June 9, 2023

Dear Gull Lake Families and Staff,

Here we are at the start of our summer break! A school year can go by so quickly. Just because we finished our last day for the 2022-23 school year doesn’t mean the learning has to stop. As a grade-schooler, summers meant learning the laws of physics from my older brother, Jeff. He set up many clever experiments for me that involved high speed, heights, obstacles, and other risky variables. These adventures usually resulted in a First Aid kit and medical attention, since my brother did not seek the advice of my parents in setting up his experiments. Nevertheless, I learned a few things about physics. For instance, you should never swing down from a tree on a rope longer than the distance from your perch to the ground. Nor should you go off a downhill bike jump with a tree on the downside slope from the ramp. There are several more examples of Jeff proving the immutable laws of nature with the help of his younger sibling assistant. I suggest there are better ways to learn.

This humorous anecdote aside, summers are an opportunity to engage your student and discover some of the fun in learning that our staff gets to engineer for kids during the regular school year. A day trip to the Richland Library for a children’s story hour or a field trip to the Air Zoo are activities that will stoke curiosity and fuel the imagination. It is good for us to see our kids at the precise moment the light bulb goes on for them and they grasp a new concept or make a new connection that amazes them! Learning never stops, it just changes form.

Enjoy summer learning and new discoveries with your student! Perhaps you can have a few Band-aids on hand just in case…

Best regards,

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools

Updates:

Have a wonderful summer!

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