

Huth Road Elementary

A good beginning never ends...



The mission of the
Grand Island schools
is to
foster academic excellence,
personal growth,
and social responsibility.

**Parent/Student
Handbook
2023-24**



Grand Island Central School District Office
1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, NY 14072
716-773-8800 Office Hours: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

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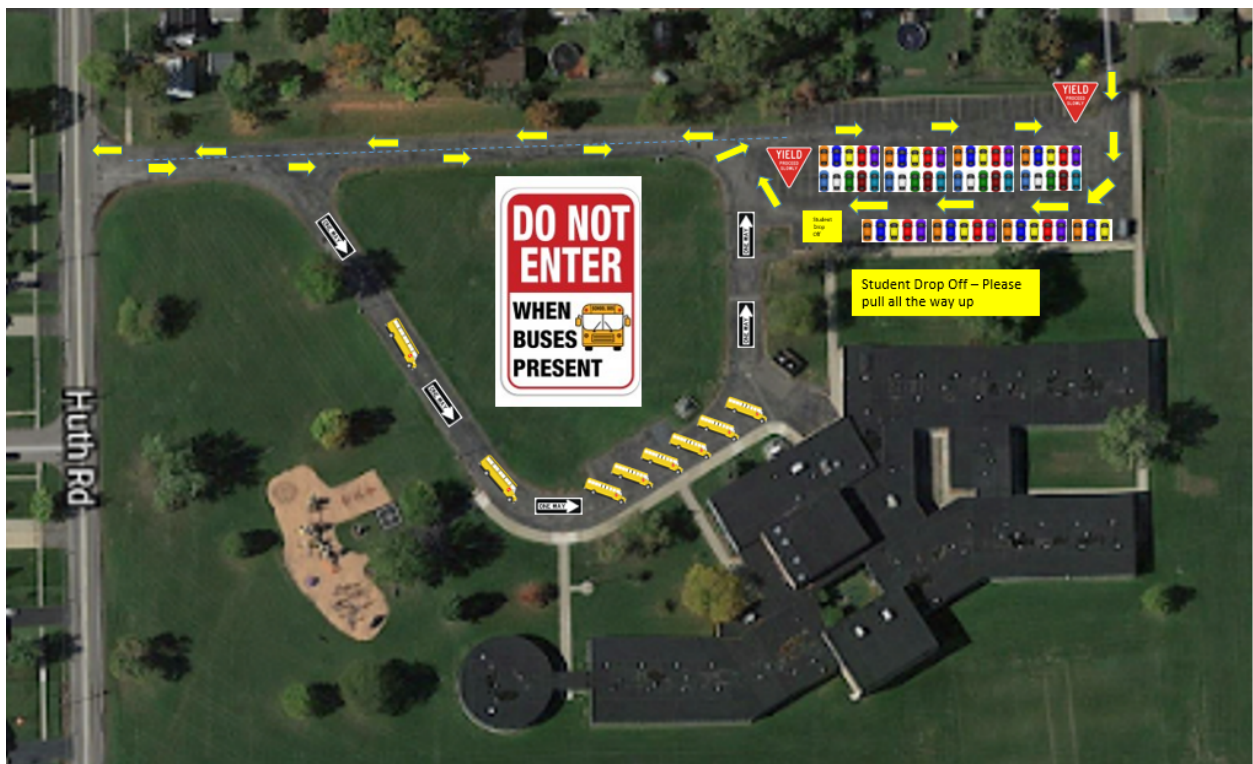
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I. SCHOOL OPERATION

SCHOOL HOURS

- The school day for students is 8:50 am – 3:05 pm
- Students are marked tardy after 9:00 am
- Students can enter for breakfast at 8:35 am
- Office Hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm and 8:00 - 3:30 PM on Fridays.

Students arriving before 8:50 am are asked to wait outside the building for the bell. No student should be dropped off before 8:50 am unless they plan on attending breakfast at 8:35 am. In the event of inclement weather, students will be allowed to enter the main office vestibule no earlier than 8:50 am.



