

JULY 2025

# VIKING VIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOPKINS BOARD OF EDUCATION

*"Inspiring and empowering students to develop character and skills to pursue future successes."*

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Hopkins Community,



As we move into the heart of the summer season, I hope everyone is taking full advantage of the beautiful Michigan weather and finding time to unwind and recharge. In this edition of the *Viking View*, we take the opportunity to celebrate highlights from the 2024–25 school year and share some important updates as we prepare for the upcoming school year.

First and foremost, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to our students, teachers, staff, and families for another successful school year. The achievements and recognitions earned throughout the 2024–25 school year, at both the individual and district levels, are featured in the pages ahead. These accomplishments reflect the dedication, resilience, and strong sense of community that make Hopkins Public Schools such a special place.

As we look toward August and the start of the 2025–26 school year, I'm filled with optimism and excitement. We have several new opportunities and initiatives on the horizon, and I am confident the year ahead will bring continued growth, meaningful learning experiences, and shared success. Behind the scenes, many of our staff are already hard at work preparing our buildings and facilities to ensure a smooth and welcoming start for everyone.

I hope you are able to savor the remaining weeks of summer. Take time to rest, enjoy the sunshine, and make lasting memories with family and friends. Whether you're traveling far or exploring right here at home, these moments of relaxation are important and well-deserved.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Your involvement is vital to our continued success. Together, we will keep building a vibrant and thriving educational community.

Wishing you a safe and joyful summer—I look forward to welcoming everyone back soon!

Go Vikings!

Scott VanBonn

Here is the [link](#) for the 25/26 school calendar.



The District shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, disability, military status, genetic information, or any other legally protected category in its programs and activities, including employment. Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and shall likewise not be permitted with respect to students or employees. The District shall not retaliate against a person who reports or opposes improper discrimination or retaliation. The District shall fully comply with all applicable federal and state civil rights statutes, including, without limitation, Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



## HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS-SRO

Bike helmets were purchased for Hopkins Elementary and Sycamore Elementary schools by Allegan County Great Start Collaborative through Perrigo Foundation Grant funds.

We were so excited to give these helmets out to students who wanted and or needed a helmet for safe riding this summer!



On May 3rd, local first responders simulated a crash behind HHS. Please note: **THIS WAS JUST A SIMULATION!** The purpose of this event was to educate our High School Students (grades 10-12) about the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. Prom and graduation are not always celebrated with the best choices, so we wanted the opportunity to educate and give information.

Thank you to the following for the assurance of making this very educational event happen!

Allegan County Sheriff's Office  
Hopkins Fire Department  
Aeromed  
Gordon's Funeral Home  
Scott's Towing  
Wayland Area EMS  
Allegan Medical Examiners' Office





# OUTSTANDING PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION



Kaitlyn Dudek



Samantha Legg, Scott VanBonn, Debra Tew

CONGRATS

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### 2025 OPEN HOUSE DATES

**Hopkins Elementary**  
August 20, 4-5:30 PM  
3:30 PM - Annual Title I  
Parent Meeting @ HES Gym

**Hopkins Middle School**  
Grades 7 & 8:  
August 13, Noon-6 PM  
Grade 6 & New Students:  
August 14, 6 PM

**Sycamore Elementary**  
August 20, 4-5:30 PM

**Hopkins High School**  
**Grades 10-12:**  
August 11, 3-5 PM  
\*Mandatory Fall Athletic meeting  
in the gym at 7pm  
August 12, 9 AM-Noon  
**Grade 9 and New Students:**  
August 11, 5-7 PM



## HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

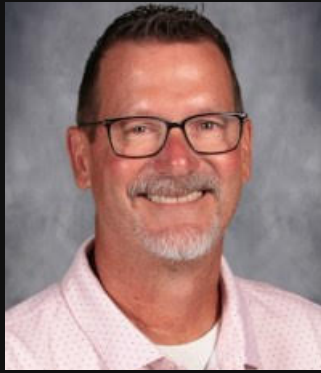
# Alumni Spotlight

Are you Hopkins Public Schools alumni? Click the link and submit your entry to be featured in our “Viking View Alumni Spotlight.”

[CLICK HERE](#)



**Katie Jager**  
28 Years



**Rick Hazen**  
27 Years



**Deb Tew**  
25 Years



## HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS-CURRICULUM

### Curricular Update – 2025-26 School Year

We are entering Year 2 of our Middle School ELA implementation with StudySync, continuing to deepen our alignment to the standards while focusing on student engagement and evidence-based instructional routines.

Our Elementary ELA classrooms (K-5) are moving into Year 3 of Open Court, with a continued focus on foundational skills, comprehension strategies, and high-impact small group instruction.

