



Superior Central Newsletter

Home of the Cougars

February 2021

Volume 25, Issue 2

www.superiorcentralschools.org



FROM THE OFFICE OF MR. BILL VALIMA

Superintendent/Principal K-12

Wow, what a year. Last year at this time many of us had heard of an upper respiratory virus that had affected about a dozen people in the United States. Who would have known the impact that virus would have on all of us? Over the last year we have implemented many changes at Superior Central to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. Busses are sanitized between every run and the windows are kept open when parked in the garage. Students are asked to sanitize when getting on the bus in the morning and on the way home. We hired a daytime custodian to sanitize the building throughout the day and our evening custodians are sanitizing the building at night. In between classes, our teachers and para-pros are sanitizing desks and chairs. Our students have done an amazing job wearing masks and adjusting to things like not eating in the cafeteria. It's been hard, but we are doing it. I am thankful for the parents who are keeping their kids home when they are sick and calling to let us know when they or someone in their family was exposed to a positive COVID-19 case. I am thankful for the LMAS Health Department for their guidance as we contact trace and make decisions about quarantining. To date, we have had 3 positive student cases of COVID-19 at Superior Central this year with zero transmission at school. We have done our best to act swiftly, with the help of our parents, students, and staff to contact trace and quarantine if necessary. I am happy that we, like the rest of the schools in the Upper Peninsula, have been open for in person instruction this school year.

This fall we also opened the Superior Central Online Academy as an alternative to in person instruction. We partnered with a company called Edgenuity to use their online platform to offer online learning to all student's grade Kindergarten through 12th grade. For years we have offered online electives that we can't teach here at Superior Central through companies such as Michigan Virtual University and Odysseyware. This year we shifted all our in person online courses to Edgenuity as well.

As we know from years of data from across the state and nation, virtual learning can be difficult. The most recent data, put out from the Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute, shows that in 2018-19, 120,669 students in Michigan took at least one virtual course. The statewide virtual pass rate was 55%. During the same year, 23% of virtual learners did not pass any of their virtual courses. This past fall at Superior Central, 36 students enrolled in 229 courses through the Superior Central Virtual Academy. Of those 229 courses, 61% were passed. While online learning at home is flexible, student still must set aside time to work each day. This past fall 30 students took at least 1 online course while attending in person instruction at Superior Central. Of the 40 courses taken, 93% were passed.

This is the time of the year when we start planning our Sinking Fund projects for the summer. Initially, our plan was to finish the roof; however, in January one of our two boilers failed. This means that we have been running only one boiler during this latest cold stretch. Instead of the roof, we are going to replace our two boilers this summer and retrofit the heating units in the middle and high school. Having this flexibility is what I love about having the Sinking Fund. The last 7 years of Sinking Fund have made a huge impact on the district. I want to thank you all again for supporting that initiative. It is my hope to renew it in a couple of years so that we can continue to make improvements to our facility.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Mason Porter and Isabelle Bernard on being named Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2021. Their hard work and dedication to their studies should be commended.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to work with your children. As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to call me @ 439-5532 x 244 or email me at bvalima@superiorcentralschools.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Valima



One School, One Book

Starting Monday, March 1!

What Book?

Sorry...it's a secret until March 1st.

Every family.

Every student. (K-5)

Every night.

Reading aloud with your children is the single most important thing you can do to help them succeed.

Order forms in the offices

Superior Central 2020-2021 Yearbooks

Now on Sale

\$35

Full color hardcover yearbook with all grades.
Pictures for a lifetime of memories!



SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS HONOR ROLL

2020-2021 Second Quarter

Congratulations to the following students for being named to the Honor Roll for the second marking period.

