

MUSKEGON

MIRROR

THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER FOR MUSKEGON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ISSUE 57 • AUGUST 2022



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL BIG REDS!!

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HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE



OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
MONDAY - FRIDAY

*Please call for an
appointment outside of
scheduled hours.*

TINA WRIGHT • Chief Financial Officer and Talent Management

SHEILA BROWN • Human Resources Supervisor • 231-720-2025 • sbrown@mpsk12.net

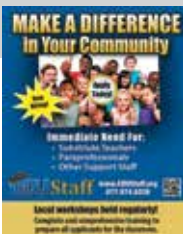
BETTY BARNES • Payroll Specialist • 231-720-2022 • bbarnes@mpsk12.net

AMANDA STEELE • Finance and HR Specialist • 231-720-2056 • afoster@mpsk12.net

DEBBIE FOX • Administrative Assistant • 231-720-2008 • dfox@mpsk12.net

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Cindy Brown.....	Paraeducator.....	Marquette
Theresa Carlson.....	COTA.....	Marquette
Matthew Cramton.....	Teacher.....	High School
Deja Dawkins.....	Teacher.....	Middle School/High School
Leah Gantjos.....	Speech & Language Pathologist.....	
Shakira Hill.....	Secretary.....	Oakview
Lindsay Jones.....	Speech & Language Pathologist.....	
Ann Motter.....	Teacher.....	High School
Erica Pincomb.....	Occupational Therapist.....	Bunker
Brianna Rake.....	Teacher.....	Marquette
Thomas Richardson.....	Maintenance I.....	District Services
Kiel Rotz.....	Teacher.....	Middle School
Amber Silvis.....	Teacher.....	Moon
Elaine Stegmeyer.....	Teacher.....	Middle School
April Tomasiewicz.....	Teacher.....	Bunker
Lindsie Traxler.....	Teacher.....	Marquette
Brandon Wagner.....	Teacher.....	High School
Andria Yost.....	Teacher.....	Moon/Oakview



EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

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www.enviro-clean.com

Chartwells
www.chartwellsk12.com

EDUSTAFF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS & SUPPORT STAFF

2022-23 EDUStaff Teacher Substitute Rates for Muskegon Public Schools:

- Official transcripts with a total of 60+ credit hours and a minimum 2.0 GPA from accredited colleges/universities
- Fingerprinting and background check required
- Contact EDUStaff for more information
www.edustaff.org

* 2022-23 EDUStaff Teacher Substitute Rates for Muskegon Public Schools:

- \$100 per day
- \$140 per day (21st consecutive day)
- \$200 per day (61st consecutive day)

*2022-2023 Support Staff Substitutes Rates:

- \$14.63 – Classroom Assistant/Para Educator
- \$12.01 – Lunchroom Aide
- \$15.24 – Secretary
- \$16.52 – Secretary (21st consecutive day)



WELCOME BACK PROUD MICHIGAN EDUCATORS CAMPAIGN

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is launching the Welcome Back Proud Michigan Educators campaign for educators with expired credentials to return to the teaching workforce by reducing or eliminating professional learning recertification requirements. The campaign recognizes these educators' experience and preparation while providing an opportunity for immediate employment with a local education agency (LEA), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), as part of strategic efforts to increase the number of certified educators in areas of shortage. Contact the human resources office for more information at (231) 720-2008.

Source: https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5683_14795_83465---,00.html

RETIREMENT • *Thanks for the years of dedication and service to the Big Red Nation!*

Steve Barlow
District Services
3 years

Suzanne Donovan
Paraprofessional
Marquette
25 years



David Mimms
Paraeducator
Marquette
29 years

Bridgette Phipps
Secretary
High School
23 years

It is with great anticipation and expectation that my fourth year as Superintendent of Muskegon Public Schools begins. I am confident the 2022-23 school year will be another year of great accomplishments by our students and staff. I have always loved the start of a new school year, which introduces new families and friends to the district while welcoming back our students as they pursue their next level of education. The summer seems to get shorter and shorter each year, but the smiles, excitement and the energy the students, families and staff bring into our district is awe-inspiring.



Matthew Cortez
Superintendent, Ed.S.
Muskegon Public Schools

there is also a physical transformation taking place. Facility improvements at Bunker include new kindergarten classrooms, STEM lab, and a chill zone create an atmosphere of success and allows for our facilities to directly support student learning and growth. At Muskegon High School the entire transformation of our HVAC system, revamping of our classrooms, furniture, and a new addition show students that their community believes in them and supports their educational success. As these projects come to completion at the end of the 2022-23 school year more projects will embark at Marquette, Oakview and Glenside. This is truly an exciting time to be a BIG RED. In the end, the 2020 bond project will create revitalized and current educational environments in which we can educate our students with the tools of today for their tomorrow.



Superintendent of Schools

The 2022-2023 school year is going to be one of growth and transformation. Our staff continues their focus on increasing student growth in English and Math. Student growth is an essential part of closing the achievement gap we see in our data. Programs like Success For All, Geometry and Construction, Algebra 2 and Construction, elementary two way immersion, seminar, and achievement hour will now be joined by Amped on Algebra, returning the JROTC, and newer business/school partnerships for internship and real world experiences. We continue to link every student to at least one staff member to aid them in their educational progress. Building positive relationships between students and staff shows tremendous gains in learning and accomplishment of our students. Our students and families are the reason we are here, and we must continue to set achievable goals that will elevate the learning and instruction for all students.

Our 2020 Bond is transforming the High School and Bunker as promised with the new Charles Hackley Middle School well under construction. As our district transforms the way we teach

LOCAL SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY TRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT

The Wellness Committee has conducted an assessment of MPS wellness policies using the Michigan State Board of Education Model Local School Wellness Policy tool.

To view a copy of the 2022 Triennial Assessment Summary, please visit our website: muskegonpublicschools.org. The report may be found on the Transparency Reporting page under: Local Wellness policy: Triennial Assessment Summary.

MPS Wellness Policies are also posted on the District webpage. If you would like to access a copy, go to: <https://go.boarddocs.com/mi/mps/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies#>. Search for "8510" and "5830".

If you are interested in joining the wellness committee, please contact Amanda Steele at asteele@mpsk12.net or 231-720-2056.



Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

MUSKEGON MIRROR

The Muskegon Mirror is published three times per year by Muskegon Public Schools, 1458 5th Street, Muskegon, MI 49441.

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BUILDING PHONE NUMBERS

MAIN OFFICE.....	231-720-2004
COMMUNITY ED CENTER.....	231-720-2150
HIGH SCHOOL.....	231-720-2800
MIDDLE SCHOOL.....	231-720-3000
BUNKER.....	231-720-2300
GLENSIDE.....	231-720-2560
MARQUETTE.....	231-720-2600
MOON.....	231-720-2700
OAKVIEW.....	231-720-2450

Board of Education 2022-23 Meeting Schedule Tuesday's at 7pm

August 16, 2022	December 20, 2022	April 18, 2023
September 20, 2022	January 17, 2023	May 16, 2023
October 18, 2022	February 21, 2023	June 20, 2023
November 15, 2022	March 21, 2023	



Meetings are held in Room E123 at Charles W. Poole Sr. Administration Building, located at 1458 5th Street Muskegon, MI 49441.

