

April 2019 Houghton Elementary

Houghton-Portage Township Public Schools



Volume 6, 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 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 8th, our 3rd and 4th grade on April 29th. The testing windows are three weeks long. Students will not be testing everyday, 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 25th — 29th —**
Spring Break No School
- **April 1st —** *Classes Resume*
- **April 5th —** *PTO Spring Fling*
- **April 10th —** *Students Dismissed at 12:20 pm*
- **April 12th —** *JRFH Assembly*
- **April 19th — 22nd —**
Easter Break
- **May 9th —** *Fine Arts Night*
- **May 27th —** *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: Preston Schlieff

K: Jack Morlan, JT Swetich, Reese Lah-ti, Toki Aschauer & Elliana Ploe

1st : Ilah Malik, Maev O'Leary, Marlena King, Lillian Heikkinen & Emma Johnson

2nd: Fareedah Shittu, Max Bier, Kayleb Vollwerth, Thea Johnson & Zoey Kangas

3rd: Maylee Wall, Arlen Juntunen, Seth Valentine & Brooke Sintkowski

4th: Leah Johnson, Ruby Laux, Ma'Kai Anderson, Lydia O'Neil & Marcus Hammond

5th: Kalissa Zemke, Anika Mechlin, Brayden Goudge & Erik Staricha

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 2019-2020

Houghton Portage Township Schools has begun registering kindergarten-aged children for the 2019-2020 school year. Children who will be five years of age by December 1st, 2019, 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%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 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

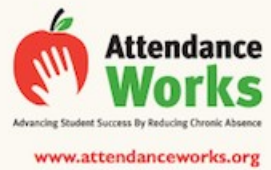
MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
pass important courses

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



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!

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



PTO Corner



You Support PTO. PTO Supports Our School.

SPRING FLING is Friday, April 5 from 6-8:30pm. Our biggest fundraising event includes a DJ, dancing, games with prizes, raffle baskets, cake walk, face painting, concessions, and more! Check out these ways to support PTO:

Donated items for themed Basket Raffle are due TH 4/4

Please drop off Cake Walk donations TH 4/4 and FRI 4/5

Pricing: Admission: \$5 per person (capped at \$20/family), Raffle: \$1 per ticket, \$10 for 12, \$20 for 25

Game / Food / Activity Punchcards: \$.50/punch

Can't attend? All families who make a Regrets Only Donation by TH 4/4 will be entered to win a \$25 Gift Card. Note "Regrets Only" on envelope with checks to HES PTO. Include your name and phone #.

Shop & Support PTO: Thirty-one Gifts will be donating 25% of all sales during an upcoming promotion running Wednesday, April 3 through Thursday, April 18. A special link will be shared. Orders will be ready in time for Mother's Day!

PTO Supports our School: We have a **SUPER** staff here at Houghton Elementary. Watch for emails, flyers, and Facebook posts this month about ways students and families can participate in Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week that begins May 6.

Coming Up:

PTO Meeting Tuesday, April 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the School Library

Information & Updates:

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

