

JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS –DISTRICT 86

Gompers Junior High School

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Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Gompers Junior High School! This handbook has been prepared for both students and parents. We hope this information will help you understand the policies and procedures of our school and District 86. We feel we can offer an outstanding educational experience because we have a dedicated and professional staff. We are committed to our goals and hope you will join us as partners.

The intention of this handbook is to provide you and your child with the necessary information for a positive junior high experience. Please read this book carefully. All of the items referenced in this booklet serve an important role in maintaining the integrity of our academic programs and upholding the safety of our students. The faculty and staff look forward to working with you. We encourage your participation in the educational process. We welcome you at all activities.

It is important for all students to take advantage of everything Gompers has to offer. Many opportunities exist and we encourage students to explore, learn and grow. Again, we welcome you and look forward to our best school year yet. It takes all of us working together to provide the environment that is most conducive to learning. We hope your time at Gompers Junior High School will be happy and rewarding.

Sincerely,

Constance Russell

Principal

SECTION ONE: GENERAL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL OF STUDENTS

No student will be permitted to enter the building before the regular entrance time of 7:40 a.m. unless he/she has written permission from a teacher. All students are to report to their grade level area as soon as they arrive on school grounds. Students are prohibited from leaving school grounds for any reason. Congregation behind the gym area may lead to disciplinary action.

Students that are car riders need to be dropped off on the Briggs Street parking lot. Parents are to use the designated car lanes when dropping off students. When dropping off students, parents must adhere to the following procedures at all times:

- Follow all directions given by Gompers Staff.
- Don't change lanes after entering the Gompers drop-off lanes.
- If you are in the left lane you must exit left onto Briggs St.
- If you are in the right lane you must exit right onto Briggs St.
- Be mindful of students getting out of cars.
- Be patient and safe as you get out of the parking lot.

All students must adhere to the following procedures upon arrival.

- **Sixth Grade** - Sixth grade students will enter the building at approximately 7:30 a.m. Students will enter through door #8 and proceed to the auditorium hallway. Door # 8 is located across the band room entrance. Students will get in line and wait till they are dismissed to their lockers. Sixth grade students that have signed up for breakfast need to report directly to the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. The 6th grade Academic Advisor will supervise students in the auditorium hallway.
- **Seventh Grade** – Seventh grade students will report to the area directly outside the breezeway. Upon arrival, boys must line up against the wall and girls line up on the right hand side by the row of bushes. Seventh grade students remain outside until regular entrance time. Seventh grade students that have signed up for breakfast need to report directly to the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. Students will be allowed to go inside the building if it is raining or if the weather is below 20 degrees.
- **Eighth Grade** – Eighth grade students must report to the area directly outside the main office by the Copperfield entrance. Eighth grade students that ride the bus or get dropped off at the Briggs Street parking lot must go through the breezeway to get to their designated area. Upon arrival, boys must line up on the sidewalk leading from the breezeway to the main office. Girls must line up on the sidewalk that leads to the top of the playing field. Eighth grade students remain outside until regular entrance time. Eighth grade students that have signed up for breakfast need to report directly to the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. Students will be allowed to go inside the building if it is raining or if the weather is below 20 degrees.

ATTENDANCE

The primary responsibility for student attendance rests with a student's parent(s) or guardian(s). When a student misses school, they miss learning. Absences from school are not conducive to the mission of School District 86 nor to the education of the student.

Absence Calls – In case of an absence or tardiness, the parent is required to render a satisfactory excuse to the school office. Calls to report absences should be made between 7:30 and 9:00 AM. Parents should call (815)727-5276 to report an absence. A call by the parent or guardian is required on every day of the absence. If a child is absent from school and the school has not been notified by 9:00 A.M., Gompers Jr. High School is required by law to contact the student's parent or guardian. Parents or guardians will be contacted by the District's automated attendance system. It is very important that parents provide and maintain at least one valid, current telephone number where the parent or other responsible adult can be reached in the event of an emergency.

Absence Notes – If a parent or guardian does not report the absence and our automated system fails to make contact with the parent or guardian, a written excuse signed by the parent must be brought to school upon the student's return to school. If a student has been absent for three or more days, a doctor's note may be required.

Unexcused Absences – All pupils must attend school regularly or give a valid excuse for any absence from school. Valid excused absences as determined by Section 26-2a of the Illinois School Code include illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, any other such circumstances beyond the control of the student as determined by the principal, and other circumstances which cause reasonable concern to the parent for the safety or health of the student.

Excessive Absences/Truancy – State law requires that all children between the ages of 7 and 17 attend school when it is in session. When a student's absence is without valid cause or is excessive the student may be considered **truant**. Any student who is absent from school without valid cause such as illness or other emergencies shall be reported to the Attendance Caseworker for immediate action.

Vacations/Family Trips - We stress the idea that all of our students need to be at school each day and cannot afford to miss school for extended periods of time. We strongly encourage parents to plan trips and vacations to coincide with school holidays and breaks. When a vacation or family trip must be taken during school time, a note concerning the trip should be sent to the office at least one week in advance of the student's trip. All absences due to vacations during the school year will be marked as unexcused absences.

Signing Out students – For the safety of all students, it is very important for us to be able to account for their attendance throughout the day. Therefore, it is very important that parents sign out their child if he/she is to be released early from school. In order for us to release any student, parents or guardians must present a photo ID. Anyone picking up a child from school who is not currently listed on the child's registration record will not be allowed to take the child. Parents will be contacted.

Absence and School Activities – Students who are absent for any reason may not participate in or attend any after-school activities.

CAFETERIA

Our cafeteria provides breakfast and lunch to all students. All students interested in receiving breakfast must sign up by Wednesday in order to receive breakfast the following week. Students sign up in the cafeteria during their regularly scheduled lunch period. Students on free or reduced lunch will also receive free or reduced breakfast. Breakfast is served from 7:30 till 7:45 a.m. each day.

All District students are eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch each school day.

A student wishing to purchase a second lunch may do so for \$2.00 each.

A student wishing to bring a lunch from home may of course do so, however if the student would like milk they must pay \$.35 per carton. The District does not participate in the free milk program.

As in previous years each student is required to have an **id** to receive a breakfast and/or lunch.

Breakfast counts will continue to be placed on Friday for the following week. Students not ordering breakfast will not receive a breakfast unless there are extra breakfasts available. Lunch counts will be placed daily.

Lunch schedules for the 2013-2014 school year:

- 6th Grade Lunch Time11:15 – 11:45
- 7th Grade Lunch Time.....11:58 – 12:28
- 8th Grade Lunch Time.....12:41– 1:11

Cafeteria Behavior Expectations

- Students are to come into the cafeteria quietly and go directly to their assigned seats.
- No one leaves their seat without permission.
- Students are to have their feet under the table and out of the aisle.
- Nothing is to be thrown.
- Students are to use a conversational tone of voice.
- No student will be allowed to leave the cafeteria. Students must use the washroom or purchase juice/water before coming into the cafeteria.
- Students will quiet down as dismissal begins.

