

MUSKEGON

MIRROR

THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER FOR MUSKEGON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ISSUE 62 • AUGUST 2024

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT MPS!!
JOIN US AT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

MONDAY AUGUST 19
OAKVIEW DEDICATION 4-6 PM

MONDAY AUGUST 19
BUNKER DEDICATION 5-7 PM

TUESDAY AUGUST 20
MARQUETTE DEDICATION 4-6 PM



FRIDAY AUGUST 23, RETURN TO LEARN FAIR
3-5 PM AT CHARLES HACKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
DISTRICT WIDE: PRE-K-12, ALL ARE WELCOME

- Find more information about *Return to Learn Fair* on page 28

PRIDE & PURPOSE

M MUSKEGON
Public Schools

BEABIGRED.COM

WELCOME BACK BIG REDS!

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HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS THRU JUNE 17:
7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
MONDAY - FRIDAY

Please call for an appointment outside of scheduled hours.

SHEILA BROWN • Director of Human Resources • 231-720-2025 • sbrown@mpsk12.net
DEBBIE FOX • HR Generalist • 231-720-2008 • dfox@mpsk12.net
TERRI HANSEN • HR Specialist • 231-720-2056 • thansen1@mpsk12.net
ALISE MCELHENY • Payroll Specialist • 231-720-2022 • amcelhen@mpsk12.net
AUTUMN MEYERS • HR/Finance Specialist • 231-720-2057 • humanresources@mpsk12.net

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Jasmine Allen Paraeducator TBD
 Jenna Beckman..... Paraeducator TBD
 Tiffini Booth Secretary.....Bunker
 Shanay Clark..... Teacher.....Bunker
 Shayla Day Paraeducator TBD
 Thomas DeVoogd..... Elementary Principal Glenside
 Ashley Dood..... Paraeducator TBD
 Kyle Fiebig..... Teacher.....Middle School
 Robert Klanke..... Social Worker TBD
 Judith Luptak..... Central Registrar Central Office
 Leah McKenna..... Teacher..... Glenside
 Kendra Mencer..... ParaeducatorOakview
 Teresa Mendoza..... Secretary..... Glenside
 Autumn Meyers..... HR/Finance Specialist..... Central Office
 Jillian Mutchler Finance Services Specialist Central Office
 Nicole Reyherme..... Director of Curriculum & Instruction Central Office
 Sheteta Sandifer..... Locker Room AttendantMiddle School
 Miranda Sheltra Teacher..... TBD
 Lara Sigmon..... Counselor.....Middle School
 Kristen Sweet..... Speech Pathologist.....Marquette
 Stephen Thomas ParaeducatorOakview
 Mira Upshaw Paraeducator Muskegon Catholic
 Adeline Vanbemmelen Psychologist Support Specialist..... TBD
 Andrew Wilsey..... Paraeducator TBD
 Robin Wilson Secretary.....Marquette

EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS



EDUStaff
www.edustaff.org

Dean Transportation
www.deantransportation.com

Enviro-Clean Services
www.enviro-clean.com

Chartwells
www.chartwellsk12.com

EDUSTAFF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS & SUPPORT STAFF

EDUStaff Substitute Teachers & Support Staff Requirements to work as a substitute teacher:

- 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

2024-25 EDUStaff Teacher Substitute Rates for Muskegon Public Schools:

- \$125 per day
- \$140 per day (21st consecutive day)
- \$200 per day (61st consecutive day)

2024-2025 Support Staff Substitutes Rates:

- \$18.01 – Classroom Assistant/Para Educator
- \$15.00 – Lunchroom Aide
- \$17.82 – Secretary
- \$19.17 – Secretary (21st consecutive day)

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

Alice Doane, Finance Project Specialist • Administration Building • **25 years**

Jennifer Gill, Instructional Coach • Elementary Buildings • **30 years**

Donald Hammond, McKinney Vento Tutor • Administration Building • **3 years**

Jennifer Hammond, Executive Director of Academic Services • Administration Building • **7 years**

Marcia Holman, Secretary • **24 years**

Mary Huss, Kindergarten Interventionist • **24 years**

Cynthia Kauffman, Speech & Language Pathologist • Marquette • **38 years**

Brandi Leach, Teacher • Middle School • **24 years**

Kristen Mocere, Teacher • Bunker • **25 years**

Deanna Pierson, Paraeducator • Marquette • **10 years**



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



Matthew Cortez
Superintendent, Ed.S.
Muskegon Public Schools

BE A BIG RED!

With the beginning of each new school year come many different experiences and opportunities for our students and families. This year is going to be a tremendous year for celebration across our district. Our seniors are the class of 2025, which is the 150th graduation class from Muskegon Public Schools. Our new Charles Hackley Middle School will open its doors for students on August 26. We will debut three renovated elementary schools, Bunker, Oakview, and Marquette. We are returning our early childhood programs to their local elementary schools. We also have moved our Two Way Immersion (TWI) program to its own building at Glenside Elementary, which will be under construction this year.

This is such an event-filled and joyous time for our district. The direct support, trust, and BIG RED Pride in our community have made all of this happen! The two bonds, technology fund, sinking fund, and non-homesteaded tax have all been so generously and selflessly supported by all of you! Without you, we would be lost. When I interviewed just over five years ago, I alluded to the district needing to re-establish itself as a core pillar in our community. The physical transformation of the district is well underway and could only be done in unity with our community.

What is not as obvious for everyone is the transformation that our district has undertaken in the educational mission to our students and to our community. We are entering into Phase 3 of our PK-12 transformation in partnership with *Ford Next Generation Learning* (Ford NGL fordngl.com). This entire school year is our master planning phase and getting the foundation established to begin implementation for Fall 2025. We are only the fourth district in Michigan to transform in this way because we need to remain the steadfast leaders and educators that our students need and deserve.

Our mission "*In Muskegon Public Schools, we nurture productive thinkers who thrive in an ever-changing technological society*" will only be realized when we construct our entire system around student voice and student choice. We have engaged our entire community in this transformation process including multiple non-profits and over 70 business partners in our local community. We must all share the same vision and the same goal to educate our students for their next experience past graduation. Our dedication is to create a district wherein EVERY graduate knows what they are doing on the Monday after graduation—not some, most or the majority...but EVERY graduate! We will accomplish this by ensuring that EVERY graduate is not just handed their diploma but something else as well. It could be certification for a trade, college credits, direct pathways to local business employment, various industry certifications, or anything else that the student wishes to pursue. We must become a stronger school district to play our role in creating a stronger community.

It is truly a great time to be a Big Red! BIG REDS build BRIDGES, and our first one is to unite our community, our businesses, our non-profits, our government entities, and all others together in the pursuit of our next generation's success.

**LET'S GO
BIG REDS!!!**



Educationally Yours,

Matthew T. Cortez



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Helping MPS families be in the know and stay connected to services in our community.

Approximately 1 out of every 7 students at Muskegon Public Schools doesn't have a stable place to live at some time during the school year. We are here to help.

If you or someone you know is having trouble with housing instability or homelessness the *McKinney Vento Act* can help your family keep school important.



Contact your child's school or Nicole, the District Liaison, at 231-720-2079 or ndarcy@mpsk12.net to learn about rights and services you may have.



Here are other places you can go for help:

TrueNorth Community Services	Housing programs & resources available	271 E. Apple Ave. 877-446-8730
Muskegon Continuum of Care.....	List of currently available rentals	http://www.muskegoncoc.org/ <i>Click the HERE link at bottom</i>
Bethany Christian Services.....	unaccompanied immigrant youth services	175 W. Apple Ave 231-733-1618
Muskegon Housing Commission.....	Public housing applications www.muskegonhousing.org/	1080 Terrace St. 231-722-2647
Muskegon Heights Housing Commission	Public housing applications www.muskegonheightshc.org/home/	615 Hovey Ave 231-733-2033
Muskegon Men's Rescue Mission	Emergency shelter services	400 W. Laketon Ave. 231-727-6085
Muskegon Women's Rescue Mission	Emergency shelter services	1691 Peck Street 231-727-6090
MRM Community Resource Center	Centralized location for services & resources w/free lunch daily 1747 7th Street 231-714-4374 Updated schedule on Facebook	
Family Promise of the Lakeshore	Family based shelter program	2160 Crozier Ave. 231- 747-8855
Renting with Confidence - Goodwill	Classes to obtain a tenant certificate.....	271 E. Apple Ave 231-722-7871
Goodwill Employment Services	Help obtaining employment	271 E. Apple Ave 231-722-7871



MUSKEGON MIRROR

The Muskegon Mirror is published three times per year by Muskegon Public Schools, 1458 5th Street, Muskegon, MI 49441. Muskegon Public Schools accepts advertising to defray the cost of production and distribution and appreciates the support of its advertisers. Muskegon Public Schools does not specifically endorse advertisers or their products or services.

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board of Education 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule Tuesday's at 7pm

The Board's Organizational Meeting will be held in January 2025



Meetings are held at
Poole Administration Building,
located at
1458 5th Street Muskegon, MI 49441.

