



## Letter from the Superintendent

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Dear Grosse Pointe Public School System Families, Staff and Community,

This past May, GPPSS was excited to be awarded a grant by MDHHS to have a health clinic in Grosse Pointe North High School. The clinic would be primarily for students and, based on a variety of socio-economic and health factors, would be housed at our high school building with the most at-risk students, Grosse Pointe North. This clinic would be operated by Beaumont and all of the staff at the clinic, as well as all of the supplies, would be fully funded by the grant. Over 200 of these clinics already exist in Michigan schools.

We sent a notification to the community that we were awarded this grant in our May 24 district newsletter, and began our due diligence with the formal bid process to prepare the space. This past Monday we had a presentation on the clinic to our Board of Education. Many of the details shared with the Board of Education are included in [this FAQ document](#). We will continue to add questions and answers to this document as we receive them.

We will also be hosting a Virtual Town Hall with members of the Beaumont staff this coming Monday, November 21, from 5-6 p.m. You are welcome to [submit questions in advance of the town hall using this form](#). The town hall will be [Livestreamed and recorded](#) so you can watch it at a time that is most convenient for you.

While you are of course welcome to read the [FAQ](#) and watch the virtual town hall, I wanted to share my 'why' for supporting this opportunity for our students. Initially, I started a list of reasons why I support this grant, but really it is simple:

**This clinic will provide free medical care to our kids** - the grant guarantees that all students who need care at this clinic will receive FREE care, regardless of insurance.

As a person with good health insurance I have lost track of just how expensive it is to access health care. So, earlier today I called Beaumont Urgent Care on Mack, explained that I had a child with an earache (that is not true, but I thought that would get me the best information) and that I didn't have insurance. They informed me that it would cost me \$155 just to have my child seen by a medical professional.

Based on the data from our grant application, we have a considerable number of students who do not have health insurance. I know that these students without affordable access to health care will be absent from school more, will be less ready to learn and will consequently, not benefit from our outstanding teachers and staff. Even for our students with health care, all copays will be waived if the student is seen at the clinic.

As the chief advocate for the kids of GPPSS, the decision to support this clinic and access to high quality, no-cost medical care is something I can easily support. Please review the [FAQ](#), [send your questions](#) in for the [Virtual Town Hall](#), and continue to seek more information by contacting us at [info@gpschools.org](mailto:info@gpschools.org).

Sincerely,

Jon Dean  
GPPSS Superintendent