

VIKING VIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOPKINS BOARD OF EDUCATION

"Cultivating Lifelong Learners Who Contribute To A Global Community"

What a great school year this is turning out to be. Our staff and students are really engaged in teaching and learning. With one-third of the school year behind us, there have already been so many positive things happening in our schools. One of my favorites was the Veterans Day Assembly on November 11. It was nice to see such outstanding community support in our gymnasium honoring those who have served our country. What a great event!

I would like to remind you that you can view all of our schools' regular newsletters on our website by simply clicking on the drop down menu for Schools.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this Viking View. In this edition you will find information about our academics, extracurricular activities, food service, transportation and more. A lot of good things are happening at Hopkins Public Schools!

Have a great holiday season!

Yours in Education,

Gary Wood, Superintendent



Thank you Veterans!



HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS-CURRICULUM

English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum Pilots Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Multiple elementary classrooms at each grade level are currently in the process of piloting two ELA curricular programs (**OpenCourt ELA** and **MyView Literacy**). Classroom teachers at both Sycamore and Hopkins Elementary started these pilots in late September with a goal in mind to gain as much knowledge around each of these two curricular tools before moving forward with a recommendation for adoption. Between now and the end of March, grade level teachers will have the opportunity to visit other classrooms to observe the program(s) in action, and meet together to review the materials. With feedback from the teaching staff, our plan is to make a recommendation to the board of education for adoption of one of these two curricular tools in April. This would allow the district time to secure training and purchasing of all needed materials for implementation in the fall of 2023.

Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grade classrooms are piloting [Open Court ELA](#)
1st, 3rd and 5th grade classrooms are piloting [MyView Literacy](#).

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS



10 Years-Lindsay King, Jeff Brethauer, Brian Kerber,
Katherine Merren (Not Pictured)



15 Years-Scott Stockwell, Suzanne Byville,
Casey Schoenborn



20 Years-Shelley Hall, Melissa Haverdink,
Ken Szczepanski



35 Years-Pam Jones, 25 Years-Katie Jager,
30 Years-Deb Marcott,
25 Years-Lisa Birtles (Not Pictured)

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AMY MIELKE, JESSICA
ROBRAHN, PAT O'DELL

KEN SZCZEPANSKI, SCOTT
STOCKWELL, JOHN KRAJEWSKI

OCTOBER-NATIONAL PRINCIPAL'S MONTH

The influence of a good Principal can never be erased.



HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS-TRANSPORTATION

Proud winners of EPA's Clean School Bus program



The Environmental Protection Agency has announced \$1 billion for school districts across the country to purchase electric (or clean) school buses – and our school district is one of 25 Michigan districts selected during the first round of the grant. Hopkins will receive \$1,185,000 for three new electric buses and charging infrastructure to replace three diesel buses.

Transportation supervisor Jennifer Frank stated that “this grant has opened up opportunities for us to explore alternative fuel options for Hopkins Public Schools.”

With this funding, we will improve air quality for our students and our community.

The new buses are expected to become available in 2023. Superintendent Gary Wood says that “these new buses will be a great addition to our current fleet and lower the cost of operations in the transportation department.”

We would like to thank our Transportation Supervisor Jennifer Frank for all of her hard work on this project.

HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL

HHS BAND ACHIEVEMENTS

Summary of Awards for the 2022 season-Celebrating the Music of Elton John.

The color guard took first place at the Otsego, Hastings, and Grandville Invitationals.

The Band took awards of excellence in the Guard, Drum Line, Music, and Marching Captions.

We performed our show 10 times over the course of the last 2 months.

We achieved a first division rating at District Marching Band Festival.



HOPKINS ELEMENTARY

Hopkins Elementary has had a great start to this school year. As a school we prioritize building community, strengthening relationships, project based learning and exploring our standards off campus. Here are just a few examples of the wonderful instruction happening here at HES:

- Kindergarteners and Young Fivers went to the Post Family Farm and on a community walk right here in Hopkins. Their learning surrounded how communities work together and help one another. On the farm they dove deeper and grew their knowledge around science life cycles. They focused on an interactive story about how pumpkins grow and our HHS FFA students enforced these concepts with the life cycle of apples.
- First Graders learned about agribusiness, Johnny Appleseed and even made applesauce. They concluded their journey at Gull Meadow Farms.
- Second Graders enjoyed viewing a variety of art work including sculpture, paintings, and architecture while taking in the natural beauty of Fredrick Meijer gardens on their field trip.
- November is Native American/Indigenous Heritage Month and our Third Graders placed an emphasis on studying indigenous Michigan cultures. This learning even extended into the realm of culinary arts as students were able to make and enjoy their own cornbread!
- Fourth Graders have been studying the branches of government and how a bill becomes a law in Social Studies. They had an engaging trip to our State's Capitol in Lansing where they also were able to tour the Michigan History Museum and see our State's past come to life.
- Fifth Graders learned that the formula to calculate the volume of rectangular prisms is multiplying the length, width and height of a prism. In math class, students used these math concepts in an engaging and fun way to create a "Volume Zoo" of rectangular prism animals. The Volume Zoo was placed on display for the HES student body to admire and parents were able to view their child's animal when they attended conferences in October.