Consequences

- **1st Time a student chooses to not follow directions** – verbal warning will be given
- **2nd Time a student chooses to not follow directions** – Student will receive a lunch detention for the next day, and a phone call will be made to parents.
- **3rd Time a student chooses to not follow directions** – Student will receive an after school detention, and removal from cafeteria.
- 3 after school detentions due to cafeteria behavior may result in an **out of school suspension**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/TELEPHONE

It is extremely important that we have the latest emergency contact information on all of our students. We must be informed of any change of address and/or telephone number as soon as possible.

COMMUNICATION

District 86 uses a recorded telephone message system to communicate with district families. This system is used to share important information such as school closings, and or emergencies that significantly disrupt the normal school day operations.

The District 86 website is another medium that is utilized by the district for information dissemination. Parents are encouraged to visit the website (www.joliet86.org) in order to stay informed.

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily announcements are made at the beginning and end of each school day. It is very important that students listen to the daily announcements as they provide important information about school related activities, special events and changes in procedures. Students are responsible for knowing this information.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Gompers expects students to behave in an orderly and appropriate manner with respect for the rules of School District 86 and Gompers Junior High School. Students who choose to behave in an inappropriate manner will be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

The faculty and staff of Gompers Junior High School have established a climate of respect and support between and among each other. Each teacher has established classroom rules that align with school expectations. Teachers are very supportive of their students and their needs. Thus, students are expected to seek out the assistance of their teachers and/or academic advisor when they are confronted with problems. If, however, at any point a problem arises between students, any actions taken by students must stop immediately once the teacher is present.

Academic Advisors - Gompers Junior High School has three academic advisors who are assigned to a grade level. The role of the academic advisor is to assist students so they may be successful in school. If a student experiences a problem in school, then the student should seek out the assistance of the grade level academic advisor. Students are discouraged from taking matters into their own hands. The advisor can assist students with possible solutions, support, or other appropriate options. Additionally, the academic advisor is a link between parents, students, and teachers. Parents are encouraged to periodically speak with the academic advisor as a follow up to student behavior and/or academic progress.

The following Acts of Misconduct were established by School District 86. However, there are some general rules that all students at Gompers are expected to follow.

Students at Gompers must adhere to the following rules:

- Book bags are to stay inside the student's locker
- Jackets are not to be worn **in** school
- Hats are not to be worn **in** school
- Students are not allowed to chew gum inside the school.
- **Noise Level**—Gompers Junior high has established a voice level system in order to help students understand acceptable noise levels inside our school.
 - Voice Level **0**: no talking
 - Voice Level **1**: whispering
 - Voice Level **2**: small group
 - Voice Level **3**: classroom instruction/normal conversation
 - Voice Level **4**: assembly/celebration

All teachers will enforce these rules and student cooperation is expected at all times. Disregard of these rules may result in a referral to the office for disciplinary action.

Bus Conduct – Gompers Junior High School expects that student conduct on school buses be in keeping with the high standards expected of students while they are in school. Security cameras may be present on school buses to monitor student behavior. The bus driver is in full charge of the bus and its passengers at all times. All school rules and behavior expectations for students are applicable while traveling to and from the bus stop, waiting at the bus stop, boarding the bus, riding, and disembarking from the bus. In addition, violations of the below regulations may result in disciplinary action by school administration.

Level I Offenses	Level II Offenses	Level III Offenses
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing while the bus is in motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Disrespect	<input type="checkbox"/> Assault
<input type="checkbox"/> Changing seats	<input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate language	<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Threat – Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Not staying in seat	<input type="checkbox"/> Reckless behavior/horseplay <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing (things in/out of bus)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeopardizing the safety of others
<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Threat – Peers	<input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism
<input type="checkbox"/> Eating – Drinking – Littering	<input type="checkbox"/> Name calling	<input type="checkbox"/> Fighting
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment of peers	<input type="checkbox"/> Drugs/Alcohol
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-compliant (will not follow direction from driver and/or monitor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco/smoking on bus
	<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Abuse – Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Weapons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Riding unassigned bus or using an unassigned stop	<input type="checkbox"/> Arson/Combustibles
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)

Consequences: Inappropriate bus behavior may result in, but is not limited to:

Level of Offense	Consequences
I	1 st offense: Student Warning Conference 2 nd offense: Warning; In School Consequence 3 rd offense: 1 – day bus suspension 4 th offense: 3 – day bus suspension 5 th offense: 5 – day bus suspension, Parent conference 6 th offense: Suspension from bus, subject to cancellation of bus service
II	1 st offense: Written warning or 1 – 3 day bus suspension 2 nd offense: 3 – 5 day bus suspension 3 rd offense or more: 5 – day bus suspension or possible extended loss of bus privileges
III	1 st offense: 1 – 5 day bus suspension 2 nd offense: 5 – 10 day bus suspension 3 rd offense or more: Extended loss of bus privileges

DRESS CODE

The Board of School Inspectors recognizes that students and their parents have the right to determine school attire as long as the dress and grooming does not disrupt the educational process, interferes with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromises reasonable standards of health, safety and decency. All students are required to sign the student dress code agreement.

The following are the dress code standards as adopted by Gompers Junior High School to ensure the safety and well being of each student:

- No student may write on his/her clothing. Any other writing on clothing must be school appropriate (no criminal, sexual, drug/alcohol/tobacco-related slogans, etc.). Any other writing that causes disruption in school will not be allowed.
- Clothing must be worn in an appropriate manner. Absolutely no halter tops, midriff tops tank tops, low cut shirts, spaghetti straps, transparent tops, etc. will be allowed to be worn in school. Shorts and skirts must be below the reach of the fingertips. Pajamas and house slippers will not be allowed. Sweater and jackets tied around the waist will not be allowed.
- **Pants must be worn on the waist.**
- Clothing that is intended to be worn outside (i.e. coats, jackets, etc.) will not be worn in the building. Scarves, do- rags, hoods, hats, etc. may **NOT** be worn in school.
- Any clothing, decoration, or jewelry that may be considered dangerous to the student's welfare may not be worn, including large key chains and chain wallets.
- With the exception of female ear piercing, body piercing is not allowed.
- Clothing, jewelry, or symbols that may be construed as being gang related will not be allowed. Students violating this policy are subject to suspension or expulsion.
- Hair should be appropriately styled for school. No fad or extreme hairstyles are allowed. Hair color should look natural and not be a source of distraction.
- We strongly advise that students not wear shoes that may cause a safety issue such as flip-flops.
- **BOOK BAGS SHOULD BE CARRIED TO AND FROM SCHOOL. HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT PERMITTED IN CLASSROOMS.**

Any student who, in the opinion of the principal, or the designee, comes to school without proper attention to cleanliness or appropriate dress may be sent home to be properly prepared for school. Such cases may also be reported to a District social worker or nurse and DCFS.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Using or possessing IPODS, MP3 players, CD/tape players, radios, electronic games, and other electronic devices in school or on school grounds is prohibited. Such items are viewed as disruptive to the educational process and may create opportunities for theft or injury. ***When found, these items will be confiscated and not returned until a parent comes to school to claim them.*** In certain cases, the above items may carry school consequences and may result in suspension for possession on school grounds. Gompers Junior High School assumes **NO** responsibility for any lost or stolen electronic devices.

