



COMMUNICATOR



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Photo Credits: GLHS Yearbook Staff, GLCS Staff, and Laura Zervic

Superintendent Message



Dear Gull Lake Families and Community Members,

We continue to gradually reclaim everyday activities that we thought we had lost during the Pandemic.

We are doing more in-person activities such as sports and family visits while observing safety protocols. It is like taking a drink of cool water after coming back parched from a long hike. We understand the importance of that water far more when our bodies are calling for it. We thirst for more than just water. There is pent-up demand for coming together after a time of physical distancing and separation.

Our team is putting together additional in-person activities and programs for the summer months so that we can serve the needs of our students and ensure learning and growth stay on track for a successful future. We will be communicating about these programs in the coming days and weeks so that you can make plans to take full advantage of these enhanced educational opportunities. Your student will get the chance to fill up on the social benefits that go along with meaningful in-person learning activities.

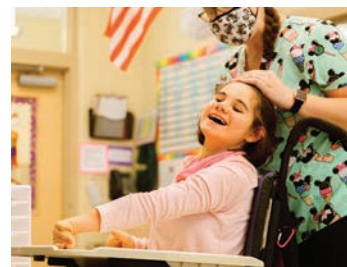
As you drive past our buildings, be sure to take note of the facility improvements that are rapidly taking shape! Innovative new teaching and learning spaces will soon be put to good use on behalf of our GLCS kids. Their progress will be showcased not only in the classrooms and hallways, but also within our new state of the art Performing Arts Center! Visit our website for the latest updates and progress on our capital bond project.

Pardon our dust and GO GULL LAKE!

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools



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BECAUSE EVERYONE COUNTS



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SERVICES FROM
BIRTH TO AGE 26



For information about the upcoming Kalamazoo RESA Special Education Millage Renewal, please go to kresa.org.

the Y

SHERMAN LAKE YMCA
SUMMER
CAMP 2021

Register today!
WWW.SHERMANLAKEYMCA.ORG



Summer Learning Options

Drew Bordner – Director of Curriculum & Instructional Technology – dbordner@gulllakecs.org

In an academic year like no other, we thank our families and staff for their flexibility and grit that has been demonstrated while learning and teaching through a global pandemic. As we move into the third trimester, preparations are being made for summer learning throughout the district. We know that the summer months often have the potential for academic slide for our students. To combat this slide Gull Lake Community Schools is offering enhanced learning opportunities for families in addition to our traditional in-person summer learning.

This year's K-8 Summer Enrichment Program using Edmentum Exact Path will offer an online personalized learning pathway. This pathway will provide individualized skill mastery based on initial assessments in English Language Arts and Math. There will be self-paced weekly challenges, incentives, and prizes for challenge goals that are met. Staff will provide weekly updates on the progress of students within the program.

At Gull Lake High School there will be in-person learning support for students looking to recover credit or students looking to complete courses to provide more flexibility in their schedule during the school year.

If you have any questions, please let me know and keep your eyes open for registration information that will be released in the upcoming weeks.



GULL LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Transportation Notice FOR 2021-2022 JUNIORS & SENIORS

Junior & Senior students are **NOT automatically scheduled for bus transportation!**

If you have a student who will be entering the 11th or 12th grade next fall, you **MUST** contact the Transportation Office to schedule bus transportation at **269-548-3890** or print the Jr./Sr. Bus Form found at www.gulllakecs.org/departments/transportation and send it to the transportation office.

NOVEMBER 2020



Jennifer Fulayter
BUS #8

DECEMBER 2020



Bob Cox
BUS #14



JANUARY 2021



Debra Davis
BUS #10

FEBRUARY 2021



Mark Needham
BUS # 18
SUB-DRIVER

Bond Update

Provided below is a summary of the status of the bond projects that are completed and for the projects in construction.

NEW MAINTENANCE BUILDING UPDATE

School staff has now moved into the New Maintenance Building that is now occupied and operational. Provided below are pictures of the completed project.



