



Dear Hudsonville Community,

The famous American author Lou Buscaglia once penned, "Change is the end result of all true learning." As we enter 2018, our district will have many opportunities to reflect on our learning from focus groups and surveys to improve our facilities and services. In a time of transition, we will continue to listen to our constituents and move forward in a positive fashion. Please allow me to provide data on three upcoming events that will have a significant impact on our school district moving forward.

Results from our facilities focus groups are in and available for our constituents to review with a [detailed report](#) found on our website. For those who don't want to comb through the fourteen page report, an [executive summary](#) is also posted. Using the results from the focus groups, our Board of Education requested our architects to provide cost effective concepts to utilize the recently acquired property and facility adjacent to our high school. We will keep our community updated as the project progresses.

On May 8, two [ballot proposals](#) will come before Hudsonville School parents and community members. The first is our annual Non-Homestead Millage renewal. This is an annual renewal voters have approved for the past 23 years and would generate approximately \$4.4 million dollars of operating revenue for our school district. It is important to note this is not a tax on primary residences and is not a new tax. Additionally, the State of Michigan assumes all districts levy the full 18 mills. If voters reject the proposal, our district's state aid is reduced accordingly.

The second proposal is our Building and Site Sinking Fund. Effective March of 2017, Public Act 319 expanded a district's ability to utilize Building and Site Funds for security and technology. The House passed the bill in June, 2016 with a vote of 107-1, and the Senate passed it 36-0 in October, 2016. Even though Hudsonville has had this millage for the past 25 years, because the legislature expanded the use, the ballot language will suggest it is a new millage. It is important to note that both millages will MAINTAIN our citizens' current millage rate and will not raise taxes. Previous improvements made as a result of this one mill levy have included additional classrooms to accommodate all day every day kindergarten, roof repairs, boiler replacements, and land acquisitions.

Finally, the Board of Education greatly appreciates the feedback they have received through surveys and focus groups regarding the superintendent search process. A superintendent search [timeline](#) has been posted on our website. The Board will prioritize selection criteria and candidate requirements based on the data collected at an upcoming work session. While it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Hudsonville Public Schools' Superintendent for the past nine years, I am confident your feedback and the board's dedication will result in finding the best candidate to lead the district into the future. Please continue to monitor the website for updated information.

Respectfully,



Dr. Nick Ceglarek, Superintendent

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT INFORMATION 2018-2019

Kindergarten Enrollment Information

Enrollment forms are available at any of our Hudsonville Public School elementary buildings for families wishing to enroll their child in prekindergarten (prek) or kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year. To be eligible, children must be five years of age on or before December 1, 2018.* Please fill out the forms included in the packet and return the completed information to your attendance area building at the registration meetings on February 1, 2018

- Registration form
- Provide a birth certificate (must be certified with raised seal)
- Provide photo proof of identity of parent/guardian who is enrolling
- Provide proof of residency (i.e. utility bill, tax statement, house buy/sell agreement, lease agreement)
- Health appraisal form which includes dates of immunizations and vision/hearing testing (information completed no later than August 17, 2018)
- Waiver request for students with birth dates between Sept. 2 - Dec. 1, 2013
- Internet use authorization form
- Equipment use authorization form
- Concussion awareness acknowledgement form
- Family-school compact form



Placement Preference

Registration forms will include a place for parents to indicate their placement preference. If undecided, the building principal will contact parent to schedule a screening.

- * Full day/every day kindergarten (all buildings)
- * Full day/every day prekindergarten (north & south end elementary school locations TBD)

All kindergarten placement requests will be honored. Prekindergarten placement requests will be honored based on section availability. If sections fill, preference will be given to students with birth dates between September 1 - December 1. **Parents will be notified of placement decision by May 31, 2018.** Information about future orientation meetings for students will be included in the notification letter.

Registration Meetings

Registration meetings will be held for parents on Thursday, February 1. The meeting will offer important information regarding preparation for prek/kindergarten. The locations and times of the meetings are as follows:

<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Times</u>
Alward Elementary	7:00 p.m.	Jamestown Elementary	7:00 p.m.
Bauer Elementary	7:00 p.m.	Park Elementary	7:00 p.m.
Forest Grove Elementary	7:00 p.m.	South Elementary	10:00 a.m. OR 7:00 p.m.
Georgetown Elementary	7:00 p.m.		

Information will be the same at each time/location so parents are welcome to attend the time that works best for them. If you attend in another location, please drop off the registration form at your attendance area building.

