

MISSION CONTROL

NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Elementary Edition!



Investing in Our Youngest Rockets

Enhancing Learning through Literacy

Last school year, a team of teachers from both elementary school buildings met to discuss adopting a new literacy curriculum. Our past curriculum had some gaps and as a team we decided we would focus on correcting this.

This year we adopted the Benchmark Advance literacy curriculum in grades K-5. Benchmark Advance is a comprehensive literacy program focused on covering all the components of a well-balanced literacy curriculum. The program covers a comprehension mini-lesson, shared reading, phonological awareness (manipulating sounds in words), phonics, high-frequency words, vocabulary,

grammar, writing in response to a text, and the writing process.

Our team has seen positive improvement in our winter reading scores already, as a direct result of using this new curriculum! Based off the teachers that were here last year, we are seeing that 62.5% of the teacher's made growth with an average of 17% growth! That is amazing advancements for our students in our reading. New curriculum takes three years to see the full advantages of the program, and we are already seeing positive impact. Our teachers and staff look forward to seeing continued growth in the next few years!



A Message from the Superintendent

PERSONAL BEST, Every Day, No Exceptions, No Excuses!

The New Haven Community Schools goal is to help students reach their PERSONAL BEST, Every Day, No Exceptions, No Excuses! The foundation to make this goal a reality is started immediately with our Little Rockets program and continues through graduation.

Many people believe that early childhood education is only about learning basic skills, but it's so much more than that! At New Haven Community Schools, we understand that the first few years of a child's education is when learning critical social and emotional skills take place. In addition, this is the time a partnership is formed between the child, their parents, and the teacher. When proper communication and partnerships are formed in the early years of a student's educational journey, it lays the groundwork for continued success through the student's entire educational career.

New Haven Community Schools prides itself in providing quality preschool and elementary school curriculum. The curriculum helps students reach critical milestones in education and helps them develop the emotional intelligence needed to feel safe and secure in their surroundings. Children are known in our community by their first name. We, as leaders

and teachers, are serious about our students being seen, heard, and known. New Haven Schools offers a competitive 21st century education while keeping a small town feel for our families and community.

In the last two years, New Haven Community Schools has made leaps forward in our educational curriculum. We are one-to-one with technology, meaning all students have access to computers and

can take home for homework and added instruction. NHCS has also purchased new math and English Language Arts (ELA) programs for our elementary students. We have incorporated a new specials class, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) has offered our students an up-to-date opportunity to experience new educational and career exploration to make them a success now and in the future. Our staff work diligently to assure each child masters the necessary skills they need to be successful.

It is an honor to work with the wonderful families, staff and

community of New Haven, and to witness our students' growth in just the few years that I have had the pleasure of serving the district.

With **ROCKET PRIDE**,

Cheryl Puzdrakiewicz
Superintendent

New Haven Community Schools



MISSION
CONTROL





2022-2023: A Year of Teamwork and Collaboration

The 2022-23 academic school year has seen progress for Endeavour and New Haven Elementary towards the direction of normalcy and pre-pandemic learning culture.

The school year started with parents and guardians being able to visit schools and classrooms again to attend the milestone moments in their child's life. Our team is thrilled to see in-person the joy on parents and guardians faces as much as the faces of our young scholars.

As a district, returning to face-to-face learning also brought the reimplementing of collaborative learning centers. In New Haven, we know that collaborative learning increases your child's social and academic growth, but most importantly, it empowers the students to take ownership of their education. As administrators and teachers, we can

create teams based on their learning levels, social comfort, and growth goals that students work with their teachers to develop.

As parents and community stakeholders, you may hear our students discuss centers at home or in the community and wonder what the benefit of learning centers is. Research has proven that incorporating learning centers supports higher-level thinking, increased oral communication, self-regulation in group environments, and the development of leadership skills. Therefore, when your child talks about Math, ELA centers, or group projects, know that staff and students are investing time to work together and are simultaneously developing collaborative leaders.

It Takes a Village!



CONTROL



New Haven Elementary STEM

New Haven Elementary is enjoying the new STEM class that was added to our specials rotation this year. A STEM class is now included in the rotation of art, PE, music, and technology. We are lucky to have Aryana Conwell leading the implementation and curriculum design for our elementary new addition. Our STEM program focuses on the 4 C's - Critical thinking, Communication, Collaboration and Creativity. All grades have been introduced to the design process and the scientific method.



The lower elementary classes focus on expressing their creativity and enhancing their collaboration skills. So far this year we have covered topics such as climate change, famous landmarks, weather, bridge building, and we are currently working on outer space.

Upper elementary classes use their science notebooks most of the time they are in STEM. These notebooks focus more on the critical thinking aspect of STEM. We have covered topics such as observation and inference, graphing data, electricity and circuits, and 5th grade is currently doing a snowflake symmetry experiment.



