchanan, and I'm excited to join the Gary team. With three years of experience in District 33 as an LBS1 and my background as a paraprofessional, teacher, and program director, I bring a diverse skill set and a deep passion for working with children to this role. Pursuing my LBS1 endorsement in 2021 was a pivotal step in my career journey, further solidifying my commitment to supporting students with diverse needs. I look forward to getting to know the students and staff at Gary!



2	OCT 2024, WED	● 6 – 7pm	PTO Meeting
6	NOV 2024, WED	● 6 – 7pm	PTO Meeting
4	DEC 2024, WED	● 6 – 7pm	PTO Meeting
8	JAN 2025, WED	● 6 – 7pm	PTO Meeting
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

## GET INVOLVED!

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!



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# BEYOND THE BELL MYLEARNING

BEGINS: SEPT. 23

MONDAY - THURSDAY

ELEMENTARY (1st-5th): 3:45 - 4:45

LEMAN (6th-8th): 2:45 - 4:15

REGISTRATION DEADLINE  
SEPT. 1ST

**REGISTER HERE!**

ELEMENTARY



LEMAN



## BEYOND THE BELL - MYLEARNING (FORMERLY ASAP) PROGRAM

We are excited to share that we are offering an after-school academic program called Beyond the Bell - MyLearning. MyLearning will support and enrich students in the areas of math and literacy, with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) activities.

### ELEMENTARY MY LEARNING - REGISTRATION

The program is open to all students in grades 1st-5th and will run as follows:

Days: Monday-Thursday

Times: 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM

Trimester 1 Start Date: September 23, 2024

Trimester 2 Start Date: December 9, 2024

Trimester 3 Start Date: March 17, 2025

Details can be found here: <https://www.wego33.org/domain/511>.

## GET INVOLVED!

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

We are looking for parent volunteers to help with lunches. Each class has 30 minutes for lunch and a recess. You can help with as few or as many as you have time for! This is a great opportunity for you to meet other parents, and the staff, and get to know the children that your own children are learning and growing with. The times are listed below. If you are willing and able to help us out, call the office and Maria will get you everything you need.

### LUNCH TIMES

First Grade: 11:10-11:40  
Fifth Grade: 11:35-12:20  
Second Grade: 11:40-12:10  
Third Grade: 11:50-12:20  
Kindergarten 12:10-12:40  
Fourth Grade: 12:20-12:50

We are also looking for parent volunteers to walk with music students to LMS after school on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The children will be in the gym ready to go at 3:35.

### CURRICULUM NIGHT

Gary School Curriculum Night is on Wednesday. We will start with a Family Dinner from 5:00 to 6:00. Pizza, salad, and breadsticks will be provided. A message from administration will begin at 6:00 and classroom presentations will begin at 6:25. We will use a passport during the evening that children will be able to use to enter a raffle as they leave. The raffle drawing will occur during school on Friday.

We hope to see all of you there!

#### Noche del plan de estudios de la escuela Gary 2024 2025

Todos los niños deben recibir un pasaporte por la noche para llevarlo y coleccionar firmas o sellos. Pueden entregar su pasaporte para la oportunidad de ganar una rifa.

5:00-6:00

Cena para el personal/familia y hacer tarjetas en el gimnasio

6:00-6:20

Presentación en el gimnasio por parte de la Administración

6:25-8:00

Pasaportes escolares de Gary

6:25-6:45 Presentaciones K-2

6:50-7:10 Presentaciones 3-5

7:15-7:35 Presentaciones K-2

7:40-8:00 Presentaciones 3-5



#### Gary School Curriculum Night 2024 2025

All children should get a passport for the evening to carry with them and collect signatures or stamps. They can turn their passport in for a chance at winning a raffle before leaving the building.

5:00-6:00

Staff/Family Dinner and Card Making in the Gym

6:00-6:20

Presentation In the Gym by Administration

6:25-8:00

Gary School Passports

6:25-6:45 K-2 Presentations

6:50-7:10 3-5 Presentations

7:15-7:35 K-2 Presentations

7:40-8:00 3-5 Presentations



**REGISTER HERE - FREE FOR THE FIRST 50 FOR D33 STUDENTS**



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**FIT4  
FALL  
5K**

**September 21, 2024**



Family Discounts are now available

First 100 to register receive a swag bag filled with goodies



- Post run event
- Free waffle with unlimited toppings
- Raffle entry
- T-shirt
- Custom Medal



Healthy  
West Chicago

## RECOGNIZE SOMEONE!

The Board of Education would like to recognize individuals of the District 33 community - which includes all staff members, students, bus drivers, parents/guardians, and guardians - for actions that build a positive culture and climate in District 33. This "shout-out" is read at Board meetings, is included as an agenda item called "Board Salute" and becomes part of the official minutes. If you know someone who deserves a "Board Salute," please complete [this form](#). To read more about Board Salutes, visit the [website](#).



