

GCS Middle School News

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KidLead to Begin This Fall

**By Adam Rasmussen,
Principal**

Research shows that 10-20% of the general population is gifted with leadership aptitude. KidLead is an exciting program specially designed to develop leadership among middle school students.

Developed by Christian author and leadership expert, Dr. Alan Nelson, KidLead employs advanced learning methods to teach 16 of the most sought after leadership qualities in kids ages 11-14.

Michael Kinslow and I went to KidLead training in California in order to bring the program to our campus in the fall of 2011. The first 90 minute session begins at 4:00, Monday, September 12



and will run for eight weeks.

We are seeking young leaders and parent "Koaches" to commit to the first eight week module (Faith-Based Module "Orange"- commitment, optimism, conflict, and change). All KidLead dates for the fall and spring semesters have been cleared by the

athletic director. There will be no GCS middle school practices or games during the KidLead meetings. That means that our young leaders who play sports can participate in KidLead too!

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New Math Teacher

After an extensive search and a rigorous interview process we have hired Elizabeth Hales as our 7th and 8th grade math teacher, starting August 1. She is

a certified teacher with a degree in mathematics. Mrs. Hales has taught math at the college, high school, and jr. high levels for over 10 years. She challenges and

encourages her students with an engaging presentation style that keeps the class on their toes. We are grateful for God's provision in our math department!

***The Mission of
GCS Middle School***

“To transform students into effective communicators, critical thinkers, and servant leaders who will impact the world for the glory of Jesus Christ.”

More Instructional Time for Math and English

GCS values reading, writing, and arithmetic. This year we upgraded our middle school math and English programs with new curriculum-

Pearson’s Prentice Hall for math and Mosdos Literature Studies for English. Excellent curriculum will continue to pay big dividends in student academic

achievement for years to come. For more detailed information regarding our curriculum, please see our website.

In addition, adjustments in the schedule have been made for the 2011-2012 school year which will bolster math and English instruction. In August the middle school campus will

be increasing the instructional time in math and English classes from 49 minutes to 75 minutes daily.

Increasing daily time on task with important math and English concepts will further prepare students for high school.

New English Teacher

Our middle school is blessed with wonderful Christian teachers. Every year we are absolutely amazed and astounded to see how the Lord brings together just the right mix of individuals to our team at GCS. Once again we can thank Him for His provision.

We are grateful for our newest teacher to our school, Dorene McLaughlin. She will be our 7th and 8th grade English teacher, starting August 1. Mrs. McLaughlin is a certified teacher with both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in English. Mrs. McLaughlin began teaching in 1991 and has

taught at the high school, middle school, and elementary levels. She leads her students to be better communicators and critical thinkers through a variety of creative means. Mrs. McLaughlin is a committed believer with a strong Christian testimony.

Last Week of School

The last week of school is quickly approaching. Here are some helpful details. First of all, Monday and Tuesday, May 23-24 will be normal academic days. In fact, some teachers are having finals those days.

Wednesday, May 25 is a water day for the middle school. A flyer will be sent home via email with more details. We have a need for parent volunteers this day. If you would like to serve at the barbeque (10 am to 1 pm commitment)

or with one of the rotations (12:30-3:25 commitment) please let us know. You can contact Dena Wall at denawall@cox.net. We could use your help. It is going to be a lot of fun!

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www.gilbertchristianschools.org

Last Week of School

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Thursday, May 26 is the last day of school.

The day will consist of handing in materials, a yearbook signing party, and an assembly.

Students will be dismissed at 11:30.



KidLead (continued from page 1)

The cost of this program is \$250 per participant per module. This covers the cost of the materials, t-shirt, notebook, and 12 hours of training. However, to get this excellent program started **we are offering a \$100 scholarship** to every student who qualifies for the program. That brings the cost down to \$150 per module for the 2011-2012 school year. For parents wanting to be a KidLead Koach there is a one-time cost of \$50 which covers the nice polo shirt, book, and training materials.

The first step to get involved is to fill out a

free survey. All GCS middle school students are encouraged to complete the Social Influence Survey at <http://isite157254.web08.intellisite.com/374945.ihtml> The website for KidLead is www.kidlead.com.

In the section that asks for trainer information, please put my email address arasmussen@gilbertchristianschools.org so the results will be sent to my office. While you are at the website check out all of the helpful tools and information.

The deadline for Student SIS forms for the fall

module is August 15.

Pray that God will use this program to develop your leaders for His glory. As Jesus said in Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many."

