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**The West Side Parent Teacher Student Association Will Host Dr. Pete Morikis,
GCSC Emergency Manager, February 8, 2019 at 4:15 PM**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2-4-19

{Gary, IN} – The West Side Parent Teacher Student Association will host Dr. Pete Morikis, Gary Community School Corporation (GCSC) Emergency Manager on February 8, 2019, at 4:15 PM at West Side Leadership Academy (WSLA) in the library. Dr. Morikis will deliver an update on developments at WSLA and other GCSC schools and allow parents an opportunity to provide him with their personal feedback.

The proposed agenda will include a presentation from Dr. Morikis, brief announcements from The Gary Alumni Pathways to Student Organization, discussion of upcoming WSLA events and preparing students for the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP).

The monthly meetings are held every second Friday of the month at 4:15 pm in the library, and will allow parents, teachers, and students to focus on student-based initiatives and provide critical resources for parents.

Last month, PTSA president Robert L. Coleman discussed the importance of after-school student clubs at WSLA and working to create new partnerships to ensure the success of the new clubs. The group currently has some upcoming events and partnership initiatives with WSLA. The group will work with administrators to encourage students as they prepare to take the ISTEP, support students who are competing in the Indiana State School Music Association competitions, athletic events, academic competitions, theatrical performances, and other positive events. The group will also assist with this year's Valentine's Day Dance in partnership with WSLA.

The PTSA invites concerned parents, teachers, and students to apply for membership and to become active members. The membership fees for the PTSA include student membership-\$7.00, regular membership, \$10.00 and business/corporate/non-profit membership - \$25.00

PTSA president, Robert L. Coleman, wants to ensure that parents understand the purpose of the PTSA: “As a father, I believe it’s important that the children in our schools see people coming together for the betterment of our school system and community. The PTSA allows people to join an organization which is dedicated, committed and actively involved in achieving positive results for the betterment of parents, teachers, students, and administrators.”

About GAPS:

GAPS began its partnership in 2016 with WSLA to connect alumni with students to promote successful academic, career, and life outcomes. GAPS vision is that students will succeed in a rapidly changing world by discovering and pursuing their educational and career aspirations. GAPS currently runs several other initiatives at WSLA which includes College Tours, Career Day, Girls Ignited, the Man-Boy Breakfast and supporting after school Pathway Clubs like the Entrepreneur’s Club which operates a retail store, The Cougar’s Cave at WSLA,.

To learn more about GAPS or to donate, please visit:

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