

Gull Lake Community Schools **COMMUNICATOR**

April 2025

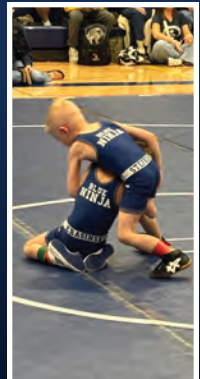
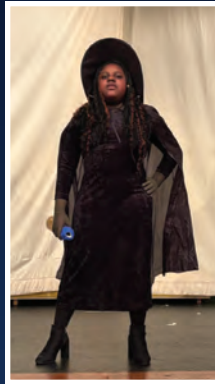


Photo Credits:
Gull Lake Staff & Students

The Mission of Gull Lake Community Schools is to educate every child to achieve his/her full potential.

Superintendent Message



Dear students, families, and community members:

It is graduation season at GLCS, a time to celebrate the hard work and achievements of our graduating students! Graduation represents years of dedication, learning, and personal growth. It is not only a moment of

pride for our students but also for their families, teachers, and the entire community.

We wish our graduates the very best and encourage them to embrace new challenges, continue learning, and make a positive impact wherever they go.

To the GLCS Class of 2025, congratulations! We are proud of you and look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in the years ahead. Go Gull Lake!

Respectfully,

Christopher L. Rundle

Christopher L. Rundle
Superintendent of Schools



DREW BORDNER

Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum and Instructional Technology
– dbordner@gulllakecs.org

Gull Lake Community Schools Deepens Partnership with Michigan State University and Kellogg Biological Station

GLCS is thrilled to continue its dynamic partnership with MSU and KBS. This collaboration is transforming science education across our district and empowering students to become scientists both in the classroom and in their everyday lives.

At GLHS, students in the Monkey Flower Biology classes are actively engaging in cutting-edge plant research projects in collaboration with MSU. This cross-disciplinary initiative brings authentic scientific inquiry into the classroom, fostering student-driven learning and expanding perceptions of who can participate in science.

In addition, middle school staff have attended the KBS professional learning series to incorporate hands-on engagement strategies into their classrooms and labs. This effort aims to continue to make science interactive and inquiry-based for our middle school students.

At Ryan Intermediate, staff have partnered with MSU staff and graduate students to enhance students' observational skills through the "I Notice..., I Wonder..., It Reminds Me Of..." approach. This initiative has been instrumental in helping students connect their natural curiosity to scientific exploration in the GL Outdoor Classroom, which the GLCSF has graciously supported.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the exceptional science educators throughout our district, the dedicated KBS team, and the many graduate students who have contributed to these project-based learning experiences.

These partnerships are vital in advancing our district's engagement goals of fostering students' abilities to read, write, and speak with purpose.

#GoGullLake #GoGreen



GLHS Staff and MSU Staff learning about Monkey Flowers

KBS Graduate Students and GLHS Biology Class



Outdoor Classroom

W.K. Kellogg Biological Station
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

JOIN US FOR SPRING
EVENTS AT KBS!

EARTH DAY
CELEBRATING ON APRIL 19 WITH
FREE ADMISSION TO THE SANCTUARY
OTHER FREE ADMISSION DAYS
APRIL 6 FOR SUSTAINING THE VISION •
MAY 11 FOR MOMS • JUNE 15 FOR DADS

SANCTUARY TRAIL THEMES
APRIL POETRY ON THE TRAIL
MAY STORYBOOK WALK
MAMA BUILT A LITTLE NEST
JUNE STORYBOOK WALK
LOLA PLANTS A GARDEN

SUSTAINING THE VISION OPEN HOUSE
APRIL 6 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.
DESSERT WITH DISCUSSION
WITH DR. ASIA DOWTIN
APRIL 10 7 - 8:30 P.M.
VOLUNTEER TRAININGS
IN-PERSON SESSIONS EXPLORING BIRD
SANCTUARY VOLUNTEER ROLES
APRIL 3 1 - 2:30 P.M.
APRIL 10 1 - 3 P.M.
APRIL 24 10 A.M. - NOON
BEHIND THE SCENES: RAPTORS
MAY 17 10 - 11 A.M.

