

Maconce Elementary

6300 Church Rd., Ira, MI 48023

<http://www.anchorbay.misd.net>. (586)725-0284

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.

Parents Are Powerful Role Models for Children

We like to publish this every year as a reminder to parents and all adults that we model behavior for our children: Adapted from an article in Parent Exchange, May 2004 Written by Karen Stephens "A chip off the old block." "Flip side of the same coin." "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree." "Like father, like son." "She lives up to the family name." These folk phrases sum up family characteristics... some positive and some not. According to researchers, children, in general, do tend to grow up to be a lot like their parents. Social scientists and genetic researchers have identified many cycles that loop from one generation to the next. So, a lot of people, those with folk wisdom and those with professional degrees, believe parents play a major role in how our children turn out. Parents give kids their genes at conception, and then through childrearing, we give them our act to follow, too.

<http://www.oh-pin.org/articles/pex-01-parents-are-powerful-role.pdf>

Comments from the Principal

At Maconce Elementary, we are working hard to teach children all about respect, responsibility and following directions. Please serve as a positive role model for your children. Often, children feel that rules don't apply to them. Talk about school rules and positive expectations with your child. Remind students to wear their seatbelt, follow dismissal procedures, walk on the designated sidewalks, as they enter or exit the building, listen and follow directions of the teacher. Actions do speak louder than words, as parents, you can serve as a positive role model by your positive actions. Remind your children of the rules and how they make our school a positive and safe learning environment for everyone.

Communication between Home and School

Parents are encouraged to contact the school about any matter of concern. Staff and administration want to resolve your concerns promptly. Please follow the line of communication outlined below:

- The first essential step is to go to the immediate source and establish the facts.
- If your concern is directly related to your child and teacher, please call or arrange to meet with the teacher to discuss the matter.
- If more information is then needed, or you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the school principal.
- If your concern is directly related to the school bus transportation, please contact the Transportation Department at (586)725-4220.
- Remember to sign up for School Messenger for all the important school updates and school closings.
- Make sure that you have set up your **parent portal** and updated "forms" for each child.

Parent Power

There are many ways you can support your child's learning and school. Here are a few ideas:

- Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your child brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.
- Tell your child's teachers if you can help them out at school or home. Contact your child's teacher if you see a problem. Working together will help your child succeed.
- Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly. Set aside "parent-kid" time every day to stay connected as a family.

School Messenger

We checked the reports that are issued by "School Messenger" and found that many of the text messages (SMS) were being reported as BLOCKED. This means that when you received a text message from School Messenger (number: 67587) during the initial set up, no response was sent back. School Messenger assumes that you DO NOT want text messages if they do not receive a response.

To correct this, please do the following: **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>

TRAFFIC CONTROL

School starts at 9:00 AM and ends at 3:51 PM. Students should not arrive before 8:53 AM because supervision is not available. The safety of our students is the most important goal during drop-off and pick-up. We all have the responsibility to see that **every** child is safe. In addition, we need to keep traffic moving to facilitate student arrival and dismissal in a timely way. It is imperative that the following rules are observed:

- The drop off lane closest to the building is for drop off and pick-up only. Do not leave your vehicle. Keep moving forward as cars in front of you leave.
- Do not stop in the crosswalk area. Doing so creates unsafe conditions for pedestrians.
- If you would like to walk your child up to the building, park in the designated center parking area.
- Students should not cross through the crosswalk to the parking lot without parent supervision. Do not let your child run between cars. Other drivers may not see your child.
- Be patient! You are training your child (ren) on how to follow rules and laws by the example you set.

BUS STUDENTS

Please do not take your child out of the bus line. Notify an adult outside. Transportation details should be taken care of in advance. We know that emergencies cannot be helped. However, phone calls to the office, then to the classroom are disruptive and confusing to your child. Please put safety first. Set a schedule and stick to it, frequent end of the day calls is a safety issue.

The District offers free bussing for students that reside in the Anchor Bay School District boundaries. Bus riders are required to follow all bus rules and instructions by the bus driver. Infractions of the bus rules may result in bus referrals issued by the bus driver. The principal will implement consequences on bus referrals issued. Continual infractions of the bus rules may result in the student's loss of bus riding privileges. Please refer to the student handbook for more information regarding transportation.

We appreciate everyone working together for the safety of the students at Maconce Elementary School.

YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US!



If your child will not be in school, or will be arriving late it is very important that you contact the office. Our answering machine is on when we are not in the building. **(586) 725-0284.**

Your child's absence will be unexcused without a phone call-we encourage you to send a medical note when possible.

Keep your Emergency contact information up to date with accurate phone numbers and contacts. Your child's care is your responsibility and their safety is important to our staff.

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.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITY



Make sure your child dresses for the weather **every day**.

