



Gardner Elementary Board Report, January 2025

Team Member of the Month

Here are the comments offered by Gardner teachers and staff about Rachel Huffman:



"I would like to nominate Rachel for her strength. During the past few months she has navigated coaching, teaching, being a loving mom wife; along with helping a student as he watched his mother slowly fade away. This morning as I walked in the first thing I saw was Mrs. Huffman with this student at his locker placing Christmas magnets around his locker. There is no doubt that she was put in his life at this moment. She is a warrior and woman of strength who offers such gentleness and kindness."

"She has been a positive person through a recent tough time for a student." Rachel Huffman is also a language arts leader at Gardner and accepted the opportunity to pilot a new curriculum.

Recent Events

- In December, fourth grade students traveled to Busch Stadium for their field trip. One of the biggest takeaways was that Stan Musial never argued a call in his career.
- Congratulations to Team Pontious and Team Shufelt for their Reindeer Game Day victories.
- We enjoyed our holiday party at Waterloo Country Club on December 19 with our Tequila's luncheon the following day.
- We revised our schedule for the first two days of the second semester to review expectations and stay active while teachers planned for Reading WIN and WIN.
- Our current POP lesson is about being a good sport. We are playing a game called Head, Shoulders, Cup, which might be the favorite of the year so far. It helps us practice being a good sport.
- On our recent half day, grades 3-5 teachers and administrators met to discuss piloting a new reading/writing curriculum. We are very hopeful about our ELA future.

BE A GOOD SPORT!

S=**SMILE**, WIN OR LOSE.
P=**PLAY** FAIR AND KIND IN EVERY WAY.
O=**OKAY** WITH OUTCOME.
R=**RESPECT** THE RULES AND CALLS.
T=**TURN IT AROUND** IF SOMEONE IS MAD OR SAD.



Looking Forward

- January 28. NAEP test for students with 2015 birth year
- February 3. Gardner Parent Book Club meeting at 6:30 pm. It's the first one!
- February 12. Fourth grade dental hygiene day during science classes with Dr. Jodi Hentscher
- February 22. Bulldog Spirit Rummage Sale sponsored by SHOW Student Senate.
- February 25. Spelling Bee
- March 4. Live Line Safety Demonstration with Monroe County Electric
- March 21. Kids Heart Challenge
- Week of March 31. IAR Testing
- April 24. Kickoff Night for current grades 3 and 4 families