An * denotes all A's

UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Thompson's 3rd Grade: Emma Beaupied, Joy Brown, Edye Burdett, Daniel Jarquin, Evan Kelto, William Kolpack, Braelynn Lawson, Larissa Lindgren, Harrison McDougall, Cole Raspor, Caleb Simon

Mrs. Kelto's 4th Grade: Keegan Fulton, Aubrianna Kroupa, Nina Massie*, Amerie Pizzi

Mrs. Tyner's 5th Grade: Riley Balkum, Mali Hillier, Marlene Johnson, Levi Kempainen, Meredith Kempker, Alina Kolpack, Lillian Lindgren, Scarlett Loehr, Conor McDonnald, Kendra Pederson, Hailey Quarfoot, Natalia Salmi, Lilly Simon, Aiyana Taskey

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

6th grade: Connor Blomgren, Andrew Charlebois, Samuel Charlebois, Teagan Hall, Rory Hancock, Ryder Kroupa, Zander Mullins*, Kianna Perron*, Peyton Sobieski, William Spranger, Elijah Valima, Gavin Vining

7th grade: Joseph Augustyn, Jamie Brown, Gwenyth Charlebois, Kalli Foro, Isaac Gleason*, Cassie Helminen, Clay Horne, Jenna Hoy, Jack Kasten, Carter Korpi, Morgan Martin, Kiera McDonnald*, John McDougall, Janessa Perron, Blake Tanner

8th grade: Drew Begovac, Ruth Johnson*, Calla Porter*, Derick Tyner

9th grade: Craig Adams, Grant Garrow, Alice Hancock, Jason Kanerva, Liam McDougall, Elijah Penney, Clara Rondeau, Breanna Swajanen*

10th grade: Emily Augustyn, Izabel Barber, Madisen Begovac, Hudson Cady, Wyatt Kulik, Riley Moore, Adair Porter, Evelyn Smyth*, Brylee Tyner*, Sophia Valima*, Emmett Vining

11th grade: Katrina Augustyn, Charlotte Charlebois, Riley Johnson, Eva LaVallie, Dakota Maki, Ethan Phillipson*, Emma Rutter*, Christopher Thompson, Evan Thompson,

12th grade: Isabelle Bernard, Rhyse Hall, Michael Leppanen, James Maki, Parker Maki, Paige McGee, Caleb Nimee, Mason Porter*, Michael Rondeau, Madisyn Tyner, Josephine Valima*, Kaeden Weir



What's the Word in School?

Students Speak

Knowledge at your fingertips. Distractions at the push of a button.

CHROMEBOOKS - Have they helped or hurt your education?

Chromebooks do help because they teach you how to read and they have a lot of learning games. When my teacher was absent, there was work on the computer and our work was on our Google Classroom. On Epic it teaches us how to read good books. I think it is really a lot easier to do our work on the computer instead of doing our work on paper.

Harper F.

4th grade



I think that a Chromebook has helped my education because it is easier for me to do assignments online in some classes than on paper.

Derek T.
8th grade



They have helped me. If I didn't have one History Day would be way harder.

Gavin V.
6th Grade



Chromebooks help people's education because they give people access to information that can help them with their classes.

Cassie H.
7th Grade



The Chromebooks helped me because if I have a problem with an assignment I can just email the teacher, and if I find a word in an assignment that I don't know I can just look it up.

Danica P.
7th Grade



I think that Chromebooks have ruined education because we have to do all our assignments on them. I really think that in the coming year we won't have to use our Chromebooks. I also hope that Covid-19 goes down so we can take off these masks. It would also be good to eat lunch together in the cafeteria.

Carter K.
7th Grade



They have helped me learn quite a lot. They make everything more organized and efficient, and I enjoy working way more when it is online instead of pencil and paper.

Lucas S.
10th grade



I think that the Chromebooks have helped. I don't find it difficult to focus with my Chromebook, like I am not feeling the urge to watch Netflix when I'm doing Econ. I think that at home though it's a different story, like it's harder to feel motivated to work, but that may not be the Chromebook's fault. I don't think we are distracted with Chromebooks when we all have phones that are probably more distracting. Plus there aren't really any distracting websites that are unblocked from our usage, so I don't think they are a distraction for us.

