



GSD Quarterly Counseling Department Newsletter

Upcoming Monthly Themes

- **September**

- ⇒ Suicide Prevention Month
- ⇒ Focus on Attendance
- ⇒ 9/20: Parent Information Night

- **October**

- ⇒ Bully Prevention Month
- ⇒ Hispanic Heritage Month (9/15-10/15)

- **November**

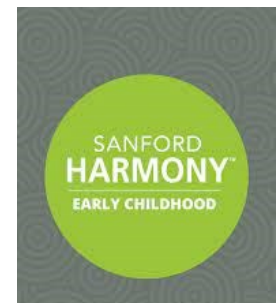
- ⇒ Día de los Muertos Celebration
- ⇒ Honoring Veterans Day



BASE is our Social and Emotional Learning platform. At GMS and GHS, we will begin with BASE on the week of September 19th.

We will start with the Welcome Course and BASEline Assessment and work our way into our Getting to Know you course and Digital Citizenship, where student will learn about safety while using technology and appropriate behavior in the digital world including the use of cell phones, texting, social media.

In the Month of November, we will move on to our course on Suicide Education and Prevention to help educate on depression, facts about suicide, risk and protective factors, and guides students through proper intervention strategies.



GES is using Sanford Harmony with our Kindergarten students while the 1st through 5th graders will be using our Base program. First quarter topics include Who am I?, Healthy Communications, Healthy Relationships. Responsibility, Respect and Emotions.

The updated scope and sequence of our program will be updated on the website by 9/16 for parents.



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GES/GMS

- Remember to use the new DESSA platform link: <https://app.apertureed.com/>
- Rating Window opens on **9/26** and closes on **10/14**.
- Homeroom teachers or Advisors will initially rate your students using the DESSA-mini test (takes approximately 1-2 minutes/student).
- The system will then automatically open a DESSA-full (takes approximately 5 minutes/student) for any student who rates at a T-score of 40 or lower.
- Both tests need to be completed during that rating window, so it is advised you take the -mini test as early into the rating window as possible.

GHS

- Your students take the self-inventory assessment (they complete it on their own during advisory; an adult does not complete it for them).
- Your rating window is the same (**9/26-10/14**); you'll only do BOY and EOY assessments (GES/GMS will also do a MOY one in Jan/Feb).
- To have your students create their accounts, go to <https://student.apertureed.com>
- Select: "I have an Access Code" and enter the code emailed to you (or ask Andrew)
- Enter their Student ID, complete the registration process, and complete the self-assessment (it would probably be wise to set aside one full advisory period for it)