

«Creekside Monthly News»

Creekside Elementary School

3480 East Street, Hartland, MI 48353 * Phone: 810-626-2600

November Dates:

Nov 8: School Board @ 6:30 pm

Nov 9: CES PTO @ 6:30 pm

Nov 12-19: CES Book Fair

Nov 22: Camo Day

Nov 23: Flannel Day

Nov 24-26: No School: Thanksgiving

SCHOOL HOURS

Monday-Thursday

8:50-3:50pm

Fridays

8:50-2:50pm

Dear CES Families,

CES will be participating in the Gleaners Food Drive. Boxes will be in the hallways of CES for students to drop their donated items in. Donations can also be placed in boxes at pick up by the front door.

Staff at Creekside spend time everyday dealing, discussing, modeling and moving students in aspects of social and emotional learning. The social and emotional well-being of our kiddos is vitally important. Starting next week please be on the lookout in our Friday mass emails for components of lessons and language we are using and working with our students at Creekside.

I want to personally thank all our families for following our mask mandate.

Stay healthy - Principal Ms. Stephanie Way

Absence Line

Absence Line: 810-626-2605 Please call this number to report your child's absence

It's Getting Cold Outside

Please make sure that you send your student to school with warm clothes. Students will go out to recess each day multiple times. We want to make sure that they are protected from the elements.

Arrival and Dismissal Changes

Arrival

Students will either arrive in person or by bus. We will operate a kiss and go lane, which means students move as quickly as they can, and parents stay in cars. There will be adults outside to help guide cars and students. Students will not be allowed to enter the building until 8:40 am. Please do not let your child out of the car before there is adult supervision outside. Upon entering the building students will go to cafeteria. Students will be separated by class. Once the bell rings students will be escorted down hallway by grades to avoid any congestion.

Dismissal

Pick Up Students

In order to facilitate our new pick up procedure's students will not be allowed for early pick up after 3pm. We do not have adequate staff to support students being picked up between 3 and 3:45. We thank you in advance for your understanding and if you have any extenuating circumstances please feel free to call the main office.

We are moving back to a traditional pick-up system. Parents will park and walk up to the main entrance doors. They will sign their student out with staff. Staff will call students outside while parents wait outside. When you or a family member come up to the door, please have your ID available and make sure that anyone picking up your student is listed as an emergency contact in Mi-Star.

Please make sure you are contacting the main office for any transportation changes. When parents only tell or email teachers/students it causes confusion for your child and staff. Safety is our utmost concern and want your child to get where they need to be safely.

Parent At-Home Learning

You may have noticed on your student's progress report that we track social-emotional domains for each student. These domains are derived from the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) standards. Additionally, a version of these standards was adopted by the Michigan Department of Education as part of their K-12 Social-Emotional Learning Standards. These standards help guide teachers as they instruct students on the elements of SEL.

We would like to provide you a little insight into each one of the CASEL core competencies so that you can better understand the nature of our work here in school and utilize some of the techniques and language at home with your student. Attached is a presentation around the self-awareness strand of CASEL. Take a few moments and review the attached information and then watch this video from PBS regarding self-awareness: <https://dptv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/self-awareness-and-selfmanagement-sel-video/self-awareness-and-self-management-sel-video/>

We are excited to continue this journey with social-emotional learning and your student. Thank you for partnering with us

Birthday Celebrations

Due to the high number of life-threatening allergies at our school it is necessary to eliminate food items from our birthday celebrations. Celebrating with non-food items will ensure that our school is safe for all students. Classrooms and the office will continue to ensure that birthdays are special days for students. We will continue to celebrate holidays as we have in the past. Your child's teachers will share details specific to their classroom. Thanks for your understanding as we work to make Creekside safe for all students.

Visitors Entering the Building

Beginning on August 18, HCS is not allowing visitors to enter the building during the school day unless a meeting is prearranged with the administrator. Visitors that are entering the school during the day will need to wear a mask. Visitors can enter the building for after school events such as PTO meetings; however, all students must be gone for the day.

Setting Boundaries in Uncertain Times

It is difficult for everyone to set boundaries, when it involves something, we are passionate about. You will stay up late to binge an amazing new series or work tirelessly on a project that you just want to get done. Teachers are the same. I am encouraging the teachers here at Creekside to make sure that they are setting boundaries. They must take time for themselves, their families, and their health. Teachers have 24 hours to respond to an email and I am encouraging them not to check email in the evenings or on weekends. The teachers here at Creekside, or anyone for that matter, cannot pour from an empty cup. I thank you for your patience, support, and kindness this year. We must take care of each other so we can best take care of our students.

Mask Wearing

Per the MDHHS, Livingston County Health Department and CDC, masks will be worn on school buses. If a student forgets to wear a mask when entering the bus, one will be provided to them. Once students enter the school building, masks will not be required, but if your student feels more comfortable wearing one, we encourage them to do so. The HCS staff is not required to wear masks, per the health department, however, some may choose to do so. Please speak with your student regarding this issue.

GET Creative

It's time for the Yearbook Cover Contest

For Fourth Grade Students Only:

- Must fit on an 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 sheet of paper with a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch border all the way around the page
- NO Names on front of artwork, names on the back (light pencil)
- Use markers, colored pencils or crayons please
- ALL artwork must be done entirely by the student
- Must have one or more of the following themes:
- Entries will be judged by Ms. Way and Ms. Knecht and the 4th grade teachers to determine the five finalists
- All teachers will then vote for a winner from the five finalists.
- All artwork must be submitted to CES office or teacher by November 29th.

What is the plan when we have a case of Covid-19 at school?

While I am optimistic that our quarantine issues will not continue, I am also a realist. I am sure we will eventually cross a bridge where a school or bus quarantine will occur again at Creekside Elementary. When this occurs, we will need your assistance to ensure that safety precautions are adhered to and protocols are followed. Additionally, as you heard from Mr. Hughes, new Livingston County Health Department Guidelines were released to help keep our kiddos at school. It is imperative that you watch the following video to understand your choices regarding quarantining your student.

[Parent Presentation - LCHD](#)

Here are the high points of the new process:

- Your children will be able to stay in school if they are exposed to a student that is positive for Covid-19, if...
 - ✓ They wear a mask for the entirety of the quarantine period including stopping in the office to demonstrate that they have an appropriately fitting mask on the first day of return
 - ✓ They take a Covid-19 test daily and report their negative results to the LCHD
 - ✓ They complete a symptom assessment daily prior to attending school
 - ✓ They agree to sit 6ft or more away from non-exposed students during snack and lunch
- If your student at any point fails to comply with one of these guidelines, the LCHD will switch them to a standard quarantine and they will have to stay home

When your student is exposed, our office will contact you and have you pick up your child. Your student will not be able to come back to school until you have been contacted by Livingston County Health Department, your student has completed their first Covid test, and you have uploaded their negative test results on the LCHD app. The "alternative to quarantine" process is meant to keep students learning and in the academic environment. We appreciate your support and willingness to help us navigate these difficult times.

PTO NEWS

PTO News:

Join us on November 9th at 6:30pm in our beautiful new STEM lab for our monthly meeting. Get involved, meet other parents and help make a difference at our school!

Santa Shop: December 6-10, 2021

Soon we will be transforming a Creekside classroom into Santa's Workshop! During school hours, children will be able to experience the joy of giving by choosing their own gifts for family, friends, teachers and even pets.

Thank you for your support

Please join our group to stay connected:

[Facebook.com/Creekside PTO Families Hartland, MI](https://www.facebook.com/CreeksidePTOFamiliesHartlandMI)