WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEFF KINDERGARTEN

950 Jenne St, Grand Ledge MI 48837
Phone 517-925-5740 Fax 517-925-5772 Attendance Line 517-925-5333
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Principal

March 8, 2019

Dates to Remember

Mar 8	**PTO Family Dance**
Mar 14	PTO Meeting 6:30 - 7:30 Guest Speaker - Dr Metcalf
Mar 18	GLEAP Food Drive starts! See attached flyer!
Mar 20	Pack @ Blessings in a Backpack
Mar 29	Spring Recess
Apr 8	School Resumes
Apr 11	PTO Meeting 6:30 - 7:30
Apr 19	No school in the afternoon
May 9	PTO Meeting 6:30 - 7:30
May 24	No school in the afternoon
May 27	No school - Memorial Day
May 31	Field and Water Day
Jun 4	Last day of school 1/2 day No school in

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PTO Dance Tonight!
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Tickets at the door
$3.00 per person

Principal's Pride

Tonight the PTO is sponsoring the Family Dance and Silent Auction from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. This will be a fun event filled with smiles, dancing, laughter, and memories! If you have not yet purchased tickets, you can still do so at the door! I look forward to seeing you this evening!

I hope you will also consider attending the next PTO meeting on Thursday, March 14 at 6:30 pm in the Neff library. Dr. Brian Metcalf will be here to give us updates now that the bond proposals have passed.

"Kindergarteners Learn to Read" is our theme for March is Reading Month. We spent the past two weeks celebrating Dr. Seuss. The next three weeks we will focus on the "Froggy" books by Jonathan London. Remember our school goal is for every student to read five picture books or 5 chapters each week in March. Your child can color a frog for each picture book or chapter on his/her reading log. Keep on reading, reading, reading.

On Friday, March 15 all of our classes will be walking to the high school to watch the high school students perform Lion King, Jr. Some classes will be attending in the morning and other classes in the afternoon. We are thankful for this invitation!

Enjoy the weekend!

PARA PRO AND NEFF PTO THANK YOU!

Thank you to the Para Pros and the Neff PTO for the amazing food during Conference week for the teachers! We were treated to an amazing potluck from the Para Pros with their favorite recipes one evening. And gorgeous table decorations from Mrs. Elswick! The PTO outdid themselves with Cugino's pizza and Friday's snack extravaganza! Thank you again for the nutritious meals!

JUNIOR COMET SOFTBALL

Registration for 9-14 year old players for the 2019 Junior Comet Summer Softball program is now open. Practices will begin after Spring Break and games start the last week of school. Please visit www.jrcometssoftball.com to register (early registration deadline 2/28/19 - $100 … late registration 3/1-3/22 - $125) … If you have questions, please contact David Sage at Djsage31@msn.com.

VOLUNTEER'S NEEDED FOR CINDERELLA'S CLOSET

Cinderella's Closet is an event that provides FREE prom dresses, shoes, and accessories to young ladies in our region. We are looking for volunteers to help organize over 1,000 formal dresses for the young ladies to choose from. If you are available to help from at any point between March 25 - April 5, please contact Becca at Becca196speedway@gmail.com for more information.

LION KING JR , THE MUSICAL

Disney's The Lion King has captivated the imagination of audiences around the world, and now the Grand Ledge Musical Theatre has produced this one-of-a-kind musical. The African savannah comes to life on stage with Simba, Rafiki, and an unforgettable cast of characters as they journey from Pride Rock to the jungle. Join us March 21-24 for this beloved Disney classic! Tickets are on sale now at www.glmusicals.net!

FOLLIES JR CHORUS & DANCE REHEARSAL

Come join the Follies Cast & Crew! The Grand Ledge Mudge's Follies' 39th annual benefit show is set for June 27 & 28. The Follies is an annual variety show made up of an all-volunteer group that donates their time and talent to raise funds for the Grand Ledge Emergency Assistance Program. GLEAP provides assistance to families in our school district when they are in great need. This is truly a great group of people and an amazing cause! Contact Sara Gooley for more information: 517.331.1736 or sgooley1@gmail.com.

Starting March 31 at the First Congregational UCC, Grand Ledge...

