

# «Creekside Monthly News»

## Creekside Elementary School

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

### October Dates:

*Oct 11: School Board 6:30pm*

*Oct 12: CES PTO, STEM LAB 6:30 pm*

*Oct 15: Last day of marking period*

*Oct 21: Progress Reports go home*

*Oct 22: No School: Fall Break*

*Oct 25: Picture Retake day*

*Oct 29: Halloween Celebrations students only*

### SCHOOL HOURS

*Monday-Thursday*

*8:50-3:50pm*

*Fridays*

*8:50-2:50pm*

CES Families,

As the first marking period will be coming to an end it has been an amazing start with a talented group of students and wonderful families. We are looking forward to achieving amazing things this year!

It is our hope that all children will have interesting and comfortable reading materials available for nightly reading, so they become proficient lifelong readers. We know that your support is critical to our success. Please make it possible for your child to read each night. The books that are coming home with your child are specifically chosen at your child's independent reading level (easy to read with very few to no challenges). These books are often familiar reads (books they have read before k-2), that provide your child with successful practice. High-success reading practice builds confidence and knowledge around how books work. "A child who is on the way to independence needs to read often from many different books selected to be easy for him to 'go it alone.' It is the quantity of successful reading that builds the assured independence of the competent reader." (Marie Clay, Literacy Lessons 2016)

You can listen to your child read as you are making dinner, driving in the car, or sitting at practice. Feel free to make this time manageable. When you are listening to them, and something doesn't make sense or sound

correct, ask them to go back and try again. If they are stuck on a word, please tell them the word. If they don't understand a word, give them a child friendly explanation to help them understand the story.

Respectfully, Principal- Ms. Stephanie Moore-Way

## Progress Reports

We are continuing forward with our new progress report format. Each marking period you will receive an in-depth look at the standards being taught to your student. Additionally, you will have specific comments available for you to read and find out a bit more about how your student is doing specifically. You will also notice that you are provided insight into your student's social-emotional health and well-being at Creekside. As a district, we feel that this information is vital to parents as well. With our explicit work and learning around social-emotional health and wellness here at Creekside, this is a great opportunity to engage in a dialogue about how your student is feeling about school, friends, and academics. Finally, we have included an "NA" scoring comment on this year's progress report. This stands for Not Assessed. This means that your student was not assessed on a topic or standard due to an extenuating circumstance (quarantines, absences, etc.). You can then follow up with the teacher once those assessments are completed.

### *No Outside Visitors or Parents Allowed in the Building*

To keep our building as clean as possible. NO outside visitors will be allowed in. Parents will need to use the buzzer to alert office staff for pick ups and for items dropped off. No parents will be able to walk their children to classrooms. We will have no parent volunteers in the classrooms and if asked to attend a meeting it may be virtual.

### *SPIRIT WEEK*

Spirit Week was amazing. Staff and students went above and beyond to make the week fun. Thanks to all who participated, we look forward to another spirit week soon.

### *MEDICATIONS*

If your child needs to take any form of medication during the school day please drop off medications before the start of school with appropriate forms, which can be found on-line.

### *Absence Line*

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

# *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 that is picking up your student is listed as an emergency contact in MiStar.

**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.**

#### Creekside Halloween

This year, unfortunately, we cannot celebrate Halloween at Creekside as we normally would. We will, however, make the best of the situation by encouraging our students to wear their costumes to school. Teachers will still host fun activities for Halloween, and we will make sure to enjoy our day.

The atmosphere will be fun and inviting throughout the school and our students will have an amazing time. All food items will have to be individually wrapped snacks. Please do not send items with peanuts or peanut butter. We unfortunately cannot accept any outside food like cupcakes or treats.

Creekside Costume Rules - No blood or gore of any kind - No masks that cover your eyes and completely obscure your face - Inflatable costumes can only be worn at the discretion of the teacher and cannot impeded learning - Students and parents should use discretion when determining their student's school costume - Make sure that your child can use the restroom and complete classwork independently in the costume - Fake weaponry, including light sabers, will not be allowed on the premises - Students should wear their costumes to school. Time will not be provided for them to change

## *Breakfast and Lunch*

Creekside will be offering breakfast and lunch this year. Free and reduced lunch applications can be found on the HCS homepage and CES webpage. Copies are also available in the office. Breakfast will be offered at 8:40 for student drop offs and bus students.

Student Breakfast/Lunch costs: Free for the entire school year

Students will be offered two choices for lunch, per lunch menu.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Student Nutrition Department: Lisa Archey (810) 626-2867.

## *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.

## 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.

## *PTO NEWS*

### PTO News:

Join us on October 12th 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!

Look for the October monthly Spirit Stick to come home the week of October 11th for those who ordered.

Thank you for your support!

Please join our group to stay connected:  
[Facebook.com/Creekside PTO Families Hartland, MI](https://www.facebook.com/CreeksidePTOFamiliesHartlandMI)

# 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.

## Parent's Read-At-Home Plan

For Student Success Reading with your child is a proven way to promote early literacy. One of the most important things you can do to prepare your child for his/her future is helping to make sure that your child is reading on grade level by third grade. You can influence your child's success in school by making reading a daily routine in your home. Research shows that students who read at least 20 minutes per day score in the 90th percentile on standardized tests. Do you want to help your child to be successful in school? They simply need to read.

What can I do to support my child?

Read at home with your child daily (at least 20 minutes) with books they enjoy. 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
- Talk about what you have learned.
- Talk about how the pictures in the book connect to the words on the page.
- Help connect the reading to your child's life or other books they've read

## Michigan Third Grade Reading Law

### A Parent Guide to Public Act 306

#### *What you should know as a parent?*

\* In October 2016, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in an effort to boost reading achievement.

\* Beginning in Kindergarten, your child's literacy progress will be closely monitored by your child's teachers.

\* Each child will have a reading plan. This means that your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support and create a plan to support your child. The plan will include:

\* extra instruction or support in areas of need

\* ongoing progress checks

\* at home reading plan (20 minutes of reading outside of the school day)

\* Your child may be encouraged to participate in summer reading program

\* Extra support in your child's individualized reading plan will occur in small group or one on one instruction during the school day.

Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.

\* Based on this law, beginning in the 2019-20 school year, 3rd graders must score within one year behind on state reading assessments in order to be promoted to 4th grade. 3rd graders can also be promoted to 4th grade if they prove to be at grade level through an alternate assessment or a portfolio of work.

\* If you are notified by the state, that your child may be retained, your school will contact you to discuss possible exemptions.

Research does not support retention and shows that students who are retained are no better off than their peers who are promoted to the next grade level.

Hartland Consolidated schools supports the promotion of students to the next grade level with continued support based on academic need.