

## November Board Report

Susan Short

### School Highlights

- **SMILE Club – National Apple Day**

On October 21st, our SMILE Club helped spread fall cheer by offering teachers sliced apples with all the trimmings. This small act of kindness brought big smiles and helped boost morale during a busy time of the year.

- **Halloween Parade**

Our annual Halloween Parade was a great success, with students proudly showing off their costumes as they walked the neighborhood route. Families lined the sidewalks to cheer, making it a fun and festive community tradition.

- **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Parent/Teacher Conferences on November 4th were well attended.

**102 families** either came in person or participated in phone/virtual conferences with their child's teacher. We appreciate our families' partnership and engagement.

- **SBDM Council Returns to GES**

We are excited to welcome SBDM meetings back to our school.

Congratulations to our newly elected members:

**Catherine Salzman, Minh Vu, Andrew Carter, Katie Phillips, and Brooke Solzsmom.**

Our first meeting will be held **November 19th at 4:00 PM** in the GES Library.

- **TigerPRIDE October Positive Behavior Referral Challenge**

Teachers were encouraged to look for students going above and beyond in demonstrating TigerPRIDE. Students (and their teachers) who earned positive referrals were entered into a drawing.

**Congratulations to our winners: *Sidney Ferguson and Ms. Phillips.***

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### Teaching & Learning

#### November 12th – ELA Learning Walks

On November 12th, district leadership, school administrators, and our State Literacy Coaching Specialist (SLCS), Allison Roth, conducted ELA Learning Walks during the literacy block.

**Purpose:**

To deepen our understanding of the Instructional Practice Guide (IPG) indicators, observe instructional trends, and gather information that will guide future professional learning and support.

**Process:**

- Completed 20-minute mini-observations in multiple classrooms
- Used the Instructional Practice Guide (IPG) tools for both reading/writing and foundational skills
- Engaged in collaborative conversations to calibrate observations, reflect on instructional practices, and identify next steps for teacher support

These learning walks support our continued focus on high-quality, standards-aligned ELA instruction.

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## Student Supports

- Our **Counseling Team**, in collaboration with our **SPF team** and **Mr. Forshey**, is leading social-emotional small groups for students identified through our Fall SEL Screener. These targeted supports aim to build student confidence, skills, and emotional regulation.
  - The **Family Resource Center (FRC)** is currently coordinating its November food drive and preparing holiday assistance for families in need.
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## Operations & Facilities

- **Construction Progress:**  
The new **GES gymnasium** is nearing completion and should be ready for student use next week. We will host a brief opening assembly on **November 18th** so

students can see their new space.

- **Elevator Repairs:**

We are hopeful to have the updated elevator back in use by **November 18th** as well.

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## Looking Ahead

- **November 21:** Classroom Holiday Parties
- **November 24–28:** Thanksgiving Break – School Closed
- **December 15:** Holiday Program at 6:00 PM in the new GES Gym