



HESPERIA PANTHERS

BACK TO SCHOOL 2011

AUGUST, 2011

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall Open House
September 1, 2011
5:00-7:00 PM

First Day of School
September 6, 2011
Full Day - All Students

MEAP Testing
October 11-20, 2011
Grades 3-9

Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 9-11, 2011

No School
November 14-15, 2011
November 24-25, 2011

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

854-6185 Phone
854-1586 Fax

All Day Kindergarten

Beginning this fall, Hesperia Community Schools will offer ALL-DAY Kindergarten. This change allows teachers and students additional instructional time. This will allow us to adequately prepare your child for the future, as new standards continue to be enacted.

The Michigan Department of Education requires all school districts in Michigan to provide all-day kindergarten by the Fall of 2012.

K+, previously known as our licensed day-care, will no longer exist. Kindergarten students will remain with their classroom teacher ALL DAY from 8:00 AM-3:10 PM.

The first day of school is September 6, 2011. A Fall Open House is scheduled for September 1, 2011 from

5:00-7:00 PM. This will give you and your child the opportunity to meet their teacher, see the classroom and tour the school.

Your kindergartener has a full year of exciting learning experiences ahead. We hope you and the school will become cooperative partners focused on helping your child reach their full educational potential. We encourage parent involvement and hope to see you often as your child joins Hesperia Community Schools!



Delayed Start

New this year is an adjustment in our school calendar.

A delayed start time will be used, on select Wednesdays, for Professional Development. This will save money previously spent on substitute teachers, by reducing the number of days teachers are out of the classroom. This will also provide sustained, on-going Professional Development for our teachers. The elementary normally begins at 8:00 AM, but on the Delayed-Start Wednesday it will begin at 9:30 AM. The secondary (Grades 5-12) and Alternative Education normally begin at 8:10 AM. On the Delayed-Start Wednesday, they will start at 9:40 AM. We are excited about this change and thank you for your support as we strive to make Hesperia Community Schools the best place to live and learn!

DELAYED START DATES

September 14, 2011
October 12, 2011
November 9, 2011
December 14, 2012
January 11, 2012
February 8, 2012
March 14, 2012
April 11, 2012
May 9, 2012

Gerber Foundation Grant

Jennifer Sherburn and Robbie Olsen applied for and were awarded an \$11,000 grant through the Gerber Foundation. These funds will be used to purchase equipment for the Science Department at Hesperia High School.

Mrs. Sherburn, who teaches Chemistry and Physics, stated that the grant will provide additional technology and advanced physics equipment. Mrs. Sherburn is "excited about the upcoming school year and the new and updated experiments that we will be able to try, and the ability to incorporate technology into the physics classroom." A photo-gate system will be purchased, as well as motion detectors, optics systems, force sensors and microphones.

Hesperia



Panthers



Superintendent's Message

It is hard to believe that summer is already drawing to a close and another school year is fast approaching! Hesperia Community Schools is hosting a Back-to-School Open House on September 1, 2011 from 5:00-7:00 PM. Please plan to stop by, as refreshments will be served and teachers, administrators and other school staff will be available to answer questions and discuss the upcoming school year.

With the original bond projects coming in below the original budgeted amount, remaining funds are available to complete additional projects. A portion of the excess money was used this summer to remodel and upgrade the kitchen facilities at the secondary level. The Board of Education hopes to finalize shortly how the remaining bond funds will be spent. There are multiple needs, including upgrades to the transportation facility and new restrooms at the athletic fields.

The Michigan Department of Education recently approved changing "Cut Scores" on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) beginning in 2011-2012. This change is intended to create consistency with the College and Career Readiness Scores and will raise the bar for what is considered proficient. While the percentage of students in the proficient category will decline, Hesperia Community Schools will continue to focus on meeting the needs of all students. The staff will work hard to build relationships, identify academic needs and set high expectations for all students.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Hesperia Board of Education, as they have maintained current educational programming and staffing for our students. Due to outstanding fiscal planning, Hesperia Community Schools is in a better financial position than most districts in Michigan. With the budget cuts handed down from the State, per pupil funding has been reduced from \$7,316 in 2010-2011 to \$6,846 for 2011-2012. These are difficult times for public education and there are no quick fixes or easy answers. However, we are committed to placing the needs of students at the core of every decision that is made.

