September 22, 2017

THE WACOUSTA WEEKLY

Chris Groves, Principal – grovesc@glcomets.net

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WACOUSTA POPCORN DAYS ARE COMING!! THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 IS THE FIRST DAY.

Once a month, Wacousta students will be able to buy popcorn at school. The money raised from popcorn sales will help fund Wacousta programs supported by the PTIA. These include teacher projects, ice cream socials, the Carnival, and more. Each student can purchase one bag for a minimum of 25 cents. Your child will be bringing home an informational flyer with dates for the entire year.

SCHOOL MENU FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

The August/September menu that was sent home on the first day of school has the last two weeks of September on the reverse side of the page. If you are no longer in possession of that menu, I have listed the choices for next week below:

Mon. 9-25: Chicken Tenders or Berry Yogurt Parfait
Tues. 9-26: Pepperoni Pizza or Ham & Cheese Sub
Wed. 9-27: French Toast Sticks or Beef Hotdog
Thur. 9-28: Popcorn Chicken or Muffin Fun Lunch
Fri. 9-29: Mini Corn Dogs or Crispy Fish Sandwich

BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If your child is in need of a new backpack and/or school supplies please contact our school counselor, Jennifer Hamers by email at hamersj@glcomets.net or by phone at (517) 925-5972. Thank you to the individuals from our Wacousta community who donations these items!

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Letters were sent home a couple weeks ago inviting students who qualify for the free or reduced lunch program to participate in the **Blessings in a Backpack** program**.** Students joining Blessings in a Backpack will receive a bag of kid-friendly food on Thursdays for weekend meals. This is a free program that has assisted hundreds of families in our community. If you would like to join the program, please sign the agreement and return it to school as soon as possible.

IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A PAPER COPY OF THE WACOUSTA NEWSLETTER

Starting with the Friday, September 15 newsletter, we will now be sending our school newsletter out via the e-mail addresses that we have in our system. Our newsletter is always available on the Grand Ledge website under schools. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please call the office at 925-5940.

GLPS SCHOOLMESSENGER HAS A NEW CALLER ID

Please be advised that, effective Monday, September 25, 2017, all messages from the Grand Ledge Public Schools' SchoolMessenger system will come from the toll-free phone number **(844) 261-6741**. This new feature allows parents, guardians or staff members who miss the automated call to call the toll-free number back and hear the message.

A HUGE THANK YOU

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Carol Ayotte and Leann Cordes for helping out with our Dibel days. We couldn't do it without you!!!

STUDENT COUNCIL SPIRIT WEEK

Spirit Week is September 25-29

Monday - Crazy Hair Day
Tuesday - PJ Day
Wednesday - Opposite Day
Thursday - USA (red, white, and blue) Day
Friday - GL Day (blue and gold)

Student Council will be selling spirit beads on Friday, Sept. 29. Beads are sold in sets (1 blue/1gold) for $1 in the hallway before school.

IF THERE IS A FOG DELAY/2 HOUR DELAY OR SCHOOL IS CANCELLED

We are at the time of year where our weather can be unpredictable. If for some reason there is a 2-hour delay or school cancellation, you will receive a call from our School Message System advising you of this. The message will also be sent via e-mail and text (if you have opted in to receive texts from the district). If you wish to opt in to receives texts from the district, you can text 'YES" to 67587. Please make sure you keep the school office updated throughout the year if any of your phone numbers or e-mail addresses change. If school would close during the day, the same process will be followed.

If there is a 2-hour delay, your child's bus pick up time will be exactly 2 hours later than is scheduled (ex: if the pick up time is 8:03, then it will change to 10:03.) If you drop your student off in the morning, the drop off time changes to 10:35 (there is no supervision outside before that time.) Also, no breakfast will be served on the mornings when there is a delay. Delays and cancellations are also available on local television and radio stations and on the Grand Ledge Public Schools website.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

The Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, requires that Grand Ledge Public Schools (GLPS), with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's educational records.

