



# A Proven Record of Success

## Vision

### Statement

Excellence in  
Education:  
Learning and  
Leading for  
Today and  
Tomorrow

## Mission

### Statement

The Grosse Pointe School System, in partnership with students, staff, parents and community, will be at the forefront of education.

An evolving curriculum and the highest standards of instruction and learning in every class, every day, will ensure that each student is challenged to fully develop individual abilities, skills and character to succeed in life.

We are committed to creating an environment that cultivates knowledgeable, responsible, and caring citizens who embrace life's possibilities with a passion for continuous learning.

## General Statistics about Our Schools

- 98% of students graduate district-wide
- Students are accepted at over 160 colleges, university and military academy programs
- North and South High Schools are recognized as Top U.S. High Schools in Newsweek
- Over \$1.2 million in Michigan Merit Scholarships are awarded yearly
- National Merit Scholars and Commended Students, Advanced Placement Scholars are recognized each year
- GPPSS is fully accredited by North Central Association and the State of Michigan's Ed Yes!
- State, national and presidential citations for academic excellence are awarded yearly
- Standards are continually raised to keep students competitive at a national level

## Programs That Make A Difference

### Learning Options to Support Success

- A continuum of services K-12 includes elementary reading support, learning resource rooms, academic assistance and other targeted supports to assist students
- Community High School, a non-traditional approach to learning and school success
- Barnes Early Childhood Center, featured on national television for outstanding preschool programs
- Outstanding program and staff recognition by Michigan Council for Exceptional Children

### Advanced Placement

- A majority of students enroll in at least one of the 20 advanced placement courses to earn college credit, and Grosse Pointe South has the highest AP ranking in Michigan
- Option for dual enrollment in courses at local universities provide students college credit
- Rigorous middle school honors classes in language arts and mathematics prepare for high school AP
- Magnet classes and advanced instruction for gifted students in grades 2-5 extend learning options

### Foreign Language Programs

- Foreign language study begins in sixth grade
- Students are invited to Spanish, French, German, Latin and Italian language honors societies
- Top awards in state and national competitions and examinations are received annually

### Special education and other learning options to support success

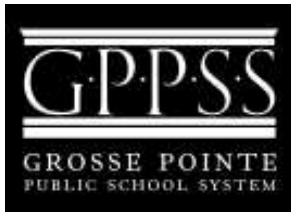
- Eligible students from birth through 25 years of age identified as disabled receive services or instruction at home, in school or in the community.
- Programs and staff continue to receive state awards and recognition.

### Personalized Guidance and Counseling Services

- Student-generated Educational Development Plan to guide high school course selection and build a foundation for career and college decisions

### Challenging Independent Study

- Summer programs and mentoring in areas of interest.



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## Five Guiding Principles of Our Strategic Plan

- Being accountable
- Building partnerships at every level
- Fostering a collaborative culture that develops and capitalizes on leadership skills at every level
- Pursuit of educational excellence for every student, each and every day
- Creating a safe and caring environment that fosters respect and instills responsibility in each individual

## Highly Qualified Staff

- Highly competent staff, teaching in their content major, continue their training in local workshops, graduate and staff development programs
- Teachers are recognized at the county, state and national level as Teacher of the Year - Jessica Roman (Wayne County), Jane Ellis (WalMart Award), Valerie Ash (The Detroit News), Susan Speirs, (Michigan Science Teachers Association), Shawn McNamara (Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association), Jeannie Brousseau (Michigan Social Studies Association) - and Who's Who in American Education - Bettina Amato—and Einstein Scholar at the U.S. Department of Education - Mark Davids
- Administrative and teaching staff serve on state level advisory groups to develop state initiatives and programs, design state MEAP Assessments and create state curriculum and standards
- High School staff received commendation by the National Council of Teachers of English for writing

## Extracurricular Activities

### Award-winning Fine and Performing Arts Programs

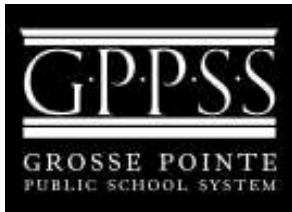
- Fine and performing arts instruction in elementary, middle and high school
- Elementary strings and band offerings attract over 80-90% of students yearly
- Vocal and instrumental students achieve the high first division ratings at local, state and national competitions
- Students perform as members of the state honors ensembles, at the National Cathedral, Detroit International Jazz Festival, Toronto Music Festival, Festival Disney, Jazz on the Plaza.
- Thespian Troupe received national recognition
- South Show Choir hosted national competition as returning Grand Champions
- Many Gold and Silver Key National Scholastic Art Awards winners each year

### Outstanding Publications

- Pierce Trojan Times achieved 6th Gold Crown Award (national record)
- South Tower annually wins numerous Columbia Scholastic Press Awards
- North Pointe received first place award from The American Scholastic Press Association and Silver Medal from the Spartan Newspaper Contest Middle and high school literary magazines recognized for excellence

### Interscholastic and intramural sports, clubs and extra-curricular activities

- Exemplary High School athletic programs, as designated by MHSAA, offer 31 sports, 120 teams and have a record of over 800 championships.
- 60% of high school students participate in at least one sport
- Over 70% of athletes maintain a 3.0 grade point average
- Quiz Bowl, DECA, Math Counts, Destination Imagination, Odyssey of the Mind, Debate Teams, Chemistry Olympiad, CAD, Science and Engineering Fair Teams excel at the state and national level
- Community service activities support United Way, Red Cross, COTS, Habitat for Humanity, Heart Association and other organizations
- Key Club, Kocots and Mock Trial Team received state honors



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## **Structural Support for Programming**

### **Significant improvements to science facilities, fine and performing arts venues and athletic fields**

- New high school science buildings and renovated middle school facilities support access to the tools needed for a top quality program
- Renovation of fine and performing arts venues provides new lighting, sound,, seating and other updates
- Synthetic turf extends field use and saves money

### **Strategic Renovations in each school building**

- Upgrades of windows and heating/cooling systems increase energy efficiency
- Roof and infrastructure improvements follow district audit schedule

### **Technology Integrated into Instruction and Business Operations**

- Technology Plan guided purchase, deployment and upgrade of various technological tools and software