March 6, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 9th</td>
<td>3:30pm - Tornado Drill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm - Middle School Orientation for Parents of 5th Graders - CHS Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 10th</td>
<td>Presidential Primary - Voting at Commerce - See Below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm - Roller Skating Night at the Rolladium!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 12th</td>
<td>Cougar Crew Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 13th</td>
<td>End of 2nd Trimester / Family Access Closes for Parents/Guardians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Grade - Native American History Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 16th</td>
<td>Book Fair All Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring Picture Day (See Flyer Below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm - Incoming Kindergarten Orientation - Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 17th</td>
<td>Shamrocks to You Delivered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smart Middle School Counselor Visits 5th Grade Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 18th</td>
<td>Half Day of School - 12:25 pm Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Professional Development in the Afternoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 19th</td>
<td>Moms &amp; Muffins (Last Names A-L 7:45-8:15am) (Last Names M-Z 8:15- 8:45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morley and Sparks - Disability Awareness Workshop (OEC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Celebrate March is Reading Month!

**Read Around Commerce Township**

We are excited to share a special partnership between Commerce Elementary and local businesses to help promote a love of reading in our community! It’s called “Read Around Commerce Township!” Below are the details:

**How to participate:**
- Each business listed in your “passport” has a book on display for students to read. Students brought home their “passport” and a flyer on Friday.
- Students should visit each location, read the book, and earn a stamp in their passport.
- If a book is too challenging for your child, please read it together!
- Make sure you leave the book at the business for the next Cougar!

**Timeline:**
- Books will be on display from March 6th thru April 12th.
- Students can return their passport to school on (or before) April 12th.
- “Read Around Commerce” is a great family activity for Spring Break, too!

**The Goal:** Each student is encouraged to visit at least 3 locations to read and enjoy a good book!

**Share the Reading Love!**
- Snap a picture and use the hashtag #ReadAroundCommerce!
- You can also tag our wonderful partners on facebook, twitter, or instagram.
- Please e-mail pictures of our readers to Ms. Carlin, too! christinacarlin@wlcsd.org (or change the privacy settings on your facebook, twitter, or instagram post so it is public).
Read Around Commerce Township!

Visit the businesses listed in your passport:

1. Read the book!
2. Put it back for the next Cougar to enjoy!
3. Politely ask for a stamp in your passport.
4. Visit another spot!

Books will be on display from March 6th thru April 12th.

Thank you to our community partners for supporting our readers!

Don’t forget to use the hashtag #ReadAroundCommerce to share our love of reading!
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.

March 10th - Presidential Primary Election

Commerce is a voting precinct for the presidential primary election on March 10th. Voting will take place in our gym. Please note the following additional security measures:

- PE classes will be held in an alternate location on this date.
- Voters will not have access to our building beyond the gym entrance.
- Additional staff will be stationed in front of the gym doors all day for added security.
- Staff will be extra vigilant about school security, especially during transitions.
- Additional staff will also be present during Cougar Carpool.

Incoming Kindergarten Orientation

Parents and guardians of future kindergartners are invited to Kindergarten Orientation at all 12 of our elementary schools - Monday, March 16th at 6:30pm.

Do you know a future Commerce Cougar? Please share information about Kindergarten Orientation! Please also contact our main office and so your name can be added to our e-mail list. This list will be used to send out information about upcoming events. Call 248-956-3900 or email denisekaczmarek@wlcsd.org & tonyagray@wlcsd.org

Fifth Grade Parents:

Clifford H. Smart Middle School cordially invites you to attend our incoming 6th grade Parent Orientation meeting on Monday, March 9, 2020 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

“We’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE!”
PTA President’s Corner

- Thank you to all of the students and parents who donated money and read lots of books for our annual Read-A-Thon! We are still tallying donations but through your generosity, we will be able to continue to fund the Literacy Library! Thank you to Ginger Monacelli for organizing our Read-A-Thon!