*Anytime during emergency school closures, the board meetings will be available via live stream.
Please check online for Board Minutes and Agendas for the live stream link.*

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2024-2025

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

Louis Churchwell (Vice President)
lchurchw@mpsk12.net
231-769-86389

Zachary Anderson (Treasurer)
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231-571-8978

Christine Hamel (Secretary)
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Kwame Kamau James (Sec. Pro Term)
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Billie J. Bruce (Trustee)
bbruce@mpsk12.net
231-773-7179

Morgan Witmer (Trustee)
mwitmer@mpsk12.net
231-720-2051

BOARD PRESIDENT



Lynnette Marks
President

Muskegon Public Schools
Board of Education

Greetings Muskegon and Big Red Nation,

I hope you all have had the most glorious summer. A Muskegon summer is something special, I for one am grateful to live in this place that is so special that others come here to vacation.

August. It is the end of summer and back to school beckons. Families are transitioning from beach towels and flip flops to back to school sales, crayons, folders, back packs and new school clothes. It is such a blessing to have so many caring

organizations in our community with Back to School Giveaways as well. Thank you to those who have organized and those who have donated. Seeing young people with the excitement of fresh new supplies ready for school warms my heart.

Muskegon's 2024-2025 school year is going to be a great one. Elementary students will be back in their newly renovated home buildings, Bunker, Oakview, and Marquette, where they will be joined by preschool classrooms. The TWI (Two Way Immersion) Spanish-English elementary program will have their own building at Glenside. Middle Schoolers will step into a brand new campus at Charles Hackley Middle School. The High School Campus is all set on the inside, construction on the grounds is wrapping up and new landscaping being installed.

The staff, students and curriculum inside the buildings is where the magic happens. Elementary and Middle School students will have interactive learning in the new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) classrooms. Project Based and interactive learning like this is engaging. Interactive learning such as STEAM labs, and the Ford NGL focus helps with that age old question of "what am I going to use this for" when learning new things. It also sparks excitement.

Every single student matters, and every single year of school matters. If you are a parent or guardian, please continue to support your young person in their learning by getting them to school on time, showing interest in what they are learning, staying connected with staff, and being involved in your school. You are an important partner in your student's education.

The entire community is invited to the Elementary School Renovation Dedications. If you haven't been inside in a while, this is a great time to check out these buildings. Please join us!

MONDAY AUGUST 19

Oakview 4pm-6pm

Bunker 5pm-7pm

TUESDAY AUGUST 20

Marquette 4pm-6pm

It is indeed a great time to be a Big Red!

Go Big Reds. - Lynnette • lmarks@mpsk12.net • 231-740-6249

CURRICULUM

The Importance of Curriculum: Nurturing Excellence in Muskegon Public Schools

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, I wanted to take a moment to emphasize the critical role that curriculum plays in shaping the educational experience of our students here in Muskegon Public Schools. Curriculum forms the heart of what we teach, how we teach it, and ultimately, how well-prepared our students are for their futures.

At its core, curriculum serves as the blueprint for learning. It outlines the essential knowledge, skills, and concepts that students will encounter throughout their educational journey. A well-designed curriculum not only aligns with state standards but also reflects the values, aspirations, and unique needs of our community.

Here are a few key reasons why curriculum is vital in our school district:

Ensuring Academic Rigor and Relevance: Our curriculum is carefully crafted to provide a rigorous academic foundation while also ensuring relevance to the real world. By setting high standards and expectations, we challenge our students to think critically, solve problems creatively, and engage deeply with their learning. This year, we will be adding guaranteed field trip experiences for all students in grades kindergarten through grade 8 that directly align with what they are learning in the classroom. This way, they will be able to apply and relate what they are learning to real-world situations.



Fostering Equity and Inclusivity A robust curriculum promotes equity by offering all students access to a rich and diverse array of learning opportunities. It is designed to meet the needs of learners at various levels and backgrounds, ensuring that every student has the chance to succeed and thrive. Regardless of where a child is born, they deserve the opportunity to learn and thrive! This is our mission for each and every child in Muskegon.

Supporting Consistency and Continuity A well-defined curriculum ensures consistency across classrooms and grade levels. It provides a clear progression of learning that builds upon previous knowledge and skills, fostering continuity and coherence in education. While our teachers can customize how they deliver lessons, the learning outcomes for students are the same for every 3rd grader in math throughout our district - because consistency is key for every Big Red!

Preparing Students for Success: Ultimately, our curriculum prepares students for success in college, careers, and life. By equipping them with essential competencies such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and adaptability, we empower our graduates to thrive in a rapidly evolving global society.

Together, we will continue to innovate, refine, and improve our instructional practices to provide the best possible educational experience for all.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Office of Instructional Services at (231) 720-2083. I encourage you to stay engaged and informed about our district's curriculum initiatives. Your feedback and involvement are invaluable as we strive to provide an exceptional education for every student. Thank you for your ongoing support of our schools and our shared commitment to academic excellence.

Warm regards,
Jennifer S. Hammond, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Instruction (retired 6/30/2024)



Dear Muskegon Public School Community,

My name is Nicole Reyherme, and I am happy to be joining Muskegon Public Schools as your new Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

This year will mark my 19th year in public education! Throughout my career I have been a High School English teacher, an Assistant Principal, a Principal, and a Director of public schools serving PreK through 12th grade students.

My passion for education is rooted in its ability to transform lives. I firmly believe that every student deserves unwavering support on their educational path and I am fully committed to Muskegon Public Schools' mission to ensure that every Big Red graduate is prepared for college, careers, lifelong learning, and leadership.

Beyond my professional life, my husband and I are proud parents to three children, along with two dogs and a cat. We relocated to West Michigan a couple of years ago and have quickly fallen in love with Michigan and its warm community spirit.

I am truly excited to join Muskegon Public Schools and I am eager to collaborate with students, parents, teachers, and staff. Together, we will continue our commitment to educational excellence and ensure every student achieves their full potential.

Warm regards,
Nicole Reyherme



**M WELCOME NICOLE
TO THE
MUSKEGON
BIG REDS!!**

SUMMER 2024 Literacy Update: Building an Achievement Dream



Muskegon Public Schools' Elementary staff spent the Early Release professional development days in May learning about the new literacy curriculum, Bookworms. Bookworms will

be implemented in all elementary classrooms in the fall. Staff are excited to begin teaching the program which provides Muskegon students with 45 minutes of shared reading each day, 45 minutes of English Language Arts instruction each day, and 45 minutes of differentiated instruction each day. The differentiated instruction block fits perfectly in our new MTSS system and makes scheduling our interventionists for additional student support seamless. Additional reading instruction will be provided to students beginning the first week of school.

In addition to the May professional development, elementary staff will receive two full days of Bookworms professional development in August before school starts and ongoing training throughout the year. Staff will receive their books and materials prior to school starting so they are ready to start reading and writing instruction when school begins. Bookworms includes so many books at each grade level that by the time students leave 5th grade, they will have studied 283 books in the Bookworms program. Check out the photos of the Bookworms materials and books!

This spring our intervention team met and planned for the next school after reviewing reading data and giving feedback on the systems in place that we need to adjust or change. We began with celebrations and recorded the following statements: "All I've seen is success! I get goosebumps every week."; "I love my kids wanting to come and not wanting to leave the group!"; "I enjoyed seeing the growth."; "I've seen growth since I started in March. I can't wait to see what happens in a full year." We are just as excited as the interventionists about the progress we are making and anticipate great reading gains next year.



CURRICULUM

Mathematics Updates for the 2024-25 School year

All teachers at Bunker, Marquette and Oakview Elementary will be piloting two math curriculums to support instruction and learning in the math classrooms this year. They will follow this schedule.

- August 22 - October 25 Illustrative Mathematics (IM) **- October 25 - January 25** Bridges Mathematics

Both of these curriculums provide opportunities for students to experience a math classroom that fosters the values of the Essential Instructional Practices in Early Mathematics: Prekindergarten to Grade 5.

Values

1. We value children seeing themselves as mathematics knowers, doers, and contributors to the field of mathematics.
2. We value children's differences with respect to age, race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, and geographic context (e.g., urban, rural, suburban).
3. We value mathematics as a broad, creative, and collaborative discipline for sense making and problem solving.
4. We value learning mathematics in a variety of ways — both socially and cognitively.
5. We value mathematics teaching that focuses on connection, care, and authentic relationships.

These values seek to promote high-quality, equitable teaching and learning for young children in the discipline of mathematics. Hopefully, your students will come home excited about math and be curious to learn more. The goal is for all students to know that they are mathematicians!

Middle school students will continue to develop their mathematical thinking in a variety of ways this year at the new Charles Hackley Middle School location. There will be opportunities in the core math classroom, a math strategies classroom and during extended day learning. We encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities and invite parents to acknowledge their hard work and dedication to be a better learner each day.

