

April 24 The KURTZ CONNECTOR

Spring Break - No school	3/25 through 4/1
Hungry Howie's Night	4/2
Mobile Dentist	4/4
Half day - Students dismissed @ 12:40	4/5
PTA meeting @ 9:30 in the cafeteria	4/10
Talent Showcase @ MHS Theater	4/10
Breakfast with a Buddy (8-9)	4/16
Cereal Box Challenge	4/22
3rd grade Disney trip to Lakeland	4/24
Middle School Orientation for our 5th graders	5/2
Staff Appreciation Week!	5/6
No School for students - PD for teachers / KDAY	5/7
PTA meeting @ 9:30 in the cafeteria	5/8
STEM visit for 5th graders	5/14
Cereal Box Challenge	5/26
Memorial Day - No school	5/27

Building Hours:
9:10 1st Bell (students may enter) / 9:15 2nd Bell (school starts) / 4:08 Dismissal

Student Profiles are Now Available

Each year, the staff at Kurtz looks for parent input in the rostering of students for the upcoming school year. We go to great lengths to work as a team, with the common vision of creating balanced classrooms for each and every student at school.

Our goal is to start with parent input. The Student Profile Google Form has been sent out via Family Access and is also attached to the Kurtz Connection Smore. This resource provides parents the opportunity to share their thoughts related to placement, before teachers place children into new classes.

There are many things we consider in order to create these balanced classes. Once the process has been completed, changes are extremely challenging to make and even more rarely considered.

The best way parents can make sure their recommendations/requests are considered is to speak directly with the sending teacher, the teacher your child currently has this year. Your child's current teacher will work diligently to make sure parent rationale is considered and is able to advocate for placement, however, there are many obstacles that make granting parent requests difficult and/or challenging.

We ask that parents utilize the Student Profile process, including communicating with the classroom teacher, in order to best ensure the placement process is a success. Please respect the work that is put into this process. Make sure that any communications (the Student Profile Form and communication with your child's teacher) about student placement for the 24-25 school year, are completed by Friday, May 3.

Thank you for supporting your Kurtz team. Together we can make the upcoming school year the best possible year for every student.



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Kurtz Elementary School



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Kurtz Elementary

Students in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Lauren Vanderstelt and Adelyn Felt for being recognized as our Students in the Spotlight this month.

Lauren is a second grade student in Mrs. Boyd's class. She is a leader in school. She is creative and cares about learning and about others. She puts first things first and always makes time to help others. She always has a smile for others, participates in class, is self-aware, respectful, friendly, empathetic and organized. She does very well in all subject areas.

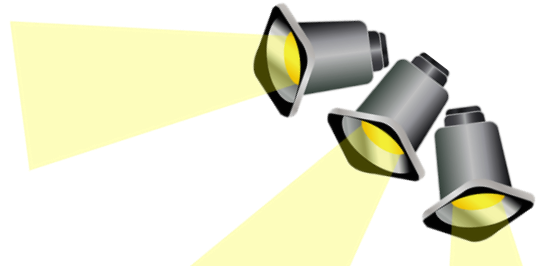
Adelyn is a fifth grader in Mrs. Spurlock's class and is also viewed as a leader and role model among her fifth grade peers. She is an extremely artistic student. She designs

and shares her one-of-a-kind Chicken Trading Cards with students and staff.

During holidays, she goes all out in creating original costumes. She is always on time and enthusiastic in her role, calling buses at the end of each school day. Ady is constantly volunteering her time to help others and make the school look great.

Both students exemplify the type of leadership attributes our staff and students recognize as meaningful and effective.

We celebrate our Students in the Spotlight each month because they make a difference at school and in our great community.



Picking up or Dropping off Between Hill & Noble?

Milford Police have been alerted to address concerns related to Kurtz community members picking up or dropping off students from the neighborhood side of our campus. We understand that parents may be using that area to avoid waiting in our formal car loop in front of the school. Our neighbors indicate that cars regularly block driveways and/

or narrowly avoid accidents trying to navigate the narrow connecting road just behind our playground.

Students who are allowed to exit the building through the playground, reside in the neighborhoods surrounding our building. Although we do not monitor or enforce traffic in that area at the school level, car rid-

ers are expected to drop off and pick up students from the front of our building in the pick-up drop-off lane.