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2021-2022

Lynnette Marks, President
lmarks@mpsk12.net
231-740-6249

Billie J. Bruce, Vice President
bbuce@mpsk12.net
231-773-7179

Christine Hamel, Secretary
chamel@mpsk12.net
231-286-2109

Kwame Kamau James, (Secretary Pro-Tem)
kkamau@mpsk12.net
310-666-8375

Bill O'Brien, Treasurer
eobrien@mpsk12.net
231-578-9844

Louis Churchwell, Trustee
lchurchw@mpsk12.net
231-724-6547

Zachary Allen Anderson, Trustee
zanderso@mpsk12.net
231-571-8978

There are many new and exciting courses starting at Muskegon Public Schools this fall.

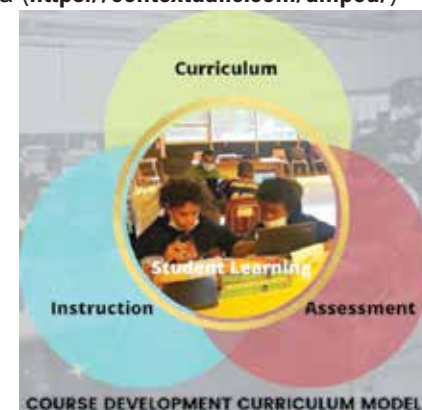
Our staff has been working diligently over the past few years to update our core curriculum in math, reading, science and social studies and while we will continue our efforts to ensure student achievement in the four core content areas, it is time for us to also find new and exciting content for our students to enjoy and excel.

The Muskegon Public Schools uses a comprehensive system of curriculum review. Teams of teachers work together to identify a curricular need, research best practices in that content area, discuss the need with their administrator and the Executive Director of Instruction and then produce a proposal to run a pilot curriculum. This pilot curriculum is required to be presented and approved by a council of district administrators and teacher leaders before the curriculum can be presented to students. A pilot curriculum study takes anywhere from 6 months to a full school year and when completed, the teacher team must then go through a similar process to request adoption from the Board of Education. Piloting curriculum materials, gathering assessment data as well as student input is critical to the success and achievement of our students.

We are proud to announce that the following new courses are being adopted or piloted for our Big Reds this fall:

- K - 5 Writing
- Oakview Elementary 5th Grade Beginning Instrumental Music
- K-12 Special Education Reading, Math & Writing
- Middle School Mathematics
- Middle School Science
- Middle School Design Thinking (Henry Ford Learning Institute (hfli.org))
- Middle School Drumming & Strings
- High School Lifetime Fitness
- High School Creative Writing
- High School Chemistry II
- High School Digital Arts
- High School Photojournalism
- High School AMPED Algebra (<https://contextualc.com/amped/>)
- High School African American History
- High School Broadcasting

For more information regarding best practices in curriculum development visit <https://michiganascd.org/> or contact Jennifer Hammond, Executive Director of Instruction at jhammond@mpsk12.net.



STEM Initiatives

This past fall the elementary technology team applied for a MiSTEM Network grant from Grand Valley State University to purchase KEVA Planks for all four of their elementary buildings. The almost \$1,800 grant was used to purchase 1,000 block sets for ALL of our elementary students to use across the district.



What are KEVA Planks? KEVA Planks are like Jenga pieces but used for creating, building and exploration. They are made out of hardwood maple and cut and designed to be perfectly uniformed to one another. The material is a vital part of student creation and building. The grant has allowed us to purchase full class sets, giving students the opportunity to work with 40 KEVA Planks at a time.. This is the perfect amount for individual creation or combining them with other planks, to give groups the ability to solve much larger and

elaborate problems or tasks.

As we look to integrate more STEM into our technology lessons K-5th grade, these planks will be a great resource to start with. It is going to allow our students to get familiar with the scientific method. Success through failure and being able to go back, redesign and create again in order to solve very simple to very elaborate realistic problems, is exactly what our students need.

This is a stepping stone for our district, to guide us in the right direction in providing quality STEM lessons for our lifelong learners. We are excited about the future of STEM at MPS and the benefits it will have across the curriculum. From here, we look to continue to expand our STEM/technology instruction to benefit all of our elementary students.



CURRICULUM

August Science Update 2022

by Joshua Presson, K-8 Science Specialist

The warm and sunny days of summer are almost over and it's time to gear up for another school year here at MPS. I think I can speak for many when I say your teachers are excited to get you back in the classroom!

That being said, I wanted to take a minute to update you on a couple things happening with our K-8 science curriculum. The middle school will be piloting a new option for a science curriculum but IQWST will remain our adopted curriculum for the 2022-2023 school year. The middle school will start the year teaching the Open-Sci Ed. curriculum, and then return to IQWST after the first unit. I know the Middle School teachers are excited about this opportunity and I think the students will be too!

For elementary, Cereal City Science remains our approved science curriculum and grades K-5 have updated their science curriculum to the second edition of the physical science units. These new editions promise to be even more exciting than the last! Cereal City Science has put together some wonderful resources and activities you can try at home with your student. Simply pick your student's grade level and explore! You can find these activities at:

<https://cerealcityscience.org/learn-at-home>

I also want to take this opportunity to share another exciting science activity you can do at home and make homemade slime!

In this basic recipe, you can make some of your own right in your kitchen, and have fun squeezing it with your bare hands all day long. Slime has quickly become one of those classic science experiments that every family should try at least once!



Homemade Slime

INGREDIENTS FOR HOMEMADE SLIME::

- Water
- White school glue
- food coloring
- borax
- two bowls

Here are the step-by-step instructions for how to make Homemade Slime:

1. Mix 1/4 cup of water and 1/4 cup of white school glue in a bowl. (Double the recipe if you'd like more.)
2. If you want your slime to be colorful, add a few drops of food coloring to the mixture.
3. Mix 1/2 tablespoon of borax and 1/2 a cup of water and stir it around until the borax dissolves.
4. Add the borax solution to the glue mixture and mix them together. Voila!
5. Variations: For glow in the dark slime, use glow-in-the-dark glue. For glittery slime, add glitter!

We are very excited to get started on the 2022-2023 school year! Enjoy the rest of the summer and as always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions about our science program.

Joshua Presson • jpresson@mpsk12.net



READY TO ACCELERATE YOUR CAREER?
See your counselor to enroll. muskegonctc.org

Social Studies - Michigan State Standards for Social Studies by Kristy Tolbert



As we move into the 2022-23 school year, let's take a closer look at our Michigan State Standards for Social Studies and examine exactly what our Big Reds learn each year in their social studies instruction. The four discipline areas of social studies instruction include Geography, History, Economics and Civics/Government. These are all covered at various stages and using various methods. The Michigan State Standards for Social Studies can be found at michigan.gov/mde.

