

Gulfport School District

Dropout Prevention Plan

2025-2026

The mission of the Gulfport School District is to inspire each student to become a problem solver, lifelong learner, and productive member of society.

Every Decision.

What is Best for Children?

Every Time.



Gulfport School District

Dropout Prevention Plan

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The Dropout Prevention Plan provides guidance as to how the faculty and staff will help accomplish our mission and ensure our students are successful in their academic endeavors.

Mr. Glen V. East, Superintendent
Dr. Mike Tatum, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Lea Bellon, Assistant Superintendent
2001 Pass Road – Gulfport, MS 39501

Dropout Prevention Plan Team Members

Team Members	Position
Mr. Glen East	Superintendent
Dr. Lea Bellon	Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Rachel Gibson	Principal, Gulfport High School
Mr. Justin Gros	9 th Grade Principal, Gulfport High School
Mrs. Jennifer Hornback	Director of Career & Technical Education
Ms. Teresa Merwin	Principal, The Learning Center
Mrs. Tina Salminen	Principal, Bayou View Middle School
Dr. Patricia Moss	Principal, Gulfport Central Middle School
Mrs. Brooke Pennock	Principal, Anniston Avenue Elementary School
Mrs. Tess Lawrence	Principal, Bayou View Elementary School
Ms. Ashley Whitney	Principal, Central Elementary School
Mrs. Robin Auringer	Principal, Twenty-Eighth Street Elementary School
Dr. Joshua Bressler	Principal, Pass Road Elementary School
Dr. Heather Chesman	Principal, West Elementary School
Mrs. Dionne Lombard	Technology Specialist
Dr. William Greb	Special Education Director
Dr. Rhonda Clark	ELL, Pre-K, & MS Teaching Network Coordinator
Mrs. Wendi Husley	District Data Analyst

Gulfport School District Data

2024-2025

Graduation Rate						
4 Year Cohort 2020-2024					89.2	
School Data						
	Elementary School		Middle School		High School	
Number of Schools	6		2		1	
Cumulative Enrollment	2855		1366		1643	
Counselor I Student Ratio	1:476		1:228		1:235	
Student Demographic Data						
	Elementary School		Middle School		High School	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female	1409	49%	676	49%	832	51%
Male	1446	51%	690	51%	811	49%
Asian	34	1%	19	1%	23	1%
Black	1446	51%	702	51%	813	49%
Hispanic	287	10%	148	11%	153	9%
Native American	9	0.3%	4	0.2%	3	0.2%
White	884	31%	449	33%	591	36%

Staff Demographic Data (Teachers / Administrators)						
	Full-time		Part-time		New Hires (July-Sept)	
	#	%	#	%	#	
Female	432	79.1%	0		50	
Male	114	20.8%	0		17	
Asian	7	1.2%	0		1	
Black	118	21.6%	0		16	
Hispanic	16	2.9%	0		3	
Native American	2	0.4%	0		0	
White	403	73.8%	0		47	
Attendance						
Number of Students Who are Two or More Years Behind Grade Level by 9th Grade						62
Number of Students with 5 or More Unexcused Absences						3313
Number of Students with 12 or More Unexcused Absences						1056
Discipline						
Number of State Reported Discipline Referrals (Unduplicated)						1215
Free/Reduced Rate						
Number of Students Receiving Free/Reduced Meals (2024-2025 school year)						3644
Percentage of Students Receiving Free/Reduced Meals (2024-2025 school year)						62.05%
Free						3393
Reduced						251

Accountability Ratings
Elementary & Middle Schools (700 Point Scale)
2023-2024 MAAP Data

School Name	Grade	Total Points	Reading Proficiency	Math Proficiency	Science Proficiency	Reading Growth	Math Growth	Reading Low Growth	Math Low Growth	EL Progress	Participation Rate
Anniston Avenue Elementary School	A	452	62.7	62.3	84.5	62.8	68.2	50.6	47.4	35	≥95%
Bayou View Elementary School	A	609	91.6	89.8	95.3	91.4	93.7	70	77.5		≥95%
Bayou View Middle School	A	450	58.1	70.7	74.4	65.7	80.7	37.1	56.3	29.6	≥95%
Central Elementary School	C	369	44.7	28.9	60	62.6	45.5	45.2	65	35	≥95%
Gulfport Central Middle School	C	374	39.7	47.4	56.8	51.3	69.8	40.1	69.2		≥95%
Pass Road Elementary School	A	506	67.9	58	81.4	83.1	65.1	76.8	63.8	35	≥95%
Twenty Eighth St Elementary	B	404	51.5	51.5	55.3	64.8	48.5	66.7	51.1	33.6	≥95%
West Elementary School	A	503	60.8	55.8	82.6	84.6	71.7	77.7	35	31.7	≥95%

High School and District (1000 Point Scale)

School Name	Grade	Total Points	Reading Proficiency	Math Proficiency	History Proficiency	Science Proficiency	Reading Growth	Math Growth	Reading Low Growth	Math Low Growth	EL Progress	Acceleration	College and Career Readiness	Participation Rate	Graduation Rate
Gulfport High School	A	809	63.6	80.4	73.7	65.9	81.7	100	81.7	100	49.5	69	73.7	≥95%	86.9
Gulfport School District	A	714	59	63.7	73.8	71.3	68.6	78.1	48.6	63.6	50	69.4	73.3	≥95%	86.9

Juniors ACT Results Spring 2025

	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
33-36	11	6	16	9	7
28-32	16	10	22	12	18
24-27	45	50	30	43	34
20-23	86	62	95	98	90
16-19	77	136	81	122	119
13-15	77	87	76	45	76
00-12	43	4	35	27	11

Retention Rates

Goal: Reduce the number of retentions in Kindergarten through third grade by early identification, effective instructional strategies, and intense interventions.

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Kindergarten	82	51	36	44	46
1st Grade	66	37	43	62	53
2nd Grade	75	43	25	25	29
3rd Grade	33	21	15	22	35
Total	256	152	119	153	163

Action Steps:

- Identify students with highest needs for Pre-K enrollment in our Title I Schools.
- Provide ongoing Project Read Phonics Training and coaching for K-2 Staff with onsite trained teachers.
- Identify students at risk of reading difficulties through Universal Screeners and Dyslexia Training and put supports in place for them as early as possible.
- Ensure K-3 teachers are implementing reading and writing instruction with fidelity (Ready Reading, i-Ready, Project Read, Thinking Maps, and Extended Texts).
- Review retention rates by school to identify specific teachers who need additional support with differentiating instruction.

Subgroup Performance

Goal: Provide additional assistance to subgroups with disparities in performance on state assessments when compared to their peers.

Action Steps:

- School administrators will review subgroup data from District Common Assessments and State Assessments to identify disparities in performance
- School administrators will meet with teachers to review interventions for all students, particularly those with subgroup achievement gaps
- Professional Development will be provided ongoing by Special Education Department, ESL Specialist, and Curriculum Specialists from Instructional programs.
- An ATSI Specialist will monitor progress of student subgroups, meet with administrators to develop plans of action, and present results and plans to the Director of Instructional Programs, Superintendent, and School Board.

Juvenile Detention Center Transitions

Goal: Provide supports for students who transition from the juvenile detention centers to a school in the district

Action Steps:

- Identify students who have been detained at the detention center.
- Provide supplemental educational resources to students while in detention.
- Notify home schools of students detained.
- Participate in a transitional meeting with juvenile detention staff and parents to develop a transitional plan for return to home school.
- Notify counselors and school administrators of students return to school and the transitional plan developed.
- School personnel will develop and individualize a support plan for the student to remain at school.

