

MARCH 2021

VIKING VIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOPKINS BOARD OF EDUCATION

"Cultivating Lifelong Learners Who Contribute To A Global Community"

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

At the time I am writing this article, we are still a few weeks away from implementing full face-to-face instruction with our students beginning on March 8, 2021. The chart below summarizes the instructional options available.

Middle/High School	Elementary
All students in-person instruction 4 days/week Remote instruction on Wednesdays	All students in-person instruction 5 days/week
Hopkins full remote option (uses HPS teachers and follows the in-person curriculum)	
VAAC (Virtual Academy Allegan County) option for all	

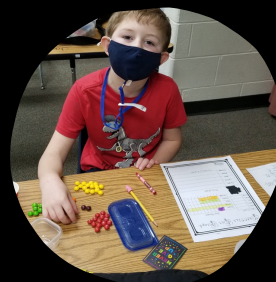
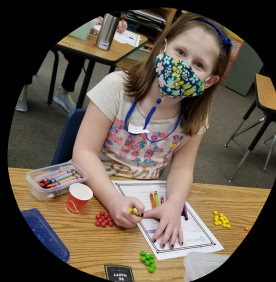
We all know that adhering to six feet of social distancing will not be possible. Therefore, it is very important that all other mitigation measures are closely followed. Each school building has updated their individual Preparedness Plans that outline protocols for their respective buildings. If you have not yet seen these, please check our website's COVID-19 page or contact the school office.

I am looking forward to seeing more kids in the buildings as they share the excitement of learning and socializing with each other.

Finally, as you look through this issue of the Viking View, you will see just a few of the ways we are trying to give our students a little "pick me up" as we make our way through this pandemic.

Thank you all for supporting Hopkins Public Schools.
Gary Wood, Superintendent

Candy Math



Mrs. Gilbert's first grade class recently had fun doing "Candy Math" with Skittles. Students learned about collecting data and then recording it in different ways. They used tally marks and graphing to analyze the different colors of Skittles in their cups. They discovered what color was the most abundant and least frequently found. They even combined our data and learned that there were nearly 400 Skittles in each big bag of candy that they used. That's a lot of sugar! Being able to eat your math tools was loved by all!

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



It is always better to give than to receive. That's just the way of life at HPS.

Students and staff prove that not even a global pandemic and supply chain difficulties can stop a Viking with a giving heart.

Many people were able to get involved and give generously to help those in need this Christmas season. Staff and students were able to adopt families and provide food, fun toys, cozy blankets, art kits, stuffed animals, gift cards and more.

A BIG thanks to all who were able to participate.



kindergarten registration 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR



Attention parents of 2021-2022 Y5s/Kindergarten students: Please follow the link below to complete a short form to begin the enrollment process for your child. We will use this data to reach out further when we know and need more information.

Please plan to attend a virtual presentation from our elementary building principals (Scott VanBonn and Amy Mielke) on Wednesday, March 24 at 6:00 pm. You will be emailed a zoom link prior to attending.

Thank you, and we look forward to meeting you!

<https://forms.gle/tDrconWCNk9CBCvs8>



NEW

House Bill 4223: Mandate dental testing and screening for children - Michigan voted to mandate that children entering kindergarten or first grade for the first time bring a form signed by a dentist or dental hygienist certifying that the child's teeth were examined and assessed within the past six months.

2020-2021 District Calendar

March 4	1/2 Day for Students, 1/2 Day DPPD
March 5	1/2 Day for Students, 1/2 Day for Teacher Records, 2nd Trimester Ends
April 5-9	Spring Break
April 30	1/2 Day for Students, 1/2 Day Staff DPPD
May 31	Memorial Day - No School
June 3	1/2 Day for Students, 1/2 Day for Teacher Records
June 4	1/2 Day for Students & Staff, Last Student Day, 3rd Trimester Ends

HPS Virtual Band Concert

March 17th @ 11:00am

**This will be via live stream
on the Hopkins Viking Band
Facebook page**



THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE

**JOHN MYERS-10 YEARS
OF SERVICE**

**JAY GIBSON-6 YEARS OF
SERVICE**

**BEN BRENNER-6 YEARS
OF SERVICE**

**HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS WOULD
LIKE TO THANK JOHN, JAY & BEN FOR
SERVING THE HOPKINS COMMUNITY
AND HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS
BOARD MEMBERS.**

MISSING OUT?