Children's Chorus & Dance - Sundays from 12:30 - 2:30 PM,

Chorus:

12:30 - 1:00 - Littles Chorus (4 - 7 Year Old)

1:00 - 1:30 - Junior Chorus (Tweens/Teens, 8 - and up)

* We invite those entering 9th grade next school year to join the adult chorus

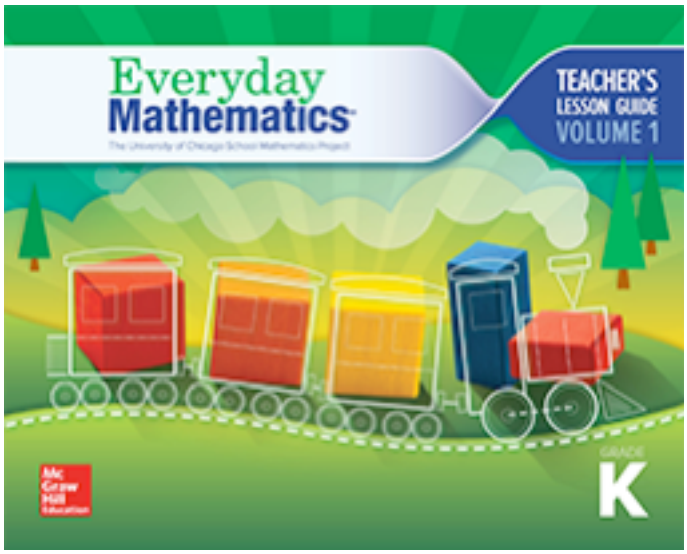
(Adult Chorus - Tuesdays at 7:00 PM, Starting April 9 at the Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church)

Dance:

1:00 - 1:30 - Littles Dance (4 - 7 Year Olds)

1:30 - 2:00 - Junior Dancers (Tweens, 8-11 Year old)

2:00 - 2:30 - Teen Dancers (12 and Up)



Neff Families-
Here is the math homework for the weekend.

Making Numbers with Everyday Objects

Family Note

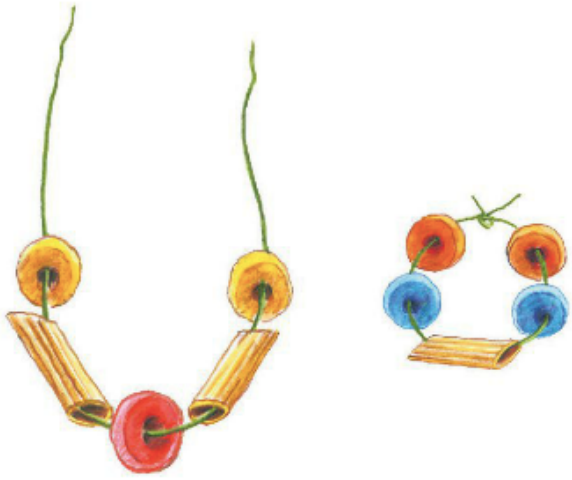
Give your child many opportunities to show numbers in different ways with a wide range of materials. They will see how numbers can be made with combinations of other numbers, and they will explore addition and subtraction concepts and facts.

Number Jewelry and Number Kabobs

Make number necklaces or bracelets using different combinations of small food items with holes, such as cereal, pretzels, or dry pasta. For example, make a 5-piece necklace with 3 pieces of cereal and 2 pieces of pasta. Make a 5-piece bracelet that shows 5 in a different way (4 and 1, or 5 and 0).

Make number fruit kabobs using two kinds of fruit and skewers (or chopsticks). For example, make an 8-piece kabob with 4 banana slices and 4 pineapple chunks and another 8-piece kabob with 2 orange sections and 6 apple slices. Make fruit kabobs that show multiple combinations for other numbers, too!

Your child may enjoy recording the different combinations that he or she makes for each number.



SPRING 2019 FOOD DRIVE

Grand Ledge Families,

It's time for the Spring Food Drive!

During the week of **March 18th thru March 21st** we ask you bring in a different item each day. Items will be dropped off at the Grand Ledge Food Bank (4980 Burt Avenue) and the Grand Ledge Free Pantry (227 W Jefferson St). Food items that are a current priority for the Grand Ledge Food Bank are listed below:

Monday, March 18th – **Protein Food**
Canned: Tuna, Beef, Beef Stew, Chicken, or Macaroni & Cheese

Tuesday, March 19th – **Breakfast Foods**
Cereal, Jelly, Syrup, Granola Bars, Small Boxes of Raisins, Juice Boxes

Wednesday, March 20th – **Pantry Items**
Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Salad Dressings, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Flour, Sugar, Hamburger Helper, Rice Mixes, Boxed Potatoes, Soup, Crackers (Saltines)

Thursday, March 21st – **Toiletries**
Shampoo/Conditioner, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Hand Soap, Wipes, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

ANY DAY – **Cash, Check, Gift Cards**
(Make checks payable to **GLEAP**, *Grand Ledge Emergency Assistance Program*)
$10 Gift cards to Meijer for fresh produce.