COMPLETED

RYAN INTERMEDIATE UPDATE

Ryan Intermediate was completed in September 2020 for the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year. Provided are photos of the completed building additions and site improvements.



COMPLETED

KELLOGG ELEMENTARY PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction is progressing well with all trades focusing on the interior areas of the new additions.

UPDATE
UPDATE
UPDATE



- Mechanical and electrical works continues with Boiler installations almost completed.
- Drywall has been completed.
- Painting has begun with the office area receiving the first coat of paint along with classrooms.
- Final polishing of the concrete floors is occurring.
- Tile work is proceeding.
- Casework installations have begun with carpet beginning as soon as the casework is completed.

Construction Planned over Summer Break:

- Abatement/demolition of existing Kellogg Elementary building.
- New front parking lot/parent loop construction.

The New School will be opened on time this fall with the final work to be completed during the first month of school (September) listed as follows and highlighted in green below:

- New front parking lot/parent loop.
- Final site restorations.
- Media center remodel.

The traffic flow for the month of September will be as follows as the project is completed.

- Parents will temporarily use the new back parking lot/bus loop for Parent Drop Off/Pick Up.
- Buses will then be using the current Bus Loop in front of the Kellogg Preschool building.

- ➔ The temporary traffic flow will end when the project is completed by October 2021.



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Design Group

KELLOGG
GULL LAKE
Community Schools

C3.0

RICHLAND ELEMENTARY PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction is progressing well with all trades focusing on the interior areas of the new additions.



- Mechanical and electrical work continues.
- Drywall has been completed.
- Painting beginning in the classrooms and new office areas.
- Final polishing of the concrete floors is occurring.
- Tile work is proceeding and bathroom fixtures going in.
- Casework installations have begun with carpet beginning as soon as the casework is completed.

Construction planned over summer break.

- Abatement/demolition of the existing Richland Elementary building.
- New front parking lot/parent loop construction.

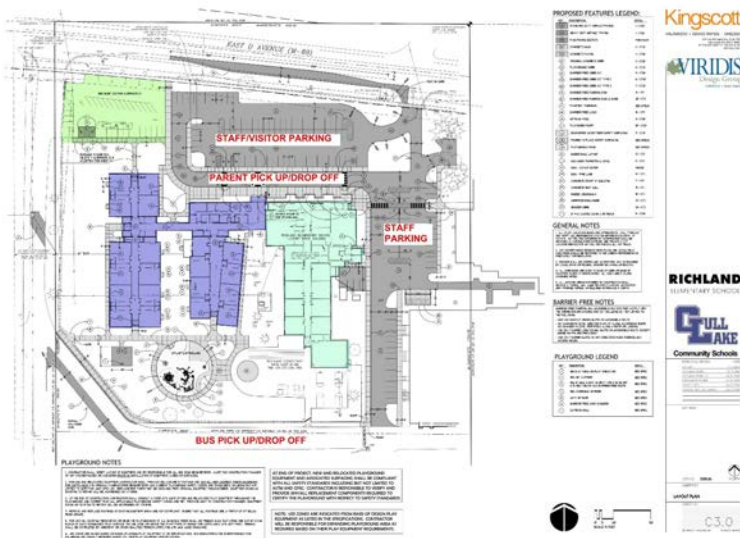
The New School will be opened on time this fall with the final work to be completed during the first month of school (September) listed as follows and highlighted in green below:

- Staff Parking Lot will be constructed.
- Final site restorations will be completed.

The traffic flow when school begins next year will be as follows:

- New front parking lot and parent loop completed and ready for use.
- Buses will be staging on Heather Lane near the playground areas as indicated in the image below.

➡ Project will be completed by October 2021.



GULL LAKE CENTER FOR THE FINE ARTS

Project construction has begun with foundations completed and the masonry wall construction beginning.

➡ Project completion projected for January 2022.





Spring Sports Kicking Off!

