



Flushing Community Schools

Preparing Learners Today for Opportunities Tomorrow.

CEREAL DONATIONS

Early Childhood Center families make cereal donations for the Flushing Christian Outreach Center.



FLUSHING CANDLEWALK

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE THE CANDLEWALK POSSIBLE

The Flushing Area Chamber of Commerce did an amazing job coordinating the event. Thank you to all of the organizations who joined in the fun to provide a welcoming atmosphere for all of the visitors. We would like to give a special shout out to all of the students that volunteered their time and energy to light the candles that provided a beautiful entry in our downtown area. Many thanks to the FHS Seniors, FHS Student Leadership Organization, FHS Student Council, FHS National Honor Society, FHS Varsity Club, FHS Rho Kappa Honor Society, FHS Pay It Forward, and FMS National Junior Honor Society. Without your help, the streets would not have shone as brightly. Thank you also to the Transportation Department for their help in getting people where they needed to go.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

With our two week break now upon us, I want to wish all of you the happiest of holiday seasons. Thankfully, 2023 has been a very positive one for Flushing Community Schools, and I know 2024 promises to be even better. As we review the last four months of this school year, we are very grateful that our schools remain a flurry of positive activity, with an abundance of after school programs for our students. Whether it be the latest play, concert, or the phenomenal "Holiday Collage", student talent in the arts was on full display. Our gyms and athletic venues have also been full of activity, with basketball, competitive cheer, wrestling, hockey, bowling, and skiing well into their seasons. Knowing how much these extra-curricular activities add to the school experience for our students, the high engagement level is so positive to see.

With this current year flying by, our students have two short weeks left in the first semester after they return from break, with final exams being January 10, 11, 12 for our secondary students. If you have or know of a student that is struggling academically or could use a little more academic support, I urge you to reach out to your building principal. It is important that our students finish the semester strong academically, and there are resources available for all of our students. With that in mind, I wanted to remind you that we have free after school academic support available to students in all grade levels through our Powertime PM program at the elementary level, as well as English and Math tutoring/support at the middle school and high school levels. Please continue to connect with your child's teacher and principal in regards to the best support services available to them to make sure they have every opportunity



Matt Shanafelt

to thrive academically.

Knowing the major role that a student's social and emotional well-being plays in being able to thrive in school, our district has continued to look for resources to help all of our students, families, and the community. While there is not one single resource or tool that will do everything we need it to, we want to utilize all of the resources available to us in partnership with you to best support all of our children. One underutilized resource I wanted to share again is a series of free webinars available to

you at parentguidance.org. You will see a link to these resources on our website. As a father of three, many of these webinars have been extremely helpful to me. The webinars help parents as they support children in as positive and as thorough a way as possible. Topics include: mental health, depression, suicide, self-worth, self-harm, grief, fatigue, self-talk, social media impact, technologies contributing to depression and anxiety, and other subjects impacting our children. This webinar resource is available to you for free. We are also continuing to grow our partnership with Genesee Health System, which provides a 24 hour mental health crisis line (810-257-3740), as well as other mental health resources. Our students' needs are growing and private, professional support can be hard to access in a timely fashion, so we will continue to explore these types of resources. We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we work together to be what our children need to live the happy, positive, carefree, fulfilling, and meaningful lives that they all deserve.

Wishing all of you a "Happy New Year" as we look forward to a wonderful 2024 for all the students and families of Flushing Community Schools.



Flushing Community Schools and the United Way have a long history of working together to impact the lives of residents in Genesee County and right here in Flushing.

Once again our Raider family was very generous!

**TOGETHER
WE RAISED
\$10,659.09!**

— Thank you to all who donated —

IMPORTANT

DATES

December 20 - January 2:
Winter Break

January 3:
School Resumes

January 10 - January 12:
FMS & FHS Exams

January 12:
Last Day of 1st Semester

January 15:
No School -
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 24:
Early Dismissal

Text Notifications

Flushing Community Schools offers a text notification service through School Messenger.

**THESE MESSAGES CAN BE RECEIVED
IN ADDITION TO PHONE MESSAGES.**

**JUST
TEXT
"YES"
TO
67587**



Please be aware of any fees that your cellular provider charges for text messaging.