However, GLPS may disclose appropriately designated student directory information without written consent for yearbooks, honor roll, sports activities, drama playbills and for publications and other media.

If you do not want us to disclose your child's directory information, you must notify GLPS, in writing, on or before Friday, September 29. Letters may be sent directly to your child's school, or to the district office at:

Grand Ledge Public Schools
Attn: Ferpa
220 Lamson Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

DIRECTIONS FOR PICKING UP YOUR STUDENT.....

If you plan to pick up your child at any time, please remember to call the office before 1:30 p.m. on that day or send in a note. There were many times last year where a student came into the office telling us they were getting picked up, yet we never received a phone call. Unfortunately we cannot take a student's word, we need to hear from an adult, otherwise the student will be placed on the bus.

If your student will be an everyday pickup, please let the office know as soon as possible so we may show them as an everyday pick up. You will not have to call every day after that.

STUDENT COUNT DAY

Wednesday, October 4, is the official student count date of the Grand Ledge Public Schools. If at all possible, please try to have your child(en) in school that day. If they are ill, unable to attend, or going to be late, please be sure to call our 24-hour attendance line at 925-5971 and let us know the reason for the absence or tardy.

HUNGRY HOWIE'S FUNDRAISER

Hungry Howie's has graciously offered to host a fundraiser for Wacousta Elementary again this year. On the following Tuesdays, Hungry Howie's will donate 10% of all sales to our school: September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12 - and for 2018: January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10 and May 8. Thank you Hungry Howie's.....

IF YOUR STUDENT IS GOING TO BE LATE OR ABSENT

Please remember to call the office at 925-5940 or the attendance line at 925-5971 if your student is going to be absent or late. If they are absent, please leave a reason for the absence. If they are going to be late, please let us know if they are going to need a hot lunch, and what their hot lunch choice is, so we may order their lunch first thing in the morning. Both lines are available 24 hours a day.

IF YOU PLAN TO VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL OR ON A FIELD TRIP DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR!!!

Persons wishing to volunteer for Grand Ledge Public Schools are required to complete the volunteer form located on the Grand Ledge Website and be approved by the District Office prior to serving as a volunteer. Persons who submit the Volunteer Form, must stop into the school office to complete the identification verification process. The background check will not be done until your identification has been presented to the school office. A Driver's License, State Issued ID or Passport are acceptable forms of identification for verification. This form can be located on the Grand Ledge Website (www.glcomets.net) under parent/student resources, drop down to the very bottom of the selections and click on volunteer registration form. The form must be completed if you are chaperoning field trips also!!

STUDENT HANDBOOKS ONLINE

If you wish to view the elementary student handbook, it is available online. You may go to www.glcomets.net and look under Parent/Student Resources and scroll down to student handbook. You may then view Elementary, Middle and High School handbooks.

GRAND LEDGE RECREATION INFORMATION

Girl's Rec Basketball:
GL Community Rec is now taking registering for the girls recreation basketball season.
K-2nd Grade Camp: 11/4-12/2
3rd-6th Grade League: 10/28-12/9
For more information and to register go to glathletics.com click on the Community Rec Tab.

GLYBA Basketball Tryout Dates:
Grand Ledge Youth Basketball Association
5th/6th Grade Girls - Sun., 10/15 @ GLHS
(5th: 4-6pm & 6th: 6-8pm)

5th/6th Grade Boys - Sun., 10/29 @ GLHS
(5th: 4-6pm & 6th: 6-8pm)

Visit the website for more information and to register. www.glyba.com.

Parent-Child Basketball Camp:
GL Community Rec is now taking registering for the Parent-Child Basketball Camp.
1st - 6th Grade
Saturday, October 28, 2017
3:00 - 6:00 pm
Grand Ledge H.S. Main Gym
$30 - 2 participants (Parent & Child) ~ $10 - each additional child
For more information and to register go to glathletics.com click on the Community Rec Tab.