

MOHAWK DISTRICT NEWS

August 2023

BACK TO SCHOOL



How often do you look at what's next almost immediately upon completing a task? Well, that is what happens here at school during the summer. Graduation seems so far away when we start school in the fall. Still, without fail, it is here before you know it. Likewise, on the walk back inside after waving goodbye to all the students as the busses pull out on the last day of school, someone will say, "Well, in less than three months we get to do this all over again." Not only are they right, but we are quickly approaching that time of year again.

On our end, summer is filled with planning for the students to return. Without exaggeration, that starts in short order; literally days after the kids are gone. No matter how many times we do it, there's always a lot to be done, and seemingly with no time to spare. I hope on your end, summer was filled with sunshine and a trip to the lake, campfires, and s'mores. Spending time with family and friends and making memories over the summer fills the hallways on the first few days of school with all kinds of excited chatter when students see each other for the first time. You will just have to trust me when I say it is one of the best parts of working at the school.

Yes, this summer has been very busy, maybe busier than usual. If you have not noticed the construction is still ongoing. So, when staff, students, and families return to school this fall we need you to be aware of a couple of things. First, in order to enter the Middle/High school you will need to continue to use the north entrance near the high school library. Just like last spring. Also, please do not park right out in front of the west entrance. Be sure to put extra space between yourselves and the construction site, workers, and their equipment. Next, we understand interest and curiosity in the construction, be sure to remind your children to keep a safe distance from the fences that have been erected around the various construction sites.

We look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Superintendent Roger Cole

Board of Education

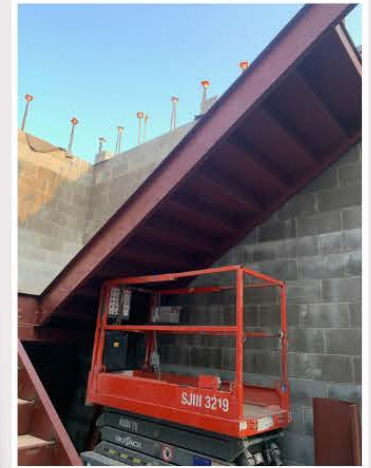
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Bond Update



The past couple of summers have been busier than usual around the schools. This summer is no different, maybe more so. Thanks to community support the district passed a millage in 2020. Those funds are being used to both upgrade our existing buildings as well as add additional space, and create a secure entrance to the middle/high school. Overall the millage will generate 21 million dollars. Not all that money is collected at one time. Rather there are five series spread over a number of years. The funds from series 1, which took two years to complete, was spent on upgrades to the elementary and reworking parking lots and roadways along with adding additional parking.



This past spring Series II got underway. This includes additions to both the elementary and the middle/high school. The elementary will receive two new classrooms. The middle and high school will each receive two classrooms and four bathrooms up and downstairs.

The final part of Series II will include a secure entrance to the high school/middle school building, and offices to accommodate the redesign of the current offices. As the district has expanded opportunities and services to students more space is needed. In the past few years, the district has added social workers, an academic success coach, an instructional technology coach, and a middle school principal. We are hoping to bring back the school nurse as well for the fall. All these folks require spaces to work and meet with students.

I am very pleased to say the project is moving along on schedule. The new front entrance and offices should be ready to open when we return from Thanksgiving break. The classroom and bathroom additions should be ready to use when we all return from Christmas break. An open house for the community is in order, but we've not set a date for that at this time.

By Roger Cole



FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE GO TO OUR WEBSITE AND CLICK ON THE NEWSLETTER RESPONSE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE!



We have an App!

We are proud to announce the **Morley Stanwood Mohawks** App. Download the app to stay up to date on the happenings in the district!



Transportation Update



Due to the changing of school start times, see page 6, busses will be picking up ten (10) minutes later than last year unless you have been directly notified by the Transportation Office. If you have any questions, please call the Transportation Office at (231) 856-4676

Free & Reduced Food Applications

These applications are incredibly important to the district even though we are a 100% free district. The applications determine the district's federal and state grant funding. Please support the district by submitting your household applications!

