

SUPERINTENDENT

NEWSLETTER

September 9, 2022

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Dear Gull Lake Families and Staff,

When people ask me what activities I prefer, I can give a basic list of things I like to do. If I am asked that question by someone who wants to do a combined activity, my answer is likely to change depending on who is asking. If it's my older brother, who teaches building trades at a Michigan high school, I will readily join him on a building project. He is an excellent teacher and craftsman, and I always walk away with new skills after working with him. If it is my wife, I will map out a weekend trip to someplace new. She loves seeing a place for the first time and learning about its origins and favorite local haunts.

This difference in choice between what I would do for myself versus what I would do with other family members and friends is probably familiar to you as well. All of us love seeing others at their best, pursuing their passions, and being animated by positive experiences. This phenomenon is also at work in our community in the activities we choose to do together. These choices are often guided by the best of our traditions, and we anticipate moments like Homecoming festivities, Fall tours of local farms and hunting for pumpkins.

Applying this wisdom to activity choices with your individual child, what makes them sit up and take notice? What choice makes them light up and want to tag along with you? Offering these moments to your child is a way of pouring into them, investing in them, and validating them as individuals who will, soon enough, be choosing their own life path. Carving out time for these moments can be a challenge with our busy schedules, but memorable experiences can be slipped into the cracks of our calendars if we are observant. After all, we know that our kids are not always in the mood to respond to our invites and we must choose our moments wisely, watching for signs that they are ready to engage.

As you enter the weekend, check your calendar for one of those cracks. You might very well find a delightful moment with your child that can be tucked into the crevice, making good memories that are sure to last. Check out our [GLCS Good Things](#) to see more memory making moments!

Happy Friday!



Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools



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