DROP OFF PROCEDURES

For the safety of our children, please follow the one-way flow of traffic in the parking lot during arrival and dismissal. **DO NOT attempt to pass cars stopped in the line.**

PARKING

Our main parking lot is available for daily use. For your convenience, we have a smaller, **visitor parking lot near the main entrance.** **Please do not park in the visitor parking lot if your departure must be timely.** We often have visitors arrive when the loop is clear only to return to find that a bus has blocked their car. We

apologize for this inconvenience, and we hope that by working together, we may prevent unexpected delays in your schedule.

ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS

The first step in helping your child succeed in school is being sure he or she is in school every day for the full instructional day. We are required to keep records of student attendance, including those times when students are late or dismissed for any part of the school day. A written excuse is required for any absence, tardiness, or early dismissal. Legal excuses include illness, inclement weather, and religious observations. An absence for which no legal excuse is provided is marked illegal. It is important to email humainoffice@gicsd.org or call the school office at 773-8850 to report the reason for your child's absence. If you do not call, the attendance clerk will call home reminding you that a note must be sent to school.

Attendance letters are automatically generated and sent home by our system when a child is late and/or absent 9, 15, and 20 times. Because school attendance is vital to your child's success, the school will work closely with you to resolve any attendance concerns that may arise before contacting an outside agency, such as Child and Family Services, for support.

We encourage all students who are sick or contagious to remain home until they are well and no longer contagious. More information on our Attendance Policy can be found on the district website.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Please make every effort to avoid taking your child out of school early for appointments and family matters by scheduling such needs outside of school hours. If an early release is unavoidable, please send a note to your child's teacher in the morning indicating the time of dismissal and name of the adult who will pick up your child. Parents must report to the main office for pick up. Picture identification is required. Additionally, you can send an email to humainoffice@gicsd.org to notify of the early dismissal. Please try to notify the main office at your earliest convenience.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

In case of inclement weather, please listen to one of the local radio stations listed below, or check the local TV stations for announcements regarding school closings.

- WBEN (930)
- WKBW (1520)
- WGR (55)
- WBUF (93)
- Channel 2, 4 and/or 7

Should the building be closed for a reason other than inclement weather, such as a water main break, gas leak, etc., parents will be contacted with a recorded message via telephone. Please be sure your contact information is

always up to date. Call the district office at 716-773-8800 or visit your parent portal to update your contact information.

JUST FOR KIDS Before and After School Care

Just For Kids offers a before and after-school childcare program at Huth Road Elementary. Qualified coordinators and aides staff the program. Activities include arts and crafts, sports, special projects, stories, games, and quiet time for homework. Contact Info:

Carlene Bigord, Office Manager & Registration Coordinator

PH: 716-639-8500 ext. 100

FAX: 716-636-1469

cbigord@justforkidsonline.org

www.justforkidsonline.org

II. TRANSPORTATION

The Grand Island Central School District Transportation Department is utilizing a digital solution to distribute student busing information. The Transportation Department will be maintaining [Versatrans e-Link®](#) for parents/guardians to gain access to their child's busing information. Versatrans e-Link is an online student transportation parent portal, which enables parents to access their student's transportation information and bus schedules at any time.

PARENTS, PLEASE VISIT THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT HOMEPAGE [HERE](#) FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO USE "VERSATRANS."

Preliminary student bus stop information is currently active on the e-Link. This information is subject to change. Busing information is updated regularly and can be accessed at any time.

PLEASE NOTE: Bus stop times are estimated and are subject to change. Please have your child at the bus stop five minutes prior to pick-up times. Elementary students' parents/guardians should be at the bus stop with their children. Routing times are subject to change up to two weeks into the school year. Please refer to the [My Stop App](#) to access live bus GPS data.

BUS SAFETY

The safe transportation of our students is of primary concern to us. The same courtesies are expected at the bus stop and on the school bus as in the classroom. We ask that you review the following expectations with your child.

