

Lighthouse Elementary

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New Baltimore, MI
Absence Line: 648-2500 x 1901
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Mrs. Sherri Milton-Hoffman
Principal

September 2023

Mission Statement

Our mission: Empowering all students to succeed in an ever-changing world.

Dear Lighthouse Families,
Welcome Back! We are excited to start the new year and have many things planned! I look forward to seeing you all at **Open House on Thursday, September 7th from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM** for all 1st through 5th graders. There will be no formal presentations and you can attend at any time during that timeframe. This is a great opportunity to tour the school and meet your child's teachers. Looking forward to a great year!
Sherri L. Milton-Hoffman, Principal

NEW STAFF: Please join us in welcoming our new staff. Kayla Garvey is our new 4th grade teacher, Nicole Wrobel is teaching a Science Special. Heather Knight is our half day Kindergarten teacher. Mary Schaffer is our new Resource Room teacher. Christy Medley is our new Instructional Coach. Todd Green will be teaching Technology and STEM. Bruce Materazzi, Sharon Kott, Laura Hutton, Bob Gennrich and Kelly Cmarik will be teaching a few sections of Specials. Also extend a warm welcome to Stasy Hillewaere, Food Services, Stephanie Siwula, SAC, Becky Cyman, Library Para-Professional, Kari Tacey, half day K Para and Keith Zielinski our full time Security Officer. Welcome Everyone!

Congratulations to Mrs. Maggie Toth on her well-deserved retirement! She will be missed!

SCHOOL TIMES: Our students will be attending school from **9:00 am to 3:51pm**. **HALF DAYS:** Children attend school from **9:00 am until 12:26 pm** on the scheduled half days.

PARENT PORTAL: If you have not already done so, please log into the portal to update your child's information. Forms are in PowerSchool Parent Portal online. Please check Parent Portal pages for all forms to be completed. <https://www.anchorbay.misd.net/parents-/powerschool-portal/>

Please note * Very limited forms and paper documents will be sent home as we are paperless. Please remember to check our webpage often to utilize these resources. Most forms can be found on the Lighthouse webpage under Documents.

MORNING ARRIVAL: The children will come directly into school when arriving in the morning by bus or car. Staff is available to direct students. Please refer to the Arrival and Dismissal Letter emailed earlier this month.

STUDENT PICTURE DAY is Thursday, October 5th and **PICTURE RETAKE DAY** is Thursday, November 16th.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES for fall and spring will be virtual and will take place during a two week window in the fall, 11/13-12/1/23 and 3/8-3/22/24 in spring. Parent teacher conferences will be scheduled by the individual teachers. A parent conference must be held for all students with a grade average below C- at the elementary level each fall. Please see your classroom teacher's email or newsletter or detailed information.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS: In the event of an emergency closing (boiler trouble, power failure, weather, etc.) and we must bus your child home earlier, it is essential your child knows where to go in case you are not home (neighbor, relative, etc.). Please establish an emergency plan for your children in case of unforeseen circumstances.

FREE OR REDUCED MEALS

To apply for free or reduced price meals for the 2023-2024 school year, please fill out an application online at <https://anchorbay.familyportal.cloud/> under the 'benefits' tab. You need to register with Family Portal first.

Lunch and Breakfast Menus can be found at: <https://www.anchorbay.misd.net/departments/food-service/> go to the Lighthouse tab.

PTG LAKER LEAP: is September 29th. Fundraising is open now **until September 18th only**. Once again, this is your **only opportunity** to get your child's class t-shirt which are worn at the walkathon, spirit days and field trips. Donate at

<https://lighthouseptg.ptboard.com/>

END OF DAY MESSAGES: Please make sure you child and their teacher know what their end of day plan is before they go to school daily: Bus, SAC or Parent Pick-up, etc. In the afternoon, the office and the classrooms get extremely busy. It can be very difficult to get messages to students about changes in schedules or pick-ups. If you **absolutely** need to get a message to your child at the end of the day, **please call before 2:00.p.m.**

CALL IN ABSENCE: If your child is sick or absent for any reason, **please call our absence line (586-648-2500 x 1901)**. It is available all night long. If your child is going to be out for more than one day, please mention this so you do not have to call everyday. If your child is seen by a Doctor, please send in a Doctor's note. Please review our absence policy in the student Code of Conduct Handbook.

MEDICATIONS/MEDICAL INFORMATION:

School personnel, as restricted by the State of Michigan, **are not allowed to administer ANY Medication unless it is under a doctor's order.** When a student is in need of medication during the school day, the following procedures must be followed:



- Medication must be accompanied by a doctor's written order and written authorization of the parent or guardian. Forms available online at <https://www.anchorbay.misd.net/parents/enrollment/>
- All medication must be in the original container. The student's name, the physician's name, current date, name and strength of the medication, and the specific directions as to the administration of the medication must be listed. The office staff cannot split pills that are in the container.
- All medications must be delivered directly to the school office by a parent or guardian.
- **Liquid medication not allowed unless it's in a pre-measured form for each dosage that will be administered.**

Under NO circumstances are children to bring any medication to school or on the bus. This includes aspirin, cough syrup, and all over-the-counter medications.

If you would like to receive text messages from Anchor Bay School District, send a text message to (67587) with the words "opt in" or "subscribe" as the message. If you are already receiving text message from Anchor Bay School District no further action is required. For more information, you can visit <https://www.schoolmessenger.com/txt>

SCHOOL AGE CHILDCARE: Registration is open! Register

at: <https://absd.reg.eleyo.com>



PEST MANAGEMENT: Applications and treatments for pests by certified applicators occur on the last Friday of the month or when persons are not using the treated areas. In certain emergencies, areas may be treated without prior notice, but you will be provided a notice following such application.

Remember, you can save water: When we over water our lawns, the excess water carries pollution into storm drains and ditches that lead directly to our rivers and lakes. In fact, did you know that each of us uses 77 gallons of water a day? So, what can you do to help? Simple. Follow these tips for simple ways you can help save water.

1. Water wisely. Lawns need about one inch of water per week. Over-watering results in shallow-rooted plants that are less tolerant of heat and drought, and more prone to disease. Use a rain gauge and water only when necessary, instead of on a fixed schedule.
2. Improve your aim. Adjust your sprinklers to water only your lawn and plants----not your driveway, sidewalk or street.
3. Use mulch. Place a thick layer of mulch (4") around trees and plants. This helps retain water, reduce weeds and minimizes the need for pesticides.
4. Sweep it. Clean sidewalks and driveways with a broom, instead of a hose. You'll save water and keep unwanted pollutants out of the storm drain.
5. Put rainwater to work. Use rainwater to water your plants. Direct downspouts toward your plants and green areas or collect rain water with barrels for use later.
6. Mow high. Make your lawn cheaper and easier to maintain by mowing high. (3" is recommended). Longer grass has deeper roots and requires less water.

PEANUT ALLERGY

Lighthouse currently has students who have been identified as having a Peanut Allergy and/or Tree Nut Allergies. This means that he/she would have a **severe reaction** to peanuts and all derivatives such as peanut oil, ground or nut spices. His/her reaction to these products **may be life threatening**. Therefore, no peanuts or nut products will be allowed in **any of the affected** classrooms.

