



COMMUNICATOR



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COVID-19



Since our last Communicator publication, conditions for learning have changed in an unprecedented way due to the impact of COVID-19. We are taking precautionary steps to maximize the health and safety of our students and faculty in our schools and community to include the mandatory closing of our school buildings.

This phenomenon is something we have not experienced during our

lifetime, and many of us have only heard stories about how our parents and grandparents were impacted by public health issues in prior generations. When these moments happen, we all feel the collective impact and experience many of the same emotions.

It has been heartwarming to hear from so many of you in the community who are stepping up to volunteer and help with the needs that require immediate care and attention. Food and meal distribution networks have scaled up rapidly and home education materials are prepped and in the pipeline for delivery both virtually and in print form for those who need it.

Our network care providers are reaching out to address mental health and financial needs using a truly unique and integrated approach that sets this community apart as a special place.

Our interactions with each other have been characterized by graciousness, kindness, sincere concern and patience during this time and this has added value to every service being offered.

As I write this message, a community business owner is packaging new board games in boxes that will go out at our meal distribution locations. There is an innate understanding that we are going to care for more than just the physical needs of our kids and families during this season of social distancing. We care about the whole person and it shows in how we treat each other.

I want to encourage all of you to keep practicing the habits of being lifelong learners who are self-directed and thirsty for intellectual growth and knowledge. Seek to apply this knowledge by building and sustaining community, adding value and discovering new opportunities to increase our quality of life together. Our current circumstances offer an excellent opportunity to do just that.

On behalf of Gull Lake Community Schools, I want to thank you for your generous contributions during this time of need. I also want you to know Gull Lake Community Schools are here to serve you in any way we can in the days ahead. May we grow closer in service together and experience the blessings of being part of something greater than ourselves. We will find our way together through the current circumstances, discover new strengths inside ourselves and each other, and come out stronger on the other side.

Go Gull Lake!

Raphael Rittenhouse/GLCS Superintendent

GLCS FIRST RESPONDERS BASKETBALL GAME

On Friday, February 21, 2020 Superintendent Rittenhouse spoke on behalf of the Gull Lake staff, students and families as we recognized and thanked all the First Responders during half time of the varsity boys basketball game.

THANK YOU



FIRST RESPONDERS



BOND UPDATE

Projects Under Construction

RYAN INTERMEDIATE

Classroom additions, STEM lab addition, mechanical and electrical system upgrades.

- All additions are on schedule with exterior envelope (walls, windows, and roof) completed.
- Current interior work includes HVAC, lighting and final finishes and casework proceeding.
- Project is scheduled to be completed in time for the beginning of School next fall.

NEW MAINTENANCE/STORAGE BUILDING

New building with work bays, storage, and facilities for maintenance staff.

- Project construction will start this spring, weather permitting. With the current mild weather construction is getting scheduled to start mid-April 2020.
- Project completion still scheduled for fall 2020.

KELLOGG ELEMENTARY

New K-2 Elementary Building

- Project was bid end of January 2020.
- Construction to begin end of March 2020 with completion projected for October 2021.

Projects in Design

RICHLAND ELEMENTARY

New K-2 Elementary Building

- Project is currently bidding with bids due beginning of April 2020.
- Construction is planned to begin early summer 2020 with completion projected for fall 2021.

HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

New Auditorium with Support Spaces

- Project is in final design with bidding to occur May/June 2020.
- Construction to begin summer 2020 with completion planned for end of the year 2021.



Ryan Commons Area



Ryan Classroom



Mudroom between new classrooms



Teacher work room



5th grade wing

A Note from Nurse Megan!