Kindergarten	<p>Theme: Myself and Others Kinder students begin to learn about the social studies disciplines (history, geography, economics, civics) using the lens of what they know best: themselves and others around them. Examples of key points of learning include: wants & needs, past & present, places around me, following rules and helping others.</p>
1st Grade	<p>Theme: My family and My School Theme: My family and My School 1st grade students expand their understanding of social studies by learning key concepts related to family and school life. Examples of learning include: beginning with maps & globes, directional/positional words, producers & consumers, family history & artifacts, and important holidays/celebrations.</p>
2nd Grade	<p>Theme: My Local Community In 2nd grade we learn all about our community, Muskegon! And we do this with an innovative curriculum called Project PLACE, which uses project-based learning to teach kids about our city. Students visit local businesses and create a school-based business, students visit key geographic sites around Muskegon to learn about our unique geography, students learn about the history of our city and compare the past with the present, and students identify a local public issue and discuss this issue with an elected official (usually a school board member or city commissioner).</p>
3rd Grade	<p>Theme: Michigan Studies 3rd Grade is the year of everything Michigan! Our 3rd grade teachers have developed enriching activities and lessons over the years to highlight key aspects of our state's history, geography and economy. We learn about early state history including Native American heritage, to the time of the auto industry. Students also learn about key Michigan industries. Several of our 3rd grade social studies units are project-based learning units as well.</p>
4th Grade	<p>Theme: United States Studies In grade 4, teachers and students focus on the USA, and we spend most of this year on the geography, economy and government of our nation. Students learn about US regions and how these regions developed geographically and economically. Students will also learn to use various types of special purpose maps as well as the structure and function of our US government. For the next 2 years, 4th graders will visit our state capitol in the spring, to bring learning about government from grades 3 and 4 to life!</p>
5th Grade	<p>Theme: U.S. History In Michigan, students study US History over three school years, from prehistoric times until today. US History instruction begins in 5th grade. Students begin with studying Indigenous People before European explorers and conclude the year with the ratification of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Key points of learning include the people groups who were present at the founding of our nation (Native Americans, enslaved Africans and Europeans) as well as the Colonial Period in the US.</p>
6th Grade	<p>Theme: World Geography Sixth grade studies all aspects of World Geography, including how government and the economy is tied to geographic concepts. Teachers focus on regions, human & physical geography, and the environment & society. We also focus on the functions of government and the economy in various nations or geographic regions.</p>
7th Grade	<p>Theme: World History Seventh graders learn about ancient World History, with eras 1-4. Teachers begin with the beginnings of human society and the Agricultural Revolution, then move into early and classical civilizations. Students will learn about ancient Egypt, India, China, as well as Greece and Rome. Students also study world religions and economic systems.</p>
8th Grade	<p>Theme: U.S. History Eighth grade picks up where fifth grade left off with US History. Teachers will begin in the colonial period and teach through the time of post-Civil War Reconstruction. Focus areas include The Revolutionary War, the Constitution, Washington, Jefferson and Jacksonian eras, early American reform movements, pre-Civil War events, the Civil War and Reconstruction.</p>
Grades 9-12	<p>9th Grade- US History, learning is focused on the post-Civil War and Reconstruction era to present-day. 10th Grade- US Government/Economics, includes philosophical foundations of civic society, founding of the US government, structure of the US government, rights & liberties in the US, the US and world affairs, and civic participation in the US. Econ includes a focus on the market economy, our national economy, global economic systems and personal finance. 11th Grade- World History, focus in on eras 4-7 which includes looking at world religions and human interaction across hemispheres, human migration across the globe, industrialization and political revolutions, and global conflicts. 12th Grade, social studies electives include Psychology, Current Events and African American History. Advanced Placement courses in US History, World History and Psychology are also available.</p>

CURRICULUM

Elementary Writing

by Julie Ray • Elementary Reading/Writing Specialist

Welcome back to the 2022-2023 school year! Teachers and students are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year of learning. The Office of Instructional Services is happy to announce that we will be adding two components to our writing curriculum for all of our Kindergarten through 5th grade students.

It has been very evident that our students' handwriting skills have suffered from all of the online learning done during the pandemic. While technology certainly has its place in education, handwriting skills are still a necessity. Research shows multiple cognitive and academic benefits to handwriting instruction. Therefore, our Kindergarten - 2nd grade teachers will be piloting Zaner-Bloser Handwriting.

Another vital piece of writing instruction is grammar and language. Our 1st - 5th grade teachers will be piloting Patterns of Power. This program teaches students the conventions of writing through the use of rich children's literature and quality conversations.

Both of these resources will be used alongside our current writing program Write from the Beginning and Beyond. Teachers and students will evaluate them at the end of the school year. If effective, they will be adopted for the 2023-2024 school year.



*“Writing, to me, is simply thinking through my fingers.”
-Isaac Asimov*



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Teachers and staff in the Office of Specialized Instruction (OSI) show up physically, mentally, and emotionally every single day for the betterment of their students with Individual Education Plans (IEPS). It is the belief of these teachers that every student will learn and succeed through the use of data-based instruction. Data based instruction is an approach that the OSI department uses to improve instruction using the information that is gathered from their students. Due to these beliefs, a small group of teachers (Marquette: Mrs. Barb Renkema, Ms. Allison Giannola, Ms. Megan Magee- Bunker: Ms. Molly Plowe, Mrs. Lorrie Brown- Moon: Mrs. Lisa Menerick) decided to sample some curriculums, during the 2021-22 school year, provided by SRA (Success Reading Associates out of Chicago) in the areas of reading, mathematics, and writing. Due to the increase in student scores in all areas, a pilot was requested of the MPS Instructional Council. A pilot is a sort of “test drive” or a curriculum or program. It allows teachers to use the resources provided to determine whether or not it meets the standards of the OSI department values, mission, and beliefs.

The Office of Specialized Instruction is pleased to announce that three instructional pilots have been approved by the MPS Instructional Council. During the 2022/2023 school year, all elementary resource room teachers will be implementing Reading Mastery, Connecting Math Concepts, and Language for Writing. All of the aforementioned programs provide teachers with teacher guides, manuals broken down by grade and skill level, scope and sequence to determine next learning steps, placement tests, and built in progress monitoring. Throughout the year, data will be collected, and the OSI staff will determine if the instructional programs/curriculum were effective in meeting not only student needs, but also move their learning to higher levels.

Description of Programs/Curriculum:

1. Reading Mastery:

- a. Reading Mastery Signature Edition uses the highly explicit, systematic approach of Direct Instruction to accelerate reading and help students achieve a high rate of success. Three strands address Reading, Language Arts, and Literature through a common instructional design that helps students learn more efficiently. With the addition of technology-based resources for both additional practice and professional development, Reading Mastery Signature Edition helps teachers optimize each minute spent in the classroom.
- b. Reading Mastery covers the five essential components of reading as identified by Reading First:
 - i. phonemic awareness, phonics and word analysis, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension
 - ii. Provides spelling instruction to help students make the connection between decoding and spelling patterns.
 - iii. Develops decoding, word recognition, and comprehension skills that transfer to other subject areas.

2. Connecting Math Concepts:

- a. combines facts, procedures, conceptual understanding, applications, and problem solving skills to provide a comprehensive curriculum for students. Students learn to understand math by making connections among related math topics, procedures, and knowledge
- b. Key features include:
 - i. Critical concepts introduced at just the right time help students remember and integrate concepts into previous learning.
 - ii. Explicit, research-proven instruction helps students master math skills.
 - iii. Ongoing assessment and progress monitoring allows teachers to quickly pinpoint areas of concern and correct errors immediately.

