

# Welcome to Gaines Elementary School

**Michael L. Gibbons, Principal**

**Bachelor of Science Degree**

Arizona State University

**Teacher Certification**

University of Michigan-Flint

**Master of Arts Degree**

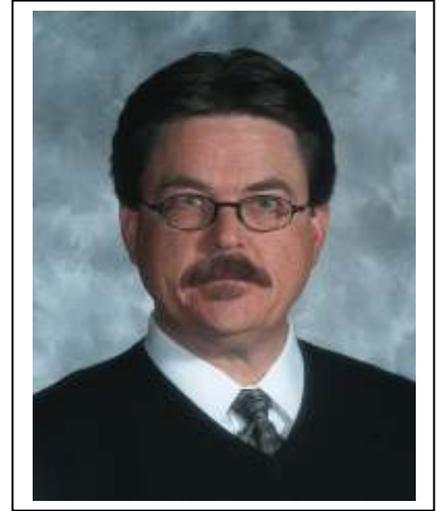
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

**Advanced Post-Graduate Work:**

Eastern Michigan University

Michigan State University

**Central Michigan University**



## Michael L. Gibbons

Mr. Gibbons graduated from Flint Southwestern High School and attended Arizona State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration: Marketing/Management. After working as an account executive in the radio business, and in management at the Chevrolet Truck Plant in Flint, he returned to college to get his teaching certificate (Kgn through 9<sup>th</sup> gr.). His first teaching position was at Swartz Creek Middle School and over the next ten years, he taught 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. He then spent three years as an assistant principal at the Middle School before becoming the principal of Gaines Elementary School.

Mr. Gibbons has two daughters. Mischa is an attorney with a law firm in Farmington Hills, MI. Mischa and her husband have expanded and enriched Mr. Gibbons life by providing him with a beautiful grand daughter. His other daughter, Laura, works for Starbucks Inc. and lives in Portland, Oregon, with her husband.

Mr. Gibbons greatly enjoys reading a wide range of books and magazines in his spare time, with a special affection for crime fiction/mystery novels. He is also a film/movie enthusiast and has a special fondness for live theater. Mr. Gibbons is also a music lover with an extensive collection of albums and CD's. His musical tastes lean towards R & B, smooth jazz and blues. His iPod is one of his best musical friends.

Mr. Gibbons invites your telephone calls or face-to-face conferences. Just give the office a call to set up an appointment, or stop in to talk when you are at school.



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## Our Mission:

The Mission of Gaines Elementary School is to ensure that our students will be effective problem solvers and decision makers, who care about others, who have a healthy sense of self, and who exhibit an enjoyment for learning as they contribute to an ever changing, richly diverse society.

We will accomplish this by having a highly skilled and compassionate staff who model an enthusiasm for learning while teaching a relevant, innovative curriculum with an eye toward tomorrow's needs.

This will take place in a clean, safe, and supportive environment where students and staff treat each other with mutual respect.



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## Personal Belief Statement of Michael Gibbons

I believe:

- That student progress is the result of the combined efforts of dedicated educators, interested parents, and a motivated student.
- That the family is the single-most powerful influence on young people.
- That all children can learn, and that it is our mission is to maximize each child's learning potential.
- That the effective school puts students first and bases its decisions and actions on what is in the best interest of its students.
- That the effective school is a harmony of mutual respect, feelings of security and comfort, and is marked by the acceptance of diversity.
- That the effective classroom provides a totally safe and friendly environment for students to take the risks necessary to learn. The classroom should be the ultimate "home court advantage".
- That the effective classroom and school establishes an environment in which adults and students are not made to feel inferior because they are not part of a particular group.
- That effective educators listen carefully to all students.
- That the effective school and classroom enforces rules consistently and uniformly with no favoritism being shown to any student or group of students.

- That effective educators engage the minds of students through stimulating instruction that is made relevant to every student.
- That the effective classroom has an appropriate blend of listening to instruction and participating in solutions and activities.
- That the effective school does not tolerate taunting, teasing, disrespectful actions, cursing, drugs, weapons, violence, or vandalism.
- That the effective school teaches students how to resolve conflicts and settle disputes.
- That the effective school teaches students how to make the right choices.
- That the effective school is flexible in its instructional design with the emphasis being placed on teaching each child according to his/her needs.
- That educators have a huge impact on the lives of the young people with whom we come in contact.
- That the smile and words of encouragement from educators can last a lifetime in the memories of our students.