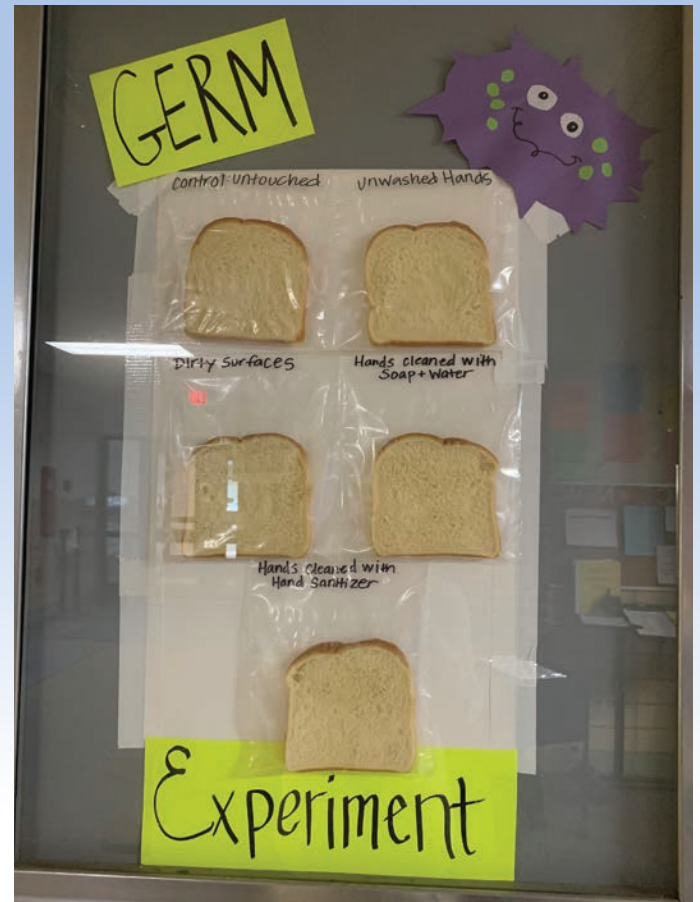


Megan Asper - District Nurse - masper@gulllakecs.org

February ended our 8-week staff Determined Devils weight loss and healthy habits challenge. A total of 60 staff participated, weighing in weekly and reporting healthy habits. Collectively, they lost 604 pounds! We had several very generous donations, which provided incentives along the way for participants.

I would like to thank the following

businesses for supporting our challenge: Rob Redman Agency/ Meemic Insurance, Waters Edge Day Spa, Kitchen House restaurant, Sherman Lake YMCA, Borgess Health and Fitness, Soldano Chiropractic, & Climb Kalamazoo.



At the elementary level we have been working hard on learning proper handwashing.

Driver of the Month

NOVEMBER 2019

Mona Perkins - Bus #28



DECEMBER 2019

Greg Smith - Bus #15



JANUARY 2020

Bernadette Radke - Bus #25



FEBRUARY 2020

Pam Barnes - Bus #56



**MORE THAN JUST
REAL ESTATE.**



Scott Kellogg



Justin Ridderman



Jamie VanDyke



Bill & Nora Sikkema



Dawn Snow



Emily Anglin



John Wright



Rachel Cunningham



Kathy Fosmoe



Jami Hale



Lysanne Harna



Julie Hribar



Matt Watts



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Bill Clancy



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Casey Alger



Jenny Doan



Joy Watts



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#GLWELL

As part of our Spark Series's #GLWELL Initiative, we brought in Jump with Jill to teach grades K-5 students good nutrition through their rock-n-roll show and Combat Veteran Tom Voss to speak with our students and community about resilience and overcoming trauma. There's more to come and free stuff via contests—you could be a winner! See the latest info on our Facebook page.

BE HAPPY | BE HEALTHY | BE WELL

Thank you to our Tom Voss sponsors:
Brundage Family & Friends



Gull Lake Community Volunteers

Lori Drogosh - drogoshlori@gmail.com

Thank you to the many community members, businesses, and students who helped with our 2019 Bright Holidays program. Thank you, especially, to Haven Reformed Church, for allowing us to use their facility for our program!