Thank you for supporting our
Grand Ledge Community Food Bank!

For questions contact,
Michelle D'Alessandro: mdalessandro@gleap.net
Marlene Promer: mpromer@gleap.net

GLPS Residents... HURRY!

Kindergarten Round Up

Has Started for Next Year!

Register Online to Begin Enrollment

Grand Ledge Public Schools

Is your child starting kindergarten when the next school year begins? If your child lives within the boundaries of Grand Ledge Public Schools, we invite you to begin enrolling your child!

Kindergarten registration begins online: **GLcomets.net**.

Please complete the online registration. Once completed, you will be asked to schedule an appointment to bring in some required documents. Then you will be scheduled for a Kindergarten Round Up session during one of our first two dates: Wednesday, March 13 or Tuesday, March 19.

To be eligible to enter kindergarten, your child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2019. However, in accordance with State Law, parents may complete a waiver for any student who will turn five between September 2 and December 1; the waiver is included as part of the online registration / pre-enrollment process.

Kindergarten Round Up is only for GLPS resident right now.
Schools of Choice application process begins April 11.

GRAND LEDGE SCHOOLS DAY!

VS

SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND AT 1:05 PM

Come play catch on the field for Delta Dental's Kids Day and Nickelodeon Day featuring Rise of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles with Ninja Turtles Appearance!

Grand Ledge Public Schools
A Community Committed to Excellence

Visit this link to order tickets TODAY:

glcomets.net/lugnuts

Order Deadline: Sunday, May 19th

Questions? Please contact Brandon Diorio at bdiorio@lansinglugnuts.com or (517) 827-2481

Lansing Lugnuts

Storytimes at the library

Stories and Crafts
Tuesdays **10:30 a.m.**
Ages 3-5. Join us for stories, songs, and a craft.

Baby Time
Wednesdays **10:30 a.m.**
Ages birth-24 months. Have fun and learn with stories, songs, rhymes, and play time.

Toddler Storytime
Thursdays **10:30 a.m.**
Ages 18-36 months. Join us for stories, songs and rhymes, then play time with sensory activities that will help your toddler develop literacy, social, and motor skills.

Music and Movement Storytime
Fridays **10:30 a.m.**
All ages. Get ready for an energetic storytime! Move, dance and sing to a variety of music, and learn to play with instruments, scarves, parachutes, and more.

Game On!

Tuesdays **3 – 5 p.m.**
Ages 8-18. Visit us at the library after school for game time and more!

Dragons Love Tacos Party

Wed, Mar 13 **6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**
All ages. Meet Dragon from Adam Rubin & Daniel Salmieri's picture book series: *Dragons Love Tacos!* Join us for stories, activities, crafts, snacks, and pictures with the dragon.

PJ Storytime

Thu, Mar 14 **6 p.m.**
All ages. Bring the whole family for stories, music, a craft, and a snack. Kids are welcome to wear their pajamas!

Sensory Storytime*

Sat, Mar 16 **10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**
All ages. This sensory storytime is geared to children who have a hard time in large groups, are on the autism spectrum or have other developmental delays with sensory overload. Siblings are welcome!

STEAM Saturday*

Sat, Mar 16 **1:30 – 3 p.m.**
For kids in kindergarten through third grade. March's theme is Robotics.

*To register for Youth events, please call 517-321-4014 x3 or visit dtdl.org/events. To register for Adult events, please call 517-321-4014 x4 or visit dtdl.org/events.

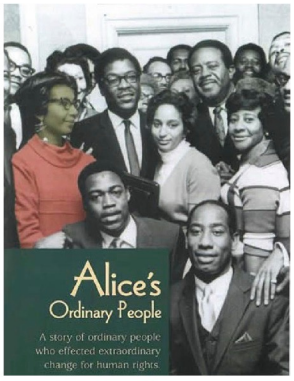
Grand Ledge Area District Library

Library News and Events

ALICE'S ORDINARY PEOPLE

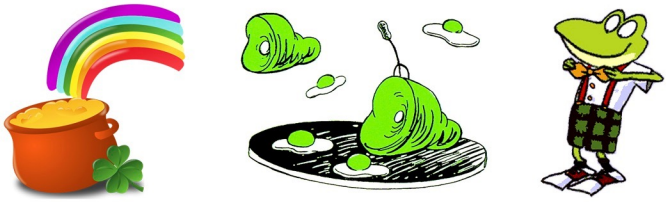
Feb. 27th 6pm - 8pm

Hear the amazing story of Alice Tregay, an ordinary person who worked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and sparked change & civil rights in her community!



EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

Preschool Storytime	Saturday Storytime	Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime
Tuesdays @ 11am	11am - 11:45am	6pm - 6:45pm
Feb. 19 & 26	March 9th	Feb. 21
Mar. 5, 12, 19, & 26		Mar. 7 & 21



MAKING MOVIE MAGIC

March 2nd 11am - 12pm

Learn how songwriters, composers, & designers create sound and shape emotion for film/television. Hosted by award winning composer/sound designer Brian Roth. Registration is required.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

March 16th 2pm

Come walk with us and "Froggy" in the St. Patrick's Day parade downtown! If you would like to walk in the parade to represent the library please email us at gladlquestions@gmail.com .

GREEN EGGS & "FROGGY"

March 16th 2:30pm

Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, March is Reading Month, and St. Patrick's Day Day with a taste of "Green Eggs", a story, and Froggy" a Special Costumed Character!

PAWS FOR READING

Mar. 5th & 19th 6pm - 7pm

Dogs love stories too! Come and read to a therapy dog! Call the library and sign up for a 10 minute reading time with a certified therapy dog!

CLAY PLAY

March 18th 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Kids imaginations can run wild as they create with PlayDoh, polymer, and plastic clay!

Registration for programs can be completed by calling the library at 517.627.7014 during library hours.

grandledge.lib.mi.us 517.627.7014
131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge MI 48837
Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm, Friday & Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 1 -5 pm

2019 Grand Ledge Boys & Girls Comet Lacrosse

Season Begins March 11th

Girls Lacrosse

3rd - 8th Grade

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Protective Goggles
Girls Lacrosse Field Gloves (Optional)
Mouth Guard
Regulation Stick (No Boys Sticks)
Cleats

Boys Lacrosse

3rd - 8th Grade

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Lacrosse Helmet
Gloves & Arm Pads
Lacrosse Shoulder Pads
Mouth Guard
Regulation Stick
Cleats

*No lacrosse experience is necessary.

Equipment can be purchased locally at Athlete's Connection and Dick's Sporting Goods.
Athlete's Connection is holding an Apprecieation Night with special discounts on February 18th from 5-7 PM.

Playing Fee: Girls = $175 + $75 uniform fee Boys 5th - 8th Grade = $175 + $75 uniform fee
Uniforms can be used each season. Boys 3rd-4th Grade = $100

REGISTER NOW ONLINE

www.gllacrosse.com

Season Begins March 11th

All players will require a current sports physical before the first practice on March 11th, 2019

April 6th 7am - 1pm

Any young ladies in need
of a prom dress, shoes or accessories can go to
5015 S. Cedar St., Lansing, MI 48910
to pick the dress of their dreams for
free!

* We will provide food and multiple free prize give-away's *

To help break transportation barriers for the
young ladies, CATA is offering free bus tokens
please contact Becca at
Becca.I96speedway@gmail.com
for more information

97.5 NOW FM
CSL Plasma
Good for You. Great for Life.
I-96 SPEEDWAY & EVENT CENTER
"Where Excitement Lives"
COPS & DOUGHNUTS
CATA
BIGGBY COFFEE
RPM AUTO SALES NEXT GENERATION
EYDE
TWO MEN AND A TRUCK
"Movers Who Care."
Kellie's
SHOP•CONSIGN•ESTATE SALES
First Presbyterian Church holt
Real. Faith. Living Hope.

College of Human Medicine
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

TURNING teen

AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR GIRLS TO UNDERSTAND & RESPECT THEIR CHANGING BODIES

BODY BASICS WORKSHOP:

FOR GIRLS AGES 8 & UP (& THEIR TRUSTED ADULT)

LEARN ABOUT:

- YOUR BODY & ITS PARTS
- PUBERTY: BODY & BRAIN CHANGES
- RULES FOR BODY RESPECT
- INTRODUCTION TO PERIODS
- EMOTIONAL CHANGES

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:
WORKSHOP LED BY A PEDIATRICIAN,
A YOGA CLASS
AND A LIGHT SNACK

SAT, MARCH 23, 2019
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

THIS PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE BY
MSU COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE'S PEDIATRIC INTEREST GROUP
THAT IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Radiology Building (Auditorium)
Michigan State University
846 Service Road
East Lansing, MI 48824

$40 PER PARENT & CHILD PAIR
If you have financial hardship, please contact us for assistance

REGISTER @ WWW.TURNINGTEEN.COM

A NONPROFIT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME®

Camp Invention®

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE INSPIRED BY OUR NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

AKA WORLD-CHANGING INNOVATORS!