3. Language for Writing:

- a. a comprehensive writing program for students who need a highly structured approach if they are to learn to write well. The program teaches the conventions students need to write clearly; the vocabulary needed to describe actions, events, and objects; and the sentence structures required to put ideas into writing. To achieve these goals, Language for Writing provides carefully structured instruction in the use of language, both written and spoken.
 - i. The program:
 1. Gives students oral practice in using words and syntax they will later apply to writing
 2. Teaches the vocabulary students need to describe features of their writing
 3. Helps students learn to use grammar and punctuation to make their writing clear
 - ii. Daily lessons:
 1. show students how to organize and develop what they want to say and guide them in the process of getting it down on paper. Students become comfortable with writing, build confidence, and acquire concepts and skills that enable them to express themselves clearly and discuss written language.
 - iii. Features:
 1. Explicit, straight-forward lesson plans make it easy to teach important language and writing concepts.
 2. Small steps and appropriate scaffolding help students become comfortable with the demands of writing.
 3. Carefully sequenced lessons allow students to move seamlessly from activity to activity and develop all aspects of better writing.
 4. Program assessments occur every 10 lessons, giving you information about students' mastery of content and assistance in helping those who need extra practice.

Research on these programs is very clear. With the use of direct and explicit instruction, a wide variety of students can improve in their reading, writing, and math skills. With the full implementation this school year, the OSI team expects greatness out of the students it will be serving. If you are a parent of an elementary student who has an IEP, please look for your parent letters which will come at the start of every new unit of study. This will allow students to use and show their skills not only at school, but also at home.

If you would like to learn more about these programs, you can view videos and get more information on their website and/or contact the OSI Instructional Coach:

Reading: <https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/reading-mastery-signature-edition-2008/MKTSP-UQM08M02.html?page=1&sortBy=title&order=asc&bu=seg>

Math Concepts: <https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/connecting-math-concepts-comprehensive-edition-2012/MKTSP-UUF07M0.html?page=1&sortBy=title&order=asc&bu=seg>

Language for Writing: <https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/program/language-writing-2006/MKTSP-USA06M0.html?page=1&sortBy=title&order=asc&bu=seg>

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STUDENT SERVICES - ENROLLMENT



Brenda Kota
Central Registrar &
Student Services Support

MPS Enrollment

Our MPS families are now able to enroll their student(s) online.

Simply go to our website:
(www.muskegonpublicschools.org),
and select the enrollment link.

You can take a picture of all required documents to upload during the online enrollment process. All our buildings have computers available. If you have any issues with uploading the required documents, make sure to answer all the questions and you can email the documents directly to me (bkota@mpsk12.net), or you can bring them to any one of our buildings.

Required Documents:

- Two proofs of residency: **MUST** provide a copy of your utility bill, assessment/property tax statement, rental/lease agreement (must include landlord's telephone and signature), no junk mail. *Must be removed from the envelope before providing the proof.*
- Parent/Guardian's Identification: Driver's license or passport
- Birth Certificate: An original certified/state issued birth certificate that can be viewed and copied by MPS
- Official Michigan Immunization Records: State law requires that your child's immunizations must be up-to-date or your child cannot enter school. Pick up a copy from your local health department or doctor's office.
- Custody/Guardianship court documents (if applicable)
- Copy of most current Special Education/IEP (if applicable)
- Transcripts and current grades from previous school for High School students

If you have any questions, please call

Brenda Kota, Central Registrar
at 231-720-2013 or
email bkota@mpsk12.net.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!

Muskegon
Public Schools



BUS DRIVERS

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WHY WORK AT DEAN:

Flexible scheduling
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Advancement opportunities



Essential to Our Children's Future

Safely transport children in our community to and from school for in-person learning.



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or at 1800 E. Laketon Ave.
in Muskegon

MUSKEGON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

Summer is finally here in Muskegon! It is my sincerest hope that students, parents, and staff have time to enjoy the warm weather, get some rest, continue to build resume strength through summer employment, and maybe take a few more walks and/or bicycle rides than we are able to do through the colder months of the year!

Come Fall 2022, there will be some changes here at MCEC for the MCEC Fam. First, school will begin at 8:20 for students, and the day will end at 2:00. In addition, we will no longer release early on Fridays; instead, we will release at 12:15 on Wednesdays. Second, MCEC will no longer have "A" days and "B" days: the daily schedule for students will be three classes plus seminar daily for nine weeks. At the end of the nine weeks, students will receive three new classes; this means students will attend the same three classes for nine weeks—no alternating days. August 29 is the first day of school for the 2022-2023 school year. Finally, in addition to our usual in-person learning here at MCEC, we will also be offering the Big Red Virtual School for students and families who elect to do their learning online. Check out the Big Red Virtual School here: <https://muskegonpublicschools.org/academics/virtual-school/>.

Over the last several weeks, Mr. Thomas Ellis and I have had the opportunity to meet with many of the students and their families who will be attending MCEC in Fall of 2022. We appreciated meeting each and every one of you, and we—the MCEC Fam—look forward to assisting all of you in taking your next steps not only to graduation but also for life beyond high school. The last couple of years have been unlike any other, but we are grateful to be able to bring all of our new students into the MCEC Fam!

A bit of parting advice for the MCEC Fam: during the month of August, do your very best to get yourselves back into the school mode. Try to get back to school hours, going to bed at a reasonable time—around 10:00 in the evening—and waking up at a reasonable time—6:30 in the morning. Struggle to stay off your phone during what will soon be school hours—8:20-2:00. Limit video game use to one hour (or two) a day. Fight with yourself to not be on your phone late into the evening. Read something for one hour a day. Instead of using Google for math in your daily life, do the math yourself. Check out the news online for twenty minutes a day. Look at some science videos that interest you. Write a kind note to someone you love. I realize advice can be a little annoying sometimes, but even adults have to get themselves back together after summer break (I know I do).

Enjoy your summer! See you in a couple of weeks!

Yours, Paul Kurdziel



Paul Kurdziel
Muskegon Community
Education Center



Muskegon Public Schools

Aux Gym and High School Main Building



30,800 hours worked without a lost-time incident at the Aux Gym, and 1,896 hours at the High School

Aux Gym

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Casework
- Plumbing Fixtures
- Doors and Hardware
- All ceiling tiles dropped
- Flooring



Athletic Corridor Finishes



Gym Equipment and Gym Floor Finished

High School

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Started Finishes in Phase IA
- Continued Masonry Walls in Phase IB
- Above Ceiling MEP
- Started to Install Windows
- Started Phase IC



Classroom Demo and MECH Rough-In



Mechanical Room Work



June 2022



Muskegon Public Schools New Middle School and Bunker Elementary



4,558 hours worked without a lost-time incident on the middle school site, and 10,304 hours at Bunker

New Middle School



WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- First floor exterior masonry walls near completion
- Main underground plumbing completed
- Main building underground electrical completed
- Perimeter structural columns set
- Plumbing has been backfilled



1st Floor Masonry Walls – Choir/ Band

Backfilled Plumbing

Bunker Elementary



Community Fun Event

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Started Finishes in Phase IA
- Continued Masonry Walls in Phase IB
- Above Ceiling MEP
- Started to Install Windows
- Started Phase IC



Kindergarten Room



Safety: This month's Safety Goal deals with heat stress. As we are approaching the hot summer months, we need to take proper precautions to ensure crews are safe from heat exhaustion. That may include frequent breaks, shift working hours, and hydration.