Kindergarten Screening Information

After attending the registration meeting, parents who remain uncertain about placement and desire additional information to help guide the decision can request a screening by contacting their building secretary. Screening is recommended for students with birth dates after June 1, and **required for students with birthdates after September 1.** Screening will be held in each of the elementary building in February. The teacher will provide a summary of the child's readiness skills following screening.

We welcome your child with open arms and thank you for the privilege of working with your family!

Annual Food Drive Helps Feed Those in Need in Our Community

In November, our Elementary Physical Education Department had their annual PE CARES non-perishable food drive. All of our elementary schools participate in this food drive and the amount of food and personal care items that we collect and distribute to those in need in the Hudsonville community is astounding! As we wrapped things up, we were amazed with another successful year. Most of our elementary schools are reporting numbers in the thousands!

The impact that our food drive has in the community has become a point of pride for our students and staff. At each school, the classes with the highest totals were rewarded with a bowling party generously donated by Hudsonville Lanes. Though the winning class is always excited to go bowling, it's very common to hear the students remark that they "just feel good to be helping." As Physical Education teachers,



we teach our students to show character and to contribute to a team. When we see our students working so hard to help others, we know they understand that in the grand scheme of things, we are all on the same team.



Thank you to all of the Hudsonville Families who contributed this year.

Second Grade Southies!

The second graders at South Elementary decided to get into the Christmas spirit by learning more about the joy of giving. Instead of giving gifts to each other, they donated gifts to kids in our community through Toys for Tots. This was a great way to connect our social studies units about community while supporting those in our local area. They collected hundreds of toys that will help bring smiles to the faces of many kids in Ottawa County.

Here are a few things that some second graders said:

- "I was glad to do this because I think it would feel good if I got a gift." - L.B.
- "It was nice to be helpful to others" - L.H.
- "I felt good because giving to others helps them have a happy Christmas, too." - A.L.





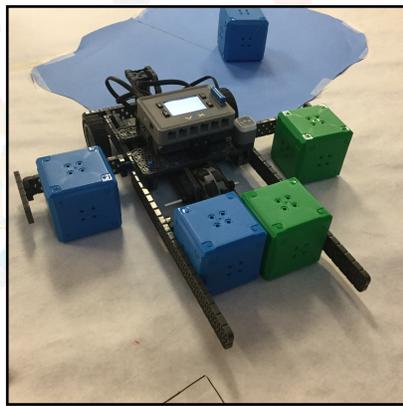
Reading at Park Elementary involves the entire family!

Family book clubs are a great way for families to share their love of reading as they discuss a novel together. Each family who participates reads a chosen book over the course of 6 weeks, learning together! The 3rd graders and their families recently enjoyed a Family Book Club meeting, celebrating the book, Hoot. The celebration was complete with treats, a book discussion, a Kahoot quiz, and dissecting owl pellets. Promoting literacy and family involvement is essential at Park Elementary!



ROBOTICS AT GEORGETOWN ELEMENTARY

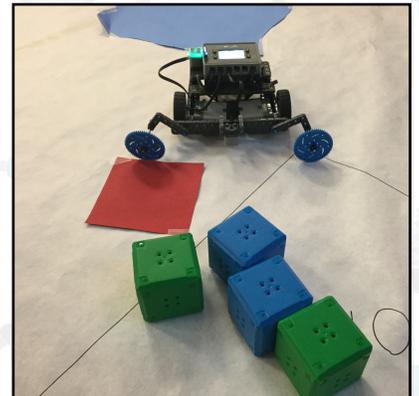
The fifth grade students at Georgetown Elementary are excited to be using the VEX IQ kits to build robots in the STEAM Studio! The activities and projects in this module develop skills and knowledge associated with robotics and the use of VEX IQ equipment.



The module starts as students learn about the history of robotics and research a variety of classes of robots including those developed to complete tasks that would be dangerous to people. After completing their research, students presented their findings to the class. The next step was to construct a testbed using VEX IQ equipment

to explore a variety of input and output devices including a motor, bumper switch, touch LED, color sensor, and controller.

Students were then able to explore the other materials in the VEX IQ kit by working collaboratively with a group using engineering skills to design, sketch, and build a model of a toy using VEX IQ components. After this assignment they were ready to put these skills to use by building a remotely operated robot with a variety of input and output devices. Students built a robot chassis according to a given plan. After they built and tested the vehicle, they had the opportunity to modify the vehicle to complete the task of collecting blocks and moving them across the floor. It was amazing to see all of the different solutions to the problem they were given!





