



## Gibraltar School District

19370 Vreeland Road, Woodhaven, MI 48183    www.gibdist.net

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester! I would like to encourage everyone to start the semester with a renewed energy and ready to give it your best! Please take this opportunity to set goals with your children on what they want to accomplish with their classes and how they see themselves being the most successful. Whether your child is participating with in person instruction or is a Lakeshore student, attendance matters. Students must be at school or participating online with their virtual classes. Make a plan now with your child to finish out the year strong!

Your Partner in Education,  
Amy Conway  
Superintendent

### Spark's Corner



Research shows that being happy and positive primes the brain to be more successful and productive. Promoting positivity will enhance our student's academic ability and develop them into happy and positive thinkers and leaders. Each month we will highlight a building or staff member that is spreading "The Orange" (Happiness) through Gibraltar!

Not all heroes wear capes! Each month, Hunter Elementary hosts a whole school spirit day. For the month of January the theme was Super Hero Day! Many staff and students chose to wear medical scrubs, stethoscopes and scrub caps to highlight healthcare workers and show that a person in the real world can be just as good as the idealized heroes of comics and movies.



### Carlson High School



Carlson High School and AP Computer Science Teacher, Erin Torres, earned the 2020 AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for expanding young women's access to AP Computer Science Principles (CSP). This award acknowledges 1,119 schools for their work toward equal gender representation during the 2019-20 school year -- nearly 37% more than the 818 schools recognized last year. Carlson High School is one of only 831 schools to be recognized for achieving this important result in CSP. This honor recognizes the outstanding work Mrs. Torres and CHS are doing to engage more female students in computer science.

## Shumate Yearbook

COVID has changed a great many things at Shumate. Through it all, our kids are still learning and taking advantage of extracurricular activities during the day and after school. Documenting the fun and learning that takes place throughout the school has proven more difficult than in past years due to our safety procedures and protocols. That being said, Mrs. Walchak's 8th grade Yearbook Team met the challenge head on! Instead of stopping into classrooms to take pictures, the students are instead now working to coordinate with teachers and students within the classrooms to capture meaningful moments. Since they can't act as roving reporters at sporting events, the yearbook crew instead deputized students and coaches to take photos throughout games and practices. Needless to say, the delegation of such tasks and organization of artifacts keeps our eighth-grade crew busy as they work to capture all the awesome things that take place at SMS!

*Quotes from our SMS Student Yearbook Staff:*

*"Yearbook is challenging because you could not identify them. Then you have to get the right angle to see their face like you have to identify them by their eyes." Hayden Chappell*



*"The most challenging part of creating the yearbook this year with Covid-19 would have to be sports. This was extremely difficult to create the pages and get pictures because we did not know what sports were going to take place and which ones were going to get canceled. We had to make sure we got enough pictures at one game just in case that sport got cancelled the next day, we never know." Lauren Lizyness*

*"Yearbook has been very challenging, to say the least, but it has taught us that failure is natural, and it is something that we all face. Taking pictures, and receiving them, has been the most challenging thing this year, but if we don't find ways to overcome the challenges we are faced with, how will we move forward?" Hannah Lucas*

*"I have had a lot of fun with yearbook this year. There have been challenges like finding ways to take pictures with covid but we have all gotten through it." Hannah Krolak*

*"Yearbook has been tough this year but we pulled through and made it worth the memory." Landon Vida*

*"Even though creating the yearbook this year has come with its challenges, it gave us time to learn from our mistakes and we all created new memories." Bradley Eves*

## Chapman Elementary

As we start the 2nd semester, we welcome a new teacher to Chapman. Her name is Ms. Erin Carney and she will be teaching our newly formed kindergarten class. Ms. Carney has been busy getting her classroom ready, making connections with the Chapman staff, students and their families.



Ms. Carney attended and graduated from Central Michigan University. Ms. Carney completed her student teaching experience in 1st grade in Carson City, 3rd grade in Mount Pleasant, and at Grosse Ile Middle School with a special education teacher. Once she graduated, she was a substitute teacher in all grades from kindergarten to high school for the last 2 years.

Ms. Carney's hobbies include working out, reading, boating with friends and family, coaching, playing card games, and doing puzzles. She is a people person with a positive attitude all the time.

Mrs. Carney shared that she is looking most forward to building relationships with my students, their families, and her colleagues at Chapman and throughout the district. She said she already feels so welcomed by the wonderful Chapman staff and looks forward to getting to know everyone better during this school year and for years to come.

When asked if she had one wish what would it be and Ms. Carney said, "If I could have one wish it would be to have dogs be able to speak to us. I have always wondered what dogs are thinking and how they feel. It would be so fun to talk to them."

