



HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Chuck Hughes, Superintendent

9525 E. Highland Road
Howell, Michigan 48843

Telephone (810) 626-2100
Fax (810) 626-2101

April 3, 2024

Dear HCS Community:

Happy Para Professional Appreciation Day:

I want to wish all of our Para Professionals a Happy Para Professional Appreciation Day. Thank you for all you do!

Happy Assistant Principal Week:

If you run into Tom Ureche, JD Wheeler, Jessica Guss, Chris Chanavier, or Cristal Briskey, please thank them for a job well done. We are appreciative of each one of our Assistant Principals!

Announcing the Memorial Day Run and Walk:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Hartland/HartlandMemorialDayRun>



Hartland High School Unified Fundraiser:

Hartland Youth Lacrosse (HYL) is hosting their annual Friday Night Lights game on Friday April 5, 2024 at the HCS Auxiliary Stadium (next to the middle school). They are partnering with Unified to raise funds for the program. Below is more information about the event.

Game information

Hartland Girls 7/8 vs. Brighton Girls 7/8 @ 6:00 p.m.

Hartland Boys 14U Gold vs. Brighton Boys 14U Black @ 7:00 p.m.

Plan for the Night:

HYL Friday Night Lights started 2 years ago to kick off the season with a night game for the program's top girls' and top boys' team, against crosstown rival Brighton.

There will be roughly 80 athletes playing between the 2 games; however, HYL has about 200 athletes in the program and are encouraging all lacrosse families (and others) to come to this event. They will collect money at the gate (\$3 per person, with 5 and under and kids in HYL lax jerseys free). The proceeds from this event will go to the Unified program.

Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024:

Solar glasses have been purchased for the students that are in school during the eclipse time frame. Please help us by reminding your children that they are not to look at the eclipse without protective solar eclipse glasses. This means it is not safe to look at the eclipse through windows on the bus and school. Thank you for your help.

Lakes Students and Staff Love Hudson:

Lakes Elementary staff and students celebrated a very special student the week of March 18-22, 2024 to bring encouragement and positive thoughts to our friend Hudson. Hudson is a current 4th grader who is battling brain cancer. He is undergoing chemotherapy treatment at Mott Children's Hospital after receiving proton radiation therapy and surgery. Hudson is currently unable to attend school and is missing his friends and activities. Staff and students wore Hudson's favorite color (blue), participated in some of Hudson's favorite activities (art and reading), and showed off their Team Hudson bracelets while writing Hudson some encouraging words.

All Team Hudson bracelet proceeds and donations received this week went to Hudson's family. A special thanks to the Haller/Banish family, with Our Team Spiritwear, who donated the Team Hudson shirts to the staff (all costs and proceeds went to Hudson's family). The Blush family, with Sign Gypsies Fenton, also donated the yard signs to welcome Hudson home from Mott Hospital after treatment and to kick off Lakes ❤️ Hudson week.

Thank you to all at Lakes for taking this time to show your support and letting a family know they are not alone in this difficult journey!



Where Do HCS Students Come From and Go To?

I am often asked questions regarding where HCS students come to the district from and where to they go when they exit the district. The following snapshot shows information for surrounding and competing programs. Please note that students move throughout the state, which I did not capture in this data point. During the 2023-24 school year we have had 289 new enrollments (not including Kindergarten) and 210 students moving elsewhere. Most of the loss in students is because our graduating classes are much larger than the incoming classes. The numbers include school of choice students.

HCS Students Exiting and Enrolling			
Exits and Enrollments for Competitive Educational Environments Near HCS			
Students Leaving To		Students Entering From	
District	Number	District	Number
Brighton	12	Brighton	10
Charter School	21	Charter School	20
Fenton	4	Fenton	15
Home School	21	Home School	22
Howell	6	Howell	30
Huron Valley	8	Huron Valley	10
LESA	1	LESA	1
Linden	16	Linden	8
Online	12	Online	6
Private School	21	Private School	38
Total	122	Total	160
The district lost 122 students to public, private, and charter schools near us while we gained 160 from these same environments.			