FAMILY SUPPORT NEEDED

Families play a crucial role in supporting math learning at home for students of all ages. Here are some effective ways families can do this:

1. Create a Positive Attitude Towards Math: Express positivity and enthusiasm about math. Avoid saying things like "I was never good at math" or "Math is hard."
2. Incorporate Math into Daily Activities: Look for opportunities to apply math in everyday situations, such as cooking (measuring ingredients), shopping (calculating costs and discounts), or gardening (measuring plots).
3. Play Math Games: Board games, card games, and online math games can make learning fun. Games like Sudoku, Yahtzee, or Monopoly involve math skills.
4. Read Math-related Books: Explore books that involve counting, shapes, patterns, or mathematical concepts suitable for your child's age. Discuss the math in the story.
5. Use Real-World Problem Solving: Encourage your child to solve real-world problems, such as figuring out how much money to save for a toy or how to evenly distribute snacks among friends.
6. Utilize Educational Apps and Websites: There are numerous apps and websites that offer interactive math activities and exercises tailored to different age groups.
7. Encourage Questions and Exploration: Support your child's curiosity about math by encouraging questions and providing opportunities for exploration.
8. Connect Math to Their Interests: Relate math concepts to your child's interests or hobbies. For example, if they enjoy sports, discuss statistics or measurements related to their favorite teams.
9. Provide Manipulatives and Tools: Use physical objects like blocks, coins, or measuring cups to help illustrate math concepts concretely.
10. Celebrate Effort and Progress: Focus on effort and progress rather than just correct answers. Praise perseverance and problem-solving strategies.
11. Engage in Math Together: Sit down and solve math problems together. Offer guidance when needed, but also allow your child to work through challenges independently.
12. Communicate with Teachers: Stay in touch with your child's math teacher to understand what they are learning in class and how you can support their learning at home.

By integrating these practices into daily routines and activities, families can create a supportive environment where children can develop strong math skills and confidence.

I look forward to the 2024-25 school year and anticipate that your students will experience a positive mathematics learning environment at school and at home.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and see you soon!

Mary Scott, M.Ed - K-12 Math - Curriculum Specialist - Muskegon Public Schools - mscott@mpsk12.net m- 231 720-2028

August Science Update 2024

Summer is quickly drawing to an end and the new school year is nearly upon us. Lots of construction has happened around our entire district and we are so excited to return to our newly renovated elementary schools and brand new Charles Hackley Middle School!

With school nearing, I wanted to take a minute to update you on an exciting addition the district has made to our science curriculum for middle school. The Charles Hackley Middle School science department has selected a new curriculum! They have decided to adopt Cereal City Science as the new curriculum. This is significant because now the elementary and middle school will be using the same science curriculum so we are hoping for a seamless transition from elementary to middle school as far as science curriculum goes. You can check out the new curriculum here:

<https://cerealcityscience.org/>

Another exciting bit of science news is that we are bringing back the Grand Valley State University water research field trips. Every 5th grade classroom in the district will have an opportunity to experience the water research trip aboard the W. G. Jackson vessel. During this experience, the students study samples of water from Muskegon Lake and Lake Michigan and make comparisons, they learn about the history of Muskegon Lake, invasive species and more! This will be a whole new experience for many of our students and we are excited to be able to offer it again.

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



RAINBOW CELERY

Got some celery in the fridge? Then you can begin to learn about capillary action with a simple and colorful color-changing celery experiment. It's a really cool project that your kids are sure to remember for years to come!



What you need::

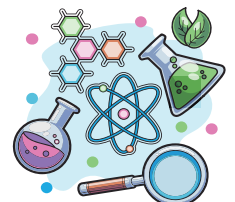
- Celery (with leaves for the best visual effect)
- Multiple glasses of water
- Food coloring in various colors

Here are the step-by-step instructions for how to make Rainbow Celery:

1. Set the Stage: Find a sunny spot in your home where your celery can bask in the sunlight. This will not only help in the experiment but also make for a lovely display.
2. Add Food Coloring: Fill each glass halfway with water and then add a few drops of different food coloring to each glass. For an extra touch of magic, arrange the colors in the order of a rainbow.
3. Prepare Your Celery: Cut the stalks of celery so that they fit comfortably in the glasses without tipping them over. Place each stalk into a glass of colored water.
4. Watch and Wait: This is where patience comes in. Let the celery stalks sit in the colored water overnight. It's a slow process, but by the next day, you'll start to see the leaves of the celery taking on the colors of the water they've been sitting in.

**We are very excited to get started on the 2024-2025 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



Marquette



This Project is 78% Complete



Exterior Door Installation



Bulkheads



Louver Installation

29,632 Hours Worked Without a Lost-Time Incident

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Install Exterior Doors.
- Louver install.
- Continued painting.
- Finishing bulkheads.
- Lighting install.

Next Month

- Continue finishes.
- Carpet Tile Installation.
- Sitework.
- Complete all ceiling tile install.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Safety

This month's Safety Goal focuses on Preventing Struck-By in Construction. A few ways we prevent Struck-By on site are:

- Do not stand under any lifted loads.
- Stand clear of equipment travel paths.
- Barricade the swing radius of the machine.
- Always wear your PPE such as hard hats, safety glasses, and Hi-Vis.
- Be sure the equipment has functioning safety devices, including lights and back up alarms.

Schedule

- The project is scheduled to finish in August of 2024

Other Progress

- Materials are being procured for upcoming work.
- Project management and trades continue coordination for a smooth delivery.



Oakview



This Project is 90% Complete



Installed All ACT



Refinished Gym Floor



Bathroom Partitions

17,857 Hours Worked Without a Lost-Time Incident

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Interior Cleaning
- Installing Ceiling Pads
- Continue Punch list
- Bathroom Partitions

Next Month

- Finish Punch List
- Furnish
- Cleaning Interior
- Install Doors
- Start Move-in

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Safety

This month's Safety Goal focuses on Preventing Struck-By in Construction. A few ways we prevent Struck-By on site are:

- Do not stand under any lifted loads.
- Stand clear of equipment travel paths.
- Barricade the swing radius of the machine.
- Always wear your PPE such as hard hats, safety glasses, and Hi-Vis.
- Be sure the equipment has functioning safety devices, including lights and back up alarms.

Schedule

- The project is scheduled to finish in June of 2024

Other Progress

- Materials are being procured for upcoming work.
- Project management and trades continue coordination for a smooth delivery.

Remaing Campus



Power Plant is 15% Complete



J Building Filled in



Prepped to Begin Demo



Parking Lot Work

WORK IN PROGRESS

This Month

- Removed J Building.
- Filled basement in.
- Installed Site fence around Power Plant Building.

Next Month

- Demo the Power Plant Building.
- Parking lot work.
- Fill in the Power Plant Building.
- Planning for Church demo.
- Move the mansion that is currently next to the church.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Safety

This month's Safety Goal focuses on Preventing Struck-By in Construction. A few ways we prevent Struck-By on site are:

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- Stand clear of equipment travel paths.
- Barricade the swing radius of the machine.
- Always wear your PPE such as hard hats, safety glasses, and Hi-Vis.
- Be sure the equipment has functioning safety devices, including lights and back up alarms.

Schedule

- These projects are scheduled to finish in July of 2024

Other Progress

- Continuing to plan for the remaining site work and landscaping around the campus.

Recognizing an Honorable Big Red Career

The Office of Specialized Instruction would like to take the opportunity to recognize Speech and Language Pathologist Cynthia Kauffman.



Cynthia Kauffman

Cindy announced her retirement from public education in Michigan in March of 2024 effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Cindy was hired by the district in August of 1986. At the time she retired, Cindy was at the top of the Muskegon Public Schools professional seniority list with 38 years of employment. She served the students and their families in the Muskegon Community for almost forty years!

Lindsay Jones, a Muskegon Public Schools speech pathologist and colleague, notes that *"Cindy Kauffman has been a dedicated Speech-Language Pathologist and member of the Muskegon Public Schools Office of Specialized Instruction team. Her kindness, patience, knowledge, and dedication to helping students achieve their communication goals have made a huge difference in the lives of many throughout her career. The relationships and rapport she builds with her students is something that is commendable and inspiring. During my time working with Cindy, I was able to see the relationships she builds with students and how excited students were to work with her. Cindy will be missed by all that have been fortunate enough to work with her but we are very excited for her to enjoy a much deserved retirement."*

Pati Smith, the OSI Administrative Assistant added, *"It has been a pleasure working with Cindy. She is always kind, responsive and helpful. Congratulations Cindy and may this next chapter of your life be amazing for you!"*

You can't
RETIRE
from being
AWESOME!

**Congratulations to
Cynthia Kauffman on
her amazing career
and commitment to
Muskegon Public
Schools!**



The Poppen Programs celebrated a wonderful end of the school year event on June 7th, featuring an art show, recital and poetry recitation, with other works from our creative writing students available as well!

Our arts programming is for Big Reds only, and students can apply in 3rd through 11th grade. If your student has a talent, tell them to apply! Poppen folders are in each school's front office.



The program funds lessons once weekly during the school year, and any needed supplies. We have kids in private music lessons, creative writing for short stories or poetry, spoken word poetry writing and performance, visual arts, dance classes or theatre classes. If you stay in Poppen until you graduate from Muskegon High School, you can apply for our college scholarship your senior year! This is a scholarship

that will follow you each year you are making progress toward a degree. Applications to join will be open again when we

return to school in the fall, until November 1st. Call **231-720-2040** or check out **poppenprograms.org** for more information on how to apply!