We go outside **every day** for recess, unless it is raining, the wind-chill is below 16° or the wind speed is above 26 mph. Fall weather is unpredictable, warm one day and cold the next. Just a couple of reminders:

Flip flops/open toe sandals may not be a safe choice of footwear for the playground equipment or the woodchip areas.

It is easier for a child to take off a hat, jacket, or gloves than to try and stay warm without them.

Maconce Bear Council Events

Popcorn Dates: 10/27, 11/10, 1/19, 2/23, 3/22, 4/5, 5/24

Merry Market Date: Dec. 13th

Quarter Champs Fundraiser Event: January

Pastry with a Pal Events are going to be planned

Much more information to come.

Calendar Updates for November

Remember to VOTE on Nov. 7th!

No School on November 7th for Students.

November 10th Records Day Half Day 12:26 Dismissal

Nov. 14th Report Cards

November 15th Picture Retake Day

November 17th Day Half Day 12:26 Dismissal

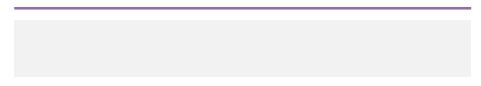
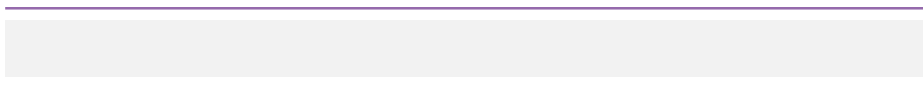
No School on November 20th OR 21st for Students. Prof. Dev. Day

No School November 22nd – 26th Thanksgiving Break

School Resumes on November 27

Maconce Strong Staff

Please welcome Ms. Kelsey Joachim, Social Worker to our building along with Ms. Joylena Lang, Literacy tutor to our staff here at Maconce. We are very happy to have them join our team.





Important Halloween Information

Tuesday, October 31st

Students may wear their costumes to school. Please follow the dress code, nothing too short, or inappropriate. Nothing scary, violent, or offensive. Weapons and inappropriate attire will not be allowed. No accessories of any kind, including masks. Also, NO hair paint/spray or face paint/make up.

Students need to be comfortable, able to use the restroom and participate in school activities. Please keep this in mind when selecting the costume for school.

Please leave accessories to the costume at home. We do not want anyone to be unhappy on Halloween with lost or broken items. A great alternative to a costume is wearing orange and black.

We felt this was the best option to keep our focus on education and have fun too!

The parade will start at approximately 3:15 p.m. outside-dress for the weather.

Classroom teachers will send out information regarding individual classroom plans.

Please remember, all school day visitors must have an Anchor Bay Volunteer Form filled out in advance. Forms must be filled out every year. If you (or any family members) are planning to attend activities in your child's classroom this year, this form will be necessary. Forms are available on the district website <https://www.anchorbay.misd.net/> at the very bottom.

Due to the large volume of parents that attend the parade, we ask that you plan ahead. For student safety and liability, we ask that you send in a note that morning if you are planning on picking your child up from school.

We will not be doing early sign out in the office after the parade. We ask that parents please wait the few extra minutes until dismissal to pick up their child.

We thank you for your support. It allows us to continue activities like these in a safe and fun environment.

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.

Christmas Help

Maconce families are welcome to participate in the weekend backpack program. Let us know if you need this service, by contacting the school office. Your child would come home with food packs every Friday in their backpack. The program is handled with confidentiality and care with the help of the Watermark Church, the AB Community and our Friday Volunteers.

If your family needs Christmas help this holiday season, please dkolomjec@abs.misd.net in the school office for referral paperwork. We ask that you utilize only one organization per family



Student of the Month

Maconce Students of the Month Every month classroom teachers have the opportunity to select a "Student of Month". Not only are the showcased on our webpage, but also in our hallway showcase. We are very proud of these Maconce B.E.A.R.S. Students. B-Be Responsible E-Encourage Others A-Always do your Best R-Respect Everyone S-Show Pride. We continue to encourage positive behavior with positive incentives, dojo points and spirit week celebrations and NEW this year the BEAR CART sponsored by the Student Council Team.

NO Smoking on School Property

Tell your friends and family, a gentle reminder, there is NO smoking on school district premises, all school buildings and during school events. This includes lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other lighted smoking devices. The use of electronic, "vapor", or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes etc. are also prohibited on all school grounds and during all school functions or during drop off or pick up.

Parent-Teacher Conference Information

Classroom Teachers will contact parents directly to make conference appointments. Conferences will happen during the 3rd week of November.

Maconce Strong Stroll Fundraiser

Thank you for the huge support given to our first annual Maconce Stroll! The students raised a gross profit of over 13,772.00. They are participating in an outside walking event with music and DJ and several prizes that will be raffled off. These events support field trips, transportation, literacy supplies as well as many other activities for the students of Maconce.
