Gompers Elementary School
School Supplement to the District Policy Guide
Dear Gompers Families,

Welcome to Samuel Gompers Elementary School!

Our school is a great place to be for many reasons. We are a small neighborhood school with an enrollment of approximately 250 students which makes it a fairly unique experience for our students in that every staff member gets to know all the children fairly quickly. It truly is a close family experience for staff and children alike. I am honored to be a part of this wonderful school community. Our curriculum is rigorous and teacher teams work together to plan using the Common Core State Standards. Through these standards, we are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that each child is prepared for college, career, and the community by the time he/she completes high school. Our goal is to teach students to read and think critically, solve problems, and communicate effectively orally and in print, and to utilize technology in relevant ways. We will give the children the tools to be thoughtful, responsible citizens who will be ready to take their place in the world.

Here at Gompers, our children are given the tools to succeed academically, and socially, and emotionally while we embrace their cultural and linguistic identity as an asset to our school community. The instruction in all our learning environments promotes academic risk-taking and nurtures a love of learning. A partnership between school and home is essential for students to be successful. We are committed to working collaboratively with our parents to provide results oriented instruction that focuses on the growth and achievement of each student. Also, we believe all families can support the growth of their students and encourage them to connect with us frequently to ensure we embrace all of the strengths of our students. We encourage our parents to take an active role in the academic growth of our students by reading to their children in any language, conducting rich conversations in the car and at the dinner table, talking about the possibilities of college and career choices, etc. We also expect that our families will encourage children to persevere in the face of challenges and never give up and we will support you in this endeavor.

We value all of your voices and ideas. If you have ideas, thoughts, or concerns you’d like to share, we’d love to hear them. You are always welcome to visit the school.
Thank you for sharing your children with us.

Kindly,

Jackie Smith
Principal
608-204-4520

Telephone
OFFICE: (608) 204-4520
FAX: (608) 204-0413
ATTENDANCE / SAFE ARRIVAL: (608) 204-4522

Web address
https://gompers.madison.k12.wi.us
facebook.com/MMSDGompers

Address
1502 Wyoming Way
Madison, WI 53704

School Hours
Mondays 8:30 a.m. - 1:55 p.m. (Early release)
Tuesdays-Fridays 8:30 a.m. - 3:27 p.m.
School Equity vision
We at Gompers have a shared responsibility to make everyone feel safe, valued and supported by creating a culturally and linguistically responsive environment to foster independent learners.

Key Policies and Guidelines

Attendance
Students must be at school before 8:30 to be considered present and on-time. If your child will be absent or late, please call the safe arrival line at 204-4522 to inform the office of the nature of the absence/delay.

Child Care
The YMCA provides before and after school care at Gompers. This is a fee-based program, and tuition assistance is available to those who qualify. For more information, please visit www.ymcadanecounty.org.

Visitor Policy
Any visitor entering the building must enter the main door and sign-in using the visitor log in the main office. Also, a visitor badge must be worn at all times while they are in the building. Thank you for respecting our visitor policy to ensure our students and staff are safe.

Emergency Situations
Students are taught procedures for maintaining safety during emergencies. Monthly fire drills, yearly tornado drills, and biannual code red drills are practiced.

Fees
Fee waivers are available on request. Determinations are made and responded to in a timely manner. Please inquire in the office as necessary.

Family Engagement
We want to welcome all of our volunteers who so generously give of their time, to help Gompers students and staff. Volunteering helps the community and students and school to be successful.

Volunteers are needed on both a regular basis, such as helping a student read or do their math, Family Nights, field trips on an occasional basis.

Picking up your child during the school day
To ensure the safety of your child, please send a note in advance to your child’s teacher or the office. We require parents to come into our office and sign out the student. We will call the classroom to have the student sent down to the office to meet the parents. Please remember anyone picking up a student must be authorized and listed in Infinite Campus. Once school is in session, no non-school staff (including parents) will be allowed to go to a classroom unaccompanied and pick up a child.

Find more information in the district policy guide, found at www.mmsd.org/policy-guide.
Remember to ...

Observe all street signs as well as all traffic, parking and pedestrian laws. The Madison Police Department will ticket any driver who breaks these laws while dropping off/picking up their child:

• “No Parking” areas do allow for drop off or pick up, but you cannot leave your car unattended.

• “No Stopping, Standing, or Parking” means that student drop off/pick up is NOT allowed.

• It is illegal to leave your car unattended in a fire lane. It is also illegal to park within 10 feet of a fire hydrant.

• It is illegal to park within: 4 feet of a driveway; 20 feet of a crosswalk; and 30 feet of a stop sign.

• It is illegal to make a U-turn or any other type of turn around on Wyoming Way.

• Motorists must yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing a street at any marked or unmarked crosswalk where there is no traffic signal.

• Please use designated crosswalks.

• U-turns are illegal in the crosswalk.

If you drive your child to school:
Be early, park along the side streets, and walk to school.

Student Supervision begins at 8:00 every day and ends at 2:00 on Monday & 3:30 Tuesday-Friday!

Important Child Safety Information!

Let’s Make Getting To & From School Safe!

Important Safety Information
For Gompers Elementary
**Riding the Bus**

If your child rides a bus to school:

* Use safe walking strategies to and from the bus stop.
* Remind students to go directly home.
* If possible have an adult at the bus stop. Perhaps neighbors can take turns.
* Appropriate bus behavior is required. Children can and will lose the privilege of riding the bus if misbehaviors occur repeatedly.

**Driving to School**

If you drive your child to school, here are Drop Off/Pick Up Options:

--Designated Drop-Off/Pick Up Places:

**Along Wyoming Way:** In front of the school, to the East of the Esch Lane, there are areas on either side of the street. The area closest to the school is a designated drop-off area and signage states, “Drop Off, Pick Up Only While Vehicle Attended”. You must remain in your vehicle while dropping off/picking up your child.

**On Esch Lane:** There is parking available on the East side of Esch in front of the school. Have your child cross with the Crossing Guard.

**Along Delaware Blvd:** Drop off/Pick up your child along Delaware Blvd and have him/her walk down Esch, utilizing the crossing guard(s) located at Esch and Wyoming Way and/or Esch Lane and Delaware Blvd.

**Walking**

If your child walks to school:

* Use safe walking strategies.
* Remind students to go directly home.
* Establish 2 safe walking routes.
* Cross the street at intersections only.
* Obey the crossing guard.
* Obey student Safety Patrols.

**IMPORTANT!**

**DO NOT** pick up or drop off your child in the parking lot located to the West of Blackhawk Middle School. This lot is for staff only and those who require handicap accessibility. If you choose to park in the Blackhawk lot, and do not require handicap access, you will be redirected by office staff to walk around the outside of the building and enter by the main office outside of Gompers.

**Drop off, pick up, or parking is not allowed in the front of the school where the buses load and unload.**

**At the beginning of every school year, families must designate a specific transportation plan for each student when they enroll. Please inform the office immediately if and when your transportation plans change.**