



# YOUNG VIKINGS

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## Building Strong Attendance Habits

- **Talk about school daily.** Asking your child about their day shows them that school matters. [Visit [LINK](#)] for conversation starters.
- **Every day counts.** Children who attend school every day—or miss no more than one day a month—are more likely to read on or above grade level.
- **Set a routine.** Consistent school-year routines help students arrive ready to learn. Need ideas? [Check out this [LINK](#)].
- **Missed days add up fast.** Even a few absences can impact your child's learning.
- **Strong attendance = strong start.** September attendance sets the tone for the whole year.
- **Address anxiety early.** If your child feels nervous about school, talk with their teacher or counselor. Early support can reduce school avoidance and ease anxiety. [Visit [LINK](#) K-5] or [[LINK](#) K-12] for more information.

**Know the calendar.** Planning family events and travel around the school calendar helps keep attendance on track. [See the calendar here: [LINK](#)].

## Treat Day Returns....

Beginning Oct. 7, treat day is every Tuesday. One treat for .75 cents or two treats for \$2.00. This happens at the very beginning of the day. Proceeds help with "March is Reading Month" activities.

## Phone Ins:

Please call or email **the office** to notify the school if your child is going to be **absent**. Also, if notes need to be sent to classrooms for **pick-up arrangements**, please have your calls made by 2 pm. The office gets busy at the end of the day and planning ahead helps us out tremendously! 616-681-9189 or [kelltals@hpsvikings.org](mailto:kelltals@hpsvikings.org)

**Attendance and transportation changes are the responsibility of the office, not the teacher.** Their time is spent in the classroom teaching and they do not always have the chance to see these things. The office then shares this info with the teacher. **Thanks for your help! :)**

## Homecoming Spirit Week

September 29th - October 3rd

### "Disco Nights"

Disco Night Monday - Wear Your Pajamas

Tye Dye Tuesday

Wacky Fashion Wednesday

Neon Thursday - Wear Bright Colors

Dance Party Friday in your VIKINGS Gear

## Upcoming Field Trips:

\*Wed., 10/8 4th gr. Fort Custer 8:15-12:

\*Thurs., 10/9 1st gr. Dairy Discovery 9:45-2:15

\*Tues., 10/14 3rd gr. Jijak Camp 9:2-15

\*Fri., 10/17 Y5/Kdg. Post Family Farm 8:30-12:15

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, (collectively, "Protected Classes") that are protected by Federal civil rights laws in its programs and activities.

## LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA CASH \$\$\$



Become a Food Service  
staff member!

- Get out of the house when the Kids are in school
- Enjoy some adult interaction
- Shift is only 3 hours

Contact Rhonda Sapp at [rhonsapp@hpsvikings.org](mailto:rhonsapp@hpsvikings.org)



## New Salem Corn Maze

Come join the fun at the New Salem Corn Maze on  
**Monday, October 6 from 5:00-8:00 P.M.** (Rain date:  
Oct. 7).

**\$10 per person admission includes all the fun:**  
wagon ride, corn maze, playground, bounce house,  
animals, a donut and a cup of cider

**FFA  
HOMECOMING  
HOG ROAST**  
Friday, October 3, 2025  
4 - 7 pm  
Fire Station/Hopkins Downtown Park

CASH, CARD OR  
CHECK ACCEPTED

\$12 - ADULT  
\$6 - AGES 2 TO 10  
UNDER AGE 2, FREE

Rain or Shine  
Take Out Available  
Indoor Seating Provided

Pulled Pork, Potatoes,  
Coleslaw, Applesauce,  
Dessert & Beverage

## Suggestions given by the Allegan County Health Dept. of "When to Keep Your Child Home":

- \*Severely Ill
- \*Fever: Temp. of 100.4F or greater AND behavior changes or other signs and symptoms (keep home until 24 hours fever-free, without use of fever-reducing meds)
- \*Diarrhea: no loose stools for 24 hrs. prior to returning==
- \*Vomiting: no vomiting episodes for 24 hrs. prior to returning==
- \*Rash: with fever or change in behavior==
- \*Skin sores (weeping sores that can't be covered with waterproof dressing)
- \*Certain Communicable Diseases: may need to be excluded

==These are general recommendations only. Consult physician or local public health department.

## Head Start currently has openings in the Sycamore preschool classroom (4 year olds), and Early Head Start Otsego Home Based (ages 0-3/prenatal)!

If you or someone you know is looking for early childhood education this year, please have them reach out at 269-673-5472 ext. 237 or fill out an interest form at [hmgallegan.org](http://hmgallegan.org).

This program uses high quality curriculum, offers multiple parent engagement opportunities, and has caring and compassionate staff working with children and families!

Help Me Grow  
Allegan

Community Action  
Allegan

Otsego EHS

Dorr

News from H.O.P.E.

Check us out at Sycamore H.O.P.E. on face book or email  
[sycamorehope@gmail.com](mailto:sycamorehope@gmail.com)

More info to come!

## Proper Clothing Rules: 60 degrees or more...short sleeves 50-59 degrees....long sleeves Less than 50 degrees....coat

Positive Message Day....break out those shirts with all your positive messages! Happy thoughts, smiley faces, any positive thought to bring positivity to our school!  
Our next positive message day: Wed., Oct. 15, 2025

**BACKGROUND CHECKS** are required for all who will help in the classroom, attend a field trip, go to Field Day....be ahead of the curve & fill them out now! They must be done every year.

[Hpsvikings.org](http://Hpsvikings.org) Under "Family Resources"

Our half days for the 2025-26 school year are:

- \*Friday, October 31
- \*Thursday, November 13
- \*Friday, November 14
- \*Friday, January 16
- \*Thursday, February 12
- \*Thursday, March 5
- \*Friday, March 6
- \*Friday, March 27
- \*Tuesday, June 2
- \*Wednesday, June 3

## Half Days...

These are 11:10 dismissals.

**MAKE ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR YOUR CHILD(REN)  
THESE DAYS!!!**