March of 2019. That was the last time we hosted a spring sport competition. We are excited to get our athletes and coaches back on the fields this spring! Spring sport practices will kick off March 22 with our high school teams; with competitions beginning just after spring break. Middle School sports will start their practices on April 5. We are looking forward to watching them play. There are still many MDHHS orders in place regarding spectators at events so please check in with our athletic office prior to attending any Gull Lake Athletic event this spring.



“THE EVENT” 50's/60's SOCK HOP

MAY 1, 2021 6:30 PM
at the **Gilmore Car Museum**

New Date & Location!

**Hors d'oeuvres
Live DJ and Dancing
Raffles
Live & Silent Auctions**

Many chances to win \$125, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, or even \$4,000!

PURCHASE YOUR TICKET ONLINE AT
www.gulllakesportsboosters.org
or from any Sports Booster Board Member

Due to Covid-19 all dates, prizes, and raffle items are subject to change.

SPORTS BOOSTERS
The Team Behind The Teams

\$125 per ticket: for 2 people

15th Annual

Summer Sports Camp Dates

Many of our varsity programs offer summer sports camps during the summer. Each camp is run by the varsity coach and players of that sport. Ages range from 1st grade through 8th grade. Registration forms and more information will be posted on our Gull Lake Athletic Website, www.GoGLBlueDevils.com and send out through Peachjar in April.

Save the Dates!

Volleyball Youth Camp: **June 14-17 (afternoon)**

Boys Basketball Youth Camp: **June 21-25**

Girls Basketball: **June 14 - 17 (morning)**

Baseball/Softball: **June 14-17**

Girls/Boys Soccer: **July 5- 8**

Fall Sport Start Dates - 2021

Mark your calendars for our fall of 2021 sport start dates so you and your student are prepared:

High School Sports

(football, volleyball, cross country, boys tennis, girls golf, boys soccer):

Monday, August 9 - football

Wednesday, August 11 - all other sports

Middle School Sports

(football, volleyball, cross country):

Monday, August 23



Additional College Signings

We would like to congratulate the following student-athletes on their decision and commitment to continue their playing careers in college next fall:



Riley Folk

Albion College
Soccer



Ashley Bates

University of Detroit Mercy
Soccer



Sarah Willard

Olivet College
Soccer



Erika Hubbard

Hope College
Softball



Jeremy Hunt

Mayville State University
Football



Maddie Bellinger

KVCC
Volleyball

Gull Lake Community Education & Gull Lake Athletic Department

2021 Summer Tennis Program

INTER-CITY TENNIS

(Grades 6th -12th)

- Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Matches on Fridays
- June 15th - July 23rd
- \$90

TENNIS CLASSES

(Grades Pre-K - 8th)

- Mondays & Wednesdays
- Session 1: June 14th - June 30th
- Session 2: July 5th - July 21st

More information & the registration form can be found at gulllakecs.org, gogibluedevils.com or email wbrockway@gulllakecs.org



2020 - 2021

GULL LAKE ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS MEMBERSHIPS AS OF FEBRUARY 2021

Jack and Noreen Arnold
Mike and Suzanne Beckett
Eric and Cindy Belz
Ric and Sue Blesch
John and Mona Bowden
Pat and Kelly Boyle
Andy and Carey Campbell
Dan and Kathy Casey
Kyle and Tracie Coffinger
Bill and Paula Curtis
Tony and Anna Dix
Kurt and Nicole Fraaza
Joseph and Carolyn Glaspie
Bjorn and Lori Green
Julie and Dale Grimes
Gary and Dawn Heinz
Chris and Joy Hess

Tony and Kay Hubbard
Phil and Carey Isom
David and MaryEllen Jackson
Todd and Nicole Jacobs
Scott and Jill LeBeau
Paul and Jen Loukes
Richard and Mary Olis-Goebel
Mike and Melanie Sage
Del Eldridge and Beth Stewart
Stephen and Sheri Stricker
Jay and Jill Wesley
Eric and Jennifer Wozniak
Tony and Jodi Vanlerberghe

THANK YOU!

gulllakesportsboosters.org

Join today!

for your support



Early College and Gull Lake Virtual Partnership News

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



KELLY MORCOMBE

DESOLATE



Sometimes what you pursue in college becomes your passion in your free time, but not always.