Average Daily Attendance

Goal: To Increase average daily attendance K-12 district wide and decrease the number of students who are chronically absent

Action Steps:

- Identify students who are chronically absent and communicate with parents and attendance officer when needed.
- With the assistance of District personnel, develop strategies to reduce the number of chronically absent students.
- Develop procedures for notifying parents, school/district personnel of students' absences and patterns and define personnel responsible for each task (Design Team Attendance Committee is developing Standard Operating Procedures)
- Contact other agencies or assistance with chronic absenteeism.
- Through parent engagement activities, communicate attendance issues and resolution for absenteeism in a timely manner.
- Develop a plan of action for individual students who meet the criteria as specified in our district attendance policy.

Needs Assessment Outcomes

Needs Assessment Areas	Descriptions
Target Group Identified	<p>Middle school potential dropouts (male, over-age, failing high stakes test scores, failing grades)</p> <p>Students that are 2 or more years behind grade level by ninth grade</p>
Data Collection Methods Used	<p>Meeting with students and parents to determine the main reason for their overage placement</p> <p>Surveys: student, staff, parent, community</p> <p>Review of test scores: MAAP, ACT, ACTAspire, ACT WorkKeys, Diagnostic Tests, & National Certification Exams</p> <p>MSIS Data - Dropout demographics, absenteeism, discipline</p>
Prioritized List of Needs	<p>To develop a safety net program that will give the overage middle school students an opportunity to become successful in school and to assist the students with the opportunity to complete school</p> <p>To refine and enhance the track for graduation opportunities for high school students</p>
Short Term Goals	<p>100% of middle school transition students will remain in school, passing eighth grade classes</p> <p>To increase the graduation rate to 90% or higher</p> <p>Decrease absenteeism in K-12 classrooms</p>
Long Term Goals	<p>80% of targeted middle school students will obtain a diploma or GED with their 4 year cohort</p> <p>Raise the GHS graduation rate for black males by 5% within 4 years</p>
Recommendations for future needs assessments	<p>Continue current assessments and increase interviews with overaged middle school students and their parents</p>

Current District Initiatives by School & Grade

15 Dropout Prevention Strategies	District-wide	PreK-Kindergarten	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Systemic Renewal	<p>GSD Progress Monitoring System Essential Pieces Design Teams</p> <p>Administrative Nuts and Bolts</p> <p>Title III: EL Small Group and Individualized Instruction (ALL)</p> <p>Seal of Biliteracy</p>	<p>EPDST: Early Prevention, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program</p> <p>Nine Pre-K classes of 15-17 students (AAE (2),BVE (2), CE, PRE, TSE, WE(2))</p>	<p>EPDST: Early Prevention, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program</p> <p>Introduction to Fine Arts</p> <p>Career Pathways Education</p>	<p>Intermediate Fine Arts</p> <p>Robotics (GCMS, BVMS)</p> <p>Dance (BVMS)</p> <p>Career Pathways Education (Both)</p> <p>Step-Teams (GCMS)</p>	<p>Academic Institutes</p> <p>Advanced Fine Arts Development</p> <p>Separate 9th Grade School</p> <p>Gaston Point College and Career Readiness Center. Partnership with Ingalls Shipbuilding, Mississippi Power, and AMR/EMT.</p>
School-Community Collaboration	<p>Title I: Parent-Community Surveys</p> <p>School Resource Officers</p> <p>Total Health Clinics</p> <p>Career Speakers</p> <p>Junior Auxiliary</p> <p>International Festival Interschool Production</p>		<p>Career Day (ALL)</p> <p>Partnership with local businesses to provide student rewards/incentives (AAE, BVE, PRE,WE,TSE, CE)</p> <p>Pride Card (BVE)</p> <p>Kiwanis - Terrific Kids (ALL)</p> <p>Readers of the Month (CE)</p> <p>Student of the Week or Month (AAE, CE, TSE)</p>	<p>Motivational speakers for male and female students (GCMS)</p> <p>Mentors for male and female students (GCMS, BVMS)</p> <p>PRIDE Card for Behavior (BVMS)</p> <p>Big Orange Card for Honor Roll (BVMS)</p> <p>Junior Auxiliary (GCMS)</p>	<p>School Based Mental Health Therapists</p> <p>FAFSA Workshops</p> <p>Team Fusion Robotics</p> <p>Partnership with MGCCC</p> <p>Academic Institute Advisory Board</p> <p>Donut Decision Day</p> <p>Military Recruiter Visits</p> <p>College Recruiters</p>

			<p>GHS Teacher Academy Student Interns (BVE, WE)</p> <p>Boy Scouts (AAE,BVE,CE,PRE ,TSE)</p> <p>Girl Scouts (AAE,BVE,CE,PRE ,TSE)</p> <p>Lynn Meadows Discovery Center (AAE,BVE,CE, TSE, PRE,WE)</p> <p>Junior Auxiliary (ALL)</p> <p>Career Speakers (ALL)</p> <p>Future Friday Google Meets (TSE)</p> <p>Collaboration with USM/ Practicum Students (AAE,BVE, WE, PRE,TSE,CE)</p> <p>Pine Belt – Site Based Counselor (AAE, WE, TSE, CE)</p> <p>Military Family Leave Counseling (TSE,BVE,AAE)</p>	<p>Student of the Month (GCMS, BVMS)</p> <p>Positive Referrals- (All Schools)</p> <p>Pine Belt-Site Based Counselor- (GCMS, BVMS, WE)</p> <p>Career Day- Counselors (GCMS, BVMS)</p> <p>Boys to Men Club for all young men. (GCMS)</p> <p>Esteemed Queens Club for all young ladies. (GCMS)</p> <p>Principal's luncheon for honor roll students. (GCMS)</p> <p>Mobile Dentist (GCMS, BVMS)</p>	Rising Stars/Advance in Finance
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			Volunteer Groups: *Nourishing Place (PRE,BVE,TSE, WE, CE, AAE) *Magnolia Grove CC (CE) *Safety City, MS Power (AAE, TSE, BVE, CE, PRE, WE) *Science Day (AAE, BVE,PRE, CE, WE) *Mobile Dentist (AAE, BVE, CE, PRE, WE, TSE) *Career on Wheels (AAE, PRE, CE)		
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Safe Learning Environments	Code of Conduct		Character Ed (AAE, BVE, TSE, PRE, CE, WE)	Video Surveillance (Both)	Video Surveillance
	School Safety Inspection				Full-time Behavior Interventionist/Social Worker
	Monthly Fire-drill		Second Steps Social Skills Program (All)	ISD Monitor (BVMS,GCMS)	
	Severe Weather Drills		Breathe for Change: Yoga and Self-Regulation (TSE)	Inclusion teachers (BVMS,GCMS)	Admiral Reward Program
	School Counselors		Mind Yeti Morning Meditation (CE)	Faculty/Staff Attend Extra-Curricular Activities (BVMS, GCMS)	Safety Drills
	School Resource Officers		Bus Safety Education (ALL)		Safety Resource Officers
			Bullying Prevention (ALL)		Alpha Alert System
			Project Wisdom (BVE, CE, TSE)		
			In School Suspension/ Detention Monitor (AAE,CE, PRE, BVE, TSE, WE)		
			Stand Up to Bullying Day (CE & PRE) Kindness Week (BVE,CE, PRE)		
			Red Ribbon Week School wide Drug Awareness Activities (ALL)		
			PBIS (PRE)		