COLLABORATE

COLLABORATE TO BUILD PROTOTYPES!

HANDS-ON STEM

COMPLETE HANDS-ON CHALLENGES INSPIRED BY REAL INVENTORS!

DESIGN

DESIGN YOUR OWN REMOTE CONTROL BOT!

EASY WAYS TO SAVE*

$25 off
When you sign up by 3/22/19 using the promo code ***INNOVATE25***

$15 off
When you sign up between 3/23/19 and 5/10/19 using the promo code ***PLAY15FLYER***

$25 off
Per sibling when you register 2 or more siblings using the promo code ***SIB25AD***

*Discounts cannot be combined.

Your local Camp Invention site information:

REGISTER AT INVENT.ORG/CAMP OR 800-968-4332

Who: For children entering grades K–6
Location: Delta Center Elementary School
305 S. Canal Rd, Lansing, MI 48917
Date & Time: June 17 - 21, 2019 from 9:00am - 3:30pm
Price: $230 (before discount)
Director: Tricia Brentar | brentart@glcomets.net |

If these dates/times don't work for you, please visit invent.org/camp for other locations near you.

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Investors in Creativity and Innovation
AbbVie Foundation
Army Educational Outreach Program
Duck Tape®
Ford Motor Company
General Motors
Burton D. Morgan Foundation
Nordson Corporation Foundation
United Way of Summit County

Grand Ledge Community Coed T-Ball
4 Years Old (as of 6/10/19) & Kindergarten (2018/19 School Year)
Program Starts: Week of June 10, 2019
Registration Fee: $50 (includes a team jersey & hat)
Registration Deadline: May 5, 2019
For more information and to register please visit:
grandledgecomets.org ~ Click on the Community Rec Tab
For questions please contact - Jen Daly, Community Rec Coordinator (517) 925-5440 dalyj@glcomets.net

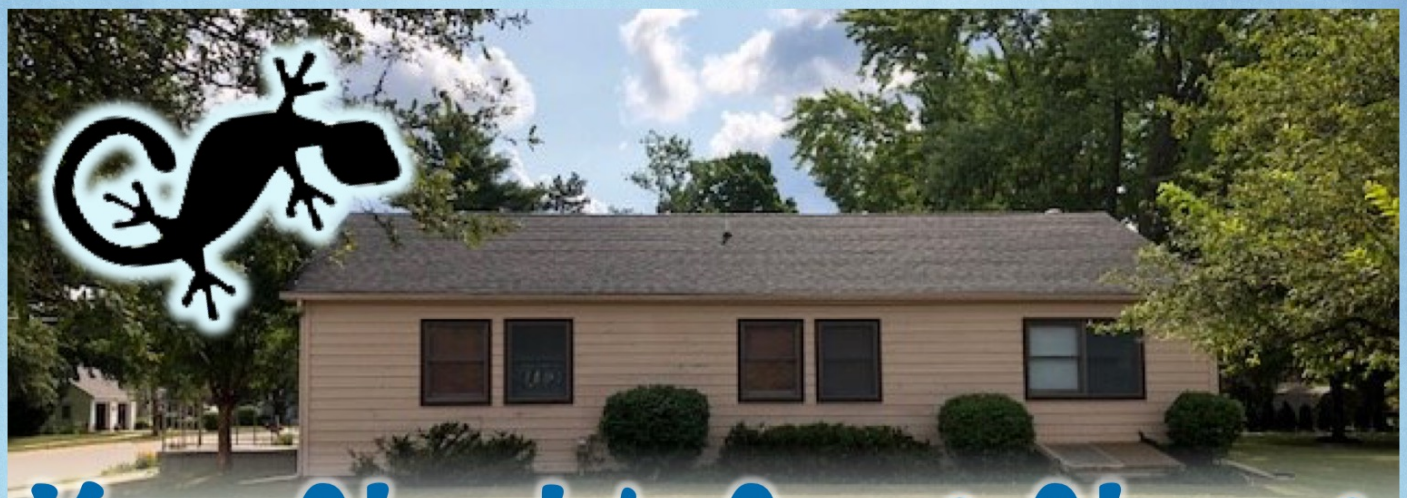
Grand Ledge Recreation Boys Baseball
Current 1st - 6th Grade for the 2018/2019 school year
1st/2nd Grade - Machine Pitch
3rd/4th & 5th/6th Grade - Kid Pitch
Program Starts: Week of May 28, 2019
Registration Fee: $50 (includes a team jersey & hat)
Registration Deadline: April 22, 2019
For more information and to register please visit:
grandledgecomets.org ~ Click on the Community Rec Tab
For questions please contact - Jen Daly, Community Rec Coordinator (517) 925-5440 dalyj@glcomets.net