- Gabriel Kidder



Gabriel Kidder, Early College Cohort 8/2021, attends Kellogg Community College RMTC to earn his degree in Industrial Electricity and Electronics. His brother, Tristan Kidder, Early College Cohort 9/2022, also attends Kellogg to study music. Both attend Gull Lake Virtual Partnership, and their mother expresses her appreciation

for the "opportunities that GLVP has provided for them to explore during their education."

The Kidder Family has stayed busy during the pandemic. With the extra time, Gabriel began creating



a mini-series. He gives credit to family members Tristan, Aiden, Mariana and Uncle Kyle Hill, who are all involved in creating the mini-series, Desolate. Available on YouTube; search "Desolate Chapter."

WELCOME GLVP NEW STAFF

I am excited to welcome Kelly Morcombe back to Gull Lake Community Schools as Early College & Innovative Program Specialist.

Kelly previously worked as Gull Lake Community Education administrator and had been involved in collaborating with the Homeschool Partnership to offer some of the very first courses available to homeschool and traditional students in Gull Lake. Returning to Gull Lake several years later now after other employment, Kelly has been amazed by the growth of the Partnership and the Bedford Building.

GULL LAKE HOMESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP CIRCA 2010



"I have the opportunity to see the seed that has grown into a forest of amazing opportunities for children through the expanded partnership. The welcoming environment to families and helping them create a personalized pathway for their children has continued to be at the center."

GULL LAKE Virtual Partnership

Available Open House Dates:

(Please register prior to the event.)

**June 17, 2021
2:00PM**

**August 12, 2021
10:00AM**

Join Us

GLVP

VIRTUAL

OPEN HOUSE

Register now at the links below. All are welcome!



New & Current Families Welcome Topics To Include:

- Enrollment Process
- Virtual Course Options
- Community Partners
- Dual Enrollment & Early College

GRADES
K-12

PART-TIME

FULL-TIME

HOME
SCHOOLED
STUDENTS

PERSONALIZED
PATHWAYS



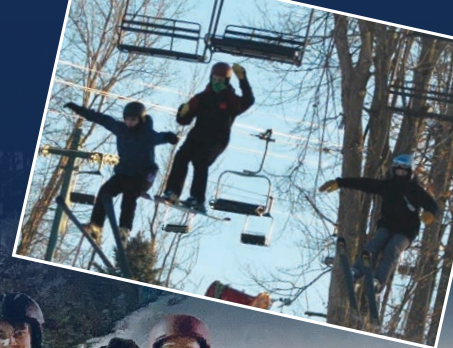
Register for the **June 17 Open House** at
<https://tinyurl.com/GLVP0617>

Register for the **August 12 Open House** at
<https://tinyurl.com/GLVP0812>

GULL LAKE HIGH SCHOOL SKI CLUB

The Tradition Continues Thanks to GLCS Foundation

Ron Blackburn – Ski Club Advisor – rblackburn@gulllakecs.org



Each year it gets harder to keep Ski Club going due to the rising cost of transportation. This year with all that was going on in student's lives I knew it was important to make sure we had a Ski Club. Students needed an outlet to take their minds off all the other stuff in the world and just spend some time safely with friends. Most of the students that participate in Ski Club during high school are freshmen and sophomores who join because it is the only way they can get transportation to Bittersweet. We only had thirteen students signed up this year and I knew we would be about \$1000 short of providing transportation for Ski Club. I contacted the GLCS FOUNDATION about receiving a grant for transportation to cover the cost not covered by the student's fee. They were happy to help and what a blessing it was. Student's smiling, laughing, and getting exercise all at the same time. GLHS Ski Club wants to personally thank the FOUNDATION for their support in student's lives each year.



