

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



SUPERINTENDENT FAMILY BULLETIN

SCOTT L. HUARD, ED.S.

JUNE 7, 2024

GREETING

As the final bell of the school year rang, signaling the beginning of our summer break, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've had this year and share a few thoughts as we enter into the summer.

To our parents and guardians: Your support, partnership, and unwavering commitment to your children's education have been instrumental in their success. Thank you for trusting us to nurture and guide them. We hope you enjoy this break and cherish these moments with your families and friends. Please encourage your students to read this summer to continue to build their background knowledge that will help them in the years to come with all academic content areas.

To our teachers and staff: Your dedication and passion have made all the difference. You have not only imparted knowledge but also instilled confidence and a love for learning in our students. You have gone above and beyond, often behind the scenes, to ensure a supportive and enriching environment for everyone. Take this time to relax and rejuvenate, knowing that your efforts have made a profound impact in the lives of our students at Whiteford.

As we step into the summer months, I encourage everyone to make the most of this time. Whether it's embarking on a new adventure, spending time with loved ones, diving into a good book, or simply taking a moment to breathe and reflect, let this be a season of joy and renewal. Please stay safe, make memories, and take care of yourselves and each other. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in the fall, ready to embark on another year of learning and growth.

Thank you for making this school year remarkable. Have a wonderful summer! We are better together - We are Whiteford!

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK) UPDATE

I am excited to share that we have a full TK classroom for the 24-25 school year. Mrs. Anderson contacted the 15 families that were selected based upon our criteria. I am also excited to share that Ms. Lainey Hillard, a Whiteford and University of Toledo graduate, has been hired to be the TK teacher. Ms. Hillard taught in a TK (Young 5) program at Monroe Road Elementary in Bedford for her student teaching. There she organized classroom activities and content to grow students' cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. We are excited to welcome Lainey to the Whiteford Staff Family!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If you missed Kindergarten Round-Up on March 14, please contact Deb Iott at: motykaioott@whiteford.k12.mi.us to register your kindergartener.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH - MAY

Congratulations to Jake Gust as the May Staff Member of the Month. Jake was nominated by Ashley Vittore. Jake will be awarded with a \$100 gift card compliments of Leski Wittman Insurance Agency at the June regular Board of Education meeting on 6/10/24.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH - YEAR

Congratulations to Linda Groch for being randomly selected as the Staff Member of the Year. Staff Member of the Year is selected randomly and all those individuals that won a monthly award are entered to win. Mrs. Groch will receive a \$500 gift card compliments of Leski Wittman Insurance Agency at the June regular Board of Education meeting on 6/10/24.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH - HONORABLE MENTION

We would like to recognize those staff members receiving nominations for this school year, but were not chosen as a Staff Member of the Month.

- Shelly DeVantier (Teacher) nominated by Linda Groch (Teacher)
- Jim DeSilvis (Teacher) was nominated by Ben Avis (Teacher)
- Tim Hildebrand (Maintenance) nominated by Debra Keefe (Bus Driver) and Misti Burtscher (Bus Driver)
- LeeAnn Thomas (Teacher) nominated by Jeff Thomas (Teacher) and Shelia Smiddy (Building Sub)
- Katie Brunt (Teacher) nominated by Katie Tabbert (Teacher)
- Kim DeSilvis (Teacher) nominated by Jim DeSilvis (Teacher)
- David Welling (Teacher) nominated by Malinda Luzier (Administrative Assistant) and Laura Cruz-Hartland (Payroll)
- Danelle Cisek (Teacher) nominated by Jamie Bischoff (Teacher)
- Jim Ross (Teacher) nominated by Jim DeSilvis (Teacher) and Kim DeSilvis (Teacher)
- RJ Rios (Teacher) nominated by Jay Yockey (Teacher)
- Chris Andrews (Virtual Support) nominated by Matt VanBrandt (Teacher)
- Kim DeSilvis (Teacher) nominated by Jay Yockey (Teacher)
- Mindy Ovall (Teacher) nominated by Angela Madalinski (LRE Aide)
- Corey Mills (Technology) nominated by Jared Leffel (MCISD Technology Support)

