



Superior Central Newsletter

Home of the Cougars

December 2023

Volume 28, Issue 2

www.superiorcentralschools.org



FROM THE OFFICE OF MR. BILL VALIMA

Superintendent/Principal 6-12

It's crazy that it was just "back to school" time and now here we are in December. It's been a great start to the school year. Every year around this time I like to stress the importance of attendance.

As we all know, one of the most important parts of a student's education is being here. Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in Kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as students grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduate.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with schoolwork, dealing with a bully, or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child keep a job or graduate from college.

Attending school regularly helps students feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in early elementary so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and work.

We understand that illnesses occur, and family vacations cannot always be planned around school breaks. However, it is important to realize the impact that absences may have on your student. You can find our middle/high school attendance policy online in our student handbook.

If you haven't yet, follow us on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/superiorcentralschools> where we post a lot of great things that happen at Superior Central.

I hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season. Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to work with your children. As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to call me @ 439-5588 or email me @ bvalima@superiorcentralschools.org or better yet, stop in for a visit. Have a great school year!

Sincerely,
Bill Valima
Superintendent/6-12 Principal

School Closing Announcements

WLUC TV 6

Superior Central app

www.superiorcentralschools.org





Thank you to all of the families that attended our elementary STEAM night at the end of October. Over 200 people came out to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics through a variety of family oriented activities.

A special thank you to Ms. Stebelton and her 5th grade for designing and leading the robotics stations.

Join us for our musical holiday programs

Thursday, December 7—Elementary Winter Program—6:30 pm in the big gym

Thursday, December 14—MS/HS Winter Program 7 pm in the big gym

The Scholastic Book fair will be visiting Superior Central in the first weeks of December.

Students will have a chance to preview and shop during the school day.

The book fair will be open after both the elementary holiday program and middle school/high school band concert.



Saykly's orders will be available by December 15th

Are you interested in joining the Superior Central Staff? Check out our job opportunities at:

<https://www.superiorcentralschools.org/page/employment-opportunities>

Current open positions include: GSRP Classroom Aide, Kindergarten Teacher, 5th Grade Teacher, Bus Driver and Substitute Teacher



SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS HONOR ROLL

2023-2024 First Quarter

Congratulations to the following students for being named to the Honor Roll for the first marking period.

An * denotes all A's

UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Thompson's 3rd Grade: Stella Johnson, Isaac Kapp*, Mickey Knaus, Damien McCullough, Ella McQuade, Sawyer Mills, Maizee Murdock, Vince Pasanen, Dallas, Porter, Rolland Rondeau, Alessandra Rucinski, Charlee Tyner, Stormy Tyner

Mrs. Tyner/Hill's 4th Grade: Mason Bahrman, Clara Brown, Theresa Butler, Parker Hughes, Elizabeth Lindgren, Lydia Mallory, Mercer Pasanen, Kruz Saile, Laney Slifka, Kennedy Stuer, Kinlee Tyner*, Ezra Valima

Ms. Stebelton's 5th Grade: Wade Aho, Riley Gohl, Mason Heyrman, Elias Hughes, Clay Johnson, Ainsley Karvinen, Grace King, Anthony Knaus, Aundraya Kulik, Henry Mallory, Evelyn McGlone, Brandon Owens, Blake Pederson, Josyia Perron, Lane Porter*, Ellie Slifka*

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

6th grade: Emma Beaupied, Joy Brown, Edye Burdett*, Jaxon Klyk, William Kolpack, Larissa Lindgren, Harrison McDougall, Claire McGee, Cole Raspor, Kate Rondeau, Oliver Rondeau, Caleb Simon

7th grade: Harlow Fairbanks, Harper Frusti, Aubrianna Kroupa, Jerry Kulik, Charli Nordness, Elyja Perron, Violet Porter, Gisela Schultz

8th grade: Marlene Johnson, Meredith Kempker, Alina Kolpack, Lillian Lindgren, Conor McDonnald, Kendra Pederson, Natalia Salmi, Lilly Simon*, Gavin Stebelton, Emma Stoliecki, Stevie Suhs, Aiyana Taskey*

9th grade: Connor Blomgren, Anthony Brown, Andrew Charlebois, Tristyn Davison, Brandon Gasper, Teagan Hall, Rory Hancock*, Josie Knaus, Caleb McGee, Zander Mullins, Kianna Perron*, Jaimes Rintamaki, Evan Simon, William Spranger*, Hannah Theodore, Elijah Valima, Gavin Vining

