

Maconce Elementary

6300 Church Rd., Ira, MI 48023

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Jay Seletsky, Principal

Mission Statement

Maconce Elementary School, in partnership with the community, will provide a learning environment by delivering quality instruction that promotes curiosity, creativity and the desire in students to reach their full potential.

Happy New Year to All ~ Thank you to staff, parents and community volunteers that helped make this holiday season just a little brighter for families in our Maconce community. We appreciate the many volunteers that came in to help with the Merry Market, classroom events, AB for Christmas and Feed the Bay. We appreciate the hard work and continued support of our Bear Council and the Watermark Church. Together we all make a difference and we couldn't do it without your help. Thank you. We would also like to welcome Miss Jessica Bryson to our building. She is teaching 4th grade. Mrs. Lembas has transitioned to her new role as instructional coach here at Maconce. Mrs. Meleski has taken a new position for RESA (St. Clair County School District), she will be missed here, but we do wish her continued success in her new position and hope that she comes back to visit!

Recess Outdoors - Participating in recess can be an invigorating part of school. Fresh air and exercise are important. Students should wear warm clothes in winter months: coats, gloves, hats and boots. Please be sure your child is dressed to enjoy recess. Children will go outside for recess unless the temperature (including the wind chill) is below 16 degrees.

In addition, children will remain indoors for recess if the wind speed is above 26 MPH. If a child is well enough to attend school, he/she is well enough to go outside. A doctor's note is necessary to excuse your child from outdoor recess. When your child wears boots to school, please make sure they have a pair of shoes to put on at school. We suggest gym shoes – wearing snow boots all day is very uncomfortable.



Upcoming Events

January 15

NO School -Professional Development Day

January 19

Popcorn Day

January 25

Records Day
Half Day – 12:26 Dismissal

January 26

Half Day-12:26 Dismissal

February 2

Report Cards

February 4

Quarter Champs Kick Off

Feb. 16-19

NO School Winter Break

February 23

Popcorn Day

February 27

NO School-Professional Development Day



Maconce Elementary Kaleidoscope Winner

The Boy in The Cabin

By Mason Culver-5th grade

There once was a boy who lived in a wood cabin, his name was Eric. He was a rather skinny fellow. Mostly because he and his father were poor. His mother had passed the year before. She had left him one thing, a knife made from her favorite steel, Damascus steel.

It was the 1940's, World War 2 had been raging about. He was in the middle of it. He had seen a German soldier, 20 minutes ago. He did the usual, crouch, duck, and run into the forest not to be seen.

While walking back to the cabin, he saw some pawprints. He pulled out his ruler and checked the length, width, and depth. His father had given him this ruler to help him find food quickly by knowing what animals are in the area to know which tactic to use. 10.5 bear, 7.5 turkey, and 5 deer. 7.5. Bow, He ran back to the cabin to grab his bow and quiver. He ran back into the woods. He returned with a dead turkey. His dad said, "Nice shot!"

They had a little survival camp around the cabin. There was a tarp around the 6 wooden posts holding it up. Each about 10 feet tall. He took the turkey to the fire in the middle and scrapped all the skin and feathers off and cut it up into even slices. He told his father that he had some dinner and slowly rotated the barrel. "Dinners served!"

Remember, it ALL drains to our lakes and rivers

Storm drains and roadside ditches lead to our lakes and rivers. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves or dirty water from washing your car enters a storm drain gets into our lakes and rivers without being treated. With almost five million people living in Southeast Michigan, we all need to be aware of what goes into our storm drains. How can you help? Simple.

1. **Sweep it.** Do you have extra fertilizer, grass clipping or dirt on your driveway or sidewalk? Sweep it back onto your lawn. Hosing your driveway sends these pollutants into storm drains that lead directly to our lakes and rivers.
2. **Keep it clean.** Whether in the street or in your yard, remember to keep leaves, grass clippings, trash and fertilizers away from storm drains.
3. **Only rain in the drain.** Never dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain. All of these materials pollute our lakes and rivers.
4. **Label it.** Volunteer to label the storm drains in your neighborhood to inform residents that storm drains flow directly to our lakes and rivers. Call your local community for more information on storm drain stenciling programs.

