

# Hesperia Community Schools

## BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Welcome Back  
to  
School**

*The mission of Hesperia Community Schools is to provide quality educational opportunities that empower all students to become responsible, enlightened and productive citizens today and in the future.* **BUILDING TO BE THE BEST!**



### **PANTHER PRIDE**

***A message from the new  
Superintendent of Schools  
Vaughn White***

Let me first convey my thanks to the board of education, school employees and the community for selecting me to be the leader of this wonderful school district. In just over a month of employment I have been overwhelmed with welcoming connections with staff and community members. Having lived in Oceana County for the last 22 years, I heard about, but truly had not experienced Panther Pride until receiving this important leadership position in the community.

My wife Anne and I have three children, Lucas (17) a senior in high school, Emily (23) a graduate student in Speech Pathology at CMU, and Jacob (25) a PhD graduate student in Clinical Psychology at CMU. My wife and I own a jeep and love to hit the back county roads enjoying this amazing west Michigan area. We also love to attend school athletic and performing art events as well as occasionally fishing and camping in the area.

I have a Masters in Educational Administration from CMU with a Superintendent and Leadership endorsement on my certificate. I have worked as an educator for 26 years and am a lifelong learner and supporter of the public school system. My passion in education is to provide the best educational programs and experiences for kids to make sure they are ready for this sometimes uncertain world.

As your school superintendent, I have three priorities as outlined below:

- **Fiscal Responsibility:** It is only through responsible budgeting that we will offer the wide range of programs and educational opportunities for our students. They deserve the best!
- **Educational Leadership:** I have been fortunate to have received significant training and understanding of instructional practices. I hope to provide leadership for continued student growth in learning. We need our students to have the skills necessary to *become responsible, enlightened and productive citizens.*
- **Positive School Environment:** We can only move forward through a collaborative, positive, community supported, school environment.

### **Hours of Operation**

**Elementary K-4**

7:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Middle / High  
School 5-12**

8:05 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**First Day of  
School**

Monday, August 29,  
2016

### **Quick Guide**

Promise Zone

Class Composite  
Monitor

Community  
Foundation Grants

Busing  
Information

New Lunch Prices

District Policies

Free/Reduced  
Lunch Forms

## School Contact Information

### Vaughn White Superintendent

96 S. Division, P.O. Box 338  
Hesperia, MI 49421  
Phone 231 854-6185

### Board of Education

Patrick Broton President  
Scott Wenberg Vice President  
Michelle Allen Secretary  
Al Daniels Trustee  
Ryan Good Trustee  
Mary Sturtevant Trustee  
Katrina Yates Trustee

The board of education meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month in the high school library at 7:00 p.m. Dates are subject to change.

### Principals, Directors, Coordinators

David LaPrairie  
High School Principal 854-6385  
Middle School 6-8 854-6475

Bryan Mey  
Elementary Principal K-5  
854-6615

Joe Conkle  
Athletic Director  
854-7100

Jim Swartz  
Transportation Coordinator  
854-9301

Steve Dean  
School Nurse  
854-6715

Deb Muckey  
Head Cook  
854-0509

## NEWAYGO COUNTY PROMISE ZONE

Students attending Hesperia and other Newaygo County Schools may eventually be offered the opportunity for a tuition-free path to an Associate's Degree. The Promise Zone Board is now complete and will be meeting to plan for this wonderful future opportunity for our students.

## Lobby Monitor for Class Composites

The Hesperia 150 Committee had several projects for the 150 Celebration timeline. One of the project themes was the School/Library. This sub-committee discussed several items related to the school. These items included bringing back the Alumni Dinner and to display the class composites that once lined the hallways. A member of the committee had the idea to display the pictures on a large monitor but funding for such a project had to be realized. Shelby State Bank and the HEA (Hesperia Education Association) donated the funds so that the district could purchase the monitor. Brian Hren, who is a former graduate of Hesperia Community Schools, volunteered many hours photographing the class composites and making a digital copy of the composites so they could be displayed on the monitor. The monitor is located in the High School Lobby near the entrance doors. Having the class composites in a digital format will allow us to preserve our graduating class history from now and into the future. A committee will be formed to decide future educational uses for the monitor. The district wishes to thank the committee and financial supporters for the project and the many hours they contributed to seeing the project become a reality.