Family Engagement	Title I: Parent-Community Surveys	MSU Headstart Advocate to help each PreK Student and Family with any type of need	Kindergarten Round-Up (ALL)	Open House (BOTH)	Open Door Policy
	Parent Advisory Committee		P.T.A./Family Nights (ALL)	Middle School Orientation (BOTH)	Open House
	Parent Communication Center		Open House (ALL)	Family Nights (GCMS, BVMS)	High School Orientation
	School Websites		Kindergarten-5 th grade Awards (ALL)	Weekly Newsletter (BVMS, GCMS)	Parent Newsletters
	School Status Notify		Family Nights (AAE, BVE, TSE, CE, WE, PRE)	Awards Day (BOTH)	Parent Forum
	ESL Awards Incorporated into Site Based Awards		Book Fairs (ALL)	Intake Family Conference (TLC)	Parent Workshops
	ESL Courses for Parents		Weekly Newsletter (ALL)	Open-Door Policy (BOTH)	Senior Awards
	Required parent conferences during the first 9 weeks for all students. (ALL)		Teacher Newsletter (ALL)	Parent Quarterly Academic meetings (GCMS)	Donut Decision Day
	Required parent conferences for students in the Bottom 25 % each 9 weeks. (ALL)		Online Orientation for New Families (CE)	Veteran Appreciation Breakfast (GCMS)	Intake Family Conference (TLC)
	Introductory phone calls to parents within the first four weeks of school. (ALL)		Parent Calendar (AAE, BVE, TSE,PRE, CE)	Multi- Cultural Nights (GCMS)	Academic/Career Counselor guidance
			Parent Breakfasts (AAE, PRE)		Career Coach
			Fall and/or Spring Festival (AAE, TSE, PRE)		GTV/Admiral Nation
					Advanced Programs and Parent Preview Nights

			<p>Intake Family Conference (TLC)</p> <p>Parent Liaison/Parent Center(PRE, WE)</p> <p>Black History Program (ALL)</p> <p>Hispanic Heritage Day (AAE, BVE,CE, PRE)</p> <p>Grandparent Luncheon (AAE,TSE,BVE, CE, PRE)</p> <p>Family Harvest Luncheon (PRE)</p> <p>Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast (CE,PRE)</p> <p>Veteran's Appreciation Lunch (TSE)</p> <p>Veteran's Day Music Program (AAE)</p> <p>Reading Celebrations (AAE,TSE,BVE, CE, WE)</p> <p>Family Science Night (AAE, BVE, CE, TSE, WE)</p> <p>3rd grade gate meeting for EL parents (AAE,BVE, WE)</p>	<p>Academic/Care er Counselor guidance</p> <p>Transition Counselors (BVMS, GCMS, GHS)</p> <p>Black History Program (GCMS)</p>	
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Early Childhood Education	Community Education Program	Special Education services for children with disabilities for Area Head Start and Daycare Programs	Kindergarten Round-up (ALL) Kindergarten teachers visit IPre-K Classrooms (AAE, CE,PRE, TSE, WE) Kindergarten Camp (ALL) Early Childhood Screening (AAE,BVE, PRE, TSE, WE, CE) Career Pathways Education (All) Bilingual Resources for KG Readiness		
Early Literacy Development	Project Read Write From the Beginning/Thinking Maps AR (Reading) Star Reading Title III: EL Small Group and Individualized Instruction	Renaissance Star Early Literacy Assessment Brigance Assessment	ISIP Assessment (ALL) B.O.O.S.T. (All) Project Read (ALL) Science of Reading (ALL) Dyslexia Screener (ALL) Imagine Learning (ALL)		

			Bilingual Summer Reading Resources (ALL)		
Mentoring / Tutoring	Gpt. Police Dept. - School Resource Officer		<p>After School Tutoring (ALL)</p> <p>Volunteer Groups: AmeriCorps, Nourishing Place (AAE, BVE,PRE, TSE CE, WE)</p> <p>Morning Star (CE)</p> <p>Junior Auxiliary (ALL)</p> <p>United Way (TSE,CE, WE) GSDCO (AAE)</p> <p>Boy Scouts/(AAE,BVE , CE & TSE)</p> <p>Girl Scouts (AAE,BVE,CE,TSE , &WE)</p> <p>Paper Online Tutoring Grades 3-5 (BVE)</p> <p>Sea Star Academy (BVE)</p>	<p>Weekly Tutoring (GCMS & BVMS)</p> <p>Weekly mandatory remediation- (GCMS)</p> <p>PAPER Online Tutoring/ Grades 6-8 (BVMS)</p>	<p>After-School Tutoring</p> <p>Edgenuity After School Program Transportation Provided</p> <p>Academic Institute Seminar Cohort groups</p> <p>Academic/Career Counselor guidance</p> <p>CTE Student Services Coordinator tutoring</p> <p>Over 30 student clubs and organization</p> <p>PAPER Online Tutoring/Grades 9-12</p> <p>Career Coach</p>

			<p>Naval Construction Mentors (WE)</p> <p>GHS Interns (AAE, BVE, WE)</p> <p>Student Council Peer Tutoring (PRE)</p>		
Service-Learning	March of Dimes (ALL)		<p>Student Council (BVE, CE, PRE, TSE, WE)</p> <p>St. Jude's Fundraiser (BVE,PRE)</p> <p>Charity Donations (AAE, BVE, TSE)</p> <p>Angel Tree (PRE CE)</p> <p>Salvation Army Clothing Drive (BVE)</p> <p>Kiwanis Kids Club & Humane Society (TSE)</p> <p>Donations for Harrison County Children's Shelter (PRE)</p> <p>Blue Jeans for Homeless Shelter (BVE)</p>	<p>Student Council (Both)</p> <p>NJHS (BVMS)</p> <p>Builder's Club (GCMS)</p> <p>Robotics Club (BVMS & GCMS)</p> <p>National Junior Beta Club (GCMS)</p> <p>Chess Club (GCMS)</p>	<p>Key Club</p> <p>Interact Club</p> <p>Student Council</p> <p>Beta Club</p> <p>Mu Alpha Theta</p> <p>National Honor Society</p> <p>National Technical Honor Society</p> <p>Student Ambassador program</p> <p>DECA</p> <p>HOSA</p> <p>Skills USA</p> <p>Educators Rising</p> <p>Unpaid Work Based Learning Experiences</p>

			<p>Can Tabs for Ronald McDonald House (BVE)</p> <p>Canned Food Drive for Nourishing (PRE)</p> <p>Jr. Beta Club (AAE)</p>		Over 30 student clubs and organization
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			<p>Place (AAE, PRE,BVE,CE)</p> <p>'Souper' Bowl of Caring - Food Drive (WE)</p> <p>Thanksgiving Baskets (BVE)</p> <p>Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive (AAE, BVE, PRE)</p>		
Alternative Schooling	<p>The Learning Center 5-12</p> <p>Gulfport Virtual Academy K-10</p>		<p>Intercession Tutoring (ALL)</p>	<p>Safety Net Class Grade 8 for both Middle Schools</p>	<p>Credit Recovery-Edgenuity</p> <p>Small Group Remedial</p>

After-School Opportunities			After Care Learning Centers (AAE,BVE,CE,TSE ,PRE,WE)	Builder’s Club (GCMS)	After-School Tutorial Program
			Tiger Time Tutoring (AAE)	After-school Athletics (Both)	Edgenuity After School Program
				Afterschool Tutorial (GCMS, BVMS)	Transportation Provided
			EL Tutoring (AAE,PRE)		Athletics
			Robotics (BVE,TSE, PRE, WE)		Robotics
					ROTC Training Drill Team
					Fine Arts Programs
			Choir (PRE)		Over 30 student clubs and organization
			Kids Connect: Creative Arts Camp at St. Mark’s (TSE)		
			Sea Stars (BVE)		
		Running Club (BVE, AAE)			

