



GATE CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PLAN

2023 - 2024

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SCOTT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Vision & Mission Statements

Vision
Every Child, Every Opportunity

Mission
It is the mission of Gate City Middle School to develop lifelong learners who value themselves and others, contribute to their community, and are college and career ready.

PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

The Gate City Middle School administration and staff accept as their responsibility the enabling of all students to meet academic requirements and to become productive citizens. Students must be provided with educational opportunities which reflect their varied environments, motivations, and talents. Working closely with all community stakeholders, Gate City Middle School provides a safe, structured environment in which students develop an awareness of the changing world around them, a desire for continuous learning, and a sense of personal responsibility.

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PLAN COMMITTEE


Amy Sallee	Principal
Rhea McConnell	Assistant Principal
Rebecca Baker	School Counselor
Tara Dillion	Bookkeeper
Holli Frasier	Teacher/School Plan Team Leader
Marah Mullins	Teacher/School Plan Team Leader
Aaron Hillman	Special Education Teacher
Stacey Keller	Parent
Addison Keller	Student

ACCREDITATION

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Gate City Middle School(GCMS) was accredited based on school quality indicators such as academic achievements, achievement gaps, and chronic absenteeism. The information displayed below outlines the performance levels of Gate City Middle School:

Academic Achievement		
English	Level One	
Mathematics	Level One	
Science	Level One	

Achievement Gaps		
English	Level Two	
Mathematics	Level One	

Student Engagement & Outcomes		
Chronic Absenteeism	Level Two	

Accredited: All indicators at Level One or Level Two or Waiver
 Accredited With Conditions: One or more indicators at Level Three
 Accreditation Denied: Under State Sanction

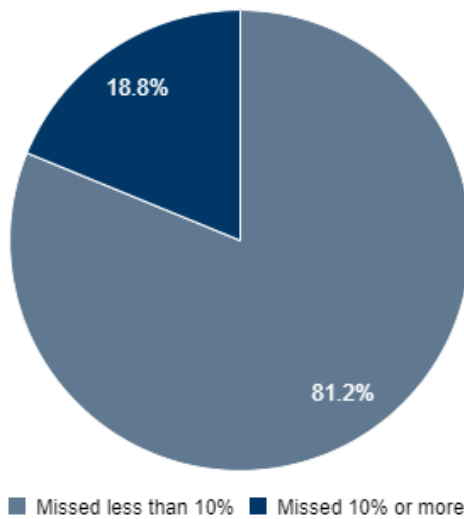
Data based on the achievements and progress of various demographic groups allows GCMS to identify learners in need of additional support and resources.

Student Group	Achievement Gap - English	Achievement Gap - Math
Asian	Level One 	No Students 
Black	Too Small 	Level One 
Economically Disadvantaged	Level One 	Level One 
English Learners	Level One 	Level One 
Hispanic	Level Two 	Level One 
Multiple Races	Level One 	Level One 
Students with Disabilities	Level Three 	Level One 
White	Level One 	Level One 

Students who attend school consistently are more likely to succeed. Based on that fact, GCMS identifies students who are chronically absent throughout the school year. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year regardless of reason. The charts below outline the rating of chronic absenteeism for Gate City Middle School.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic Absenteeism 2022-2023 School Year: All Students



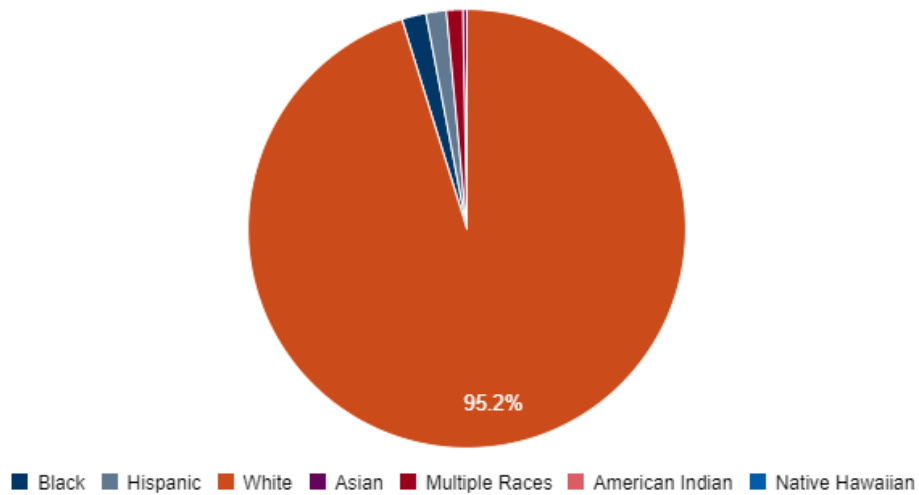
Chronic Absenteeism Detail				
Data Source	Less than 10% Absenteeism	At or above 10% Absenteeism	Total Students	Rate
2022 - 2023	268	62	330	18.79
2021 - 2022	250	65	315	20.63
2018 - 2019	301	29	330	8.79

