



## Community Schools

---

September 2011

Dear Parents,

Recent changes in our education laws have encouraged school districts to provide additional support for children who are having academic difficulties. The current focus is on a research-based process known as Response to Intervention or RtI.

Our mission at Gull Lake Community Schools is to *educate every child to his or her full potential*. National research indicates that approximately 80% of students are successful in performing to grade level content standards with general classroom instruction and materials. We also know that students do not come to us as "one size fits all" learners, and have different learning styles and rates.

Gull Lake Community Schools utilizes a three-tiered approach with varying levels of support beyond that of the core curriculum. In the first tier (Tier I) the classroom teacher will use the core curriculum and different strategies/interventions so that students are successful. Research has shown that approximately 80% of students are successful at this tier.

In the second tier (Tier II) the classroom teacher will provide interventions and/or small group instruction in students' areas of strengths & difficulties. Your child's building Collaborative Action Team will be utilized to review student progress and tailor an academic plan that provides supplemental instruction.

The third tier (Tier III) is to provide additional intervention on a more frequent basis. At this tier it may be necessary to alter your child's schedule and make choices regarding subjects so that educational interventions may occur. In other words, it may be necessary that a student not attend art or music class in order to receive more reading instruction.

Universal screening will routinely be completed on each student three times a year. The screening data will indicate how well students are progressing. Parents will be notified of their child's screening results.

Thank you for your partnership in supporting your child's education. Our most important job as educators is to provide an effective and efficient learning environment for our students. By implementing tiered interventions, that goal can be accomplished. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's building principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristin M. Flynn".

**Kristin M. Flynn**

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction (K-12)

---

**Gull Lake Community Schools Administration Office**

11775 East D Avenue • Richland, Michigan 49083

Voice: 269.488.5000 • Fax: 269.488.5011

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