Please consider using our formal pick-up and drop-off loop instead of the adjacent neighborhoods. If you do, please be safe, follow posted signage and do not block driveways.

PTA Corner - March Fun!

WOW! March! What a month of fun! Shamrock shuffle had lots of leprechaun shenanigans with cotton candy, balloon drop and crafts.

Penny Wars had lots of participation and tight races with all the grades.

Results are as follows:

1st Place: CATS and 5th Grade

2nd Place: 4th Grade
 3rd Place: 1st Grade
 4th Place: 3d Grade
 5th Place: Kindergarten
 6th Place: 2nd Grade

The whole school raised \$1,718.95!

While attending these events, take lots of photos and send them to the yearbook. Thank

you for your continuing support. kurtzelementarypta@gmail.com.

April 10- PTA Meeting @9:30

April 17- Breakfast with a Buddy

April 25 -McDonald's Takeover



Kurtz Elementary School strives to create a safe zone for all students, staff members and visitors. During the school day, we do not allow dogs on our school campus. As the weather starts to warm up, we understand the interest our families may have in bringing the dog along to drop off or pick up Kurtz students from school each day. We recognize and appreciate how well trained and/or well behaved your dog may seem, but we also respect the fact that all parents expect their child(ren) to be safe at school each day. Even well-trained/behaved furry friends can have unexpected responses while out in public. **This means parents, guardians, and visitors should not bring their four legged family members to the school at drop-off or pick-up time under any circumstances.**



It should be noted that you may hear about visits from Rosie, the district's resident therapy dog. Rosie has had extensive training and is a certified therapy dog and is recognized by the State of Michigan as a certified therapy dog. Rosie also carries liability insurance as a part of the partnership agreement we have with her owner.

The MSTEP Window is Open

The 23-24 MSTEP window has now opened for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. During this time, students will be spending time completing competency assessments all across the state of Michigan. Parents can support students by

making sure appointments are not scheduled on the days that testing is scheduled.

Parents are encouraged to discuss the testing with their children and remind them that this

assessment is a tool that helps their teachers to best understand what they know and what they still need to work on. Make sure to encourage your child to put forth their best effort and not to worry about scores.

Spring 2024 M-STEP Testing Schedule Kurtz Elementary

3rd Grade:

<p>ELA*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 9 9:30-10:30</p> <p>Wednesday, April 10 9:30-10:15</p> <p>Thursday, April 11 9:30-10:15</p>	<p>Math*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 23 9:30-10:30</p> <p>Thursday, April 25 9:30-10:30</p>
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*Times are not strict, be as close as reasonable to meet the needs of your students.

4th Grade:

<p>ELA*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 9 11:30-12:30</p> <p>Wednesday, April 10 11:30-12:15</p> <p>Thursday, April 11 11:30-12:15</p>	<p>Math*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 23 11:30-12:30</p> <p>Wednesday, April 24 11:30-12:30</p>
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*Times are not strict, be as close as reasonable to meet the needs of your students.

5th Grade:

<p>ELA*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 9 10:30-11:30</p> <p>Wednesday, April 10 10:30-11:30</p> <p>Thursday, April 11 10:30-11:15</p>	<p>Math*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 16 10:30-11:30</p> <p>Wednesday, April 17 10:30-11:30</p>
<p>Science*</p> <p>Tuesday, April 23 10:30-12:00</p>	<p>Social Studies</p> <p>Wednesday, April 24 10:30-11:30</p>

Pick Up and Drop Off

We are very proud of the pick-up and drop-off processes we have in place at Kurtz. We work hard to make this daily routine safe and effective. There are Kurtz staff members assigned to ensuring our systems work effectively, while still making sure to use the time to connect with students and provide support when and if support is needed. We assure you that our system works and is most effective when visitors follow our plan. We are always focused on getting you in and out of the parking lot as quickly as possible. Visitors can help us make pick-up and drop-off times flow best by not parking on the curb during pick-up and drop-off times.

- Mind the 15 MPH speed limit on Kurtz Drive.
- Vehicles should be pulling all the way up and quickly getting child(ren) in and out of the car. Please do not get out and help children in or out of the vehicle.