All cell phones must be kept powered off and out of sight during the regular school day unless: a) the supervising teacher grants permission; b) the use of the device is provided in a student's IEP; or c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals. Misuse of any cell phone will result in the confiscation of such item for parent/guardian pick up. Gompers Junior High School assumes **NO** responsibility for any lost or stolen cell phones.

FIELD TRIPS

While at Gompers Junior High School, most students will participate in a number of field trips. Before each trip, students will be required to pay any fees associated with the field trip. All students attending any field trip must also turn in the completed trip consent form. In order for students to participate in any field trip, all students are expected to comply with the criteria set forth for each individual trip.

GRADES

Grades are an evaluation of students' work, and are issued quarterly in each subject area. Parents will receive a report of their child's grades each quarter. At the end of the first and second quarters, Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held. Report cards will be handed out at this time. At the end of third and fourth quarters, students will be given their report cards to bring home. During the midpoint of every quarter, students receive Progress Reports. ***Progress Reports must be signed by parents and returned to school.***

Students must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above to be in good academic standing. Students who do not maintain a GPA of 2.0 or above may not participate in extra curricular events and/or special activities. Additionally, students who do not maintain a GPA of 2.0 or above may be considered for retention.

Promotion Requirements – Students in junior high schools (grades 6, 7, and 8) are required to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 throughout the school year to maintain academic good standing. If, or when, a student falls below 2.0 cumulative grade point average for the quarter, parents will receive notification of the child's performance and the school will initiate a "Promotion Monitoring Plan." This plan will be developed to document the efforts of your child and the school to meet the necessary standards for promotion. The plan will address resources the school may provide such as modifying classroom instruction, referral to the RTI team or Special Services, before /after school program, or summer school. The plan will also include suggestions for you to work with your child at home. Should this plan be needed, a conference will be held with you to explain the steps in detail.

By state law, students may not be promoted to high school in Illinois until they have successfully completed coursework covering the Illinois Constitution and the United States Constitution.

At the end of each quarter, teachers are asked to identify students who may possibly be retained based upon their classroom achievements. Teachers are expected to collect supporting documentation that will be shared with parents and principal. Supporting documentation for retention would include the following:

- Student Assessment Profile
 - ISAT Scores
 - Think Link Data
 - Benchmark Assessments
- Daily Academic Performance Profile
 - Classroom Participation
 - Homework
 - Intervention Program Participation

Grading Scale – All District 86 Schools have adopted the following grading scale.

A-----90% - 100%

B-----80% - 89%

C-----70% - 79%

D-----60% - 69%

Grading will consist of:

Homework-----5%

Formative Assessment----35%

Summative Assessment---60%

HEALTH SERVICES

All students are required to be in complete compliance with all health requirements by the first day of school. Children will not be allowed to attend school if they do not have the appropriate documentation available when they register and/or on the first day of class.

Accident/Student Injury- All accidents to pupils shall be reported on the day of the accident. The report is to be written and signed by both the teacher and the principal and forwarded to the Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs. If a student has an accident before, during, or after school, however minor, the student must report it to the office immediately. A nurse is on call for any emergency situation at all times.

Illness- Students are to report any illness to their teacher or office as soon as possible. An office administrator will contact the parents and explain the severity of the illness. Our nurse may recommend that the child be taken home or to the family physician.

Medication – There are occasions when children attending school are required to take medication for treatment of medical problems. Before medication will be given in school, parents are required to have two forms completed by you and your doctor and returned to the principal. These forms are available in the school office:

1. A Physician written order for medication
2. The request to administer medication at school

After the requested forms are returned, the principal and the school nurse will review the request and take the necessary arrangements for giving the medication. All medication will be kept in a safe place. It is extremely important, however, that a proper label is on the container. The label must include the name of your child, the name of the doctor, the prescription number, and instructions for usage. Students are not to ask for any medication, including aspirin.

When should a child stay home from school?

- Fever - The best way to check for fever is with a thermometer. No child with a temperature over 100 Fahrenheit should be sent to school. Your child should be fever-free for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medicine) before returning to school.
- Mild Cough/Runny Nose - If your child does not have a fever and feels fairly well, your child **may** attend school.
- Bad Cough/Cold Symptoms - Children with severe coughs should stay home, and may need to see a doctor. Severe coughs may indicate the child has a severe cold, bronchitis, flu, or pneumonia. When your child's cough improves, and is feeling better, he/she may return to school. A child with a lingering, but not severe cough may return to school.
- Sore throat - If your child complains of a slight sore throat and has no other symptoms, he/she may attend school. If white spots can be seen in the back of the throat or if the child has a fever, he/she should stay home and may need to see a physician.

- Rash – A rash may be the first sign of one of childhood's many illnesses, such as chicken pox or measles. A rash or "spots" may cover the entire body or may appear in only one area. A child with a rash or skin eruption should stay home until your physician has said that it is safe to do so.
- Stomachache, vomiting, and diarrhea – It is recommended that you consult your physician if your child has a stomachache that is persistent or is severe enough to limit his/her activity. If vomiting occurs, the child should stay home until he/she can keep food down. A child with diarrhea should be kept home. You may need to call your physician if prompt improvement does not occur.
- Tooth pain - Consult your dentist.
- Ear pain - Consult your physician.
- Headache - A child whose only complaint is a headache usually need not be kept at home.

Keeping children home from school for reasons other than illness may have a bad effect on their attitude, work habits and progress. Please bear in mind that much of what is missed in the classroom cannot be learned through written assignments. Use your own good common sense and remember sick children belong at home and well children belong in school.

- Readmission to School Following an Illness – A student who has been absent from school for three (3) or more consecutive days, due to illness, hospitalization, or surgery, must present a physician's release before being readmitted to school.

HOMEWORK

Homework is assigned regularly, and is necessary in all academic areas. Often, assignments will be started in class under the supervision of the teacher and are to be completed by the student at home. Students are expected to spend at least one hour each day doing homework. Homework and project completion are extremely important. Failure to complete homework will affect the grades of student's individual classes.

Assignment Planner – Assignment planners are given to all students at the beginning of each school year. Parents should ask to see their child's planner on a daily basis. The planner can also be used as a communication tool between parents and teachers. If the assignment planner is lost, students must purchase a new one. The cost of a new planner is \$5.00.

Homework during disciplinary absences - All students will be given the opportunity to make up the work missed during a disciplinary absence. The following policy applies to all disciplinary absences.

1. When a student receives a suspension, the grade level Academic Advisor will inform the student's teachers of the suspension and ask them to prepare a folder with the work that is to be made up. Teachers will have until 3:00pm of the following day to prepare the folder.

2. Academic Advisors will inform parents that the folder will be ready by 3:00pm the following day. Advisors will follow up everyday the folder is not picked up.
3. If the folder is not picked up by a parent, the Academic Advisors will keep the folder in their possession and provide it to the student upon returning to school.
4. Students will have the following amount of time to turn in their work after returning to school.
 - 2 day suspension--- Work must be turned in within 1 day
 - 3 day suspension--- Work must be turned in within 1 day
 - 4 day suspension —Work must be turned in within 2 days
 - 5 day suspension----Work must be turned in within 2 days
 - 6 day suspension ---Work must be turned in within 3 day
 - 7 day suspension--- Work must be turned in within 3days
 - 8 day suspension —Work must be turned in within 4 days
 - 9 day suspension----Work must be turned in within 4days
 - 10 day suspension---Work must be turned in within 5 days

All class and homework assignments turned in after a suspension will receive an automatic 30% penalty.