This summer, we had wonderful Poppen art students painting our sidewalk murals in downtown Muskegon! Our instructor led a workshop, and the City of Muskegon paid our students for their time! Find them around the roundabout and in front of the chalets on Western Ave.



Paul Kurdziel

Muskegon Community
Education Center

Wow, and just like that the 2023-2024 school year has come to an end! This time of year is bittersweet for the MCEC Family because most of our students graduated just days ago, and we already miss them! Over the course of this school year, we have gotten to know so many just plain awesome young people, so, yes, we will miss them, but we are excited to see what they do with their lives as they live into their purposes!

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be meeting with our new students who will be joining us at our new building for the 2024-2025 school year. We will no longer occupy the east side of the old Nelson School building. We have packed our bags, and we will be heading down Laketon to take up residence in the old Moon School building (recently Oakview Elementary School). We are excited about our new location because our whole program will be on one floor...one big family!



We will continue to look for, design, and implement ways and opportunities for students to be curious about and imagine their purposes. Have a great summer—refresh, enjoy, and be ready for the 2024-2025 school year, MCEC Fam!

Mr. Paul Kurdziel • 231-215-9534,
on Facebook (search Paul Kurdziel),
or email: pkurdzie@mpsk12.net.



Judi Luptak

Central Registrar &
Student Services Support

MPS Enrollment

All MPS families enroll their student(s) online. Simply go to our website, www.muskegonpublicschools.org and select the enrollment link. All our buildings have computers available.

Make sure to answer all the questions and click SUBMIT. You must also do an application for each student you need to enroll by adding another student.

Once you have completed your enrollment and if you have not provided all required documents, you will receive an email stating you have not completed the enrollment. You can simply reply to this email and provide the documents, or bring them to one of our buildings nearest you.

Make sure to check your emails for incomplete enrollment communications. You can log back in and check your enrollment and if it says, "finished", you will be receiving a call from your student(s) building(s) for a start date.

Required Documents:

- Proof 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
Judi Luptak, Central Registrar at 231-720-2013 or
email jluptak@mpsk12.net.

Celebrating 10 Years of the Muskegon Farmers Market Downtown

COMMUNITY
WATCH MUSKEGON

Dear Muskegon Public Schools Families, We are thrilled to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Muskegon Farmers Market being located downtown! Over the past decade, the market has become a vibrant community hub, offering a diverse array of fresh produce, local goods, and family-friendly events. This milestone reflects our community's commitment to supporting local farmers and businesses, fostering a healthier lifestyle, and creating a welcoming space for all. We invite you to join us in celebrating this remarkable journey and to continue enjoying the benefits of our beloved farmers market.



DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS: A BOOST FOR HEALTHY EATING

We are excited to highlight the Double Up Food Bucks program, which provides valuable food assistance to our community. This program matches your fruit and vegetable purchases dollar-for-dollar, up to \$20 a day, when you use your EBT/Bridge Card at participating locations. This means you and your family can enjoy twice the fresh fruits and vegetables, promoting healthier eating habits. With over 230 participating grocery stores and farmers markets across Michigan, Double Up Food Bucks makes it easier for families to access nutritious foods. If you have an active EBT/Michigan Bridge Card, you are eligible for this program. Visit the market to sign up and start doubling your food dollars today!

KIDS POWER OF PRODUCE: GROWING HEALTHY HABITS

The Kids Power of Produce program has been a cornerstone of the Muskegon Farmers Market since its relocation in 2014. Designed for children ages 3 to 13, this program encourages healthier eating habits and fosters future market shoppers. Each week, approximately 200 children receive tokens to spend on fruits and vegetables, and they participate in fun, educational activities such as yoga, culinary classes, and farmers market bingo. We are grateful to Howmet Corporation, the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, and numerous local organizations for their continued support. Parents often share stories of their children eagerly trying new foods after participating in our culinary classes. This program not only nurtures a love for fresh produce but also creates lasting memories and healthy habits.



UPCOMING KIDS POWER OF PRODUCE - WINTER MARKET 2025

We are pleased to announce that Kids Power of Produce (Kids POP) will continue during the winter market in 2025. Starting January 11th and running each Saturday through March 29th, kids will receive \$5 worth of tokens to spend on fruits and vegetables. Check-in will be from 10:00 AM until Noon. We hope to see many young shoppers enjoying fresh produce and fun activities this winter!

YOUR GUIDE TO THE MUSKEGON FARMERS MARKET

We invite EVERYONE to visit the Muskegon Farmers Market located at 242 W. Western Ave. For more information, please call (231) 722-3251. Come explore the variety of fresh, local produce and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of the Muskegon Farmers Market. We look forward to seeing you there!

SUMMER FARMERS MARKET

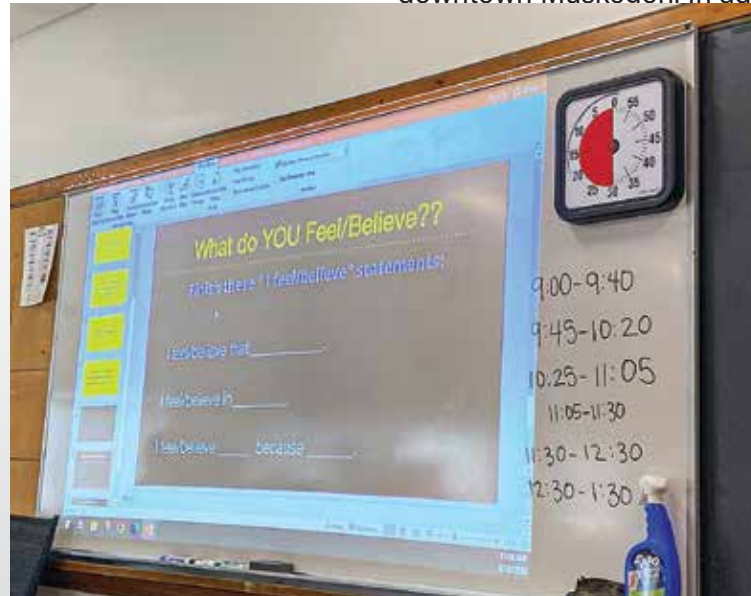
May to November
Open Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM

WINTER FARMERS MARKET

December to April
Open Saturdays only
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



21st CCLC Impact Summer School Enrichment Program 2024



What a wonderful time our Muskegon Public Schools K-8th grade Big Reds are having during our 21st CCLC Impact Summer School Enrichment Program.

Students are learning more about science through a hands-on STEM curriculum called Camp Invention. This program has inspired our students' curiosity and imagination through hands-on STEM challenges and open-ended adventures.

Also, during our Summer School Enrichment Program, our K-8th grade Big Reds are learning a variety of skills with our local vendors: sewing skills (Ozetta Aaron), creative art (Jackie Anderson-Kiddie Kanvas), photography (Sharrona Williams), poetry (Ebony Davis), acting (Civic Theatre), All Scouts (Michelle Tyson), gardening (Britany Brown-McLaughlin Grows), Healthy Eating with MSU Extension (Frank Cox), cosmetology (Phyllis Howard), Junior Achievement, eSports (Ben Davis), Vision Boards (Lori Wiltenburg-Hackley Community Care) and Face Painting (Byrce Thompson).

Our 8th grade students who will be Muskegon High School 9th graders in the fall have been attending the 21st CCLC Jumpstart Program. This program helps them learn more about entering high school and gearing up for the 9th grade.

During the week, we enjoy more fun by exploring Muskegon through field trips to Hackley Library, Hoffmaster State Park, Muskegon Heritage Museum, Sherman Bowling Center and the Cinema Movie Theatre. And we celebrated Juneteenth, June 19, 2024 by being part of the 1st annual Juneteenth Parade downtown Muskegon. In addition, the Mart Dock extended a free

day of fun to all MPS students to experience the Muskegon Carnival.

The first session of our 21st CCLC Impact Summer Enrichment Program ended with a trip to Allegan Event in Allegan, MI and the second session will end with a trip to Silver Lake Dune Rides!

The 21st CCLC Impact Summer Enrichment Program ran Monday-Thursday, 11:30am-1:30pm at Bunker Elementary School for Big Reds' K-5th grade and 6th - 8th grade at Muskegon High School.

2024/25 NCAA NATIONAL SIGNING DATES

The MHS Athletic Dept. likes to keep our community updated on the newest information regarding the NCAA. We have been able to send multiple student-athletes to colleges and universities all over the country in the last few years. This year will be no exception with plenty of current Big Reds deciding on their post-high school futures. Below are the National Letter of Intent signing dates for the upcoming school year.

