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**GOISD Bergland Office** 



**GOISD Ewen Office** 

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Remarkable People Doing Remarkable Work

I am often asked about the role of the Intermediate School District as I meet with different people and groups throughout Gogebic and Ontonagon counties. As I launch into my explanation of what we do, my favorite part of the story is talking about the work that the staff at the Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD does for students, educators, parents, and communities.

The Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD works with six school districts and one private school in our region to provide a wide array of services to help students succeed. The list of programs and services is quite extensive. At a glance, these services include Reading and Literacy coaching for teachers, Career and Technical Education courses for high school students, an Early College Program, Occupational and Physical Therapy services, Pre-Kindergarten programming, and Business Support services for local school districts.

The people who do this work are truly remarkable. They have a passion for the work they do and are champions for children every day. I am pleased to share our 2022-2023 Annual Report with you, and I am proud of what our staff has accomplished over the past year. As you will read in the report, there are remarkable people doing remarkable work on behalf of children in our region!

Alan Tulppo, ED.S

SUPERINTENDENT

## Meet the ADMINISTRATION



Alan Tulppo, ED.S SUPERINTENDENT



Tammy Gibson
DIRECTOR OF
BUSINESS AND
FINANCE



Patty Ollila
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
OF BUSINESS AND
FINANCE



Megan Hagen
GENERAL EDUCATION
DIRECTOR



Ashley Nevins
CAREER & TECHNICAL
EDUCATION DIRECTOR



Meghan Lane EC EDUCATION DIRECTOR



Matt Jacques
CENTER BASED
PROGRAMS PRINCIPAL



**Deb Zellinski**DIRECTOR OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION



Rebecca Samson SUPERVISOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



Heidi Lauzon
ASSOCIATE SPECIAL
EDUCATION DIRECTOR

## Meet the BOARD OF EDUCATION



**Jim Ojala**PRESIDENT



**Bill Steiger**VICE PRESIDENT



Ann Wuorinen SECRETARY



Marti Wegner TREASURER



Carol Yakovich
TRUSTEE



Catherine Shamion TRUSTEE



Russ Bailey
TRUSTEE

# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

160 students served in CTE during 2022-2023 School Year



CTE expanded program opportunities during the 22-23 school year. New program opportunities were available in Automotive and work-based learning internship programs.

#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

In partnership with Gogebic Community College, Automotive offers dual enrollment credit. Students use a variety of automotive tools and equipment to learn about braking systems, steering and suspension, electrical systems, engine repair and performance, transmission and drivetrain, and so much more.



#### **CTE INTERNSHIPS**

CTE work-based learning internship programs provide opportunities for students to learn from our local industry experts in their environment.



William Snow, a Watersmeet Senior, completed his CTE internship at LVD Building Trades.

William spent the year learning about many aspects of basic carpentry and construction under the mentorship of Tom Richardson.

Additional internship programs were available at Ottawa National Forest - JW Toumey Nursery, Big Valley Ford of Ewen, Ewen Building Supply, Trident Maritime Systems LLC, and Napa M64 Auto in Ontonagon.

# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

#### **GOISD CTE Teacher Academy**



#### **GOISD CTE TEACHER ACADEMY**

A new CTE Program is available starting with the 2023-2024 School Year. By enrolling in the GOISD Teacher Academy, students will learn about what is needed to grow into future early childhood education professionals, paraprofessionals, and teachers!

Students will also get the opportunity for job placements in early childhood settings and to serve as teacher assistants within their local school districts.

#### **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

Students in the CTE Business
Management Program completed
business plans for their own food truck and
presented to mock investors at the end of
the school year.

Their plans included a management plan, financial plan, marketing analysis, and operations.



#### **FOOD SYSTEMS - NATURAL RESOURCES**

The CTE Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources students and their teacher, Ms. Wardynski organized a petting zoo for some of the local school districts. The students researched a particular animal, prepared an informational poster, and answered student questions. This was a fun and educational experience for elementary students.





# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

#### **CADD AND CONSTRUCTION**

Career & Technical Education held a non-traditional careers day to allow students an opportunity to explore non-traditional careers.

Interested 10th-11th grade girls spent time exploring CADD and Construction programs. The goal was for them to be introduced to programs and future career options.

In construction they learned about safely using different power tools. They practiced with drills, used a skilsaw, and compound miter saw. They also toured the 2023 project home and learned about different aspects involved in construction.

In CADD they were able to design a small 3d part with the help of current CADD student mentors. They learned some basics of using CADD software and careers opportunities.





#### WELDING

The Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD CTE welding program in Ontonagon completed a community service project for the Village of Ontonagon. Willie DuPont, Village Manager, visited the welding program at the Ontonagon Area School District on April 14th to receive two fire pits created by the students. Community service opportunities like this help support career readiness and prepare students to become effective leaders. The GOISD CTE program is offered in both Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties. This year a total of 46 students are enrolled in the program instructed by Mr. Lutz, teacher, and Mr. Picotte, Paraprofessional.



# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION



## CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT Finning Ceremony

#### **CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT**

The CTE Certified Nursing Assistant Program held its 1st annual CNA pinning ceremony at Gogebic Community College.

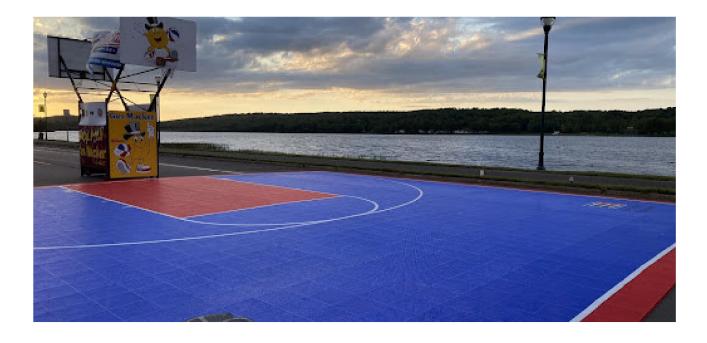
The pinning ceremony represents students that have met the educational requirements and are willing to care for those that are sick and vulnerable. 16 students received their CNA pin this school year.





The **Great Start Collaborative** and the City of Wakefield partner to bring the Gus Macker to Wakefield. This 3 on 3 basketball tournament is located on M-28 in front of the Wakefield-Marenisco School. The Gus Macker tournament is designed for people who love the excitement of driveway basketball, male or female, ages of 7-70 plus, short and tall, the most experienced, or those with little or no experience who just want to play. The goal of having the Gus Macker is to fundraise money to put back into our community, focusing on the children. We want to create a long-term community event, bring people to our community, help local businesses, and help support local children. Our ultimate goal is to build a children's museum in Wakefield, bringing our local history into the hands and minds of children. We want to target surrounding area children and tourists with educational opportunities.





Our **Ontonagon County GSC Parent Liaison** goes into the in home daycares and reads to the children and does crafts with them.





Our Gogebic County Great Start Collaborative partners with the MSUE (Michigan State University Extension) office for the **knapsack program**. For each school break (Spring, Thanksgiving & Christmas) we pack food bags for the families I need. We pack three meals a day for the time the children are off school. Each year the Center Based classrooms help pack the bags. This year the Ironwood Police Dept helped us deliver the bags.





An awesome event for the Great Start Collaborative and HeadStart in Ontonagon! So grateful for the wonderful partnership and all of the families that came out to pumpkin paint, carve and Halloween craft. We had such fun!



Family Scavenger Hunt. Each week during the summer, clues are posted on our Facebook page and the families find a bag full of educational goodies.

Both Gogebic and Ontonagon

Counties have an annual Summer







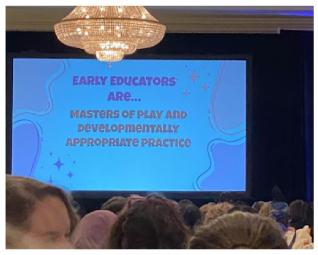
We continue to grow our Community/Foster Closets in both counties. We work closely with MDHHS (Michigan Department of Health & Human Services) to help foster families adequately provide for foster children in need.