If you are already dreaming about summer...

dental, and emergency needs for those in the Gull Lake Community.

Ladies, are you interested in volunteering a bit of your time? The Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers-Women's Group is a not-for-profit group who sponsor fundraisers and assist families within the Gull Lake School District. If you are interested in discovering what our organization does, please visit our website at **GLACV.org**.



SAVE THE DATE!

The Richland Art Fair

July 18, 2020

Richland Village Park

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The annual Richland Art Fair hosts local and out-of-state artists who will be selling their pottery, paintings, wood work, jewelry, fiber art pieces, photographs, and other finely crafted items. This year, we are again encouraging students from Kalamazoo County high schools to sell their artwork individually (or with a friend) for half of the standard booth fee. Proceeds from the Richland Art Fair help fund educational, medical,

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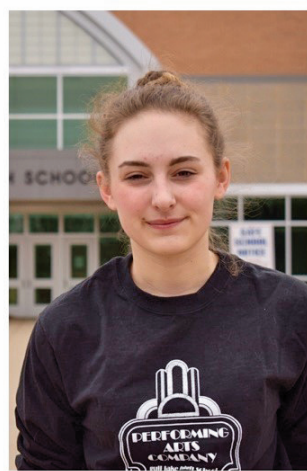


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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

GLCS FINE ARTS FOUNDATION AWARDS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS



The GLCS Fine Arts Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of its two \$1,000 scholarships. The recipient of Robin Nott Performing Arts Company Scholarship is **Haley Archambault**. Haley, who is currently the PAC President, has participated in PAC for three years. She has served as a leader and has excelled on and off stage, earning numerous awards for acting and costumes over the past three years at district, regional and state competitions. Haley has also appeared in several productions at The New Vic Theatre. In addition to her participation in theater, Haley has also participated in DECA and Model UN. In the fall, Haley plans to study International Relations.



The GLCS Fine Arts Foundation also awarded its second GLCS Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship to **Kaitlyn Lemon**. Kait is a talented vocalist and also serves at the Student Director for the GLHS Choir. During her time at Gull Lake, she participated in Choir and Marching Band as a member of the Color Guard. She was a featured vocalist in this year's Marching Band program. Kait has also been a member of the Kalamazoo Children's Chorus for six years and participated in the SW Michigan Vocal Festival Honors Choir. Kait plans to study Multimedia Arts and Technology and Vocal Performance at Western Michigan University.

We wish them both the best of luck in their future Fine Arts endeavors.

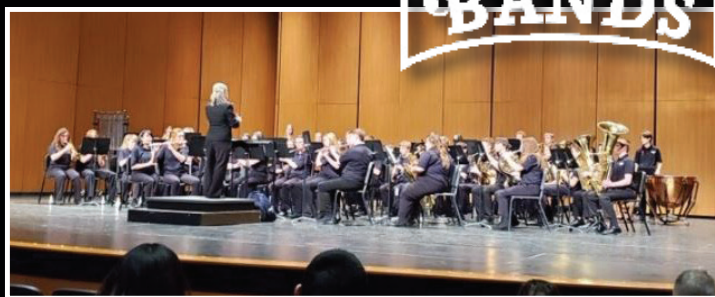
GLMS District Band Festival

Michelle Chabitch - MS Band Director - mchabitch@gulllakescs.org

Congratulations to our GLMS 7th and 8th grade band students - Both bands earned straight Division One ratings on Thursday, March 5th at Marshall High School at District Band Festival. A Division One rating is the highest rating a band can receive (a grade of an A) and represents a superior performance! *Great job bands!!! GLMS is very proud of you!!*



7th Grade Band



8th Grade Band



Ask any staff member at Gateway Academy what we love about our job and you will hear them talk about our students. Students that want to graduate; that want a good future; and students that want to make an impact.