5. Upon returning to school, all test and quizzes must be made up. **Students will receive full credit for test and quizzes.**

HONOR ROLL

After each quarter, a Merit Honor Roll and a High Honor Roll are compiled. In order to be placed on the Merit Honor Roll, a student must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 to 3.49. In order to be placed on the High Honor Roll, a student must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 to 4.0. Additionally, students that maintain a 4.0 GPA for each quarter are honored at the end of the year honors assembly.

Students who have perfect attendance will also be recognized at all Honors Assemblies. Perfect attendance means **No** absences and **No** tardies.

Parents are always invited to all Honors Assemblies and are encouraged to attend. Parental involvement makes these special events memorable for students.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Identification Cards (ID) are issued to all students at the beginning of each year. Students receive their first ID card free of charge. **It is a school requirement and the student's responsibility to wear a current ID card around his/her neck on the outside of his/her clothes during school hours at all times.** We recommend that students keep their ID in their lockers at the end of each school day.

Students must have an ID in order to receive a regular school lunch. Students that do not have an ID **may** have to eat an alternative lunch.

Students who take their ID home and forget to bring it the next day will be charged a (\$1.00 per day) fee for a temporary replacement. If a student loses the ID, he/she must purchase a replacement ID card. Replacements are \$5.00 each and the lanyard is \$2.00. The student may pay cash at the time of receiving the replacement ID or the cost will be added to the student's fees.

INSURANCE

At the beginning of the school year, students will receive information regarding insurance. Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase a student insurance policy, which provides insurance coverage beyond the school day. This policy will be through an outside insurance carrier. Cost varies depending on the level and coverage options selected. Accident insurance forms are available in the school office.

LIBRARY

Students are responsible for the books they check out. They will be charged for any materials that are lost or damaged. Books may be checked out for a period of two weeks. A late fee will be charged for books not returned on time.

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a hall locker in which to store his or her belongings. Lockers are equipped with a built in combination locking device. Students should never share their combination with any other student. If a locker fails to work properly, the student should report the problem to their teacher and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Students may not write directly on the inside or outside of lockers. Lockers should not be kicked or slammed even if they do not appear to work properly. Any misuse of, or tampering with, lockers will result in disciplinary action. Students are reminded that lockers are the property of the school and are to be used solely for the storage of books, supplies, garments, and personal belongings that are appropriate for school use. Each student should use only the locker that is assigned to him or her and should return the locker at the end of the school year in the same condition in which it was issued. ***ALL STUDENT LOCKERS ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AT ANY TIME.***

LOST AND FOUND

Any items found on school grounds should be turned in to the office immediately. Lost and found items will be located in the nurse's office. Students that may be missing items should check with their Academic Advisor. Items not claimed at the end of each quarter may be discarded.

MEDIA RELEASE INFORMATION

In order to keep area residents informed about positive accomplishments of our students and staff, Joliet Public Schools - District 86 often highlights various activities through the media. Photos and/or video images of your child may be used in publications such as but not limited to:

1. Newspapers/magazines articles (imprint or on-line), cable, television, and/or radio.
2. Promotional materials such as bulletins, newsletters, annual reports, brochures and video presentations.
3. District 86 website.
4. Teacher educational purposes and displays within the school building.

Certain information may also be released to colleges, civic or school related organizations, and state or governmental agencies, as well as published in athletic, music and theater programs.

Parents must sign the Media Release Form located in the Appendix and return it to the school office within ten days of enrollment.

PARENT ORGANIZATION

Gompers parent organization provides special activities, conducts monthly meetings, and provides volunteer support for various school functions and honors special requests from staff members. It also helps raise funds, which enable the group to purchase school gifts for the school. This group works in partnership with the staff and administration to better the teacher/parent relationship. Anyone in the community who wants to join this organization is invited to call the school office for membership information.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each student is required by state law to participate in Physical Education.

Class and locker room procedures

- Students are expected to line up in the breezeway in their designated areas before entering the locker room. There is to be no fooling around or playing in the breezeway.
- As soon as students enter the gym locker room, they should dress quickly and proceed to sit on the benches as assigned. There is to be no fooling around or playing prior to the beginning of class in the gym or locker room.

Locks and Lockers

- Each student is issued a small PE locker in which to keep his/her gym clothing.
- The PE locker in use should be locked at all times using a combination lock purchased from our school.
- School locks are required for PE lockers. Locks cost \$10.00 each.
- Students should check their PE lockers at the beginning and end of each PE class to see that they are securely closed and locked.
- Students should not share the combination of their locks with others.
- A lost or defective lock should be reported immediately to the PE teacher.

Lost and Found

- Lost items should be reported to the PE teacher as soon as they are discovered missing. If the PE teacher is unable to retrieve the missing items, it is the student's responsibility to report the missing items to their Academic Advisor.

- Although an investigation will be made of reported thefts or loss of property, the school assumes no responsibility for items lost or stolen in the school locker rooms.
- Students who find items which do not belong to them in the gym or locker room should turn these items in to his/her PE teacher.

Excuses

- Students will be excused from participation in Physical Education only by a doctor's written excuse or religious excuse. These excuses will give the reason and length of time the excuse is in effect. The principal and/or her designee will review each excuse.
- Students excused from participation in physical education activities by a physician's note do not dress for gym class and will have to complete an alternative educational activity.
- Students not participating in PE may not participate in after school sports.

PE Uniforms

- On days when they change for PE class, students are required to wear PE uniforms. These uniforms may be purchased from the school office. Uniforms Cost \$20.00.
- Gym uniforms that are ripped or torn may not be worn for PE classes, and must be repaired or replaced.
- Gym shoes and socks must be worn for PE classes.
- Students are strongly advised to put their names on their PE clothing

Injuries

Any student injuries should be reported to a PE teacher as soon as they occur. Injuries must be reported so that the student can obtain proper care and information required for insurance claims can be collected if the injury requires professional medical attention.

RIGHTS RESERVED STATEMENT

The provisions of this publication are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract. The administration reserves the rights to modify, revoke, or add to any or all regulations at any time.

RULES OF JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of the school for student conduct includes all of the following: the transportation of students to and from school, whether by bus, by other vehicle, or by walking; and the school sanctioned activities that occur on and off the campus. The school staff will diligently manage student conduct in all programs, maintaining the confidence of students and parents.

SAFETY DRILLS

FIRE: The alert will be sounded by a continuous blast from a series of fire horns located in each corridor. Students must learn to follow the fire drill instructions that are posted in each room. Quiet and orderly exit from the building is essential to your safety and the safety of others.

CIVIL DISASTERS AND SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS: An

intermittent sounding of the fire horns will sound the alert. Students will proceed quietly to previously designated areas.

INTRUDER: This alert will be sounded by a continuous long and short tone. Students will proceed quietly to previously designated areas.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

We encourage visits to our school and attendance at school programs by family members, former students, and community members. The school must, however, fulfill legal obligations concerning access to our building, provide uninterrupted instructional time, and a safe environment for our students.