## D33 MOBILE APP

### DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW!

The D33 app can be used as a one-stop location to access information about the district, and parents can view specific details about their children, such as:

- Grades
- Bus Route
- Class Schedule
- Teachers

Parents must use a login and password to view information specific to their child(ren), such as bus route, teachers, attendance, etc. Please complete [this form](#) to request your Login and Password for the D33 Mobile App. Visit our [website](#) for more information and tutorials. Search "West Chicago Elementary SD 33" in the Google Play Store or Apple Store on your smart device and download it NOW!



## PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

The Parent-Student Handbook is available for viewing by following the links below. You can also request a paper copy at the main office at Gary School. Your child will be bringing home a signature page for you to sign. We do need one for each of your children who attend Gary School. If you haven't found the paper in their backpack, there will be copies available during Curriculum Night for you.

[24-25 Student/Parent Handbook in English](#)

[24-25 Student/Parent Handbook in Spanish](#)



THANK YOU FOR  
A GREAT START TO  
THE 2024-2025  
SCHOOL YEAR  
AND FOR  
ENTRUSTING US  
WITH YOUR  
CHILDREN!



# AUGUST 20, 2024

## UPCOMING DATES: ADDITIONS/CANCELLATIONS ARE HIGHLIGHTED

- 8/28: Supply Drop Off
- 8/29: Grade 1-5 Begin
- 8/29: Kindergarten Orientation
- 8/30: Kinder Begins
- 9/11: Gary Curriculum
- 10/3: Picture Day
- 11/14: Picture Retakes
- 2/18: 3rd Grade CAP Presentations
- 3/21: Spring Pictures
- 4/7: Smile Squad
- 4/8: Smile Squad



## WEAR IT WEDNESDAY:

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

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Gary School Year 2024-2025! I am extremely thrilled to be back for a third year to work with you and your children. I hope that you are finding time this summer to relax, rest, and reset with your people. I shared my time off this summer with friends and family doing things that I enjoy. My sister, cousin, and I planned and executed a family reunion in Dubuque, Iowa. It was the first in many, many years for us. We had a

blast! The boys and I spent a lot of time in the same space, talking and working on projects around the house, and I found time to spend with friends soaking up the sun at the pool. The work that we did together last year has left us ready to take off into a data-driven, student-centered school year, starting on day one with the students! I am looking forward to working with the staff next week to put the plans we started last Spring into action. With the pre-work that we have done, we are going to be able to spend another year watching your children grow in their social, reading, and math skills! The district theme this year is We Grow Together. Our building theme this year will be the same. Because we concentrated on Growing so much last year, our focus this year will be on the Together part of the theme. We will spend the next weeks building our classroom and building systems and communities, which will then provide us with the safe, caring spaces that your children need to be able to grow, grow, and grow in those skills!

Trimester 1	
9/4	Gary Gear - Wear Gary Gear or Gary Blue
9/11	Fictional Character Day
9/16	Mexican Independence Day - Red/Green/White
9/18	College Gear Day
9/25	Fall Colors Day
10/2	Wear Orange for Bullying Prevention
10/9	Sports Team Day
10/16	Dress like a Gary Administrator Day
10/23	Disney Day
10/30	Dia de los muertos- Wear yellow & orange
11/6	Super Hero Day
11/11	Veterans Day - Red/White/Blue
11/13	Camping Day
11/20	Backwards Day



## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We are excited to share that we will be offering an after-school academic program called MyLearning at Gary School. MyLearning will support and enrich students in the areas of math and literacy, with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) activities. **The program is open to all students in grades 1st-5th** and will run as follows:

**Elementary MyLearning**  
**3:45-4:45**  
**Monday-Thursday**  
**September 23, 2024 - May 29, 2025**

**MyLearning Trimester 1 Start Date: September 23, 2024**

**MyLearning Trimester 2 Start Date: December 9, 2024**

**MyLearning Trimester 3 Start Date: March 17, 2025**

More information is available in the corresponding registration forms for students in elementary and middle school. **The registration deadline for Trimester/Session 1 of MyLearning is September 1st.** Please contact Jenny Brunke at [brunkej@wego33.org](mailto:brunkej@wego33.org) with any questions.

[2024-2025 Elementary Beyond the Bell: My Learning Student Registration](#)

[2024-2025 Lemay Middle School Beyond the Bell: My Learning Student Registration](#)

## HEALTHY FOOD REMINDERS

Did you know research shows a correlation between a healthy balanced diet and better performance in school? Help us encourage healthy brain power by sending your children to school with healthy snacks. Fruit, vegetables, whole grains, and low in sugar snacks will keep them energized and focused during the day! Some snacks to keep at home and not send to school would be large bags of chips, candy, sweets, etc!

## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Kindergarten orientation is next Thursday, August 29th. You may choose to come with your child at either 9:30 or 1:30. Teachers will be meeting you on the Joliet playground and then bringing you into the classrooms at either 9:30 or 1:30. *You will need to sign in at the office with identification before going to the playground.* They will check you in and give you a name tag so that you will be able to enter with your child.