I am excited about the opportunities available to the students of Hesperia Community Schools and look forward to an outstanding year. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jeffery S Haase
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President	Todd Jacobs
Vice President	Matt Joppich
Secretary	Dr. Jeffrey Thome
Treasurer	Pat Budde, Business Manager
Trustee	Mike Anderson
Trustee	Karen Carter
Trustee	Ryan Good
Trustee	Jim Lavin

The Board of Education meets two times per month. The first meeting is a workshop and the second is a regular board meeting. Please check the website for meeting dates, times, and location.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL PHONE NUMBERS

Superintendent	854-6185
Administration Office.....	854-6185
School Nurse	854-6715
Elementary Office	854-6615
Middle School Office	854-6475
High School Office.....	854-6385
Adult & Community Education.....	854-1044
Transportation.....	854-9301
Lunch Room	854-0509
Athletics	854-7100
Technology Office.....	854-6065

Check Student Grades Anytime...



Hesperia Community Schools provides students and parents the opportunity to monitor academic progress at anytime. The "Family Access" site is a secure website containing such information as upcoming

and missing assignments, current grades, student schedules and more.

FOR PARENTS:

<http://skyward.ncresa.org/parent>

FOR STUDENTS:

<http://skyward.ncresa.org/student>

Fall Open House

Please plan to join us for the Fall Open House on September 1, 2011 from 5-7 PM. Parents

will have an opportunity to meet their child's teachers, administrators and other staff. Additionally, school staff will be available to answer questions and discuss the upcoming school year. Refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!

Freshmen Orientation will begin at 4:30 PM in the Media Center. Graduation requirements will be discussed, as well as how to obtain academic assistance. New handbook language, athletic eligibility and class rank formula will be reviewed.

Fifth Grade Orientation will start at 6:30 PM in the Middle School Cafeteria. Policies and procedures will be outlined to ensure a smooth transition for your son/daughter.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

5:00 - 7:00 PM

**REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE SERVED**

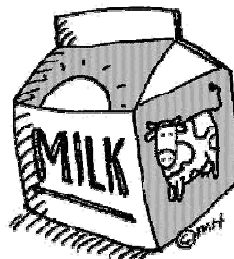
School Lunch Information

Hesperia Community Schools participates in the Universal Breakfast Program, which provides breakfast for all students at no cost. For a link to your child's account hot lunch account, please visit our website at www.hesp.net or www.lunchdeposit.com. You can apply for free and reduced lunch, review your child's account history and make payments using a credit card.

For further information, please contact Deb Muckey at 854-0509.

2011-2012 HOT LUNCH PRICES

ELEMENTARY - \$1.40
MIDDLE SCHOOL - \$1.65
HIGH SCHOOL - \$1.65





School Safety

Please note that the elementary school day starts at 8:00 AM and supervision will not be provided until 7:45 AM, when bus students will be dropped off. Students will be supervised outside (weather permitting) until 7:55 AM, when they will be allowed into the school where Universal Breakfast will be served in each classroom. It is essential for teachers and staff to have time in the morning to prepare and serve breakfast.

Elementary students are released at 3:10 PM. Please plan to be at school and waiting for your child outside or in the front entrance. If your child needs to be picked-up prior to 3:10 PM, please sign them out in the office and they will be called down from their classroom. If your child plans to go home in a different way than normal, please be sure to send a note in advance. This will allow for a smooth transition for everyone.

Facilities Update

It has been a productive summer and many projects have been completed. The custodial and maintenance staff have worked hard and accomplished much, even though some positions were eliminated due to financial cut-backs. The remaining staff have taken on more responsibility and done so with a positive attitude. These staff provide an invaluable service to our school community and we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation.

The school kitchen has been in the process of being renovated and enlarged. This area was in desperate need of additional work area, storage, office space and updated equipment. This project is being completed with funds from the existing school improvement bond.

Michigan Green School

Last year, two buildings were recognized by the State of Michigan as being "Official Michigan Green Schools". The elementary was recognized for the second consecutive year and received a certificate to go with the Michigan Green School Flag they previously received. The Middle School received a first year award and was presented with their flag in June. Both buildings plan to "stay green" during 2011-2012.

Students will spend the year recycling materials, conserving energy, studying and learning about conservation. Additionally, students will participate in activities and information will be sent home regarding these projects.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making Hesperia Community Schools a Michigan Green School.