DEMOGRAPHICS

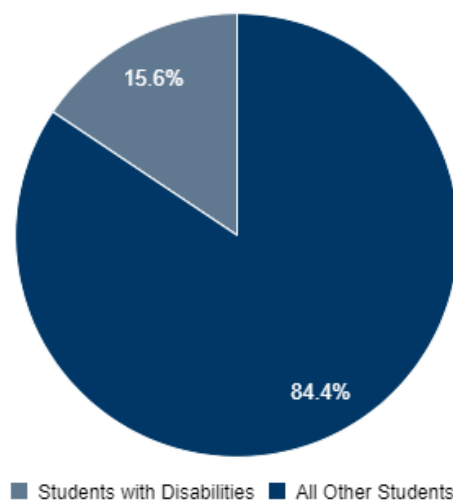
Student Enrollment:

Grade	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Grade 7	159	165	173
Grade 8	162	164	160
Total Students	321	329	333

Race and Ethnic Groups:

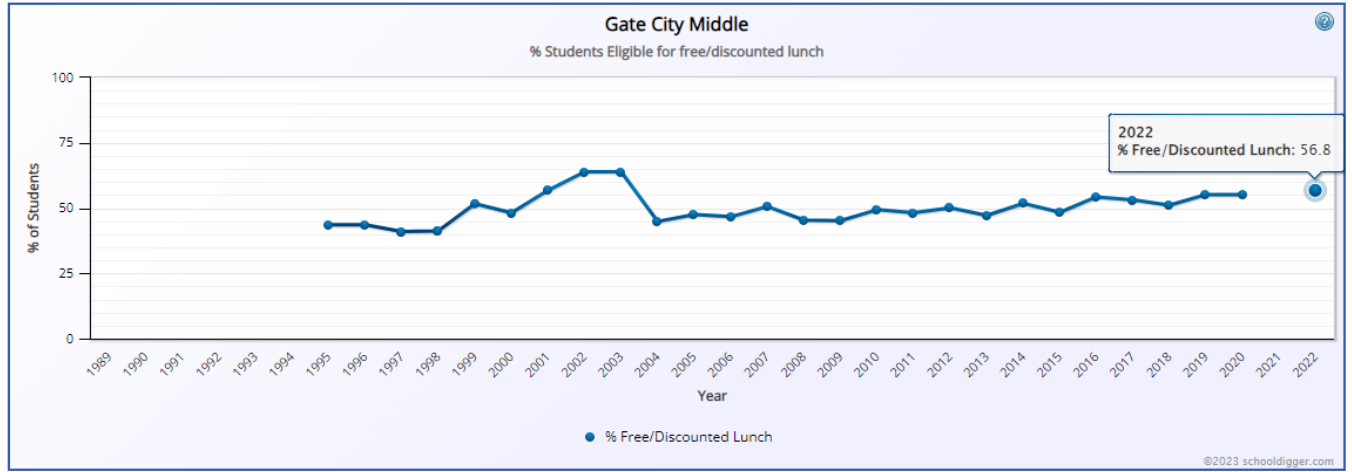


Students with Disabilities:



DEMOGRAPHICS CONTINUED

Students Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch:



Student Teacher Ratio:

Year	# Students	Full-time Teachers	Student/Teacher ratio	% Free/Discounted Lunch
2019	330	26.8	12.2	55.2
2020	339	23.2	14.5	55.2
2021	321	25.6	12.5	n/a
2022	329	26.3	12.4	56.8

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of involving stakeholders within the community in school events. Those stakeholders play a key role in promoting the overall school and student success. Below is a list of businesses and community organizations within the community that GCMS partners with:

- Food Lion
- Food City
- Rotary Club of Scott County
- Gate City Police Department
- Scott County Sheriff's Office
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Pal's
- McDonald's
- Campus Drive-In
- Wadlow Gap Ruritan
- Scott County Department of Social Services
- The Lion's Club
- VA Smiles

PRIORITIES

Priority 1 - High Academic Standards

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of student achievement on Standards of Learning (SOL) and Growth Assessment tests (VGA). We plan to prepare middle school students to meet and exceed the requirements mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Measurable Objectives

- GCMS will meet or exceed the required state accreditation standards in English, math, science, and history and will continue to maintain or improve on the previous year's pass rates.
- GCMS will show measurable progress for all students on Virginia Growth Assessments (VGA).