FISHING FOR EAGLES
MAY 31 9:30 - 11 A.M.
TURTLES & WATERCOLORS WORKSHOP
MAY 22 6 - 7:30 P.M.
GUIDED BIRD HIKE
MAY 24 9 - 10:30 A.M.
WILD WEDNESDAYS!
FOR KIDS AGES 8 AND UNDER
JUNE 11, 18 & 25 10 - 11:30 A.M.
BIOBLITZ AT THE SANCTUARY
JUNE 14 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

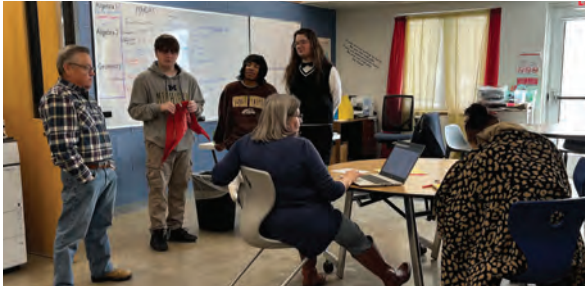
BIRD SANCTUARY
 CONFERENCE CENTER & MANOR HOUSE
 KBS COMMUNITY RELATIONS
kbs.msu.edu/events • On social @KelloggBioStn

BIRDS & COFFEE ONLINE CHATS
 10 - 11 A.M.
 APRIL 9 • MAY 14 • JUNE 11



Gateway students have been actively engaged in our building and the surrounding community over the past few months. From assisting with technology at the RACC, playing Funny Rummy at Beacon, to participating in the Read & Ride Round-Up at the Cheff Center, our students have been dedicated to connecting with and supporting our local community. Additionally, we've had the privilege of welcoming special speakers such as Tony Sorrentino from Pest Pros, Erin Lambright & Sandy Davis from KRESA CTE, retired firefighter & vexillologist Jeff Maxson, and Don Deibler from our Rotary who have shared their valuable expertise with our students.

We are excited to honor our Liz's Parkview Cafe/Gateway Students of the Month! Each recipient was awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Liz's.



November: Isaac Harlacker-Buckmaster



December: Cassidy Simon



January: Janelle Drucker



February: Madison Hillman

GLACV



The recent My Girl and I Spring Dance was a great success again this year! Over 700 girls and their escorts were in attendance for a wonderful evening of dancing. A special shoutout to the GLHS Volunteers and NHS students for their assistance in decorating and throughout the evening. Proceeds from the Spring Dance help the GLACVs provide services for students and families in need who reside in the GL school district.



Congratulations to 5th grader Lily MacNeill, who was the grand prize raffle winner of a week of summer camp generously donated by the Sherman Lake YMCA.



SHERMAN LAKE YMCA

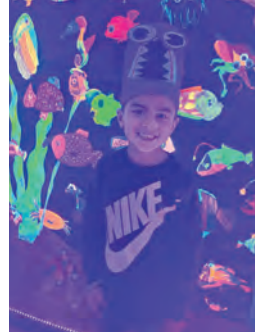
SUMMER CAMP 2025

Register today!
WWW.SHERMANLAKEYMCA.ORG



Family Night at Richland was a huge success!

Students and their families enjoyed lots of activities themed around underwater adventures. The Alligator Sanctuary and the Air Zoo were present with activities as well. None of this could have been possible without our wonderful PTO, GLCSF, our Board of Education, and all the supportive staff that helped along the way!



Edward Jones



The Farmers' Market kicks off May 21st and RCL will be bringing its "Library of Things" for you to try out! Open Roads Bike Repair will be there offering free repairs, watch for a Farm Fresh Cooking class for kids, then shhh... could it be true? Santa in July?! Keep an eye for more surprises!

Be sure to stop by, walk the trails, come to the market, and say hi! You can find all you need to know on our website richlandareacc.org.



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Lori A Nay, CFP®
Financial Advisor
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Richland, MI 49083
269-629-4270

2025 Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-in-State in MI, published February 2025, research by SHOOK Research LLC, data as of August 2024. Compensation provided for using, not obtaining, the rating. The rating is not based on quality of investment advice, investment performance or client feedback. **Edward Jones, Member SIPC.**

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High School News

DON EASTMAN Principal – deastman@gulllakecs.org

9th grade students in the second trimester Civics classes participated in a reality fair as part of their career unit with their school counselors. Students chose a career based on the results of their interest inventories within the Xello online platform. Through this experience, students learn how life choices and events impact their financial well-being, develop decision-making skills to manage a budget, engage with community resources, and gain insight into the various factors that influence their financial health.