WEATHER RELATED SCHOOL CLOSINGS

If Flushing Community Schools closes due to inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, information will be posted on the district website (www.flushingschools.org), on the district Facebook page, and the district Twitter feed. Notifications will also be sent out through School Messenger. TV channels 5, 12, and 66 will also be notified.

If you have downloaded the Flushing Community Schools mobile app, you will also receive a notification through the app.

Please note that on inclement weather days, our buses will need to slow down to ensure everyone's safety. Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately to stay warm and dry while they wait. Please also have your child stand back from the curb a bit so that they are safe from any vehicle that might lose a bit of traction on the road.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Varsity Volleyball

District Champs and MHSAA Sweet 16



Fall 2023 has been a very successful season for our Flushing High School student athletes. Their hard work and Raider Pride have been seen in competition and in the classroom.

Fine Arts

While our student athletes were competing, our Fine Arts students were also putting on first class performances.



Varsity Swim

2nd Place in the Flint Metro League



Theatre

The FHS Theatre Department presented "Be My Ghost" to the delight of all who attended.

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

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Traditional Dual-Enrollment,
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Last Names I-S

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Last Names T-Z

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FAFSA, Advisor for FREC 12EC and 13EC

Mr. Lister

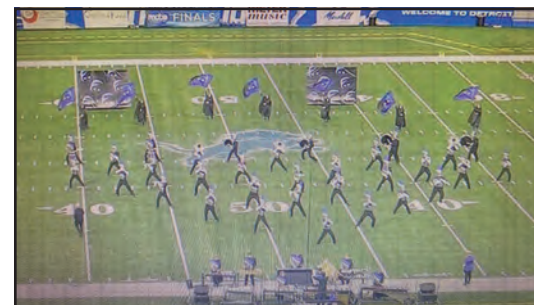
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IEP, ELL, GCI, NCAA Eligibility

Mrs. Kramer

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591-3759

Counseling Department Secretary/Registrar



Marching Band

The Raider Marching Band finished 6th place in the State MCBA Championships at Ford Field on November 4.



Cross Country

State Qualifiers Griffin Good
and James Latstetter



Dedicated Fans

Our student athletes always appreciate the dedicated fans who show up to cheer them on. The "Birdhouse" student section is loud and supportive throughout the entire season!

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



LATCHKEY PROGRAM

Preschool Age Latchkey Program friends are working hard to stay on the “nice” list!! Thank you to the talented staff who made this special sign for our students to enjoy.

2+1 PROGRAM - REGISTER NOW!

A Great Way to Get Your Child Ready For Preschool

If you are looking for a fun weekly activity for you and your two-year-old, consider signing up for the Flushing Community Schools 2+1 program. This twelve-week program is packed with lots of activities geared towards getting your child ready for preschool. This class is attended by the toddler AND their parent or adult caregiver. It’s a great way to become familiar with the Early Childhood Center (ECC), our preschool classrooms, and our preschool teachers. Activities include singing, dancing, crafts, and story time, all of which help to improve fine motor skills, gross motor skills, sensory awareness, and social development.

- The evening class meets on Thursdays, 6-7 pm, and begins on Jan. 18, 2024.
- The morning class meets on Fridays, 10-11 am, and begins on Jan. 19, 2024.
- The cost is \$150 for the 12 week session. Payment is due by the first class.



To register for this session of 2+1, please contact the ECC by emailing the building secretary, Katelyn Torrey, at katelyn.torrey@flushingschools.org. Please provide the parent/guardian name, student name, birthdate, and whether you are interested in the morning or evening class.

We spent our days in November learning, smiling, and being thankful. We have kicked off a December full of spreading cheer, and look forward to spending quality time with family and friends. From our ECC family to yours, have a wonderful holiday season full of warmth, love, kindness, and joy!



CEREAL DONATIONS

Thank you for all of the cereal donations for the Flushing Christian Outreach Center. This is just one of the many ways our ECC family has shown generosity and compassion for those in our community. All students were able to participate in the cereal domino celebration knocking over several boxes of cereal along the hallway.



ACTIVITIES AND FUNDRAISERS

Happy Holidays! I hope you and your family enjoyed some much needed rest and quality time during the Thanksgiving break. Students had fun with some friendly competition during the month of November with our cereal collection and the Turkey Trot.



TURKEY TROT

We have been busy around the Early Childhood Center with many different activities. The Turkey Trot was a huge success as students enjoyed jogging around the ECC and meeting up with their classmates and families at the end. Thank you to the sponsors who helped raise over \$10,000 to support the PTO and events they put on for the ECC students and staff to enjoy.



PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY

Classrooms and students earned rewards for their participation. The top two students who raised the most for our PTO acted as principal for the day.



SHOWCASE DISPLAYS

Our kindergarten artists were hard at work creating displays for our showcase.



TOP RAISERS

Our top raisers in each lunch session enjoyed spraying silly string at Mrs. Donaldson and our top classroom danced and played during a glow party. Several students also were entered in a drawing to win Jr. Raider shirts.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



WINTER SPORTS

Middle School winter sports are in full swing! Over fifty students made a volleyball team and an additional fifty students are participating in wrestling.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

More than eighty 8th graders were inducted into NJHS, highlighting their academic accomplishments in middle school.

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL!**



DRAMA CLUB

Middle school drama club performance of "Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit" was a hit!

BOARD ACTION UPDATE



Salvatore Ausiello
Vice President



Terry Bate
Trustee



Eddie Dolgan
Trustee



Megan LeCureux
Secretary



Steve Sheldon
Treasurer



Kim Strnad
Trustee



Janice Winkiel
President

The following are highlights of the Flushing Board of Education meetings held on October 10, 2023, October 17, 2023, and November 14, 2023:

- Held a public hearing for the Flushing Area Recreation Master Plan.
- Recognized Melody Keeler for stepping in at the beginning of this school year as the acting FMS Assistant Principal for the first few months of school.
- Heard a report on the Raider Virtual Academy Program and recognized the staff.
- Heard a report on the FMS Peer 2 Peer Program.
- Heard a report from Student Board Representatives Allam and Tunnicliff on recent activities at FHS.
- Heard a report on the most recent curriculum updates.
- Heard a report on the status of the district's budgets.
- Heard a report on the most recent legislative updates.
- Heard a report on the CTE/GCI programs the district offers through the GISD and viewed a video.
- Heard a report on the resignation of the following certified staff members: Brigitte Rex, Tonya Swales, Andrew Rishmawi, Dennis Dunckel, and Susan Stockton.

- Heard a report on and approved the Continuity of Learning Plan.
- Heard reports on the state of the schools.
- Heard an update on personnel.
- Heard an update on facilities.
- Viewed a presentation of the financial audit for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accepted the 2022-2023 Audit Report, as presented by Yeo & Yeo.
- Approved the Flushing Area Recreation Master Plan for 2023-2027 and the submission of the plan to the State of Michigan.
- Approved the hiring of the following certified staff members for the 2023-2024 school year: Amanda Fairchild – Social Studies at FHS and Kellie Keelor – Media Arts at FMS.
- Approved the sale of used vehicles to the highest bidders.
- Approved the following 2023-2024 handbooks: Student/Athlete, Elementary, Middle School, and High School.
- Approved the request to pilot a Forensic Science Course at FHS for 2024-2025.
- Approved the resolution outlining the scope for a potential bond issue.
- Approved the purchase of electronic door entry systems.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

ELMS ELEMENTARY

THIS FALL HAS BEEN A SEASON OF BUILDING COMMUNITY, HELPING OTHERS, AND FUN!



FALL FEST

Elms Elementary held their annual Fall Fest during the first week of October. Families enjoyed many fall themed games, as well as a cookie walk, a haunted trail, and of course — a hayride!



COLOR RUN

Our PTA sponsored a Color Run to raise funds for future activities. Students raced the route during the school day while being “painted” by staff and parents. Kids had a great time and raised enough funds to reach our goal. Elms PTA was also kind enough to provide dinners for our teachers during both conference nights. We can’t say enough about our PTA!

KANGAROO KIDS

The Elms Kangaroo Kids sponsored a pumpkin decorating contest to help raise funds for the American Heart Association. The staff from each unit worked together to decorate a pumpkin. Students voted with their loose change on which pumpkin they liked the best. The fifth and sixth grade grade teachers won with their camper pumpkin. The Kangaroo Kids raised more than \$400 for the American Heart Association!



HALLOWEEN FUN

On Halloween, teachers coordinated costumes to make our festivities even more interesting. First and second grade teachers were Barbie themed. Third & fourth grade teachers represented the 80's. Fifth & sixth grade teachers dressed up as Care Bears. Specials teachers, office staff, and custodians dressed up as a campfire with s'mores.