Gateway Academy has always had a holistic view of education. We know that students need a safe place to learn and have basic needs met before we can teach. We understand that trauma isn't something that students

are always willing and able to talk about. We know that life can throw unfair circumstances to families and assistance is needed.

We have a great community that supports our program and enables us to do extra things for our students. Thank you for believing in what we do and knowing that our students are destined for greatness.



NOTICE

GULL LAKE SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

TWO SEATS OPEN FOR ELECTION



Two 6-year terms will be filled at the November 3, 2020 General Election. Interested community members seeking these positions must submit a Nominating Petition containing at least 40 supporting signatures of registered voters in Gull Lake Community Schools or a \$100 filing fee.

Petitions must be returned to the Richland Township offices by Tuesday, July 21, 2020. The deadline to register to vote is Monday, October 19, 2020 for the November 3, 2020 General Election.

NOTE: To be eligible to cast a ballot you must be a registered voter.



Early College and Gull Lake Virtual Partnership News

Bobbi Jo Stoner - Principal of Early College and Innovative Programs - bstoner@gulllakecs.org

Early College Student Highlight

Kevin Hook is a GLHS Senior in Gull Lake's Early College program. He shares his experience as a member of the Kalamazoo Valley Community College's Student Voices Advisory Council, or SVAC.

"SVAC is the KVCC equivalent of student government in high school, except everyone is at equal positions. This makes it much easier to discuss issues since there is no power struggle. When I first joined SVAC, I was sixteen and clearly the youngest in the group. At first, I felt like I wouldn't belong, but everyone listened to my input respectfully and valued my opinion. The council is very diverse, with all ages and various backgrounds included. It provides a good way to get to know the students as well, since everyone participating currently attends KVCC. Personally, I liked this part of it because I was new and didn't know many people yet. The council meets once a month and it doesn't interfere with school. They also provide food after each meeting, which is always very nice. I have nothing about this council that I do not like, it's exactly how I want student government to be--student input is equal. The advisors are very nice and they treat everyone on the council like adults, which is very important for me. While what the council suggests is not guaranteed to be put into action, it does still feel good to be heard and to have your idea mentioned. I believe the council is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is going to KVCC, especially newer Early College students looking to do some networking and making their voice count. I thank the counselors for sending me this opportunity and encouraging me to join, for, without that, I may have never applied." - Kevin Hook



Learn how high school students can earn up to an Associate's Degree or Occupational Certificate while in high school!

10th Graders and Parents ... Please Join Us!

EARLY COLLEGE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

TENTATIVE MEETING DATE

April 30, 2020 - 7:00 PM - GULL LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Gull Lake Virtual Partnership Student Highlight

Heath Valkema is a 17-year-old senior with the Gull Lake Virtual Partnership. He is dual enrolled at Kalamazoo Valley Community College with an emphasis on business. Heath loves the flexibility that classes with GLVP and KVCC give him, especially as he is owner and operator of Kalamazoo Tents, Tables and Chairs, an event rental business. Kalamazoo Tents, Tables and Chairs (kzootents.com) rents tents for parties and events, big or small. Heath is excited to be able to provide quality tents for his fellow 2020 graduates' open houses as well as weddings and other parties. A big thank you to GLVP for offering classes which promote entrepreneurship.



Innovative Programs Open House

COME FIND OUT ABOUT:

- Virtual Partnership Classes
- Community Partners / Applications
- Brick and Mortar
- Dual Enrollment / Early College

TENTATIVE DATES:

Tuesday April 21 3:30 - 7:00
Richland Area Community Center

Thursday April 23 2:00 - 7:00
Bedford Building

SESSIONS:

K-12 Program Options	4:30
High School Diploma	5:30
Earn College Credit	6:30

Please Join Us!