Hesperia Welcomes New Staff

We are pleased to welcome the following staff to Hesperia Community Schools:

ANA RODRIGUEZ - Ana is the new Girls Varsity Basketball Coach. She graduated in 2007 from Shelby High School where she played basketball, volleyball and softball. Ana loves athletics and has held a variety of coaching positions, most recently as the JV Girls Basketball Coach at Hesperia.

RANDY GORDON - Randy is the new Boys Varsity Basketball Coach. He graduated in 1985 from Hesperia High School and a lifelong resident. Randy has served as a youth coach and volunteered with JV and Varsity Boys Basketball.

RACHEL KOTECKI - Rachel is joining the Alternative Education Staff. She graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in English and History. She is from Fruitport and has lived in the area most of her life.

KRISTI PEACOCK - Kristi joined the Community Education Staff during the second semester last year and brings a variety of experiences to the program. Kristi has studied Science and Computer Technology at Central Michigan University and also teaches Michigan Virtual classes.

LISA VANSINGEL - Lisa is joining the Alternative Education Staff. She graduated from Grant and has taught second grade, at Grant Alternative Education, Grant Adult Night School and the Summer Migrant Program. Lisa's most recent teaching experience was in Colombia, South America where she taught English. She studied at Grand Valley State University and earned a degree in English and History.



Transportation

We have added two new buses to our fleet, one is full-size and the other contains a wheel chair lift for special needs students. Many thanks to Pat Budde, Business Manager for Hesperia Community Schools. Pat applied for and received a \$50,000 grant through the USDA, which made the purchase of the special needs bus possible. The district would like to thank USDA Rural Development and Paul Bristol, Area Specialist, and James Turner, State Director, of the agency, for helping with the application process. The district would also like to thank the following partners in the QZAB funding process, Shelby Bank for the funding and McLIney and Company for helping secure the 10% match required in the application

You should see a familiar face behind the wheel, as most of our regular drivers are returning this fall. Please be patient as we work through the issues typical during the first few days of a new school year. Bus routes should be running smoothly and on schedule by the second week. Please take the time to review bus rules and safety reminders with your child, which can be found in the student handbook. Safety is our number one priority. With parent assistance and student cooperation, this can be another exciting and safe school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Larry Trussell at 854-9301.

High School Principal Notes

On behalf of the staff and administration at Hesperia High School I would like to welcome everyone back for the 2011-2012 school year. It is hard to believe, but the summer is fading fast and the beginning of the school year is just around the corner. In anticipation of this, the high school has become a flurry of activity. Teachers are frequently in and out of the building planning instruction and organizing materials for the start of classes on September 6th. Fall athletic programs are in full swing and the sights and sounds of their preparation for the upcoming season are abundant in and around the building. The custodial and maintenance staffs have been tirelessly working and have, once again, done an excellent job of getting the building and grounds ready for opening day.

2010-2011 was one of many great accomplishments at Hesperia High School. Our ACT and MME scores were at or near their highest levels ever, and compared very favorably to those of other high schools in the county and surrounding area. Our teachers were trained and we implemented PEAK Learning Strategies in all of our classrooms. We established a remedial reading program known as EBLLI to assist those students who are reading significantly below grade level. Our athletic teams garnered many team and individual honors highlighted by the girls' cross country team winning the State Championship and the wrestling team earning the runner-up trophy at the State Tournament. We also very successfully hosted the CSAA Talent Review and a boys' District Tournament basketball game for the first time, and welcomed parents and the community to the first annual spring cookout and open house in conjunction with spring conferences.

During the 2011-2012 school year we plan to build on the successes of last year. Once again we plan to provide a quality educational experience for our students along with a wide range of extracurricular and co curricular activities. While we continue the implementation of PEAK an EBLLI, this year our focus will turn to raising student achievement through data analysis, and curriculum development and alignment. During our monthly late start days, which will be on the second Wednesday of each month, our teachers will have time to examine data from the Explore, Plan, ACT and MME tests. This will help them to identify where our students are doing well and where they need work. In turn, the teachers will be able to adjust curriculum and instruction to better meet the needs of our students. The end result should be a continued rise in student achievement which will open more doors for Hesperia High School students as they move into higher education, the military or the workforce.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer. Be sure to stop in and say "hi" at our annual back-to-school open house from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Thursday, September 1st. Free hotdogs, chips and drinks will be provided for all. If you are a parent, it is a great time to get reacquainted with your child's teachers, make sure that your freshman knows where he or she is going on the first day of school, or get answers to any questions you may have. If you are an alumnus or a community member, come and celebrate the beginning of the school year with us and let us know how you are doing.