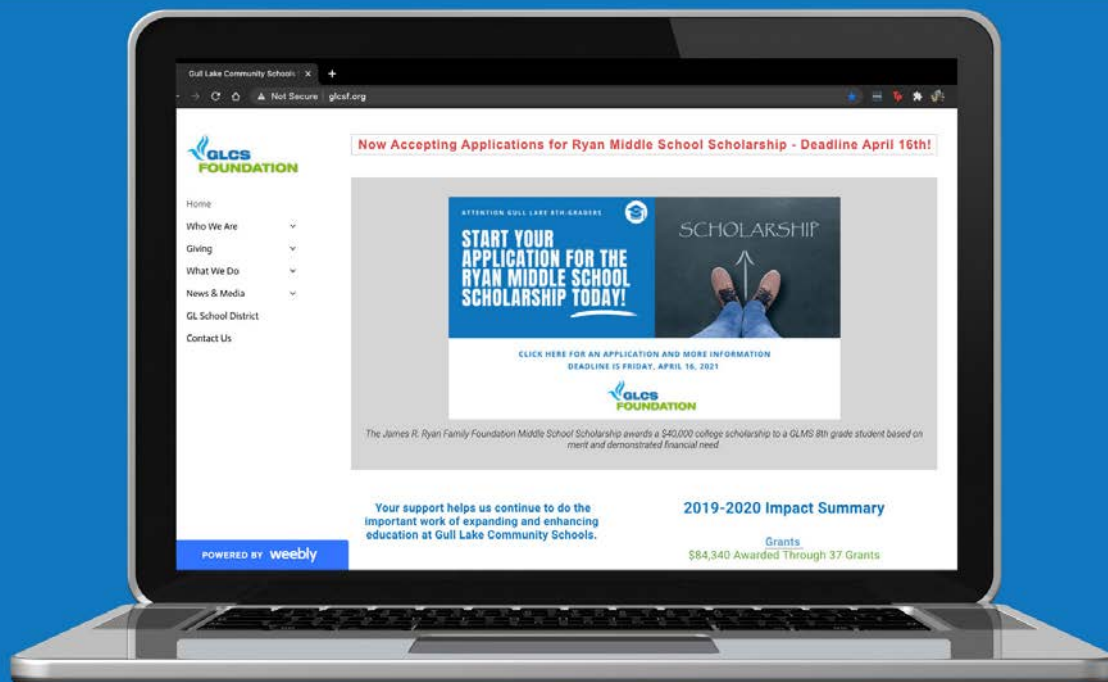
Check out our new website!

Cleaner lines! Easier navigation! More up-to-date info!

Go to glsf.org and take a look at our renovated website; we think you'll really like it.

And, while you're there, please click on that beautiful blue "Donate Now" button and make a donation to support our efforts **to expand and enhance education for all students at GLCS!**

The future begins here.



DAR Award

The class of 2021 Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Award Winner is Koby Fraaza! Koby was nominated by faculty and his senior class to win this award. The DAR Good Citizens program and scholarship contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The student selected must have the qualities of dependability (which includes truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality); service (which includes cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others); leadership (which includes personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility); and patriotism (which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation) to an outstanding degree! Congratulations Koby!



DECA Virtual State Competition




**Johanna
VanLandegent**

**DECA State Champion
Business Finance**

*Will compete at Nationals,
virtually, April 20th.*




Avery Zeigler
**DECA State Finalist
Automotive Marketing**




2021

JEMSEK NATIONAL COURSE OF THE YEAR



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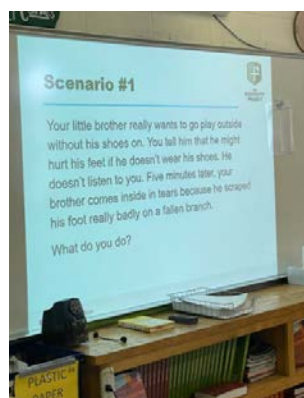
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Positivity Project

Jack Boerman – GLMS Assistant Principal – jboerman@gullakecs.org



Last Fall, GLMS launched the Positivity Project (P2) as part of our Advisory Program. P2 is dedicated to empowering America's youth to build positive relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others. Their vision is to help schools and families cultivate citizens and leaders who will enhance our communities and country. Positive psychology's scientifically validated 24 character strengths serve as its foundation. Advisory teachers teach one strength each week to help students understand them through definition, examples, discussions, and exercises.