10th grade: Rowan Allender*, Joseph Augustyn, Jamie Brown, Gwenyth Charlebois, Kalli Foro, Isaac Gleason, Clay Horne, Jenna Hoy, Jack Kasten, Christopher Kulik, Morgan Martin, Kiera McDonnald, John McDougall, Victor Nelson, Janessa Perron, Gracie Trader

11th grade: Drew Begovac, Ruth Johnson, Kate McGee, Stephanie Nordness, Nikolas Pasco, Calla Porter, Abbagale Stoliecki, Derick Tyner

12th grade: Craig Adams*, Jaimme Driver, Mia Gorman, Alice Hancock*, Jason Kanerva, Liam McDougall, Travis Mills, Elijah Penney, Clara Rondeau, Trent Rutter, Breanna Swajanen*, Lily Swetich, Hannah Veverka



Exciting Things are Happening for Superior Central Bands

As I read and hear about all of the exciting things happening at Superior Central Schools, I hope you are filled with the excitement that comes with being a part of our incredible community! This past year has been buzzing with activity, and I have some fantastic updates to share with you!

I am thrilled to announce that the Superior Central Band has been awarded two grants. The Alger Regional Community Foundation approved our grant application for the purchase of new music. I have been able to update our solo and ensemble library and purchase a few new concert pieces. The second grant we received came from the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and has provided funding for the purchase of new and quality used instruments.

In addition to these amazing grants, the band has experienced some incredible community generosity! Last year, an anonymous community member donated money to purchase a much-needed new bass drum and the Kulik family purchased a few new percussion stands for our program. The Reindeer Dash also donated funds to the band program in memory of Neo Wilson. Those funds were put toward the purchase of a vibraphone that was featured in our 2023 spring concert piece, Shelter of My Soul. A piece that was commissioned by the Superior Central Band in memory of Neo.

I am so grateful for the number of people in our community who are willing to invest in our students!

This year, we are already kicking things off with a bang!

- The high school band performed a glow concert for the elementary school on Halloween!
- Nikolas Pasco traveled and performed in New York and Boston with the Lions Club Band. He also performed with the honors band at U of M Flint and will be participating in an honors concert on December 2nd at NMU!
- Over 35 students have signed up to compete at Solo and Ensemble on February 3rd!
- A student-led Christmas ensemble will be performing at Chatham Small Town Christmas after the parade!
- Aiyana Taskey was accepted into the MSBOA All-State Band and will be performing in Grand Rapids on January 27th!



As we continue to navigate this exciting musical season, I would encourage you to get involved and stay connected! Your support is instrumental in shaping the experiences of our students and ensuring the continued success of the Superior Central Bands!

Thank you for all you do!
Mrs. Frederick



Fruit Order Pick up

Your fruit orders should be available for pick up the end of the school day
Wednesday, December 13

Upcoming Events

- ◇ Now - December 1st - Fruit Sale
- ◇ December 1st-2nd - Honors Band
- ◇ Thursday, December 7th at 6:30pm- Holiday Sing (K-5)
- ◇ Wednesday, December 13th - Fruit Delivery
- ◇ Thursday, December 14th at 7pm - MS/HS Concert
- ◇ Saturday, February 3rd - 7-12 Solo and Ensemble
- ◇ March 5th-7th - District Band Festival
- ◇ Tuesday, March 12th at 7pm - Festival Concert
- ◇ Thursday, May 2nd at 1:30pm- Spring Sing (K-4)
- ◇ Thursday, May 16th at 7pm - 5th/MS/HS Concert
- ◇ Friday, May 24th at 7pm - Graduation
- ◇ Monday, May 27th at 10:00am - Memorial Day Performance



Please:

Report any changes of your: Mailing, physical address or phone numbers.

E-mail changes to :

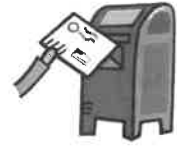
dkanerva@superiorcentralschools.org For MS/HS

bwells@superiorcentralschools.org For Elementary

Or

Call : High School 439-5532 x 242

Elementary 439-5531 x 201



Thank you.

Searching for information ?