Coed Spring Soccer
1st - 5th Grade
Practices are held once per week for an hour and games are on Saturday mornings, starting the week of April 8th.
Registration Fee: $45 (includes a team jersey)
Registration Deadline: March 3, 2019
For more information and to register please visit:
grandledgecomets.org ~ Click on the Community Rec Tab
For questions please contact - Jen Daly, Community Rec Coordinator (517) 925-5440 dalyj@glcomets.net

Recreation Girls Softball
1st - 4th Grade
Runs on Monday's & Wednesday's starting the week of May 28th
Registration Fee: $50 (includes a team jersey & hat)
Registration Deadline: April 22, 2019
For more information and to register please visit:
grandledgecomets.org ~ Click on the Community Rec Tab
For questions please contact - Jen Daly, Community Rec Coordinator (517) 925-5440 dalyj@glcomets.net

Jr. Comets Softball
Registration for 9-14 year old players for the 2018 Summer Softball program is now open. Practices will begin after Spring Break and games start the last week of school. Please visit www.jrcometssoftball.com to register (early registration deadline 2/28/18 - $100 … late registration 3/1-3/24 - $125 … registration closed 3/24). If you have questions, please contact David Sage at Djsage31@msn.com.

Grand Ledge Youth Baseball
Grand Ledge Youth Baseball Spring League registration has begun. The Spring League games will begin after Spring Break and continue through May 17th. Registration will close when we reach capacity or March 6th. Early Registration is $105 through February 14th. The price will go to $125 from February 15-March 6th. All individuals interested in trying out for a summer travel team MUST register and pay on the website and participate in the Spring League. Register today at glyouthbaseball.org



Ken Clark's Coat Closet

501 S. Clinton St. · Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Ken's Coat Closet has been serving many years as a clothing bank for the Grand Ledge community. Our mission has been twofold: 1. Providing free clothing, personal care items, and other items to the Grand Ledge Community. 2. Provide a work-based learning environment for special education students in our Giving Eaton County Kids Opportunities (GECKO) program.

Ken's Coat Closet is open to all members of the community for picking up things or dropping off donations:

Monday:	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday:	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Thursday:	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Friday:	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If these times are not convenient please email us to schedule a time that will work: kenscoatcloset@gmail.com.

School Closing Protocol

Regular attendance is important to a student's ongoing success in school and we expect that, when school is in session, students will be actively engaged in learning. However, because we live in Michigan, and our winter weather is sometimes unpredictable, Grand Ledge Public Schools has established the following guidelines for decisions related to inclement weather. You may refer to these guidelines when you have questions about possible school closings/delays.

The decision to close or delay school due to inclement weather is a very difficult and serious undertaking. Decisions to close school for any reason are made in a thoughtful and deliberative process and, specifically, these decisions are made in response to the safety of students and staff members.

If the weather predictions are severe, we attempt to announce a school closing the night before. However, more likely a school closing decision won't be made until the middle of the night - usually no later than 5:30 a.m.

Factors taken into consideration when deciding whether to close/delay schools include:

- Information from the National Weather Service (NOAA);
- Amount and type of projected precipitation;
- Local weather forecasts, including start and stop times;
- Ability to clear parking lots and sidewalks around school buildings;
- Street (highway, residential and rural roads), and bus stop conditions;
- Freezing rain and the effect on roads, power lines and tree limbs;
- Wind and wind chill; along with overall temperature;
- Bus capability to start/run due to extreme cold or unplowed streets;
- Driving conditions; are they hazardous for buses, students, staff;
- Poor visibility due to fog, or blowing snow
- Water, power or phone outages within the district

Leaders in the Grand Ledge Public Schools Administrative team closely monitor national, state, and local weather forecasts. At all times, the safety of our students and staff is the foundation for this team's conversations and decisions. The district's administrators are routinely out driving the roads beginning as early as 3:00 a.m. to assess road conditions within the Grand Ledge Public Schools' community. It is important to remember, the Grand Ledge School District covers almost 120 square miles, many of these are rural areas.