For these reasons District 86 requires that all visitors to our building, unless they are attending a special event after regular school hours, must report directly to the attendance office upon entering the school. Visitors will be asked to sign in and wear a visitor's Pass. A photo ID must be presented.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

District 86 will not close unless hazardous road or other emergency conditions necessitate a closing. A decision to close the schools will normally be made by the Superintendent before 6:00 a.m. The Superintendent's decision is based upon road conditions, weather reports, police reports and personal inspections of streets and campuses by District 86 Department of Buildings and Grounds.

When schools are to be closed, District 86 notifies local media outlets as soon as a decision has been made. Information about the closing of schools will also be posted on the District 86 website, (www.joliet86.org). Parents will also be contacted by our automated phone messaging system.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures are usually taken during the first month of school. Students will receive information regarding school pictures during their first few days of school.

SCHOOL VISITATION

ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT TO THE MAIN OFFICE TO SIGN IN AND RECEIVE A VISITOR'S PASS. Classroom visitation is welcomed and prior arrangements are encouraged. Conferences with teachers are always welcomed and should be scheduled with the teacher by calling the school. Any person entering the building and not reporting to the office may be considered a trespasser. A trespasser is a person who makes an unlawful or unwarranted entrance upon the property of Joliet Public Grade School District 86 in violation of Illinois School Codes Section 24-25, City Ordinance of State Statute. All trespassers will be reported to the police and the Superintendent.

SOLICITATION BY STUDENTS

The District shall strive to safeguard the students and their parents from money raising plans of outside organizations, commercial enterprises, and individuals. This policy applies particularly to ticket sales and sales of articles or services except those directly sponsored or handled by the school authorities. At the discretion of the principal, non-profit organizations may advertise events through the school. Approval of all

announcements and posters must be obtained in advance through the Superintendent, or designee. Individual students may not sell or offer to sell any articles while school is in session or on school property, unless prior permission from the principal is granted.

STUDENT FEES

Every effort is made to hold cost to a minimum and yet provide the necessary materials for a quality education. Information on fees will be sent home with each student. Fees are to be paid the first week of school. Library fees, and damaged/lost item charges will be added to the student's fees.

- ***Student Fees for the 2013-2014 school year are:***
 - \$47 for textbooks and instructional materials. (All Grades)
 - \$30 for Cap & Gown (8th Grade Only)

- ***Fee Waiver*** – Fees for textbooks and other instructional materials are waived for students who meet the eligibility criteria for fee waiver. Students receiving a fee waiver are not exempt from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies and equipment. Fee waivers are available in the school office. The parent(s)/guardian(s) shall submit written evidence of eligibility for waiver for student's fee.

It is extremely important for eight grade student to be aware of how much they owe and for what. Eight grade students who do not pay their fees will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.

USE OF SCHOOL PHONE

The Gompers Junior High telephone number is (815) 727-5276. Students or teachers are not called from classes to the telephone. Only the principal, assistant principal or academic advisors allow use of phone by students. The office will not allow personal calls by students before or during school hours. Students attending after school activities must pre-arrange transportation home.

SECTION TWO: CURRICULUM

ACCELERATED CLASSES - Accelerated Language Arts and Mathematics are offered to students who qualified through a variety of criteria. The academic focus revolves around the district core curriculum using an integrated approach, critical thinking skills, problem solving, and higher order thinking skills.

BILINGUAL EDUCATION- Gompers Junior High School provides a Transitional Bilingual Education Program (TBE). This program is a state requirement for any school that has a population of 20 or more students that speak the same language and the students are diagnosed as Limited English Proficient (LEP). Gompers believes that bilingualism and bi-literacy for all is an admirable goal for every individual. We embrace this mantra and advocate learning more than two languages and cultures.

Bilingual education at Gompers refers to approaches in the classroom that use the native languages of English Language Learners (ELLs) for instruction. Goals include: teaching English, fostering academic achievement, acculturating immigrants to a new society, preserving a minority group's linguistic and cultural heritage, and enabling English speakers to learn a second language.

INTERVENTIONS

Gompers focuses on the individual wellness of our students so that students can achieve maximum academic benefit from their educational program. By focusing on students' social, emotional, and personal development, we can help students cope with stress in their lives, develop self-management skills as well as personal responsibility, and develop decision-making and problem-solving skills. Some of the issues that interfere with students' academic and social functioning are:

- Low self-esteem
- Eating Disorders
- Anger management
- Peer Problems
- Peer Pressure
- Limited Social Skills
- Depression
- Mental Illness
- Stress/anxiety
- Family Dysfunction
- Grief/loss
- Academic Difficulties

The school social worker directly works with students who have some of the above identified issues. The academic advisors also help students through some of the above issues. We offer a great deal of programs in an effort to assist all of our students in making their junior high school experience a positive experience.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special education services are mandated by federal law and regulated by state statutes. The purpose of special education is to identify and educate students with disabilities. The special education department personnel is responsible for the evaluation and the determination process, this entails identifying students with disabilities but also protecting the rights of ineligible students. Special education staff identifies students with disabilities by gathering information on the students' functional levels, learning styles, emotional development and global strengths and weaknesses. Special education offers the same curriculum, but with the ability to provide alternate instructional strategies, materials, and methodologies based on the needs of the individual. The department is also responsible for identifying and providing the necessary related services and support which allow students to fully benefit from their individualized educational program (IEP).

TECHNOLOGY

Through the integration of language arts, mathematics, social science, science, and fine arts, students will discover the benefits of technology by learning the skills necessary to utilize computer applications. As a result:

- Students will increase content area skills.
- Students will apply technology skills to produce computer-generated work in a variety of formats and applications.
- Students will apply technology skills in their content area classrooms.

Adhering to the comprehensive Technology Curriculum, ALL STUDENTS will accomplish the following goals during their junior high school experience:

- Goal 1: Students will generate individual projects that incorporate technology.
- Goal 2: Students will participate in collaborative online projects.

SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Students this age are thinking rationally and are able to generalize. They are beginning to think about possible connections between all the information they receive and are becoming more efficient at time management and working with deadlines. They typically are reading more frequently and applying what they learn to everyday situations. Peer relationships and communication between parent and child are two significant factors that affect general motivation at this time in their lives. Their peer group is gaining in importance and they can become increasingly argumentative with parents and authority. The strong peer group needs leads to a heightened interest in becoming a member of a club or organization. Children at this stage of development can be moody, sensitive, competitive, and impressed/influenced by older role models. Their interest in the opposite sex is also changing at this time.