Prospective Student-Athletes Signing 2024-25 and Enrolling 2025-26

SPORT (S)	INITIAL SIGNING DATE	FINAL SIGNING DATE
Division I Basketball (Early Period)	November 13, 2024	November 20, 2024
Division I Basketball (Regular Period)	April 16, 2025	May 21, 2025
Division I Football (Early Period)	December 4, 2024	December 6, 2024
Division I and II Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 4, 2024	January 15, 2025
Division I and II Football (Regular Period)	February 5, 2025	Division I: April 1, 2025 - Division II: August 1, 2025
All Other Division I and II Sports	November 13, 2024	August 1, 2025

2024 SPRING OK GREEN ALL-CONFERENCE

The MHS Athletic Department would like to recognize and congratulate all of the Spring 2024 OK Green All-Conference team members. Your hard work and dedication are shown by being voted into these teams.

Keep up the good work! Go Big Reds!

BASEBALL

HONORABLE MENTION

Larry Brown



BOY'S TRACK & FIELD

FIRST TEAM

De'Ontae Chambers
Destin Piggee

SOFTBALL

HONORABLE MENTION

Alyssia Stewart

GIRL'S TRACK & FIELD

FIRST TEAM

Nadia Hill

M MUSKEGON BIG REDS!!

MHS COLLEGE STUDENT-ATHLETES

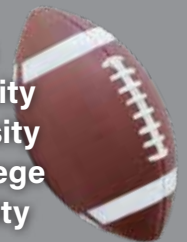
The following student-athletes have accepted scholarships to participate in Athletics at the college level. They are continuing the tradition of Big Reds heading off to do great things in college. We are incredibly proud of all of our scholar-athletes, and we wish them much success.

BASKETBALL



Terrance Davis, Jr. - Lake Superior State
Montrel Oliver - Davenport University
Justin Watson - Bay College

FOOTBALL



Miguel Botello - Michigan Tech
Brant Brooks - Davenport University
Karl Brooks - Wayne State University
Stanley Cunningham - Adrian College
M'Khi Guy - Wayne State University
Chris Jones - Adrian College
Destin Piggee - Saginaw Valley State University
Jakob Price - Ferris State University
Da'Carion Taylor - Wayne State University
Isaiah Williams - Adrian College

WOMEN'S SOCCER



Destiny Gates - Muskegon Community College

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Alex Hunter - Ferris State University

First Congregational Church



Come see us in person or check us out online for services Sundays at 10:30AM.



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

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

We offer vocal & hand bell music opportunities, Youth Group, Saturday Breakfasts, LGBTQ+ Events, Community Vegetable Garden, Scripture conversations, and Community Service Opportunities.

1201 Jefferson St.,
Muskegon, MI 49441
231-726-3254
www.fccmuskegon.org



**Hosting
Westshore GSA
Every Monday
7-8pm**

FUTURE. FOCUSED.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Career Tech Center in Muskegon equips teens to excel by offering the following career-prep programs:

Allied Health | Architecture & Design | Auto Collision/Refinishing | Auto Service Technology | Bio Tech & Engineering | Construction Trades | Cosmetology | Criminal Justice | Electrical/Computer Technologies | Environmental/Veterinary Sciences | Graphic Production | Health Science Academy | Hospitality & Food Management | Teacher Academy | Software Design & Development | Machining/Engineering Technology | Welding Technology

To learn more visit muskegonctc.org or call 231.767.3600

FFCU

FAMILY FINANCIAL
Credit Union

Hey Big Reds! It's

Nice to CU

Become a member today!

ff-cu.org

Treasures Abound in the MPS Music Library

Contributed by Peggy Smith

The Music Library, unassumingly tucked away on the third floor at the Muskegon High School, holds treasures including published works of composers from every era of music from the 1600's to modern times. It includes most genres of music from symphonies to pop music and everything in between.

Two retired Muskegon Public Schools music teachers, Kathy Cron and Peggy Smith, returned to the district over the past year to organize and inventory this collection of music. They share that the library holds the following number of music scores, listed by performing ensemble:

- Concert Band - 2,000 pieces
- Marching Band - 1,700 pieces
- Jazz/Dance Band - 900 pieces
- String Orchestra - 1,000 pieces
- Concert Orchestra - 1,200 pieces



In addition, there are hundreds of scores for choir, as well as various solo and ensemble sheet music editions for each specific instrument of the band and orchestra. To say that this music library is "huge" is an understatement! Most of the major composers' best works are in our library, and the library is so well-stocked that area schools, as well as the local professional Symphony, would regularly "borrow" scores.

The oldest original item in the music library is from 1888. One very unique treasure that is housed in the library is the original hand-printed music that was composed for and played by the Muskegon Marching Band in 1892 at the Hackley Library dedication ceremony. Since then, when the band would travel overseas, they would gift this music to other bands that they would encounter. It is noted that bands in Scotland and Ireland have this score as a gift from our marching band.

Other precious works in the library are original manuscripts from the famed MHS music director, William Stewart, who composed the beloved school songs, "Alma Mater" and the "Red & White" fight song. Stewart was the MPS Band Director from 1936 to 1959.

The bulk of the library's music was purchased from the 1950's on, but finding music in the library from 100 years ago is not uncommon, as Muskegon High School has had a reputation for its stellar performing groups since the early 1900s. The library has more than just published music; it also holds hundreds of reel-to-reel tape recordings of student concerts, going back to the 1950s as well as more recent CDs and videos of events.

The Muskegon Public Schools music teachers have certainly enjoyed access to the finest music for their students to learn from, and to perform in their concerts, through the resources of this fabulous and unique library.



Peggy Smith holds a vinyl recording of the MHS Symphonic Band under the direction of Carl Bjerregaard. This is one of the most recently added archival items in the music library.



Kathy Cron, left, and Peggy Smith, right, pictured in the MPS Music Library they inventoried and organized over the last year from summer of 2023-2024.

TECHNOLOGY

The mission of our department is to provide the best and most secure content to our end users which are our students, teachers, parents/guardians, and staff members. Our department strives to help our students and teachers by putting the correct tools in their hands and at the same time help them understand the best use for those tools. We are about teaching and learning.



Chromebooks at MPS

Students at Muskegon Public Schools have outstanding opportunities to utilize the latest technology to assist in their learning.

Chromebooks are available for all students K-12, with every high school student provided with their own Chromebook that they are able to take home every day. Students are expected to bring their device to school with them each day, charged and ready to go. A monitoring and filtering system is in place when the devices are off-campus, just as when the devices are being used in the halls and classrooms at MPS.

Muskegon Middle School also has a 1:1 device-to-student ratio, but the Chromebooks do not go home. At the elementary level, each classroom has a set of Chromebooks which stays with students all day.

The Chromebook should be seen as another classroom tool just as calculators, pencils, books, and paper have been viewed in the past. It is a student learning tool, not a method of entertainment. Each student is responsible for the well-being of the device issued to them and must meet certain expectations. In addition, a Chromebook case will be provided to protect the device that students are responsible for as well. Students are strongly encouraged to transport the Chromebook in a backpack between classes, and back and forth from home each day.

Fees will be issued for broken, damaged, lost and/or stolen devices, and the MPS Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement must be signed by both student and parent/guardian before the device is provided.



RAISE HOPE & FOSTER DREAMS

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

1-855-MICKIDS (642-4543)

MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME

Office of Technology Services
1800 E Laketon Ave
Muskegon, MI 49442

Director of Technology
De'Antae Davis

Technology Specialists
Bruce Elliott
Dwight Elders
Brett Winegar





Tim Hoffman

Muskegon High School
Principal

Greetings,

As we eagerly anticipate the start of a new school year, we have some exciting updates to share with you. First and foremost, we are thrilled to announce that Muskegon High School is celebrating a monumental milestone: the graduation of our 150th class! This incredible achievement is a testament to the rich history and enduring legacy at Muskegon High School.

In addition to this historic milestone, we are also implementing a new start time for the school year ahead. Beginning this fall, classes will begin at 7:50 am. This adjustment aims to enhance our students' learning experiences while at MHS,

As we embark on this new year together, we remain committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and personally. Our dedicated faculty and staff are here to support all students on their educational journey, whether they are entering their freshman year or preparing to graduate as part of our historic 150th class.

We encourage all students to take full advantage of the opportunities available at Muskegon High School. Get involved in clubs, sports, and activities that interest you. Embrace the challenges of your coursework and strive for excellence in everything you do. Together, we will continue to uphold the proud traditions and spirit of Muskegon High School.

As we count down the days to the start of the school year, we look forward to seeing familiar faces and welcoming new ones into our community. Let's make this year one to remember as we celebrate our 150th graduating class and embark on another chapter of excellence at Muskegon High School.

Here's to a fantastic school year ahead!

Warm regards,

Tim Hoffman | Principal | Muskegon High School

High School Orientation Dates and Times:

Monday, August 19th

10:00-11:30 AM or 5:30-7:00 PM ~ 9th Grade

Tuesday, August 20th

10:00-11:30 AM or 5:30-7:00 PM ~ 10th and 11th Grades

Wednesday, August 21st

10:00-11:30 AM or 5:30-7:00 PM ~ 12th Grade

Friday, August 23rd

**District Return to Learn Fair
at Charles Hackley Middle School
3:00-5:00 PM**

Why Choose Us?

Expert Care: Experienced and caring staff committed to youth health.