- Our Moms and Muffins event is coming soon! Students are invited to bring their moms or other special women in their life for a light breakfast on **Thursday, March 19th**! Last names A-L can attend from 7:45-8:15am; Last names M-Z from 8:15-8:45am. The Spring Book Fair will also be open during the morning so you can do your book shopping during the opposite time! No RSVP is needed for this event, but we need helping hands from some Cougar Dads! Click [here](#) to volunteer to help!

- Our Shamrocks to You fundraiser is officially underway! Students can turn in $1 per completed shamrock until Monday, March 16th (no late entries will be accepted). Shamrocks and a special treat will be delivered on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17th!

- The Commerce Prom is coming on April 17th! This new spring fundraiser is sure to be the bee's knees as you are transported back to the 1920s for an adults-only evening of dinner, drinks, and a special silent auction! Book your babysitters and get your flapper dresses and zoot suits ready! Tickets go on sale March 16th!

- It’s hard to believe we have just two PTA meetings left this year! Our next meeting is **Wednesday, March 18th**. Nominations for next year’s executive board will be presented at this meeting. Join us and help be a part of all the fun programming sponsored by the PTA!
Dear Commerce Families,

The safety of our children at school is our first priority. Over the last few years, our district has made considerable improvements to make our schools safer. These achievements were possible due to the support of our community. Through bond initiatives, our schools increased security by creating secure entryways, installing additional cameras, replacing outdated emergency alert systems, and much more.

During the 2019-2020 school year, our efforts to ensure a safe learning environment have continued. Specifically, our district has adopted an **options-based emergency response** or enhanced lockdown procedures. You have received updates from our deputy superintendent, Dr. Delgado, about this district-wide goal. Throughout this process, we have collaborated with local law enforcement including staff training and parent informational meetings.

On Tuesday, the 3rd, our half day of **staff professional development** focused on additional training about **options-based emergency responses**. We learned more about an options-based approach to violent intruders, ran through scenarios with law enforcement, and prepared for introductory lessons with students. It was a very productive afternoon and we are grateful that our staff is so committed to school safety.

Our next steps are to teach our students in an age-appropriate way about options-based safety drills. I have met with the building principals from the other WLCSD elementary schools to collaboratively develop a plan to introduce these protocols to our students. You will receive an email next week with more information regarding next steps with our students. **If you would like to talk to your child about school safety, we have resources on our website that may be helpful. (See “School Safety” tab).**

We recognize that school safety is an emotionally charged topic and careful consideration has been taken throughout this process. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. We welcome your input and are grateful for your partnership.

Sincerely,

Christina Carlin  
Proud Principal, Commerce Elementary

---

**Oakland County Sheriff Deputies**

From time-to-time, you or your child may see Oakland County Sheriff deputies, specifically our school liaisons, at our school. This does NOT necessarily mean there is a problem or issue. Our deputies often stop by to check-in, walk the halls, and talk to kids. They do that so kids get to know them. They want children to know that law enforcement officers are “helpers” and they should not be scared of them.

In addition to school visits, deputies may also be present to assist our staff with emergency procedures and training. Most recently, they attended our February staff meeting to teach us about our enhanced lockdown or options-based emergency procedures. **This week, our school police liaison will be in the building for a couple days to support teachers and answer questions they may have about these emergency procedures.**

Again, the presence of law enforcement at school does not necessarily mean there is an issue. If there is a medical or security issue, we will send out an email to all families so you are appropriately informed.
Commerce Elementary Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Office: 248-956-3900</th>
<th>Website: <a href="http://www.wlcsd.org/commerce">www.wlcsd.org/commerce</a></th>
<th>Christina Carlin, Principal <a href="mailto:christinacarlin@wlcsd.org">christinacarlin@wlcsd.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absences: 248-956-3990</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denise Kaczmarek, Secretary <a href="mailto:denisekaczmarek@wlcsd.org">denisekaczmarek@wlcsd.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carley Dunphey, Head Teacher <a href="mailto:carleydunphey@wlcsd.org">carleydunphey@wlcsd.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tonya Gray, Secretary <a href="mailto:tonyagray@wlcsd.org">tonyagray@wlcsd.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important Links and Resources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Handbook</th>
<th>School Calendar</th>
<th>PTA Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Newsletters</td>
<td>Skyward Family Access</td>
<td>Staff Directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast and Lunch Menus</td>
<td>School Supply Lists</td>
<td>PrimeTime Care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spring pictures let you be you!