STAFFING UPDATES

As we plan for the 24-25 school year, we are busy filling open positions. Here are some updates of where we stand with filled/open positions:

Filled:

- Transitional Kindergarten (New) - Lainey Hillard - UT 2024; Student taught Young 5 at Monroe Road Elementary
- 5th Grade Teacher (Shepherd LOA) - Andrea Young - Internal Transfer
- 4th Grade Teacher (Young) - Breann Tesnar - EMU 2024; Student taught at Ida/Dundee
- MS/HS Spanish Teacher (K. DeSilvis) - Angie Moore - 25 years of experience at Airport Schools teaching Spanish
- MS/HS Social Studies Teacher (J. DeSilvis) - Jeremy Simmons - Internal Transfer
- Athletic Director (Simmons) - Marcus Luzier - Whiteford parent; MS Football Coach
- MS/HS Administrative Assistant to the Principal - Malinda Luzier - Internal Transfer
- HS Football Coach - Alex Lipka
- HS Football Coach - John Nagle

Open:

- 2nd Grade Teacher (New) - Pending TK/KG Enrollment
- Elementary Guidance Counselor (Ehman) - Posting Deadline June 14
- MS/HS Administrative Assistant to Athletic Director (Luzier) - Posting Deadline June 10
- MS/HS Science Teacher (Vittore) - Posting closed June 4; Interviews Pending
- MS/HS Fall Sideline/Winter Competitive Cheer Coach (Crawford) - Posting Deadline Until Filled
- HS JV Volleyball Coach - Posting Deadline Until Filled
- Elementary Principal (Anderson) - Posting Deadline June 16
 - Mrs. Anderson is transitioning to a central office position dealing with data, curriculum, and assessment. The primary function of the role will be to collect, analyze, interpret, and present data as a part of a robust Multi-Tiered System of Support; including carrying out projects based on the implications of the data. This will happen at the classroom (screening and benchmarking), building (state assessment, internal data), and district (trends) level. Specifically, this role will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of assessments and surveys, and the analysis of the data yielded. Emphasis will be placed on work with the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) as a pathway to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funding. The position will develop and implement building and district School Improvement Plans based upon our Strategic Plan.

JUNE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is June 10, 2024. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the Elementary School Cafeteria. The Board of Education agenda is posted the Friday preceding a meeting: [BOE Agenda & Minutes](#).

BOND UPDATE

The final Series III Bond Project has begun that will see new renovated spaces at the MS/HS. The old weight room will be renovated to two (2) special education classrooms and three (3) staff offices. The home economics room will become an additional classroom. The Bobcat Den will be transitioned into six (6) offices, a receptionist area, and some storage space to create a central office. The Robotics room will become the temporary home of elementary art. Lastly, the home football bleachers were demolished, removed, and will be replaced with roughly an 1100 seating area, which is almost double the capacity we currently have. With the Series III Bond Project work beginning, we will have some temporary homes for staff, and those changes were outlined in a previous email. Here are some pictures:



Board Rm



Room 6



Old Weightroom



Home Stands

PERCEPTION SURVEYS

Whiteford Agricultural School District is inviting all parents/guardians to participate in our PERCEPTION SURVEYS SPRING 2024 by Monday, June 10. Your participation is very important to us as we continuously strive to better meet the needs of our students. Each response is reviewed and used for future planning. We have separate surveys to help delineate and analyze the data, and it should take you just a few minutes to complete each survey. If you have multiple children at different schools, please complete one survey for each school that your children attend. If you have multiple children at one school, only complete one survey for that school from the lens of your "Overall" experience from the 23-24 school year. We appreciate your time in completing the surveys and the feedback gained! To take the surveys, please click the appropriate link(s) below:

For the [DISTRICT Parent/Guardian Perception Survey Spring 2024](#), we are asking all parents/guardians to complete.

