



The MONTHLY NEWS

GOLDENDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Board Report : Sept '25

Family Connections

- **Participation:** Across grades, participation ranged from 84%–100%, with most classes reporting over 90% attendance.
- **Focus:** Conferences centered on “Who is your child and who do they aspire to be?” using student/parent interview questions and family aspirations.
- **Trends Identified:**
 1. Families consistently emphasized the importance of their children being happy and kind, not just academically successful.
 2. Math emerged repeatedly as a point of pride and a focus area for growth.
 3. Parents appreciated the format shift toward student-centered conversations.
- **Action Steps:** Teachers are integrating family input into classroom practices (career exploration, resilience-building, growth mindset activities) and maintaining strong relational connections with families.

Lead Learners

- **Focus:** Teachers are beginning the process of identifying “lead learners,” with early emphasis on students who:
 - Show academic disengagement or need targeted support (notably in math and reading).
 - Represent diverse learner profiles (ML, highly capable, kinesthetic/visual learners).
- **Trends:** Teachers are reporting stronger collaboration to analyze patterns in engagement, tailor supports, and diversify instructional strategies. Some are piloting check-in/check-out systems, motivational math, and exploratory career activities to respond to learner needs.

Preliminary Data

- **Assessment Status:**
 - i-Ready math and reading diagnostics underway or recently completed.
 - STAR Reading and IXL assessments used for additional benchmarks.
 - SEL check-ins and weekly activities embedded across classrooms.
- **Concerns:** Wide range of academic readiness, including ML students needing more support and some students testing multiple grade levels below. Large class sizes in some areas are also a challenge.
- **Celebrations:** Early i-Ready results in 6th grade show stronger starting scores than recent years. Teachers report highly motivated student groups and very positive classroom energy.

Student Celebrations

- Students are embracing **career exploration activities**, showing excitement in connecting learning to their futures.
- Classrooms are reporting **growth mindset breakthroughs**, with students more willing to take risks and learn from mistakes.
- A strong sense of **community pride and enthusiasm** is present, setting a positive tone for the year.