Professional Development	MDE Framework Training & College and Career Readiness Training (ALL)		Faculty Breakouts (TSE)	Departmental Meetings (Both)	Departmental Meetings
	Suicide Prevention Training (ALL)		Grade Level Meetings (AAE, BVE, WE, PRE)	Team Meetings (Both)	Staff Meetings
	Essential Pieces		Weekly Staff Meetings (AAE, BVE, WE)	Grade Level Meetings (Both)	Inquiry Based Learning
	Vertical Alignment meetings (ALL)		Flipped Faculty Meetings (BVE, PRE)		Questioning Strategies
			Tech PD Monthly Newsletter (BVE)		
	Grade Level Meetings (ALL)			Focused Monthly PD for Teachers (GCMS, BVMS)	Weekly Academic Institute PLC
	Teacher Empowering Teachers (TET)			Faculty Meetings (GCMS, BVMS)	
	TST: Tier III Training Focused Faculty Meetings Based on School Needs				
	Individualized Professional Development				
	Novice Teacher Learning Community				
	Spanish for Teachers				

Active Learning	WOW: Student Engagement		Reading Fair (ALL)	Reading Fair (Both)	Project Based Learning

			Science Fair (ALL)	Science Fair (Both)	Job Shadowing
			Spelling Bee (ALL)	Robotics Competition (BVMS, GCMS)	Credit Recovery Edgenuity
			Viking Venue(BVE)	Life Skills- Community (GCMS)	Small Group Remedial Reading/Math
			March Madness Reading Tournament (CE)	ABSS Class (BVMS)	Work Based Learning experiences with business partners
			Students on Morning/ Afternoon Announcements (ALL)	Career Pathways Education	Academic Institute Seminars
			Life Skills - Community Readiness Kitchen/Cooking (CES)		
			Art/Music (ALL)		
			Choir (PRE)		
			Robotics Competition Team (ALL)		
			Goal Setting (AAE, BVE, TSE, PRE, WE, CE)		
			Peer Tutoring (AAE,BVE,PRE)		
			Career Pathways Education Crazy 8's Math Club (BVE)		

Educational Technology	Promethean: ACTIVClassrooms Computer Labs iReady Parent Command Center EL: Imagine Learning K-5, FastForward 8-12		Compass Learning System (PRE) iReady (ALL) Accelerated Reading(AAE, TSE, BVE, WE, CE, PRE) My Reading Coach (PRE, TSE) Follet - Destiny(ALL)	Reading Lab (GCMS) In school Math and ELA/Reading Lab(BVMS) Math Labs (GCMS) One-To-One Chromebooks for all students (BVMS, GCMS)	Edgenuity Computer Labs Classroom Based Chromebooks
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Individualized Instruction	Instruction TST: Tiered Intervention I.E.P's- Individual Education Plans (Special ED) iReady		Individualized Reading Plans (ALL) B.O.O.S.T. Remedial Reading (ALL) Gifted Class(ALL) Imagine Learning (ALL ELEMENTARY)	Math and Language Labs 6th-8th (Both)	After-School Tutorial Program Edgenuity After School Program Academic/Career Counselor guidance CTE Student Service Coordinator tutoring Career Speakers Academic/Career Counselor guidance
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Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Computer Labs		Career Day/Night (ALL)	Cyber Foundations- (Both)	CTE Student Service Coordinator
			Robotics Competition Team (ALL)	STEM (Both)	Academic Institutes/Career Academies
			Quest Presentations (AAE,BVE,TSE, CE, PRE, WE)	Career Exploration (Both)	Automotive Technology
			Wax Museum (AAE BVE WE, CE)	Career Pathways Education (Both)	Business, Finance, Marketing
			Flea Market (AAE)		Engineering/Robotics
			Career Pathways Education (BVE, PRE)		Teacher Academy
			Chess Club (BVE)		Construction Technology
					Health Science
					Health Care Assistant (CNA)
					Law and Public Safety
					Digital Media
					Culinary Arts
					Work Based Learning
					Gaston Point College and Career Readiness Center
					-Ingalls Shipbuilding Academy
					-Mississippi Power Energy Academy
					-First Student Transportation Academy
					-Acadan/EMT
					Career Coach

Proposed District Initiatives

Proposed Initiative	Grade Level	Purpose or Goal	Who is involved?	Proposed Cost	Timeline	Dropout Prevention Strategy Addressed	Evaluation of Effectiveness
Pre-School Classrooms	Pre-K	To increase student readiness skills for entry to Kindergarten Continue to add Pre-K Classes to each of our Title I Schools (WE, PRE, CE, TSE and AAE)	Administrators Teachers Community Students	Approximately \$596,000 annually	Based on need and budget availability work to add one additional Pre-K classroom to each site (as needed)	Early Childhood Education Early Literacy Development School-Community Collaboration	MKAS Diagnostic Assessments Pre-K Attendance Brigance Testing
Closing the Achievement Gap in Grades 6 th -8 th	6 th - 8 th	To increase student achievement	Administrators Teachers Community Students Counselors	\$0.00	Ongoing	Active Learning Individualized Instruction Professional Development	Diagnostic Assessments (iReady) Statewide Assessments Weekly Mixed Practice Tests
Increase Student Attendance Rate	K - 12 th	To decrease the number of absences from school in order to improve student achievement	Administrators Teachers Community Students Counselors Design Team	\$0.00	2020 Ongoing	Active Learning Individualized Instruction	Absentee Reports ADA Statewide Assessments

Appendix:

Current Initiatives

Descriptions



District-wide Current Initiatives

SYSTEMIC RENEWAL

- GSD Progress Monitoring: Formative and summative assessments are administered frequently and the data is used by teachers and administrators to redesign practice and instruction to fit the needs of the individual students.
- Essential Pieces: Essential Pieces is staff development for all teachers in the GSD delivered in a conference format. Teachers and staff may choose programs of interest for morning and afternoon sessions.
- Administrative Nuts & Bolts: In the summer of each year the entire administrative staff and principals from each school meet for professional development.
- Design Teams: Design teams are school level teams under the direction of the principal that leads in creating engagement focused schools. They operate as a learning community and a resource of support to all teachers about a focus on engagement.
- Title III: EL Small Group and Individualized Instruction: Depending on the age and need of the child, students will receive service and support 30 (elementary) to 75 minutes each day (middle and high school). The teacher works with ELL students to assist them in becoming acquainted with English language and targets skills which will have strong transfer into the general education classroom. This teacher also acts as a liaison while students familiarize themselves with a new language and academic requirements. Furthermore, students have access to an online remediation program. Elementary students employ the use of Image Learning Language and Literacy and students in the intermediate and secondary settings will make use of Imagine Reading .

SCHOOL-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- Parent-Community Surveys: Annually, parents and community members provided feedback about the schools' programs, safety, and general functioning via survey. The information is collected and analyzed to assist the principal and district in the development of Title I school- wide plans, which detail such plans as school reform initiatives, timely assistance to students, professional development, and highly-qualified teachers and teacher assistants.
- School Resource Officers: Every school has access to a police officer supplied by the Gulfport Police Department.
- School Based Clinic: Schools have a site-based clinic staffed by nurses. The Learning Center shares the nurses in the district.
- Career Speakers: All GSD schools have career speakers who visit the schools at various times during the school year.
- Total Health Clinics: Medical clinics are available for staff and family members.

SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

- Code of Conduct: A code of Conduct is printed in handbooks for every school. Parents and students have access to these rules.
- School Safety Inspection Checklist: Weekly/Monthly site visits are conducted by the maintenance department to ensure that each site maintains a clean and safe learning environment. The principal receives a written report detailing findings, concerns, and accolades.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Parent-Community Surveys: (See Above)
- Parent Advisory Committee: The superintendent facilitates a monthly parent advisory committee meeting. This venue gives parents from each school an opportunity to converse with the superintendent about issues that are important to them, their children, and the schools. Occasionally, the committee will also function as a parent advisory board for federal programs to ensure beneficial use of Title I parenting funds.
- Home Portal (Previously called Parent Communication Center) is a web-based center that provides parents real-time access to their child's attendance, grades, and discipline.
- School Websites: Every school in the GSD has a website. Information for students and parents is updated regularly.
- SchoolStatus Parent Notifications Emergency and informative calling/messaging system used by district administrators to notify and remind parents of upcoming school-district events. Parents may be notified in English or Spanish as well as via email and text messaging. The system may also be used to notify parents of school closings due to inclement weather and to survey parents regarding a myriad of topics.
- School Status - Has a parent engagement platform that allows teachers to log all calls (recorded) and texts. Furthermore, there is a feature which will auto-translate text messages when the preferred language is selected, thereby bridging possible language communication gaps with our parents.

EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

- Project Read: Project Read is a multi-sensory instruction designed to reach every avenue to the brain and to address every child's learning style (auditory, visual, and kinesthetic). Teachers use similar techniques such as look-listen-point and structured routines to make learning fun and engaging for students.
- Write From the Beginning/Thinking Maps: Developmental thinking and writing programs are established for students in Kindergarten - twelfth grades. The focus of the program is on early training in those criterion that are necessary for successful writing achievement beyond the primary years. Teachers within a school develop a common targeted focus and shared accountability for school-wide writing performance. The purpose for implementing the program is to give both students and teachers the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for age-appropriate writing instruction and achievement.

- Title III EL (See Above - Systemic Renewal)

MENTORING/TUTORING

- Gulfport Police Department
- Community Based After-School Tutorial Program: Area churches in partnership with the district, provide elementary students in grades 1st – 5th with personalized tutorial services two days per week.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Essential Pieces (See Above)
- TET Meeting (Teachers Empowering Teachers) Connections: Quarterly meetings by department or grade level to explore areas of concern, to develop new strategies and to receive training as needed.
- TST: Teacher support teams receive training on the Tier III process.
- Individualized Professional Development: Curriculum Specialists provide teachers with customized professional development sessions based on need and by request of the principal or teacher in the areas of reading-language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- Novice Teacher Learning Community: Novice teachers are provided with a mentor for the first two years of their career. Specialized professional development aimed at the needs of first year teachers is provided during year one of the program. Novice teachers also are given opportunities to visit master teachers in the field to gather ideas for their classes. Follow-up sessions allow each novice to ask questions and deepen their understanding of the profession.
- Vertical Alignment meetings: Teachers have an opportunity to discuss the needs of each grade and how the students' yearly academic progress should build on previous grades.
- Focus Faculty Meetings on Site Specific Professional Needs
- Grade Level Meetings / Professional Learning Communities

ACTIVE LEARNING

- WOW: Working On the Work is a systematic approach to teaching based on designing engaging lessons.
- Ready Reading and Ready Math: Curriculum Associates curriculum is used K-8

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

- Chromebooks - Every student has access to a chromebook that allows them to connect to digital resources such as Google Classroom, Google Workspace, and iReady.
- Laptops - Each classroom teacher and administrator has been issued a laptop to use in the classroom and at home.
- Interactive boards and panels - Each core classroom is equipped with a Promethean Activboard, Promethean Activpanel, or Sharp Aquos board that allows the teacher and students to display lessons and interact with those lessons.

- Home Portal - A web-based portal that allows parents and students to review student progress, transcript grades, attendance, schedules, and fees.
- Hovercam Podium - Many teachers have a Hovercam Podium in their classroom. This device has a document camera, HD wireless interactive casting, pull-out keyboard and trackpad, teaching software and other features that can enhance instruction.
- Virtual Learning - Google Classroom, Schoology, ZOOM, and other digital resources are used K-12 to provide online instruction both synchronously and asynchronously to students who are unable to attend school whether it is due to illness, COVID-19 Pandemic, suspension, etc.
- Instructional Videos - A Gulfport School District YouTube Channel is available to educators, students, and parents that provides a plethora of grade level instructional videos to increase student achievement and support with MS College and Career Readiness Standards.

INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION

- Differentiated Instruction: DI is a student centered classroom instruction method. The teacher acts as a coach/mentor and gives the student as much responsibility for their learning as they can handle. This method is rooted in assessment and makes blended use of whole class, small group and individual instruction.
- TST: Tiered Intervention: Tier I – Quality classroom instruction based on MS Curriculum Frameworks. Tier II – Focused supplemental instruction. Tier III – Instructional interventions specifically designed to meet the individual needs of students. The teacher Support Team at every school is the problem solving unit that is responsible for interventions developed at Tier II and Tier III.
- I.E.P – Individualized Education Plans: This is a document created for individual students who receive special education services. It outlines academic and /or behavior goals and services and accommodations that will be made available for the child. The IEP is developed by the special education teacher, regular education teacher, and parent during an official meeting.
- iReady Reading and Math: Individualized Computer Based Instruction and Assessment. i-Ready Diagnostic helps teachers understand the root causes behind student challenges. It automatically provides individualized online and teacher-led instruction targeted to each student's unique needs. In addition, easy-to-read reports provide teachers with a detailed action plan for individual and group instruction and the tools to deliver that instruction in any style learning environment.
- Language Service Plans (LSP) are drafted for every EL student to create goals and a service plan of support around the literacy areas of; Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing.

PRE-K & Elementary Current Initiatives

SYSTEMIC RENEWAL

- EPDST: Early Prevention, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program
- Physicals performed by a school nurse and paid for by Medicaid. (Pre-K also)
- Introduction to Fine Arts: Teaching Art and Music as separate activity classes

SCHOOL-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- Career Day: Businesses set up booths at school and speak about their profession
- Partnership with local business: to provide student rewards/incentives
- Domino's Pizza donates pizzas for monthly Citizens of the Month
- Terrific Kid: The guidance counselor and the Kiwanis Club celebrate with a terrific kid from each classroom.
- Partnership with GHS Key Club
- The students from GHS visit with our students, especially the 4th and 5th graders, throughout the year to promote continued academic success and leadership skills. They assist with tutoring and Field Day
- GHS Teacher Academy students work with students as part of their student internship.(PRE)
- Boy Scouts (AAE, CE, BVE, PRE): Boy Scouts use school facilities for meetings.
- Girl Scouts (ALL) Girl Scouts use school facilities for meetings.
- Lynn Meadows Discovery Center (AAE, BVE, CE, PRE, WE): Lynn Meadows staff provides STEM: Engineering is Elementary opportunities for Kindergarten students, and a variety of art activities for our K-5 students. They also provide scholarships for needy students to attend summer camps at the museum.
- Career Speakers (TLC): Community speakers are invited to speak to students about their careers.
- Collaboration with USM Practicum Students (AAE, BVE, PRE, WE) Student teachers work with our mentor teachers during their practicums
- Junior Auxiliary (ALL): Junior Auxiliary is a women's service organization whose philanthropic work for children includes helping with clothing needs and glasses.
- Gulf Coast Mental Health – Site Based Counselor (PRE, TSE, WE, CE) Pass Road Elementary School site based behavior therapist is employed by the Gulfport School District.

SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Bus Safety Education (All)
- Bullying Prevention (ALL): Bullying Prevention is handled through classroom presentations and small groups done by the counselor.
- Project Wisdom: During our daily morning announcements, we read a lesson on making wise choices. We

conclude each day's announcements by saying, "With something to think about, this is Dr. Thornton, reminding you that the choices you make today shape your world tomorrow. "The choice is yours."(BVE, CE)

- In School Suspension/Detention (AAE, BVE, CE, PRE, TSE, WE).
- Suicide Prevention Training - All staff participate in suicide prevention training the the Jason Foundation Project
- Drug awareness activities – Red Ribbon Week Activities (ALL)

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-Up (ALL): Parents bring upcoming kindergarteners to registration. Students are screened while parents register.
- Annual Open House (ALL)
- P.T.A./Family Nights (ALL)
- Kindergarten - 5th grade Awards (ALL)
- Book Fairs (ALL)
- Weekly Newsletter (ALL) Informative weekly newsletter to keep parents updated on the happenings at the schools
- Intake Family Conference (TLC)
- Black History Program (ALL)
- Grandparent Luncheon (AAE, BVE, TSE, WE, & CE)
- Reading Celebrations (BVE): Parents support students by helping them complete specific reading requirements every 9 weeks. Students who meet the requirements are invited to the celebrations.
- Family Picnic (AAE)
- Fun Run (BVE, AAE)
- ESL Courses for Parents

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- Special Education Services: Speech/Language Pathologists and Certified Early Interventionist from the Gulfport Schools offer IDEA services from Child Find to implementation of the Individualized Education Plan to any student who meets the criteria under MS Department of Education Guidelines in Head Starts and Daycare facilities within the Gulfport School District zone. (Pre-K)
- Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-up – (ALL)
- Gulfport School District *Sailing into Kindergarten* book presented to all Pre-K and K students at enrollment and/or Roundup.
- Kindergarten teachers visit local Head Starts (CE): Teachers have an opportunity to visit with prospective students and determine their academic level coming into kindergarten.

- Pre-K Collaborative with Head Start through Mississippi State Extension Services (CE, PRE, WE, TSE, and AAE)
Early childhood screening: Early detection for health, mental, and physical problems.

EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

- Renaissance MKAS Assessment for Pre-K and Kindergarten at all Elementary schools.
- Dyslexia Screening for all Kindergarten and 1st Grade students
- Universal Screeners for all K-8 students using i-Ready and Brigance for Pre-K.
- Building on Our Skills Together (B.O.O.S.T.): A tutorial program that is designed to address individual students' needs in the area of reading-language arts and mathematics. Students work with community members or mentors to improve their learning deficiencies. Also, students work with certified interventionists each day as a follow-up to classroom instruction.

MENTORING /TUTORING

- Admiral Anchors – Interns: GHS students who tutor/mentor students
- After School Tutoring (ALL)
- Volunteer Groups
- Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts (See Above)
- BOOST (See Above)
- Mentors (BVE): Principal and Asst. Principal mentor in BOOST 30 minutes each day
- Department Heads and support staff volunteer in classrooms and/or BOOST weekly

SERVICE-LEARNING

- Student Council (PRE, BVE, CE, TSE, WE)
- Admiral Anchors (See Above)
- Jump Rope for Heart (AAE, WE)
- Angel Tree (PRE)
- Souper Bowl of Caring - Food Drive (WE)
- Food Drive Thanksgiving Baskets (BVE, PRE)
- Holiday Can/Supply Drives (BVE)
- Jr. Beta Club (AAE)
- National Elementary Honor Society (BVE)

AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

- After-Care Learning Centers (All)
- Robotics team meetings after-school
- After-school tutoring
- Choir

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ReachMS-PBIS
- Project Read Phonics training for all K-2 teachers with Train the Trainer for each site to lead PLC's
- Thinking Map training for all K-8 teachers with Train the Trainer at each site to lead PLC's

ACTIVE LEARNING

- Reading Fair (ALL)
- Science Fair (ALL)
- STEM Night (BVE)
- Night of the Arts (BVE)
- Spelling Bee (Grades 4-8)
- Viking Venue (BVE): This is a working kitchen where science experiments are performed and classes bake, or cook, following lessons on measurement (application). There is also a Bancorp South bank where our students have actual savings accounts and deposit money into them each month.
- Students on Morning/Afternoon Announcements (ALL)
- Life Skills - Kitchen/Cooking (BVE, WE): Students cook and bake in our Learning Zone/Viking Venue
- Art and Music
- Foreign Language Introduction: Pre-K - 5th grade students will be exposed to Spanish through their art classes and middle school students will have elective options which include Mandarin Chinese and/or Spanish.
- Robotics Competition Team (BVE, PRE, TSE, WE)
- American Heart Association Teaching Garden (AAE)

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

- i-Ready Reading and Math: Diagnostic adaptive assessment taken by the student on the computer to determine proficiency level and provide instruction based on the student's needs (All Elementary and GCMS, and BVMS)
- My Reading Coach – (PRE): MRC is a reading program that focuses on phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension, and grammar. The program uses a trained speech pathologist and special education teacher to teach the students.

INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION

- I.R.Ps- Individualized Reading Plans
- B.O.O.S.T. Remedial Reading (AAE, BVE, CE, PRE, WE)
- Gifted Class(ALL): Pull out program for students tested and identified as Talented and Gifted
- LEXIA: Research and web based reading program. Used for Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions (CE)
- IEP-Individualized Education Plan
- LSP- Language Service Plan

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

Career Day (All): Professionals from our community shared their careers with the students giving them a better understanding of their jobs.

- Robotics Competition Team (BVE, PRE, WE)
- Drone Competition Team (BVE)
- Quest Presentations: Quest puts on several presentations for parents and students throughout the year.

Students are immersed in another country and its culture while creating these programs.

- Wax Museum: Our entire second grade does this every year. It consists of each second grade student researching a famous American. The student studies and memorizes life facts about that person and dresses up as that person in our Wax Museum (where they present their characters in a 'wax museum' in our gym). The entire student body is scheduled to go view each character which "comes to life" and speaks to each student as he/she activates the character by pressing a button (colored dot) on the character's hand.

Middle School Current Initiatives

Systemic Renewal

- Intermediate Fine Arts: Fine Arts are offered to all students. Students are allowed to take Band, Strings, Choir, and/or Art as an elective. BVMS also offers Dance. These classes prepare them for Advanced Fine Arts courses and programs at the high school level.
- Robotics
- Spanish and Mandarin Chinese are offered beginning in middle school.
- Seal of Biliteracy: Beginning in the academic year of 2021-2022, each year graduating seniors with qualifying scores to demonstrate proficiency in English and a World Language can obtain a credential on their transcript and the honor of the Seal of Biliteracy. Silver and Gold distinctions are based on the level of achievement. Students will begin receiving exposure to the Spanish language in elementary school beginning 2021. Furthermore, students can begin taking Spanish for course credit in the sixth grade and AP French or Spanish at the High School. We also offer Mandarin Chinese.

School-Community Collaboration

- Part-time School Based Mental Health Therapist: This is a pull out program for individual therapy for students who have an open case with Gulfport Mental Health Center.