Language Arts

The sixth grade Language Arts curriculum focuses on the analysis and interpretation of complex narrative and expository text. The development of vocabulary through structural analysis and context used in literary works and/or content areas is emphasized. Writing strategies focus on organization and documentation of support. Language Arts skills are applied to all subject areas. Students in sixth grade Language Arts will:

- Given a number of opportunities for public speaking which may include:
 - Presentation of assignments
 - An introduction speech
 - An impromptu speech
 - A demonstration speech
 - A persuasive speech
 - Dramatic and oral interpretation
- Utilize the writing process to create, revise, and publish:
 - Expository writing
 - Narrative writing
 - Persuasive writing
 - Poetry and Fiction writing
- Apply basic phonetic and spelling rules
- Use context clues and decoding skills to attack vocabulary
- Identify, read, and evaluate a variety of genres
- Demonstrate active reading strategies: questioning, connecting, predicting, reviewing, and evaluating
- Discuss, write, and use comprehension strategies to demonstrate understanding
- Identify plot, characterization, setting, and point of view in a story
- Comprehend main ideas and supporting details
- Write multi-paragraph narrative, persuasive, and expository compositions
- Learn and utilize the parts of speech focusing on nouns, pronouns and verbs
- Understand the use of transitional devices in writing
- Identify and use focus, support, and elaboration in writing
- Edit and revise using a variety of techniques
- Use a variety of pre-writing techniques
- Identify and apply appropriate resources to corresponding tasks
- Listen effectively using language appropriate to the situation and audience
- Understand and write for a variety of audiences

- Write in a variety of creative modes
- Demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary in literary selections
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of literature

Mathematics

The sixth grade Math curriculum emphasizes the application of the basic operations involving whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Students will demonstrate and apply knowledge of ratios and proportions, percents, algebraic expressions, and equations. Students will advance their knowledge in geometric concepts, probability, and data analysis.

- The students will solve problems using the rules of rational numbers.
- The students will solve problems using rational numbers, percents, and decimals, including proportions.
- The students will compute the area and perimeter of triangles, parallelograms, and irregular shapes and find the volume of rectangular prisms using formulas.
- The students will estimate, develop, and utilize measurements of objects, quantities, and relationships, and determine acceptable levels of accuracy.
- The students will solve equations and inequalities involving variables and integers using addition and subtraction.
- The students will determine a rule from a pattern or table.
- The students will apply geometric properties to categorize and draw conclusions about points, lines, and plane figures.
- The students will categorize two- and three-dimensional shapes based on their characteristics.
- The students will create and compare various graphs that represent the same set of data.
- The students will find the probability of simple events.
- Use tree diagrams to estimate 2 or 3 event situations

Social Studies

Sixth grade Social Studies is a World History course following mankind's first journey from the earliest human civilizations through the Ancient River Valley Cultures, the Renaissance, Pre-Columbian North America, and the Age of Exploration. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical and cultural achievements that have had significant impact on the development of mankind, emphasizing those that have had an influence on the development of the United States.

Science

Sixth grade science addresses national, state, and district science standards. Through the study of variables, models forces in nature and energy, students will predict outcomes, create models and report on the results using data gathered through experimentation.

Students will be able to:

- Practice appropriate observation techniques to note changes within systems due to internal and external factors
- Accurately record scientific data
- Apply scientific concepts and vocabulary to classroom work
- Demonstrate a positive interaction with his or her environment
- Utilize appropriate technologies within his or her life
- Apply physical, biological, or chemical modeling within systems

- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of classifying the world
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of determining causality
- Apply the concept of energy as a mechanism for producing change within systems
- Apply problem-finding and problem-solving skills to simple research projects
- Analyze the Earth as a system, examining internal and external influences
- Apply the scientific method to evaluate a specified situation
- Examine the interaction of human civilization and the environment
- Utilize safe laboratory practices
- Analyze experimental work done by others when appropriate
- Apply principles of scientific inquiry in order to make scientifically literate personal decisions
- Effectively communicate the results of scientific inquiry
- Apply basic scientific standards and research practices in the process of scientific inquiry
- Work effectively both individually and within a collaborative team

Fine Arts

As a result of instruction in the Fine Arts, students in the sixth grade will be able to:

- Compare , connect and integrate art forms
- Identify and use appropriate vocabulary in all fine arts areas
- Identify and describe careers and jobs in and among the arts
- Understand the role of the artist/performer in each of the four fine arts areas
- Understand and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior

Health

As a result of health instruction in sixth grade, students will learn about health behaviors and receive information that will safeguard their health and total well-being during the adolescent years. They will learn how to apply problem-solving skills to improve or protect their health and the health of others in the community.

Physical Education

The sixth grade PE curriculum provides an emphasis on increased competency in complex movement patterns, training principles of fitness and the elements of teamwork.

SEVENTH GRADE

Students at this age level are increasingly able to engage in logical thinking. They have a strong need to be involved in decisions that affect them. This can often lead to questioning authority and the appearance of the rejection of family values. An increasing focus on themselves is seen in their preoccupation of their appearance. Current trends and fads are often very important to this age group. Romantic interests may develop at this time and friendships may be limited to a few loyal friends.

Language Arts

These classes stress daily reading and writing and include the traditional subject areas of composition, grammar and literature. As a result of their learning process, students will:

- Given a number of opportunities for public speaking which may include:
 - Presentation of assignments
 - An introduction speech
 - An impromptu speech
 - A demonstration speech
 - A persuasive speech
 - Dramatic and oral interpretation
- Utilize the writing process to create, revise, and publish:
 - Expository writing
 - Narrative writing
 - Persuasive writing
 - Poetry and Fiction writing
- Present speeches which incorporate effective speaking techniques
- Utilize writing process in a multi-paragraphed paper in the narrative, expository and persuasive formats
- Select appropriate pre-writing techniques
- Identify and write different types of introductions and conclusions
- Identify and use transitional words and phrases beyond introductory words
- Read and write poetry
- Apply spelling rules in all content areas
- Demonstrate effective listening techniques
- Recognize the 8 parts of speech
- Study novels, identifying literary elements with a focus on characterization and conflict
- Use a variety of comprehension strategies
- Identify elements of fiction, nonfiction and poetry
- Recognize and understand an author's purpose
- Use advanced focus, support and elaboration
- Use specific methods of revision
- Use context clues to demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary through library selections
- Read a variety of literature representing diverse cultures, eras and genres

Mathematics

Students in seventh grade math will:

- Apply the concepts of rational numbers and geometric properties to solve problems and analyze data to draw conclusions and make predictions.
- Students will represent and solve problems algebraically.

- Students will solve real-world applications using the rules of rational numbers with a focus on integers and the multiplication and division of fractions.
- Students will apply their knowledge of ratios and percents to practical situations.
- Students will use measurements of objects to solve problems involving area, perimeter, circumference, and volume.
- Students will analyze problems to formulate and simplify expressions.
- Students will write equations or inequalities to represent real-world situations and solve for the unknown.
- Students will compare and analyze angle relationships and apply the properties of angles and polygons to real-world problems.
- Students will create and interpret various graphs, including scatter plots and circle graphs.
- Students will analyze all possible outcomes of simple or compound events to compute their probabilities using different methods, including tree diagrams.

Social Studies

Seventh grade Social Studies is a United States History course focusing on the early years of American development from colonization through the Pre-Civil War years, including the State and Federal Constitutions and government institutions. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical and social achievements that have had significant impact on the development of the United States and its participation in the global community.