GSRP staff attended the **HighScope 2023**International Conference in Ypsilanti Michigan!
Thank you to these ladies for the amazing work they do every day!







Coleman Engineering delivered a truck load of books to the Wakefield GSRP to celebrate reading with Michigan Construction.





Mrs. Rooni and Mrs. Anderson's class took a nature hike looking for signs of spring. They found worms, Robins, bugs, dirt piles, squirrels, and much more. It was perfect day to get outside. The kids had a blast!



Mrs. Ahonen's class enjoyed finding colored hearts that were hidden around our classroom and making crowns, "delivering" valentines to our friends, and finishing the day with heart-shaped ice cream sandwiches and cookies for snack. It was a great day!

Mrs. Rooni and Mrs. Anderson's class took advantage of the beautiful day and went on a spring scavenger hunt.







Mrs. Rooni and Mrs. Ahonen's GSRP class had a visit from two Ironwood Red Devil football players. They read the story "Creepy Pair of Underwear!" Thank you so much Cody Dabb and Aiden Craig for taking the time from your day. You guys did a great job interacting with the kids. You made some littles very happy. Lots of excitement!

At Little Learners Early Childhood Center, our staff always has fun through various activities, such as coloring in different ways to engage them. We encourage literacy and learning through play.

# Little Learners Early Childhood Center











During the month of March, Little Learners participated in fun sensory and exploration activities related to spring break.





At Little Learners the Summer Care students are doing an activity off of the **Michigan Learning Channel** and doing a presentation to their peers of what they learned.







Little Learners collaborated with the Carnegie Library in Ironwood to teach the children new and fun cooking techniques.





Our Little Learners Center collaborated with Elise Besonen, a current college student majoring in music, to teach and engage our center and summer care student's music through instruments and singing.

As the state continues to fund initiatives the **General Education Department** continues to grow. Our department offers academic services, social emotional supports and services, professional development, and is a resource for our local school districts.



As an ISD we are committed to building capacity in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). We continue with exploration and the beginning stages of implementation of effective MTSS systems. This past year our MTSS Coordinator, Holly Caudill, led the efforts of scaling up our ISD capacity to support Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS).





### Community Education Association Regional Spelling Bee

The Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District hosted the **2023 Western Upper Peninsula UPCEA Regional Spelling Bee**.

Six schools were represented by a total of twenty-one 5th-8th grade students who qualified as top finishers of their District. The Regional Bee was coordinated by Megan Hagen, facilitated by the word caller, Jan Massie, and GOISD Literacy Consultant Michelle Trier and and GOISD staff member Kristie Peterson served as judges.



**Judges** Kristie Peterson, Michelle Trier and **Word Caller**, Jan Massie



Fifth-grade: runner-up: Arabella Smith, Bessemer Area Schools; champion: Meghan Ferguson, Ewen-Trout Creek; alternate: Carson Freeman, Ironwood Area Schools.



**Sixth-grade:** runner-up: Keyhan Verrett, Bessemer Area Schools; champion: Braylee Chernach, West-Iron County; alternate: Freya Slaughter, Ironwood.



Seventh-grade: runner-up, Calyn Jukkala, West-Iron County; champion: Bree Besonen, Ewen-Trout Creek; alternate: Abigail Ruotsala, Bessemer Area Schools.



**Eighth-grade:** runner-up: Toby Bergland, Ewen-Trout Creek; champion: Lacy Mattson, West-Iron County; alternate: Isaac Schwartz, Ironwood Area Schools.



#### **Health Resource Advocates (HRA)**

The GOISD received funding to add two certified nurses to our team. Over the last two years they have provided front-line support for COVID-19 testing and reporting, helped identify emerging COVID-19 related health concerns, amplified best health practices, and also engaged in related wellness services, such as mental health and wellness, health education, student health needs, and nutrition.