P2 empowers students by acknowledging that the 24-character strengths are already a part of who they are as people. It helps them to realize that each one of them have these strengths. We want children to internalize the traits that society honors; through their experience in Advisory class, we hope they acknowledge and realize that each student has the power to affect others in a positive way.

We would love for you to take an active role in your child's character strength education.

THE POSITIVITY PROJECT

By using the character strengths vocabulary and having discussions about the concepts, you will help your child understand the character in themselves and others in a different light. You can follow our social media handles to see what we're doing each day – please read the family information letter, found on the GLMS website and you can also tap into P2 for Families at: <https://posproject.org/p2-for-families/>

Contact GLMS Guidance Counselors Kim Ditto (kditto@gullakecs.org) or Annie Hampel (ahampel@gullakecs.org) if you have any questions or would like to assist in any way.

GLMS would like to thank the anonymous donor who contributed the funds that allowed us to purchase banners, posters, and supplies so we could spread the positive message of P2 throughout our school.



YOUR FOREVER AGENTS.



For You For Life

 Scott Kellogg	 Chuck Clancy	 Bill Clancy	 Tom Clancy	 Julie Hribar	 Bill & Nora Sikkema
 Justin Ridderman	 Jamie VanDyke	 Christine Merryweather	 Dawn Snow	 Jenny Doan	 Lysanne Harna
 Emily Anglin	 John Wright	 Rachel Cunningham	 Kathy Fosmoe	 Joy Watts	 Casey Alger
 Matt Watts	 Nate Bedecs	 Jami Hale			

Contact an office near you to receive a free home valuation!

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Gull Lake | (269) 203-7315
Gull Road | (269) 488-1530

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W.K. KELLOGG BIRD SANCTUARY

Open Wednesday through Sunday • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



EXPLORING WITH SCIENTISTS!

Online • Ages 9-14 • 10-11 a.m.

APRIL 8 Frogs with Kyle

APRIL 22 Birds with Elizeth

MAY 6 Moths with Alice

MONTHLY BIRDS & COFFEE CHATS

Online • Adults & families • 10-11 a.m.

APRIL 14 Cavity-nesting birds

MAY 12 Warblers

JUNE 9 Grassland birds

FREE ADMISSION DAYS!

APRIL 22: Kids age 18 and under • **MAY 9:** Moms • **JUNE 20:** Dads

MORE INFO: kbs.msu.edu/events

[f @KelloggBioStn](#) [@KelloggBirdSanctuary](#)



W.K. Kellogg Biological Station
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

THE GREAT GATSBY

Lisa Ouellette – PAC Advisor – louellette@gulllakecs.org



The GLHS Performing Arts Company (PAC) will be performing Simon Levy's adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic *The Great Gatsby* this spring. The students will perform for a limited audience May 14, 15, and 16 at the middle school. Seniors participating in this production include Brennan Warren (Gatsby), Cully Cooper (Nick Carraway), Drew Branstetter (Tom Buchanan), Isabella Smith (Daisy Buchanan), Megan Henderson (Jordan Baker), Noah Armstrong (Dancer/Guest/Waiter), and Maya Dugan (Sound Chief).

Meal Distribution

School Meals are available for pick up every Wednesday night from 5 - 6:30 pm at Gull Lake High School.

Food handouts will be at the back of the high school using the service drive.

Meals are available to anyone 18 and under that does not attend school in person.

Please contact Gull Lake Food Service at 269-548-3550 with any questions.



GLCS Fine Arts Foundation Awards Two Scholarships

The GLCS Fine Arts Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of our two \$1,000 scholarships.



