

Dear Grand View Parents and Students,

As you may have heard by now, Grand View now has 4 new pits for an exciting game called Gaga Ball. Gaga is now the most popular game at our school and kids are playing with parents, friends, and neighbors after school and on the weekends. It is non-stop Gaga during recess.

The students earned these pits by raising money in the wildly successful Jog-a-thon a few months ago. Thanks to Vicki Tyler for spearheading the event and for the research, purchase, and construction of the pits. Also, great thanks to Chip Herwegh and his crew of parents who volunteered to make our recess the best in the West.

We welcome you to join in on the fun. Here are the rules so you will know how to play when you get into the pit. Enjoy the game and remember, there is no quit in the pit!

Gaga Ball Game Rules

OBJECT OF THE GAME is to remain in the pit as long as possible.

- 1. No more than 15 players are allowed to be in the pit at the start of the game. The player who wins the previous game gets to stay in the pit and counts in the first 14 people in line.**
- 2. One player tosses the ball the middle of the pit. Players yell "ga" on the first bounce and "ga" again on the second bounce, and the ball is then in play. The player who tossed the ball cannot be the first person to touch the ball.**
- 3. At the start of each round, all players must be touching the pit wall. If you enter the game before the ball is in play, please exit the pit and get into line.**
- 4. Players hit the ball with their hands only, and may not hold, carry, scoop, or throw the ball – it must be hit with an open hand. Only one successive hit is allowed by each player.**
- 5. Camping is when a player sits, kneels, or squats in one place as a strategy during the game. "Campers" must exit the pit. Tripping or falling is not camping.**
- 6. If the ball contacts a player or a player's clothing at the knees or below, that player is "out" and needs to exit the playing area. If the ball contacts the player above the knees, the player is still in, unless rule # 7 occurs.**
- 7. If the ball goes out of the Gaga pit, the last player to touch the ball is eliminated.**
- 8. A player may not grab the wall or sit on the wall for balance or advantage during play. Dodging and jumping in the pit is allowed AS LONG AS THE PLAYER does not use the top of the wall for balance.**
- 9. Once the player hits the ball, he or she must wait until the ball touches someone else or a wall before hitting it again (no double touches).**
- 10. Students in line shall not interfere with the game inside the pit, but may restart a round by throwing in the ball for "ga" "ga" if the ball flies out of the pit and a restart is required.**
- 11. You must earn your own way in this game; therefore, there will be no truces, teams, or trades.**
- 12. Please follow these rules before, during, and after school to avoid confusion. Some students are making up rules that cause disagreements or uncertainty.**
- 13. Use a lightweight ball that won't hurt when you hit it or when it hits you! The Gaga balls are around \$3 or \$4 at the toy store or super market. Please don't use soccer balls or basketballs in the pit.**