### Understanding i-Ready

#### What is the iReady Assessment (or diagnostic)?

i-Ready is an online program that measures your child’s progress in reading and math. It assists classroom teachers in determining your child’s strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. i-Ready allows us to meet your child where they are and provides us with data to inform instruction.

The i-Ready diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts to questions to suit your child’s needs. Each item a student receives is based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. The purpose of this is not to give your child a score or grade but to determine how to best support their learning. The i-Ready diagnostics are given three times a year - Fall, Winter, and Spring.

#### What is iReady Instruction?

Throughout the week, the students work on the i-Ready Online Instruction module. This provides students with lessons based on their individual strengths and areas for growth. These lessons are interactive and provide strategies supports to keep your child engaged as they learn. It is important for students to spend at least 40 minutes each week doing BOTH Reading and Math online instruction at home (20 minutes for reading/20 minutes for math). We also encourage parents/guardians to discuss their child’s progress on i-Ready lessons and celebrate their growth!

Classrooms are just finishing up with Diagnostic #2 in both reading and math. Once students have completed this second round of assessments, you should receive your child’s score, along with information about online instruction. For more information about i-Ready, check out this [i-Ready Family Guide](#).

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### 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!

PTA President’s Corner

- Now that signups are complete for our PTA Membership Event on Friday, January 31st, we need volunteers! Please visit tinyurl.com/volunteer-PTA to sign up to help. You’ll be there anyway! Thank you in advance for your assistance!
- It's Box Tops time again! Our next and final Box Tops collection for this school year will be on Friday, February 14th. Any time between now and then, please bring in your clipped box tops and drop them off in the collection bin in the lobby! Each Box Top earns money for our school! Don't want to clip? Make sure you've downloaded the app from your app store and go digital!
- Friday, February 14th is also our annual Hearts to You fundraiser! For just $1 per heart, students, parents, and teachers can send notes and goodies to their friends and family! Flyers will be coming home in backpacks soon and hearts and donations will be due by Thursday, February 13th.
- Our next PTA meeting is on Wednesday, February 12th at 7pm. Our Student Council will be joining us!
- Mark your calendars for our two most popular events of the year, Moms and Muffins on March 19th and Dads Bingo Night on April 23rd! Look for more information about these events in the coming weeks. You won't want to miss them!

Congratulations to Our Spelling Bee Participants and Champs!

Congratulations to the following students who were our Spelling Bee Champs in Grades 3-5. We are proud of ALL our participants for their hard work and courage. Way to go!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3rd Grade</th>
<th>4th Grade</th>
<th>5th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place:</td>
<td>1st Place:</td>
<td>1st Place: Leslie Blaharski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan Feld</td>
<td>Kaltan Sussex</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place:</td>
<td>2nd Place:</td>
<td>2nd Place: David Devaney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavin Olzak</td>
<td>Xavier Saldana</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Place:</td>
<td>3rd Place:</td>
<td>3rd Place: Sasha Feld</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mia O’Rear</td>
<td>Kareonna Klein</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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A special THANK YOU to Caryn Devaney for coordinating the Spelling Bee every year. Her twins will move on to middle school at the end of this year and we are SO grateful for all her time and effort throughout the years! Thank you, Caryn!

Winter Skating Party
Rolladium Fun Center
Tuesday, January 28th from 6:30-8:30pm
4475 Highland Road, Waterford, MI
Come join the fun!!!
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

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.

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**Commerce Elementary Contact Information**

| Main Office: 248-956-3900 | Website: www.wlcsd.org/commerce | Christina Carlin, Principal christinacarlin@wlcsd.org |
| Absences: 248-956-3990 | | |
| Denise Kaczmarek, Secretary denisekaczmarek@wlcsd.org | Carley Dunphey, Head Teacher carleydunphey@wlcsd.org | Tonya Gray, Secretary tonyagray@wlcsd.org |

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**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.

Affordable Internet at Home for Eligible Households

$9.95 Per Month + Tax
No Contract
No Credit Check
No Installation Fee
In-Home Wifi
15 Mbps

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

For 66 years, Commerce Little League has continued a proud tradition of providing organized baseball for Walled Lake Consolidated Schools / Huron Valley Schools area children. All games are played in Commerce Township at Maple Glen Park on some of the best fields in Michigan!

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 - 8/31/16) Early Bird Fee: $100
- Coach Pitch (Birthday 9/1/13 - 8/31/15) Early Bird Fee: $100
- Minors “A” (Birthday 9/1/12 - 8/31/13) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Minors “AA” (Birthday 9/1/11 - 8/31/12) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Minors “AAA” (Birthday 9/1/09 - 8/31/11) Early Bird Fee: $115
- Majors (Birthday 9/1/07 - 8/31/09) Early Bird Fee: $125
- Intermediate (Birthday 9/1/05 - 8/31/07) Early Bird Fee: $125
- JR/SR (Birthday 9/1/04 - 8/31/05) Early Bird Fee: $130

*Prices go up $15 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
Attention Commerce kids, moms and dads! How would you like to send your friend, sister, brother, cousin, and/or teacher a very special valentine message? Once again, the PTA is sponsoring "Hearts to You." Here is how it will work:

- Fill out the heart(s) below (one for each special person).
- Cut out, and if you want, decorate your heart(s).
- Send your heart greeting along with $1.00 (1 heart = $1; 2 hearts = $2, etc.) to the school office attention "PTA."

Volunteers will collect your hearts and add a special valentine candy treat to each of them. Friday, February 14th, your special valentine heart(s) and treat(s) will be secretly delivered to your valentine’s classroom - What a surprise! Your valentine will be thrilled to receive such a special treat!

So don’t forget about “Hearts to You” this Valentine’s Day and remember, all hearts must be turned into the school office along with your $1 for each heart greeting by Thursday, February 13th. Sorry, no late orders can be accepted.

**Questions?** Please contact Jennifer Kapeller -- dkny420@aol.com

Cut out your heart(s) and return to the school office by Thursday, February 13th!
Where: Commerce Elementary
When: Wednesday & Fridays
Time: Wed: 7:30 - 9 Fri: 4 - 5:15
Includes:
» 20 Lessons with a Snack
» Cinch Bag & Water bottle
» T-shirt & Medal
» Entry into the 5K & Finisher Gift

Season Begins:
March 11th
Celebration 5K:
May 17, 2020
Lake St. Clair Metropark

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!

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

Registration
Registration Dates:
NOW through 3/8/20
Cost:
Before 3/1/20 - $145
After 3/2/20 - $160
Register Online
ymcadetroit.org/stride
Scholarships and payment plans are available.

STRIDE
YMCA OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT
Jill Gallagher
jill.gallagher@ymcadetroit.org
P (313) 223 2790
gotr@ymcadetroit.org

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.