- Students should be at their assigned stops at least 5 minutes prior to the arrival of the bus—buses cannot wait for students to arrive.
- Students must board at their assigned location.
- Students are expected to wait in an orderly manner and be considerate of other students' property, as well as their own.
- Students who cross before boarding or after leaving a bus must:

- Wait for a signal from the bus driver before starting to cross.
- Walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Never cross behind the bus.
- Students must remain seated at all times when the bus is in motion.
- Students may not place any part of their bodies or any objects outside the windows of the bus.
- Students should be quiet, orderly, and listen to the directions of the driver.
- Cell phones and Chromebooks should remain in the child's book bag.
- **With the exception of cell phones and chromebooks, electronic devices of any kind are not allowed unless given prior approval from the principal.**
- No food or beverages may be consumed on the bus.
- Students are not allowed to transport prescription medicine or over-the-counter medications on the bus unless given prior approval by the nurse.
- Bulky packages or projects, large musical instruments, animals, or potentially dangerous objects may not be brought on the bus.
- Students' hands should be free when boarding the bus. Supplies and other items should be carried in backpacks.
- Glass containers are prohibited on buses and in school.
- Knick knacks attached to backpacks are not allowed as they can swing and injure other students who are sitting on the bus as a child is walking in the aisle.
- Horseplay, yelling, fighting, bothering others, using profanity, and not cooperating with the driver are strictly prohibited.

INFRACTIONS

A notice is sent home to parents detailing any infractions. Repeated infractions will result in the loss of bus riding privileges. If a child is suspended from riding the bus, it is the parent's responsibility to transport the child to and from school.

BUS STOP

If there are problems at a particular bus stop, the school may be able to assist in resolving the problem; however, the responsibility for supervising behavior at the bus stop rests with the parents.

Requests for regular **alternate transportation**, such as for daycare, must be made through the bus garage located on Baseline Road behind Sidway School or 716-773-8890.

LATE BUSES

Late buses are provided for students in grades 3 – 5 attending after-school activities or staying for extra help. The late bus leaves school at 4:00 pm. Please be patient with the drop off time for late bus runs. Some days more students will be taking the late bus than other days, and the drop off times can vary greatly.

BICYCLES

Only students who *do not* qualify for bus transportation may ride a bike to school. If your child qualifies for bus transportation, s/he must be accompanied by an adult if riding a bike to school. Please note the following safety rules:

- Bicycle helmets are required.
- Bicycles must be securely locked at the bike rack when not in use.
- All safe bicycle riding rules must be obeyed or the privilege will be revoked.

BUS LOOP

Cars must not use the loop during arrival and dismissal times or anytime a bus is present. This area is reserved for our buses. Please use the parking lot on the side of the school when you are planning to be at the school during arrival, dismissal, late bus dismissal, or anytime you see school buses on the property such as for a field trip. Should you choose to use our visitor parking, please keep in mind that you may be blocked by a bus at any time. We greatly apologize for this inconvenience.

DROP OFF PROCEDURE

Each morning, there will be a line of cars in the parking lot to drop off students at the walkway stop sign. Please note that the parking lot is **one way**. For our children's safety, parents must not pass other cars in the parking lot.

III. LUNCHES AND CAFETERIA

BREAKFAST

Huth Road Elementary provides a nutritional breakfast of juice, milk, cereal and a bread product beginning at 8:35 am. Breakfast will be \$2.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

LUNCH

In addition to the choices on our lunch menu, daily alternates include: pizza, hot dog, PB&J, and Fun Lunch. Children choosing a school lunch and those bringing lunch from home may also purchase bottled water, milk, ice cream, cookies and chips. Menus are posted in the cafeteria, in classrooms, and on the district website. Our cafeteria manager can be reached at 716-773-8847. Lunch will be \$3.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

CAFETERIA MONEY

The easiest way for our students to make cafeteria purchases is by using a declining balance. Please send a check of any amount made payable to "School Lunch Fund" anytime of the year, or visit **www.myschoolbucks.com**. There is no lunch card to keep track of, and balances "roll over" from year to year. If your child's balance gets low, s/he will be given a reminder note to take

home. If the account is depleted, s/he will call home to let you know. Thank you for maintaining a positive lunch account balance.