If you know of someone who is not receiving this publication and would like to, please call 793-7261 to add their name to our mailing list.

*Hopkins Public Schools
400 Clark Street
Hopkins, MI 49328
269-793-7261*

Annual Education Reports

The 2020-2021 district and school Annual Education Reports (AERs) are now available.

They can be accessed on our school website at www.hpsvikings.org.

Paper copies are available at each school.

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EDUStaff



HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEED YOU!



EDUStaff is an educational staffing company who specializes in training and providing quality substitute teachers (or guest teachers), substitute paraprofessionals, and other employee types to our partnering school districts. Founded in 2010, EDUStaff has quickly become known in the educational community for providing outstanding customer service to our partnering school districts, our external employees and our guest teachers!

BENEFITS OF BEING A GUEST TEACHER

Becoming a guest teacher provides great opportunity for every stage of life. Here are just a few:

- ✓ Flexible schedule to accept assignments when you want.
- ✓ Work in your child or grandchild's school.
- ✓ Make a positive difference in your community.
- ✓ Get a foot in the door at a school district as your potential future employer.
- ✓ If you like variety, EDUStaff offers a range of opportunities, which are customizable to your comfort level and experience.

GUEST TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

Per State of Michigan law, applicants must have one of the following to become a guest teacher:

- ✓ Current Michigan Teaching Certificate.
- ✓ Expired Michigan Teaching Certificate.
- ✓ 60+ credit hours from an accredited community college, or an accredited college or university with no less than a 2.0 GPA verified with official transcripts (acceptance of this minimum is at the discretion of each individual school district).
- ✓ Note: Requires a \$45.00 substitute teaching permit applied for by EDUStaff
- ✓ Out of State Teaching Certificate with transcripts showing 60+ credit hours from an accredited community college, or an accredited college or university with no less than a 2.0 GPA.
- ✓ Anyone working in a K-12 setting must be fingerprinted and pass a criminal history background check.

HOW TO APPLY

Log on to www.EDUStaff.org

For more information contact our customer service department.



www.EDUStaff.org | 877.974.6338



Hopkins Musical Program presents....



*A virtual Broadway Musical "cabaret" performed by
MS and HS Students in the Hopkins District!*

TICKETS GO ON SALE APRIL 5

(Please watch district Facebook pages for link to purchase tickets)

FOOD SERVICE

FREE MEALS AVAILABLE

Free meals are available to all Hopkins students even if you are learning from home 5 days/week or not yet enrolled in school. Meals are not provided on Holidays. You must sign up weekly to receive meals using the form found on the home page of the HPS website.

Beginning March 8 meals will be sent home with students on Tuesday if they are scheduled for in-person learning. Virtual & online students should plan to pick up their meals on Wednesday between 8-9:30am or 5-6:00pm at the back of Hopkins High School.

HOPKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL

"It's a beaut, Clark, it's a beaut!"

This famous line, delivered by Clark Sr. (John Randolph), in the movie "Christmas Vacation" is spoken after Clark triumphantly illuminates the stubborn lights on his house. This brilliant glow, which can be seen from space, always brings a smile to my face. It was this very moment when the idea for the first ever HMS Holiday Light Extravaganza was born.

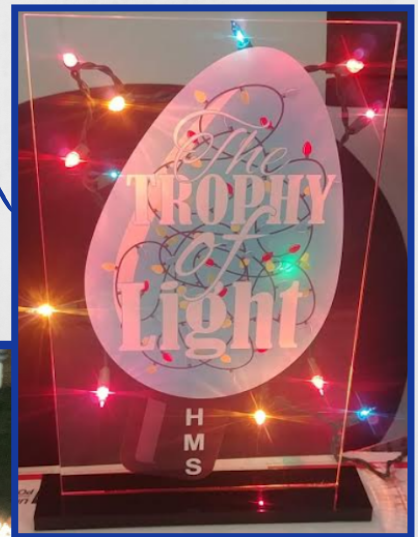
Teams of students and teachers would work together and decorate the front lawn of our building. They would be given a 30' x 45' patch of ground and be asked to fill it with lights, ornaments, and anything else lying around those old dusty boxes labeled "Christmas" in storage. This was supposed to be a time of fun, a time of creativity, and most importantly, a time to forget about the cares and worries of 2020. Quite honestly, we wanted our middle school-aged students to act more like middle school-aged students!