READING LESSONS

Students in first and second grades have partnered with fifth and sixth grade students to help with their reading skills. Each morning the older students help practice sight words with their young buddies. Both young and old are learning important lessons. The younger students are getting the practice time they need, and the older students are learning how to mentor others.

SPRINGVIEW ELEMENTARY

THANKFUL PUMPKINS

Springview students shared what they are thankful for by writing on pumpkins that were displayed outside of each classroom for the month of November. Families enjoyed reading them while they were in the building for Parent Teacher Conferences.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

It was wonderful to have so many families in the building for Parent Teacher Conferences. Students were able to choose a book to take home from the free book table and families had the opportunity to share feedback about our school by taking the family survey. Conferences were a wonderful opportunity for teachers and families to connect and discuss all of the great things that students are doing.

BOOK FAIR

Classrooms visited the book fair this month and students enjoyed shopping and looking through all of the wonderful Scholastic books that were available for purchase. The purchases helped to raise money to buy more books for our school library.

STEM FIELD TRIP

Our two STEM classrooms visited the Longway Planetarium in November. They watched a planetarium show, fifth and sixth graders dissected a lamb's eye, and third and fourth graders built crank contraptions. It was a great learning opportunity!



HOLIDAY BABYSITTING

Springview wrapped up the month of November with Holiday Babysitting Night. Parents were able to enjoy some holiday shopping while students participated in crafts, a movie, and open gym. Pizza and ice cream were also served on this fun-filled night.



WALL OF HONOR

Springview celebrated Veterans day by creating a Wall of Honor. Students brought in paper bricks with the name of their special veteran, their branch of service, and their relationship to the student and we put them together to create the wall. Many also brought in pictures to display. It was a wonderful way to honor these special people.

ELEMENTARY NEWS

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

Mrs. Shields' and Mrs. Lang's classrooms did some community volunteering on Friday, November 3. These buddy classrooms raked leaves in yards near Central Elementary. Their kindness was greatly appreciated by our neighbors.



SCARECROWS

The 2nd grade annual tradition of making scarecrows occurred on Friday, October 20. Students had a blast designing, naming, and weighing their creations. Positivity Project character strengths of creativity and teamwork were on full display during this activity.



PUMPKIN PATCH

Creativity and imagination were on full display at Seymour's Pumpkin Patch this fall, as students

transformed their pumpkins into awesome displays of art! A cactus, a s'more, a bat, a donut, a deer, and a Christmas tree were just a few of the awesome creations. Staff voted for their favorite pumpkins, and the winners were: 1st Place – Joseph Zerka (Popcorn); 2nd Place Andi Olah (Caramel Apple); and 3rd Place – Ayla Goddard (Melting Ice Cream).

SEYMOUR ELEMENTARY



MULTIPLICATION BAKERY

Third grade students at Seymour enjoyed practicing their multiplication facts with some tasty treats before taking their multiplication tests.



ROCK 'N ROLL HALLOWEEN AT SEYMOUR

Halloween at Seymour was a rockin' good time!

Even Madonna (aka Mrs. Mignerey) made an appearance, as teachers and staff rocked out their best Rock 'N Roll gear from past decades.

WALK FOR THE WIN!

Go Blue!
Go Green!
Seymour's annual Walk for the Win event always brings out lots of smiles, team spirit, and friendly competition among the students and staff.



This year's PTO sponsored fundraising event was a huge success! Just like the outcome of this year's Michigan vs. Michigan State college football game, Michigan once again came out on top! The classrooms that raised the most money for Michigan were Mrs. Look's and Mrs. Staley's 1st grade classrooms, while Mrs. Matzke's 4th grade room raised the most for Michigan State. All three classrooms won pizza parties. Individual prize winners for Michigan were: 1st Place – Oaklee Parker; 2nd Place – Gannen Doutre; and 3rd Place – Andi Olah.

Individual prize winners for MSU were: 1st Place – Aiden Dice; 2nd Place – Harper Eisenbeis; and 3rd Place – Paige Jones.

SOCKTOBER

Seymour's recent Socktober event was a heartwarming success! In total, we collected over 800 pairs of new socks, with Mr. Mott's class donating the most pairs. The student council will deliver these contributions to the Flushing Christian Outreach Center. These generous donations will make a significant impact in our community. Thank you for helping us spread warmth and kindness!