June 2022

2022-2023 School Calendar



Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

July 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Time Schedules

Middle School, High School & MCEC

Regular Day (+78 min online)
8:20am - 2:00pm

Early Release Day
(+78 min online).....8:20am - 12:15pm

Half Day AM
(+78 min online).....8:20am - 11:21am

Elementary

Regular Day (+35 min online)
8:40am - 3:11pm

Early Release Day
(+35 min online).....8:40am - 2:09pm

Half Day AM
(+35 min online).....8:40am - 12:15pm

Administration Office	1458 5th Street	(231) 720-2000	Superintendent	Matthew Cortez
Bunker Elementary	2312 Denmark	(231) 720-2300	Principal	Okeelah McBride
Marquette Elementary	480 Bennett	(231) 720-2600	Principal	Mary Scott
Moon Elementary	1826 Hoyt St	(231) 720-2700	Principal	Okeelah McBride
Oakview Elementary	1420 Madison St	(231) 720-2450	Principal	Brian Gamm
Muskegon Middle School	1150 Amity Ave	(231) 720-3000	Principal	Lakisha Loudermill
Muskegon High School	80 W Southern Ave	(231) 720-2800	Principal	Tim Hoffman
MCEC	550 W. Grand Ave	(231) 720-2800	Principal	Paul Kurdziel

Schedule

August 24.....	No School, Teacher PD Day
August 29.....	First Day of School-Half Day AM
August 31.....	Early Release
September 2 & 5.....	Labor Day, No School
September 7.....	Early Release
September 14.....	Early Release
September 21.....	Early Release
September 28.....	Early Release
October 5.....	Count Day-Full Day of School
October 12.....	Early Release
October 19.....	Early Release
October 26.....	Early Release
October 28.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Conferences
October 28.....	End of MP1
November 2.....	Early Release
November 3 & 4.....	Half Day Elementary, Elementary Conf. Week
November 8.....	No School, Teacher PD Day
November 9.....	Early Release
November 16.....	Early Release
November 23, 24, 25.....	No School, Thanksgiving Break
November 30.....	Early Release
December 7.....	Early Release
December 14.....	Early Release
December 21.....	Early Release
December 22-January 4.....	Holiday Break
January 11.....	Early Release
January 12.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Exams
January 13.....	Half Day District Wide, End of MP2 & Semester 1
January 16.....	No School, MLK Day
January 17.....	Half Day Secondary Only
January 18.....	Early Release
January 25.....	Early Release
February 1.....	Early Release
February 8.....	Count Day-Full Day of School
February 15.....	Early Release
February 16.....	No School (Teacher PD Day)
February 17 & 20.....	No School Mid-Winter Break
February 22.....	Early Release
March 1.....	Early Release
March 8.....	Early Release
March 15.....	Early Release
March 17.....	End MP3
March 22.....	Early Release
March 23 & 24.....	Half Day Elementary, Elementary Conf. Week
March 29.....	Early Release
March 31.....	No School
April 3-April 7.....	Spring Break, No School
April 12.....	Early Release
April 19.....	Early Release
April 26.....	Early Release
May 3.....	Early Release
May 10.....	Early Release
May 17.....	Early Release
May 24.....	Early Release
May 24.....	HS Graduation
May 23 & 25.....	Graduation Make-up Dates
May 26.....	Half Day District Wide, Hackley Day
May 29.....	No School, Holiday
May 31.....	Early Release
June 7.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Exams
June 7.....	Early Release Elementary
June 8.....	End MP4, Last Day of School, Half Day AM

January 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Calendar Highlight Key

Count Day- Full Day of School
Half Day AM District Wide
No School - Teacher PD Day
Half Day Elementary Only
Half Day Secondary Only
Half Day Secondary, Early Release
Elementary
No School
Early Release



WHAT A SUMMER!

The students had a blast learning and growing at our Academic STEM Camp! The MPS summer teaching team did an amazing job providing our elementary students with academic instruction in ELA, Math and Science. To top it off students had the opportunity to engage in STEM enrichment activities on a daily basis in IMPACT. They learned aviation, created hot air balloons and got to see a real one up close and personal. They made stomp rockets, learned projections and had an all-out launching competition! They studied engineering, made bridges and robotic hands! They wobbled with Maranda, picnicked at Michigan Adventures, and visited the Air Zoo! They learned from aviation pilots from the United States Air Force were read to by Men of Color from our local community, and most importantly, established friendships and memories that will likely last a lifetime!



The Middle and High school programs were on the fast track as well! The 6th and 9th grade students had an amazing time getting the "JUMP" on the new school year! They are already a credit ahead through the summer jumpstart program! Academic instruction, guest speakers and presentations, field trips, mentor classes, enrichment activities, building tours, made this a summer they won't soon forget! And an experience that will help make the transition to a new environment as smooth as butter!

MOVING FORWARD

During the 2023 year our IMPACT academic focus and enrichment activities have been intentionally designed to support and enhance students' growth in ELA and math. Beyond that, our participants will be provided the opportunity to enjoy a broad array of enrichment experiences that will support their development in the arts, STEM, drug and violence prevention, music, technology, recreation, character development, SEL and much more!

BENEFITS OF AFTER SCHOOL

- IMPACT provides a safe place where professional youth staff connect with kids, engage them in hands-on learning, help them navigate challenges, and talk about how to make good decisions.
- IMPACT staff are trained to focus on the whole child and offer fun and enriching activities that encourage young people to try new things, build confidence, and develop social skills.

NEW THIS YEAR! West Michigan Symphony Partnership

We are ecstatic to introduce our partnership with The West Michigan Symphony TUNE UP program. Tune Up is a musical instruction program that will provide an opportunity for our 3-5 grade elementary students to study high-quality music instruction early and within the safe, and supportive environment of our 21st CCLC after school program.

- For IMPACT enrolled students
- Free string instrument
- Free music instruction classes 2x a week
- Work with an experienced string teacher
- Meet professional musicians and artists as a member of the program
- Currently Marquette and Oakview only
- For Tune Up registration details please contact Kim Leavell at 720-2557 - space is limited.

FALL PROGRAM operates Monday - Thursday, 32 weeks during the school year, in correlation to the operating calendar of the site school. If you are interested in learning more about IMPACT we encourage you to contact us (231-720-2061) for additional information and registration details. Space is limited and fills up quickly, so please make your call today!

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers After School Programs are funded in part by a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant through the MDE.

2022 MHS ATHLETIC CUP WINNERS

THE MHS ATHLETIC DEPT. IS HAPPY TO ACKNOWLEDGE JASMINE GOINS AND DAMARI FOSTER FOR WINNING THE CHARLES W. MARSH ATHLETIC CUPS FOR THE CLASS OF 2022.



JASMINE GOINS

Jasmine will be attending Michigan State University this Fall to study Zoology. She was a member of the MHS sideline and competitive Cheer squads, as well as, running Track and being a two time captain.

Jasmine was a member of the National Honors Society, the Lakeshore Youth Leadership Initiative, and earned OK Green All Conference as a senior for Competitive Cheer in her time at MHS.