Jamestown VIP Day

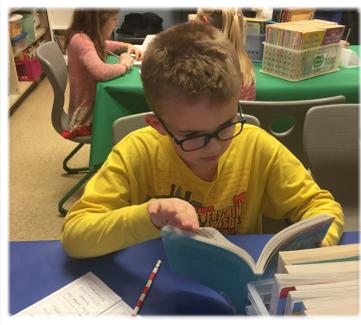
Jamestown Lower and Upper Elementary students invited a guest to school and showed them what it means to live out our shared vision to GROW, SOAR, and CARE. On Friday, January 12, Jamestown halls and classrooms were filled with VIP's (Very Important People). Students brought their VIP to school, visited classrooms, toured the building and participated in a shared activity. VIP's, thank you for your partnership in our students' education!



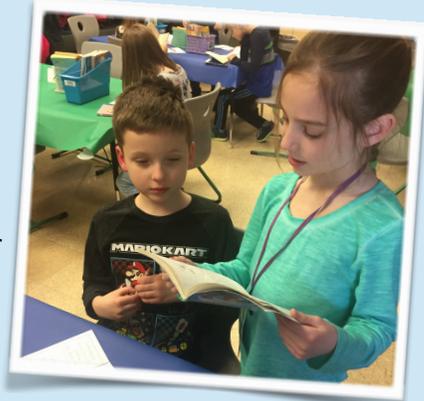
Spreading Kindness at Forest Grove!

Our character education theme for this winter is Kindness. This trait has been highlighted and discussed via the children's book entitled, "The Jelly Donut Difference, Sharing Kindness with the World". Students have met in multi-age Friendship Teams to plan for how they will individually and collectively share kindness in tangible ways with their families, school, and community. Staff and students have been on the look-out to catch their peers sharing examples of kindness and then recording these deeds on "sprinkles" that are displayed on our giant hallway donut.

One of the most popular ways that students have found to show their kindness is through volunteering to help out in our school lunchroom. Second through fifth graders serve during all three lunch periods by passing out condiments, cutlery, and tableware as well as helping students with lunch specific needs -- everything from cleaning up milk spills to opening Lunchables and string cheese. THANKYOU Forest Grove for spreading kindness to everyone!



The second graders at Park held a Book Tasting event this January. All three classrooms were transformed into cafes where the students were introduced to and could sample a taste of new books. They each ended up with a menu full of new books they wanted to read. It was a fun, creative, and engaging way to introduce the Series Book Club unit in reading.





Twenty-five Days of Grinchmas at Alward Elementary

During the month of December, Alward students and staff participated in the 25 Days of Grinchmas—doing good deeds for others so that we could grow our hearts three sizes. For every good deed that the students or teachers did, they recorded them on hearts that were displayed on a bulletin board at the center of our school. Every morning during announcements, random good deeds were shared with the whole school.



Throughout the month, it was nice to see students doing good deeds for others at school and sharing about the good deeds that they did for their families, friends, and community. Here are a few good deeds that were shared:

- I gave my left over Santa's Secret Shop money to a friend who didn't have any money to spend at the shop for his family.
- I helped shovel my neighbors' driveways when it snowed last night.
- Our class wrote Christmas cards to the older people who live in a retirement home.

By the end of the month, over 500 good deeds were turned in.



As a special treat for our students, we invited guests from around our school district and community to come celebrate the good deeds that our students did over the month and read *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* to each class. On that special day, all students and staff were encouraged to dress up as a character from the book to set the tone. In a sea of Cindy Lou Who's, Grinch's, and Max's, the 24 guest readers traveled to the classrooms to read and hear about the good deeds that our students worked on all month. Thank you to everyone involved who participated in our 25 Days of Grinchmas. It was definitely a huge success, with all hearts growing at least three sizes!



Stay Connected!

Become a fan of Hudsonville Public Schools on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with the latest news and updates.



30 SECOND TIMEOUT “DEALING WITH THE UNEXPECTED”

-By Kevin Wolma, Athletic Director

May 6, 1987 is a day I will never forget. After coming home from a middle school tennis match, I decided

to eat a quick dinner and go to my baseball scrimmage despite my mom saying I should not go. I didn't listen to her and arrived at the field shortly before the scrimmage started. In the second inning, as I played shortstop, there was a short pop fly over second base. I was running hard to make the catch while the center fielder was doing the same. Neither of us called each other off, resulting in a violent collision.