For the [ELEMENTARY Parent/Guardian Perception Survey Spring 2024](#), we are seeking feedback from those parents/guardians with a child at the elementary.

For the [MIDDLE/HIGH Parent/Guardian Perception Survey Spring 2024](#), we are seeking feedback from those parents/guardians with a child at the middle/high school.

SPRING SPORTS

The softball team plays in the Regional Semifinal that will be played at Grass Lake on Saturday, June 8 at Noon vs Clinton. With a win, the softball team would play at 2pm vs the winner of Leslie and SMCC in the Regional Final. The baseball team won the Regional Semifinal yesterday against Onsted. With a win, the baseball team would play in the Regional Final at 10am vs the winner of Ecorse and Ann Arbor Greenhills on Saturday, June 8 at Adrian College followed by the Quarterfinal at 3pm.

FALL ATHLETIC PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT

Our new athletic director, Marcus Luzier, will be holding a Fall Athletic Parent Orientation Night on Monday, August 19, 2024 beginning at 5:30pm in the high school gym. Parents will meet with Mr. Luzier for about 30-40 minutes, and then breakout sessions will be with fall sports teams head coaches for further details. Please mark your calendars if you have a fall sport athlete in middle or high school. More details to come!

MEAL MAGIC ACCOUNTS

As the school year winds down, we ask all parents to watch the balance in their student's Meal Magic account. If the account is in the negative, please make a deposit to cover the negative balance and any other purchases that may be made through the end of the school year. For parents of a senior, any balance remaining on your senior student's account at the end of the school year will be transferred to a younger sibling's account (if applicable). If there are no other siblings in the district, any balance in excess of \$10.00 will be refunded to the family if a request is made in writing by the parent and a mailing address is provided. These requests should be made to the Business Office (acctg@whiteford.k12.mi.us) by June 14, 2024.

BOOSTER GOLF OUTING

The Whiteford Athletic Boosters are hosting their 34th annual Golf Outing Friday, July 12, 2024, at The Legacy Golf Club in Ottawa Lake. Funds generated from activities sponsored by the Whiteford Athletic Boosters over the past year have allowed them to assist our athletic teams with items such as uniforms and equipment for every athletic team at Whiteford. Please see the fliers posted on the district Facebook page for information on sponsorship or registering your team. Space is limited to the first 36 foursomes to be paid in full.

BUS SERVICE

We are currently short a bus driver, and we have limited substitute drivers that are covering this shortage. We have instituted a rolling cancellation of AM and PM routes to ensure equity with our bus service. We apologize to our families that utilize our bus service daily, and we are actively looking for permanent and substitute bus drivers. If you are interested in learning more about filling either position, please contact Charlie Butz at: cbutz@whiteford.k12.mi.us.

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORMS

Transportation Request forms were due to school by June 1, 2024. If you plan to have your child ride the bus next year, it is mandatory that you fill out and return a Transportation Request Form and return it to school. If you do not fill out and return it to school, your child(ren) will not be assigned to a bus route for the 2024-2025 school year. You can access a Transportation Request Form here: [Transportation Request Form](#). Additionally, they can be found on our website under the Transportation and New Student Registration Tab. Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL OF CHOICE WINDOW NOW OPEN