DAMARI FOSTER

Damari will be attending Ferris State University on a Football scholarship this Fall. He was a two time All OK Green selection, an All State pick, and was named Muskegon's MLive 2021 Dream Team Defensive Player of the Year. Damari played Football,

Basketball, ran Track, and was a member of the Bowling team while at Muskegon. He was on the Honor Roll, was a member of the Lakeshore Youth Leadership Initiative, and volunteered with various organizations on campus. We are extremely proud of both of these student-athletes and wish them the best moving forward. Once Big Reds, Always Big Reds.

2022 COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT ATHLETES

The MHS Athletic Department would like to recognize and congratulate the following student-athletes for receiving athletic scholarships to attend colleges and universities across the Midwest this coming Fall. We are extremely proud of all of you and wish you the best of luck in the future.

FOOTBALL

Duane Anderson - Elmhurst University
 Damari Foster - Ferris State University
 Ty Irby - Davenport University
 Myles Walton - Ferris State University

BOYS BASKETBALL

Devin Barteo - Grace Christian University
 Ethan Hill - Saginaw Valley St. University
 Maurice Sain, Jr. - Northwood University

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Alayna Hussey - University of Michigan-Dearborn
 Jamya Robinson - Independence Community College (KS)
 McKynna Sims - Muskegon Community College

GIRLS TRACK

Layla Harris - William Penn University

2022 SPRING OK GREEN ALL CONFERENCE

The MHS Athletic Dept. would like to recognize the following student-athletes for being named to OK Green All Conference teams this Spring.

BOYS TRACK 1st Team:

CJ Ivy III Destin Piggee Jakob Price
 Wanyai Johnson Michael Piggee Jr.

THE NANCY POPPEN PROGRAM



**POPPEN
PROGRAMS, INC.**

On June 14th, the Poppen Programs got to celebrate our students' work in the 2021-22 school year with an IN PERSON art show and recital, for the first time since 2019! Due to all the construction going on around the district, we had to search for a venue for this event, and the West Michigan Symphony graciously hosted us at their performance space, The Block. It was a lovely event and we are so thankful for the support of the Symphony, who also provides complimentary tickets to students in the Poppen programs at multiple times throughout their seasons. Big thanks to the West Michigan Symphony!

For the 2022-23 school year, the Poppen Programs will be located at Nelson school during major construction on the High School campus. Our new door faces the soccer fields, call or email Claire to make an appointment if you want to come by!

If you are interested in private arts studies, and attend Muskegon Public Schools, you can apply to the Nancy K. Poppen Program while you are in 3rd through 11th grade! The next application deadline, for students who missed this spring, is November 1st, 2022, to begin your lessons after the Holiday Break in January of 2023. Check out the website poppenprograms.org for application details, or email Claire for forms, at cbenson@mpsk12.net. Reach out with questions any time!

We fund lessons during the school year for accepted students, in music, visual arts, creative writing, theatre, spoken word performance, and dance. The student and their family commits to weekly transportation; we cover the other costs! Poppen students also have the opportunity to apply for summer experience funding, such as for Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, pre-college summer classes, and others!

For those who choose to study their art after graduation from Muskegon High School (or MCEC) they can also apply for college support in the Sherman R. Poppen Program!

FOOD SERVICE

Muskegon Public Schools will continue to feed ALL students' free breakfast and lunch through our designation as a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school district with USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) during the 2022-23 school year. If your child is hungry, please encourage them to eat.

A Household Income Report (HIR) will be mailed home for you to fill out and return to us so we can maintain our CEP status, and continue to equitably distribute federal program dollars amongst our school buildings based on the information collected. **It is essential that the form is filled out and returned to your child's school building, or completed online as quickly as possible. You can visit muskegon.familyportal.cloud to complete online. The information you provide with this form is VERY important to our school district. If you have any questions please contact 231-720-2982.**

We are working on our monthly meal calendars and will continue to feature a food focus, taste tests, Chef demonstrations and nutrition education for all of our students. Another exciting program that Food Service is involved with is Farm to School. We are working on ways to increase the amount of locally grown produce to serve to our students, in order to get the most nutritious and delicious tasting produce to them to enjoy.

You can visit <http://muskegonpublicschools.nutrislice.com/> to view our daily breakfast and lunch menus. Once there you will find lots of nutritional information that will help answer your food questions including carbohydrate counts. We are available to assist you with any questions or concerns that you may have at foodhelp@mpsk12.net. Enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to serving you soon.



HIGH SCHOOL



Tim Hoffman

Muskegon High School
Principal

Congratulations to the Class of 2022

For the class of 2022 nothing has come easy! In March of their sophomore year, their school year ended early due to Covid-19. They lost their spring sports season, fine arts and band performances and had to finish the year with many questions unanswered. Their Junior year was primarily held online due to the lingering effects of the pandemic. Their senior year started with masks still in effect, but things went up from there. All

students were able to participate in sports, clubs, or activities of their choice. They were able to have a homecoming pep assembly, winter dance, Show-off, and Prom were held without masks. We will always remember this group as one of the most resilient in history.

Wednesday, May 18th, 2022 was an eventful day due to the weather, but the class of 2022 celebrated their commencement in front of friends and family at Hackley Stadium. As we all know the weather in Michigan can change in a minute. After a morning practice session at Redmond Potter Gymnasium, the senior class at Muskegon High School was off getting prepared for their time on stage. What they didn't know was that the weather had decided to cooperate and a select few students and staff members were moving the ceremony to Hackley Stadium.

At about 6:45 pm the rain started to fall and you could see the worry on people's faces. A short few minutes later the staff and students filled the field to the delight of no rain. When top seniors Ilayia Strong, Keaveya Jones, and Matthew Holwerda spoke to their classmates you just knew that everything was going to work out. The band played; students smiled and danced across the stage to the cheers of thousands of onlookers. . As you all know commencement is an amazing day for students and their families. The staff at Muskegon Public Schools were so grateful that the class of 2022 was able to celebrate with as many friends and family as possible.

While things certainly were never easy for the class of 2022, they finished strong and we are certainly proud of all they have accomplished. The entire community looks forward to seeing our newest Big Red alumni make an impact on the world.

MHS Admn team



**MUSKEGON
BIG REDS
4EVER!!**

It is with great pleasure that Muskegon Public Schools Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools, Matthew Cortez, introduce Mrs. LaKisha Loudermill as the new principal of Muskegon Middle School.



Mrs. LaKisha Loudermill
Muskegon Middle School Principal

After an extended search for the right leader, we found Mrs. Loudermill to possess the skills and experience needed to lead at Muskegon Middle School. She will assume duties August 1, 2022.

Mrs. Loudermill has 26 years of experience in the field of education. She is well known throughout the MPS community and has served in several buildings as an Elementary Principal at Nims, Oakview, and Moon during her 16 year tenure with the district. LaKisha holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Alabama State University. She also has an Educational Specialist's Degree in Educational Leadership from Auburn University Montgomery.

Prior to joining Muskegon Public Schools, she was a Elementary Principal with Muskegon Heights Public Schools. Mrs. Loudermill began her educational career teaching at both the elementary and middle school levels. Mrs. Loudermill's expertise in curriculum and instruction, program implementation, data analysis, and successful leadership skills made her our number one choice.