- Utilize pick-up and drop-off Kurtz staff or park if your child requires extra support.
- Visitors should never pass in the left lane of the loop because it is not safe for our students and could (and has) resulted in damage to vehicles, adding unnecessary stress on individuals. We feel strongly that passing really only has the potential to save a few seconds on your commute and strongly expect you not to do it.



- If you are planning to park, please park in a designate parking space. Kurtz staff members park in the back of the lot in order to make it as easy as possible for parents to find a parking space in our small parking lot. Al-

so, students should never be walking through the parking lot without an adult. Parents, please observe the posted speed limit sign on Kurtz Drive.

- We ask parents to respect our neighbors and never block driveways when you are picking up or dropping off. We have also been contacted by our neighbors at the Document Store to ask parents not to use their parking lot as a pick-up space.

Parents are not to escort their child(ren) to their classrooms for various health and safety reasons. Teachers meet their students outside each morning to start the day in a positive and personal manner. Your participation in this process is both expected and appreciated. Please feel free to share ideas and suggestions in writing with me, Mr. Chisik, at your earliest conven-

Welcoming + Empowering + Achieving = GREATNESS!

March was Reading Month!

March is Reading Month was a great success at Kurtz! We had such a great time with our All School Read this year. Thank you to all the students and family members that participated. We thank the PTA for purchasing a copy the book for each of our families

and for not only sponsoring the Bryan Chick Assemblies, but for making sure he stayed after and autographed each and every student's copy. It was such a great experience in every way!

We would also like to thank Mrs. Papcaik and Ms. Evans for mak-

ing it all happen. Again, we hope that everyone had a great experience reading as one big family and strongly encourage you all look into continuing the fun by reading more titles from Bryan Chick and other great authors!

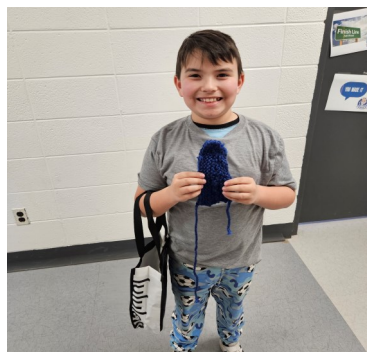


Thank You Milford United Methodist Church!

Our continued commitment to establishing and growing meaningful partnerships with our friends at the Milford United Methodist Church, continues to create great opportunities for our students and the volunteers from the church. For the last several months, several fourth and fifth graders participated in Knitting Club. They learned how to knit, taught by our volunteer partners. It was so nice to see the students get to know

some of our great neighbors as they learned to knit.

The church also donated books written in Spanish to add to our school library. We especially appreciate their time as well as the Spanish books they generously donated.



Ballot Proposal Coming

Our district is gearing up for a ballot proposal that will be a **zero tax rate increase to voters** residing in the Huron Valley community. The focus of this initiative is as follows:

- **Safety and security upgrades**
- **Modernizing buildings and meeting student programming needs**
- **Addressing Infrastructure (bathrooms, roofs, boilers, chillers, pavement)**

At the building level, our goal is to provide the details related to this proposal. Your school team

is focused on relaying information, not in sharing opinions or directing people on how to vote on May 7. There is a group of community members that is in place, in order to provide our families with information related to this proposal. The details related to this initiative were presented at our PTA meeting last month by our superintendent. Opportunities for further discussion will be presented in our upcoming PTA meetings as well.

In the meantime, if you have questions, please check out the

comprehensive resources on our district's web page (www.hvs.org) or by reaching out to our Kurtz team members via email:

Leah Ohmer

(leahohmer@hotmail.com)

Jodie Binroth

(jodie.binroth@harvarddruggroup.com)

Melinda Mihail

(melinda1036@gmail.com)

Again, your Kurtz community encourages you to be informed about this proposal in weeks leading up to May 7th.