Try these sources for info:

- Website: www.superiorcentralschools.org
- PowerSchool– parent sign in for student grades
- Quarterly newsletter– published after every quarter & posted on the website
- Classroom newsletter– Elementary teachers send them home weekly
- Lunch balances– www.sendmoneytoschool.com
- Question or concern– go to the source– the office, the teacher, the principal available by e-mail or appointment

A Change of Pace and Studies

With this year's Natural Resources and Watercraft Design class about half the size of the three previous years, a more relaxed rate of boat building can take place as well as taking more time to devote to our fall environmental studies. As we do every year, the Quarry Pond's water quality parameters of nitrates, phosphates, pH, alkalinity, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and turbidity were measured. A survey of the benthic macroinvertebrates present validated our data and as with every year past, the pond is in great condition. We also took the time to conduct the same tests on the East Branch of the Slapneck. The only significant difference was the elevated dissolved oxygen which was expected given the flowing nature of a small stream. The benthic macroinvertebrate collection produced some of the same organisms as the Quarry Pond, but with the addition of caddisfly, mayfly and stonefly larvae. Exactly what one would expect to see in a pristine northern stream.

Over the years, many Superior Central students have helped diversify the school's hardwood forest by planting seedlings of many different species. Most of these trees were planted in such a way as to create or enhance wildlife corridors. All creatures need a food source and cover for nesting, shelter, and safe travel. This year's Natural Resource students spent a few days evaluating the effectiveness of the corridors we have created as well as the corridors already in place such as conifer shelter belts, wetlands and stone rows. The presence of tracks, nests, beds, rubs, scat and actual sightings of various organisms provided the objective proof that these corridors add to the diversity and overall health of SC's forests.



Mr. Bliss



Harvesting the Fruits of Planning and Labor

The beginning of the school year was marked by a rich harvest thanks to the planning and labor of last year's Agriculture and Forestry students and LIFT-UP (Locally Integrated Food Teams of the Upper Peninsula) grant. Two parts of the students' four part plan were responsible for this increase in food production. One part of the plan was to expand Superior Central's growing potential by starting a summer garden program that involved creating a 30' by 48' garden outside of the Hoop House for growing root vegetables. This garden would be tilled with a new rototiller and tended throughout the summer by a paid student employee. Between this garden and planting a few things early in the hoop house we sent the following amounts to the school's cafeteria.

Turnips- 190 lb. Radish 13 lb. Carrot 33 lb. Lettuce 42 lb.

Beans 7 lbs. Cukes 8 lb. Squash 30 lb. Peppers 5 lb.

The second part of the student's plan implemented was a partnership formed with Full Plate Farm of Dukes. Last spring the Ag/F class planted three 100' beds of potatoes, workers at the farm tended them during the summer, then in the second week of this school year we spent a few hours digging and crating. We had planned and hoped for enough potatoes to supply SC's cafeteria with a full year's supply (350 - 400 lbs.). After weighing each crate we were very excited to see our final yield at 540 lbs.

A component of the LIFT-UP philosophy is sustainability of not just the resources, but also of the projects created by our students. This year's harvest should continue to be repeatable year after year giving SC students locally grown, nutritious food they can be proud to produce.

Mr. Bliss



V School Volunteers: *Who are they, what do they do and how do I become one?*

A school volunteer is an important part of the school environment. They pick up the gaps not covered by other staff, spark new ideas, do fundraising, chaperon, tutor, coach.....

The government defines a school volunteer as: a parent, community member or other adult who assist at a school site or program on a regular or semi-regular basis. Also included in this definition are those who help on a one-time basis transporting or working with children without the direct oversight of District staff. Parents who observe or visit their child at school on a regular basis and stay more than 15 minutes each time are considered volunteers.

A volunteer criminal record check and history affidavit are required for all volunteers.

All volunteers must complete a background check. A copy of your driver's license should accompany the application. It is now required by the state, doesn't take very long, is of no cost to the volunteer, confidential and is a precautionary measure for the safety of our children. Forms and information may be picked up at the HS or Elementary office.

