

February 23

The KURTZ CONNECTOR

Healthy Heart Challenge - MHS 1:00 - 3:00 (Students can get signed in at 12:30.)	2/4
Hungry Howie's Night 4:00 - 8:00	2/7
Early release - students re-released at 2:37	2/7
Student Count Day	2/8
Report cards posted on Family Access	2/9
PTA meeting in the conference room at 7:00	2/15
Winter Break - no school	2/17 through 2/21
Hungry Howie's Night 4:00 - 8:00	3/7
PTA meeting in the cafeteria at 9:30	3/15
Teacher in-service - No school for students	3/14
Kindergarten Orientation @ 6:00 in the cafeteria	3/16
The Shamrock Shuffle	3/18
Spring Break	3/27 through 3/31

Building Hours:
9:10 1st Bell (students may enter) / 9:15 2nd Bell (school starts) / 4:07 Dismissal

February is Heart Month!

February is American Heart Month, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health. The Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention is shining a light on hypertension (high blood pressure), a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke. Our school district is supporting the American Heart Association once again by raising funds for the cause.



Your Kurtz staff is looking forward to participating in our district event on February 4, from 1:00 - 3:00, at Milford High School. All students are encouraged to attend the event regardless of a donation. It is our hope that Huron Valley Schools continues to make a difference in sup-

porting heart health. We hope to see you at the event!



From the Principal's Desk...

Term 2 report cards will post on Family Access on February 9, at 4:00. This is a great time for parents to log on and see how students are progressing at the midpoint of the school year. It is always our hope that parents drill down on the report card, in order to make sure their children are progressing toward mastery of all grade level content.

As a parent of a former HVS student, I can tell you that I always emphasized effort scores found on the Student Profile, on the report card. That is where I would spend that initial time talking to my son. We held (and still hold) many conversations about effort because I believe effort is in great part tied to success. I encourage all parents to upload their child's report card and have those important conversations now. I assure you that this is quality time spent and may lead to the recognition of good habits or the building of them where they need to be created.

Follow US ONLINE!



Kurtz Elementary School



@kurtzelementary



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Kurtz Elementary

Students in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Max Brouwer and Conner Phillips for being recognized as our Students in the Spotlight this month.

Max is a third grade student in Mrs. Peterman’s class. He is a leader in school. Max is a focused student who follows rules and expectations and works hard in the classroom. He goes out of his way to make sure everyone is included in activities, both in the classroom and on the playground.

Conner is in Mrs. Hornyak’s third grade class and is also viewed as a leader and role model among his third grade

peers. Conner goes above and beyond and always produces quality work. He is a great friend to all of his classmates.

Both students exemplify the type of leadership attributes our staff and students recognize as meaningful and effective.

We celebrate our Students in the Spotlight each month because they make a difference at school and in our great community.



Trash Talkers Make a Difference at Kurtz!

There is a group of fourth and fifth graders who are known as the Trash Talkers. This group has become a very important group of students at Kurtz. The kids have been working with our custodian, Ms. Lisa. Ms. Lisa has the kids working hard to make sure our building looks great.

Trash Talkers work on Mondays and Wednesdays, completing cleaning responsibilities that are assigned to them. Among their responsibilities are tasks like dry mopping the floors, cleaning up

leaves in the fall, pulling recycling buckets and even helping to wipe down lunch tables.

The students all have identifying badges they wear while performing duties. They are role models in the building and they work hard to complete their tasks without causing distractions in the building.

The following students are Trash Talkers:



Mya Gordon
Brady Carlson
Carter Sternfels
Katherine Rivas
Rosie Godoy- Vasquez
Abbey Chappell

English Language Learners are a Focus at Kurtz

In our English as a Second Language (ESL) class, our bilingual students are working hard to improve skills in grammar, vocabulary development, as well as in speaking and pronunciation of the English language. The goal is to help students become active, participating students who are

comfortable in English and their native language. The English language is learned through content-based activities, lots and lots of practice, and of course by chatting about it ALL. We are so very proud of all of the accomplishments and growth our amazing ESL students have made at Kurtz!



Dismissal Time is 4:07

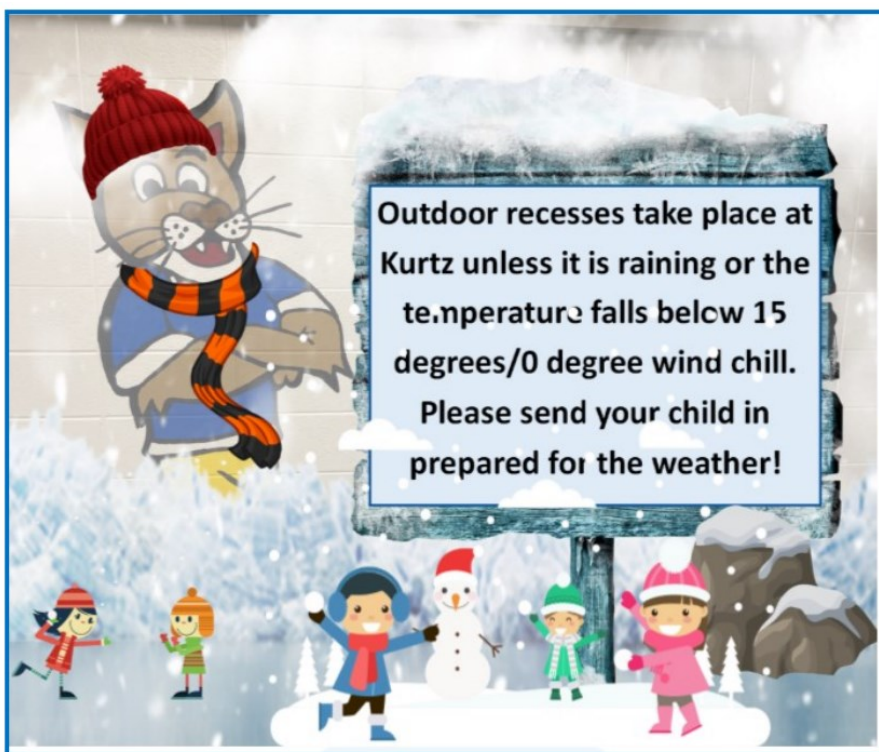
Parents, please note the elementary dismissal time in Huron Valley is 4:07pm. At Kurtz, we have been starting to release students before that 4:07 time in response to some of the pandemic-related obstacles that we have experienced over the last few years. As this is no longer the case, we will be starting the dismissal process at 4:07, in order to be consistent with district and state expectations.