Dennis Peacock, Principal

PACE Program

PACE is a **free** program available to all high school students that provides help with homework, credit recovery, enrichment activities and tutoring.

PACE will begin on September 19, 2011 and be available Monday-Thursday

from 7:00-8:10 AM and from 3:10-5:00 PM. Students can register at the Fall Open House on September 1st or during the school year in the PACE office.

New Attendance Policy

In an effort to positively impact school attendance, Hesperia High School is implementing a new Attendance Policy for 2011-2012. This new policy is contained in the Student Handbook, which will be given to students on the first day of school. Please become familiar with this policy and the consequences which will be imposed when a student exceeds the allowed amount. If you have questions or would like clarification, please feel free to contact the high school office at 231-854-6385.

FROM THE HESPERIA HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK PAGE 18: ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Students will be allowed ten (10) absences in each class period during a semester. Parents/guardians will be notified on the fifth (5th) and ninth (9th) absences. Upon their eleventh (11th) absence, students will begin to be subject to consequences as specified in the provisions below.

If a student misses 11 or 12 days of school during a semester in any class, not including school-related absences, the student must pass the class and the semester exam in order to receive credit for the class.

Any student, who misses 13 or more days during a semester in any class, not including school-related absences, will be denied credit for the class unless it can be shown that there were extenuating circumstances leading to the absences. Circumstances that may be considered under this provision would include, but not be limited to; serious injury or chronic illness documented by a physician, death in the immediate family, "once in a lifetime" family opportunities.

Upon accumulating his or her 13th absence in any class during a semester, not including school related absences, a student's extracurricular eligibility will be immediately rescinded for the remainder of the semester unless it can be shown that there were extenuating circumstances leading to the absences. Circumstances that may be considered under this provision would include, but not be limited to; chronic illness documented by a physician, death in the immediate family, "once in a lifetime" family opportunities.

Any senior, who misses 13 or more days in any class during his or her final semester, not including school-related absences, will not be allowed to participate in the Hesperia High School commencement ceremony unless it can be shown that there were extenuating circumstances leading to the absences. Circumstances that may be considered under this provision would include, but not be limited to; chronic illness documented by a physician, death in the immediate family, "once in a lifetime" family opportunities.

Please note that absence numbers referred to in each of the above provisions include and do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences.

FOR ATHLETIC SCHEDULES PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.HESP.NET



Freshmen Orientation

Hesperia High School will hold an orientation session for incoming freshmen students and their parents. This meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2011 at 4:30 PM in the Media Center, prior to the Fall Open House. Graduation

requirements will be discussed, as well as how you can obtain additional academic assistance, if necessary. In addition, new handbook language, athletic eligibility requirements and the class rank formula will be reviewed. We look forward to seeing you there.

Middle School News

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy, rested and ready for your child's return to school. We have been busy this summer preparing for the students return to the middle school. I am very excited to start my fourth year in Hesperia. This year should prove to be filled with excellent learning opportunities for your child.

During the summer, four of the teachers attended an eight day Performance Excellence for All Kids (PEAK) training in Muskegon, while four other teachers attended the three day Advanced intensive PEAK training. We began implementing PEAK strategies three years ago. We continue to implement it at varying levels in the middle school. These strategies are based on best practice and really engage the kids in their learning experience.

The building renovations are complete. It will be a great year to work in our completely renovated building. This will be the first school year that there hasn't been construction, moving or shuffling in the middle school. I must say it has been really nice to work in my own office all summer.

I want to update you on the events of this past Spring, events that will impact us later in the school year. In April, we participated in a milk jug recycling contest. We collected almost 2000 milk jugs! That is amazing that we collected that many. What a positive impact this makes on the environment. We came in second in the county. Next year we are aiming for collecting the most milk jugs in Newaygo County! What an impressive effort by our parents, students and staff. Thank you. You are the best! So, if you have any milk jugs, rinse them out and save them. We will begin collecting them again in the spring. Participating in the milk jug contest also helped the middle school achieve another goal this school year.