Monday, March 16, 2020
Lunes, 16 de marzo, 2020

Commerce Elementary School

What to Expect:

- Students are photographed on Picture Day
- Pictures sent home with your child
- Review pictures & purchase on mylifetouch.com

Questions? Please contact Customer Service at 800-366-4753.

Fill out this form and return on Picture Day.

Student’s Name

Teacher

Choose one background:

1
2
3
4
5
6

Please note: If you don’t select a background, a default will be chosen. All students will be photographed. Please notify your child’s teacher if you do not want an individual photograph of your child, your child may be included in a group portrait, if requested by the school. By completing and submitting this order form, you are agreeing to all Lifetouch’s terms and conditions located at http://www.lifetouch.com/termsconditions and to a privacy policy located at http://www.lifetouch.com/privacy/
Moms and Muffins

March 19th 2020
Commerce Gym

Last Names A-L attend at 7:45-8:15am
Last Names M-Z attend at 8:15-8:45am

MOMS! Join your child(ren) in honoring YOU! Dads will be serving a light breakfast of muffins, fruit, juice and coffee.

To help with this event, use our sign-up genius:
https://tinyurl.com/momsandmuffins

Don’t forget to visit the Book Fair in the Commerce Library during this event.

Last Names A-L should visit the Book Fair from 8:15-8:45am.
Last Names M-Z should visit the Book Fair from 7:45-8:15am.
Attention Moms, Dads & Kids!

Send a Shamrock to your favorite little leprechaun, lucky charm or friend!

- Fill out the Shamrock(s) below *(one for each special person)*.
- Cut out, and if you want, decorate your Shamrock(s).
- Send your Shamrock greeting(s) along with $100 *(1 shamrock = $1; 2 shamrock = $2, etc.)* to the school office attention "PTA - Shamrocks to You" by Monday, March 16th.

Sorry, no late orders can be accepted.

*Shamrocks will be delivered along with a special surprise on Tuesday, March 17th.*

**QUESTIONS?** Jennifer Kapeller -- dkny420@aol.com
March 2, 2020

Dear Parents:

As the safety of our entire school community is paramount, we continue to monitor developments related to Coronavirus, or COVID-19.

Although there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan, residents are still being urged by the Governor’s Office to take all necessary precautions to prepare and keep themselves and their families safe. According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the risk of outbreak is low, but the State is still making preparations to limit the spread and impact of COVID-19.

Rest assured, Walled Lake Consolidated School District continues to work closely with, and follow guidance from, the Oakland County Health Division, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The best prevention for COVID-19, and any other virus, such as the cold or flu, is to:
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, please stay home and avoid contact with others.

We will reinforce these best practices with our students, and we ask that you do as well.

The Oakland County Health Division has provided the attached fact sheet to help address concerns. [Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) What You Need to Know](#)

The CDC provides a situation summary that is updated daily as needed, [Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Summary](#), as does the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services [Communicable & Chronic Diseases](#).

The CDC will continue to prepare for the potential spread of COVID-19 and will provide guidance to communities ([CDC Protects and Prepares Communities](#)).

If you have questions about COVID-19, please contact the Oakland County Health Division at (248) 858-1280 or [health@oakgov.com](mailto:health@oakgov.com) or visit [https://www.oakgov.com/health](https://www.oakgov.com/health).

We will continue to share information as it becomes available, and we will err on the side of caution.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Gutman
Superintendent of Schools

Every Child, Every Day!