I realize now that adrenaline does amazing things as that moment will forever be in slow motion. After landing on the ground I noticed how my leg swelled up to the point where it stretched out my sweat pants. My femur was broken. I spent six weeks in a body cast only to find my femur had healed incorrectly. The doctor had to break it again and start over. Despair set in, frustration spread, and anger began to reside as I was afraid I would never play sports again.

Slowly, over the course of time, a transformation occurred in my life through this experience at a young age. Despair was replaced by patience, frustration took a back seat to determination, and anger was displaced by perseverance as I worked extremely hard to get back onto the field. My confidence grew as my leg strengthened.

Time and time again throughout life I have leaned on these attributes, learned as a 13 year old, to get through some adverse situations. Events like these can stretch our will beyond what we ever think possible, but when people are stretched, they grow. Breaking my leg shaped the rest of my life and also allowed me to find purpose and passion. Since playing sports was going to be a challenge, I knew the only way to fulfill that desire was by coaching. I started coaching tennis at 16 years old. Through coaching, I realized how great of an impact one can have on student athletes. I knew before entering college, I had to be involved in education. Would I have felt this way if I wouldn't have broken my leg? I don't know. I do know, however, that when a door closes, there is always another one to open.

The longer I have been involved with high school athletics the more I have witnessed athletes' careers put on hold or destroyed with a major injury. For many, these serious injuries can cause the individual to question, "What is next?" or "What am I going to do now?" Our culture has placed athletics in such high regard that when taken away, there is a sense that our existence is not as important as it was when we were a part of athletics. This transition can be difficult and often can lead to a feeling of low self worth and hopelessness because athletes may feel like they have failed. For some, the failure is they did not reach the expectations of their parents, coaches, or teammates, while for others the failure is a realization that they could not meet their own personal goals.

Injuries are not the sole reason that causes this feeling of hopelessness. This can also occur when a student athlete gets cut, does not reach his or her full potential, or even when someone takes another player's spot on a team. Coaching changes can bring in other philosophies which may not meet certain players' skill sets, leaving those athletes sitting on the sidelines. Athletics are unpredictable, non-forgiving, and often unfair for all who participate. Because of this unpredictability, we need to prepare our kids for "life after athletics." The message should be that sports will never define us, but it can prepare us for the next stage in life. Sports is not a means to an end but more of an opportunity to find our passion or purpose. We never know what direction these events will lead us unless we keep an open mind and a positive attitude. If we allow, times of adversity and transition can teach us many attributes that will play significant roles in our lives.

I recently read a quote saying the reason why the windshield is bigger than the rearview mirror is because our focus should be on what is ahead of us, not what is in the past. Past experiences will prepare us for the next event, but we have to keep pressing forward by looking through the windshield in order to grow from those experiences. Injuries can lead to opportunities, opportunities can give us a platform, and having a platform gives us the ability to impact those around us. Embrace the process!





HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

REGISTRATION NIGHT



Tuesday, January 23, 2018
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Early Childhood Center
5535 School Ave.
Hudsonville, MI
(Main entrance off Madison Ave.)

Fostering A Love For Learning

Hudsonville Early Childhood Programs include:

0-5 yrs	3 yr preschool	4 yr preschool	Young 5's - 5th grade
early childhood special education speech & language little learners playgroup	half day (1 - 2 days) full day w/childcare (2 - 5 days) summer childcare	half day (2 - 4 days) full day w/childcare (2 - 5 days) summer childcare	young fives (3 days) before/after school care summer childcare

For information on Special Education call: (616) 689-1740 ext. 5

Registration Opens: **January 23, 2018**
visit: hudsonvillepublicschools.org or call: **(616) 797-0842 ext. 1**

COME VISIT US:

Tuesday
January 23, 2018
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Early Childhood Center
5535 School Ave.
Hudsonville, MI



Doors open for registration at 6:00 pm. Bring children to meet staff and visit classrooms; no presentation.
*Registration fee of \$40 per child and \$100 non-refundable deposit per family required with registration form.

Hudsonville Early Childhood Programs
5535 School Ave.
Hudsonville, MI 49426



Choir students at Baldwin Street Middle School made a couple of special visits to Allen Springs and American House to bring some holiday cheer to the senior citizens that reside there.