This year also marks the launch of our Elementary Social Studies pilot across grades K-5, using both Studies Weekly and TCI. Teachers will explore both programs, gather feedback, and evaluate which best supports inquiry-based learning and fosters student engagement.

Additionally, we are in Year 2 of Capturing Kids' Hearts, with a continued focus on building strong relationships, improving school culture, and equipping staff with strategies to support the social-emotional needs of all students.

Finally, we are beginning exploration of the curriculum review cycle for Middle School Science (grades 6–8). This includes reviewing instructional practices, gathering teacher input, and identifying high-quality, standards-aligned resources that support student engagement through active learning, collaboration, and real-world application of scientific concepts.

Thank you,  
Karmin Bourdo, Director of Instruction



## HOPKINS ELEMENTARY



Our HES Run Club did 6 weeks of training, twice a week and ended with a 5k on Saturday, May 17th. All Hopkins runners finished in under 1 hour! They put in a lot of work and did amazing!

Burnips & Monterey Center Churches invite you to:

# BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY SHOE GIVEAWAY

 Saturday, July 19

8-10am - pancake breakfast  
8am - noon - shoe giveaway

Our goal is to give out 1 FREE pair of shoes per kid in our community so that each kid can go back to school with a new pair of shoes!

Spread the word

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069498094493>

 Burnips UMC  
4241 - 30th St  
Burnips, MI 49314







# THE READER FEEDER

The mobile library "Reader Feeder" will be parked at each elementary school throughout the summer from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Please see dates and locations below.

## DATES & LOCATIONS

*Wednesdays*

6/25 SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY

7/09 HOPKINS ELEMENTARY

7/23 SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY

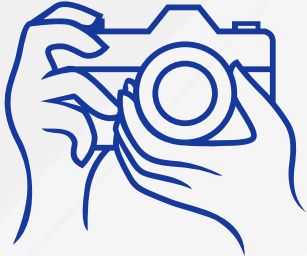
7/30 HOPKINS ELEMENTARY





## Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to the 2025 HMS photo contest winners! This year's theme was water.



Honorable Mention-Kimberly Deweerd 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Honorable Mention-Lana Medemar 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Honorable Mention-Abree Young 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Conner Harrington 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Parker Symko 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
1<sup>st</sup> Place-Austin Walker 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Here is a [link](#) to view the images. Please download for the best picture quality.

## Hopkins Middle School Focuses on Relationships Through Continuous Improvement Scott Stockwell, Principal – Hopkins Middle School

At Hopkins Middle School, our commitment to **continuous improvement** means constantly evaluating and enhancing the systems that support our students, staff, and families. This past school year, we focused on deepening relationships and creating a positive school culture through the implementation of the **Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH)** program—an initiative that was district-wide.

To launch the 2024–25 school year, CKH trainers led professional development for all staff across the district. At HMS, our building-wide goals included:

- Developing and posting classroom Social Contracts,
- Greeting students at the door, and
- Starting every class with “Good Things”—a moment for students and staff to share positive experiences.

We collected feedback at mid-year and year-end from students, staff, and families to assess our progress.

### What We Learned

#### From Students:

- Students recognized key CKH practices like Social Contracts (rated 4.4/5) and “Good Things” (3.8/5).
- More students felt that at least one teacher knew them beyond their grades—a key relationship-building indicator.
- While these results affirm that our goals are being noticed by students, we also observed a rise in behavioral issues later in the year, which likely impacted climate perceptions.
- **Looking ahead**, we'll focus on celebrating positive behavior and increasing student-led activities to elevate student voice.

#### From Families:

- Families gave high marks for feeling welcome (4.6/5) and receiving a warm greeting at school (4.7/5).
- HMS ratings were consistently **above CKH's national averages**, a significant accomplishment.
- The lowest-rated feedback reflected limited student leadership in CKH routines—a focus that was more staff-driven this year.
- **Next year's priority** will be to create more opportunities for student participation and leadership within the CKH framework.

### Looking Forward

We're proud of our first year of CKH implementation and grateful for the feedback from our students and families. As we continue our journey of continuous improvement, we remain committed to making **Hopkins Middle School a place where relationships come first and every student feels seen, supported, and empowered.**

To read the full article with all student and parent data [CLICK HERE](#)



HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL

# HOPKINS VIKINGS



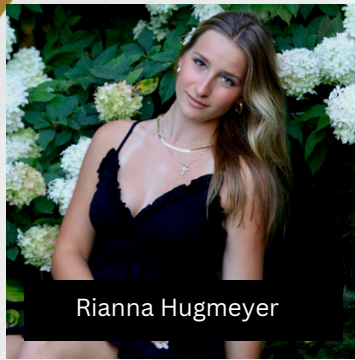
# CLASS OF 2025

*The Finer Image*





# TOP 10



*Congratulations!*



# CLASS OF 2025



# HONOR GRADS



Samre Johnson



Colby Tucker



Isabella Laskowski



Ayden Kuhn



Jolee Schumacher



Briana Wright



Lillia Bailey



Logan Welch



Lyla Reynolds



Myah Duimstra



Geena Meengs



Chloe Dean



Ava VanderVeen



Braylon Spanjer



Joshua Maule



Riley Martinez



Cobie Palmbo



Ava VanderKolk



Alyssa Bracelin



Surya Bamdila



Tegan Black



Kaden Petroschus



Kara Rodanhisler



Caden Brown



Andrew Blank



Camerin Hibma



Isabella Chitwood



Samantha  
Jacobusse



Ryan Williams



Rebekah Bielby



Niklas Kaiponen

*Your  
Potential  
is  
Endless*



**HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL**

# **LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

Dorr Business Association Scholarship-Lydia Athearn  
Sycamore Alumni Scholarship-Nick Barnes  
HOPE-Hopkins Elementary Scholarship-Andrew Hoffer  
Hopkins High School Alumni Scholarship-Chloe Dean  
Hopkins High School Alumni Scholarship-Colby Tucker  
Hopkins Lions Club Scholarship-Tegan Black  
Hopkins Firefighters Scholarship-Alyssa Bracelin  
United Bank of MI Citizenship Scholarship-Briana Wright  
United Bank of MI Citizenship Scholarship-Kenyon Katje  
Gary & Bonnie Funk Memorial Scholarship-Lyla Reynolds  
Gary & Bonnie Funk Memorial Scholarship-Ava VanderKolk  
Breanna Page Mcphall Memorial Scholarship-Cobie Palmbos  
John Paul Myers Scholarship-Andrew Hoffer  
Hopkins Athletic Boosters Scholarship-Caden Brown  
Hopkins Athletic Boosters Scholarship-Lyla Reynolds  
Switek Scholar Athlete Award-Cami Hibma  
Switek Scholar Athlete Award-Ava VanderVeen  
Scholarship for Excellence in Science-Kenyon Katje  
Scholarship for Excellence in Math-Caleb Steingold  
Scholarship for Excellence in Language Arts-Leah Schumacher  
Scholarship for Excellence in Social Studies-Nick Schultz  
Don Jobe Memorial Scholarship-Olivia Martinez  
Principals Leadership Award-Cobie Palmbos  
House Council Scholarship-Cobie Palmbos  
Vocal Music Boosters Scholarship-Jolee Schumacher  
Vocal Music Boosters Scholarship-Chloe Billman  
Band Boosters Scholarship-Lydia Athearn  
Band Boosters Scholarship-Andrew Hoffer

## **HHS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

Ellarie Baugh	Coralynn Hall
Anika Boeske	Camerin Hibma
Rhiannon Brefke	Blake Hyma
Allison Breining	Clayton Kerber
Olivia Brenner	Jaxson Koperski
Kelsey Burgess	Ali Langlois
Johnathon Buskirk	Madi Langlois
Kristina Castelan-Garcia	Madeline Magee
Kassidy Colegrove	Allison Poll
Jillian Erickson	William Rosenberg
Jack Estelle	Grace Schumacher
Aubrey Evans	Peyton Shealy
Adam Fein	Taylynn Smolinski
Kellen Ford	Brennan Vilella



## HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL

The Hopkins High School Band has been busy! Performances were held at our spring concert, baccalaureate, graduation and Memorial Day ceremonies at our local cemeteries. The band concluded the year with a trip to Michigan's Adventure and is looking forward to the fall when we perform "Music of the Heartland" featuring traditional country music and patriotic tunes. Have a great summer Viking Band!



### Upcoming Summer Band

Drumline and Color Guard Camp:  
July 28th-August 1st 8 AM- 3 PM (Bring your own lunch!)

