Please join us for our annual MLK Day Celebration!

The Walled Lake Consolidated School District invites the community to the 21st annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on **Monday, January 20, 2020** at Walled Lake Northern High School.

- **5:00-6:00 p.m.**
  - Multicultural Dinner: Food from around the world prepared by local restaurants and student exhibits from each school.
- **6:15-7:30 p.m.**
  - Program featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Jay Marks, who will speak about our theme, **Look Within: “Be the Change You Wish to see in the World.”** ~ Gandhi
  - There will also be performances by student choirs and presentations by several students.
  - We will also recognize this year’s Alec Bender **Friend of Diversity Award** recipients. Among this year’s recipients is the Clark family who founded Scarlet’s Smile to create a kinder, more inclusive world and build Scarlet’s Playground where ALL children can play! **We hope you’ll come help us honor one of our Commerce families** as they receive the Friend of Diversity award!

This event is **FREE** and open to the entire community to attend. **Donations** of canned food, boxed food, laundry detergent, and household paper products for the **Hospitality House Food Pantry** will be accepted.

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**Cougar Crews Update**

Last Monday, we had our third Cougar Crews meeting of the school year! The goal of our Cougar Crews initiative is to create a stronger **sense of belonging** in our school community and develop **social–emotional skills and competencies**. Each Crew is led by a staff member at Commerce and consists of students from a mix of grade levels.

Our recent Crew meeting focused on **respecting others with kind words and actions**. We hope your child came home and told you about what they learned. If not, ask them!
Important Reminder:

We have several children at Commerce who are vulnerable to contagious illnesses. These brave Cougars are fighting leukemia or Spinal Muscular Atrophy. We can help them stay healthy in a few simple ways...

- Talk with your child about the importance of proper hand washing.
- Teach your child to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze (and wash their hands).
- Notify the Main Office immediately if your child has a contagious illness like chicken pox, measles, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), influenza (the flu), and more.
- Most importantly, have your child stay home from school if they are sick.

Together we can show that Commerce cares about these brave Cougars. On behalf of these special families and their medical teams, I thank you for your support and compassion.

Box Tops Needed!

We are currently collecting Box Tops for the spring collection. Please continue to send in neatly clipped and unexpired Box Tops. The final turn in date is Friday, February 14th.

The more we collect, the more money we earn for our school!

Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year

Please see below for information regarding in-district transfer requests and Schools of Choice applications for the 2020-2021 school year. You may forward this information to families who may be considering WLCSD for the 2020-2021 school year. It is also important to note the deadlines listed below.

In-District Transfer Requests: The Walled Lake Consolidated School District is not an open enrollment district. Resident students are expected to attend the school that is assigned to their address. If you would like your child to attend a school other than the one assigned to your address for the 2020-2021 school year, you must submit a Student Transfer Request application. The Student Transfer Request Application period for the 2020-2021 school year is January 6, 2020 thru January 24, 2020. Any application received after January 24, 2020 will be noted as late. Please use this link for more information.

Schools of Choice Applications: Walled Lake Consolidated Schools is a participant in Schools of Choice 105 on a limited basis – meaning that not all buildings or grade levels will have openings. Typically, we accept applications for grades K-10. Under Schools of Choice 105, we may enroll students who are not residents of our district but still reside in one of the other 27 Oakland County school districts who meet application guidelines. The application period for the 2020-2021 school year will be January 20, 2020 thru February 7, 2020. By law, applications cannot be accepted before January 20th or after February 7th. Schools of Choice 105 applications for the 2020-2021 school year will be available on our website beginning January 20, 2020. Please use this link for more information.

Note: If you are currently a resident of the district and anticipate moving out of the district during the school year, it may be possible for your children to continue their enrollment in Walled Lake under Schools of Choice 105. Please click on the link above for more information.

If you have questions, please contact our Main Office or Patty Sorensen in Student Services at 248-956-2085.
Our first event of 2020 is coming soon and it's time to sign up! The PTA Membership Event is from 6:30-8:30pm on Friday, January 31st at Waterford Lanes! This event is FREE for PTA Members and their immediate families and just $11 for non-members (and their immediate families). Everyone will enjoy bowling, bounce houses, food, and fun! You MUST sign up to attend this event! Visit https://tinyurl.com/ptaevent2020 to sign up today!

Mark your calendars for our other awesome upcoming events:
- Moms and Muffins - March 19
- Dads Bingo Night - April 23
- PTA Meetings - February 12, March 18, April 15 (Board Elections this day, too!)

Interested in serving on the PTA Executive Board next school year? A nominating committee is currently being formed and Elections will be held in April. If you would like to learn more or run for a position, contact Shayna Levin at shayna.levin@gmail.com.