Confidential Services: Your privacy is our priority.

Muskegon Teen Health Center

Conveniently Located Inside:
Muskegon High School
80 W. Southern Avenue
231.733.6868

Oakridge Teen Health Center

Conveniently Located Inside:
Oakridge Middle School
251 S. Wolf Lake Road
231.733.6868

Back To School With HCC's Teen Health Center

Services We Offer:

- Physical Exams
- Vaccinations
- Mental Health Counseling
- Sports Physicals
- Dental Check-ups

"Welcome to the New School Year at Charles Hackley Middle School"

Mrs. LaKisha Loudermill

Muskegon Middle School Principal



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members, As we savor the final days of summer, I hope this message finds you enjoying our wonderful vacation season. There's truly nothing quite like our community's summer, with its beautiful weather, vibrant city events, and access to our sandy beaches. I trust you've been making the most of these treasures and creating lasting memories with your families.

Now, as we transition from these sun-soaked days to the promise of a new academic year, I'm thrilled to announce a significant milestone for our district: the grand opening of our state-of-the-art Charles Hackley Middle School (CHMS). This cutting-edge facility, made possible by the generous support of our community, represents more than just a new building—it embodies our renewed dedication to educational excellence and a fresh start for our students.

At CHMS, we're committed to fostering an environment that challenges and inspires our students both academically and socially. To achieve this goal, we're implementing several innovative initiatives:

1. Cell Phone-Free Learning Environment: We're partnering with Yondr to create a distraction-free atmosphere and increase student engagement. This initiative aims to foster more meaningful interactions, improve focus, and enhance the overall learning experience. Students will secure their phones in Yondr pouches upon arrival and reclaim access at the end of the school day. By minimizing digital distractions, we expect to see improved classroom participation, better retention of material, and more vibrant discussions among peers.

2. Achievement Hour (In-Person): This class will meet daily from 7:50 - 8:15 AM. During this time, students will engage in personalized instruction using the i-Ready Reading and Mathematics program. This mandatory session will offer credit for participation.

3. Seminar Class: This 45-minute class, held four times weekly, will guide students in monitoring their academic and social-emotional progress. During Seminar, students will learn essential skills such as goal-setting, time management, and self-reflection. They'll regularly review their grades, set academic targets, and develop strategies to achieve them. Additionally, the class will incorporate activities to enhance social skills, emotional intelligence, and overall well-being, preparing students for success both in and out of the classroom.

4. The Positivity Project: Our new Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) initiative will help students identify their character strengths and build positive relationships within our school and broader community. Through daily activities and discussions, students will explore 24 character strengths, learning to recognize these qualities in themselves and others. This program aims to foster empathy, resilience, and a growth mindset. Students will engage in projects that apply these strengths to real-world situations, encouraging them to become thoughtful, engaged citizens both at school and in their to.

Parental involvement is crucial to our students' success. We encourage you to join our monthly advisory teams or participate in various volunteer activities. For more information, please reach out to our Family Engagement Coordinators, Mrs. Sharrona Williams and Mr. Juan Perez by calling our main office (231) 720-3000.

To ensure you receive the latest updates and critical information about CHMS, we kindly request all parents and guardians to verify and update their contact information. This includes your current email address, phone number, and mailing address. You can do this by logging into our Power School Parent Portal or contacting our main office. Staying connected is vital for your child's educational journey, and we want to make sure you don't miss any important communications.

Our Big Red Tradition has long been synonymous with excellence, and this year, we're redoubling our efforts to equip students with the skills they need to thrive in an ever-changing world. Together, we can make this an exceptional year for every student at CHMS.

Thank you for your unwavering support and partnership. Here's to our most successful year yet!

With pride and purpose,

LaKisha Loudermill,
Principal, Charles Hackley Middle School



Dear Big Red Families,

As we approach the end of this beautiful Michigan summer, I am optimistic and excited for the year that lies ahead at Charles Hackley Middle School! Our state-of-the-art facility has been designed and built to foster an engaging learning environment that promises to support the educational experience for every one of our CHMS students.

I'd like to share some important updates about our new school building, safety measures, and policies. In every one of our schools, the safety and security of our Big Red students are our top priorities, and at CHMS we will continue to use the Evolv security system each morning to ensure a safe and secure arrival for our students each day. Additionally, we are excited to introduce an update to our cell phone policy which includes using YONDR pouches. The YONDR company has partnered with over 3,000 schools in 21 countries to support distraction-free learning environments worldwide. We are confident that YONDR will alleviate the intrusion of personal technology to create distraction-free learning experiences that foster a more focused and engaging school environment. Finally, we are also creating new drop-off and pick-up procedures to ensure a smooth and efficient process for our CHMS families during arrivals and dismissals; look for a video explaining our new traffic routes on our CHMS website.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. At CHMS we are committed to meeting our community's expectations to ensure a positive and enriching school experience for all our students. We have many exciting programs and initiatives planned that will further enrich our students' education and development. Together, we will make this school year a memorable and successful one! Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.

Go Big Reds!

Greg Nimitz | Assistant Principal, Charles Hackley Middle School



Dear CHMS Students,

As the CHMS Director of Athletics, I want to encourage each of you to get involved in extracurricular activities and sports this school year. There are numerous benefits to being involved in sports and extracurricular activities, aside from staying active and improving physical health.

Participating in sports can help you develop important life skills, such as teamwork, leadership, dedication and time management, as well as interpersonal skills, such as self-esteem, confidence and relationship building.

Whether you have an interest in a specific sport or activity, or are looking to try something new, CHMS offers a variety of athletic and extra-curricular options available for you to get involved. There is something for everyone!

So, as you begin the 2024/2025 school year, I challenge you to step out of your comfort zone and join a team or club at CHMS. You never know what amazing opportunities may come your way!

Get active, get involved, have fun. Go Big Reds!

Montrell Dockery, CHMS Athletic Director & Secondary Behavioral Specialist Coordinator



Charles Hackley Middle School Administrators & Support Team

From left to right: Mr. Montrell Dockery, Secondary Behavioral Specialist Coordinator; Ms. Dana Judd, MTSS/PBIS Coordinator & McKinney/Vento Advocate; Mrs. LaKisha Loudermill, Principal; Mr. Gregory Nimitz, Assistant Principal

BIG RED Back-To-School Orientation at Charles Hackley Middle School

Come kick-off the new school year with us!!

6th GRADE: Monday, August 19th
9:00-11:00 AM or 5:00-7:00 PM

7th GRADE: Tuesday, August 20th
9:00-11:00 AM or 5:00-7:00 PM

8th GRADE: Wednesday, August 21st
9:00-11:00 AM or 5:00-7:00 PM

NEW ADDRESS:
180 E. Laketon,
Muskegon MI
49442



Okeelah McBride
Bunker Elementary
School Principal

Happy New Year!
Dear Bunker Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 - 2025 school year! I hope you all have had a relaxing and fun summer break. I am extremely proud to continue to serve as the Principal of this amazing learning community for the 5th year and to continue to support the students of Bunker Elementary!

I would like to welcome all of our new families, whether you are joining us from another school in the district or have relocated from another city, state, or country.

We are excited to share with you all that Bunker has to offer and believe you will soon feel as we do, that Bunker Elementary is a special place for all children. Our educators, support staff, families, and partners in education are ready to welcome you into Big Red Nation.

Our teachers and staff are eager to meet their new students and begin this year's journey with them. The dedicated staff at Bunker has been working tirelessly to engage in professional learning opportunities, update our instructional models, class routines, and expectations, all with the goal of fostering academic success and a true sense of connectedness and belonging for our students. Our primary goal is to ensure student proficiency in core academic subjects, so we will continue to refine Tier I instruction, analyze data, and review classwork to guide instruction and intervention. We will work together to create a solid foundation for our students so that they have the opportunity to become self-directed learners, collaborative teammates, critical thinkers, and responsible citizens. We will continue to offer intervention services for learners through specialized programs, counseling when appropriate, and the implementation of Tier II and Tier III programs and teaching and learning strategies.

I look forward to the start of the new school year and to continuing our collaboration of providing your children with an effective and engaging educational experience. As always, we will look to our families to be positive partners in their children's educational journey. The Bunker staff has always made a priority of working together as a caring and compassionate learning community with professionalism, teamwork,

action, and expertise. We will always put the best interests of our students at the center of our purpose. Join us in ensuring the success of all Bunker students.

As always, my door is open and our team welcomes your input. Please feel free to contact me via email at the address below or call to make an appointment to speak with me to discuss any ideas you feel will make this the best year yet!

Yours in Education, Okeelah McBride, Principal | omcbride@mps12.net



Welcome to Bunker Elementary

We are delighted to announce that Katherine Lohman has become a permanent part of the Bunker team. She joined us in October of last year as the interim assistant principal and was a valuable addition to our administrative team. She will continue her work as an assistant principal supporting our staff and students, collaborating with our behavioral specialists, and working to create a positive learning environment. Outside of work, Ms. Lohman enjoys reading, watching movies, spending time outside with her black lab Izzy, and cheering on the Spartans.