Science

Seventh grade science addresses national, state, and district science standards. Emphasis is placed on integration, critical thinking and real life application. As a result of their learning process, students will be able to:

- Practice appropriate observation techniques to note changes within systems due to internal and external factors
- Accurately record scientific data
- Apply scientific concepts and vocabulary to classroom work
- Demonstrate a positive interaction with his or her environment
- Utilize appropriate technologies within his or her life
- Apply physical, biological, or chemical modeling within systems
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of classifying the world
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of determining causality
- Apply the concept of energy as a mechanism for producing change within systems
- Apply problem-finding and problem-solving skills to simple research projects
- Analyze the Earth as a system, examining internal and external influences
- Apply the scientific method to evaluate a specified situation
- Examine the interaction of human civilization and the environment
- Utilize safe laboratory practices
- Analyze experimental work done by others when appropriate
- Apply principles of scientific inquiry in order to make scientifically literate personal decisions
- Effectively communicate the results of scientific inquiry

- Apply basic scientific standards and research practices in the process of scientific inquiry
- Work effectively both individually and within a collaborative team

Fine Arts

As a result of instruction in the Fine Arts, students in seventh grade will be able to:

- Compare , connect and integrate art forms
- Identify and use appropriate vocabulary in all fine arts areas
- Identify and describe careers and jobs in and among the arts
- Understand the role of the artist/performer in each of the four fine arts areas
- Understand and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior

Health

As a result of health instruction in seventh grade, students will learn about health behaviors and receive information that will safeguard their health and total well-being during the adolescent years. They will learn how to apply problem-solving skills to improve or protect their health and the health of others in the community.

Physical Education

The seventh grade PE curriculum provides an emphasis on increased competency in complex movement patterns, training principles of fitness and the elements of teamwork.

EIGHTH GRADE

Socialization again becomes key to the student at this stage of development. They may begin to socialize in group settings and may begin to “date” in groups. Independence continues to be asserted, and a child at this stage may not want to attend family functions. They may tend to spend more time alone than with family members and may feel unsure and awkward in social situations outside of their peer group. At the same time, their vocabularies are becoming more complex and their ability to engage in abstract thinking and cognitive problem solving is increasing. They may consider and discuss various vocational interests then quickly discard them.

Language Arts

These classes stress daily reading and writing and include the traditional subject areas of composition, grammar and literature. As a result of their learning process, students will:

- Given a number of opportunities for public speaking which may include:
 - Presentation of assignments
 - An introduction speech
 - An impromptu speech
 - A demonstration speech
 - A persuasive speech
 - Dramatic and oral interpretation
- Utilize the writing process to create, revise, and publish:
 - Expository writing
 - Narrative writing
 - Persuasive writing
 - Poetry and Fiction writing
- Learn to incorporate and punctuate varying grammatical structures as a means of creating more advanced writing
- Be exposed to a number of different experiences, in both writing and literature, to expand their vocabulary
- Incorporate reading strategies (i.e. skimming, outlining, predicting, scanning, summarizing, questioning, evaluating, sequencing, reviewing, listing, grouping, labeling) through a variety of literary works (i.e. short story, novel, poem, biography, drama, nonfiction)
- Explore several literary genres through novel studies and required independent reading
- Identify and evaluate the elements of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry (i.e. characters, plot, setting, point of view, conflict, climax, figurative language, symbolism, foreshadowing, irony, mood, flashback)

Mathematics

Students in eighth grade will apply properties and operations of real numbers, with a focus on proportional reasoning and equation solving; use measurements of objects to solve problems involving area and volume; analyze patterns and relationships to represent them algebraically; apply geometric properties to solve problems; and create and interpret graphs of data sets.

- Students will apply properties and perform operations on rational and irrational numbers.
- Students will use proportional reasoning to model and solve problems.

- Use measurements of objects to solve problems involving area, perimeter, and volume.
- Students will write and translate algebraic expressions and evaluate them for given values.
- Students will solve equations and inequalities with unknowns from the set of rational numbers.
- Students will recognize a linear relationship as a constant rate of change and translate between different representations of it.
- Students will identify, describe, classify, and compare relationships involving points, lines, planes, and solids.
- Students will create and analyze graphs of data sets to make predictions based on the graph.
- Students will determine probabilities with an emphasis on permutations and combinations.

Social Studies

Eighth grade Social Studies is a United States History course focusing on the later years of American development from the Pre-Civil War years through current events. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical, and social achievements that have had significant impact on the development of the United States and its participation in the global community.

Science

Eighth grade science addresses national, state, and district science standards. Emphasis is placed on integration, critical thinking and real life application. As a result of their learning process, students will be able to:

- Practice appropriate observation techniques to note changes within systems due to internal and external factors
- Accurately record scientific data
- Apply scientific concepts and vocabulary to classroom work
- Demonstrate a positive interaction with his or her environment
- Utilize appropriate technologies within his or her life
- Apply physical, biological, or chemical modeling within systems
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of classifying the world
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of determining causality
- Apply the concept of energy as a mechanism for producing change within systems
- Apply problem-finding and problem-solving skills to simple research projects
- Analyze the Earth as a system, examining internal and external influences
- Apply the scientific method to evaluate a specified situation
- Examine the interactions of human civilization and the environment
- Utilize safe laboratory practices
- Analyze experimental work done by others when appropriate
- Apply principles of scientific inquiry in order to make scientifically literate personal decisions
- Effectively communicate the results of scientific inquiry
- Apply basic scientific standards and research practices in the process of scientific inquiry

- Work effectively both individually and within a collaborative team

Fine Arts

As a result of instruction in the Fine Arts, students in eighth grade will be able to:

- Compare , connect and integrate art forms
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- Identify and describe careers and jobs in and among the arts
- Understand the role of the artist/performer in each of the four fine arts areas
- Understand and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior

Health

As a result of health instruction in eighth grade, students will learn about health behaviors and receive information that will safeguard their health and total well-being during the adolescent years. They will learn how to apply problem-solving skills to improve or protect their health and the health of others in the community.

Physical Education

The eighth grade PE curriculum provides an emphasis on increased competency in complex movement patterns, training principles of fitness and the elements of teamwork.

SECTION THREE: EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our extra-curricular athletic program is primarily conducted to provide an enjoyable learning experience for our students, teach the basic skills necessary for success in each activity; and assure regular participation by all team members. Participants will also be taught to develop a positive attitude, work together as a team or group, display good sportsmanship and fair play; and follow the rules and instructions of coaches, sponsors and officials.

This section of our handbook has been prepared to help parents and athletes understand and more fully participate in our athletic programs. We hope that it will answer questions, provide information, and assist parents and students.

ADMISSION TO ATHLETIC CONTESTS

Admission to athletic contests is \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 for students.

Gompers students who are below 2.0 will **NOT be** allowed to attend after school athletic events unless they are supervised by a parent/guardian

AWARDS

Awards are presented to athletes at the end of the year sports banquet. In order to successfully complete a season, an athlete must fulfill the guidelines set forth by the coach and participate for the full season. Athletes receive a certificate upon the successful completion of a sport.

BEFORE TRYOUTS BEGIN

Before tryouts begin, each participant must have turned in:

- Completed sports physical form
- Insurance Information

CLUBS

A variety of clubs and activities will be available to the students during the school year. Clubs are sponsored by a variety of staff members and are open to all students. Information about clubs will be made available to the students through the afternoon announcements. Here is a list of some of the clubs that may be available to students. Other clubs may be added through out the school year.

21st Century Kids Club

The goal of the 21st Century Kids Club Program is to help children develop positive peer relations and problem solving skills, to understand the connection between academic achievement and future career opportunities, and to provide a variety of educational and recreational enrichment experiences for students and their family members. Additionally, students will be given time for homework completion and the opportunity to seek help from the teachers.