The Administrative team also maintains regular communication with neighboring districts. Area superintendents remain in close contact beginning with the first prediction of inclement weather, often having conversations the day before and again in the middle of the night when foul weather seems certain. While there is an effort to keep decisions consistent across the region, each district must weigh many factors unique to their district. Therefore, there may be times Grand Ledge Public Schools is closed, while another district remains open. Finally, decisions concerning the cancellation of athletic or other extra-curricular events will be made with input from the appropriate school administrators/directors.

Early Dismissal

Grand Ledge Public Schools will generally not close once school is in session due to supervision concerns. Specifically, the district would not want to endanger a student by transporting a student by bus to his/her home, in the middle of a snowstorm, when there is no guarantee a parent received notification of the early dismissal and/or that the parent or other adult is home to let that child in out of the cold.

However, on an extremely rare occasion, it may be necessary to close a school during the day due to loss of power, loss of water or other non-weather emergency situation. Parents are reminded to provide the school office with up-to-date emergency telephone numbers to ensure our ability to notify them if this should be necessary.

Communication

An automated phone call to all Grand Ledge students and staff is typically the preferred method of communication. However, notification of school closings because of inclement weather will also be posted on the district's website, as well as published on Twitter, and Facebook. Additionally, local TV or radio stations may also post or announce closings/delays.

School closing, school delays, and early release decisions are not easy. Your child's education is important and we want to provide learning opportunities on as many days as possible. Almost always, some people will agree with the decision that is made, and others will not.

Please know these decisions are not made lightly. Rather, the decision to close school, for any reason, is made through a thoughtful and deliberative process. And, most importantly, these decisions are made with concern for the safety of students and staff members.

Popcorn Days

MINIMUM 25 CENT DONATION
1 BAG PER CHILD

All money sent in stays directly to your child's classroom!
Popcorn supplies provided by Neff PTO

Popcorn Dates:

September 20
October 18
November 15
December 13
January 17
February 21
March 21
April 18

©dianne j hook

Report to PARENTS

Make Every Day Count: Boost School Attendance

To stay on track in school, students need to be present every day. Missing 18 or more days of school in a year puts a child's high school graduation at risk, according to BoostUp.org, a national dropout prevention campaign. Being absent for just two days every month of the school year can put a child behind academically.

Students with regular attendance are more likely to read well by third grade and score higher on tests. They also tend to be more engaged in school and feel better about themselves.

Put your child on the path to success with these attendance strategies.

Make school a priority. Every absence (excused or not), can impact a child's academic achievement. Talk to your child about how important their education is. Make daily routines for homework and waking up on time for school.

Maintain communication with teachers and keep an eye on your child's academic progress. If your child seems disconnected from school or is prone to skipping class, try signing him or her up for an after-school activity. A report by the University of Minnesota found that students in an after-school program attended 18 more days of school and missed nine fewer than their peers.

Make a plan. If your schedule or transportation situation makes getting your child to school a challenge, ask for assistance. Make a carpool or transportation plan with other parents or family members, or ask your school principal for community programs or school initiatives that may help.

Report In. Know your school's attendance policies. If an absence or early dismissal is unavoidable, contact your school. If your family's religious observances fall on school days, let teachers know early in the year which days your child will miss.

Carefully weigh sick days. If your child is sick, talk with your health care provider to determine whether they should stay home from school. If the doctor or nurse recommends that your child stay home, find out exactly how long and on what conditions he or she can return to class (for example, after 24 hours of antibiotics).

Before keeping your children home, make sure they aren't faking symptoms. Regularly feigning sickness may be a sign that your child is anxious about facing a challenge at school, such as bullying.

Schedule wisely. Know your school's calendar, and arrange doctor and dentist appointments after school, on weekends, or during holiday breaks, if possible. Resist the urge to schedule vacations when students will miss school. This gives students the impression that school is not a priority.

Help students complete assignments. When your child has to miss school, make arrangements with teachers to pick up a packet of make-up work. Ensure that your child follows through, and be available to explain concepts or monitor their work. If your child's absence will be lengthy (for surgery, for instance), alert teachers as soon as you know and pick up assignments as the days go on.