## Hesperia Community Schools Grant Awards Fremont Area Community Foundation

Our faculty was once again highly supported by the Fremont Area Community Foundation to the tune of \$27,630.00. Their names, project titles and funding amounts are listed below. Every dollar received from the support of this foundation is a dollar not spent from our school budget.

Name	Project Title	\$ Amount
Lisa Corbin	Using Mentor Texts to Help Readers/Writers Accomplish Literacy	5,000.00
Theresa Dean-Rumsey	Research and Writing for College Readiness	1,575.00
Stephanie Dood	My First Job: The Cart	1,400.00
Vicki Hawes	Kids for Coding	4,860.00
Roxanne Kammer	Bodies and Brains in Motion – Wiggle Seats	5,000.00
Melissa Phillips	"Fast Facts in a Flash" Increasing Math Skills	2,000.00
Katina Prado	Digital Literacy: Recommending Reading	1,500.00
Lisa Sundberg	Remedial Reading Rewards	1,500.00
Wendy Tozer	One School One Book	1,500.00
Louise Troughton	Paired Novels to Master Close Reading	930.00
Anita Winterhalter	Sensory Regulation and Alternative Seating	1,465.00
Patti Bartolini	Developing and Growing as Readers	900.00
Total		27,630.00

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## Back to School Open House

August 25<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Stop in with your child to meet their teachers, tour buildings and enjoy a hotdog. If you are unable to attend the open house, please contact the appropriate building for enrollment information

## Lunch Fees 2016-17

Elementary  
\$1.85  
Middle/High  
\$2.10

We have free breakfast for all students.

Our website allows you to check your child's account balance and make lunch deposits. Please click on the link entitled "Lunch Money Accounts" for access. Students carrying a \$5.00 negative balance will be given an alternate cold lunch. Please let us know if your child has any food allergies or special needs.

Free and reduced applications are available on the school website.

Contact Deb Muckey at 854-0509 or email her at [muckeyde@hesp.net](mailto:muckeyde@hesp.net) should you have any questions.

## Busing Reminders and Information

- Children in Kindergarten, first, and second grades will not be dropped off at their bus stop without an older sibling or acknowledgement that a parent or guardian is home.
- There will be some bus driver route changes, so we ask that you please be patient the first few weeks of school while these new drivers become acquainted with their new routes and your children.
- Safety is our top priority. All students should arrive at their assigned bus stop at least five minutes prior to their scheduled pickup time. Buses will not wait for late students because they need to keep their schedule for all other stops.

## Notice of Pest Management

As a part of our pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, please submit a letter to Vaughn White, Superintendent, Hesperia Community Schools, P.O. Box 338, Hesperia, MI, 49421.

## Non-Discrimination Policy

Hesperia Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, disability, or any other protected characteristics in its educational programs, activities, administrations or employment policies, as required in Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Executive Order 11246, as amended, Section 799A and 845 of the Public Health Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Equal Pat Act. Inquiries concerning the application of, or grievances for, any of the regulations should be addressed to Vaughn White, Hesperia Community Schools, P.O. Box 338, Hesperia, MI 49421.



## Drug-Free Schools

In accordance with federal and State law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs by students on school grounds, in school or on school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Drugs include any alcoholic, beverage, anabolic steroid, dangerous controlled substance as defined by state statute or substance that could be considered a "look-alike" controlled substance. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all students. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks up to and including expulsion from school. When required by State law, the district will also notify law enforcement officials.



**HESPERIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR 2016-17**

**July 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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	31

**August 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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			

**September 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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	

**October 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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					

**November 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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			

**December 2016**

S	M	T	W	T	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

**January 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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				

**February 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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				

**March 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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	

**April 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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			

**June 2017**

S	M	T	W	T	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	

 FIRST DAY –August 29

 LAST DAY – June 8 ½ Day

 NO STUDENTS  
 HOLIDAY BREAKS

 LATE START WEDNESDAYS  
 ½ DAYS

For more information on the district calendar and for an athletic calendar please go to our website [www.hesperia.net](http://www.hesperia.net).

PRSRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Hesperia, MI  
Permit #1  
Non-Profit Org.

HESPERIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
96 S. DIVISION  
PO BOX 338  
HESPERIA, MI 49421