



August 23, 2023

Dear Students, Parents, and Community Members,

On behalf of the Board of Education and our team of staff members, we want to welcome everyone to the 2023-2024 school year. We look forward to partnering with you for another year of learning, growing, and achieving here in the Glenwood City School District. Our team of dedicated staff members has been busy preparing for the upcoming school year as we welcome over 683 students through our doors for a personalized educational journey.

I am humbled and honored to be a part of this community and am looking forward to developing a learning partnership with the students, staff, parents, board of education, and community of Glenwood City. With experience as an educator and administrator at all three K-12 levels, this will be my tenth year as a district administrator, with previous opportunities in both Prairie Farm and New Richmond. I am excited at the opportunity to work and make a difference with the dedicated staff at Glenwood City. It is our priority to build a family environment that is centered around collaboration, high expectations, and support for both students, staff, and the community as a whole. Actions speak louder than words and trust can only be given. As a District, we are committed to building your trust. I am confident that we will work together to accomplish our number one goal of doing what is right for our students and overcome any obstacles that may come our way. Just remember, **WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!**

Please join me by welcoming our new team members to the GCSO:

Amanda Eder – Custodial
Jacob Maes – Business and Marketing Teacher
Frank Kohler – Director of Information Technology
Amanda Larson – Occupational Therapy
Evelyn Kasseth – Grade 2 Long Term Substitute
Lytha Lyons – Kindergarten Long Term Substitute

Eva Groth – MS/HS Special Education Teacher
Bonnie Barker – School Psychologist
Erin Spaeth – Student Services Director
Jenna Bialik – Speech/Language Pathologist
Kristine Vickers – 2nd Grade Teacher
Shanna Hoffman – 4K Teacher

As a District, we will be developing the framework of a strategic plan, similar to a roadmap, that will guide us for the next 5 years and BEYOND. Strategic planning is an ongoing process that requires time, effort, and continual reflection. This roadmap is used to prioritize efforts, effectively allocate resources, align shareholders on the District's goals, and ensure these goals are backed by data and sound reasoning. Without question, there are many reasons to be proud of the Glenwood City School District. Our students continue to excel in every area which includes the classroom, performing arts, extracurricular activities, and on the athletic field. Our team of staff members are highly qualified professionals, who care deeply about the success of all our students.

Below are the [2023-24 GCSO District Goals](#) formally set by the Board of Education on July 25, 2023.

- **English-Language Arts:** By grade, students' 4K-12 performance will increase five percentage points from fall to spring on FastBridge Assessments.
- **Math:** By grade, students' 4K-12 performance will increase five percentage points from fall to spring on FastBridge Assessments.
- **Every Student, Every Day:** GCSO will continue to build a District culture committed to high expectations, clear communication, and building positive relationships.

As a District, we are committed to making sure our students receive the best possible education based on our knowledge of their learning, where to take them next, and how to get them there! Student achievement remains our highest priority because when our children succeed, we all succeed due to the contributions young minds can make to our society and the communities in which we live.

In closing, as we move forward with our collaboration efforts, I invite you to think about a quote written by Anthony J. D'Angelo that still resonates today. Mr. Angelo said, "Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow." Thank you for the opportunity to serve your child(ren) and this community. We understand the very important role we play in the lives and futures of our children. The new school year lies ahead with exciting student learning opportunities and adventures to be had. May each of you and your families find fulfillment and joy all year long as together we will launch the best year yet for the Glenwood City School District.

Additional Information has already been sent out or will be forthcoming on the following topics:

- GCSO Open House (Wednesday, August 23, 2023)
 - GCE - 2:00PM TO 7:00 PM
 - GCMS/HS 4:30PM TO 6:00 PM
- Increased communication is a vital part of any type of relationship as **clarity creates confidence**. Please click [HERE](#) to view the 2023-24 Hilltopper Highlights or the GCSO communication archive [HERE](#).
- July 19, 2023 Storm Damage: Unfortunately, the District building and campus was hit hard. Click [HERE](#) to see campus video of the storm. We are currently working with EMC Insurance to fix a variety of items including the elementary roof, fascia around the entire building, fencing, press box, various technology items due to an electrical surge, and much more.
- CTE, FACS, and Lavatory Remodel: This project is in the final stages of completion. Once this area is complete, we would like to invite the community in for a tour and celebrate this new learning space. There will be more information to come on this event.
- New Glenwood City Elementary Student Drop-Off: This updated process allows for families to safely drop off their child(ren). Please click [HERE](#) to view map and read instructions.
- GCSO Budget and Annual Meeting Presentation Click [HERE](#)



Please feel free to contact me anytime with comments, questions, or concerns. With the new year getting underway, we invite everyone to learn more about GCSO by visiting our website at gcsd.k12.wi.us We also encourage you to connect with us on Facebook and Instagram to receive daily updates on all the great experiences we are having here at the Glenwood City School District.

Respectfully,

Patrick B. Olson
District Administrator

Home of the Hilltoppers