I want to personally invite you to see first hand the great things happening at HES. We hope to see you soon at some of our upcoming Holiday celebrations. Go Vikings!

John Krajewski, Principal
Hopkins Elementary School



MARKET DAY

Reading students at Sycamore Elementary School have been working hard and waiting all trimester for Market Day in Mrs. Buskirk's class. Mrs. Buskirk is a Reading Specialist at Sycamore Elementary and her students participate in a Classroom Economy. Every day they successfully participate in lessons, students are rewarded with \$5.00 Ms. B's cash to be paid out on pay day. They also are responsible for paying bills in Mrs. Buskirk's class. Yes, you heard that right, bills. Rent, Utilities and Taxes are due at the end of every trimester. Whatever is left is theirs to either spend at Market day or save for large ticket items at the next Market day. The students love Market day, but what they don't always realize is that they are learning so many life lessons.

Mrs. Buskirk's hope is that they will learn valuable skills—such as responsibility, empathy, the value of saving, and delayed gratification—that they will carry these lessons with them throughout their lifetimes. The beauty of this program is that you don't need to teach these lessons; rather, students will experience them and learn for themselves.

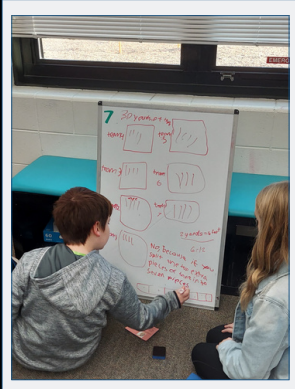
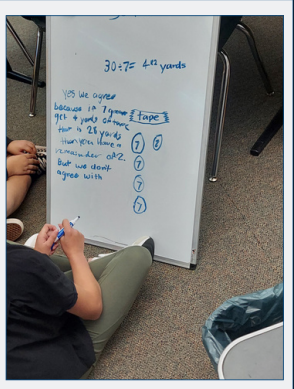
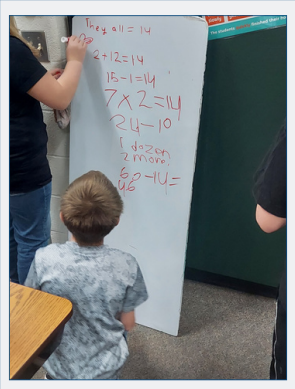
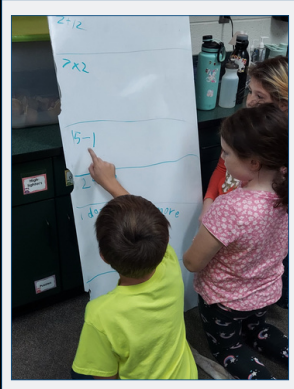
Mrs. Buskirk says, "My heart explodes with pride when I see kids realize they should have saved money for next month's rent instead of spending it all at the market. Or when a child donates money to another child that doesn't have any money of their own and when a child buys something for every member in their family except themselves." Market Day is not only my students favorite day of the trimester, it's also mine. We are currently looking for donations for our classroom store. As we head into the holiday season if you are purging or see a bargain we would love for you to remember us. We accept new and slightly used items for kids school aged 6 to pre-teen. Right now we have a need for all things boy.



BUILDING THINKING CLASSROOMS IN MATHEMATICS

Mrs. Gauthier and Mrs. Belka are working on implementing elements of the Thinking Classroom in their math classes this year. They've started experimenting with the first three (of fourteen) practices in the Thinking Classroom Framework: using thinking tasks, frequently forming visibly random groups, and using vertical non-permanent surfaces for students' work. The work is exciting because it helps students think to make sense of mathematics when they talk to each other about their thinking and the work they do to solve problems in math class.

The two began their work this year by combining their classes (3rd grade and 5th grade) to work together on a riddle task to get some practice with the new group structures and the new whiteboards for work. The students and the teachers had a lot of fun working in this new way, and the teachers have kept experimenting with these new practices in their classes ever since.



Tech Vikes are Going to State

What a day for robotics!