Questions or concerns may be addressed to Bill Valima 439-5532 ext. 244



Scrip-To-Go Order Form

Family

Order Date

Product	Rebate	Qty	Ext Price
Amazon.com \$25	1.70%		
Amazon.com \$50	1.70%		
Apple Store/Apple.com \$15	5.00%		
Apple Store/Apple.com \$25	5.00%		
Applebee's® \$25	8.00%		
Bath & Body Works \$10	12.00%		
Biggy \$25	7.00%		
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10	8.00%		
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25	8.00%		
Circle K \$100	4.00%		
Circle K \$25	4.00%		
Cold Stone Creamery \$10	11.00%		
Dairy Queen \$10	6.50%		
Darden \$25	8.00%		
Disney \$25	3.00%		
Dunham's Sports \$25	8.00%		
Econo Foods	3.00%		
Econo Foods \$100	3.00%		
Gordon Food Service Store \$25	4.00%		
Gordon Food Service Store \$100	4.00%		
Happy Moments \$25	8.00%		
Happy Moments \$25	8.00%		
Holiday Stationstores \$25	4.00%		
IHOP \$25	8.00%		
Jimmy Johns	10.00%		
Jo Ann Fabrics \$25	6.00%		
Kohl's \$100	7.00%		
Kohl's \$25	7.00%		
Kwik Trip \$25	4.00%		
Little Caesars \$20	8.00%		
Lowe's \$25	4.00%		
Lowe's \$100	4.00%		
Marquette Food Co-Op	10.00%		
Marquette Food Co-Op \$100	10.00%		
Maurices \$20	7.00%		
McDonald's \$10	2.00%		
Meijer \$25	3.00%		
Meijer \$50	3.00%		
Meijer \$100	3.00%		
Menards \$25	3.00%		
Menards \$100	3.00%		
Michaels \$25	4.00%		
Michaels \$25	6.00%		
Panera Bread \$10	8.00%		
Panera Bread \$25	8.00%		
Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10	8.00%		
Payless Shoes \$20	13.00%		

Product	Rebate	Qty	Ext Price
Red Lobster \$25	8.00%		
Rock Bottom/Old Chicago \$25	6.00%		
Sally Beauty Supply \$25	12.00%		
Speedway \$25	4.00%		
Starbucks \$10	4.50%		
Starbucks \$25	4.50%		
SUBWAY Gift Card \$10	4.50%		
Taco Bell \$10	5.00%		
Target GiftCard \$25	2.50%		
Target GiftCard \$100	2.50%		
Target GiftCard \$50	2.50%		
Texas Roadhouse \$25	8.00%		
Texas Roadhouse \$25	8.00%		
TJ Maxx/ Marshalls/ HomeGoods/ Sierra \$100	7.00%		
TJ Maxx/ Marshalls/ HomeGoods/ Sierra \$25	7.00%		
Ulta Beauty \$25	7.00%		
Visa® \$100 Gift Card	1.25%		
Walgreens \$25	5.00%		
Walmart/Sam's Club \$25	2.50%		
Walmart/Sam's Club \$100	2.50%		
Walmart/Sam's Club \$250	2.50%		
Walmart/Sam's Club \$50	2.50%		
Wendy's \$25	6.00%		

These are the gift cards we have in stock.

Please call Teri Lintula in the business office if you would like to pick-up/order gift cards.
906-439-5531 ext:223

Scrip = Gift Card Shopping to Benefit Superior Central Schools and Students

We are excited to continue the Scrip program at Superior Central and hope more families will participate.

You have the ability to "roll over" your scrip account from year to year. This will especially be nice for families with younger children.



Girls Basketball Varsity/JV



Dec.	6	@ Munising	TBA
	8	@ Rapid River	6:00 pm
	12	@ Carney-Nadeau	6:00 pm
Jan.	2	@ Forest Park	6:00 pm
	5	vs. Rapid River	6:00 pm
	9	@ Big Bay De Noc (No JV)	6:00 pm
	12	vs. North Central	6:00 pm
	22	vs. Mid Peninsula	6:00 pm
	25	@ North Central	6:00 pm
	29	vs. N. Dickinson	6:00 pm
Feb.	1	vs. Big Bay De Noc(No JV)	6:00 pm
	5	@ Mid Peninsula	6:00 pm
	8	@ Bark River-Harris	6:00 pm
	12	vs. Nah Tah Whsh(No JV)	6:00 pm
	15	vs. Munising	6:00 pm
	19	vs. Carney-Nadeau	6:00 pm
	20	@ Norway	6:00 pm
	22	vs. Stephenson	6:00 pm
	27	@ Stephenson	6:00 pm