FREE & REDUCED PRICE MEALS

We ask that **all** families, regardless of income, complete the free and reduced lunch form at the beginning of each school year as this information determines our government funding for the school. Information will be kept strictly confidential. This form is digital and can be found on our district website. **Be sure to complete a new application each September.**

CONSENT TO RELEASE FREE/REDUCED ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

If your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, s/he may be eligible for other benefits as well, such as free school supplies, personal care items or field trips. In order to receive these benefits, you need to provide consent to share your information with the principal or representatives of certain programs. The consent form does *not* affect your child's eligibility for free or reduced lunch.

FOOD ALLERGIES

If you have a child with allergies, be sure to contact the school nurse and your child's teacher to discuss a care plan before the school year begins.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We are asking that families do NOT send food items to celebrate a student's birthday-instead consider sharing items like pencils, stickers, or purchase a book to add to the classroom library in your child's name.

CAFETERIA PROCEDURES

To help maintain a happy, healthy, and orderly cafeteria environment, students and staff are to observe the following procedures.

- Use the bathroom before or after lunch, not during.
- Glass containers are not permitted.
- No saving seats. Look for ways to be a good friend, and do not tolerate bullying. (Stick up for each other, and/or tell the monitor in private.)
- Stay seated with your knees under the table.
- Raise your hand for help.
- Use a quiet voice.
- No sharing or trading food or drink.
- If it is not yours, do not touch it.
- When asked to do so, throw out trash including checking for any dropped items on the floor.
- Wash hands *after* eating to remove any possible allergens.

IV. HEALTH SERVICES

Our school nurse is a licensed R.N. assigned to our building on a full-time basis. You may contact her by calling 716-404-1706. The Health Office fax number is 716-773-8764.

WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS

It can be difficult to decide whether to send children to school when they wake up with early symptoms of an illness or complaints that they do not feel well. In general, unless your child is significantly ill, the best place for him is in school. Remind your children to discard used tissues promptly, not to share personal items, to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, to keep their hands away from their faces, and to wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and warm water. There are some situations in which it is best to keep your child home to rest or to arrange for an appointment with your healthcare provider. The following are a few such situations that warrant being absent from school:

- Persistent fever greater than 100.4° orally, including a fever that requires control with medication, like Tylenol
- Child is too sleepy or ill to profit from sitting in class all day
- Significant cough that makes a child feel uncomfortable or disrupts the class
- Sore throat that is severe, accompanied by fever, and/or ill feeling that persists longer than 48 hours, OR after known exposure to a confirmed case of streptococcal throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts that might be impetigo; OR a rash in various stages including boils, sores, and bumps that may be chicken pox; OR a significant rash accompanied by other symptoms of illness such as fever
- Red, runny eyes that distract the child from learning
- Large amount of discolored nasal discharge, especially if accompanied by facial pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or drainage from the ear
- Severe headache, especially if accompanied by fever
- Any condition that you think may be serious or contagious to others

Whenever there is an outbreak of a specific contagious infection, the school sends out a notice to parents to watch for symptoms. If your child starts to develop symptoms, it is important that you alert your own health care provider that your child had possible exposure. Be sure to ask your provider when it is safe for your child to return to school both for your child's health and for the health of the rest of the schoolchildren and personnel.

EXCUSES FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION

On occasion, it may be necessary for children to be excused from physical education classes. Excuses from phys. ed. are approved through our school

nurse. Excuses for more than five consecutive days must be issued by a physician, and the student must be seen by a doctor to resume normal activity. Students who have an excuse from phys. ed. are not permitted to use the playground or engage in other physical activities.

