

August Board Report

Susan Short

Instruction / Curriculum

Professional Learning

In addition to preparing their classrooms, teachers participated in targeted professional development on:

- **Student Engagement** – strategies to increase participation and ownership in learning
- **Educator Wellness** – tools and practices to support staff well-being
- **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** – fostering a positive school climate
- **Implementing *Character Strong*** – our social-emotional learning curriculum

GES Literacy Vision

- Teachers collaborated with our Literacy Coach to create a shared **GES Literacy Vision** that will guide instruction and student growth in reading and writing.
- The Literacy Vision includes our passion for preparing our students not only for academic success, but to become lifelong learners, informed citizens, and effective communicators in a changing world.

New Student Offerings:

Tiger Tracks to Success

- New Special Area class designed for **K–5 students** to explore their futures through engaging, age-appropriate lessons.
- Focus areas include **social-emotional wellness, college and career awareness, and personal goal-setting**.
- Examples:
 - **Kindergarten** – learning about community helpers; Explicit, direct instruction of character development competencies
 - **5th Grade** – mapping out future aspirations and personal goals; aligned to

our Portrait of a Graduate.

- Students will develop skills in **goal setting**, **teamwork**, and **decision-making**—helping them discover their strengths and envision the path that’s right for them.

Girls on the Run

- Thank you to Tiffany Hicks for bringing this program back to GES!
 - **Girls on the Run** is an after-school program for 3rd–5th grade girls that inspires confidence, healthy habits, and life skills through lessons and running.
 - Builds confidence and self-esteem
 - Promotes teamwork and positive choices
 - Teaches goal-setting and resilience
 - Prepares for and completes a celebratory 5K
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Construction

Building Readiness

- Construction crews, maintenance staff, and school personnel are working diligently to prepare for the school year.
- **Classroom Temperatures:** Currently in the 80s, with air conditioning expected to be operational soon.
- **New Furniture:** Teachers are eager to set up newly delivered student desks and flexible seating to enhance learning spaces.