The HRAs work with each school to address needs. Some of the services and trainings that they offer are listed below:

- Chronic Disease Education, Student Health Management Plans (diabetic students, seizure disorders, allergies, asthma, Gl disorders etc...)
- Active team members for IEPs and 504s that require a medical plan.
- · Assist teams with Individual Medical Plans
- Creating MERT teams (Medical Emergency Response Teams)
- Emergency Response Trainings to Medically Fragile Students
- Medication Administration Training
- Stop the Bleed
- CPR/AED/FIRST AID TRAINING



Our GOISD General Education team welcomed students who registered for kindergarten at GOISD schools for the 2023-24 school year with a free "Pete the Cat" book.









#### **Michigan Literacy Essentials**

Our literacy team provides training, coaching and support around The Michigan Literacy Essentials. The <u>Literacy Essentials</u> are free documents designed for Michigan educators to improve childhood literacy development. They provide research-proven, effective approaches to improve literacy skills. Our Literacy Team provides training around Foundational reading skills, differentiated instruction, literacy instructional best practices, data interpretation, and literacy integration,





and the SOLID Start Initiative (Science, Oral Language, and Literacy Development from the Start of school). It is a hands-on, cross-curricular science curriculum.

This year, our coach, Michelle Trier, was selected to work as part of a Read by Grade 3 Literacy Coaching Study, in partnership with Bessemer Area Schools and Michigan State University.











## **SOLID START** Lessons





### **Congratulations to the 2023 GOISD Reading Challenge winners!**













#### **Social Work Services**

Since the fiscal year 2018-19, the Michigan Legislature has allocated funds to intermediate districts to add licensed behavioral health providers in schools. These funds have been labeled as 31N funds. The overall intent of 31N is to increase the provision of mental health and support services in schools for general education students throughout Michigan. GOISD has utilized 31N funds to improve mental health outcomes for students by providing support across all six districts in our ISD, as well as establishing community partners. This has resulted in a range of services including, but not limited to, individual therapy, group therapy, brief interaction, crisis response, consultation, and case management/care coordination.

The receipt of 31N funds has allowed us to expand our services and increase access in order to meet the needs of general education students in our schools/community. Our 31N staff have also provided student, family, and community crisis intervention, training around Zones of Regulation, Mental Health First Aid, Anxiety in Children, Adolescents, and Adults, and Social Emotional Learning and Supports, and provided classroom coaching and behavioral support for school staff and students.

This past year we piloted a new approach with our delivery of social work services. Since the introduction of 31N, students would receive general education social work services (funded by 31N), or special education social work services (students would have to have an IEP). Both funding streams had strict rules about provider requirements and supplementing vs. supplanting services. We quickly realized that the requirements of the funding streams were creating barriers for students and providers. Staff credentials and the vast geography of the ISD provided challenges. In an effort to put student needs first we decided to blend funding streams. This effort opened up the range of students each social worker could work with, and the services they could provide.



Our Master's Level Social Workers now are required to hold the School Social Work credential. Our staff now spends less time traveling from school to school and are able to spend more direct time with students. school staff, and families. The impacts of a consistent social work presence in the GOISD districts have been astounding. For this reason we have considered the pilot a success and will continue to provide Social Work Services in this format.

A Highlight of Mental Health Services and Supports Provided to Students

#### 2019-2020 School Year

57 Students Receiving Direct Services

22 Group Therapy Sessions

#### 2020-2021 School Year

78 Students Receiving Direct Services

755 Individual Therapy Sessions

15 Instances of Crisis Response

30 Family Sessions

#### 2021-2022 School Year

112 Students Receiving Direct Services

1200 Individual therapy sessions

80 Group Therapy Sessions

20 Instances of crisis response

30 Family sessions

#### 2022-2023 School Year

207 Students Receiving Direct Services

3256 Individual therapy sessions

302 Group Therapy Sessions

121 Instances of crisis response

28 Family sessions

#### 8 • Thursday, February 2, 2023

#### PROGRESS

THE GLOBE . YOURDAILYGLOBE.COM

### Wakefield-Marenisco students experience mindfulness

By P.J. GLISSON

WAKEFIELD - On recent day in Wakefield-Marenisco K-12 School, students in Hirabeth Bil-lie's second lie's second grade class-room took a break from standard academic learn-

Instead, they engaged in that social worker Jamie Fioracci calls a mindful-

ness exercise. Such activities can be applied in a variety of ways, but in this case, Fioracci explained to the kids that she would play two different types of music for them.