REQUESTS FOR HOMEWORK FOR SICK STUDENTS

If you expect your child to be absent for several days due to illness, you may request that homework be available for pickup in the office or sent home with a sibling or friend if you think your child is well enough to complete it at home. Please be aware that the preparation of these materials takes time, so adequate notice is greatly appreciated. It is expected that work requested will be completed and brought back with the child upon returning to school.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Health Appraisals are required by NYS for all Pre-K, K, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 10th grade students. If one is not provided, a written notification will be sent to inform the parent/guardian that the school medical director will perform a health appraisal in 30 days unless a current health appraisal is provided to the school within that time. A district health appraisal form is available on the website.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Prescription and over-the-counter medication must be brought to the school nurse by a parent in its original, labeled container. Additionally:

- Written permission must be submitted by the parent to the health office requesting that the school district comply with physician's orders.
- Written orders from a physician or instructions by the pharmacist must accompany the medication and include the name of the drug, dosage, time interval, possible side effect, etc.
- During field trips or other school activities, classroom teachers will be advised by the nurse regarding procedures.

V. CURRICULUM

INTRODUCTION

We work hard to help our students master the curriculum and standards outlined by the District and NYSED. We use Fountas & Pinnell's Continuum of Literacy Learning to form the basis of our balanced literacy approach for ELA. For math, we utilize the iReady Math Program. Families of Grand Island Central Schools have access to a variety of Internet based tools to support individualized learning both in and out of the classroom. Be sure to visit our website to access these tools.

ASSESSMENTS

The NYSED assessment calendar outlines when students in grades 3, 4 & 5 will take the NYS assessments. For more information on the NYS assessments, including sample questions, visit the NYSED website.

CLASSROOM PLACEMENTS

Classroom placements are made in collaboration with teachers familiar with your child. It is important that we have all the information we need to place your child appropriately for the following school year. Should you have private information that should be considered when making placements that you do not wish to share with your child's current teacher, please send the information to the principal no later than April of the current school year. Note that we cannot accept requests for specific teachers.

CO-TAUGHT CLASSROOMS

Each of our classrooms includes students with unique learning needs. All students receive differentiated instruction in a variety of ways. Some of our students' programming requires the expertise of a special education teacher within the classroom. Such a room is called a co-taught classroom. The majority of children assigned to a co-taught classroom do not have instructional accommodations while a handful of anonymous students do. The special education teacher collaborates and cooperates with the classroom teacher when planning and teaching lessons so that *all* students in the room can reach their full potential.

ART, MUSIC & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We have a 4 day cycle rotation for specials during the school year. Every day a student attends school will be identified as a day 1, 2, 3, or 4. Days will run in consecutive order with a minor change to accommodate parent conferences. Your child's teacher will communicate what special your child will have on Day 1, 2, 3, and 4. The 4 day cycle rotation schedule for each month will be provided.

Students should bring a smock with them to art class. Physical Education is provided at least twice weekly. Students may not wear jewelry of any kind to

physical education classes. Sneakers must be worn. All students must be prepared for physical education class outside during the fall and spring. A jacket and sweatpants may be needed according to the weather. Students will not be changing for physical education class.

VI. OTHER INFORMATION

HOMEWORK

The amount of time families schedule for homework depends on many factors, but on average, your child should plan for 30 minutes of homework for grades 2 and 3 and 45 minutes of homework for grades 4 and 5. Students are also required to read from a good book each evening. If your child says there is no homework, be sure to check his or her agenda.

Assignments typically include math, a writing assignment, and reading. Students will also complete 3 research projects per year, and some of this work may be completed at home. Teachers have discretion on what to assign students for homework. They care deeply about our children's success, so do not hesitate to contact them with questions.

READING AND MATH INCENTIVES

To help motivate and encourage students to read and practice their math facts at home, those who reach their goals can be nominated by their teachers to become "Math Masters". Such students have their names announced over announcements and receive a special certificate from the principal indicating their achievement.

SUMMER READING

Students are expected to read regularly throughout the summer and complete a summer reading log, which is distributed to all students at the end of the school year, shared out via e-news, and available on our website. Students who bring the completed book log to school in September participate in our Summer Reading Celebration. The celebration includes a special assembly of games and treats.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

School supply lists are available on the website. Teachers may ask for additional items at the beginning of the school year. We ask for parents' cooperation in sending in the items in a timely manner. School supplies are provided for those families who qualify. Please call the principal for information.