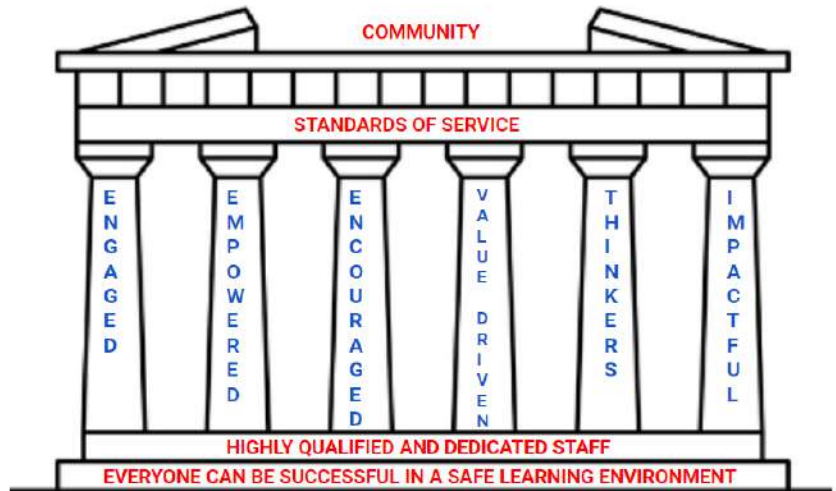
To provide a quality education for all students in Monroe County, the Monroe County Schools of Choice Program is offered by the Monroe County Intermediate School District in cooperation with its constituent districts. This program allows parents and students the choice to attend any public school in Monroe County, regardless of where they live. The Monroe County Schools of Choice application window will be open April 1, 2024 - June 28, 2024. Applications are available on our website www.whiteford.k12.mi.us located [here](#), or you can access a hardcopy application at the Superintendent's Office. Remember, a student must be released by his/her resident district. Here is the School of Choice Process:

- Student and parent(s) complete the application and file it with the RESIDENT district.
- Application is reviewed to determine if the student meets guidelines to participate in the program.
- Students who do not qualify are notified by the RESIDENT district and the process ends.
- For students who do qualify, the RESIDENT district signs the application and forwards it to the CHOICE district.
- The CHOICE district informs applicant whether or not space is available at the district. This communication is copied and sent to the RESIDENT district, so all parties know who has been accepted by the CHOICE district.
- If space is not available, the family is notified and is placed on a waitlist, or the process ends.
- For students accepted by the CHOICE district, parents/guardians MUST formally enroll the student.

STRATEGIC PLAN PILLARS OF SUCCESS

[Whiteford Strategic Plan 2022-2027](#)

- **ENGAGED** in purposeful learning.
- **EMPOWERED** for a meaningful role in our dynamic world.
- **ENCOURAGED** by our community.
- **VALUE DRIVEN** leaders.
- Critical **THINKERS**.
- **IMPACTFUL** in their community.
- **STANDARDS OF SERVICE** We will treat all stakeholders (students, staff, parents/guardians, community members) with respect, kindness, and professionalism at all times.
- **COMMUNITY** promotes, cultivates, and celebrates student and district success.



BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS

<https://whiteford.nutrislice.com/menu>

SCHOOL CALENDARS

[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)

ATHLETICS WEBSITE/CALENDAR

<https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/athletics/>

UPCOMING

June 10	Board of Education Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
June 10-14	Camp Invention (Incoming KG-6th Grade)
June 10-12	Baseball Camp (Entering 2nd-8th Grades) 9-11am
June 13	Board of Education Special Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
June 18-20	Boys Basketball Camp (Entering 3rd-8th Grades) 9-Noon
June 25	Board of Education Special Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
June 25-27	Girls Basketball Camp (Entering 3rd-8th Grades) 3-6pm
July 8	Board of Education Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
July 12	Whiteford Athletic Boosters Golf Outing 8am Legacy Golf Course
July 22, 24, 25	Volleyball Camp (3yrs-2nd Grades)
July 22-24	Football Camp (Entering 1st-6th Grades) 4-5:30pm; (Jr High) 6-8pm
August 12	Board of Education Meeting 6pm TBD
August 19	Fall Athletic Parent Orientation Night 5:30pm HS Gymnasium
August 28	Staff Professional Development Day 8-3pm
August 28	1st-12th Grades Open House 5-6:30pm
August 29	TK/KG Open House 5-6:30pm
September 2	Labor Day
September 3	All Staff PD 8-12pm Elementary Cafeteria
September 3	1st Day of School 12-3pm
September 9	Board of Education Meeting 6pm Board Rm
September 17	Constitution Day