Annual Notices

FERPA Requirements: Morley Stanwood Community Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information defined as student's name, grade level, address, date of birth, honors and awards, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, and weight and height of athletic team members. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The District may disclose "directory" information without prior written consent unless the building principal is notified to the contrary in writing. Each building administrator maintains a list of student names wherein disclosure has been refused. These lists are reviewed yearly. Federal and Michigan law requires Morley Stanwood Community Schools to provide military recruiters, upon request, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of high school students. This information can only be used to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the U.S. Armed Forces or service academies. A parent/guardian or 18-year-old student may exercise the option to withhold consent for the release of this information to military recruiters by submitting a signed written request to that effect to the high school principal.

A complete list of Annual Notices can be found on the school's website, www.morleystanwood.org.



OPEN ENROLLMENT SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

School of Choice Applications for the 2023-2024 school year are now being accepted. Any student who resides within the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District may apply for acceptance to his/her school of choice. Any student who resides in an ISD that is adjacent (a contiguous district in another ISD) to a MOISD school district may apply for Section 105c for acceptance. Applications can be obtained at the school the student wishes to attend. An application form must be completed for each student wishing to participate in the Schools of Choice program. The enrollment period for considering applications for the first semester is through the Friday of the first week of school (August 25th, 2023).



HEALTH CONCERN CELL PHONE USE



Some summer reading has led me to write this letter. Casual observation of kids in the hallway during the school year prompted the reading. Doing so led me to some particularly interesting information about cell phones as it relates to children's mental health that I thought I would share with all of you. One reason for the particular concern amongst developing young adults is just that; the brains of young adults are still developing. Therefore, the impact of significant phone use been researched and documented.

It was not difficult to find numerous articles that discuss the negative impact cell phones and social media have on pre-teens, teens and young adults. I will admit what I read is disconcerting. There has been a noticeable significant rise in anxiety and depression among teens and young adults over the past decade. Much of the research connects this to the rapid expansion of cellphone use, and what has been termed as "smart phone addiction." I determined to also looked up some ideas to share that parents can consider to help offset the excessive use of cell phones.

Below, are both the recommended screen times for various age groups, and the actual average screen time. The article: (18+ Teen & Kids Screen Time Statistics (2023): Avg. Screen Time for Teens by Peter Susic).

Recommended cell phone/screen time by age groups:

0-18 months	No screen time at all
18-24 months	A few hours per week
2-5 years old	1 hour per weekday and up to 3 hours on weekend
5-17 years old	2 hours per day

The average cell phone/screen time by age groups:

0-8 years old	2.5 hours
8-10 years old	6 hours
11-14 years old	9 hours
15-18 years old	7.5 hours

Concerns and problems from cell phone use range from very little to very bad. Some problems can exhibit themselves as lower grades, lower social interaction with peers, absenteeism from work and school.

On the other end of the spectrum are problems with depression, increased anxiety, loneliness/social withdrawal, self-harm, and even suicidal tendencies/ideation. Lastly, there's an increased risk of virtual/digital harassment, and an increased opportunity to come in contact with adults with ill intentions, and teenage runaway.

Here are some helpful ideas you may want to consider. This information comes from an organization called Parents Universal Resource Experts P.U.R.E. The article; (How Cell Phones Effect Teenagers Mental Health).

1. Establish device-free time. Disconnecting is very important to improve mental wellness.
2. Limit notifications to just a couple of platforms, including phone calls and texts.
3. Meal time is for eating, spend time together at the dinner table talking not texting.
4. Lastly, night-time is for sleeping. It is recommended to shut down devices an hour before its time to go to bed.

By Roger Cole

Welcome & Goodbye

MOHAWK STAFF CHANGES

LILLY NEWMAN

HS Social Studies Teacher

Hometown: Rockford, MI

College: Central Michigan University

Hobbies: Hiking, Working Out

I went into education to make a difference in our student's lives. I know many educators say that, but for me, it's more personal. I was a student who struggled in school, and I always found it easier to relate to my teachers. Many of my role models are educators, and I have learned from them what it means to be an outstanding teacher and an outstanding citizen. I don't just want to teach, I want to provide my students with a safe and comfortable environment where they feel free to express themselves and seek mentorship from me.

BRENDAN SUTTEN

HS Social Studies/Gym Teacher

Hometown: McBain, MI

College: Ferris State University

Hobbies: Hunting, Fishing, Snowboarding, Anything Outside

Teaching has always been an interest of mine. Throughout high school, I had two teachers/coaches in particular that helped inspire me to become a teacher. Not only were they great teachers, but they were also my coaches and someone that I looked up to. My mom is also a teacher, who also inspired me to be a teacher. I look forward to meeting the staff and students and creating lasting relationships. Go Mohawks!