Katherine Lohman

We are also taking this opportunity to officially introduce our Bunker community to our secretaries!

Many of you already know Ms. Regina Richardson. She joined the Bunker staff last October, but never received a proper introduction. Ms. Regina came to MPS after 13 years in Muskegon Heights schools and after working in the records department in the Muskegon County Courts. She has become a valuable part of our front office helping our students, our teachers, and our administrators. In her free time, Ms. Regina enjoys praise and worship, binge watching TV shows, and socializing with friends.



Regina Richardson

Joining us this fall as a full time secretary in our building is also Mrs. Tiffini Booth. Ms. Tiffini has worked in all of the buildings in the district as a substitute secretary and will now make her home here at Bunker. Ms. Tiffini works hand in hand with Ms. Regina in the main office. She works to support our kids (especially with bags of ice and Band Aids), the parents and families at Bunker, along with our teachers and administrators. Spending time with her grandchildren, listening to live music, exercising and pilates classes are just a few ways that Tiffini spends her free time.



Tiffini Booth

We are also adding a brand new teacher to our fifth grade team.

Please help us welcome Ms. Shanay Clark to the Bunker staff. Miss Clark will become our new fifth grade teacher. She is a self described nerd with a love for all things reading and Science. Miss Clark has worked in our district as a substitute teacher and as a site coordinator for the 21st Century program. Miss Clark is spending her summer facilitating the Summer School program and can't wait to begin the school year and meet her new students.



Shanay Clark

New Buildings, Same Faces

Muskegon preschool programs have moved out of Glenside Early Childhood Center.

We will now have classrooms at Bunker, Marquette, and Oakview.

**Even though we will be in different buildings, it is the same program and staff!
Our first day of school will be September 3, 2024.**

At Bunker and Marquette will have full-day and half-day classes for Head Start. Children must be 3 years old by December 1, 2024, and income eligible to qualify.

The GSRP classrooms will be at Oakview for children who are 4 years old by December 1, 2024, and income-eligible. The Enrollment Office will be open at Marquette in mid-August.

Bussing will not be guaranteed for the 2024/25 school year.

It's not too late to sign up for preschool for 4-year-olds, but space is limited. For enrollment information please call 720-2540.

The following information: birth certificate, insurance card, shot record, 2023 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 the Creative Curriculum and comply data during the year to show the educational growth. 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!

**Enroll your child in Preschool today,
call the Enrollment Office at 231 720-2540.**





**Jennifer
Halverson**

Marquette Elementary
School Principal

Welcome Back to Marquette!

I am thrilled to write to you today as your new principal of Marquette Elementary School. It is with great excitement and humility that I step into this role, ready to continue the incredible work that has been done within our school community. As we move from the Nelson Building and neighborhood back to the Marquette Building and neighborhood into our next school year, our theme will be "together we can". The summer break has provided us with a well-deserved rest and a chance to recharge, and now we are ready to embark on a new academic journey filled with learning, growth, and fun.

First and foremost, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Marquette and Nelson neighborhood stakeholders, as well as, the MCEC staff and students for their collaboration and guidance during my tenure as the interim principal. Their commitment to our students and staff has helped lay a strong foundation, and I am honored to continue to build upon those foundations.

Over the past few months, our dedicated staff and faculty have been hard at work preparing for the return of our students. The school at 480 Bennett Street and classrooms have been refreshed, new materials have been acquired, and innovative lesson plans have been crafted to ensure a dynamic and engaging educational experience for every child. We are committed to fostering an environment where each student feels valued, supported, and challenged to reach their full potential.

This year, we have several exciting initiatives and programs that we are eager to share with you. We will introduce a new STEAM classroom (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). As part of our district's plan to prepare our students for the 21st century workforce, Marquette's lab is fully equipped with brand-new, innovative materials! Additionally, our arts and music programs will continue to thrive, offering students a well-rounded education that nurtures their diverse talents and interests.

Community involvement is a cornerstone of Marquette Elementary, and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive and engaged neighborhood. We want to invite all families, and neighborhood members to see the updated school on August 19 from 5 pm - 7 pm. This will be before school starts and a chance for all to explore our updated, remodeled building. We invite parents, grandparents, and community members to join us in making this school year a success. Whether through volunteering, attending school events, or simply encouraging our students at home, your involvement makes a significant difference in their educational experience.

For the 2024 / 2025, the elementary schools will have new hours. School will start daily at 8:30 am and on M, T, Th, & F dismissed at 3:45 pm. Early Release Wednesdays will have dismissal at 2:09. Half days will start at 8:30 am and end at 12:20 pm. Students will now have the opportunity to eat a hot breakfast before school starts at 8:30 am in the cafeteria. Look for more information from the district.

As we begin this new school year, let us embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead with optimism and determination. Together, we can create a positive and enriching environment where our children can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Here's to a fantastic school year ahead!

Together we can!

Principal Jennifer M. Halverson, M. Ed.



IT'S A
GREAT TIME
TO BE A
BIG RED!

Office Contact Information:

Mrs. Jennifer Halverson, Principal, 720-2601
Mrs. Robin Wilson, Head Secretary, 720-2600
Mrs. Quintusa Capers, Secretary 2, 720-2602
Mrs. Lisabeth Smith, Assistant Principal, 720-2608
Mr. Billie Shanks, Elementary Behavioral Specialist, 720-2683



Welcome back Oakview!

My name is Brian Gamm and I am the proud principal of Oakview Elementary. While the Summer has been wonderful, I am VERY excited to turn our attention toward the start of another new school year at Oakview. In all honesty, just



Dr. Brian Gamm
Oakview Elementary
School Principal

getting back to our old playground and lunchroom at 1420 Madison will be a wonderful change! The 2024-25 school year promises to be especially significant for several reasons.

- **1420 Madison Ave. is open and ready for your students!** Our first day of school for students will be Thursday, Aug. 26. If your student attended Oakview at Moon for the 2023-24 school year, then your child is scheduled to be in a classroom at the newly remodeled Oakview building located at 1420 Madison Ave. for the 24-25 school year. With the exception of two open positions, all of Oakview's classroom teachers will be moving with your student back to Oakview. Oakview's teachers are amazing, and having familiar and friendly faces to return to will hopefully make the transition back to Oakview seamless for your sons and daughters. Oakview's teachers work very hard to make sure your children are successful and I am blessed to serve as their principal.
- **Oakview's Dedication Ceremony is Aug. 19, from 5-7 pm!** Oakview's school community will have an opportunity to explore the newly remodeled Oakview before school starts. The dedication ceremony will be our families' first opportunity to see all the wonderful changes that have been made!
- **Oakview's new S.T.E.A.M. Lab is amazing!** Speaking of wonderful changes at Oakview, you will be hearing a lot about Oakview's new S.T.E.A.M. Lab this year. S.T.E.A.M. is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. As part of the District's plan to prepare our students for the 21st century workforce, Oakview's lab is fully equipped with student learning stations, a green screen, and even a 3D printer! Learning has never been this much fun before!
- **Oakview has new school hours!** In response to staff and family requests, elementary students across MPS will have a slightly revised daily schedule.
 - Regular Hours: 8:30 am start and 3:45 pm dismissal
 - Early Release Wednesdays: 8:30 am start and 2:09 pm dismissal
 - Half-Day Hours: 8:30 am start and 12:20 pm dismissal
- **Oakview students will have a HOT breakfast BEFORE school starts!** MPS has implemented breakfast in the classroom for the past several years as a strategy to ensure more students receive breakfast. One of the consequences to this decision, however, was that it became nearly impossible to provide students a hot breakfast. To address this, starting on day one of this year, students will have the opportunity to eat a hot breakfast in Oakview's cafeteria before school starts each day.
- **Oakview is getting a new Assistant Principal!** The Assistant Principal position is an essential member of any school community. At MPS and Oakview, AP's are specifically tasked with supporting students and families in the areas of discipline and attendance. Oakview has had numerous Assistant Principals in recent years, so it is with great pleasure that I introduce Mr. Chris VanTubergen as Oakview's newest Assistant Principal. Mr. VanTubergen has an extensive background of working with students across many grade levels, and was our hiring team's consensus top candidate for the position. We are grateful to add Mr. VanTubergen to an already amazing Oakview school team!
- **Oakview has a new curriculum!** Elementary teachers across the district, from Kindergarten through fifth grade, will be implementing a new reading curriculum called *Bookworms*. Oakview's teachers will be receiving on-going professional development throughout this school year to support them with their implementation. We will also be organizing several family engagement events that will give our parents and guardians opportunities to better understand what is being used to teach your students to read!
- **Oakview has bussing!** - If your student has been attending Oakview, you are probably already aware that MPS' transportation is managed by Deans Transportation. As we have done in previous years, Deans Transportation will be reaching out to students who qualify for bussing about 1-2 weeks before school starts on Aug. 26. If you do not receive a phone call from Deans and/or have any questions about bussing, please do not hesitate to call Deans Transportation at 231-720-3167 or Oakview's main office at 231-720-2450.

If you have any questions about any of the above information, or if you would like to schedule a time to take a tour of our amazing school, please feel free to contact me or any of our main office Oakview Staff.