The recipient of the Robin Nott Performing Arts Company Scholarship is Andrew Branstetter. Drew participated in PAC for three years at GLHS in many roles on-stage and back stage and served on the leadership team. Drew is currently the Media and Publicity Manager for PAC. Drew has also participated in Shakespeare in the Park with the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre. In addition to participating in theater, Drew split his time participating in an EFE with the Kalamazoo Nature Center. In the fall, Drew plans to study acting at Baldwin Wallace University.

The GLCS Fine Arts Foundation also awarded its third GLCS Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship to Paige Treat. Paige, a first chair clarinet in the GLHS Symphonic Band, has also participated in Pep Band, Concert Band, and currently serves as a Drum Major for the GLHS Marching Band. She has also taught herself how to play the baritone, and enjoys playing percussion as part of the ensemble Vortex Percussion. In the fall, Paige will attend Western Michigan University, where she plans to study Secondary Music Education. We wish them both the best of luck in their future Fine Arts endeavors.

We are encouraged to see that many activities around the GLCS campuses are resuming, with modifications. The GLHS Performing Arts Company is planning a spring production of *The Great Gatsby*, with support from the GLCS Fine Arts Foundation. In addition, we are hopeful for the return of the Festival of the Senses in some form. Please follow us on Facebook for updates on these, and other, Fine Arts happenings in the Gull Lake Community Schools.





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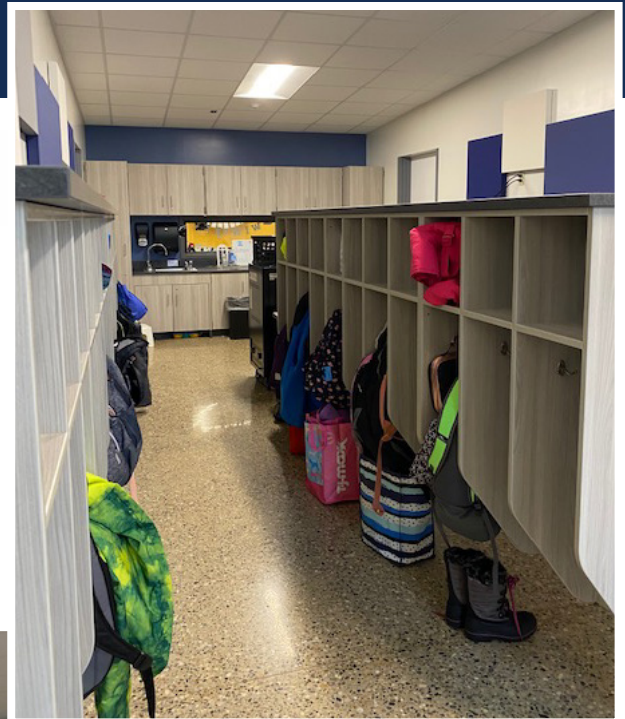
New Spaces at Ryan!

Jen Weiss – 3rd grade teacher

Third graders are enjoying the new spaces at Ryan!

3rd Grade Mud Room ▶

The classroom mud room allows kids to keep their materials organized while keeping the new carpets clean and dry!



◀ New Technology

The new technology has also been a great tool for both remote teaching and teaching in person. The furniture is versatile and gives students and teachers different options for seating and learning!

3rd Grade Common Area ▶

The common area allows for small group teacher-led learning, while the teacher can still monitor other students in the room through the window!

It is wonderful to see a process that involves so many people and so many decisions come out so beautifully and can function so well!



Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers Updates

Lori Drogosh - drogoshlori@gmail.com



Congratulations to Esperanza Carisaliz, a first grader at Kellogg Elementary, who was the grand prize raffle winner from the Father-Daughter Dance. She won a one-week stay at Sherman Lake YMCA summer camp. Many other girls won adorable stuffed animals as their raffle prizes as well. Since we were not able to hold a LIVE dance this year, the Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers held a VIRTUAL Father-Daughter Dance on Saturday,

March 20th. The girls who registered received a packet of fun activities and crafts, and link to a dance party playlist, so they could dance the evening away in their own homes! Please check out the many photos of the girls and their escorts enjoying the dance festivities on our Facebook page. Go to: www.facebook.com/GLACV. Many thanks to all of the families who supported this GLACV fundraiser. We hope you enjoyed your special evening!