ANDY STARR

6th Grade Social Studies Teacher

Hometown: Howard City, MI

College: Grand Valley State University

Hobbies: Building computers, Video Games, Board Games, Being Outside

I went into education because I love learning new things and sharing that knowledge with others. I've spent 10 years teaching high school and hope that I will love 6th grade even more. I hope to set kids up to be creative and inquisitive with a scientific mindset this year.

EMILY PIERSON

MS Social Studies Teacher

Hometown: Rockford, MI

College: Central Michigan University

I am beyond thrilled that I am finally to this point and becoming what I have always dreamed of being. I love students and believe in education. I am passionate about this field and the work that educators do. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to join your team!

TAYLOR PRINS

Elm Social Worker

Joined the district in the Spring 2023.

BRENDA PARIS

HS Special Ed Teacher

Joined the district in the Spring 2023.

BRIANNA BUCKLEY

Elementary Title I Parapro

KIMBERLEY BRUCE

Bus Driver

Happy Retirement

GUS KAILING

Middle School Teacher

BARB GOLDTHWAIT

Elementary Teacher

MARY BENNETT

Elementary Parapro

SANDRA VERBERG

Elementary Parapro

Thank you for your years of service to the district. You will be missed!



Important Dates

SCHOOL CALENDAR

HS/MS
Open House
August 21
 4:30-6:00 PM

Elementary
Open House
August 21
 5:30-6:30 PM

Freshman
Orientation
August 21
 4:30-5:00 PM

Picture Days
HS/MS
 September 14th
Elementary
 October 5th

August '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

21, 22 **Staff PD**
 23 **First Day of School For Students**

SEPTEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

1, 4 **No School - Labor Day**

OCTOBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

23 **No School - Staff PD**

NOVEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

15 **No School - Safety Day**
 22 **Early Dismissal**
 23, 24 **No School - Thanksgiving Break**

DECEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

20-29 **Holiday Break**

JANUARY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1, 2 **Holiday Break**
 15 **No School - Staff PD**

FEBRUARY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

19 **No School - Staff PD**

MARCH '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

25-29 **Spring Break**

APRIL '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

6 **No School - Staff PD**
 24 **Tentative Last Day**

JUNE '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

■ = School Days
 ■ = Early Dismissal
 ■ = No School
 ■ = PD, No school for students

2023-2024

Daily School Hours

Elementary
 Start 8:05 a.m.
 End 3:10 p.m.

Middle School
 Start 8:10 a.m.
 End 3:15 p.m.

High School
 Start 8:10 a.m.
 End 3:15 p.m.



Please note the change in times!

FALL 2023 ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL

VARSITY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 16	Montague - Scrimmage	A	6:00
Aug. 24	Central Montcalm	A	7:00
Aug. 31	Kalkaska	A	7:00
Sept. 8	Newaygo	A	7:00
Sept. 15	Lakeview	H	7:00
Sept. 22	Tri County	H	7:00
Sept. 29	Kent City	A	7:00
Oct. 6	White Cloud - Homecoming	H	7:00
Oct. 13	Big Rapids	A	7:00
Oct. 20	Beaverton	H	7:00

Head Coach: Art Campione

JUNIOR VARSITY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 16	Montague - Scrimmage	A	3:00
Aug. 23	Central Montcalm	H	6:30
Aug. 30	Kalkaska	H	6:30
Sept. 7	Newaygo	H	6:30
Sept. 14	Lakeview	H	6:30
Sept. 21	Tri County	A	6:30
Sept. 28	Kent City	H	6:30
Oct. 5	White Cloud - Homecoming	A	6:30
Oct. 12	Big Rapids	H	6:30
Oct. 19	Beaverton	A	6:30

Head Coach: Bryan Aymor

MOHAWK CLUB

Save money on gate fees by getting a family/individual athletic pass!