We worked hard all year to become a "Green School". By recycling, improving our efficiency through updates on the building, and a list of other requirements, we earned that status. We were presented the "Green School" flag at our end of the year awards assembly. I am so proud that we earned this. Great work by everyone involved.

Hesperia Community Schools partnered with Shelby State Bank and Sign Power to produce some placemats for the local restaurants. The middle school placemats are in some of the local restaurant. So, if you visit Daniels, Hesperia House, Fanna's, Angelo and Ricardo's or Fat Boys, look for the placemat put together by the middle school staff. They are educational and they give you something to do and read while you wait for your meal. The placemats are two sided. On one side, the teachers put together some things for you to work on while you wait for your meal. These were designed for you to see some of the things that your child is learning at Hesperia Middle School. The flip side of the placemat was designed by Mrs. Troughton and it informs you about why it is important and how it helps your child to volunteer in the middle school.

We would welcome you to come and volunteer. If you would like to volunteer in the middle school, please let us know. You can stop in the middle school office, central office or you can give us a call at 231-854-6475.

We will be having our annual Open House on Thursday, September 1st. Please stop in and meet our new Superintendent, Jeff Haase. He will be grilling hot dogs for everyone to enjoy. Our students have such tremendous learning opportunities here at HMS, the **BEST** middle school in Newaygo County. They learn and grow every day. I appreciate your continued support to educate your child. Working together, we accomplish so much more. Thank you for your support, in and out of the classroom. I truly hope you had a safe and enjoyable summer! See you in September.

Nancy Cairnduff, Principal

Science Courtyard

In the Spring, the middle school science students began preparing the ground and planting Michigan native plants in the courtyard enclosed by the science classrooms. The students will continue to work in this area throughout the school year, which is a great "hands on" learning project for them. Please stop by during the Fall Open House and see what the students have accomplished.



Project FOCUS

FOCUS is a **free** program available to all middle school students that provides help with homework, hands-on science activities, robotics, engineering, arts and crafts, environmental exploration and more. FOCUS will begin two weeks after the start of school and is available Monday-Thursday from 3:10-5:00 PM. Morning programming is also available. Students can register at the Fall Open House on September 1st or during the school year in the FOCUS office.

5th Grade Orientation

Fifth Grade Orientation will be held from 6:30-7:00 PM on September 1, 2011 in the Middle School Cafeteria. You will have an opportunity to meet your child's teachers and learn about the policies and procedures for the middle school, which will make for a smooth transition for your son/daughter.



Horace Mann Bicycle Winners

The Horace Mann Company donated two bicycles (one boys and one girls) to be given away on the last day of school. In order to be eligible to win, students must not have had any discipline referrals or RTCs during the school year. The lucky winners were Dana Arnold and Keith Abbatoy. Students will have the same opportunity during the 2011-2012 school year.

Accelerated Reader Program

Congratulations to the 325 students who participated in the Accelerated Reading program during the 2010-2011 school year. The students earned a combined total of over 20,000 Accelerated Reader points. **GREAT JOB - KEEP READING!** The middle school will once again participate in the Accelerated Reading Program during the upcoming school year. There are some adjustments being made and detailed information will be provided in the first newsletter sent home in September.

Patricia St. Clair Elementary News

As summer is coming to a close, we are looking forward to a great 2011-2012 school year at Patricia St. Clair Elementary. The staff has been busy at work preparing the building and classrooms for the start of the school year. Not only have we gotten the building ready, but we have been hard at work with trainings, classes and professional development. The staff works hard at ensuring that quality educational opportunities are well planned and ready for our students when they return in September.

One change for this year is that we are implementing Delayed Starts on select Wednesdays for Professional Development. Teachers and staff will use this time to meet, plan and collaborate on classroom, building and district goals. A list of the specific dates is listed in this newsletter along with more detailed information pertaining to this change. The PTO will be sponsoring Pajama Days on these delayed start Wednesdays. For \$1.00, students will be allowed to wear their pjs to school. The money raised throughout the year will help to fund field trips for the elementary students.

Another change for the 2011-2012 school year is that we are making the switch to All-Day Kindergarten. Due to state mandates, changes in the curriculum and wanting our children to gain all they can; we are going to all day programming. Our teachers are excited and are busy planning and getting ready for this change. Parents of incoming kindergarteners should have received letters explaining the change. If you have a child of kindergarten age, 5 years of age by December 1, 2011, who is not yet enrolled please contact the elementary office for information.