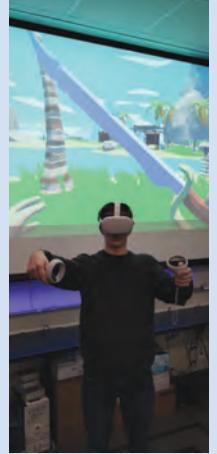


Attention students! Have you ever dreamed of designing your own video games? If so, we have exciting news—GLHS is now offering a Video Game Development course!

In this course, you'll dive into the world of coding, game design, interactive storytelling, and have the opportunity to create your own games.

This year, two outstanding students piloting the course have already earned certifications, created their own VR games, and even launched a business. One of them successfully published a game on the META store! Check out and download Pirates Plunder on your VR headset today!

For more information, contact Brad Lange at blange@gulllakecs.org.



NHS HS students hosted the annual NHS Fun Night and Ryan Intermediate students had a night of fun of dodgeball,

basketball, movies, karaoke, and crafts. Thank you to all of those who participated!



After weeks of hard work, dedication, and collaboration our CyberPatriot XVII team, "ScriptKitties," claimed the #1 spot in Michigan within the Gold Division!

This remarkable achievement is a testament to the skills, perseverance, and passion that each team member has poured into this competition.



Making Innovative Educational Opportunities Possible!



GLCS Foundation grants **support educational needs and enrichment opportunities** identified by teachers, students, and staff. Pictured are **only some of the grants we've funded already this year!**

We want to **provide more opportunities** like these to help Gull Lake **students, teachers, and staff excel - but we need your help!**

Please consider donating to the GLCS Foundation today.

Support the Foundation that Supports YOUR Schools.

How to donate:



venmo
@GLCSF
or go to
GLCSF.org



NHS students continued the tradition of making fleece tie blankets for Bronson Children's hospital.

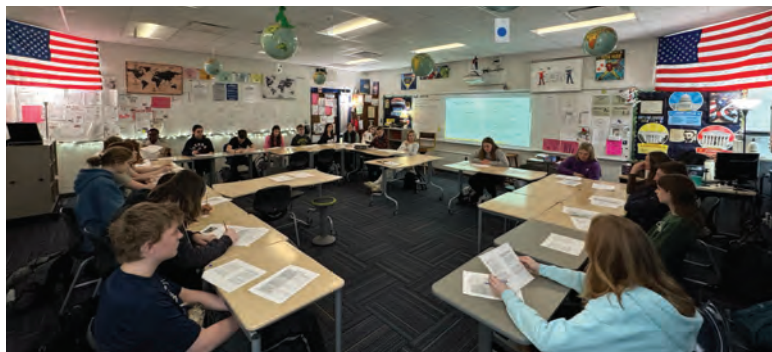




At GLMS, all teachers regardless of content area have been learning best practices on how to implement quality opportunities for students to read, write, and speak with purpose in their classrooms. Here are just a few examples of how this shows up at middle school:

DBQ & Socratic Seminars

The Social Studies department has incorporated socratic seminars across grade levels based on student's reading relevant documents, thinking critically, crafting opinions that are grounded in the text, and engaging in productive discourse with classmates.



Students collaborate with Mr. Bedeck to explore the meaning of their Social Studies document. Using a sentence stem, they will deepen their understanding and engage more thoughtfully with the text.



Students are actively engaged in reading and writing with purpose as they analyze a Social Studies document.

Literacy Rich Electives

We have introduced increased elective options that are embedded in literacy in addition to critical thinking.



Students in Books and Movies record their thinking after making connections about the text with their group.

These podcasters wrote their own drama, created a script, and are now recording together.