Contact the Athletic Office

(231) 856-4444



VOLLEYBALL

Date	Team	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 19	JV	Beal City Invite	A	9:00 AM
Aug. 19	V	Leland Invite	A	9:00 AM
Aug. 22	JV/V	Grant	A	5:30
Aug. 24	V	Cadillac Invite	A	TBA
Aug. 29	JV/V	Chip Hills	H	5:30
Sept. 5	JV/V	Lakeview	A	5:30
Sept. 9	V	Big Rapids Invite	A	9:00 AM
Sept. 9	JV	Mohawks Invite	H	9:00
Sept. 12	JV/V	Kent City	H	5:30
Sept. 16	V	Mohawk Invite	H	9:00 AM
Sept. 19	JV/V	Newaygo	H	5:30
Sept. 23	V	Chippewa Hills Invite	A	TBA
Sept. 28	JV/V	Tri County	H	5:30
Oct. 3	JV/V	Reed City	A	5:30
Oct. 7	JV	Big Rapids Invite	A	9:00 AM
Oct. 10	JV/V	Big Rapids	H	5:30
Oct. 17	JV/V	White Cloud	A	5:30
Oct. 19	JV/V	Central Montcalm	A	5:30
Oct. 21	JV/V	CSAA Tour. @ Kent City	A	TBA
Oct. 26	V	Cadillac Quad	A	TBA

Head Coach: Robin Kozuch

JV Coach: Katie Johnson

CROSS COUNTRY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 22	Early Season Warrior Invite	A	10:00 AM
Aug. 26	Benzie Invite	A	TBA
Sept. 1	Oiler Invite	A	9:30 AM
Sept. 9	Breckenridge Windmill Invite	A	9:00 AM
Sept. 16	Evart Invite	A	9:30 AM
Sept. 19	CSAA Meet @ Reed City	A	4:30
Sept. 23	Mohawk Invite	H	9:30 AM
Sept. 30	Shepherd Invite	A	TBA
Oct. 3	CSAA Meet @ White Cloud	A	4:30
Oct. 7	Portage Invite	A	TBA
Oct. 14	Hart & Sole Invite	A	TBA
Oct. 17	CSAA Meet @ Big Rapids	A	4:30
Oct. 21	Late Season Warrior Invite	A	11:00 AM
Oct. 27	Regionals @ Chipp Hills	A	TBA
Nov. 4	State Finals @ MIS	A	TBA

Coach: Shelli McNeil



Call Us Now!

School Phone Numbers

- Transportation (231) 856-4676
- Elementary (231) 856-7684
- Middle School (231) 856-4500
- High School (231) 856-4444
- Central Office (231) 856-4392

Morley Stanwood Community Schools
 4700 Northland Dr.
 Morley, MI 49336

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MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Fall 2023

NEWSPAPER DRIVE

Saturday

Oct. 7, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Questions call Lynn Jutila

(231) 856-4450 x 2216

SAVE THE DATE!

HOLIDAY BAZARR

Saturday, Nov. 4th

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Morley Stanwood Holiday Bazaar

BE A SPONSOR! IMAGINATION LIBRARY

For an annual donation of only \$26 you could provide a child with a free book each month!

If you or your business is interested in being a sponsor please call (231) 856-4392 or email anelson@morleystanwood.org



VOLLEYBALL

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sept. 12	Kent City	H	4:00
Sept. 18	Newaygo & Reed City	H	4:00
Sept. 25	Central Montcalm & White Cloud	CM	4:00
Sept. 28	Tri - County	H	4:00
Sept. 30	7th Grade @ Big Rapids	BR	9:00
Sept. 30	8th Grade @ White Cloud	WC	9:00
Oct. 2	Big Rapids	BR	4:00
Oct. 9	Kent City & Chip Hills	KC	4:00
Oct. 16	Newaygo & Central Montcalm	N	4:00
Oct. 19	Central Montcalm	CM	4:00
Oct. 23	Big Rapids & Grant	H	4:00
Oct. 24	Reed City & Lakeview	RC	4:00
Oct. 28	7th Grade @ Lakeview	L	9:00
Oct. 28	8th Grade @ Morley Stanwood	H	9:00

7th Grade Coach: Tricia Smith-Bennett

8th Grade Coach: Alex Balik

CROSS COUNTRY

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sept. 1	Oiler Invite	A	10:50 AM
Sept. 9	Breckenridge Windmill Invite	A	10:20
Sept. 12	CSAA @ Newaygo	A	4:30
Sept. 16	Evart Invite	A	11:00 AM
Sept. 19	CSAA @ Reed City	A	6:00
Sept. 23	Mohawk Invite	H	11:45 AM
Sept. 26	CSAA @ Tri-County	A	4:30
Sept. 30	Shepherd Invite	A	3:20 PM
Oct. 3	CSAA @ White Cloud	A	6:00
Oct. 14	Hart & Sole Invite	A	TBA

Coach: Shelli McNeil