Guitar Club

Students have the opportunity to learn the basics of playing the guitar.

Student Council

The Student Council provides students with an opportunity to work together to plan special events and service activities for our school and community.

Yearbook Club

Students under the direction of a faculty member develop the Gompers yearbook.

CONDUCT

As participants in Gompers sports and or clubs, students must:

- Show respect for all others at all times
- Display good conduct (as outlined in the District 86 Handbook)
- Avoid unsportsmanlike like actions
- Cooperate at all times with other team members, coaches, sponsors, officials and school staff members
- Shake hands with opponents
- Demonstrate self control
- Accept and abide by the decisions of officials, sponsors and coaches
- Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion without being boastful, bitter or downcast
- Demonstrate proper bench behavior as defined by their coach or sponsor
- Support their teammates
- In addition to the behaviors listed above, our students, as spectators at events where their group participates, should:
 - Sit together as a team or group.
 - Positively recognize and appreciate the skill and performance of others regardless of their team or group affiliation.
 - Refrain from booing, jeering, distracting, name calling or belittling others.

DISCIPLINE

All rules governing student conduct as outlined in the District 86 Parent /Student Handbook apply to all extra-curricular participants at all times when engaged in, attending, and traveling to and from, school-related or sponsored activities.

Extra-curricular participants publicly represent their families, school and community. They also are subject to close scrutiny by the public, visiting players and coaches, and other students. For these reasons, any disciplinary action taken as a result of a problem in school will reflect in a student's ability to participate in co-curricular activities.

The coach will handle discipline problems related directly to the team. Depending upon the severity of the problem, a participant may be reprimanded, suspended from practices and/or contests, or removed from the team. For example, an unexcused absence from practice could result in a suspension from one contest by a coach. Before a student is removed from a team or activity by a coach or sponsor, a conference will be held with the principal or assistant principal and the student's parents will be contacted.

School Related Discipline

- **Detentions** - Participants who receive a detention must serve that detention, after school, on the day indicated by the teacher issuing the detention. The detention must be served before the student is able to participate in any co-curricular activity on that day.
- **Bus Suspension** - Students suspended from any of the school buses will also be unable to ride team buses for the duration of their bus suspension. Therefore, students will need to arrange other transportation to and from co-curricular events.
- **Suspension** - Students who receive a suspension from school will be ineligible to participate in any co-curricular activities or to attend any events held at District 86 schools until the day they return to regular classes following the completion of their suspension.

ELIGIBILITY

Extra-curricular activities such as athletics or clubs, which involve interscholastic competition, require that students maintain their eligibility in order to participate. Eligibility is determined by two things:

- Academic performance
- School-related conduct

The reason for the following requirements is to assure that involvement in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities does not interfere with a student's academic or social performance.

Notification of eligibility

The athletic director will notify teachers on Thursdays by making the forms available at that time. On Fridays, the teachers will notify the athletic director. The athletic director will compile the eligibility list by Monday morning for posting by 12:00 noon. Any student who does not have a 2.0 for the week will be ineligible to participate in any athletic activity.

Games and practice during eligibility

Students who are ineligible to play will **NOT** be permitted to attend games.

Students who are ineligible can practice during their ineligibility period if ineligible for one or two weeks. If ineligible after two consecutive weeks, the students will not be permitted to practice during the third week of ineligibility. If ineligible after the third week, the students will be removed from the team. It will be the responsibility of the coach to notify parents by phone of their child's ineligibility. Before a student is removed from a team or activity by a coach or sponsor, a conference will be held with the principal or assistant principal and the student's parents will be contacted.

EQUIPMENT

Students must supply their own practice equipment and appropriate shoes for all interscholastic sports. Game uniforms are supplied for team members by the school. Each coach will supply team members with a suggested list of equipment.

GOOD NIGHT RULE

Students attending after school events are expected to notify their parents **before** they attend any such events or practice. All students attending basketball, volleyball, and wrestling events must have a ride **by 6:00 PM**. Students staying after this time will **NOT** be allowed to attend future after school events.

PHYSICALS

Every student who participates in or tries out for an interscholastic sport must have a valid sports physical form on file in the school office.

PRACTICES AND GAMES

Practice sessions are generally held after school. Some evening and Saturday practices may be necessary due to conflicts with other practices, contests, activities, or when coaches deem them necessary. Practices are generally limited to two hours. Athletes are expected to attend all practices and contests except when absent from school, medically excused by a doctor, or excused by the coach. Students who are medically excused from physical education (PE) classes may not participate in practice sessions or contests for the length of time they are excused from PE.

Students who are absent from school for any part of the school day may not participate in practice sessions or contests. Students are considered absent for part of the school day if they arrive at school after first period. Students excused for part of the day for doctor or dental appointments may participate in practice sessions or contests on that day. Students not eligible for practices and contests on the last day of the week due to absence may not participate in school team contests held on the first day of the weekend or the first student non-attendance day.

When practices are held after school, it is the responsibility of the participants to be out of the halls promptly after school, be in their practice locations at the proper time, and to promptly start home or be picked up following practice. When practices are held on Saturdays or during the evening, participants must enter and leave through designated doors, and must remain in the designated practice areas. Students who have games or practices after school may not leave the school grounds before the games or practices unless accompanied by a parent.

SPECTATOR CONDUCT AND SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Any person exhibiting unsportsmanlike, disruptive, or disrespectful behavior at any athletic or extracurricular event at Gompers Junior High School may be ejected from the event by the administrator or designee in charge of the event. The Superintendent or principal may exclude the person from attending future events pending a hearing before the Board of Education. Examples of unsportsmanlike, disruptive, or disrespectful conduct include but are not limited to:

- Gompers students who are below 2.0 will **NOT be** allowed to attend after school athletic events unless they are supervised by a parent/guardian.
- Verbal harassment of participants, players, coaches, officials, and fans from our school or the opposing school.

- Using vulgar or obscene language or gestures.
- Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance.
- Throwing objects/projectiles without authorization from the administration.
- Failing to obey the instructions of a security officer or school district employee.
- Other inappropriate behavior deemed unsportsmanlike, disruptive, or disrespectful by the administrator or designee in charge of the event.

SPORTS

We offer a variety of interscholastic sports throughout the year for students in each grade. The sports scheduled for this school year are:

Fall

Cross CountryBoys and Girls
Basketball.....Girls

Winter

Scholastic Bowl-----Boys and Girls
Basketball.....Boys
WrestlingBoys
Volleyball.....Girls

Spring

SoccerBoys and Girls

TRY-OUTS

We attempt to accommodate the large number of students who wish to participate in interscholastic sports. Sports that can handle large numbers of participants, such as cross-country, and wrestling are operated on a no try-out, no-cut basis.

Since only a limited number of students can play boys basketball (5), girls basketball (5), volleyball (6), or soccer (11) at one time, a limited number of players are selected for these teams through a try-out process. Coaches evaluate students during a careful selection process and team members are announced after this try-out period that is usually three to five days. To help accommodate more students, two teams, a JV team and a Varsity team, are offered for basketball, soccer and volleyball.