Thank you, too, to all of the Gull Lake Middle School students and staff who recently participated in their school's coin drive. They raised over \$2500 and donated the proceeds to the Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers. Since we were not able to hold our fundraisers over the past year, this generous donation will help our group fund many important programs to help those in need in our community.

Save the Date! Richland Art Fair Saturday, July 17, 2021

The Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers are in the planning stages for the upcoming art fair. We are hoping that we can safely hold this annual summer event. The exact location for the Richland Art Fair has not been determined at this time. More information will be forthcoming. Please visit our website at **GLACV.org** for art fair updates and information about our group.

Kellogg Elementary Happenings

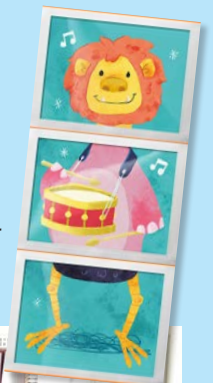
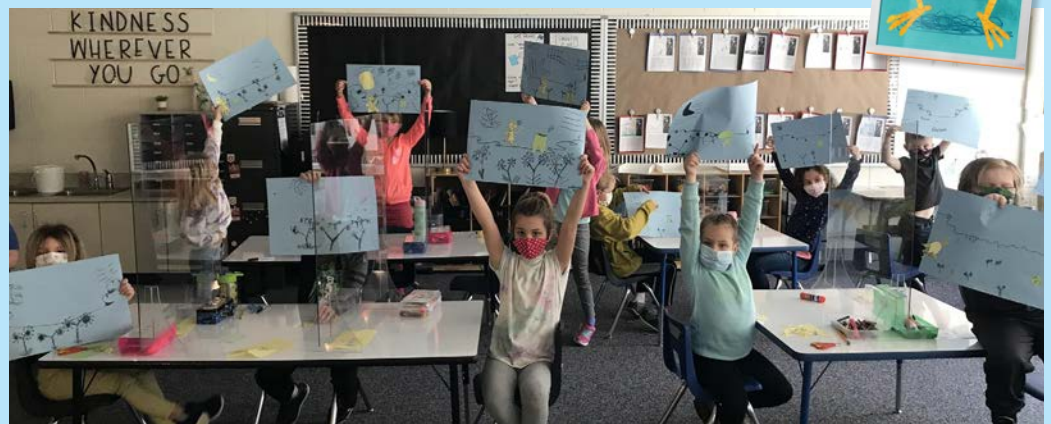
Daily 5

Students in Mrs. Snead's classroom are working on Daily 5 activities that were made possible by a donation of letter magnets and the prepping of materials and cutting completed by Mrs. VanDyke. Thank you for supporting our classroom!



Art in March

Kellogg Elementary classrooms and hallways are lined with artwork created by students in Mrs. Miller's art classes. Students have been busy creating life-size drawings, scenery pictures, construction paper cut-outs and making designs for new one-of-a-kind animals, by combining four different animals into one.



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Gull Lake Community Schools Communicator is published quarterly by Gull Lake Community Schools, 10100 East D Ave., Richland, Michigan 49083.
Occasional special issues published as needed.

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 19, 2021

May 17, 2021

June 21, 2021

Graduating Leaders

Enrolling for the 2021-2022 School Year
for Kindergarten & Young Fives



Information on how to enroll
available on our district website
www.gulllakecs.org/district/enrollment

Enrollment Forms
Due
May 28, 2021

State law requires that children who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2020 be eligible to enroll into a kindergarten program for the 2021-2022 school year. Children whose birthdays fall between September 1, 2021 and December 1, 2021 may be eligible for our Young Fives program.