



Gibraltar School District

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back from Spring Break! I hope that everyone had a relaxing break and is ready for the rest of the school year! This last part of the school year goes by quickly, so please remember to keep up to date with your child's school so you do not miss any school activities that may be planned to round out the school year. Below are some highlights from the month of March and we are always proud to spotlight our outstanding staff and students that make GSD a great place to learn and work!

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!

Hunter Elementary chooses a Giving Tree collection every school year organized by first grade teacher, Lisa Meadows. This year the staff and students collected cereal boxes to be donated to Mimi's Mission to help feed hungry children in the Downriver area. Hunter teamed up with one of their own Hunter Hornets, Holden Kenniberg, and his Autism



Acceptance Group for this project. They asked specifically for child friendly cereals. Students who donated cereal were given a shamrock to place on the Giving Tree in the main hallway of the school.



April is Autism Acceptance Month and Hunter will be celebrating in several ways including a week of Spirit Days!

Athletics

Ben Conroy represented Carlson at the state finals for men's swimming this year. After breaking Carlson's pool record in the backstroke in just the 8th grade, Ben has gone on to an exceptional career at CHS so far. In his junior season, Ben has battled through the adversity of being kept out of the pool during the pandemic but also through personal injury to once again make us proud at states. Congratulations to Ben as he represented the Marauders on the state of Michigan's largest stage!



Kindergarten Round Up

Do you have a child at home who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2021? Do you know someone who does, perhaps a friend or a neighbor? If so, Gibraltar School District has a spot waiting just for them in our kindergarten classrooms next year! Gibraltar School District offers both a traditional Kindergarten program as well as a Young Fives Kindergarten program. Both of these programs have a strong focus on the math and literacy skills needed for a solid foundation through the course of the formative elementary years. Registration is now **OPEN online!**



To begin the enrollment process, please visit the link below and follow the link to the Online Pre-Enrollment! Once completed, you will schedule an appointment to complete the enrollment process.

<http://www.gibd.net/about/register-students/kindergarten-young-5s-registration>

Carlson High School Takes the Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics of Michigan



This year, the Carlson Pep Club along with the Carlson Chapter of National Honor Society, Interact Club, and Carlson Empowerment Team joined forces to support the Special Olympics of Michigan, taking part in the Polar Plunge Challenge. As part of the challenge, Carlson hosted its first



Frigid 5K (virtual) run, a can drive, a basket raffle, and a Polar Plunge team to help raise money for the cause. Additionally, NHS volunteers helped support the cause by working with Ms. Cramton's unified team of Special Olympics athletes as they ran their 5K at Elizabeth Park on February 20. To help support the cause, various teachers, administrators, and Ms. Conway pledged to take the Polar Plunge if certain fundraising levels were achieved; in the end, Carlson beat each of these levels and more than doubled their goal, raising \$5525 for Special Olympics.

Andrew Humphrey Spends Time with Students at Parsons



The students at Parsons had the pleasure of meeting and chatting with our very own Andrew Humphrey, the Emmy winning and chief meteorologist for Channel 4 News. He reached out to Mrs. Villa and asked if he could Zoom with her students. Mr. Humphrey wanted to share his story about how he came to be a meteorologist. Mr. Humphrey studied at the University of Michigan and then went on to earn his Master's Degree from MIT. In fact, he is the first and only meteorologist in Detroit to have



earned two degrees! The students enjoyed hearing about his journey as a scholar and then as an enthusiastic and cheerful meteorologist reporting in several cities across the country. For the last eight years, Mr. Humphrey has called Michigan his home. He has enjoyed reporting our local weather for Channel 4 news and is looking forward to many more years here in Detroit. Before signing off from the Zoom, Mr. Humphrey gave the Pirates priceless advice. "Remember these two things: Find out what you love and what you're good at and you will be happy."

Transportation Department – Congratulations to Jo Jo Jeffery and Tracy Jones

Wayne Resa received nominations from 10 other districts for the 2021 Excellence in Transportation Award. I am pleased to announce that Jo Jo Jeffery and Tracy Jones have been chosen. They have received a congratulatory letter as well as a plaque. Jo Jo has been a driver for 35 years. She's always willing to help as needed and goes the extra mile for her students. Tracy has been here 9 years and as well, goes the extra mile to help where needed and enjoys her students. They both are a true asset to our team. "Thank You".