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### STUDENTS IN DISTRICT 33 ARE ELIGIBLE TO RIDE THE BUS WHEN:

- THEY LIVE MORE THAN 1.5 MILES FROM THE SCHOOL THEY ARE ATTENDING
- THEY LIVE ALONG A ROUTE THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED HAZARDOUS
- ARE DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION AS PART OF THEIR INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN

Parents of students who are eligible for bus transportation may request a morning pickup or afternoon drop-off at a location other than their home address. All requests for transportation changes must be submitted by the parent, to the building secretary.

SCHOOL	SECRETARY	PHONE NUMBER
PEPPER PRESCHOOL	FABRILA GARCIA	(830) 293 - 4049 EXT 4200
CURRIER ELEMENTARY	ESTAFANI BARRERA	(830) 293 - 4400 EXT 3200
GARY ELEMENTARY	MARIA GONZALEZ	(830) 293 - 4410 EXT 3200
INDIAN KNOLL ELEMENTARY	ANNABELLE GONZALEZ	(830) 293 - 4029 EXT 4200
TUNNER ELEMENTARY	CONNIE MICHELS	(830) 293 - 4059 EXT 7200
WEINER ELEMENTARY	ANDREA BOVE	(830) 293-4480 EXT 8200
LEMAY MIDDLE SCHOOL	VERONICA MENESES	(830) 293 - 4440 EXT 5212

- REQUESTS FOR CHANGES ARE NOT IMMEDIATE. YOUR SCHOOL SECRETARY WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN THE CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE AND WHEN IT WILL BEGIN.
- WHAT IF THE STUDENT IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO RIDE THE BUS BUT THE PARENT WOULD LIKE THEIR CHILD TO ATTEND A BEFORE-SCHOOL OR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM SUCH AS ARC CENTER OR LITTLE PRINCE?
- THE PARENT MUST WAIT UNTIL ANOTHER STUDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION MAKES THAT SAME REQUEST. ONCE THE STOP HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR A BUS RIDER, THEN NON-BUS RIDERS MAY JOIN THAT ROUTE AS LONG AS THERE IS ROOM ON THE BUS.
- ALL BUS STOPS ARE MONDAY - FRIDAY. FOR STUDENT SAFETY, NO REQUESTS FOR PARTIAL WEEK TRANSPORTATION (I.E. M, W, F) WILL BE HONORED.





## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

### PETS AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

We have children that attend Gary that have allergies to all kinds of things: bees, peanut butter, and dogs to name a few. We really enjoy seeing your pups in the morning and at dismissal, but in order to keep all our Gary Cougars safe, please do not bring animals on campus during arrival and dismissal.



### ARRIVAL

- Breakfast begins at 8:15.
- Supervision on the playgrounds begins at 8:30. Parents of children arriving before 8:30 need to supervise them until then unless they are going inside for breakfast.
- The first bell is at 8:40. Students and teachers enter the building.
- The tardy bell is 8:45. If you are bringing your child after 8:45, please walk them into the school building to receive a tardy pass.
- If you are letting your child out of the car, you may pull into the parking lot and follow the traffic pattern. Do not exit your vehicle in the drop-off lane.

### DISMISSAL

- Car riders begin to release at 3:20.
- Walkers are released at 3:25.
- The office remains open until 4 pm.
- There is no playground supervision after school. All children must leave campus after school unless they are supervised by an adult.
- If you are picking your child up in your vehicle, you may pull into the parking lot and follow the traffic pattern. Do not exit your vehicle or pass other vehicles in the pick-up lane.



- All students will be given a Dashboard Nameplate on the first day of school. If you will be picking up your child at school in the parent pick-up line (Door #4), the Dashboard Nameplate must be placed in the windshield in a visible location. If there is no nameplate, you will need to park your vehicle and pick up your child in the front office with your driver's license.

## BUS INFORMATION

- If your child rides a bus, they will receive a bus tag with their information on it.
- Please expect buses to run late for the first few weeks.
- Buses typically leave the school building between 3:25 and 3:40. If a bus is running very late, the school administration will communicate with you via text, phone, and the app.

## TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Please send a note with your child to school if they will not be following the expected dismissal plan that we have for them. For example, if your child is assigned a bus to ride, but you will be picking them up, we need this information so as to not put them on the bus.

## TECHNOLOGY FEE

Beginning this year, D33 will be collecting a technology fee from all students. You can pay this fee on the [D33 website](#).

## SUPPLY DROP OFF

We will open the school on Wednesday, August 28th, for families to come meet the teachers and drop off school supplies. Doors will open at 1:00 and the event ends at 3:00. There will be a passport system to move you through the tasks that need to be completed and then the children will be able to enter their passport for a chance to win a raffle prize. The drawing for the raffle prize will take place on the first Friday of school during the school day.