May 7, 2024 Ballot Proposal

\$361.3 Million Bond Program to Address Safety, Infrastructure and Student Program Upgrades

Millage Will Remain at 7.0 Mills

VISIT HVS.ORG FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON BOND 2024





ZERO

tax rate increase



Student Programs

Bond 2024 Areas of Focus



Safety & Security

- Replacement of exterior doors
- Replacement of windows utilizing the newest technologies in glass replacement
- Replacement of fire alarm systems
- Technology security upgrades
 - Replace and expand video cameras
 - Expand door access control for additions/removals
 - Improve PA systems
 - Replace staff radios
- Replacement of aging buses



Infrastructure

- Remodel student, staff, and community restrooms
- Replace drinking water pipes, hot water heaters, and water softener systems
- Site upgrades where needed (parking lots, septic, drainage, playgrounds)
- Interior door and window upgrades
- Upgrades/replacement to mechanical systems (HVAC, etc.)
- Upgrade electrical infrastructure to support technology
- Roof replacements
- Remodel kitchens and upgrade kitchen equipment
- Classroom upgrades where needed (casework, walls, flooring, lockers)
- Upgrades to high school competition pool locker rooms
- Specialty classroom upgrades where needed (science, special education, arts, gym)

New Middle School on Milford Campus



Images depict possible new and renovated middle school spaces

Transformation of White Lake Middle School



Artist Rendering

Goals for Creating Middle/High School Campuses

- Sharing of MS/HS staff and resources including all offerings, particularly in the Career Tech Education, world language, and fine arts programs
- Reducing the number of bus routes, providing estimated \$1.3 - \$1.7 million cost savings annually
- Sharing of innovative spaces such as a future Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) lab, performing arts, athletic spaces, etc.
- Providing equitable opportunities for all students / parity on both campuses
- Increasing mentoring opportunities between students

High School Upgrades

Arts

- Upgrades to our Centers for Performing Arts, including, seating, orchestra pit covers, lighting and sound controls, etc.
- Musical instruments and equipment

Academics

- Career Technical Education / Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) / Robotics / Core and Elective Subject Areas

Athletics

- New pressbox at Lakeland High School
- Synthetic turf for varsity baseball and varsity softball fields
- Athletic equipment

Technology Upgrades Districtwide

VOTE ON OR BEFORE MAY 7, 2024

FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS@HVS.ORG

PAID FOR BY HURON VALLEY SCHOOLS - 2390 S. MILFORD RD., HIGHLAND, MI 48357

SPRING 2024 CLASSES

CLAY CLUB

KURTZ EMPOWER HOURS



HANDS ON SCIENCE




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\$18



DREAMWORKS
KUNG FU PANDA 4

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FREEDOM TO MOVE AROUND**

SENSORY SENSITIVE SCREENING

APRIL 13TH @ 11AM

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Huron Valley Schools Elementary Specials Calendar 2023-2024 School Year (w/ NO SCHOOL Feb. 27th)

Early Release Schedule

September 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						2
3		A	B	C	D	9
10	A	B	C	D	A	16
17	B	C	D	A	B	23
24	C	D	A	B	C	30

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				A	B	3
4	C	D	A	B	C	10
11	D	A	B	C	D	17
18			A	B	C	24
25	D		A	B		

October 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	D	A	B	C	D	7
8	A	B	C	D	A	14
15	B	C	D	A	B	21
22	C	D	A	B	C	28
29	D	A				

March 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					C	2
3	D	A	B	C	D	9
10	A	B	C	D	A	16
17	B	C	D	A	B	23
24						30
31						

November 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			B	C	D	4
5	A		B	C	D	11
12	A	B	C	D	A	18
19	B	C				25
26	D	A	B	C		

April 2024							
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	
			C	D	A	B	6
7	C	D	A	B	C	13	
14	D	A	B	C	D	20	
21	A	B	C	D	A	27	
28	B	C					

December 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					D	2
3	A	B	C	D	A	9
10	B	C	D	A	B	16
17	C	D	A	B	C	23
24						30
31						

May 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			D	A	B	4
5	C		D	A	B	11
12	C	D	A	B	C	18
19	D	A	B	C	D	25
26		A	B	C	D	

January 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						6
7	D	A	B	C	D	13
14		A	B	C	D	20
21	A	B	C	D	A	27
28	B	C	D			

June 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	A	B	C	D	A	8
9	B	C	D			15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

*1/3: Half Day "Green" morning specials
 *1/19: Half Day "Green" afternoon specials

*4/5: Half Day "Yellow" morning specials
 *6/12: Half Day "Green" afternoon specials