In addition to school supplies, parents may wish to keep the following items available for home use:

- Pencil sharpener
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils
- Glue and/or glue sticks

- Scissors
- Poster board for projects
- Loose leaf paper

TEXTBOOKS, LIBRARY BOOKS, AND AGENDAS

Textbooks and workbooks are provided for students. In the event that a student damages or loses a textbook, workbook, or agenda, the student's parents or guardians are responsible for the cost of replacing the item.

Students are responsible for returning library books on time. If a book is lost or damaged, a replacement fee will be assessed.

Agendas are used school wide as a means of teaching children organizational skills. Our PTA funds a portion of the cost, and parents are responsible for the balance. Should a replacement agenda be needed, parents will pay the full price of the agenda.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Maintaining reasonable school discipline is a responsibility of both school and home. We expect our students to always behave **in a courteous manner**. We insist on certain rules of common courtesy, safety, and acceptable social behavior, not only in the classroom, but also in the cafeteria, on the bus, walking in the halls, on the playground, and in all special area classes. Students are responsible for their behavior and, as such, are taught that all behavior, both positive and negative, has consequences. The **"Viking Values"** are the district behavior expectations that were adopted by our district. The Viking Values are explicitly taught in each of the areas identified by the school. The Viking Values are: **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.**

CONSEQUENCES

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly way. School staff, the principal or the principal's designee will discipline students who violate the school rules or the district's Code of Conduct. Consequences depend on the level of severity and may include verbal warning, requirement of verbal or written apologies, restitution, calls to parents, loss of privileges, in or out of school suspension, or a combination of consequences.

PLAYGROUND

Our playground is paid for and maintained by our school through fundraising efforts. We expect our school community and visitors alike to treat our playground with respect and follow these safety rules:

- The playground is *not* for those older than 12. Of course, parents and babysitters accompanying children are always welcome!
- The playground opens at dawn and closes at dusk.
- Go down the slides feet first, facing front. Do not slide backwards.

- Do not kick or throw the wood chips.
- Use a single line when climbing up stairs or waiting your turn.
- No pushing or pulling others.
- No jumping off equipment.

Residents living in homes adjacent to our playground are asked to help us maintain playground respect and safety by calling the sheriff (716-662-5554) or state police (716-297-0755) to report loitering or trespassing.

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY for COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

APPEARANCE and DRESS

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and/or back) short shorts, cutoffs, muscle shirts/tank-tops and see-through garments are not appropriate.
3. Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.
4. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is deemed inappropriate and/or a safety hazard as determined by the Administrator will not be allowed. (Students at Huth are encouraged to wear sneakers or rubber soled shoes daily.)
5. Not include the wearing of hats in the building and/or classroom except for a medical, religious or relevant instructional purpose.
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
8. Jewelry shall not be worn during the participation of athletic events and physical education including, but not limited to, any body piercing.
9. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

Huth students will have physical education classes outside as much as possible in the fall and spring. A jacket and sweatpants for cooler weather will be needed.

Teachers will inform the children if special attire is required for a field trip or picnic. Students attending special field trips such as to the Buffalo Philharmonic, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Studio Arena Theater, etc. are asked to dress up for the occasion. Our 5th grade students are asked to dress up for their Moving Up Day ceremony at the end of the school year. The dress code must be followed, although secure shoes may be worn instead of sneakers on dress up days.

Please note that our Lost & Found is most active when the weather is cold in the morning and hot by the afternoon. Be sure to remind your children to put their outerwear in their school bags to return home each day.

LOCKERS & PERSONAL ITEMS

Each student is assigned a locker to be shared with other students. Locks are not permitted, and students may not hang items on the inside of their locker door. Valued items should be left at home as lockers are not secure.