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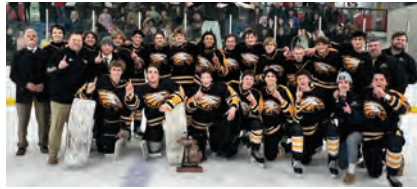


Gull Lake Athletics

KARYN FURLONG Athletic Director – kfurlong@gulllakecs.org

Winter sports have officially come to a close and it was another successful season for our Blue Devils! Here are a few highlights:

- Our Competitive Cheer team continued their winning tradition by earning the Division 2 SMAC Championship for the fifth straight year and qualifying for the regional round of the MHSAA tournament.
- Rasler Warner finished 2nd in the MHSAA State Wrestling Finals, making him a two time All State Wrestler!
- THE GLMS wrestling team won the middle school league championship for the fourth straight year!
- Our Eagles hockey team won the Regional Championship for the second time in five years!
- Our bowling team had a strong showing in the conference finishing in 2nd place.



2024-2025 SMAC ALL DIVISION/ CONFERENCE RECIPIENTS

Girls Basketball

Addison Woodrow

Ali Bates

Honorable Mention

Kenadie Schuemann

Competitive Cheer

Meghan Clifford

Leila Curbey

Nola Perry

Kennedy Jones

Honorable Mention

Mackenzie Dotson

Boys Basketball

Gavin Markucki, 1st Team

Carter Stockman, 1st Team

Honorable Mention

Seth Brenner

Wrestling

Rasler Warner, 1st Team

Jack Stucky, 2nd Team

Will Julian, 2nd Team

Honorable Mention

Brendan Koyle

Lyric Warner

FALL SPORTS START DATES, 2025

Mark your calendars for our fall of 2025 sport start dates!

High School Sports

Football, volleyball, cross country, boys tennis, girls golf, boys soccer:

Monday, August 11

Middle School Sports

Football (7th and 8th grade), volleyball (7th and 8th grade), cross country (6th-8th grade):

Monday, August 18

All students will need an updated physical that is dated on or after April 15, 2025 on file.

WWW.GULLLAKECS.ORG

SUMMER SPORTS INFORMATION

Many of our varsity programs offer summer sports camps during the summer. Ages range from 1st-8th grade, and each camp is run by the varsity coach and players of that sport. Registration forms and more information will be posted on our Gull Lake Athletic website, www.GoGLBlueDevils.com, and sent out through PeachJar just after spring break.

Sports Registration Information



Reminder that ALL students participating in athletics, 6th-12th grade, must have a Final Forms account. If you participated in athletics this school year you already have an account, please go in and update sports of interest and your physical for the 25-26 school year.

Set your student athletes account up by scanning the QR code!





2025 SUMMER TENNIS PROGRAM

INTER-CITY TENNIS (Grades 6th-12th)	TENNIS CLASSES (Grades Pre-K-8th)
Tuesdays & Thursdays Matches on Fridays June 10th-July 18th \$90	Mondays & Wednesdays Session 1: June 9th-June 25th Session 2: June 30th-July 16th

Visit gblbluedevils.com for more information!



Leader In Me at Ryan Intermediate

ROB WOODROW
Principal – rwoodrow@gulllakecs.org



The Richland Rotary has provided dictionaries to our third graders. With technology constantly changing, this year the Rotary decided to donate toward The Battle of the Books, which is an extracurricular activity where students compete against each other using their understanding of the selected books!



Ryan received their newest addition to their library, a Thermobind machine! This helps repair books and rebind books in just a few minutes to get them back into the hands of readers quicker than the average book glue which can take hours. A special thank you to the GLCSF for such an impactful purchase for the staff and students of Ryan Intermediate!



During March, our Ryan students focused on the habit "Sharpen the Saw", which means balance feels best. Student leaders were also identified during our community circle assembly, and we had the opportunity to host an evening professional development session for families. Several teachers and student leaders presented on the "7 Habits of Highly Effective Families"!

PE and Music with Parents

Ryan parents had the opportunity to attend and participate in our music and physical education classes for one week in March.



Over three hundred Ryan students participated in an all school Fun Night this month. The activities included a bounce house, craft room, game room, movie room, and an open gym. Pizza was served to all students and they could take advantage of the two concession stand areas. Thank you to our PTO for facilitating a wonderful event for our students!



All Ryan third grade students performed "A Happy Healthy Me" at the GLCFA.