You may know that our calendar and bell schedule are based on actual "seat" time students are in school. This time is set to meet our 180 student days and 1098 hours needed for us to receive our state aid. Having students line up in hallways, leave for buses, or dismiss prior to 4:07 pm would mean that we would be out of compliance.

Starting this Monday, February 6, walkers and the first bus will be called at 4:07. Our dismissal crew will also start calling names for car riders at 4:07, as well.

I would like to remind parents that instruction takes place between 9:15am and 4:07pm each day. We ask that parents refrain from early pick-ups as they create unnecessary distractions in the learning environment. We understand that things happen that must be a priority for you and your family, but we greatly

appreciate it when parents do not schedule events that would require early pick-ups. If you do have to pick up early, please do not call expecting your child(ren) to be called down to the office. Students are called down when parents arrive. Thank you for your attention to these important dismissal time details.



Pick Up and Drop Off

We are very proud of the pick-up and drop-off processes we have in place at Kurtz. We work hard to make this daily routine safe and effective. There are Kurtz staff members assigned to ensuring our systems work effectively, while still making sure to use the time to connect with students and provide support when and if support is needed. We assure you that our system works and is most effective when visitors follow our plan. We are always focused on getting you in and out of the parking lot as quickly as possible. Visitors can help us make pick-up and drop-off times flow best by not parking on the curb during pick-up and drop-off times.

- Mind the 15 MPH speed limit on Kurtz Drive.
- Vehicles should be pulling all the way up and quickly getting child(ren) in and out of the car. Please do not get out and help children in or out of the vehicle.

- Utilize pick-up and drop-off Kurtz staff or park if your child requires extra support.
- Visitors should never pass in the left lane of the loop because it is not safe for our students and could (and has) resulted in damage to vehicles, adding unnecessary stress on individuals. We feel strongly that passing really only has the potential to save a few seconds on your commute and strongly expect you not to do it.



- If you are planning to park, please park in a designate parking space. Kurtz staff members park in the back of the lot in order to make it as easy as possible for parents to find a parking space in our small parking lot. Al-

so, students should never be walking through the parking lot without an adult. Parents, please observe the posted speed limit sign on Kurtz Drive.

- We ask parents to respect our neighbors and never block driveways when you are picking up or dropping off. We have also been contacted by our neighbors at the Document Store to ask parents not to use their parking lot as a pick-up space.

Parents are not to escort their child(ren) to their classrooms for various health and safety reasons. Teachers meet their students outside each morning to start the day in a positive and personal manner. Your participation in this process is both expected and appreciated. Please feel free to share ideas and suggestions in writing with me, Mr. Chisik, at your earliest conven-

Welcoming+Empoweing+Achieving=GREATNESS!

PTA Corner

Hello Kurtz Families!
February is a month filled with winter fun for Cougar students and their families. Here are a few upcoming events for you all to enjoy!

- February 7- Hungry Howie's Pizza Night 4-8 PM
- February 13-16 Penny Wars
- February 15- General Member PTA meeting 7 PM
- Feb 17-21 WINTER BREAK (no school)

Thank you to all the Family STEM Night volunteers! Your time, effort and enthusiasm were truly appreciated and played a vital role in making the event such a fun and educational experience for everyone involved.

We also want to take this opportunity to remind you that the success of our events and activities relies heavily on the support and participation of our Cougar community. If you are interested in volunteering your time or resources to support these events, then we would love to hear from you. Whether you can help with

planning, setup, or day-of support, every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated.

All are welcome to join the next Kurtz PTA General Membership meeting in the cafeteria on **February 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM.**

Please watch social media for the agenda and information you do not want to miss!

***Please note**, to accommodate schedules, the PTA will alternate between morning and evening meetings.

Kurtz Spirit Wear is available year-round at 1st Place Spirit Wear <https://1stplacespiritwear.com/>

- 2022/23 Kurtz PTA Board:**
- Michelle Lauzon- PTA President
 - Jenny MacDonell- Vice-President
 - Jodie Courtney- Treasurer
 - Kristin Rolfe-Communications Secretary
 - Amy Gritzinger- Recording Secretary
- Follow us on social media**
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