

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



SUPERINTENDENT FAMILY BULLETIN
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

GREETING

Hey, Bobcat Families! It was a great first week of school, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation and patience as we work through new drop-off and pick-up procedures! Overall, we are seeing traffic improvements due to the new bus loop, adjustment of building start/end times, parking lot markings and procedures, and removing the bus traffic from the front of the middle/high school building. For drop-off, we are seeing a 5-10 minute window, between 7:35-7:45am, where traffic is backing up on Sylvania/Petersburg Rd. We believe that this can be eliminated if our elementary families dropping off student(s) utilize all five (5) designated drop-off spots designated by orange cones and white markings and quickly have their student(s) exit the vehicle. Once all five (5) vehicles move out of the spots, we ask that another five (5) vehicles fill the spots for dropping off their student(s). If you are in one of the five (5) drop-off spots, we ask that you have your student(s) exit the car quickly and walk to the crosswalk. Deputy Benes will ensure that students can cross safely to the elementary school. Pick-up is going smoothly with little to no back-ups in the parking lot.

FREE & REDUCED-PRICE MEAL APPLICATIONS

For the 2023-2024 school year, the district will participate in the Michigan School Meals Program, which will allow all students to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch each day. We still need your household to complete the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application if you believe you might qualify. The Free and Reduced-Price Meal Applications can be completed electronically using familyportal.cloud. Search for Whiteford School District, then click on "Apply for Benefits." If families would prefer to print a paper copy of the application for free and reduced meals, they can do so by clicking on this [link](#). You may also pick up a copy in either school office. Please complete the paper application and return to either school office.

If families don't complete this application that might qualify, we risk losing At-Risk money provided by state and federal grants. We have seen a decline in applications being completed during the past two school years, so we encourage families that think they may qualify for Free/Reduced meals to please complete the application. These grant monies help provide student assistance through our academic interventionists at the elementary and remediation classes at the middle school.

INFINITE CAMPUS

Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the information outlined in this [letter](#). The **REQUIRED ACTION STEPS** for each family are outlined in the letter.

SCHOOL STORE (ON-LINE PAYMENTS)

We have begun the process of accepting on-line payments using our School Store. You can access the School Store on the district website's home page button labeled "School Store (On-Line Payments)". Right now, athletic passes can be purchased through this process. We offer Family (\$125), Individual (\$75), Student (\$35), and Senior Citizen (\$25) passes. Note: The Senior Citizen pass is good for individuals 63 years of age and older, and is good for all TCC home/away events.

CHROMEBOOKS

We are a 1:1 Chromebook district for all students K-12th grades. Students in KG-5th grade do not need Chromebook insurance as the devices do not leave school. However, students in grades 6-12 have the option of purchasing Chromebook Insurance for \$20 (\$60 family limit). This insurance policy will cover the cost towards damages incurred due to cracked screens, liquid spills, drops, and device failures. Multiple insurance claims may result in future chromebook restrictions and repair fees. The insurance fee does not cover replacement of or damages to the power charger, excessive wear and tear, excessive cosmetic damage, vandalism, negligence of care, fire, abuse, or theft. Replacement fees will be assessed due to excessive damage, vandalism, or failure to return the Chromebook or charger in good working condition.

at the end of the school year. Chromebook fees are paid on-line in Infinite Campus Parent Portal under “Fees”. Students will not receive Chromebooks until fees are paid or declined.

FEES

To pay for fees in Infinite Campus Parent Portal, click on “Fees” on the left side of the main page. Here is the step-by-step details:

1. Click “Add to Cart”.
2. Click “My Cart”.
3. Click “Add Payment Method”.
4. Add “Check, Savings, or eCheck”.
5. Click “Submit Payment”.

SCHOOLGY

Our K-12 teaching staff use Schoology to communicate with students and families, post assignments and grades, and sometimes include instructional videos. Here is a [Schoology Parent Account](#) video sharing introductory information about Schoology. If your family has yet to access Schoology or downloaded the App for your phone, you can email your child’s teacher for log-in details or contact Corey Mills for support at: mills@whiteford.k12.mi.us

VOLUNTEER FORM

Whiteford Agricultural School District appreciates your willingness to serve as a volunteer in our district and become a substantial and vital part of our school programs! You can access the form [here](#) or from any school office. Please complete both sides of the form and return it to your student’s building office, teacher, or coach. Background checks will be done on an annual basis. The background check process is time consuming; therefore, appropriate lead time must be given to ensure background checks are completed prior to volunteer service at the school or for any function conducted by the school.

