

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



SUPERINTENDENT FAMILY BULLETIN **DECEMBER 10, 2023**

GREETING

Hey, Bobcat Families! Back in October, I held workshops regarding our Strategic Plan Progress and Enrollment Vision where stakeholders were able to share feedback as we consider stabilizing our enrollment and lowering class sizes. A recommendation shared in those meetings was the possibility of moving the 5th grade to the middle/high building to create space to lower class sizes. Since the October stakeholder meetings, I have been investigating ideas shared in those meetings to consider an elementary classroom bond project, portable classrooms, and relocating the elementary art and library spaces. As part of our next steps, the Board of Education is considering a bond project to add additional classrooms and multi-purpose space at the elementary as well as moving forward with athletic complex upgrades that were identified as part of a strategic plan study done in November 2022. We value stakeholder feedback, so we are offering all stakeholders an opportunity to attend a meeting on 12/13/23 or 1/10/24 at 6:30pm in rooms 2-3 of the MS/HS. At these meetings, stakeholders will have the opportunity to share feedback regarding the scope of the bond project and understand the financial responsibility of the district and taxpayers. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions. To assist in this process, The Collaborative (Design Team) and Wolgast Corporation (Construction Manager) will be facilitating the meeting. The information gathered at these stakeholder meetings will help assist the Board of Education in determining our next steps as we stabilize our enrollment and lower class sizes. We are better together - We are Whiteford!

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS SURVEY

We are seeking some information from families regarding Kindergarten enrollment projections as well as interest in a Young 5 or Transitional Kindergarten Program. Please complete the following survey by Friday (12/22) if you will be enrolling Kindergarten student(s) in the future based upon your current situation: [Whiteford Kindergarten Enrollment Survey](#).

23-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR AMENDMENT

At the November (11/30) Special Board of Education Meeting, the 2023-2024 School Calendar was amended to reflect the addition of an Early Release on Monday, December 18, 2023. On Monday (12/18), the Whiteford staff will be trained on our new SmartBoot Security System. At the April 17, 2023 Board of Education Meeting, the BOE approved the purchase of the LockOut USA Security System. The installation process is nearly complete. Our first step in the system becoming active is to train staff and students. Staff will be trained on 12/18 in the afternoon after students are released, and students will be trained in January 2024. For 12/18, the elementary will dismiss at 10:55am, and the MS/HS will dismiss at 11:05am. Bus transportation for our students will still be provided home. You can learn more about this security system at: <https://lockoutusa.com/>.

SAFETY STAKEHOLDER FOCUS MEETING

As part of our Strategic Plan goal to improve culture and learning environments, we have contracted with American Threat Assessment & Protection to evaluate our current safety processes and procedures at Whiteford. As a way to gather stakeholder safety perception data, we are seeking individuals that would be interested in attending a stakeholder meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024 beginning at 6:30pm in the Board Rm. This meeting is intended to allow an opportunity to learn more about the perceptions of our stakeholders. If you are a parent, guardian, student, staff, or community member, we value your perspective, and we would like for you to consider participating in this focus group meeting. If you are interested in attending, please contact Scott Huard at: scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us. There is a School Safety Focus Group Pre-Assessment survey that will be completed prior to the meeting.

COMMENCEMENT

At the November 13th Board of Education meeting, the 2024 Commencement date and time was approved for Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7pm. Commencement will be held at Crossroads Community Church. The decision to stay at the church and not move to the new high school gymnasium was voted upon by the senior class as they deeply considered the pros and cons of each venue.

STRATEGIC PLAN ENROLLMENT VISION UPDATE

We continue to research options that were collected from the three (3) Strategic Plan & Enrollment Vision Workshops in October. As I shared in those meetings, no formal recommendation will be made until the January or February's Board of Education Meeting, where the Board of Education may make the final decision about how we will handle the enrollment growth/stabilization plan and its effect on grade-level locations and support services. For those stakeholders unable to attend the workshops, the information gathered for each meeting was shared on the district website under "Our District" and "Strategic Plan" as well as some videos outlining the presentation details. Our next steps are outlined in my greeting.

DECEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is December 11, 2023. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the board room located in the MS/HS. The Board of Education agenda is posted the Friday preceding a meeting: [BOE Agenda & Minutes](#).