The Tech Vikes team competed in the *First Robotics Competition* (FRC) in Kentwood on November 4th & 5th and did a fantastic job. The robot worked well all day and we ended with an invitation to State.

The team ended qualification matches in 8th place and were selected as the first pick by the number 4 alliance. We defeated the number 1 alliance and advanced on to finals where we fell to the number 2 alliance. This means we earned a finalist alliance (2nd place) award at Saturday's competition.

We were also awarded the Motivate award.

We have two new trophies to add to the trophy case!



The Hopkins Public School District Board of Education complies with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities, including employment opportunities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, Hopkins Public Schools, 400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328 - 269 793-7261

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in activities.

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS-FOOD SERVICE

The first trimester is behind us and we are heading into the winter months of our school calendar. We had a lot of exciting events in our cafeterias to kick off the year. In September we promoted *World Cereal Milk Day* at the elementary schools. We also had Core Foodservice come in and do a *Pops & Tots* food sampling at the high school consisting of popcorn shrimp and tater tots with a drizzle of Boom Boom sauce. In October all of the schools celebrated National School Lunch Week with the theme of *Peace, Love & School Lunch*. A few menu items offered were *Hippie Hot Dogs*, *Groovy Grilled Cheese*, *Peace, Love & Pizza*, and *Far Out Fettuccini*. We had raffles and “lucky” trays in the cafeterias with themed prizes.

We would like to remind all families that free meals are no longer available for all students. Meal applications for qualifying for free/reduced meals are available from the food service department or may be filled out online at hopkins.familyportal.cloud. The links are available on the food service page of the Hopkins website. We encourage all families to fill out the application; you may reapply as your household status changes.

Thank You from the Hopkins Food Service Department



ATHLETICS

FALL ALL CONFERENCE

CROSS COUNTRY-Nevaeh Helderop, Jaeden Harshberger, Kambria Moored, Allison Breining (HM), Jack Estelle

FOOTBALL-Jayden Prather, Josiah Ryan, Avery Pavlak, Tristen Perry, Zander Hitzler, Landen Klinge (HM), Charles Benting (HM)

GIRLS GOLF-Cayla Szubinski

SOCCER-Miles Corneille, Elijah Bockheim, Isaac Koperski (HM), Micah Estelle (HM)

VOLLEYBALL-Corrie Wissner, Kate Cleypool, Ellie Sebright, Mady Weber (HM), Lilly Iciek (HM)



PLEASE VISIT
<https://hopkinsathletics.org/>
FOR UP TO DATE ATHLETIC INFORMATION

**POSTAL PATRON
BOX HOLDER
RURAL ROUTE**

**HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE**
Mondays at 6:00pm

December 19, 2022 Regular Meeting
January 16, 2023 Regular/Organizational Meeting

Board Finance Committee meets 30 minutes prior to regular meetings on the third Monday of each month.

*Meeting sites unless otherwise noted are at: Hopkins Elementary School 400 Clark Street Hopkins, Michigan

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in this activity. Any individual with a handicap or disability that requires special accommodations for attendance at the meeting is requested to notify the Secretary of the Board or the Superintendent of Schools, ten days prior to the meeting, so reasonable accommodations can be made. Minutes of the Board of Education meetings are on file at the Administration Office, 400 Clark Street, Hopkins, Michigan. To request information, call 269-793-7261 or visit.

Regular Office Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. daily

DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions about specific school operations, policies, or activities, please refer to this list.

ADMINISTRATION 269-793-7261
400 Clark Street, Hopkins MI 49328
Superintendent – Gary Wood
Director of Instruction-Scott VanBonn
Director of Finance & Operations – Katie Jager

HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL 269-793-7616
333 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Principal – Ken Szczepanski
Assistant Principal – Jessica Robrahn

HOPKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL 269-793-7407
215 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Principal – Scott Stockwell
Assistant Principal- Patrick O'Dell

HOPKINS ELEMENTARY 269-793-7286
400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Principal –John Krajewski

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY 616-681-9189
2163 142nd Avenue, Dorr, MI 49323
Principal – Amy Mielke

TRANSPORTATION 269-793-7121
2746 22ND Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Transportation – Jennifer Frank

SPECIAL EDUCATION 269-793-7261
400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Special Education Director – Rachel Modderman

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Members of the Board of Education would like to keep lines of communications open with the community they serve. Please feel free to call with your comments and concerns.

Traci Rhoades, President 269-908-0992
Karen Ryan, Vice President 269-793-9287
Jessica Johnston, Treasurer 616-617-4789
Andrea Buist, Secretary 616-307-1665
John VanBonn, Trustee 616-896-8024
Stephanie Wilson, Trustee 269-806-2920
Jeff Gilder, Trustee 616-293-9364