The Raider Fitness Club

Welcome to the Raider Fitness Club. The goal of the Raider Fitness Club is to promote wellness for Flushing residents. The raised three-lane walking/running track and the weight room are currently available to registered users during the school year many mornings and evenings. Hours of operation are posted on the district website at www.flushingschools.org.

Flushing residents can obtain and turn in an application packet (Emergency Contact Card and Liability Waiver) at the Administration Building located at 522 N. McKinley Road. All participants must sign in upon arrival and must show a district issued badge.

Raider Fitness Club Policies and Procedures

Please note that these policies and operating procedures are subject to change.

While we encourage families to “stay fit” together, in an effort to maintain safety for all participating, please adhere to these age-related policies.

- Any student below the age of 16 on the track or weight room must be accompanied by and directly supervised by a parent.
- No one under the age of 12 is allowed in the weight room.

Track Usage

- Dry athletic shoes only on the track.
- No strollers or wheeled objects other than wheelchairs or walkers.



Raider Fitness Club

Indoor Walking Track & Weight Room

Join us in the Raider Fieldhouse

- All walkers/runners must go in the same direction. See the arrow at the entrance of the gym for the direction of the day.
- Walkers use inside lane. Runners use outside lane.
- No racing allowed.
- Children under 12 must be alongside their parent while on track.
- Be considerate of other participants: don't walk more than two abreast, take phone calls out in lobby, music to be played only through headphones.

Weight Room

- Dry athletic shoes must be worn.
- Participants are to bring a clean, dry towel to wipe down equipment after

each use. Disinfectant spray will be provided.

- Do not drop weights.
- Return weights to proper places.
- 12 - 15 year olds must be directly supervised by parent. Parent can not be working out on different equipment.
- Proper workout gear should be worn when using equipment. Shirts, jeans, or shorts with metal or decorative studs are not allowed on equipment as they may damage pads.

Additional Policies

- The Raider Fitness Club will not be available on non-school days. Schedule is subject to change on short notice, depending on the weather and the

needs of our students.

- No food or drink other than water allowed on track or in weight room.
- Participants are responsible for the safety and security of their belongings and valuables while utilizing the facility.
- The Raider Fitness Club badge only provides access to the Raider Fieldhouse track and weight room. Access to other parts of the high school is not permitted.
- Shirts and shorts/pants must be worn. All clothing must be family friendly.
- The track and weight room are not available during student events.
- Stairs and hallways are not available for additional training.

Download the Free Blackboard District App

- View news stories
- Access school and staff info
- View calendar info
- Receive important alerts



If you have not downloaded the Flushing Community Schools mobile app yet, you are missing out on an important communication tool. Once downloaded, you will receive district-wide announcements and notifications. This is a great way to know when district-wide news has been posted on the website or Facebook.

To download the app, go to Google Play or the Apple App Store and search on Flushing Community Schools. Be sure you see the Flushing Raider logo before downloading.

If you need help with the mobile app, please contact Mary Ann Korte at 810-591-1197.

Our School Day

School	Start Time	Full Day Dismissal	Half Day Dismissal	Early Dismissal
High School	8:00 am	2:48 pm	11:14 am	1:04 pm
Middle School	8:00 am	2:43 pm	11:10 am	1:00 pm
Elementary	9:00 am	3:51 pm	12:15 pm	2:05 pm
Early Childhood Center	8:45 am	3:36 pm	12:00 pm	1:50 pm

Need to Contact Us?



— SAVE THESE NUMBERS FOR FUTURE USE —

Superintendent	..... Matt Shanafelt	..... 591-1180
Deputy Superintendent	..... Jason Melynchek	..... 591-1184
Exec. Dir. Curriculum	..... Michelle Barrett	..... 591-1187
Director of Finance	..... Jackie Read	..... 591-1193

Principals:		
High School	..... Kevin Foltz	..... 591-3770
Middle School	..... Elizabeth Endicott	..... 591-2800
Central Elementary	..... Rob Steinhaus	..... 591-1901
Early Childhood Center	..... Heidi Donaldson	..... 591-2326
Elms Elementary	..... John Hagens	..... 591-7350
Seymour Elementary	..... Steve Groulx	..... 591-5150
Springview Elementary	..... Stacey Mesarosh	..... 591-8550