

Superintendent NEWSLETTER

October 22



Dear Gull Lake Community Schools Families and Staff,

I am pleased to announce that a state-of-the-art Career & Technical Center is in the works for 2024 near the Wings Event Center on Interstate 94! An anonymous donor has gifted \$100 million dollars to the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency through Southwest Michigan First to ensure that a world class facility and program will be delivered for the students of Kalamazoo County. Local superintendents are meeting with area captains of industry, business, health care, construction trades and several more career pathway leaders who represent well-paying jobs in our region. Students will have access to 16 major programs such as Construction Trades, Information Technology, Manufacturing, Graphic and Architectural Design, Auto Mechanics/Auto Body Repair, Public Safety, Agricultural Science, Allied Health, Culinary and Hospitality, and Veterinary Sciences.

The planning and design for this new facility is already underway and local stakeholders have participated in several intensive planning sessions that will help narrow the scope and focus of the project to best serve the identified program clusters our students will experience. Creating a centralized campus for these new programs will guarantee access for all students and add depth to our robust Education for Employment programs (EFE) already in place. Two studies by the Upjohn Institute and University of Michigan Youth Lab have pinpointed the pathways that best represent available jobs and opportunities in our vibrant regional economy. Students who train at the new center will acquire the skills to work well-paying jobs and give back to their local communities.

This major gift and program development are reasons why our community and region are so special. People truly care about creating quality opportunities for our youth to succeed. Mentoring and training students so they can find their best selves in meaningful professions is one of the best ways to invest in our future together. More information will be made available in the coming weeks as we celebrate this new milestone.

Best regards,

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools



Updates

Early Release on November 3rd.

Community Tours of Richland and Kellogg Elementary and Thomas M. Ryan Intermediate are scheduled for November 4th from 6:15 -7:30 pm. This will be an opportunity for community members to tour our new buildings.

GLHS Performing Arts Company (PAC) will have their first performance of the 2021-2022 school year on November 12th – 14th. Please see the GL website for performance times.

½ Days on November 22nd & 23rd.

End of 1st Trimester is November 23.

No School on November 24th - 26th.

First day of 2nd Trimester is November 29th.