January is School Board Appreciation Month!

In honor of their outstanding community service, Maconce Elementary would like to say "Thank You and Happy New Year" to:

President: Lisa Birkmeier

Vice President: Patrick Green

Treasurer: Dennis Richards

Secretary: Jill Knox

Trustee: Mike Moses

Trustee: Jon DeRoo

Trustee: Dominic Vendittelli



Together they serve as the Anchor Bay School Board 2024



February is Black History Month

The precursor to Black History Month was created in 1926 in the United States, when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History announced the second week of February to be "Negro History Week." This week was chosen because it coincided with the birthday of Abraham Lincoln on February 12 and of Frederick Douglass on February 14, both of which dates Black communities had celebrated together since the late 19th century.

From the event's initial phase, primary emphasis was placed on encouraging the coordinated teaching of the history of American blacks in the nation's public schools. The first Negro History Week was met with a lukewarm response, gaining the cooperation of the Departments of Education of the states of North Carolina, Delaware, and West Virginia as well as the city school administrations of Baltimore and Washington, D.C..^[4] Despite this far from universal acceptance, the event was regarded by Woodson as "one of the most fortunate steps ever taken by the Association," and plans for a repeat of the event on an annual basis continued apace.

At the time of Negro History Week's launch, Woodson contended that the teaching of black history was essential to ensure the physical and intellectual survival of the race within broader society.

A Dozen Ways to Strengthen Your Family

Spend time with each other.

Plan ahead with your family so things WILL happen and not JUST happen.

Establish a reasonable balance between outside activities, work schedules and your family.

Talk with each other and listen.

Show each family member consideration and appreciation, especially in everyday ways.

Respect each person-his or her ideas, thoughts and feelings.

Develop pride in your family.

Resolve problems and conflicts in a constructive way.

Help each other and be willing to let others help you.

Contact and build ties with other families.

Take part in community activities and use community services.

Develop a spiritual focus within your family.



ATTENDANCE

Please emphasize to your children the importance of being in school, as daily attendance is essential in order for a student to benefit from his/her educational experience. If a student is not in school on a regular basis, it is not possible for maximum learning to occur. Excessive tardiness are a concern because important announcements and classroom instructions are given at the beginning of the day. Good attendance patterns, which include punctuality, are developed at an early age. They must be emphasized in kindergarten and reaffirmed at every grade level. It is the responsibility of the parent to instill in his/her child the importance of attending school. All students in the Anchor Bay School District are expected to be in school on a regular day-to-day basis. Absences should occur only for legitimate, excusable reasons, generally illness. It is the responsibility of school personnel, according to the State of Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Law, to monitor all students' attendance. Parents will be notified in writing, following the seventh, fourteenth and twentieth absence/tardy accumulated within a school year. Excessive absences must be reported to the Macomb County Independent School District Attendance Office. According to the Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law students are expected to be in school except in cases of emergency or for the following reasons:

Personal illness – The school may require verification by a doctor.

Illness in the family – Work with your child's teacher to keep schoolwork current.

Death of a relative – Absence arising from a family death. Please notify your child's teacher should you feel your child might need support when they return to school.

Religious holiday – Children will be excused from class if the absence is for the purpose of observing a religious holiday that is part of the child's creed or belief.

Medical Appointments – Parents are encouraged to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school. Recognizing that this is not always possible, students will be allowed five (5) one hour windows at the beginning or end of the day for necessary doctor/dentist appointments. These absences will not be charged if the parent/guardian submits a medical statement or receipt from the doctor. Over five hours will result in a half-day absence for each occurrence over 30 minutes.

Tardiness – Punctuality is a lifetime habit that students should develop. Students are expected to arrive on time each day and be prepared to learn. If a student is late in arriving to school, he/she must report to the office and check in. Elementary students late to school will be recorded as "tardy" for the first thirty (30) minutes of the day. Reporting more than thirty minutes late to school or leaving 30 minutes prior to dismissal will result in one-half day absence.