Olivia M.
11th grade



The internet is quite possibly the single most important resource for learning we have ever created. I'm sure there's very little doubt about that. However, for every grammar handbook, history article, or audiobook available, there seems to be three times as many games and other distractions available. Because of this, many are divided on the topic of whether the internet has a place in education or not, and my personal belief is that it absolutely does and that it improves quality of learning. Distractions in learning settings have existed long before the internet, from random things in your pocket that you fiddle with (such as a pen, coins, or a set of keys) to actual toys brought in. However, none of the above items have educational value, but the internet does. Even if a student isn't exactly following the curriculum and looking at strictly scholarly sources, they're still learning. In fact, I'd argue that this style of learning is the most important for one simple reason; it involves the student's interests and is done by their own accord. They found something they're interested in and are willing to learn about it without being pushed by a teacher, and they are able to do so because of the readily available access to the internet Chromebooks provide. Of course, actual class time should involve studying of the curriculum, which the internet also wonderfully assists with, but the opportunity to pursue individual interests on one's own accord is something that all teachers aspire to see, no? As such, I believe Chromebooks have helped mine and others' educations, and have earned their place as a mainstay in classrooms for years to come.

Ethan P.
11th grade





Recycling Available in Chatham area



Location: Behind the green building south of the Chatham Co-Op
Drop-Off Times: Tuesday evenings 6-8, Saturday mornings 8-12

\$3 per 30-gallon container

Plastics:

- Narrow-necked plastic bottles
- Plastic food jars
- Milk jugs
- Plastics #1-7

Paper:

- Cardboard
- Cereal, detergent, shoe boxes
- Business envelopes & forms
- Junk mail
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Computer/typing paper
- Shredded paper
- Telephone books

NOT Recyclable

- Waxed cardboard
- Plastic bags (of any kind)
- Glass containers
- Cardboard/containers with food residue
- Photo paper
- Self-adhesive labels
- Foil
- Styrofoam

All items should be CLEAN. Cardboard must have all packaging (bags, styrofoam, peanuts) removed and be flattened.

Do not include materials that are not listed.

Putting plastic bags, food, or other unacceptable items in the recycle bin can contaminate the entire load and cause it to be dumped in the landfill.

Please recycle responsibly.

For more information: www.northcountrydisposal.net.

\$1 per 5-gallon bucket or grocery bag

Metals:

- Tin Cans
- Aluminum Cans



4-H Semi Annual Recycling

Saturday April 24, 2021 8:00-10:00 AM

Plastic # 1 & #2 Steel and aluminum cans Paper Cardboard

Please wash items and remove the lids, paper and cardboard bundled.

For more details on recycling go to www.dswma.org

Collection at MSU Experimental Station, Chatham



Board of Education

Please take notice that upcoming meetings of the Board of Education of the Superior Central School District in Eben Junction, Michigan are scheduled as follows:

<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Monday March 15, 2021	Monday April 19	Monday May 17, 2021
	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM

Regular meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month. Work sessions as needed. All meetings are 7:00 PM

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in these meetings.

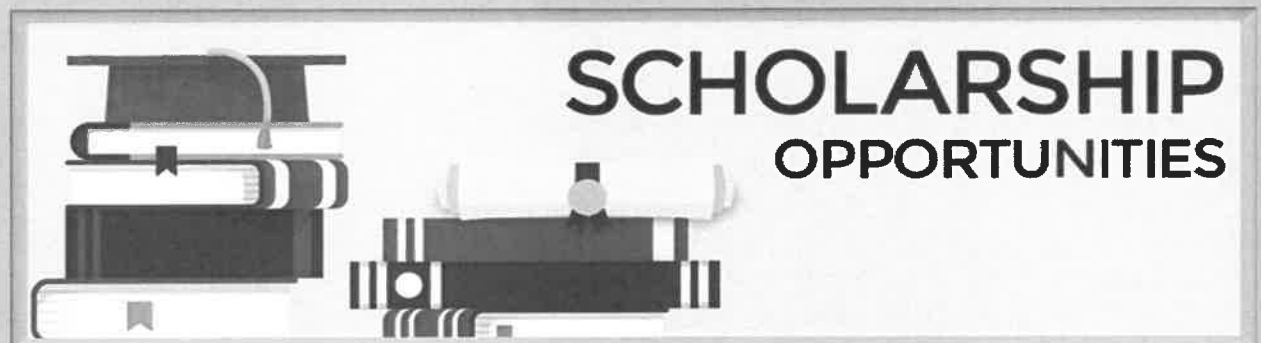
Request must be received at least five days in advance of the meeting.