Indicators

- Teachers will utilize the VDOE SOL Curriculum Framework.
- Teachers will correlate lesson plans to Standards of Learning.
- Adequate funding will be provided for the purchase of SOL instructional materials.
- Teachers will utilize data from Virginia Growth Assessment (VGA) to identify strengths and areas of improvement, as well as to guide instruction.
- Teachers will utilize Bloom's Taxonomy and teach with high standards of rigor.
- Teachers will provide additional remediation as needed.
- Specific needs will be addressed in the area of writing.
- Teachers will utilize differentiated instruction to meet the needs of every student.
- GCMS will offer an after-school program (ASP) to help students with identified gaps in learning.

Priority 2 - Attendance

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands that students must be present at school to obtain academic success. We plan to communicate attendance policies and work with families to maintain good attendance for our students.

Measurable Objectives

- Chronic absenteeism at GCMS will be less than 15% as a whole. Individual student absences should be less than 10%.
- GCMS will communicate attendance policies to students and families.
- GCMS will work with the SCPS Truancy Officer to assist families with attendance issues.
- GCMS will create an attendance committee to monitor attendance.

- GCMS will incorporate an attendance incentive plan to decrease chronic absenteeism.

Indicators

- Attendance reports will be reviewed weekly to identify “high risk” students.
- Teachers will notify administration with concerns regarding attendance.
- Phone calls will be made home to check on absent students.
- Parents will receive letters informing them on the number of student absences.
- Students will be provided with incentives throughout the school year to help increase attendance rates.

Priority 3 - Career/College Readiness

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of preparing students for college and careers beyond high school. We plan to prepare middle school students for entry into high school and career readiness.

Measurable Objectives

- Students will investigate types of diplomas, as well as routes for achieving those diplomas.
- Students will be given the opportunity to explore future careers.
- GCMS SPED teachers will meet with GCHS SPED teachers to assist with the middle school to high school transition.

Indicators

- Students will meet with the school counselor to complete individual graduation plans.
- All 8th grade students will take Career Investigations.
- GCMS students will participate in Major Clarity, a program used to engage students in career exploration.
- GCMS students will participate in United Way’s *Ignite* program, which includes an annual career fair with a focus on jobs throughout southwest Virginia.

Priority 4 - Communication/Community Involvement

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of a strong home-school relationship in student success. We plan to form partnerships with families and work together to help each child be successful.

Measurable Objectives

- GCMS administration and teachers will communicate with parents regarding students' performance within the classroom.
- Parents of upcoming 7th graders will be given the opportunity to explore the school building and meet with teachers.
- GCMS administration will partner with stakeholders within the community to help promote student success.
- Administration and teachers will keep parents and community members aware of positive aspects happening within GCMS.

Indicators

- GCMS will utilize School Messenger to communicate with families.
- GCMS will encourage teachers to make positive contacts with families.
- Parents/guardians will be provided academic and attendance reports at the mid-term and at the end of each nine-week period.
- The Parent Portal will be available to parents/guardians to view students' grades and progress.
- GCMS will hold an orientation for 7th grade students and families.
- GCMS will work with Food Lion for Student of the Month incentives.
- GCMS will create a schoolwide Twitter and Facebook account to improve home-school communication.

Priority 5 - Social and Emotional Wellness

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of social and emotional wellness of our students. We plan to proactively work with students and families to meet the needs of our students.

Measurable Objectives

- GCMS will implement the new SCPS Social Emotional Learning program.
- GCMS administration and the school counselor will be available to support students as needed.
- GCMS has implemented a "Kindness Wall" which allows students to show respect and appreciation for fellow students, faculty, and staff.

Indicators

- Number of discipline referrals
- Number of school counseling sessions
- School climate survey
- Teachers will display the Kindness Wall each morning prior to the beginning of 1st Block.

Priority 6 - Professional Growth and Development

Goal Statement

Gate City Middle School understands the importance of professional growth and development for our teachers. We plan to provide teachers continued support in the classroom and opportunities to grow within the profession.

Measurable Objectives

- Teachers will be provided professional development opportunities based on needs.
- Workshops will be provided with a focus on student engagement, collaboration strategies, differentiated instruction, classroom management, technology, and school safety training for teachers
- New teachers at GCMS will be provided with resources to ensure classroom success.

Indicators

- Teachers will complete a survey to express professional development needs and interests.
- Administration will develop a plan to meet the professional development needs based on faculty and staff responses.
- Teachers will be encouraged to attend the various professional development workshops which will be scheduled at flexible times.
- New teachers will participate in a mentorship program where they are given opportunities to communicate with and observe experienced teachers.

References

Virginia Department of Education, School Quality Profiles.

<http://schoolquality.virginia.gov/virginia-state-quality-profile>

School Digger, Gate City Middle School.

<https://www schooldigger.com/go/VA/schools/0348002132/school.aspx>