*Current and new families
are welcome to learn
about the educational
options available at Gull
Lake
Community Schools*

HOSTED BY



Virtual Partnership

**Full -Time
Students**

**Part -Time
Students**

**Home
Schooled
Students**

**Grades
K-12**

**All are
Welcome**



WINTER SEASON RECAP

Our Gull Lake Blue Devils had another fantastic winter season! In its first year as an MHSAA approved team our Kalamazoo Eagles Hockey team advanced to the MHSAA State Quarterfinals! Our wrestling and bowling teams each had an athlete advance to the MHSAA Individual State Finals and our boys basketball team was on its way to compete for an MHSAA District Championship before the season was cut short due to COVID-19. Congratulations to all our coaches and student-athletes on an amazing season and congratulations to our winter sport athletes receiving post season conference accolades:

BOYS BASKETBALL:

1st Team SMAC East Division:
Jacob Loudon, Caleb Taylor, Tyler Corstange

Honorable Mention SMAC East Division: Zach Pejka, Zach Collard

GIRLS BASKETBALL:

1st Team SMAC East Division:
Cassidy Neff, Ireland Watts

Honorable Mention SMAC East Division: Ashley Bates

BOWLING:

Jordyn Hale: State Final Qualifier!

WRESTLING:

SMAC All Conference 1st Team:
Dakota Oman

SMAC All Conference Honorable Mention: Caleb Mason, Gabe Smith, Oliver Hess, Logan Pennock

MHSAA All State: Dakota Oman

COMPETITIVE CHEER:

SMAC All Conference Team: Tessa Muday, Caitlyn Greene, Charlotte Zervic, Leah Thomas

SMAC All Conference honorable mention: Isabella Hakman

HOCKEY:

1st Team All-Conference:
Connor Gregor

2nd Team All-Conference:
Alex Johnson, Trent Stoner

Honorable Mention All-Conference:
Huston Born, Tyler Wressel, James Onderlinde, Jimmy Lindstrom

SCHSHL South Division Rookie of the Year: James Onderlinde

*hockey is a co-op team that includes student-athletes from Gull Lake, Plainwell, Parchment, Paw Paw, Harper Creek and Pennfield.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

This fall we will be inducting another group of Blue Devils into our Athletic Hall of Fame. If you would like to nominate someone please contact Athletic Director, Karyn Furlong at kfurlong@gulllakecs.org or 269-548-3520. Both coaches and athletes can be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Nominees must be five years removed from either coaching or playing to be considered.

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SPORTS BOOSTERS

The Team Behind The Teams

Join the Sports Boosters Today!

<https://gulllakesportsboosters.org/join-us>

Are you looking for a fun way to help Gull Lake Schools?



Do you like Sports and want to help our Student Athletes?

Gull Lake Sports Boosters are looking for new board members for 2020-2021!

Come join the fun!

For more information: Email us at GLSportsBoosters@gmail.com or visit us at <https://gulllakesportsboosters.org>

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU!

COLLEGE SIGNING PART 2

We would like to congratulate the Blue Devils pictured below. They each will be continuing their playing careers in college next fall!

Left to Right: **Jack Blesch**, baseball, St Thomas University, **Maddie Corstange**, volleyball, KVCC, **Jack Lockerbie**, soccer, Alma College, **Nolan Fraaza**, football, Elmhurst College, **Vanessa Scheel**, soccer, Western Michigan University, **Gabby Bennecke**, soccer, Davenport University, Not pictured: **Nate Willard**, Football, Adrian College



RYAN NEWS

Leadership Day: Ryan Intermediate held its annual Leadership Day last month. The Leadership Day is an opportunity for students to showcase how students live the 7 Habits at Ryan Intermediate. This day is intended to be a learning opportunity for outside educators, as well as a chance to show our stakeholders what their support has provided. Teachers, administrators, and other community members are invited to see how the Leader In Me process can be used and implemented as a primary operating system in a school setting. Ryan Intermediate hosted this event as one of only 32 schools in the State of Michigan to have achieved Lighthouse Status. For more information regarding our Leader In Me process and accolades please visit our Thomas M. Ryan Intermediate School website at www.gulllakecs.org



Brainstormers Visit: The Brainstormers visited our 3rd and 4th-grade students this month to promote reading and writing. Several student stories were chosen from each grade level to be highlighted and performed live by the Brainstorms cast and volunteer performers from our audience. Each author received special treatment by getting a chance to sit in the "Author's Chair" during the performance. Thank you to the Brainstormer cast for creating a wonderful experience for our students.