After adding extension cords, outdoor light timers, and signage, our Extravaganza was complete. Throughout the Holiday Break, the Hopkins community was invited to participate by voting for their favorite light display. The winning grade level would be presented with a major award. No, I'm not talking about a lamp, I'm talking about the coveted Trophy of Light!

I'm grateful to all those students, staff, and community members who donated supplies, time, and energy into making this experience possible. For two weeks, students were laughing, goofing around, and working together to create something. Although the 6th-grade team took home the Trophy of Light, those of us fortunate enough to see the spark of energy and excitement in our students are the true winners.

Scott Stockwell-HMS Principal

HOPKINS MS HOLIDAY LIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA



TRANSPORTATION



Hopkins Is Hiring Two Substitute Bus Drivers, Training Provided.

- Earn extra income - \$17.45 per hr to start
- Flexible hours – we work with your schedule
- Training incentives

There is no better job than one that positively impacts our kids! Come be a part of our transportation team!

**For more information call
Mrs. Frank (269) 793-7121**

HOPKINS TRANSPORTATION "SEAT NOTES"

Can Valentine's only be given in February? We hope not! The Hopkins transportation team was looking for ways to encourage and connect with their student riders and they borrowed the Valentine's Day card concept by leaving "seat notes" for their riders last December. HPS Bus Drivers left a handwritten note and treat bags they decorated for students to find when they got seated. This year some of the seating and spacing requirements on the bus look different but it is important to our HPS drivers to let their students know they care for them and are interested in their student's lives even when we are practicing distance.

Vicki Swainston, a HPS driver since 2005, was happy to invest time in her seat notes to her kids. "I want all my rock star riders to know how much I care about them and love being their driver! I liked having a way to get on a personal level with all my riders and give them a sweet treat too!"

The transportation department received such positive feedback from the drivers and students; they hope to keep finding ways to encourage Hopkins bus riders.



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 transgender 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.

ATHLETICS

SPRING Sports

Sport schedules can be found at:

<https://hopkinsathletics.org/>

20-21 SPORT PHYSICALS

Sport Physicals will not need to be obtained for the 20/21 school year as long as the athlete had one on file for the 19/20 school year. Any new athlete in 20/21 who didn't have one from 19/20 will have to get a sports physical. A student questionnaire completed by a parent is required for participation for 20/21.



**Follow Hopkins Athletic
Department on Facebook for
important updates,
notifications, and athlete
recognition.**

WHS CHAMPIONS!

Have you seen the new Hopkins Team Champions tab on the athletic website? It features champions dating back to as early as 1944.

Go check out the history of Hopkins Athletics at www.hopkinsathletics.org. Click on Team Champions.



**Information
regarding
summer
sports camps
coming soon!**

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOPKINS, MI 49328
www.hpsvikings.org

Non-Profit Org.
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Hopkins, MI
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POSTAL PATRON
BOXHOLDER
RURAL ROUTE

SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mondays

March 1, 2021 Work Session Meeting
March 15, 2021 Regular Meeting @ Sycamore Elementary
April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting
May 3, 2021 Work Session Meeting
May 17, 2021 Regular Meeting
June 7, 2021 Work Session Meeting
June 21, 2021 Budget Hearing @ 5:45pm
June 21, 2021 Regular Meeting
July 19, 2021 Regular/Organizational Meeting
August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting
September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting
October 4, 2021 Work Session Meeting
October 18, 2021 Regular Meeting
November 1, 2021 Work Session
November 15, 2021 Regular Meeting @ Sycamore Elementary
December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting
January 17, 2022 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 793-7261
400 Clark Street, Hopkins MI 49328
Superintendent – Gary Wood
Business Manager – Katie Jager

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

HOPKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL 793-7407
215 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Principal – Scott Stockwell
8th Grade Dean of Students – Patrick O'Dell

HOPKINS ELEMENTARY 793-7286
400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Principal – Scott VanBonn

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

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION 793-7261
400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328
Special Education Director – Mary Gordon



JANUARY 2021
SCHOOL
BOARD
RECOGNITION
MONTH

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.

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