

# Superintendent NEWSLETTER

January 7

Dear Gull Lake Families and Staff,

All of us have a gift for helping others. It may be a special skill or access to resources that can be brought out in a time of need to show hospitality to others. In fact, many cultures and societies around the world observe the unwritten rule of showing hospitality. In some cases, a helping hand is offered to family and friends, and under special circumstances, even sworn enemies put aside differences to help each other. We are strange creatures who can act selflessly even though we can be self-serving at times.

Since we are in a new year and it is a time of making resolutions, now is a good time to consider what gifts or expertise you can bring to the table. It can be as simple as stopping to help someone change a flat tire or signing up to take meals to a person recovering from an illness. Each day brings an opportunity to be fully present for the sake of someone experiencing an obstacle or challenge. I have been noticing lately how much our students appreciate it when a caring adult takes a moment to check in with them and listen to how they are doing. It is these small moments of presence and awareness that align with the universal observance of hospitality.

I encourage you during the opening days of the New Year to reflect on what gifts you have to offer and to keep them at the ready for moments when they can make a difference for others, even those you might not agree with. You never know where that might lead, or what new understanding you might gain in the process.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year!



Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent  
Gull Lake Community Schools



## Updates

**Early Release** is January 12, 2022.

**GL Performing Arts Company (PAC)** is performing *Figments* by Billy St. John on January 28 & 29 at 7pm and January 30 at 2 pm. All performances will be at the GLMS Cafetorium and are \$5/person admission at the door.

**Class of 2024 Early College Informational Meeting** is Thursday, February 3 at 7 pm in the GLHS Media Center.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences** will be held Thursday, February 3, 5 pm – 8 pm and Friday, February 4, 9 am – 12 pm & 1 pm – 4 pm.

**No School** on Friday, February 4.