LOST AND FOUND

A lost and found box is located in the hallway just outside of the office. Note that lost jewelry, watches and other small valuables are kept in the office. Children are encouraged to check regularly for missing items. Parents are also encouraged to check the lost and found with each school visit. Families often do not know what is missing until it is discovered in the lost and found. Items left unclaimed are donated to charity at each holiday break.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES

Cell phones or electronic devices may not be used during school hours, on the bus, or at after school activities without prior permission from the principal. Cell phones or electronic devices in use without permission will be confiscated and kept in the office for a parent to retrieve. If a parent wishes for his/her child to have a cell phone or electronic device in school, the parent must consult with the teacher first. Please note that the school is not responsible for the safety or security of cell phones, electronic devices, or any valuables brought to school. Lockers are not secure.

VII. PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION

INTRODUCTION

We believe that parents and teachers are partners in teaching children, and communication is vital to a successful partnership. Please keep in close contact with your child's teacher throughout the year. Open Houses, conferences, email, e-news, teacher webpages and newsletters are just a few of the ways to keep in touch. When calling the school to speak with a teacher, please be prepared to leave a message so that the teacher may return your call once

students are dismissed. Teachers will make every effort to return your call by the next day.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent conferences are scheduled on the calendar twice per year. Teachers will communicate with parents regarding the best way to schedule conferences. Parents wishing to schedule a conference outside of the scheduled conference days should contact the teacher to set up a mutually agreeable time.

PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARDS

Progress Reports (report cards) will be available through our Parent Portal at certain times throughout the school year. Teachers also send home graded assignments and projects throughout the year. Be sure to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress.

STAFF DIRECTORY

A staff directory is available on our website. To reach any staff member in the Grand Island Central School District via email, type the employee's first and last name followed by @gicsd.org.

HUTH HAPPENINGS – WEEKLY UPDATE

Grand Island Schools use a message system to share important school information via email. Please be sure your contact information is current by updating the census verification forms sent home with children on the first day of school. You can also make changes by calling or visiting our district office at 1100 Ransom Road, 716-773-8800.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION PTA

The Huth Road PTA has an active role in the school. The PTA supports a number of enrichment programs throughout the year such as concerts, theater performances, curriculum presentations, and others. The PTA also sponsors the Book Fairs, Fall Fundraiser, school pictures, yearbook, the distribution of PARP (Pick A Reading Partner) books, our annual Bazaar, and a host of other activities. Your involvement in your child's school is an investment in your child's future. Thank you for purchasing a \$5 membership.

PTA meetings and events are scheduled on the district calendar available online. PTA newsletters are sent home periodically via email. Please feel free to contact the PTA by emailing them at huthpta.info@gmail.com with questions or comments.

VIII. SPECIAL AREAS & PROGRAMS

INTRODUCTION

In addition to the core curriculum of English Language Arts, math, science and social studies, we also have physical education, art, music, library/research, orchestra, band, chorus, co-curricular activities, resource room, counseling services, speech/language, RtI, OT, PT, and ELL. All students participate in physical education, art, music, and library/research. If you would like more information about any of our other special services, please contact your child's teacher.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION RTI, TIERS 2 AND 3

All students in NYS participate in RtI, or Response to Intervention, Tier 1. RtI or Response to Intervention, Tiers 2 and 3 is a state mandated instructional program designed for students who demonstrate a need for extra instructional support based on multiple assessment measures. If your child is recommended for RtI services over Tier 1, you will be notified. S/he will receive "push-in" or "pull-out" instruction in addition to the instruction taught in the classroom. You will be notified again once your child no longer qualifies for the extra support.

THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION CSE

The Committee Special Education, or CSE, works with families of students with special education needs. Students with special education needs often have a document called an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) that outlines the accommodations and/or modifications needed to help the child succeed in school. Grand Island has created a Support Network for families of children with special education needs. Be sure to sign up to receive their e-news messages on your e-news profile as needed.

SPEECH/LANGUAGE/OT/PT/ELL

Huth Road Elementary offers services in speech/language, OT (Occupational Therapy), PT (Physical Therapy), and ELL (English Language Learning) for those students who qualify.