MISSION
CONTROL





Lego Club is in High Demand

Did you know that building and creating with Legos teaches a plethora of emerging skills. It is an opportunity for children of all ages to “play” and learn at the same time. Children can learn skills like



problem solving, spatial skills (which link directly to math concepts) and understanding semi complex tasks. Utilizing 3D objects helps young, growing minds learn to plan and anticipate issues that could arise.

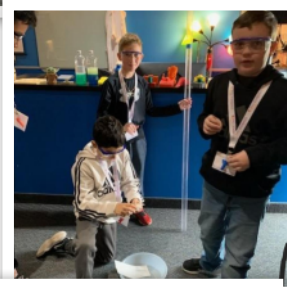
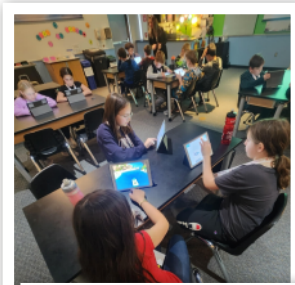
This year the highly anticipated Lego Club is even more popular! It is held before school, and due to an overwhelming number of signups, is broken into sessions. Thanks to Ms. Perry and Ms. B. Lego Club is allowing students to unleash their creativity in new and unexpected ways! Each week, students focused on a new creation.

One week they built all kinds of animals & creatures. Another week they drew task cards to discover what to build. This is just one of the many ways we provide fun opportunities for children kindergarten to 5th grade to create and learn simultaneously.



Visit to STARBASE

Every fall, our fifth grade classes take a field trip. Once a week, for five weeks, our students have the incredible opportunity to visit STARBASE academy. While here, students get hands-on experience with Newton's laws, computer-aided 3D design, space exploration, and so much more! Some of the activities presented in this year's trip explored elements and compounds with "dinosaur toothpaste," coding with angles, designing a spacesuit to accommodate specific intergalactic travels, and exploring electricity by building a light-up greeting card. These are just a few activities that the students in both Mr. Cieplak's & Ms. Perry's 5th grade classes got to explore while visiting STARBASE. By providing a space and resources for hands-on learning, STARBASE engages these students with the worlds of science, math, engineering, and technology, all while creating lasting memories with their friends.