Radon Concern:

There has been some social media chatter surrounding the topic of radon testing in the school district. District personnel have had conversations about this and have shared information with the Board of Education. We are in the process of getting a quote for radon testing in all our buildings. Once we obtain quotes, I will set up a Building & Site Committee meeting with the Board of Education to share information we have gathered regarding this issue and recommend a course of action. I have reached out to one of two school districts that test for radon in Southeast Michigan to ask about their radon testing cycle. The district I talked with stated that they have been testing for about 15 years on a biannual cycle. They shared that they do not currently have any issues with radon levels.

The information I have gathered includes an EPA nationwide survey which found that roughly 1 in 5 school buildings have one classroom with a short-term (I assume short-term means that radon levels can be mitigated easily) radon level above the “action level.” That is one classroom out of every five buildings tested. The National Institute for Public Health and Environment (NIPHE) states that “old buildings” seem to be where concerns arise. This is because newer buildings have more efficient air exchange rates, meaning that classroom air is exchanged multiple times throughout the day. In HCS, all our buildings have had significant HVAC upgrades. The NIPHE also shared that buildings with basements are more often affected by radon levels compared to buildings without basements. In HCS’s case, the high school would be the only building with a partial basement; however, it is a newer building and the air exchange rates are high. How high you ask? An example is that if there is a skunk outside shipping and receiving, or neighbors are burning leaves, you smell it throughout the building. Yes, true story! As I stated previously, air exchange rates for every space are much more efficient than a home. **Note:** The State of Michigan does not require radon testing. We are addressing a concern, as we always do. I have learned a lot talking with radon mitigation companies, a school district that tests for radon, and reading what I can get my hands on, and our district buildings already use mitigation strategies to reduce the likelihood of Radon build up.

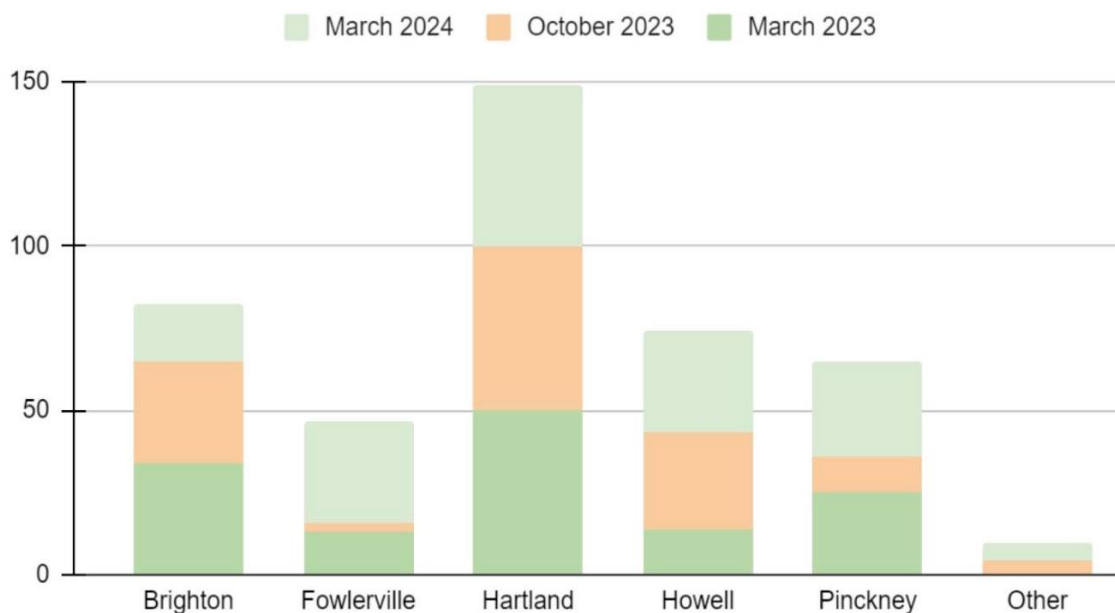
Asbestos Inspections:

I have been informed that there are individuals interested in better understanding how the district handles asbestos. As with most buildings that were built up until the late 1970's asbestos was widely used in the U.S. and across the world. Our buildings were no different. In 1986, laws were enacted regarding asbestos materials used and inspections were required of buildings containing asbestos. IN 1988, Hartland Consolidated Schools started performing inspections of all district buildings. In accordance with 40 CFR, Part 763.85(b), of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), the district works with licensed inspectors to inspect each building that may contain asbestos on a three-year rotation. The inspector looks for any asbestos issues and notes concerns that we should consider for correction. The district also performs periodic evaluations of each building every six months. An example of an asbestos containing material (ACM) might be a fire door that has damage (peeling, broken, etc.) which would require repair or replacement. Where we usually find a problem with asbestos is when we engage in renovations and disturb "material locations." If we choose to move forward on a project, asbestos removal procedures must be followed, and a certified company hired to do the abatement work. We are up to date on all inspections and requirements with no current asbestos concerns.

People might ask, why not just remove the asbestos? The district continues to remove materials on an ongoing basis as we perform renovations of our buildings or if a material becomes damaged. Our list of ACM's continues to get smaller and smaller. Most of the remaining ACM are located behind walls, inside fire doors, etc. Asbestos poses a risk if it becomes air born; however, asbestos that is in good condition and left undisturbed is unlikely to present a health risk, per the Environmental Protection Agency.

Job Shadow Opportunities: Hartland High School students seem to be taking advantage of the job shadow opportunities local businesses are offering. One of the district's goals is to find ways to connect students to the world of work so that they might better understand their options. Asking questions like, do I want to go to college, can I move right into the world of work with opportunity for growth, is community college a better bargain for me, etc. are important discussion questions for students and families. Below you will see a graph that reflects the number of students taking advantage of job shadow opportunities. I want to thank the high school staff for promoting this great opportunity.

District Participation 2023-2024



Help with Substance Abuse and Vaping: At the March 18, 2024 Board of Education meeting, a couple of high school students talked about the issue with “drug use” in the restrooms. After further discussions with the high school staff, I found that the issue continues to be vaping (nicotine and THC, active ingredient in marijuana). Students report that when students are vaping, they immediately exit the restroom as they don’t want anything to do with this activity. This is not a new or increased issue (per the number of students disciplined) the high school staff continues to work to educate students about the dangers, consequences, and being proactive about not using vapes. To help monitor the situation, we have installed vape detectors in some restrooms. Security staff respond to vape alerts and continuously monitor by visiting the restrooms multiple times a day. Unfortunately, we are finding that students dispose of vape cartridges and pens in the toilets which often cause the toilets to plug up; thus, we must remove the toilets to fix the problem, resulting in closing the restrooms in order to fix the problem. I am asking parents to help us by talking to your children about the dangers of vaping and the discipline that will result if caught vaping or vandalizing restrooms. Below you will find an informational parenting opportunity to learn more about the dangers of substance abuse and vaping.



Livingston County Families
join our next Mental Health Series...

ABCs of Substance Use & Vaping

Ask Questions
Basic Signs
Communicate

Course Created by:
Shannon Clauson, LMFT

Do you know the signs to watch for if your pre-teen or teen is vaping or becoming addicted to substance use? Learn to ask the right questions, spot the basic signs, and learn to communicate with your child.

This session covers the following:

- Signs to watch for:
 - Health issues
 - Behavioral signs
 - Addiction signs
- How to talk to your child about vaping

April 11, 2024

6:30–7:30 PM
via Zoom
or check your local district website for an onsite viewing location

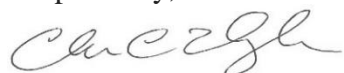
SCAN or CLICK TO JOIN ANONYMOUSLY
<https://cookcenter.info/April11Livingston>

Sponsored by
Livingston Sunrise
Rotary
Club
"Helping parents, help their kids"





Respectfully,



Chuck Hughes

“Every action done in company ought to be done with some sign of respect to those that are present.”
George Washington