IX. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

Huth Road offers an assortment of co-curricular programs for students in grades 3 – 5. Late buses, which leave the school at 4:00 pm, are provided for the transportation of students who stay for school sponsored after-school activities. Co-curricular activities are updated regularly on the school website and are communicated to students from the respective teachers. If your child is interested in participating in a co-curricular activity, please discuss the long-term nature of the commitment with him or her.

All after-school activities require students to take the late bus home. Exceptions to this rule will be made for students who present a note from a parent/guardian stating that they will be picked up. **Students must be picked up promptly at 3:55 pm, BEFORE the late buses leave the campus; otherwise the student will be sent**

home on the late bus. Delayed parents who notify the school about their tardiness in picking up their child will be given an exception to this rule; however, these instances must not be recurring events.

If your child is signing up for any of our co-curricular activities, it is expected that they make **EVERY** attempt to attend ALL of the meeting dates – it is very difficult for our teachers to plan when they don't know when each student will be there.

The following activities are offered throughout the year:

CHORUS (Grades 3-5)

Like band and orchestra, our choral groups are very popular. Students are expected to learn the music and basic choreography for performances. Like band and orchestra, concerts are scheduled in the evenings two or three times per year and various concerts are held during the school day. **Attendance at the evening concerts is mandatory.** Most choral rehearsals take place after school September through May, however, Select Chorus meets before school. It is the responsibility of the students to attend all rehearsals unless they have an excused absence. There are three sections of chorus:

Chorus (Grades 4 & 5)

Chorus (Grade 3)

Select Chorus (by audition only)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (Grades 4-5)

Opportunities for instrumental music lessons are provided to students beginning in Grade 4. Strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion instruments are available. Student preferences are accommodated when possible, however, aptitude and the formation of a balanced performance group, such as band and string ensemble, are considered as well. Instrumental lessons are held weekly on a rotating basis so that students do not miss the same subject continually. Students are responsible for any missed work in the classroom, weekly preparations, as well as performance preparations. Most instruments must be rented by the parents. Please check with your child's music teacher to determine whether the instrument is available through the school.

BAND (Grades 4-5)

Students are welcomed to perform with the large instrumental ensemble after 4-8 months of school lesson instruction on wind, brass or percussion instruments. Band rehearsals are held after school twice a week September through May and focus on performances three times during the year. Students must be enrolled in music lessons at Huth Road and demonstrate skill levels necessary for invitation to participate in the band.

ORCHESTRA (Grades 4-5)

Participation in orchestra is offered to students studying a string instrument when they reach a required skill level as identified by the instructor. Students must be enrolled in string lessons to participate. Practice outside of school is necessary

and attendance at all concerts is required. The orchestra is a combined group of students from Huth Road and Kaegebein. Rehearsals may be scheduled at either building from October through May. A special bus transports students to and from rehearsals.

BOYS'/GIRLS' INTRAMURALS (Grades 4-5)

Our physical education teachers offer a program of organized sports and activities in five sections October through May. **Students must wear sneakers.**

HOMEWORK CLUB (Grades 3-5)

Students may participate in Homework Club either voluntarily or by teacher recommendation. Participants receive organizational and basic support once a week after school. Students are responsible for having their materials ready for each session.

EARLY ACT (aka SERVICE CLUB) (Grades 4-5)

The Early Act Club meets approximately once a week from October through May depending on the level of participation required for each project. Projects are chosen according to their benefit to our school, the Grand Island community and the WNY area. Early Act is sponsored by the GI Rotary Club.

ART CLUB (Grade 5)

Art Club is offered October through May for students interested in the visual arts. Students will create individual works of art as well as group projects. Students may be presented with media or techniques that they have not had an opportunity to explore previously. Most work will be displayed in school and throughout the community.

SAFETY PATROL (Grade 5)

Students in Safety Patrol are assigned a duty station in or outside the school at arrival and dismissal. Safety patrols provide a safe entry and departure of all students by maintaining order and reinforcing the Viking Values.