Dear Gull Lake Families and Staff,

I have been impressed with the way our students have been competing this Fall and their pursuit of excellence together. A few examples of this can be found in our Boys Varsity Soccer team and our Blue Devils Marching Band. I use these two examples knowing there are many other teams and co-curricular groups whose accomplishments will be highlighted at some point in my newsletter. I want to describe some of the ways these two groups have taken risks to grow and gain new skills.

The Boys Varsity Soccer team is on their way to Novi on Saturday, having earned a berth in the State Finals. As they worked through their season, their ranking remained high, and they handily eliminated their opponents. As the regular season neared its finish, however, they encountered more challenges as other teams raised their level of competition. Our team began to experiment with new line combinations and set their sights on the best way to compete in the postseason. These risks and experimentations were an indicator of good things to come. They recaptured the top ranking and are primed for an exciting match this weekend.

Our Blue Devils Marching Band began the season focusing on good fundamentals. Our musicians listened carefully to their instructor and worked on the things that matter most. They controlled their sound and dynamic levels, and focused on the quality, not quantity of set charts in terms of crispness and synchronicity. As their competition season progressed, they were not the biggest or loudest band on the field, but they consistently put together the best package of sounds and visuals for the judges. They are now headed to Ford Field on Saturday ranked third in the state, with a few tricks left up their sleeve for the final performance of a great season.

Excellence in team endeavors is rarely the result of raw talent alone. It takes desire, discipline and a deep understanding of the process involved. It also takes belief and trust in each other. Our Soccer team and Marching Band are great examples of this process. Stay tuned for more District highlights as we practice excellence together.

Have a great weekend and GO GULL LAKE!!!

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools

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**Updates**

**GLHS Performing Arts Company (PAC)** will have their first performance of the 2022-2023 school year on November 11th - 14th. Please see the GL website for performance times.

1/2 days on November 21st and 22nd.

No school November 23rd - 25th.

First day of 2nd Trimester is November 28th.

[www.gulllakecs.org](http://www.gulllakecs.org)