The idea was not to earn about the songs or the genre or about artistic form, but simply for each child to listen to the music and to his or her own feel-

As the students did so, they also were encouraged to draw a picture.

As Fiorucci explained to The Globe before the exer-cise began, "They're going to draw as to how they

Florucci asked the kids to think about how they wished to express them-selves with colors and shapes. "It doesn't have to be perfect," she assured.

The first song played was mellow, instrumental

During this segment,



SECOND GRADERS in the Wakefield-Marenisco K-12 School engage in a mindfulness exercise under the direction of Social Worker Jamie Fiorucci, LMSW, NPI, standing at right. Kneeling to help one student at left is Rachael Paquette. Teacher Elizabeth Billie is not shown. The photo was taken on Jan. 26.

students applied themselves to their artwork quietly in the classroom with its turquoise walls, red and

in the control of the hands went up and song — "U bright colors in general of the hands went up and song — "U bright colors in general of the hands went up and song — "U bright colors in general smiles, trees, and bright colors in general song — "U bright color

Hammer - exuded a whole new energy. As soon as it started playing, some of the kids were half-dancing in their seats, captivated by the beat. Even the teacher and classroom aide Rachael Paquette couldn't

resist bopping their heads. After both songs were

complete, Fiorucci asked any kids who wished to share the artwork they created for each song.

consistent positivity to the images before her while not comparing any of the expressions. The exercise appeared

to refresh the kids at the start of their afternoon

According to psycholodepression can increase restlessness, headaches and lack of focus, whereas activities in mindfulness reduce those conditions and even have a measurable impact in relation to

decreasing blood pres-

sure

The site adds that mindfulness exercises also counties, increase patience, curiosi She sa tioning and feelings of con-

Fiorucci is one of seven loral support.

by the Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District.

According to Megan Hagen, director of educa-tion for GOISD, they are shared among the six school districts in the two

She said that, as needed. they provide therapy, support and crisis intervention, and even some behavhave a social worker in each school four to five days a week.

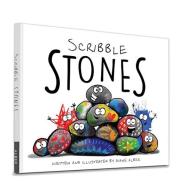
The positions have been funded by government grants.

GOISD has offices in Bergland and Ewen, both in Ontonagon County. For more information on its trict's Facebook page. which has a connection to its website at goisd.org.



Kindergarten students read the book Scribble Stones by Diane Alber, a book about a little stone who thinks he will become something amazing but then soon realizes he had become a dull paper weight. He's on a mission to become something greater and in the process meets scribble and splatter and they all come up a creative way to bring joy to thousands of people. After reading the story the kindergarteners painted rocks and created their own Scribble Stones (pictured below).





# SPECIAL EDUCATION

## The GOISD Center-Based Program is operated by the Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District.

Our Program serves students who are Moderately Cognitively Impaired, Severely Cognitively Impaired, Severely Multiply Impaired, and Autistic Impaired. Students range in age from 3 to 26 years.







# Each classroom provides individualized instructional programs for students which may include:

- Academics
- · Communication & Language
- Vocational Education
- Independent Living
- Social-Emotional Skills
- Motor Development
- · Physical Education
- · Personal Care



## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Early On is Michigan's system for helping families of infants and toddlers, birth to age 3 who have developmental delay(s) and/or disabilities. Early On supports and partners with families to promote the development of their infants and toddlers in developmental areas, such as:



- Physical (reaching, rolling, crawling, and walking)
- Cognitive (thinking, learning, solving problems)
- Communication (talking, listening, understanding, gesturing)
- Social-emotional (feeling secure, able to calm, playing with others)
- Self-help (eating, dressing)

Early On partners with families, using their daily routines to work on supporting the growth and development of their babies.

