



Arthur R. Gould School
675 Westbrook St.
South Portland, ME 04106
Principal – Peter Badalament

June 11th, 2025,

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Arthur R. Gould School is committed to providing students with enrichment opportunities while complying with Maine Department of Education standards. Our school provides education to detained and committed students and meets their academic needs for the duration of their status. Such opportunities include academic content areas, special education, education transition support, and supplemental learning programs. Every Student Succeeds Act is a grant that provides our school with funding opportunities to address educational needs for the coming school year. Based on a comprehensive needs assessment, our team developed the following projects and budget to ensure students' success in academics is supported.

Project Title: Supplemental Programming & Transitional Skills

Budgeted Amount: \$ 92,238.00

Proposed Project Overview:

Supplemental Programming provides students with learning opportunities focused on their areas of interest while complying with state education standards. Instruction can occur in-person or utilizing online platforms. This project will promote successful student transitions from Arthur R. Gould to the identified education pathway (i.e., High School, Adult Education, or College) and community. This includes partnering with local agencies, online programs, and curriculum focused on soft skill building and career exploration. This project may support hosting community events to support continued relationships with parents, guardians, and community providers as the student transitions to the community. A need for education-based supplies during student transition would be supported within this project, in addition to continuing education for teachers on curriculum support to meet the needs of the youth.

Proposed Project Specifics:

Increasing Parent/Guardian Engagement

Opportunity for residents' parents or legal guardians to meaningfully engage with A.R. Gould teachers is currently limited. This goal focuses on the desire to provide regular communication between teachers and residents' parents or legal guardians to obtain parent feedback and update parents on student progress. Additionally, bi-annual events (at minimum) for parents and students to come together would benefit the students' progress, not only in school but also mental health. This could consist of a summer kick-off event, holiday dinners, virtual parents' night, student work event/display, etc. An annual parent survey would also be considered to obtain continuous feedback.

Individualized Curriculum Support and Framework Standardization

A.R. Gould does not currently utilize an individualized curriculum framework or lesson plans to support teachers and students. Specialized curriculum is essential for high-risk/high-needs students, as each student is not at the same educational level and requires teachers to "meet them where they are at". Having a curriculum framework and lesson planning will support teachers as well as students.

Transitional Support Services

A.R. Gould will continue to expand on transitional services for students. As this is a critical period in a student's life, it is essential to provide robust and consistent transitional services to ensure successful reintegration into the community. This goal would focus on creating additional opportunities for students to learn more about their community, careers, and various educational paths that may be available and/or of interest to them.

The Arthur R. Gould School administration is inviting parents, guardians, and community members to share comments, suggestions, or questions regarding our proposed projects for the 2025-2026 School year.

Your feedback can be provided by June 27th, 2025, by the attached online submission form.

We thank you for your dedication to your students' continued success and connection with our education team.

Thank you.

Peter Badalament
Principal
Arthur R Gould School