Base Camp (For ALL Brass and Woodwinds):  
July 30th- August 1st 8AM-Noon

Full Band Camp:  
August 4th-8th 8 AM-4 PM  
Friday Night Show: 6PM

## ATHLETICS

# 2025 College Athletics Signings



Caden Brown-Wrestling  
Muskegon Community College



Josh Maule-Track & Field  
Cornerstone University



Brad Reynolds-Bowling  
Davenport University



## ATHLETICS

# 2025 College Athletics Signings



Madison Schwartz-Softball  
Lake Michigan College



Ava VanderKolk-Softball  
Grand Rapids Community College



Lyla Reynolds-Softball  
Davenport University



Charlie Brown-Bowling  
Mount Mercy University



Avery Pavlak-Football  
Ferris State University



Hannah Brinks-Softball  
Glen Oaks



Christian Smigiel-Baseball  
Glen Oaks



Ava VanderVeen-Basketball  
University of Olivet



# SPRING ALL CONFERENCE

Andrea Brower-Track  
Annika Ford-Track  
Ava VanderVeen-Track  
Ellarie Baugh-Track  
Kambria Moored-Track  
Keilah Bonga-Track  
Navaya Ingle-Track  
Riley Homrich-Track  
Lillian Dewey-Track  
Peyton Harshberger-Track  
Clayton Kerber-Track  
Jack Estelle-Track  
Cash Moored-Track  
Kellen Ford-Track  
Luke Klinge-Track  
Hannah Brinks-Softball  
Lyla Reynolds-Softball

Cami Hibma-Softball  
Ava VanderKolk-Softball  
Madison Schwartz-Softball  
Calleigh Washburn-HM Softball  
Makenna Funk-HM-Softball  
Kelsey Burgess-HM Softball  
Ali Langlois-Soccer  
Madi Langlois-Soccer  
Aliza Kerber-Soccer  
Allison Breining-HM Soccer  
Bridget Stark-HM Soccer  
Christian Smigiel-Baseball  
Kellen Ford-Baseball  
Trent Smith-Baseball  
Cody Benting-Baseball  
Merek Zapolnik-HM Baseball

**JOB WELL DONE!**



For up to date athletic schedules please visit  
<https://hopkinsathletics.org/>



## HPS - FOOD SERVICE

School Year 2024-25 was a busy year in the food service department. Thanks to the Michigan Meals program, every student was able to have a free breakfast and lunch every school day.

**177,638 lunches served    75% participation**  
**60,287 breakfasts served    24% participation**



We showcased local produce from the following farms:

Fruit Haven Orchards	Peterson Farms	Husted Farm Market
Crisp Country Acres	Riveridge	Schultz Fruitridge Farm
Gavin Orchards	Cinzori Farms	Cronenwett Farms
Van Solkema Farms	Of the Land Farm & Kitchen	

**\$17,000 spent on local produce**



Enjoy the summer months! We look forward to serving the families of Hopkins Public Schools in the coming school year.

## TRANSPORTATION

# What Makes A Safe School Bus Stop?

- A well lit area and a well marked address sign
- Reflective backpacks or flashlight/phone lights on in the dark
- Be out early at your stop
- Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before you approach
- Cross the road when the driver signals you to cross
- Cross 10 feet in front of the bus so the driver can always see you
- Never chase a bus
- Do not cross behind a bus
- Have a parent/grown up at the stop
- Covering bus safety with your student ahead of the school year, will prepare your student for success.

Hopkins Bus Drivers are excited to see all the HPS Vikings at our stops and we appreciate your help in keeping our stops safe!  
Hopkins Transportation (269)793-7121





**NOTICE OF MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE  
HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
2025**

**[Mondays at 6pm]**

January 20, 2025	Regular/Organizational Meeting
February 3, 2025	Work Session/Meeting
February 18, 2025	Regular Meeting (Tuesday)
March 17, 2025	Regular Meeting @ Sycamore Elementary
April 21, 2025	Regular Meeting
May 5, 2025	Work Session/Meeting
May 19, 2025	Regular Meeting
June 23, 2025	Budget Hearing @5:45pm
June 23, 2025	Regular Meeting
July 21, 2025	Regular/Organizational Meeting
August 18, 2025	Regular Meeting
September 15, 2025	Regular Meeting
October 20, 2025	Regular Meeting
November 17, 2025	Regular Meeting @ Sycamore Elementary
December 15, 2025	Regular Meeting
January 19, 2026	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  
Summer Office Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday – Thursday  
CLOSED Friday

**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 – Scott VanBonn  
Director of Instruction-Karmin Bourdo  
Director of Finance – Connie Brenner

**HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL 269-793-7616**  
333 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328  
Principal – Zach Miller  
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 –Andrew Mains

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

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

**MAINTENANCE, GROUNDS & CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR**  
Kyle Bockheim-269-793-7616

**FOOD SERVICE MANAGER 269-793-7082**  
Rhonda Sapp

**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.

**Andrea Buist, President 616-307-1665**  
**Stephanie Wilson, Vice President 269-806-2920**  
**Traci Rhoades, Treasurer 269-908-0992**  
**Roger Holtz, Secretary 616-318-5465**  
**Karen Ryan, Trustee 269-793-9287**  
**Jessica Johnston, Trustee 616-617-4789**  
**Ian Gibson, Trustee 616-299-2499**