February Leader In Me Certificate Winners/Community Circle Assembly

Each month our school participates in a student lead Community Circle Assembly which focuses on one of our LIM Seven Habits. This month we focused on Habit 4 Think Win-Win. During our assembly, one student from each class is recognized for exhibiting one of the 7 Habits. Teachers select the student from their class who went over and above to exhibit characteristics of one of the 7 Habits. Congratulations to the students who were selected this month.

ELEMENTARY HAPPENINGS



Kellogg PTO hosted Family Paint Night at Kellogg Elementary. This event was led by art teacher, Kayla Stafford. Our event included over 80 parents and students making creative memories! The PTO hosts 2-3 paint nights a year at Kellogg, and we encourage any Gull Lake students and their families to attend. Look for upcoming opportunities to be sent home via peachjar flyers.

W.K. KELLOGG BIOLOGICAL STATION





SPRING EVENTS

7 TO 9 P.M.
 KBS
 AUDITORIUM
 ROOM 327

MAY 21
DESSERT WITH DISCUSSION
 BIRDS CAN
 SAVE THE
 WORLD

**DR. JOHN
FITZPATRICK**
 CORNELL LAB OF
 ORNITHOLOGY

APRIL 22 9 A.M.-5 P.M. ●
EARTH DAY
 FREE SANCTUARY ADMISSION

MAY 10 11 A.M.-4 P.M. ●
MOTHER'S DAY
 FREE ADMISSION TO THE
 SANCTUARY FOR MOM

MAY 13 9-10:30 A.M. ●
BIRDS & COFFEE WALK

MAY 31 11 A.M.-4 P.M. ●●
SUSTAINING THE VISION
 FREE SANCTUARY ADMISSION AND
 MANOR HOUSE TOURS

JUNE 4-5 9:30 A.M.-5 P.M. ●
MICHIGAN TURTLE WORKSHOP
 LEARN ABOUT HOW TO IDENTIFY AND
 NURTURE TURTLE POPULATIONS

JUNE 6 9 A.M.-NOON ●
WILD EDIBLES WORKSHOP

● WK KELLOGG BIRD SANCTUARY
(269) 671-2510
BIRDSANCTUARY@KBSMSU.EDU

● WK KELLOGG MANOR HOUSE
(269) 671-2400
CONFERENCE@KBSMSU.EDU

● KBS COMMUNITY RELATIONS
(269) 671-2015
COMMUNITYRELATIONS@KBSMSU.EDU





kbs.msu.edu/events@KelloggBioStn



W.K. Kellogg
 Biological Station
 MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



When the first graders at Kellogg Elementary learned about the bushfires in Australia, they immediately wanted to help! 'Koins For Koalas' was created and the students were encouraged to do chores, help neighbors, or whatever they could think of to earn the money they donated. Reaching goals along the way allowed them to learn about some of the Australian animals they were helping. Together the four classes raised \$1666 to donate to the WIRES organization that helps rescue, rehabilitate and preserve wildlife and habitats. The students learned so much along the way, but most importantly that they are never too young to make a difference in our world!

In March, Forty-seven Gull Lake High School students attended DECA's State Conference in Detroit to compete among the top business students throughout the state. DECA is the world's largest business club and allows students to work in teams or individually in areas of Business Management, Hospitality and Tourism, Finance, or Marketing. Congratulations to the following students who medaled or advanced to Nationals in the following events.