Our Fifth Grade students participated in band fitting this month. GLMS Band Director Ms. Chabitch and a team of musicians visited and allowed students to try out different instruments that may suit them if they pursue the band experience at the middle school next year. Thank you to Ms Chabitch and her team for spending time with us!

In March, our Support Team visited classrooms to teach lessons relating to responsibility. We are fortunate to have this level of support working with our students!



YOUR FOREVER AGENTS.



Betsy Ulbrich	Bill & Nora Sikkema	Brenna Kelly	Chuck Clancy	Emily Blair	Jamie VanDyke	Jason Corstange
Jason Sibley	Jenny Doan	Joy Watts	Julie Hribar	Justin Ridderman	Kai Watts	Kathy Fosmoe
Kelsey Adamski	Kyle Powless	Matt Watts	Nate Bedecs	Rachel Cunningham	Tom Clancy	Scott Kellogg

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

Richland 269-629-7653
Gull Lake 269-203-7315
Gull Road 269-488-1530

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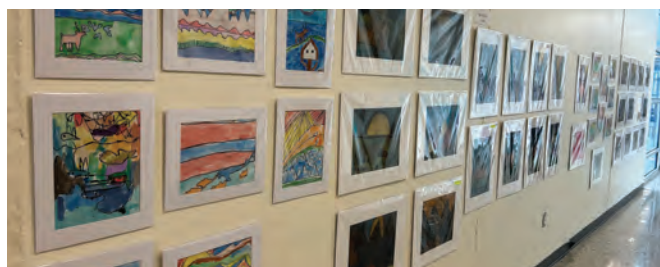




Kellogg 2nd graders and their teachers would like to thank the GLCSF and Kellogg PTO for their generous donations toward new decodable chapter books. These books are being used for small group work, as well as for students to choose to read on their own. It is wonderful to have the option of having chapter books for ALL readers, no matter their skill level.



March is Reading Month is an exciting time filled with engaging literacy activities that inspire a love of reading! Students and staff celebrated all month with mystery readers, author visits, dress up days, book character parade, and more! Kellogg PTO hosted a family Paint Night with author and illustrator, Gina Stevens, where families learned to create watercolors similar to those used in Gina's books!



We are so proud to have student artwork displayed at various locations throughout the county including Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo Bird Sanctuary, GLHS, and our very own Kellogg Art Show!

GL Youth Football Adds Girls Flag Football for 2025 Season For Girls in K-6th Grades!

GLYF has always allowed both boys and girls to participate, and will still continue the co-ed opportunities for kids to play. The girls will play on Sunday afternoons with the option to play on Saturday in the co-ed program if they wish. Registration for the upcoming season will begin in May!



The GLCS Fine Arts Foundation once again honored two GLHS Seniors for their contributions to the Fine Arts!

RACHEL ANDERSON was honored with the Robin Nott Performing Arts Company Scholarship for her participation in PAC for the last four years. Rachel participated both on-stage and off-stage, developing logos for shows, and serving as Media Crew Chief for many productions.

JEFFREY SIMPSON was awarded the GLCS Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship for his contributions to Marching, Concert, and Symphonic Bands. In addition to his dedication to music, Jeffrey also participated in PAC as a member of the Sound Crew.

We wish them both the best of luck in their future Fine Arts endeavors.



Photo by Paul Gobble



Photo by NM Photo Studios



GULL LAKE VIRTUAL PARTNERSHIP NEWS

MICHELLE JAROS Principal of Early College and Innovative Programs - mjaros@gulllakecs.org

GLVP's Family Fun Night allowed students and families to visit GLHS and enjoy time with peers, teachers, and mentors.



