Golden Gate Middle School 2023-24

**Our Vision Statement**

 Collaborating with parents and community, we empower students to develop their personal road to success while fostering accountability, integrity, and self-esteem.

**Our Mission Statement**

Our purpose is to provide a safe, nurturing and cooperative environment that will guide and encourage each individual:

* To develop mind and body to full potential
* To foster respect for school, home and community
* To foster respect for self, others, and for concern of others
* To enjoy and take pride in learning, belonging, achieving and caring

**School Profile**

Number of teachers: 15

Number of students: 224

Grade levels: 6-8

**School Highlights**

* Choir and Band
* Visual Arts
* Jazz Band Grades 7 & 8
* Practical Arts
* Gator Aid: a focus on team building and sense of classroom community.
* Every Gator Reads: school-wide reading initiative
* Classroom Libraries



 “Nothing greater than being a gator!”

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*The Middle Years (Gr. 6 -8) provides a stimulating and supportive learning environment where high expectations, collaboration and continual learning are promoted.  Early adolescents have unique emotional, social and developmental characteristics.  Staffing, curricula and programming in middle schools are focused on meeting these needs.  The programs in the Middle Years build on the programming in the Early Years.*

*hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.*

**Last Year’s Broad Areas of Focus (2022-2023)**

Literacy:

* Students will improve on communicating their learning and thinking through writing.
* Students will improve their ability to share their thinking, and respond critically in writing across all disciplines.

Numeracy:

* Students will demonstrate growth in their ability to represent their understanding of numbers. Students will demonstrate their ability to represent numbers or values in various forms (percent, ratio, fraction, decimal etc.). Students will be flexible and fluid using multiple representations to show their understanding in various contexts. Students will recognize problems (visuals, word problems, expressions, equations, ect.).

***What Did the Evidence of Student Learning Tell Us?***

In literacy, the evidence of student learning directed us to focus on revision in writing as well as implementing reading conferences in our English Language Arts classes.

In terms of numeracy, it was determined that students need a deeper understanding of numbers and concepts, connecting symbolic representations to visual, physical, contextual and verbal representations.

Through surveys and observations, it was evident that creating a mental health and wellness goal would be beneficial for our students.

**Extra-Curricular Activities**

At Golden Gate, we have a wide variety of extra-curricular activities for students to participate in. Participating in one or more of these activities is a great way for students to get connected to the school community.

Extra- Curricular Activities include:

* Badminton
* Basketball
* Bowling
* Ultimate
* Cross County
* Curling
* Intramural Sports
* Volleyball
* Manufacturing Club
* GSA
* Flag Football
* Track
* Fitness Facility
* Games Club
* Yearbook
* Yarnology
* Kickboxing

***Anticipated Next Steps***

**Literacy:** Students will use previous on demand writing and rubric for writing behaviors, focus on editing and revising, provide more opportunities for authentic writing. Reading conferences will be implemented in ELA classes.

**Numeracy:** Continue to provide learning opportunities to see math in other subjects, continue to implement spiral curriculum and cumulative review, as well as apply mathematics in real life applications. Provide students with the opportunity to use math manipulatives to demonstrate math concepts and number sense.

**Mental Health and Wellbeing:** Develop and implement a mental health and wellbeing goal.

**2023-2024 Planning & Goal Setting Process**

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline. The goal setting process begins in Spring as a part of the ongoing review of student data, Goals are developed around the needs and direction of the various departments with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus. The school plan is revisited by all teachers before finalizing the plan including collaboration with our Divisional Literacy and Numeracy Coaches as well as our Indigenous Support Teachers.

**2023-2024 Identified Areas of Focus**

**Literacy:**

1. A focus on editing written work, specifically revision, will provide students with the opportunity to enhance the clarity and complexity of their written texts.
2. Implementing reading conferences is a valuable aspect of monitoring student reading comprehension. These conferences may help teachers understand how students comprehend and interpret texts. Using this information, teachers will help students select texts and identify reading strategies that may need to be reinforced or learned.

**Numeracy:**

1. With a deeper understanding of numbers and concepts students will be better equipped to think flexibly, make connections between concepts and accurately describe their mathematical reasoning. This should help support their mathematical thinking and reasoning in all areas of mathematics including mental math and problem solving.

**Mental Health and Well-Being:**

1. We will work to create a more inclusive environment that promotes deeper connections and helps students feel supported, valued, and welcome. We will be following the Mamahtawisiwin document as a framework for developing authentic connections within the school, home, and larger community.