Safe Learning Environment

- Video/Surveillance: Both middle schools are equipped with technology which allows staff to monitor traffic areas located within the school. In addition, we have designated hall monitors to ensure a safe environment while students transition from classes/activities.
- Surveys are completed annually to assist in diagnosis of issues that may be present within the school environment. The data from these surveys is shared among stakeholders and used to create school improvement goals/initiatives.

Family Engagement

- Open House: This event is held annually to provide parents with essential information pertaining to his or her child's education. Parents and students attend a briefing conducted by school administration and visit classrooms to review details of the classroom syllabus with the teacher.
- Orientation:
 - New student orientation is held in July of each year to welcome students and parents who are new to the district
 - 6th grade orientation is held at GCMS for 5th grade students coming from the elementary feeder schools
 - 9th grade orientation is held at GHS for 8th grade students going to the high school

PTA/Family Nights:

Every third Tuesday, PTO meetings are held to initiate involvement from various stakeholders (parents, community, etc.). During these meetings, parents are informed of various aspects pertaining to the vision and mission of our school. Family Nights are held on occasion to provide a more relaxed interaction between the school and home.

- Weekly Newsletter: Newsletters with information for parents and reminders of upcoming events are sent home weekly. It is also used as a learning tool; we often publish helpful tips for testing and other middle school related issues.
- Intake Family Conference (TLC): An in-depth family conference is held for every student that enters TLC. An IIP for the student is developed at this time. A learning inventory is taken to be included in the IIP. A reading and math assessment is also conducted using i-Ready.
- Open Door policy: This is a policy put in place that encourages parents to stop by and visit their child's classroom without an appointment.
- In grades 5-9 counselors transition with students as they progress to the next grade level. This provides a consistent person within the district/school for students and family members to communicate with when needed. As the students enter the 10th grade, the transition counselors move back to the 5th grade to begin a new cohort.

Service Learning

- Student Council: This after school club meets once a week. Meetings are facilitated by teachers and conducted by the elected officers. Student Council is involved in various service projects throughout the year to assist those within the school community. This club prides itself in setting goals to assist students in becoming positive, productive citizens.
- NJHS – National Junior Honor Society: The purpose of NJHS is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage good citizenship in the students of secondary schools.
- Builder's Club: Builder's Club is an international organization for middle school students embedded in the philosophy of building character and developing leadership through service. The vision is "to develop competent, capable, caring leaders through the vehicle of service."
- NJBC - National Junior Beta Club

After-School Opportunities

- Power Hour (GCMS)(See Above)
- After School Athletics: Middle school athletics are offered to students at both middle schools. Students who pass a required physical are allowed to participate in football, basketball, baseball, soccer and track. Practice and games are held after regular school hours. Students are taught the concepts and fundamentals of the sports in order to increase their opportunity to participate at the high school level and possibly beyond.

Professional Development

- Departmental Meetings: Department Meetings are held once a month in the areas of science, math, history, and English. Teachers discuss curriculum, current issues in education, needs, and concerns.

Active Learning

- Reading Fair (Both)
- Science Fair (Both)
- Spelling Bee (Both)
- Robotics (Both)

Educational Technology

- Reading Lab: Remedial labs are staffed with a certified teacher and a teacher assistant. During the day, each teacher has six classes, two classes per grade. Eighth grade classes are based on the regular ed. 7th grade students who passed the course work but did not meet the benchmark on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP). The 6th and 7th grade classes are composed of regular ed. students who performed Basic or Minimal on the MAAP or, if available, any student who is struggling in the areas of mathematics or reading. The reading lab utilizes a computer based program, My Reading Coach, to instruct and remediate students.

Individualized Instruction

- iReady (See Above)
- Math and Reading Labs (See Above)

Career and Technical Education

- Cyber Foundations: This course is offered to 7th grade students. Students explore a wide range of careers through research and activities. This class is geared toward making students knowledgeable of possible career opportunities.
 - STEM: This course is offered to all 8th grade students. The STEM curriculum covers units in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math.
-

Gulfport High School Drop-Out Prevention

SYSTEMIC RENEWAL

- Academic Institutes: At the end of 10th grade, students choose one of three Academic Institutes offered at GHS. These institutes are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), CAB (Communications, Arts, Business) and HHS (Health and Human Services).
- A major focus for the Gulfport School District is Career Pathway Education in grades 3-12. Students in elementary and middle school are exposed to various opportunities for career exploration through their academic courses. Additionally, the middle school students enroll into Cyber Foundations and STEM courses that ensure they meet technological requirements but gain more insight into the career pathway opportunities they will become part of throughout their high school career. During the 2019-2020 school year the district opened Gaston Point College and Career Readiness Center. This work-based learning training facility houses the Ingalls Shipbuilding Academy and the Mississippi Power Energy Academy.
- Advanced Fine Arts Development: GHS has developed an advanced fine arts curriculum consisting of Art 4, Band, Choir, Strings, Photography, Ceramics, AP Music Theory, AP Art Studio, and AP Art History
- Ninth and Tenth Grade: Within Gulfport High School, the Ninth and Tenth grade have a building dedicated to teaching the core subjects to those students. The grade levels are on separate floors and also have a separate administration office. Cafeteria, electives, and gym space are shared with the entire high school. Ninth and tenth grade courses focus on a rigorous curriculum that aids in preparing students for the coursework in the AIG Institutes.

SCHOOL-COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- Gulf Coast Mental Health Center Therapist: GCMHC supplies a full-time therapist to students in day-treatment for one period a day. The therapist works with other students for the remainder of the school day.
- FAFSA Workshops
- MGCCC teams with the guidance department at GHS to offer two days of help for students in completing the FAFSA. This is done on the GHS campus. Middle College allows students to complete a 2-year Associate of Arts degree during high school.
- Team Fusion: GHS Technology Applications classes compete in the annual robotics competition. Engineers from NASA team with these students to build the robot.
- MGCCC Partnership: Gulfport School District and MGCCC have established a partnership to provide students the opportunity to take dual credit classes and Middle College courses.
- Academic Institute Advisory Board: Members of the community serve in partnership with school officials to advise the Academic Institutes at GHS.

- Admiral Card Program: Every nine weeks students are rewarded with Admiral Cards based on grades, behavior and attendance.
- Rising Stars and Advance in Finance is a culmination of the College and Career Readiness requirements. This event allows students to interact with local businesses and industry professionals from the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The event primarily focuses on interview and personal finance skills.

SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Video/Surveillance: Our school is equipped with technology which allows us to monitor traffic areas located within our school. In addition, we have designated hall monitors to provide a safe environment while students transition from classes/activities.
- Alpha Alert System: The Alpha Alert system has been installed throughout the entire campus and will allow staff members to alert proper authorities when there is a disturbance in the classroom, weather emergencies, intruders on campus, or medical emergencies.
- Behavior Interventionist/Social Worker: GHS employs a full-time behavior interventionist who works with students experiencing discipline problems. This individual serves as the TST Chairman for grades 10-12.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- In high school, the Academic/Career Counselors meet with parents and students to advise academic progress along with career guidance to enhance a students participation in an Academic Institute during the 11th and 12th grade. Students entering the 11th grade choose one of three institutes, (CAB, STEM, HHS) to focus their academic and technical courses.
- GTV/Admiral Nation is the Gulfport School District's television production offered through various technological platforms throughout the community. Through GTV/Admiral Nation community members can view high school events through live streams or record productions.
- In grades 5-9 counselors transition with students as they progress to the next grade level. This provides a consistent person within the district/school for students and family members to communicate with when needed. As the students enter the 10th grade, the transition counselors move back to the 5th grade to begin a new cohort.
- Open Door Policy: At any time during the school day, parents may come to GHS without an appointment to see the Principal.
- Open House: This event is held annually to provide parents with essential information pertaining to their child's education. Parents and students attend a briefing conducted by school administration and visit classrooms to review details of the classroom syllabus with the teacher.
- Orientation: New 9th grade student campus orientation is held in July of each year to welcome all ninth grade students to the new school. Students are given their schedule and spend the day going through their schedule acclimating themselves to the campus, meeting their teachers, finding their classrooms, and lessening their

anxiety about the first day of school with all students on campus. Counselors have a pep rally of sorts to encourage them throughout the day.