Mrs. Loudermill is looking forward to joining the Muskegon Middle School Team. Her plans are to collaborate with the students, staff, and parents to promote a school culture that values the district mission "nurture productive thinkers who thrive in an ever-changing technological society." She will work with the MMS Team to continue to maintain high expectations and opportunities for student achievement, securing a positive school climate, and developing college, career and life-ready students.

Please join us as we welcome Mrs. LaKisha Loudermill to Muskegon Middle School faculty.

Muskegon Middle School Happenings

CONGRATULATIONS to all 245

8th grade students at Muskegon Middle School that will be moving on to High School!

They are the future high school graduating class of 2026!!

High Five to our Muskegon Middle School 2nd Semester Honor Roll Big Reds!

6TH GRADE

ALL A'S HONOR ROLL

Onica Caviness
Rayna Chambers
Vivian Witmer

A/B HONOR ROLL

Layla Aleem
I'Aura Anderson
Keyani Bolden
Jonathan Delacruz
William Heavin
Je'Narriah Kitchen
Alyana Magallanes-Garcia
Jaslynn Martin
Kelis McAllister
Chloe Newton
Cornelius O'Leary
Carlos Rodriguez
Kristianna Smalls
Mike Stephen
Halo Tibbits
Kaleigh Weller
Connor Willea
Kimah Williams



7TH GRADE

ALL A'S HONOR ROLL

Jamaun Robinson

A/B HONOR ROLL

Enrique Cermeno
Dekyra Diggs
Darnell Gee
Ti'Mera Hunter
Xzander Hurlburt
Aaliyah Jordan
Zaniyah Mathis
Andrea Morales
Adan Morrissey
Candence Nichols
Angela Sumlin
Jeremiah Thomas
Kaomi Walker
Jayla Williams-Winston



8TH GRADE

A/B HONOR ROLL

Laria Beasley
Trinity Beckem
Camiah Bonner
Alvaro Castellanos
Gabriela Figueroa

Shantelle Gates
Arianna Head-Sorensen
Mariah Sain
Danaeya Winters



Okeelah McBride
Bunker and Moon
Elementary Schools
Principal

Ms. McBride will serve as the principal for both Moon School & Bunker Elementary.

It is such an honor to reintroduce myself as principal of Moon Elementary. Reflecting over the sixteen years I've served MPS, fourteen of those years were spent at Moon! I am so excited to have the opportunity to join the Moon team again. I look forward to reconnecting with the Moon community and supporting our students and their families.

Your positive input throughout this year is always helpful, so my door is always open! Let us always keep our students the primary focus of our work. I look forward to celebrating our collective successes during the upcoming school year. Enjoy the remaining days of summer!



STACEY PALLETT
Mrs. Pallett will serve as the assistant principal for Moon School.



AMADO PEREZ CHAVEZ
Mr. Perez will serve as assistant principal for Bunker Elementary.



Hello, My name is Trynette Lottie Harps and I'm the new Family Engagement Coordinator (FEC) at Moon Elementary. I, along with the current Family Engagement Coordinators, located at each elementary and middle school, are responsible for bringing families, schools, and communities together to improve the success for students. We continue to work from the Michigan Department of Education framework to build strong parent-school relationships, promoting positive outcomes for students; provide needed social and intellectual resources that have a positive impact on school improvement efforts; and recognize that all families, regardless of income, education, or cultural background, are involved in their child's learning and want their child to do well.

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE MOON ATTENDANCE TEAM



Welcome back, Moon families! We are so excited to kick off the 2022/2023 school year. One of our goals this year will be to increase our daily attendance for all students. Students who are in school more frequently are more successful academically.

To celebrate students who attend school every day we will have fun monthly prizes as well as amazing celebrations throughout the year. To start off the year, any student who has 90% attendance or higher in the month of September will earn a special dessert treat at lunch time.



Dear Bunker Families, *Welcome to the 2022/2023 school year.* While students have been off on Summer vacation, Bunker Elementary has been abuzz with activity. We are registering new students, finalizing class rosters, thoroughly cleaning the building, and planning for a productive school year. A few thank yous are in order. First, thank you to the custodial staff for making our school shine in time for the students' arrival. Next, a big thank you to the office staff for their diligence and dedication in registering new families and getting all systems ready for "take-off!" Finally, thank you to our incredible staff for their amazing professionalism and incredible energy as they prepare for the start of the school year. Their commitment to ensuring that Bunker Elementary remains a celebrated and successful school is awe-inspiring. We are very excited to have you and your child as part of

the Bunker Family and look forward to working with you in many capacities. We have set very high expectations and made plans to guarantee that every student at Bunker Elementary will be successful this school year.

Student academic success is the main goal of every staff member at Bunker. As we prepare to offer time and support to every student this upcoming school year, we believe all of our students will achieve their highest level of learning. I ask for your support and participation in this effort by sending your child to school every day, encouraging your child to read at least 30 minutes every evening, monitoring your child's homework, and asking your child to share what they learned at school each day.

Our first day of school is a half day on Monday, August 29, 2022. School will begin at 8:40 a.m. and end at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, August 30th will be a full day beginning at 8:40 a.m. and ending at 3:11 p.m. Wednesday, August 31st will be an early release day with a start time of 8:40 a.m. and a dismissal time of 2:09 p.m. The first few days of school will be a little stressful for your child due to all the excitement of meeting new friends and being in a new environment. Please talk to your child about what he or she is to expect and help them soothe their anxiety by reassuring them that school is a fun and safe place to learn.

It is critical to the development of Kindergarten age students that parents not remain in the classroom when dropping off in the morning. The sooner students bond with their peers and their teacher the more successful they will be in school. Your child's teacher has been highly trained to support your child through the transition into the school environment.

The main office of the school is located on Denmark Street. Please feel free to call the school if you have any questions or concerns at 231-720-2300. The school bell rings at 8:40 a.m. every morning. It is important that students arrive on time as breakfast is being served in classrooms at the start of each day.

Marquette 2022-23 “Watch Us Grow”

Welcome to the 2022-23 School year. This school year promises to be exciting in many ways as our school community continues to grow. Although the majority of the Marquette staff will look the same, we will welcome new staff to our school family. We are also excited to be part of new initiatives and invite new programs to Marquette.

This year coming off of COVID, we learned a valuable lesson. We have missed having parents present in the building to support teaching and learning. One of my areas of focus for this year is to create a stronger Marquette Family. We have always known that the stronger the home to school connection the more success your student will experience at school. Look for opportunities this year to connect with your school. Some ways to consider:

1. Volunteer listener - come into the school to listen to students read
2. Encourage 20 minutes of reading each evening at home
3. Send your student to school every day on time.
4. Log on to the Performance Matters platform to monitor student progress
5. Attend Parent Teacher conferences and special evening events at school
6. Join our recess/ lunch team to support students during lunch and at recess
7. Chaperone field trips.
8. Join our School-Home Partnership Team (SHPT)
9. Volunteer monitoring the Marquette School “Doordash” store.
10. Join the Building Leadership Team

If you have questions about how you can get involved, please reach out to me or Mrs. Carnes in the main office. We will be happy to help you get connected.

As I begin my 5th year as the Principal at Marquette, I look forward to working with you to provide the best learning experience for your students.

