

# April 2018 Houghton Elementary

Houghton-Portage Township Public Schools



Volume 5, Issue 8

Doreen Klingbeil, Superintendent  
Anders Hill, Principal

## M-Step Testing



In June 2014, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) started to develop a new test, the new assessment system will be called the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress, or M-STEP. This has replaced the MEAP tests our students traditionally completed in the fall.

The M-STEP will be our schools summative assessments designed to measure student growth. English language arts and mathematics will be assessed in grades 3–5, science in grade 4 and social studies in grade 5. This test will be taken on-line, utilizing our Chromebooks and computer lab.

Our 5th grade students will begin testing on April 9th, our 3rd and 4th grade on April 30. The testing windows are three weeks long. Students will not be testing every-day, and tests in each area will take about one hour. Please make sure your child attends regularly during testing windows. We will run make-up sessions for students who are absent. We are excited to show the great progress we have made in the past year. **Please encourage your child to give their best effort!**



### Upcoming Events

- **March 26<sup>th</sup> — April 2<sup>nd</sup> — Spring Break**  
No School
- **April 3<sup>rd</sup> — Classes Resume**
- **April 6<sup>th</sup> — PTO Family Dance Party**
- **April 11<sup>th</sup> — Students Dismissed at 12:20 pm**
- **April 24<sup>th</sup> — Class Pictures**
- **May 10<sup>th</sup> — Fine Arts Night**
- **May 28<sup>th</sup> — No School Memorial Day**

## GROWTH MINDSET-

### What should we be teaching students to say?



Instead of...	Try thinking...
I'm not good at this.	What am I missing?
I'm awesome at this.	I'm on the right track because I've worked hard and practiced.
I give up.	I'll use some of the strategies we've learned.
This is too hard.	This may take some time and effort.
I made a mistake.	Mistakes help me learn better.

# March TEAM Students

Every month we are recognizing a student in each class that exemplifies our schools TEAM goals:

**Take Responsibility**

**Earn Respect**

**Act Positively**

**Make it Safe**

These students will enjoy cookies and milk with the principal and receive a certificate. Our March honorees are:

**Young 5's:** Olavi Lautala

**K:** Maximillian Qi, Hope Anderson, Kylee Kangas, Sophie Cyr & Carter Ka-

leich

**1st :** Jake Mattson, Payton Reynolds, Daisy Zawada, Aanika Schlieff & AJ Fay

**2nd:** Seth Valentine, Tate Evans, Vincent Gemelli & Charlotte Knuuttila

**3rd:** Karly Matson, Sawyer Markham, Gabe Garnell, Leah Johnson & Katie Heikell

**4th:** Kia Markham, Claire Johnson, Rianna Erva & Kate Berkey

**5th:** Mackenzie Francis, Cecelia Butler, Thomas Scullion & Katie Sarau

**Congratulations!**



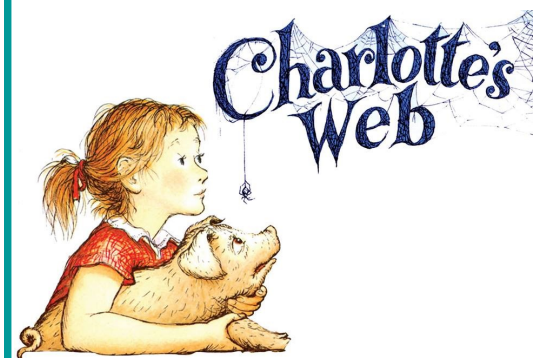
## Counselor's Corner **Micah Stipech**

**Please help us help kids by leaving toys and trinkets at home.**

The school day is full of distractions for children. Classrooms are busy, everyday there is so much to accomplish. Children move from one task to another, from one subject to the next, to recess, to lunch and specials classes.

As spring days get warmer it can be even more difficult for kids to stay on task. One thing we can control is not allowing our children to bring things to school that will be a distraction to themselves and others. Often students come in with action figures, toys, trinkets, money and all sorts of things that create a big distraction for students. When students are unable to put these things away it often results in struggles and meltdowns. Please help us help kids by leaving it at home.

We would like to thank all the families for their support of Reading Month! Keep Reading!



## Kindergarten Registration 2018-2019

Houghton Portage Township Schools has begun registering kindergarten-aged children for the 2018-2019 school year. Children who will be five years of age by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, are eligible to enter kindergarten or

Young 5's. Please call Houghton Elementary School at 482-0456 ext. 3040 to register. Children currently attending Young 5's are automatically registered for kindergarten.



95%	=	<b>47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	<b>95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	<b>142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	<b>190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

**BE SMART BE THERE!**

## ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...



**ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**  
read well by the end of third grade

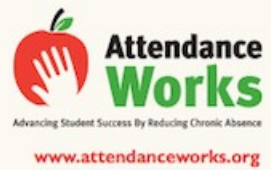
**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS**  
pass important courses

**HIGH SCHOOLERS**  
stay on track for graduation

**COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
earn their degrees

**WORKERS**  
succeed in their jobs

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.





Houghton Elementary  
School  
203 W. Jacker Avenue  
Houghton MI 49931



Phone: 906-482-0456 Ext. 3000  
Fax: 906-487-5941  
Principal—Anders Hill  
ahill@hpts.us  
Twitter: @AndersHill2

[www.hpts.us](http://www.hpts.us)

Congratulations  
to Eddie Zho his  
2<sup>nd</sup> place finish  
and Julia Jeon  
for coming in 3<sup>rd</sup>



place at the UP Finals Spelling Bee! Our  
entire school is proud of their efforts!



## PTO Corner

**You Support PTO. PTO  
Supports Our School.**

PTO donated more  
than **\$3,000** toward a new,  
custom playground stor-  
age shed built by Hough-  
ton High School Shop Class.

To support new stand-up desks in Mrs.  
Alissa Schmidt's second-grade class,  
PTO allocated **\$240**.

Third-grade classes will be taking a field  
trip to tour Quincy Mine, and PTO voted  
to give **\$570** so students can go for free.

**Opportunities to Get Involved:**

Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> - Family Dance Night PTO  
Fundraiser Tuesday, April 10 Eat at Jo-  
ey's Seafood & Grill and 20% goes to  
PTO. PTO Meeting Tuesday, April 17  
5:30 p.m. in the school library

**Information & Updates:**

Like PTO on Facebook: [face-  
book.com/HPTSPTO](https://www.facebook.com/HPTSPTO)



## Spring Weather

Please watch the weather and  
have your child wear boots to  
school if we have rain or snow.  
Our playground will get very  
muddy. Also, please continue to  
send coats, snow pants, hats  
and gloves. April weather is  
very unpredictable and we hope  
to keep students warm and  
comfortable on the playground.

Thank you!