Dr. Brian Gamm, Principal (231) 720-2451 | Mr. Chris VanTubergen, Assistant Principal (231) 720-2456 | Mrs. Lisa Keeney, Head Secretary (231) 720-2450 | Ms. Shakira Hill, Secretary #2 (231) 720-2450

Return to Learn Event

@ CHARLES HACKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
FRI, AUG 23, 3-5PM

**District-wide
K-12 students and
families welcome!**

NEW ADDRESS:
180 E. Laketon,
Muskegon MI 49442



**TRAIN - BOUNCE HOUSES - FOOD - GAMES - GIVEAWAYS - MEET SCHOOL STAFF
TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS - VENDORS - COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

Get excited to start a great school year!



Contact Angela Johnson ajohnson@mpsk12.net or
Paul Kurdziel pkurdzie@mpsk12.net to learn more

www.muskegonpublicschools.org

Are you looking for ways to be involved in your MPS child's school life?

Family Engagement is a collaborative relationship between families, educators, providers and partners to support and improve the learning, development and health of every learner.

Family Engagement:

- Increases the likelihood that students will graduate
- Improves students' grades
- Is reflected in better attendance, and
- Leads to increased success post-high school



Reach out to our Muskegon Public Schools Family Engagement Coordinators!

**Contact information for each school is listed below*

They have monthly meetings and activities that inspire our MPS families with ways to help your Big Red achieve their best in school.



Trynette Lottie-Harps

Bunker Elementary School

231-720-2300

Shawntay Borden

Marquette Elementary School

231-720-2600

Sharrona Williams

Charles Hackley Middle School/
Muskegon High School

231-720-2800

Angela Johnson

Family Engagement Coordinator Supervisor
121C Poole Administration Building

231-720-2062

Juan Perez

K-12 Bilingual FEC Specialist

231-720-2300

Calendario Escolar 2024-2025



Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

Julio 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Agosto 2024						
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Septiembre 2024						
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Octubre 2024						
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Noviembre 2024						
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Diciembre 2024						
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29	30	31				

Horarios Escolares	
Esc. Secundaria, Preparatoria, & MCEC	
Día regular	7:50am - 2:00pm
Día de salida temprana	7:50am - 11:45am
Medio día de clases AM	7:50am - 11:00am
Escuelas Primarias	
Día regular	8:30am - 3:45pm
Día de salida temprana	8:30am - 2:09pm
Medio día de clases AM	8:30am - 12:20pm

Horario	
Agosto 26.....	Primer día de clases- medio día
Agosto 28.....	Salida temprana
Ag 30, Sept 2.....	Día del trabajo, no hay clases
Septiembre 4.....	Salida temprana
Septiembre 11.....	Salida temprana
Septiembre 18.....	Salida temprana
Septiembre 25.....	Salida temprana
Octubre 2.....	Día de conteo-Clases todo el día
Octubre 3.....	Conferencias MCEC
Octubre 9.....	Salida temprana
Octubre 11.....	No hay clases
Octubre 16.....	Salida temprana
Octubre 18.....	½ día solo nivel secundario, semana de conferencias
Octubre 23.....	Salida temprana
Octubre 24&25.....	½ día solo primarias, conferencias, termina MP1
Octubre 30.....	Salida temprana
Noviembre 5.....	No hay clases- reuniones de maestros
Noviembre 6.....	Salida temprana
Noviembre 13.....	Salida temprana
Noviembre 20.....	Salida temprana
Noviembre 27, 28, 29.....	No hay clases, Día de Accion de Gracias
Diciembre 4.....	Salida temprana
Diciembre 5.....	Conferencias MCEC
Diciembre 11.....	Salida temprana
Diciembre 18.....	Salida temprana
Diciembre 23-Enero 3.....	Días festivos
Enero 6.....	Regreso a clases
Enero 8.....	Salida temprana
Enero 15.....	Salida temprana
Enero 16.....	Prepa y secundaria ½ día, Exámenes
Enero 17.....	Todo el distrito ½ día, termina 2ndo cuarto, MP2 & Sem.1
Enero 20.....	No hay clases, Día de MLK
Enero 21.....	½ día- secundaria y preparatoria
Enero 22.....	Salida temprana
Enero 29.....	Salida temprana
Febrero 5.....	Salida temprana
Febrero 12.....	Día de conteo-Clases todo el día
Febrero 17&18.....	No hay clases-vacaciones de mitad de invierno
Febrero 19.....	Salida temprana
Febrero 26.....	Salida temprana
Marzo 5.....	Salida temprana
Marzo 12.....	Salida temprana
Marzo 17.....	No hay clases- reuniones de maestros
Marzo 19.....	Salida temprana
Marzo 20&21.....	Half Day Elem. Only, Conferences Week, MP3 Ends
Marzo 26.....	Salida temprana
Abril 2.....	Salida temprana
Abril 4-Abril 11.....	No hay clases, Vacaciones de primavera
Abril 16.....	Salida temprana
Abril 18.....	Todo el distrito ½ día, Viernes Santo
Abril 23.....	Salida temprana
Abril 30.....	Salida temprana
Mayo 7.....	Salida temprana
Mayo 14.....	Salida temprana
Mayo 21.....	Graduación- Preparatoria, Salida temprana
Mayo 23.....	½ día todo el distrito- Día Hackley
Mayo 26.....	No hay clases, Día de Conmemoración
Mayo 28.....	Salida temprana
Junio 5.....	Medio día solo nivel secundario, Exámenes
Junio 6.....	Último día de clases, ½ día todo el distrito
Termina MP4 el semestre	

Enero 2025						
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Febrero 2025						
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Marzo 2025						
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Abril 2025						
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Mayo 2025						
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Junio 2025						
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Códigos del Calendario	
Día de Conteo- Clases todo el día	
Medio día AM Todo el Distrito	
No hay clases - Reuniones de maestros	
Medio día escuelas primarias	
Medio día secundaria y preparatoria	
No hay clases	
Salida temprana	



2024-2025 School Year Calendar



Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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August 2024						
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September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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Time Schedules
Middle School, High School & MCEC
Regular Day 7:50am - 2:00pm
Early Dismissal Day 7:50am - 11:45am
Half Day AM 7:50am - 11:00am
Elementary
Regular Day 8:30am - 3:45pm
Early Dismissal Day 8:30am - 2:09pm
Half Day AM 8:30am - 12:20pm

Schedule	
August 26.....	First Day of School-Half Day AM
August 28.....	Early Dismissal
Aug 30, Sept 2.....	Labor Day Weekend, No School
September 4.....	Early Dismissal
September 11.....	Early Dismissal
September 18.....	Early Dismissal
September 25.....	Early Dismissal
October 2.....	Count Day-Full Day of School
October 3.....	MCEC Conferences
October 9.....	Early Dismissal
October 11.....	No School
October 16.....	Early Dismissal
October 18.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Conferences Week
October 23.....	Early Dismissal
October 24&25.....	Half Day Elem. Only, Conferences Week, MP1 Ends
October 30.....	Early Dismissal
November 5.....	No School, Teacher PD Day
November 6.....	Early Dismissal
November 13.....	Early Dismissal
November 20.....	Early Dismissal
November 27, 28, 29.....	No School, Thanksgiving Break
December 4.....	Early Dismissal
December 5.....	MCEC Conferences
December 11.....	Early Dismissal
December 18.....	Early Dismissal
December 23-January 3.....	Holiday Break
January 6.....	School Resumes
January 8.....	Early Dismissal
January 15.....	Early Dismissal
January 16.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Exams
January 17.....	Half Day District-Wide, End of MP2 & Semester
January 20.....	No School, MLK Day
January 21.....	Half Day Secondary Only
January 22.....	Early Dismissal
January 29.....	Early Dismissal
February 5.....	Early Dismissal
February 12.....	Count Day-Full Day of School
February 17&18.....	No School Mid-Winter Break
February 19.....	Early Dismissal
February 26.....	Early Dismissal
March 5.....	Early Dismissal
March 12.....	Early Dismissal
March 17.....	No School, Teacher PD Day
March 19.....	Early Dismissal
March 20&21.....	Half Day Elem. Only, Conferences Week, MP3 Ends
March 26.....	Early Dismissal
April 2.....	Early Dismissal
April 4-April 11.....	Spring Break, No School
April 16.....	Early Dismissal
April 18.....	Half Day District-Wide, Good Friday
April 23.....	Early Dismissal
April 30.....	Early Dismissal
May 7.....	Early Dismissal
May 14.....	Early Dismissal
May 21.....	MHS Graduation, Early Dismissal
May 23.....	Half Day District-Wide, Hackley Day
May 26.....	No School, Memorial Day
May 28.....	Early Dismissal
June 5.....	Half Day Secondary Only, Exams
June 6.....	Last Day of School, Half Day District-Wide End MP4 & Semester

January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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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
No School
Early Dismissal





Strong Schools, Stronger Communities

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

1458 5th Street, Muskegon, MI 49441
231.720.2000 phone • 231.720.2066 fax
www.muskegonpublicschools.org

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