Varsity Coach: Skip Rutter

JV Coach: Brooke LaPlant

All times listed are Eastern time.
Schedule is subject to change
Check the website for updates

Boys Basketball Varsity/JV



Dec.	1	vs. Carney-Nadeau	6:00 pm
(No JV)	5	vs. Republic-Michigamme	6:00 pm
	7	@ Mid Peninsula	6:00 pm
	11	vs. North Central	6:00 pm
	13	@ Munising	6:00 pm
	19	vs. Newberry	6:00 pm
	28	@ Carney-Nadeau tournament	5:30 pm
	29	@ Carney-Nadeau (No JV)	2:45pm
Jan.	3	@ Republic Michigamme (No JV)	6:00pm
	9	@ Big Bay De Noc (No JV)	7:30pm
	11	@ N. Dickinson	6:00 PM
	19	vs. Munising Baptist (No JV)	6:00pm
	23	@ Carney-Nadeau	6:00pm
	26	vs. Rapid River	6:00 pm
	30	vs. Mid Peninsula	6:00pm
Feb.	1	vs. Big Bay De Noc (No JV)	7:30pm
	6	@ Rapid River	6:00pm
	9	vs. Forest Park	6:00pm
	12	Na Tah Wahsh (No JV)	7:30pm
	23	@ Baraga	7:15pm

Varsity:

Head Coach: Adam Ely

Assistant Coach: Joe Heinonen

JV Coach: Alec Fruin

VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY ENDS SEASON ON A HIGH NOTE

By: Coach Holly McDonnald

The Varsity Boys Cross Country team ended a stellar season with not only a conference win, but also earning 2nd place honors in Division 3 U.P. Finals. The incredibly young team, consisting of one freshmen and eight sophomores, ran away with U.P. honors as Will Spranger earned All-State, with Cody Moore and Cole Ozoga taking All-UP awards. The entire boys' team raced to personal best records during the final meet, and earned a spot as one of the most competitive Division 3 teams in the U.P.

The girls were led this year by Sophomore Kiera McDonnald, and newcomer freshmen, Amelia Tissue. Though the girls were not able to have a full team, the prospects for a full team in future years is high with several incoming freshmen joining their ranks next season.

This season also brought improved times and full teams for Middle School Cross Country boys and girls, including the return of Elementary Running Club for 2nd-5th grades. These elementary athletes were invited to two home invitationals on Superior Central's own course in September and a Fall Scramble fun run in October. The High School and Middle School teams created lasting memories as they helped coach and train the young runners during their own practices in preparation for the home meets.

The coaches wish to thank the amazing runners, awesome parents, and community for making this year so incredibly successful! The season kicks off next summer with Summer Running Club and XC Summer Camp on Grand Island in 2024. If interested, please have your high school athlete reach out to Coach McDonnald or Coach Spranger at school. Go Cougars!!





SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR of EVENTS 2023-2024



December	7	Elementary Holiday Program 6:30
	8	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	14	MS/HS Holiday Program 7:00
	21	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	22	No school – Holiday break begins
January	3	School Resumes
	12	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served. Teacher Professional Development
	18-19	1:30 dismissal – MS/HS Exams
	19	End of 2 nd marking period and 1 st semester
February	9-12	No School
	23	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served. Teacher Professional Development
March	8	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served. Teacher Professional Development
	12	Festival Concert 7:00 pm
	22	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	22	End of 3 rd marking period
	25-April 1	No School - Spring Break
April	2	School Resumes
	12	11:48 dismissal—no lunch served
	26	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
May	2	Elementary Spring Sing 1:30
	10	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	16	5th/MS/HS Band Concert 7:00 pm
	24	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	24	Graduation 7:00 PM
	27	No School – Memorial Day
June	4-5	1:30 dismissal – MS/HS Exams
	5	Last day of School (provided we do not exceed 6 snow days)
	6	All day Teacher Professional Development



Doors open at 7:55 School Day begins at 8:15 A.M. and ends at 3:11 P.M.

Board of Education

Please take notice that upcoming meetings of the Board of Education of the Superior Central School District in Eben Junction, Michigan are scheduled as follows:

<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Monday, December 18, 2023	Monday, January 15, 2024	February TBD
	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM

Regular meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month. Work sessions as needed. All meetings are 7:00 PM

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in these meetings.

Request must be received at least five days in advance of the meeting.