SCHOOL DELAYS / CLOSINGS

School closing or delay announcements will be sent via the Infinite Campus Messenger systems and announced on the following television stations: Channel 11 (CBS) and Channel 13 (ABC). Announcements should occur no later than 7am. Parents and students are asked NOT to call the school or school officials. When school is delayed due to fog/snow/ice or other emergency conditions, it will be delayed for a minimum of two (2) hours.

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.

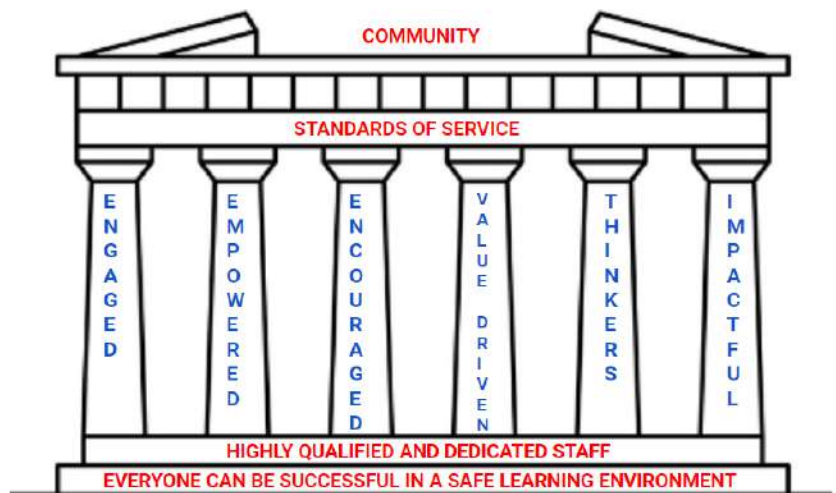
→ **VALUE DRIVEN** leaders.

→ 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

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

ATHLETICS WEBSITE/CALENDAR

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

THIS WEEK

December 10 Ensemble Performance: Gift of Lights 6pm Indian Creek Zoo
December 10 Ensemble Performance: Christmas Cantata 7pm Shelton Park Church of God
December 11 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Board Rm
December 12 WPA Donate & Dine at Sidelines
December 13 Stakeholder Bond Feedback & Interest Meeting 6:30pm MS Rooms 2-3
December 14 KG-2nd Grades Elementary Christmas Concert 6pm MS Gym
December 14 3rd-5th Grades Elementary Christmas Concert 7:15pm MS Gym
December 15 MS Formal Dance 6pm MS Gym
December 16 Ensemble Performance: Matthes Tree Farm 12pm Ida, MI

UPCOMING

December 17 HS Christmas Concert 3pm MS Gym
December 18 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
December 18 MS Christmas Concert 7pm MS Gym
December 20 Ensemble Performance: Toledo Zoo 5pm
December 22 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
Dec. 23-Jan. 2 Winter Break
January 3-19 School of Choice 105c Window
January 6 Robotics Kickoff 10am MS/HS Media Center
January 8 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Board Room
January 10 Stakeholder Bond Feedback & Interest Meeting 6:30pm MS Rooms 2-3
January 15 No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 18 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
January 18 Safety Stakeholder Focus Meeting 6:30pm Board Rm
January 19 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
January 19 End of 2nd Marking Period
January 24 FFA Leadership Contests (Districts) 3:30pm Dundee High School
January 27 WPA Family Fun Night 6pm MS Gym
February 3 MSVMA District 12 HS Solo & Ensemble 8am MS Gym
February 6 Whiteford Recreation Meeting 7pm MS/HS Media Center
February 7 FFA Leadership Contests (Regionals) 3:30pm Saline High School
February 16 No School - Teacher Professional Development
February 19 No School - Presidents Day
February 20 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
February 20 Parent-Teacher Conferences 12-3pm
February 28 FFA Field Trip: State Convention MSU
March 5 Whiteford Recreation Meeting 7 pm MS/HS Media Center
March 11-15 Washington DC Trip
March 14 Field Trip: K-5th Croswell Opera House
March 15 HS Spring Musical 7:30pm HS Gym
March 16 HS Spring Musical 7:30pm HS Gym
March 17 HS Spring Musical 2:30 HS Gym
March 22 End of 3rd Marking period
March 22 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am
Mar. 23-Apr. 1 Spring Break
March 31 Easter
April 1 No School - Easter Break

My best,



Scott L. Huard, ED.S.
Superintendent