GROWING TREE AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE PROGRAM

The Growing Tree After School Program is pleased to be able to offer a childcare program on a self-funded basis for Kindergarten through 5th grade. The after-school program is a ministry of the Whiteford Wesleyan Church. The program is licensed through the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Child Care division. The After School Program will operate during bad weather morning delays, daily after school hours, and early dismissals that are included in the Whiteford Schools yearly calendar until 6pm. Fees are \$6.25/hour for first child, \$5.25/hour for second child, and \$4.25/hour for third and additional children. If you are interested in learning more about the After School Program, please contact Bernice Heidelberg at 419-279-0442 or get a registration packet from the Whiteford Elementary School office.

CONCERNS & QUESTIONS

If a concern or problem arises this school year, it is important that we follow proper lines of communication. Concerns regarding your child and their educational or athletic experience should be expressed directly with the staff member that it most closely involves and should occur at an appropriate time, place, and with a professional tone. This provides a process whereby employees closest to the problem have an opportunity to know about the concern, a chance to work on the problem and are able to effectively work out a solution to the problem that is agreeable to all involved. In all situations, it is important to presume positive intentions and have an attitude in seeking to understand the situation. Please see the [Flowchart for Public Concerns](#) for guidance.

SEPTEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is September 11, 2023. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the board room located in the MS/HS. The Board of Education agenda is typically posted the Friday preceding a meeting and can be found here: [BOE Agenda & Minutes](#).

SCHOOL DELAYS / CLOSINGS

School closing or delay announcements will be sent via the Infinite Campus Messenger systems and announced on the following television stations: Channel 11 (CBS) and Channel 13 (ABC). Announcements should occur no later than 7am. Parents and students are asked NOT to call the school or school officials. When school is delayed due to fog/snow/ice or

other emergency conditions, it will be delayed for a minimum of two (2) hours. **It is important to make sure you have updated your contact information in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.**

STRATEGIC PLAN PILLARS OF SUCCESS

Whiteford Strategic Plan 2022-2027

→ **ENGAGED** in purposeful learning.

→ **EMPOWERED** for a meaningful role in our dynamic world.

→ **ENCOURAGED** by our community.

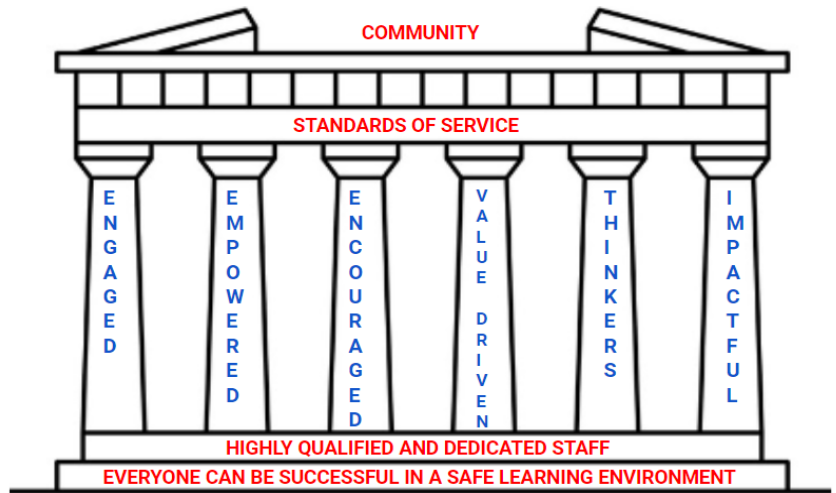
→ **VALUE DRIVEN** leaders.

→ Critical **THINKERS**.

→ **IMPACTFUL** in their community.

→ **STANDARDS OF SERVICE** We will treat all stakeholders (students, staff, parents/guardians, community members) with respect, kindness, and professionalism at all times.

→ **COMMUNITY** promotes, cultivates, and celebrates student and district success.



BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS

<https://whiteford.nutrislice.com/menu>

SCHOOL CALENDARS

2023-2024 School Calendar

ATHLETICS WEBSITE/CALENDAR

<https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/athletics/>

THIS WEEK

September 11-15 5th Grade Field Trip Michindoh

September 11 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Board Room

NEXT WEEK

September 17 Constitution Day

September 18 Elementary Picture Day

September 18 MS/HS Picture Day

UPCOMING

September 26 Student-Athlete Leadership Summit 9-1pm Lenawee Christian School

October 2-6 Homecoming Week

October 2 6-12th Grades Assembly: Brad Hurtig 1:30pm Middle School Gym

October 9 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Board Room

October 30 MS/HS Picture Retake Day

November 1 No School: Teacher Professional Development Day

November 3 Elementary Picture Retake Day

November 3 End of 1st Marking Period

November 9 Early Release Elementary 10:55am; MS/HS 11:05am

November 9 Parent-Teacher Conferences 12-3pm; 4-7pm

We are better together - We are Whiteford!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott L. Huard".

Scott L. Huard, ED.S.

Superintendent

scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us

734-856-1443 Ext. 101