We are hiring bus drivers and aides, please call or come to the Transportation Department located at 28291 Fort Street in Trenton (734) 379-3670.

Downriver STEM @ Weiss Elementary



Our 4th graders started the germination process as part of their gardening project this past month. Throughout this project the students will be learning about different kinds of plants, different important vocabulary that goes along with gardening, how to properly take care of plants, and eventually how to harvest. At some point in the spring the students will be transferring the plants from inside the classroom to a mini-garden outside of the building. They are so excited to see what types of fruits, vegetables, and flowers are on the way!!



New Shumate pi Record Holder!



This year's Shumate pi contest was one for the ages, with 6 students memorizing and reciting over 100 total digits from memory. Much like Hank Aaron's 755 career home runs, many thought that Owen Anderson's record of 287 digits set in 2019 would never be broken. However, 7th grader Elizabeth Jenkins not only broke the record, she absolutely smashed it, finishing with a total of 678 digits!

Pirate Inventors at Parsons Apply for a Patent License

The Pirate Inventors Club has been meeting virtually this year for an entrepreneur style challenge. The club is being led by Mr. Dan Chojnowski, a patent attorney and parent at Parsons along with Mr. Budziak, the STEM teacher at Parsons. Each pirate served as lead inventor and project manager for an inventive concept. The entire group then collaborated and brainstormed with each other to improve upon each intervention.



The inventions include an automatic mosquito swatter, a stroller with an integrated scooter attachment, a self-watering planter, a smart toothbrush with integral floss and mouthwash dispenser and a novel slurpy truck. The club is now in the process of filing for an actual U.S. Provisional Patent Application on their inventions and will soon be offering their inventions for sale to various companies. The staff at Parsons is so proud of these young inventors and entrepreneurs. They can't wait to see what the future will bring for all of them!

Gibraltar Food Service



Jenna Halbrooks, Ric Sales, Kristina MacBride and Johnny McCarthy had some fun with the students during National School Breakfast Week! Handing out fun sheets with mazes, word searches and coloring pages. Food service also did a survey to see what the students would like to see on the menu for breakfast. The next day they drew names for prizes from the completed surveys.

Breakfast is served daily at all schools at no cost to students for the remainder of the school year.

Lakeshore Virtual School

LVS would like to recognize our **March Students of the Month**. Each Student of the Month is based off of our acronym LVS Pride. Our sixth letter, **I**, represents **Improvement**. These students were chosen due to their vast improvement in learning online. They have improved their grades by having more appointments with their teachers on Zoom and in-person and use their guided notes to keep their focus when learning the content. They have also improved socially by increasing their participation in group discussions and have improved their effort and progress in their courses. We are very proud of these students and are thrilled to recognize them as our Improving Students of the Month.



Congratulations to: Kaydence Ziesmer, Kindergarten, Easton Ziesmer, 1st grade, Greyson Taylor, 4th grade, Dominic Ramirez, 5th grade, Drake Lewis, 6th grade, Mariah Montes, 7th grade, Kaitlyn Locke, 9th grade, John Mayo, 12th grade

Chapman's Reading Rodeo Lassoed a HUGE Success



March is Reading Month was themed as a Reading Rodeo and all our "cowpokes" saddled right up and read many great books. Our Book Bracket winners were, *The Bad Seed* for K-2 and *Crenshaw* for Grades 3-5. The classroom door decorating winners were Mrs. Fabrizio's 1st Grade with *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and Mrs. Maher's class with a creative play on words "READ BOX" featuring many of Dr. Seuss' book titles. We raised \$300.00 for our library by selling \$1.00 tickets for *Bedtime Stories* with Mrs. Sheldon. The winner came from Ms. Teets' 1st

Grade classroom. On April 13, Mrs. Sheldon will be heading over to that student's house wearing her pajamas and bringing favorite books, cookies and milk. Our final event was a Horse Race with our "jockey" selected from each class to race against their grade level classes. There were lots of cheers, photo finishes and BIG Smiles from the winning "jockeys". March is Reading Month at Chapman was fun-filled for all thanks to our teacher-led planning and organizing committee! YEEHAW!