Thank you,

Mary Scott, principal • mscott@mpsk12.net • 231 720-2601

New staff joining Marquette this year:

- Jennifer Halverson, Assistant Principal
- Ken Pierson, School Psychologist
- Lisa Minerick, Level 1 Teacher
- Luis Gomez, Special Education Supervisor

NEW INITIATIVES AT MARQUETTE THIS YEAR

Men of Color Read

Students will soon be excited and talking about the guest reader that joined their classroom to read them a story. Men of Color Read is a literacy initiative composed of men in the community determined to help eradicate functional illiteracy and improve youth reading skills. The men visit urban schools once a month to read to and connect with students. The program kicked off last Spring at Marquette, visited Summer School classrooms and will continue to read with students each month throughout the school year.

Jon Covington founded Men of Color Read (MOCR) in Los Angeles over a decade ago and brought the program to Muskegon five years ago. One of our literacy goals at Marquette this year is to get students motivated to read and to get books back in their hands. We are certain that this program will support these efforts. You can continue sharing the excitement of reading with your student at home by asking them about this program.

First 10 Initiative

A team of Marquette Early Childhood educators and community agency leaders are partnering with the First 10 Initiative leaders to develop systems to support family and student needs starting from birth until the age of 10. Marquette Elementary is piloting this program this year under the direction of Donna Allen, District Family Engagement Coordinator and Mary Scott, Marquette principal. We are excited to see the benefits of supporting the families of our youngest students. Look for more information throughout the year as we embark on this program and how you can get involved. Description and goal of the initiative.

“First 10 Schools and Communities are coordinated efforts taking place around the country to improve teaching, learning, and care during the first decade of children’s lives.

First 10 Schools and Communities bring together school districts, elementary schools, and early childhood programs to improve the quality of education and care for young children and their families. They work to improve teaching and learning, deepen partnerships with families, and provide comprehensive services for children and families.

The goal of First 10 is for all children to learn and thrive. This goal encompasses academic and social emotional learning and physical and mental health as priorities. Realizing this educational equity goal requires that communities ensure that all children have opportunities and support to enable their success and eliminate the predictability of success or failure that currently correlates with social, economic, racial, and cultural factors.”

they could be successful.

Mrs. Donovan was everywhere in the building doing whatever needed to be done! She did so much more than preparing hands-on science lessons for all students. You could find Sue in the library, organizing and filing Marquette “DoorDash” deliveries, welcoming students to school each morning, greeting parents at the end of the day and so much more.

We congratulate them on their retirement and want them to know that they touched the lives of children each and every day they stepped foot in Marquette.

***We will miss you and will never forget the work you did.
Thank you!***

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - OAKVIEW

Instrumental Music Opportunities for Oakview Students



Welcome back Oakview friends and families! My name is Brian Gamm, and I am the proud Principal of Oakview Elementary. With the 2022-23 school year right around the corner, I am excited to announce a new opportunity specifically for Oakview's 5th grade students. Starting this Fall, all incoming 5th grade students at Oakview will have the opportunity to play an instrument through our newest course offering, Instrumental Music! Mr. Andrew Del Raso, Oakview's fantastic Music Teacher, has been working with Mr. Don Showich from Muskegon's High School to develop a comprehensive band program that begins with our elementary students and continues all the way through MPS' high school. The new band program will be piloted this year at Oakview, but the vision is for Instrumental Music to be offered across all of MPS' elementary schools in the future. Oakview's Instrumental Music course is designed to be developmental, so students will first have the opportunity to learn to play either the flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. These instruments provide a solid foundation from which students can either expand their musical repertoire or stay with their original instrument of choice and refine their skills. Mr. Del Raso and Mr. Showich arranged instrument "fittings" at the end of last school year, 2021-22, for all of our 4th graders so we had a head start on how many instruments we would likely need for this upcoming school year (2022-23). If your child attended Oakview this past year, he/she likely met with someone from Meyer Music to play each of these instruments and see which one will be best for them. Oakview's 5th graders will have Instrumental Music each week during the school day, with performance opportunities for students and their families throughout the school year. Instruments will be provided for all students who wish to participate and families may still choose to rent their own instrument. Renting is a great option if that is something that works for your family. Students who use a school instrument will need to sign a contract that includes a \$15 fee to cover repairs that may be needed through the year. Instrumental Music is a year long commitment with the hope that students continue their band experience at Muskegon Middle School and beyond. If you or your incoming 5th grader has any questions about Oakview's newest enrichment opportunity, please do not hesitate to contact either myself (bgamm@mpsk12.net) or Mr. Del Raso (adelraso@mpsk12.net). Have a great rest of your summer and Go Big Reds!

Sincerely, Brian Gamm, PhD
Oakview Elementary Principal



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - GLENSIDE

Pre-K education ...Preschool helps build the foundation for years to come!



This summer Head Start children were excited to come to school and work on some of the following skills; letter sounds, math, writing, and reading. The smaller class size allowed for quality time with the child and parent(s) to help prepare the child for kindergarten.

It's not too late to sign up for pre-school for 4-year-olds, but space is limited. For enrollment information please call 720-2540 or come to Glenside Early Childhood Center with the following information: birth certificate, insurance card, shot record, 2021 W2, or taxes (preschool has income eligibility).

The pre-k program prepares young children for success socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually by partnering with families. All Pre-K programs use Connect 4 Learning and compile data during the year to show the growth of the child. The staff develops lesson plans to individualize the needs of the child. Research shows that quality early childhood interventions and teaching are critical to children's lifelong success.

**Help your child prepare for kindergarten,
enroll in preschool today!**

First Congregational Church



**In Person & ONLINE
Worship Service
Sunday - 10:30 AM**

1201 Jefferson St.,
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231-726-3254
www.fccmuskegon.org



First Congregational Church of Muskegon has recently confirmed its commitment to being Open and Affirming.

This means that we care for the welfare of our community and welcome everyone, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey.

We embrace into our full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.



Will your child be 4 years old by
September 1, 2022?

Sign them up for FREE full-day

PRESCHOOL



Mon-Fri All Day
(1/2 Day Preschool, 1/2 Daycare)

@ Marquette Elementary

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Transportation
- Play & Learning
- Friends & Fun



Parents give PreK4All an Overall
5-Star Rating



“Thank you for everything that you have been able to do with my child. His English has improved so much. He also loves to come to school. You are doing great things.”

-parent of PreK4All student



LEARN MORE AND ENROLL YOUR CHILD AT

[muskegonpublicschools.org/Academics/PreK4All](https://www.muskegonpublicschools.org/Academics/PreK4All)



Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

*In Muskegon Public Schools, we nurture productive thinkers
who thrive in an ever changing technological society.*

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Save the DATE!

08.26.22

MUSKEGON FOOTBALL PROUDLY PRESENTS

HACKLEY STADIUM SHOWCASE

BE THE BEST! BE A BIG RED! JOIN A WINNING TEAM. BIG RED NATION.

MUSKEGON BIG REDS

MCC VS. NORTH MUSKEGON @ 4 PM

EAST KENTWOOD VS. MUSKEGON @ 7 PM

*Return to Learn Fair
3-5pm
8/26/22 on
MHS Campus*