GLVP UPCOMING EVENTS

**APRIL
10**

**ZOOM
Open House
for Current
Families
10AM**



**APRIL
17**

**In-Person
OPEN HOUSE
for GLVP Full-Time
Families @ GLHS
6 PM**



**APRIL
22**

**ZOOM
Open House for
New Families
6 PM**

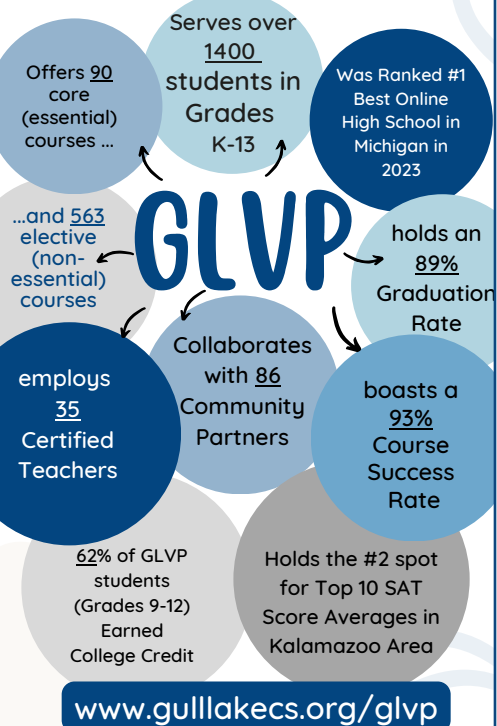


**MAY
2**

**GLVP
Spring
Concerts
2PM & 4PM**



DID YOU KNOW... GULL LAKE VIRTUAL PARTNERSHIP



Gull Lake Virtual Partnership ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

FOR 2025-2026

The Gull Lake Virtual Partnership (GLVP) provides a variety of learning opportunities for students in grades K-12. Our program includes electives and/or core courses and is open to all students (based on enrollment criteria) looking for flexibility with their learning plans.

WWW.GULLLAKECS.ORG/GLVP

FT

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ASYNCHRONOUS
ONLINE SCHOOL**

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**PART-TIME
HOMESCHOOL
PARTNERSHIP**



**COLLEGE OPTIONS:
EARLY COLLEGE,
DUAL ENROLLMENT**

ENROLL TODAY!



For More Information:



www.gulllakecs.org/glvp



email Kelly Morcombe @
kmorcombe@gulllakecs.org



269.548.3411





GULL LAKE EARLY COLLEGE NEWS

MINA FRENCH Dean of Early College - mfrench@gulllakecs.org

Early College Information Nights for Current 10th Graders

The first of three Information Nights for current sophomores interested in our Early College program was held **February 27**.

All students applying to Early College are required to attend one Information Night for their applications to be considered.



GLEC UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 24	GLEC Information Night for 10th Graders and Families Gull Lake High School 7:00PM	
APRIL 29	Rising 5th Year @ GLHS 6:00 PM	
MAY 8	GLEC Completion Celebration @ Kalamazoo Valley Community College 6:00 PM	
MAY 22	GLEC Completion Celebration @ Kellogg Community College 6:00 PM	

Attention Sophomores...

THE APPLICATION FOR GULL LAKE EARLY COLLEGE IS NOW OPEN!

GULL LAKE Early College

APPLY NOW

Gull Lake Early College is a high school program that combines high school requirements and college credit opportunities that can extend through Grade 13.

OUR FINAL INFORMATION NIGHT FOR 10TH GRADERS AND PARENTS WILL BE HELD

April 24th, 7pm
Gull Lake High School - 7pm

SCAN ME

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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 21, 2025
May 19, 2025
June 16, 2025
July 21, 2025

SAVE THE DATE

GULL LAKE SPORTS BOOSTERS 37TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



AUGUST 4, 2025



GULL LAKE VIEW EAST AND WEST GOLF COURSE

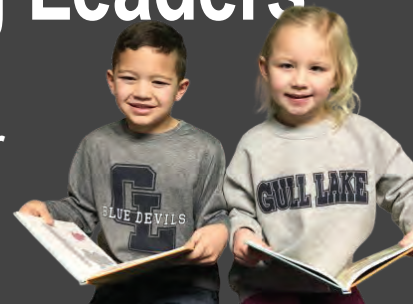


KEEP AN EYE OUT **FORE!**
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

GLSPORTSBOOSTERS.ORG

Graduating Leaders

Enrolling for the
2025-2026 School Year
for Kindergarten
& Young Fives



**Enrollment Forms
Due
May 28, 2025**

**Information on how to enroll
available on our district website**

www.gulllakecs.org/district/enrollment

State law requires that children who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2025 be eligible to enroll into a kindergarten program for the 2025-2026 school year. Children whose birthdays fall between September 1, 2025 and December 1, 2025 may be eligible for our Young Fives program.