Welcome to Chapman, Ms. Carney, we know you will be a wonderful addition to our staff!

## **Carlson High School- Bond Work Completed!**

Our students and staff were excited to resume in-person learning on January 11th. Our new Main Entrance, Offices, Science Labs, and Media Center were a huge hit! Thank you again to the Gibraltar Community for supporting our Bond Initiative!



## **Passion, Pride, and Perseverance Celebrations at Parsons**



The weeks into 2021 have been busy for the team and scholars at Parsons. During the month of January, the students have been taking their NWEA assessment. This assessment is given three times a year to assess students in the areas of Literacy and Mathematics. Prior to taking the online assessments, all students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade create their individual goal of what they want to achieve on the test. This goal is then documented in their data binders.



After the testing has been completed, the students record and graph the score in their data binders. Students setting individual goals, tracking, and discussing their own data allows them to take ownership of their learning. The team at Parsons has also seen their students become more confident and involved in their learning. After all of the testing is complete, the celebrations then take place for the growth that they have made. Students beam with pride when they are able to share their success or ring the Pirate Pride bell in the hallway for meeting their goal.



The team also took the time to celebrate the 80th day of school this year with their students. Everyone was encouraged to dress up in 1980s attire to celebrate all of their hard work that they have given for the first 80 days of school. During classroom instruction, the students were also able to learn a little history and interesting facts about the 1980s. It was a great day for everyone. They are looking forward to celebrating again on the 90th day of school!

## **Gibraltar Food Service** **BREAKFAST!! BREAKFAST!!**

Available daily at ALL Schools in the morning delivered to classrooms at all elementary schools and Grab and Go at Carlson and Shumate. **ALL** students at **NO COST** for the rest of this school year. Make sure you let your kids know to get breakfast daily to fuel their mind and bodies.

**ATTENTION ALL REMOTE-LAKESHORE FAMILIES** Meal pick-up EVERY WEDNESDAY 1:00-2:30PM, includes some of your kids favorites each week. Parents you do not have to worry about what to feed your kids while learning, easy to fix breakfast and lunches in each meal bag, seven days' worth!!!



**Employee Spotlight** Kim Mac Donald & Nicole Stanley. It is with sad hearts that we say goodbye to both Kim MacDonald of Weiss and Nicole Stanley of Chapman. Both have been in the school district for 15+ years and Food Service long term outstanding employees. We wish each of them Congratulations and Best of Luck on their new careers.



## Athletics



The Swim and Bowling teams are off to the races. Not all sports are full contact yet, but boys swim and boys and girls bowling have been given the green light to begin. We cannot wait to cheer on our Marauders. We have missed competition and sport a great deal and welcome its return to CHS.

## Maintenance/Operations

All of the summer Bond work has been completed and we are working on the remaining punch list items. Now that winter is in full swing please be mindful of areas that could have ice accumulations. Please use caution when walking to and from your vehicles. Please welcome the following employees to the Maintenance Department: Aria Hughes-CHS, Nathen Stewart-CHS, Mark Radford-CHS, Marc Scherle-Chapman-Parsons

## Lakeshore Virtual School

LVS would like to recognize our **January Students of the Month**. Each Student of the Month is based off of our acronym LVS Pride. Our fourth letter, **P**, represents **Politeness**. These students have been nominated for their polite manner when they interact with staff and students. They always greet their teachers, constantly say please and thank you, and are extremely kind to their classmates when in-person or in zoom sessions. These students go above and beyond with their politeness and kindness both when speaking and sending emails to their teachers. We are very proud of these students and are thrilled to recognize them as our Polite Students of the Month.



Congratulations to: Ali Fricke- Kindergarten, Carter Mascia- 2nd grade, Evan Langlet- 4th grade, Isabella Fairris- 7th grade, Megan O'Connor- 7th grade, Ryan Todd Jr.- 9th grade, Ella Balogh- 9th grade

## Transportation



Congratulations to Jennifer Hendrickson, our new Sub Bus Driver. She has started training and will soon take her road test and beginning bus driver classes.

Check your parent portal for your transportation information. You can also call the Transportation Department at (734) 379-6370.

## Downriver STEM @ Weiss



The students in Mrs. Livingston's and Mrs. Bongiorno's class have been working on representing their teen numbers as a group of ten and extra ones. Students got to create numeric expressions and represent those expressions with stickers of their choosing. Learning about this will help to greatly improve their numeracy skills.



Also at Downriver STEM @ Weiss, students in Mr. Stanton's class learned how video games are made. The students watched a video about this topic and had a chance to practice their skills by using code to create a robot simulation. All of these Wildcats are learning how STEM applies to their everyday world.

