

# Whiteford Elementary School

September 15, 2023



## Hello Bobcats!

We have had a wonderful first few days of school. I hope your child/children have come home as excited about this school year as their teachers and I am. If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out so one of us can assist you.

### **School Pictures:**

School pictures forms were sent home in the open house packet and will be taken Monday, September 18th. If you are interested in ordering online, go to [mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com) and use the code **EVTJVK383** to be linked to our school.

### **Fire Drill:**

We had our first fire drill last week and will have another one next Wednesday morning. The teachers went over the expectations with the children and let them know it is only a practice prior to the drill. However, for some of the younger students they may have questions when they return home. Please reiterate that we practice to stay safe in case of an emergency as I'm sure you do at home.

### **School Wide Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (SWPBIS):**

Marian Hillard, our Behavior Interventionist, classroom teachers, Mrs. Groch, and I have spent time these past two weeks reviewing classroom, hallway, cafeteria, arrival/dismissal, and playground expectations to allow all of our students to have a fun learning environment while remaining safe. We will continue to review these expectations throughout the year. Each week I will share another portion of our SWPBIS system with you. This week I would like to start by sharing our elementary vision statement:

*"At Whiteford Elementary, our Bobcat mantra is 'Be safe, Be kind, Be respectful, Be responsible.' We strive to promote these qualities each day in all areas of our school. We work to create and develop relationships with students and families, and we take our partnership in raising successful, productive, contributing members of society very seriously."*

We believe that we will be most successful when we support each other in a partnership with parents in educating our students. Here at Whiteford Elementary, we are thrilled to be working with amazing parents and students. Please don't ever hesitate to reach out to me with concerns or questions.

### **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](https://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.

### **Fifth Grade Camp:**

Our amazing 5th grade teachers Peyton Shepherd and Erika Biddle along with our high school student counselors have had an amazing week at Camp Michindoh with our students. The campers all arrived home safely right before lunch and were greeted by eagerly awaiting family members. The students will have many stories to share and great memories to carry with them. Thanks Mrs. Shepherd and Mrs. Biddle!



### **Special Helpers at Morning Drop-Off:**

Thanks to Mr. Simmons for arranging the varsity football players to assist our littles at drop off this morning. We are so fortunate to have all of our students on one campus where the littles and bigs can have such meaningful interactions. Stay tuned - we have more to come. 😊  
Good luck tonight Bobcats!





### **Upcoming Important Dates:**

September 17	Constitution Day
September 18	Picture Day
September 19	WPA meeting 6:00 elementary cafeteria
September 20	Fire Drill 10:45
September 27	WPA Fundraiser begins
October 6	Homecoming Game
October 9	School Board Meeting 6:00

October 11	Fundraiser Ends
October 17	WPA meeting 6:00 elementary cafeteria
October 24	Hearing and Vision Screening
November 1	No School: Teacher Professional Development
November 3	Picture Retakes
November 3	End of 1st Marking Period
November 9	Early Dismissal at 10:55
November 9	Parent Teacher Conferences 12-3pm; 4-7pm

Have a fantastic weekend and please let me know if there is anything I can assist with.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mrs. Anderson".

Marcy Anderson  
Elementary Principal