We will be implementing a new Writing Program this year for all students, K-4. The Write Source program will be used with classroom teachers, Title staff and Technology. To help our students gain the writing skills necessary to be successful we are transitioning all of our students to a common writing process. This program is interactive, online and provides teachers and students valuable feedback while having fun and being creative. Make sure to ask your child about Write Source.

As always we welcome parents and visitors to our school, we are proud of it and the education that takes place. We are however asking that all visits are planned with teachers and that all visitors report and sign in at the front entrance. This will be the only public entrance in and out of the elementary building. Please feel free to sign up to volunteer at our school, we have numerous activities throughout the year and could use your help!

The staff of Patricia St. Clair Elementary have many neat and exciting lessons, projects, fieldtrips, assemblies and more all waiting to make this the best year yet!

We look forward to seeing you at our open house, Thursday, September 1st from 5-7 PM. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Jennifer Kleiner, Principal

Project FOCUS

FOCUS is a **free** program available to all elementary students that provides help with homework, hands-on science activities, robotics, engineering, arts and crafts, environmental exploration and more. FOCUS will begin two weeks after the start of school and is available Monday-Thursday from 3:10-5:00 PM. Morning programming is also available. Students can register at the Fall Open House on September 1st or during the school year in the FOCUS office.

Back-to-School Bags for Elementary Students

All elementary students will receive a Back-to-School bag this fall. Included in the bags will be materials and resources for both students and parents. The bags will contain school supplies, helpful tips for parents and a copy of the state standards for each grade level. The bags are a valuable resource, but also promote great interaction between the school and local community. A big THANK YOU to our summer intern staff for their help in assembling the bags. The Back-to-School bags will be distributed by the classroom teachers during the Fall Open House on September 1, 2011.

GETTING NEWAYGO COUNTY STUDENTS TO COLLEGE

MSU COLLEGE ADVISING CORPS MEMBERS TO HELP BUILD A COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

LANSING – JUNE 10, 2011: Newaygo County welcomes three Michigan State University College Advising Corps members who will advise students at Newaygo, White Cloud, Grant, Fremont and Hesperia High Schools through the college admissions process and help them identify the postsecondary path that will serve them well.

Rachael Jackson, of Ann Arbor, will serve at Fremont and Hesperia High Schools; Romina Serraj, of Novi, will serve at White Cloud and Grant High Schools; and Bethany Lumbert, of Greenville, will serve at Newaygo High School.

The National College Advising Corps, Michigan College Access Network and Michigan State University hired recent MSU graduates and placed them in high schools across Michigan to provide the guidance and encouragement that many students need to navigate the complex web of college admissions and securing financial aid. In addition, the advisers will work closely with the Michigan College Access Network to increase the proportion of Michigan residents with college degrees or high-quality credentials to 60% by the year 2025.

“The placement of three National College Advising Corps staff in Newaygo County high schools is a tremendous gift,” says Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark, NC RESA Superintendent. “According to our U.S. Census data, 13.9% of Newaygo County residents have a Bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 24.5% in the rest of our State. Our economy today demands workers with an education beyond high school and our schools welcome the support of the National College Advisors who will provide support services to guide our Newaygo County students to post-high school opportunities.”

For the 2011-2012 school year, the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) is partnering with the University of Michigan and Michigan State University to support the placement of 33 recent college graduates in 41 high schools throughout the state.

“These corps members help Michigan move closer to our big goal of 60% educational attainment by 2025,” said Brandy Johnson, Executive Director of MCAN. “Only about 36% of Michigan adults have a college degree. The advisers will help us move the needle on our state’s college participation and completion rates, particularly among low-income, first-generation college students, by ensuring students are prepared for college – socially, academically, informationally, and financially.”

The National College Advising Corps works to increase the number of low-income, first-generation-college students who enter and complete higher education. Through a nationwide consortium of colleges and universities, recent graduates of partner colleges and universities are hired, trained and placed as full-time college advisers in underserved high schools in both urban and rural areas. For more information please visit: www.micollegeaccess.org or www.advisingcorps.org.

Hesperia Community Education Classes

All classes offered through Hesperia Community Education are provided through volunteer instructors or by class fees and grant funds. If you would like to suggest a class, please contact Michelle Allen at 854-1044. We will be happy to coordinate a program of interest for the entire community.