MISSION
CONTROL

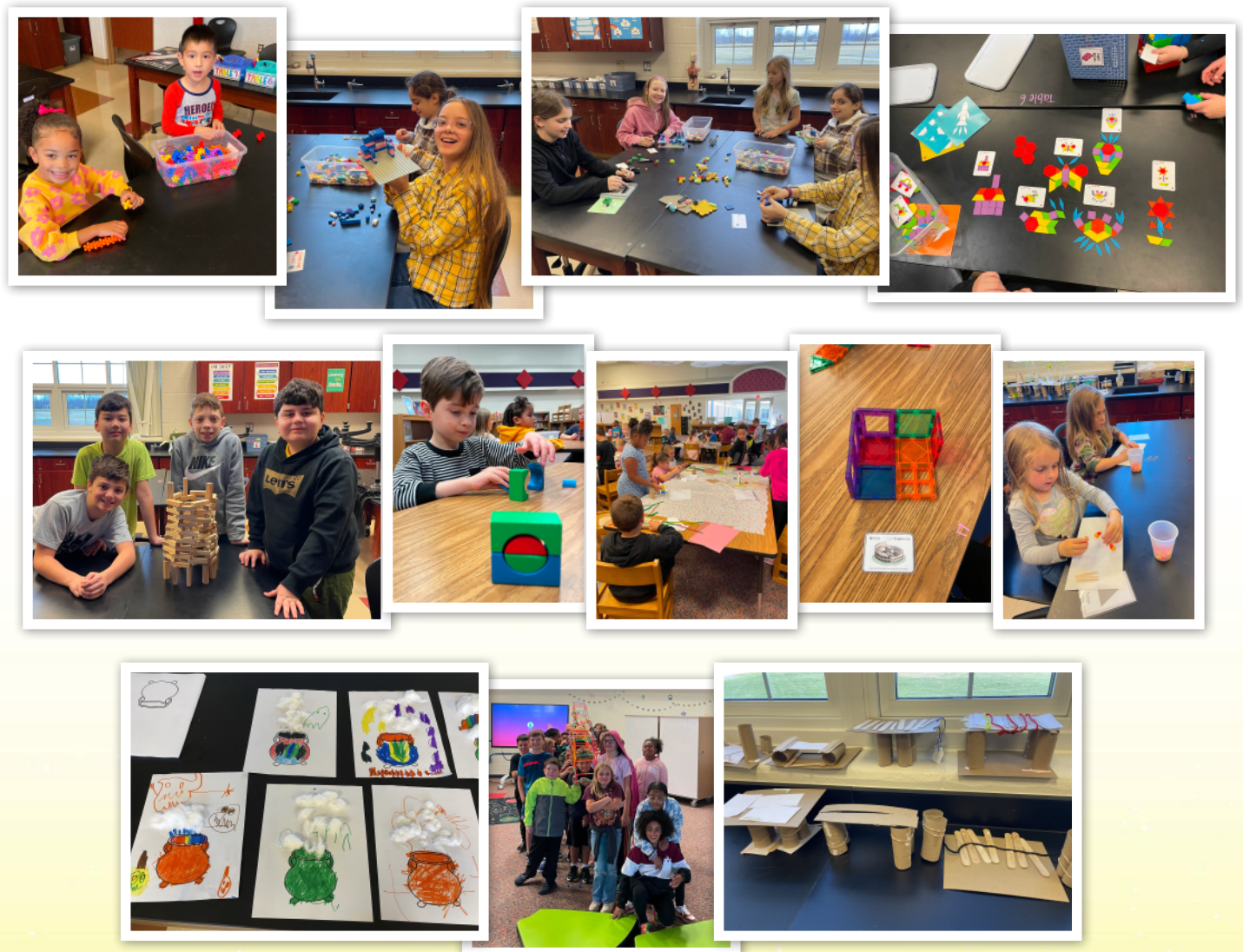


STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Endeavour elementary students are already dipping their toes into the exciting world of STEM. Once a week all students from kindergarten to 5th grade get to take a special STEM class. When children are introduced to the world of STEM during their education journey, it introduces exploration in career opportunities for their future. Often STEM classes are also more active and collaborative. The best time to start introducing STEM is at the elementary level, linking the four pillars of science, technology, engineering, and math early in a student's learning

career. Providing STEM classes earlier, allows for more opportunities for career options after high school. It teaches key concepts like the scientific method, and gives a hands-on approach of building and engineering, using a wide array of tools and materials.

One approach to STEM class is our robotics class. From the planning to the building the actual robot, students are learning key life and career tasks that will be used throughout their entire lives.



MISSION
CONTROL





Preschool News

“Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me”, that is a quote from Mr. Rogers. It is exactly how I feel about the fabulous staff and families at the Pre-K. They have been working together to provide some great experiences for the preschoolers. In October, the halls were filled with volunteers decorating and handing out treats to all the Trick or Treaters! Santaland was a fun experience for the little shoppers to buy Christmas presents for their family and friends. Families were invited to Christmas shows, caroling and classroom parties to wrap up December. February brought a Family Science Night! The night began with a show and everyone had the opportunity to visit the many hands-on stations. Field trips, being a Mystery Reader, and partaking in end of the year celebrations are just a few more opportunities for families to be involved with their child’s education.

The students in our preschool programs experience some great educational activities during class time too! A typical day includes, large group time, small group work, choice time, gross motor time and snack!

Little Rockets Preschool will be hosting an information night on Thursday, March 2 from 6:00-7:00 pm. Families will have the opportunity to visit the classrooms, talk with the teachers and learn about our programs. Registration Packets for the 3s, 4s and Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) will be available that night as well. For more information call (586)749-8063 or visit the Early Childhood Program tab at newhaven.misd.net.



Preschool Trick or Treat Night!



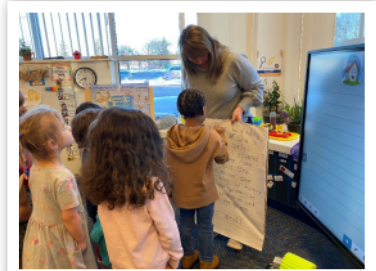
Fire Safety Presentation



GSRP Christmas Play



Family Science Night



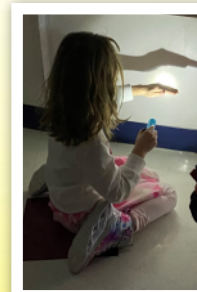
Planning out the day during the large group Morning Meeting.



3s and 4s having fun in the gym during Gross Motor time!



Sensory table and dramatic play fun during Choice Time!



Discovering shadows during small group time.

MISSION
CONTROL





New Haven Community Schools

30375 Clark Street
P.O. Box 482000
New Haven, MI 48048
Phone: 586-749-5123

RocketPride.org

Visit our website or scan the QR code for enrollment information or to register for school of choice today!



Become part of our **#RocketFamily**

**Now accepting
School of Choice
Applications!**



Board of Education

New Haven Community Schools
30375 Clark Street, P.O. Box 482000
New Haven, MI 48048
Phone: 586-749-5123
Fax: 586-749-6307

Tanya France
President

Mark Goralczyk
Vice President

Regina Patton
Secretary

Michael Packer
Treasurer

Val Pod
Trustee

Samantha Sosnovske
Trustee

Joseph Vigneau
Trustee

Cheryl Puzdrakiewicz
Superintendent

Regular meetings of the Board of Education are on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) in the board room of the Administration Building, 30375 Clark Street, New Haven. All Board of Education meetings are open to the public. If a special or non-regular School Board meeting is called, the posting of that meeting will be located on the display board in the entrance of the Administration Building and on the district website at: <http://www.newhaven.misd.net> > Board of Education.