- Parent Newsletters: GHS principal publishes updates on the GHS website providing details for upcoming events, awards, and student recognition. GHS guidance department publishes a senior parent newsletter monthly. In addition, many monthly updates are given to parents on graduation information, financial aid and scholarships.
- Senior Recognition: In the spring, GHS holds a Donut Decision Day event for students who have been accepted to a college, university, military, or trade through Gaston Point. Parents may attend this program.
- Intake Family Conference (TLC): An in-depth family conference is held for every student that enters TLC. An IIP for the student is developed at this time. A learning inventory is taken to be included in the IIP. A reading and math assessment is also conducted using STAR Reading.

MENTORING /TUTORING

- After School Tutoring: Teachers are available after school for tutoring. Bus transportation is provided.
- Edgenuity: Designed for grades 9-12, Edgenuity is a comprehensive, online courseware system that meets countless needs. From delivering thousands of hours of research and standards-based, interactive curriculum, to integrated assessment and student management, Edgenuity is an all-inclusive system that delivers a return on investment quickly. Edgenuity offers the depth and breadth needed to serve the full spectrum of students, from the struggling to the accelerated. Extensive correlation to state and national standards and standardized tests allows the user to fully customize the curriculum and provide targeted learning to ensure accountability. With the ability to provide individualized learning through a comprehensive, flexible format, Edgenuity meets a variety of program needs such as allowing students to recover or earn credits towards graduation with Edgenuity's comprehensive curriculum in mathematics, English, science and social studies.
- Dropout and at-risk retrieval: Results have shown that Edgenuity is effective as a primary resource for helping students with the transition back into school or as an alternative means to completing coursework for graduation.
- Alternative learning: The self-paced learning in Edgenuity allows teachers to target instruction and address each student's individual needs.
- Distance learning and virtual schooling: Since Edgenuity can be delivered directly into students' homes, many schools have found it effective for both meeting the needs of homebound students.
- Also, Edgenuity includes an easy-to-use management system to promote effective individualized instruction. Users can easily manage, monitor, evaluate, and report on individual and group progress alike. Transportation home is provided for these students.
- As students enter the 11th grade and choose the Academic Institute they will participate in, they are placed in a CCR Seminar Cohort and assigned a teacher/mentor with whom they will attend monthly seminar sessions focused on college and career readiness standards.

- The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Services Coordinator provides opportunities for CTE students where they are provided individualized instruction/tutoring to help achieve academic attainment outcomes that are aligned with The Carl Perkins V Career and Technical Education Legislation.
- Gulfport High School has over 30 student clubs and organizations that provide various mentoring opportunities.

SERVICE-LEARNING

- Over 30 student clubs and organizations for students to become involved in where community service can be applied.
- Unpaid Work Based Learning Experiences.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLING

- Credit Recovery Edgenuity: GHS students who fail a course with a grade above 60 can apply to their counselor for credit recovery. If accepted, the students can take the course over using Edgenuity Internet courses.
- Small Group Remedial: Students that need remediation in reading or math are given the opportunity to take basic skills courses in these areas. Entering ninth graders are the most likely students to take these classes.

AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

- After School Tutoring (See Above)
- Edgenuity (See Above)
- Athletics: GHS offers 17 varsity sports for both boys and girls.
- Robotics: Robotics team members meet after school to work on their competition robot.
- JROTC: GHS JROTC Drill Team practices everyday after school.
- Fine Arts: Various programs within Fine Arts, to include band, theater, and choir, meet throughout the year after school to prepare for competitions and performances.
- Over 30 student clubs and organizations for students to become involved in where community service can be applied.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Team Meetings: Department Meetings are held once a month in the areas of science, math, history, and English. Teachers discuss curriculum, current issues in education, needs, and concerns. Technology, Kagan Strategies, inquiry based learning and questioning strategies have been major topics over the last several years.
- Weekly PLC meetings within the Academic Institutes in grades 11 and 12. During these meetings students are identified that may need mentoring/tutoring or have attendance concerns. These weekly meetings also allow teachers to collaborate on instructional practices.
- All teachers are encouraged to join their professional organizations and participate in appropriate professional development opportunities.

ACTIVE LEARNING

- Job Shadowing – Opportunities for job shadowing are available in the academies and special education

- Credit Recovery (See Above)
- Small Group Remedial (See Above)

- Work-based learning (WBL) is an effective teaching approach used to engage students in real-life occupational experiences, allowing them to connect the knowledge and skills learned in class to the workplace. WBL provides students the opportunity to engage and interact with employers while learning to demonstrate essential employability and technical skills necessary for today's workforce
- Gulfport High School offers students a unique way to earn the required CCR course credit through the use of The Academic Institute Seminars. Through these seminar sessions students have opportunities to meet with and hear firsthand the expectations of business and industry leaders from all over the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Students engage with these business leaders on and off campus.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

- Edgenuity: see above
- Mastery Connect: A comprehensive assessment tool used in the state tested courses to assess skills on specific standards in English 2, Algebra 1, US History, and Biology. Students take a pre-test to get a baseline data sample of knowledge then each 9 weeks a cumulative assessment is taken to track student progress.

INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION

- Individualized Reading Plans: This is a document created for individual students who receive special education services. It outlines academic and/or behavior goals and services and accommodations that will be made available for the child. The IEP is developed by the special education teacher, regular education teacher, and parent during an official meeting.
- Language Service Plans (LSP) are drafted for every EL student to create goals and a service plan of support around the literacy areas of; Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing.
- The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Services Coordinator provides opportunities for CTE students where they are provided individualized instruction/tutoring to help achieve academic attainment outcomes that are aligned with The Carl Perkins V Career and Technical Education Legislation.
- In high school the Academic/Career Counselors meet with parents and students to advise academic progress along with career guidance to enhance a students participation in an Academic Institute during the 11th and 12th grade. Students entering the 11th grade choose one of three institutes, (CAB, STEM, HHS) to focus their academic and technical courses.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

- Academic/Career Counselors meet with parents and students to advise academic progress along with career guidance to enhance a students participation in an Academic Institute during the 11th and 12th grade. Students entering the 11th grade choose one of three institutes, (CAB, STEM, HHS) to focus their academic and technical courses.

- The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Services Coordinator provides opportunities for CTE students where they are provided individualized instruction/tutoring to help achieve academic attainment outcomes that are aligned with The Carl Perkins V Career and Technical Education Legislation.
- Gulfport High School currently offers 10 career pathways and work based learning to students through the Academic Institutes. The Academic Institutes allow students the opportunity to discover and develop their passions, while empowering them to choose an educational pathway that integrates their skills, aptitude, and interest.
- During the 2019-2020 school year the district opened Gaston Point College and Career Readiness Center. This work-based learning training facility houses the Ingalls Shipbuilding Academy and the Mississippi Power Energy Academy. Bus contractor First Student, hosts a Bus Driver/CDL training program. Plans are being made to add an additional program during the 2021-2022 school year in a partnership with AMR to offer an EMT program for students.