Hesperia Community Education is the host location for driver's training. However, if you would like more information or need to register for a class, please call Century Driving at 616-392-2439 or visit their website at www.centurydriving.com

Instructors Wanted

Many Leisure Enrichment Activities are taught by individuals who have experience and special skills in a specific area. However, certification is not always required. If you have a special skill or talent that you would like to share with others, please contact Michelle at 854-1044. All instructors are required to register through PCMI Services and pass a background check.

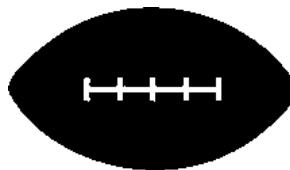
Hunter's Safety

Register during the first class on September 8, 2011 at 5:30 PM in the High School Cafeteria. Remaining classes are scheduled for September 12, 15 and 17 (Field Day). The cost for this class is only \$3.00. If you would like more information please call Wayne Ferris at 854-1708 between 4 - 8 PM.

7th and 8th Grade Football and Cheerleading

Football practice begins August 22, 1011 and Cheerleading will start during the week of August 29, 2011. All games will be held on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM unless otherwise noted. The current game schedule is, as follows (subject to change):

9/21/11	White Cloud (H)
9/28/11	Montague (TBD) at 4:00 PM
10/5/11	Holton (A)
10/12/11	Muskegon heights (H)
10/15/11	Shelby (A)
10/19/11	Whitehall (H)
10/26/11	OPEN



If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Michelle Allen at 854-1044.

Leisure Enrichment Programming

More classes are currently being planned for this fall. They include:

- Fitness Classes - Will Include Weight Room
- Basic Computers
- Voice Coach
- Snowmobile Safety
- First Aid and CPR
- Girls Basketball - Grades 4 through 6
- Boys Basketball - Grades 4 through 6
- Tumbling (Ages 2 and Up)
- Wet-on-Wet Painting



School of Choice Section 105C Information

Hesperia Community Schools currently has unlimited openings for the Section 105C Schools of Choice plan. Students from any district in an Intermediate School District that is contiguous to the Newaygo County RESA are eligible to make application to the Superintendent's office. Applications will be accepted until September 10, 2011 at 3:30 PM. Forms are available online at www.hesp.net or can be obtained in the Superintendent's office. If you have questions or would like additional information please call 854-6185.

Parent Involvement

Hesperia Community School Improvement Team has made it a priority to increase Parent and Community Involvement in our district. One key goal is to foster collaboration between the school, parents and our local community. It is impossible for schools to close the achievement gap without a dynamic partnership with families. Research has demonstrated that engaging families in their child's education improves student achievement, attendance, behavior and increases graduation rates.

We will have several events during the 2011-2012 school year that will provide an opportunity for families and the local community to become involved in the educational process of our students. Thank you for the important role you play in the success of the students, school and community.



HESPERIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

JULY 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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31						

AUGUST 2011

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SEPTEMBER 2011

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OCTOBER 2011

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NOVEMBER 2011

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DECEMBER 2011

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JANUARY 2012

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FEBRUARY 2012

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MARCH 2012

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APRIL 2012

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29	30					

MAY 2012

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27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE 2012

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 1: Open House (5-7 PM)
September 6: First Full Day
November 9-11: Parent Teacher Conferences
November 14-15: No School
November 24-25: Thanksgiving Break
December 19-January 2: Holiday Break
January 3: School Resumes

January 27: End of Semester
February 13: Mid-Winter Break
March 28-29: Parent Teacher Conferences
March 30-April 6: Spring Break
April 9: School Resumes
May 28: Memorial Day
June 8: Last Student Day



HESPERIA PANTHERS



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.

WE BELIEVE

Education is a lifelong process necessary for achievement of each individual's potential.

Everyone can learn.

In personal and civic responsibility, accountability and mutual respect.

A safe and structured environment is essential to learning.

All students are entitled to quality education that acknowledges individual differences.

VISION

Building to be the best by honoring the past, embracing the present and reaching for the future.

Hesperia Community Schools
96 S. Division
PO Box 338
Hesperia, MI 49421

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Hesperia, MI
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Non-Profit Organization

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HOLDER OR RESIDENT
STREET ADDRESS