

9525 E. Highland Road Howell, Michigan 48843 Telephone (810) 626-2100 Fax (810) 626-2101

November 8, 2023

Dear HCS Community:

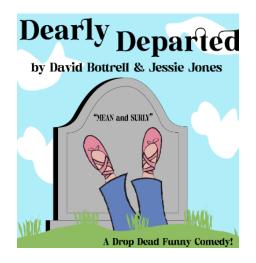
2023-24 Parent Engagement Workshop: Don't miss the first in the series of Livingston County Families workshops. See the remainder of topics in the document at the end of this letter. We look forward to your attendance.



High School Counselors Secure a Grant: The district has been approved for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion Challenge Grant (State School Aid Section 67f) for the 2023-24 year. Funding in the amount of \$23,000 will be awarded to Hartland Consolidated Schools to support students' FAFSA completion. Thank you to our counselors and Heather Osterhout for pursuing this grant. As always, we encourage all seniors to complete the FAFSA.

Congratulations Round Elementary Teacher, Michelle Vincent, WNIC's Teacher of the Week! Mrs. Vincent was nominated for the Jay Towers Teacher of the Week award on the WNIC radio program. She was nominated for her amazing commitment to our students and the development of the Round Elementary K-Kids program. K-Kids spread kindness at Round and provide service to the community. Recently, K-Kids provided the Senior Center with a game night and Halloween candy. Mrs. Vincent was awarded a plaque and \$100 gift card to Kroger.

Fall Play Dearly Departed Opening This Weekend: The High School fall drama production, Dearly Departed, will be presented this weekend, November 10, 11, and 12. This show will not disappoint you. It has outrageous humor, absurd situations, and witty dialogue that is sure to have you laughing in your seats. Come and support our student thespians Friday at 7:30, Saturday, at 2:30 and 7:30, or Sunday at 2:30. Tickets are available at <u>www.hartlanddramaclub.org</u> and at the door. Individual tickets purchased in advance are \$11 for students/seniors and \$13 for adults. Tickets are an additional \$2 at the door. We hope to see you there!



Department of Justice Update: In the Spring of 2021, the district was notified through a social media post of a concern regarding racial discrimination occurring at Hartland High School. Since this time, the district has worked cooperatively with the Michigan Department of the Office of Civil Rights, and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). This cooperation resulted in reaching an agreement with the DOJ to meet prescribed expectations during the 2022-23 school year, including creating and reporting all incidents that involved discrimination. The district completed this process with due diligence during the 2022-23 school year. In the Spring of 2023, the DOJ informed the district that they were going to continue to monitor discrimination with a specific emphasis on racial discrimination. Currently, we are awaiting additional guidance. There is a clear understanding that we must continue to track and report incidents of discrimination to the DOJ.

What does this mean for students and families in the school district? This means that if your child is a victim of discrimination or accused of being discriminatory, the district will create an incident report. The incident report will include the summary of events, staff involved in the investigation, actions taken, and any follow-up (discipline, education, discussions, etc.). These incident reports must be provided to the DOJ. The reports may be used to follow up with the victims and their families. As the district continues to educate students and families about the appropriate way to treat others, understand that a poor choice to engage in inappropriate discrimination is unacceptable. Students and parents will be notified that the incident will be reported to the DOJ. Please help the community and schools to welcome all individuals regardless of background. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and civility, without exception.

Annual Coat and Winter Gear Drive: WOW! Our Winter Coat Drive is finished and counted. Together, all 7 schools and the CO building collected 521 coats for Bountiful Harvest in Brighton! In total we collected 1,023 winter gear items including: coats, hats, snow pants, mittens, scarves, and boots. Thank you everyone who donated and a special thank you to Chair Person Kristin Raap.

High School Blood Drive: The annual Fall Blood Drive for the American Red Cross will be held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at Hartland High School from 8:30 a.m - 1:45 p.m. You can schedule an appointment by going to: <u>https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time</u> Sign-up today and help save a life!

School Psychologist Week: Happy School Psychologist week to our school psychologists, Jill Luetze, Eric Leaf, Toni Johnson, Lindsay Lutton, Olena Mandeville, and Jessica Steen. We are fortunate to have some wonderful individuals working with students and staff. You are appreciated.



Hartland High School Graduates and Sisters Face Off: Hartland High School graduates Whitney Sollum (#25 University of Michigan) and Lauren Sollum (#25 Saginaw Valley State University) take the tip off against each other on November 2, 2023. We are proud of our Eagles!



High School Exclusive: Meet Mrs. Stephanie Ritter, DECA Advisor and HHS Teacher, and students Jayna Kennel (DECA) and Piper Hughes (Swim Team and DECA). https://youtu.be/El5W-moSjwc?si=ToPwJuzLEO78HKx_ **Cross Cultural Art Takes Shape:** Students at Creekside Elementary are working on cross cultural art projects. They would like to share this with you.



Mexican Bark Painting



Egyptian Scarabs



Mexican Mirrors

Round Guest Presenter: Mr. Mike Jewell visits Round Elementary every year to give a presentation on Native American history, culture and daily life. He brings many artifacts including daily living items and tools used by Native Americans.



Mr. Jewell sharing a story.

Mrs. Spiker helping explain the clothing artwork.

Respectfully,

Chiczy

Chuck Hughes

"Be kind, be fair, be honest, be true, and all these things will come back to you. Always remember, what goes around comes around."