Chance to win BIG & support WL classrooms!
Purchase your Tuition Expedition 50/50 Scholarship Raffle tickets today! Raffle's proceeds are channeled into WLCSD classrooms through the FFE's annual mini-grant program (see list of grant awards per school). Tickets are $50 each or 3 for $100. The grand prize winner will receive scholarship funds for postsecondary education (40% lump sum option available). Grand Prize drawing is March 30, 2020 at District's Reflections Celebration; need not be present to win. Visit the FFE’s TE raffle website for details or contact the FFE for more information. To purchase tickets with check or credit card: 248-956-2116 or email michellebianco@wlcsd.org. MI Raffle License# R55190

Commerce Elementary Contact Information

| Main Office: 248-956-3900 | Website: www.wlcsd.org/commerce | Christina Carlin, Principal christinacarlin@wlcsd.org |
| Denise Kaczmarek, Secretary denisekaczmarek@wlcsd.org | Carley Dunphey, Head Teacher carleydunphey@wlcsd.org | Kathy Williams, Secretary kathywilliams@wlcsd.org |

Important Links and Resources:

| Family Handbook | School Calendar | PTA Website |
| School Newsletters | Skyward Family Access | Staff Directory |
| Breakfast and Lunch Menus | School Supply Lists | PrimeTime Care |

Accessibility:
If any individual has difficulty accessing the information in this newsletter, they may contact our main office at 248-956-3900. We will provide the requested information in an alternate format. More information about our district accessibility practices and policies is available here.
5th Grade Camp Open House

Parents and students are welcome to tour the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center at 3577 Sleeth Ct., Commerce Twp., MI 48382, prior to their overnight camp experience. This is a chance for you to take an informal tour any time between 5:00 and 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 23, 2020.

A camp meeting will also be held at your school before your camping experience. This will be your chance to ask specific questions and get all of the necessary paperwork.

Please call Stuart Riley @ 248-956-5120 for any questions regarding 5th grade camp. Our website is www.wlcisd.org/outdoorcenter

Affordable Internet at Home for Eligible Households

You may qualify if you are eligible for public assistance programs such as the National School Lunch Program, Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others. Get connected today!

2020 Commerce Little League Baseball Registration

On-Line Registration opens December 1st at www.commercelittleleague.com

REGISTRATION BEGINS 12/1/2019

(Early Bird Registration last through 1/15/2020)

TEAM DIVISIONS FOLLOW LITTLE LEAGUE AGE CHART

- T Ball (Birthday 9/1/14-8/31/19) Early Bird Fee: $100
- Coach Pitch (Birthday 9/1/13-8/31/19) Early Bird Fee: $100
- Minors “A” (Birthday 9/1/12-6/30/13) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Minors “AA” (Birthday 9/1/11-8/31/12) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Minors “AAA” (Birthday 9/1/10-8/31/11) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Majors (Birthday 9/1/09-8/31/10) Early Bird Fee: $125
- Intermediate (Birthday 9/1/08-8/31/07) Early Bird Fee: $125
- JR/SR (Birthday 9/1/04-8/31/03) Early Bird Fee: $130

*Early Bird Players: Birthday 9/1/16-8/31/16 can choose either T Ball or Coach Pitch
*$50 Raffle Fee will be added to each registration as part of league fundraiser.
*Prices go up $5 after 1/15/20

WORLD CLASS FACILITIES:

- New Covered Dugouts with Two-Tiered Benches. New backstops and fencing
- Grass Infields and Batting Cages
- Concession stand and restroom facilities
- Playground structures and paved parking area

For more information visit www.commercelittleleague.com
READY, SET, FUN!

STRIDE
A fun, character-building afterschool program for boys
STRIDE is a fun afterschool character development and fitness program for boys in grades 3–8. Boys have the chance to share their thoughts and opinions about various life topics in a safe, encouraging environment that helps them develop character, while building their running endurance to complete a 5K.

In a world where boys are constantly trying to measure up to what they should be, STRIDE helps them discover who they are!

Season Begins:
March 11th

Celebration 5K:
May 17, 2020
Lake St. Clair Metropark

S
SUCCESS

T
TEAMWORK

R
RESPECT

I
INSPIRATION

D
DETERMINATION

E
EXCELLENCE IN CHARACTER

"AT STRIDE I LEARNED THAT EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN STRENGTH AND YOU CAN RUN AT YOUR OWN PACE"
- Evan, 4th Grade

Everyone is welcome. Financial assistance is available. The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit strengthens communities in Southeast Michigan and beyond through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.
OAKLAND SCHOOLS CAREER READINESS PRESENTS:

DREAM BIG, DREAM TOGETHER
A FREE MOVIE AND STEM ACTIVITY
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020

Looking for a fun and educational activity for you and your kids on their day off from school? Join us on President's Day for a free showing of the acclaimed "Dream Big: Engineering Our World" documentary, showcasing the important role that engineers play in our society. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a STEM activity after the movie to further their interest in engineering and STEM careers.

Recommended for 3rd to 8th Grade Students
(Parents are encouraged to watch the preview linked below and/or read reviews of "Dream Big" to determine appropriateness for your child)

10:00 am to 12:00 pm - Monday, February 17, 2020
Oakland Schools - Conference Rooms A-D
2111 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Dream Big Preview:
https://youtu.be/hvVNsTB8I1B

REGISTER NOW AT:
HTTPS://OSDREAMBIG.EVENTBRITE.COM