Searching for information ?

Try these sources for info:

- Website: www.superiorcentralschools.org
- PowerSchool– parent sign in for student grades
- Quarterly newsletter– published after every quarter & posted on the website
- Classroom newsletter– Elementary teachers send them home weekly
- Lunch balances– www.sendmoneytoschool.com
- Question or concern– go to the source– the office, the teacher, the principal available by e-mail or appointment



GRADUATING SENIORS AND PARENTS!

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY PAGE?
MAKE SURE THAT YOU DO!**

IT'S AVAILABLE @

<https://www.superiorcentralschools.org/senior-scholarships--3>

Kindergarten Round-up

Who: Child who will be 5 on September 1, 2021

What: Screening and registration for Kindergarten beginning September 2021

When: Thursday April 29, 2021

Where: Superior Central Elementary School

How: Call 439-5531 x 201 for an appointment

What to bring: Original birth certificate & proof of residence & immunization records





Boys Basketball (Varsity & JV)

February	19	@ Munising	6:00
	22	vs Norway	6:00
	24	@ Carney Nadeau	6:15
	26	vs Gwinn	6:00
March	2	vs. Mid Peninsula (Varsity)	6:00
	4	@ Bark River Harris	6:00
	5	vs. Munising	6:00
	9	vs. Carney Nadeau	6:00
	11	vs. Rapid River	6:00
	13	vs. Stephenson	1:00
	15	@ Rapid River	6:00
	17	@ Mid Peninsula (Varsity)	6:00
	17	@ Negaunee (JV)	5:00
	19	@ North Central	6:15
	23,25,27	Districts at SC	TBA

Varsity Coach: Adam Ely
JV Coach : Tony Lofaro



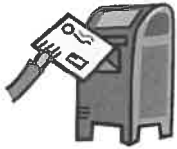
Girls Basketball (Varsity & JV)

February	18	@ Munising	6:00
	22	@ Carney Nadeau	6:15
	23	vs Norway	6:00
	25	@ Stephenson	6:00
March	1	vs. Rapid River	6:00
	10	vs. Munising	6:00
	12	@ Mid Peninsula	6:00
	13	vs. Stephenson	1:00
	15	@ North Dickinson	6:30
	17	@ Negaunee (JV)	5:00
	18	vs. North Central (Varsity)	6:00
	22,24,26	Districts at Munising	TBA

Coach: Skip Rutter
JV Coach: Gabe Trader

**All times listed are Eastern time.
Schedule is subject to change.
Check the website for updated
schedule**

Please:



**Report any changes of your:
Mailing, physical address or phone numbers.**

E-mail changes to :

dkanerva@superiorcentralschools.org For MS/HS
bwells@superiorcentralschools.org For Elementary



Or

Call : High School 439-5532 x 242
Elementary 439-5531 x 201

Thank you.





**SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR of EVENTS
2020-2021**



February	5	12:30 dismissal
	8	No School
	12	12:30 dismissal
March	12	12:30 dismissal – Teachers Professional Development
	26	12:30 dismissal
	26	End of 3 rd marking period
	29-31	No School - Spring Break begins
April	1-5	No School- Spring Break
	6	School Resumes
	29	Kindergarten Round up
May	28	Graduation 7:00 PM
	31	No School – Memorial Day
June	9-10	1:30 dismissal – MS/HS Exams
	10	Last day of School (provided we do not exceed 6 snow days)
	11	All day Teachers Professional Development

Doors open at 7:55 School Day begins at 8:15 A.M. and ends at 3:11 P.M.

School Closing Announcements

WMQT 107.7 FM WGLQ 97.1 FM
WLUC TV 6
Superior Central app www.superiorcentralschools.org