State Winners qualified for Nationals in Nashville (CANCELLED):

Trent Grant - Financial Consulting

Johanna Vanlandegent - Principles of Finance

Vick Ghai and Sydney Blinn - School Store

Students that also medaled as finalist:

Colton Dingman and Nick Tracey

- Team Sports and Entertainment Marketing

Makenzie Askler and Maddie Murphy

- Team Buying and Merchandising Marketing

Leo Martins and Carter Nuss

- Team Financial Services

Malissa Howe

- Restaurant and Food Service Management

Ava Zondervan - Principles of Marketing

Anna Wozniak - Principles of Marketing

Leo Martins - Business Math Exam

Grant Isom - Business Math Exam

Jackson Mendez - Business Management Exam

Congratulations to Connor McCormick for completing his position as a State Officer for 2019-2020. This position allowed Connor to travel around the country meeting state representatives and working with students and businesses around the state.

DECA is a self-funded club at GLHS and an excellent opportunity for any student interested in the Business field to learn essential career readiness skills. Business Sponsors and community members are always welcomed for mentoring and financial support. Please contact mjaros@gulllakecs.org.

Mrs. Jaros and Connor McCormick



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER

Danielle Vert - 7th Grade ELA Teacher - dvert@gulllakecs.org



Thanks to a grant from the Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation the seventh-grade class was able to attend a field trip to the Farmington Hills Holocaust Memorial Center. Students were able to take a guided tour throughout the museum and end their tour with meeting a Holocaust Survivor. The survivor was able to share their experience through an hour-long discussion. This field trip laid the foundation to understand the novels they read in their ELA classes. This experience generated some important conversations within the classroom. Some meaningful ideas and lasting impressions are captured below in portions of student thank you letters.

Madison Keene wrote in her letter to the Holocaust survivor who spoke that "All the exhibits at the museum were interesting, but you speaking to us made the experience so much more real and interesting".

Danyiah McCone wrote to the Holocaust survivor to say, "It was a real experience hearing about what you had gone through as a child, but I admire the fight and bravery within you...It is so cruel how somebody can dehumanize people like they are not the same as any other living, breathing, human being."

Brody Hergott wrote in his thank you letter to the museum's docent: "When we were in the library with all the empty bookshelves, you asked us what we thought it symbolized, and you told us that an eighth grader who went on a tour awhile ago said she saw 'a lot of unwritten books'. This hit me pretty hard ... I mean think of how much knowledge and opportunity was lost just because one man thought his race was superior."

Thank you, Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation, for making this opportunity possible!

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SUMMER CAMP 2020

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WWW.SHERMANLAKEYMCA.ORG

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Parents and all other community members are encouraged to attend school board meetings on a regular basis. Meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at the Thomas M. Ryan Intermediate School Media Center at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise indicated. Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in the meetings. Official minutes of each school board meeting are available for public inspection at the Superintendent's office, 10100 East D Avenue, Richland, MI 49083, or may be accessed on the school website: www.gulllakecs.org.

MEETING DATES

April 20, 2020

May 18, 2020

June 15, 2020

No meeting in July

August 17, 2020



SPORTS BOOSTERS

The Team Behind The Teams

*Join the
Sports Boosters
Today!*

<https://gulllakesportsboosters.org/join-us>

32nd Annual Golf Outing

Monday, August 3rd, 2020

Gull Lake View Golf Club, Augusta MI

12:00pm Registration • 1:00pm Shotgun Start
Booster Burgers and Brats available for \$5

\$100/player (18 holes with cart and dinner)

Register online via PayPal! <https://gulllakesportsboosters.org/events>

Checks payable to:
Gull Lake Sports Boosters
7753 N. 34th Street
Richland MI 49083

The Gull Lake All Sports Boosters
are a 501c(3) non-profit corporation.
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tax deductible as allowed by law.

Questions? Email Dave Konkle at:
dave.konkle@yahoo.com and 269-207-7728

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