Web Resources

Get Schooled has a number of attendance-related games and tools, including the Attendance Counts calculator and celebrity wake-up calls for students.
https://getschooled.com/

The Children's Hospital of Colorado's **How Sick is Too Sick? guide** can help families decide which symptoms should keep students at home.
http://bit.ly/1860RlA

Attendance Works offers research, webinars, and handouts designed with elementary and middle-level parents in mind.
http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/

naesp National Association of Elementary School Principals

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RP 32:1

THIRD GRADE READING LAW

A Parent Guide to Public Act 306

EATON REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY

1 What Is The Law All About?

- In an effort to boost reading achievement, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in October 2016.
- To help more students be proficient by the end of third grade, the law requires extra support for K-3 students who are not reading at grade level.
- The law also states that a child may be retained in third grade if they are one or more grade levels behind in reading at the end of third grade.

2 What Do I Need To Know As Parent?

- Your child's reading progress will be closely monitored beginning in kindergarten.
- If your child is not reading where expected, a plan to improve reading will be created. This means your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support in his/her reading development and create a plan to support him or her. This plan includes:
  - Extra instruction or support in areas of need.
  - Ongoing checks on reading progress
  - A Read-at-Home plan that encourages you and your child to read and write outside of the school day.
  - Your child may be encouraged to participate in summer reading programs.
- The extra supports in your child's reading improvement plan will occur in small groups during the school day. Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.
- Starting in 2019-2020 school year, in order to be promoted from third to forth grade, your child must score less than one year behind on the state reading assessment, or demonstrate a third grade reading level through an alternate test or portfolio of student work.
- If you are notified your child may be retained, you have the right to meet with school officials and to request, within 30 days, an exemption if in the best interest of your child. The district superintendent will make the final decision.

3 What Can I Do To Support My Child?

Read at home with your child daily with books they enjoy, even in the summer. Some ways to do this:

- Read out loud to your child.
- Listen to your child read.
- Echo read (You read a line, then they repeat) .
- Read together at the same time.
- Reread or retell favorite stories.
- Talk to your child about the reading.

As you read:

- Ask your child to share what they remember.
- Ask questions about the reading.
- Talk about your favorite parts, what you've learned, or who is in the book and what they do.
- Talk about the pictures in the book how they connect to the words on the page.

- Talk to and with your kids a lot: Knowing more words helps kids to understand the words they read better.
- Encourage writing: Let children write the sounds they hear, spelling is developmental and a work in progress.
- Be involved in your child's education and support the reading plan if your child has one.

Eaton RESA Contacts:
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Kaytie Palmiter, Early Literacy Specialist, kpalmiter@eatonresa.org

WONDERING ABOUT PRESCHOOL OPTIONS?

GSRP Preschool Offers:

- Low student/adult ratios (Max 8:1)
- Highly qualified & certified staff
- School-day programming (Monday-Thursday)
- Creative Curriculum focusing on:

  Language development, Literacy, Math, Social Emotional Development, Physical development, Science, Social Studies, Creative Arts
- Licensed by the State of Michigan

Classrooms are located in:

SPACES AVAILABLE IN YOUR DISTRICT!

Charlotte
Eaton Rapids
Grand Ledge
Maple Valley
Potterville

HOW DO I ENROLL?

GSRP is a state funded preschool program for 4 year olds. It specifically serves children from middle income households. It is administered by the State of Michigan.

To enroll, a child must be
4 years old on September 1st.

Decisions for enrollment into GSRP are based on individual family experiences.

- Family income
- Concerns about your child's development
- Challenging behavior
- English as a second language
- Family school difficulties
- Environmental risk
- Single parent home due to divorce, deployment, incarceration, illness.
- Change in guardianship

Learn more and apply at
www.eatonpreschool.org
517.541.8724

EDUStaff

OUR DISTRICT NEEDS YOU!

EDUStaff is an educational staffing company who specializes in providing guest teachers and other employment classes to our partnering school districts. Founded in 2010, EDUStaff has quickly become known in the educational community as providing outstanding customer service to both our partnering districts and our external employees; the guest teacher.

BENEFITS OF BEING A GUEST TEACHER

Becoming a guest teacher provides a number of benefits for those who are interested including:

- ✓ Flexible schedule to accept assignments when you want.
- ✓ Work in your child or grandchild's school.
- ✓ Make a positive difference in your community.

GUEST TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

Per State of Michigan law, the below requirements outline how to become a guest teacher:

- ✓ Current Michigan Teaching Certificate
- ✓ Expired Michigan Teaching Certificate
- ✓ 90-credit hours from a college, university or accredited community college

HOW TO APPLY

Log on to www.EDUStaff.org

For more information contact our customer service department.

www.EDUStaff.org | 877.974.6338