During the first three years of life, a baby's brain grows and changes dramatically. Early On emphasizes early identification and early referral to minimize delays and maximize developmental outcomes. Understanding your child's development may help you recognize if your child needs a referral.

Current Numbers for Early On in the GOISD

40 Total students are currently receiving services through Early On

5 students are currently receiving services through the Michigan Mandatory Special Education





## SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District employs diagnostic and ancillary staff members that provide special education services benefiting students throughout Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties. A full complement of these staff provide school based services to support successful student engagement and progress in school learning

#### These staff members include:

- School Psychologists
- School Social Workers
- Behavior Intervention Specialist
- Speech and Language Pathologists
- Occupational Therapists/Assistants
- Physical Therapists/Assistants
- · Consultation services, as needed
- Teacher Consultant

#### <u>Special Education count/number of students receiving services:</u>

Direct programming 370 Number of reevaluations: 150 GOISD Wide

Ancillary Services 325 Initial evaluations: 85 GOISD Wide

#### PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

Michigan law requires that each Intermediate School District (ISD) have a special education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). This committee consists of one to two parent representatives from each of the six local school districts in the Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District. The committee's role is advisory to the GOISD special education administration, and parent representatives serve as liaisons between other parents they represent and the local special education administrator in their resident district. The PAC meets monthly, and meetings are open to all parents and other persons interested in special education within Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties. Members of the GOISD Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) are parents of students with disabilities. Their top priority is to inform and communicate with other parents of students with disabilities in their district. Contact your PAC representative if you have questions or concerns about special education programs, services and/or student issues in your district or school.

#### What We Do:

- Improve knowledge of the educational system through diverse learning opportunities
- Communicate up-to-date changes and trends in the educational system
- Provide opportunities for parent feedback
- Mentor parents

#### **Our Mission:**

Supporting and informing families to promote more positive educational outcomes for children with special needs

#### How does a parent join the PAC?

All parent representatives must have a child or children with an IEP who are currently receiving Special Education services. If you are interested in becoming involved with the PAC, contact Heidi Lauzon at (906)-575-3438 or at hlauzon@goisd.org.

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Greetings from the Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD Business Department. I can't believe a whole year has gone by since I started working for the GOISD. It's been a flurry of budget proposals and amendments, grant applications and final expenditure reports, payroll and accounts payable processes, local district business services and support, and on and on! The year has gone by in a blur, but I'm excited to be a part of this team. I've seen first hand the passion and enthusiasm the staff have for the vision and goals of the GOISD. Each one has been supportive and encouraging as I have found my place here in the Business Office.

In January our department grew to five employees when we added another Business Office Assistant. Our staff currently consists of myself as Director of Finance, Patty Ollila as Assistant Director of Finance, Carole Robl as Business Office Specialist, Jackie Pintar as Business Office Assistant and our latest addition Shannon Kin as Business Office Assistant. I'm amazed at how quickly we have grown into an extremely functional team!

Our 2021-22 fiscal audit was performed in October by Hungerford Nichols, CPAs. The GOISD had a clean audit with no findings or material weaknesses. We continue to operate with sound fiscal practices giving us the financial stability to keep providing services and support to our local districts.

This year we began providing business services to two additional organizations - the Ewen-Trout Creek School District and MAISA. Carole Robl, our Business Office Specialist, has been the point person for the contract with MAISA and the payroll specialist for Ewen-Trout Creek. With the addition of the new contracts we have restructured our workflow in a manner that allows us to take advantage of each individual's strengths and skill set.

We plan to continue building relationships with our local district's business office staff and hope to engage in some group activities over the next year. I'm looking forward to another year of growth as we face our upcoming challenges and celebrate our accomplishments!

Tammy Gibson
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE





## **Connect with Us!**

Main Phone Line: 906-575-3438

#### **Department Extensions:**

Business and Finance 1	100
Career and Technical Education2	400
Early Childhood Education2	200
General Education2	200
Grant Management1	00
Special Education	300
Superintendent 3	300

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