

April 23

The KURTZ CONNECTOR

Good Friday - no school	4/7
Early Release - students dismissed at 2:37	4/12
PTA Meeting @ 7:00 in the cafeteria	4/12
End of 3rd Marking Period	4/14
Kurtz Night at the Milford McDonald's from 5:00 - 7:00	4/18
3rd graders Disney Concert @ Lakeland HS	4/26
The Cereal Box Domino	4/26
Breakfast with a Buddy @ 8:15	4/28
Student Profiles due	4/28
No School - teacher PD	5/2
K Day	5/2
PTA Meeting @ 9:30 in the cafeteria	5/10
5th graders visit the middle school	5/11
PTA Family Game Night	5/22
Memorial Day - no school	5/29

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

Student Profiles are Now Available

Each year, the staff at Kurtz looks for parent input in the rostering of students for the upcoming school year. We go to great lengths to work as a team, with the common vision of creating balanced classrooms for each and every student at school.

Our goal is to start with parent input. The Student Profile Google Form has been sent out via Family Access and is also attached to the Kurtz Connection Smore. This resource provides parents the opportunity to share their thoughts related to placement, before teachers place children into new classes.

There are many things we consider in order to create these balanced classes. Once the process has been completed, changes are extremely challenging to make and even more rarely considered.

The best way parents can make sure their recommendations/requests are considered is to speak directly with the sending teacher, the teacher your child currently has this year. Your child's current teacher will work diligently to make sure parent rationale is considered and is able to advocate for placement, however, there are many obstacles that make granting parent requests difficult and/or challenging.

We ask that parents utilize the Student Profile process, including communicating with the classroom teacher, in order to best ensure the placement process is a success. Please respect the work that is put into this process and make sure that any communications, (the Student Profile Form and communication with your child's teacher) about student placement for the 23-24 school year are completed by April 28.



Thank you for supporting your Kurtz team. Together we can make the upcoming school year the best possible year for every student.

Follow US ONLINE!



Kurtz Elementary School



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Kurtz Elementary

Students in the Spotlight

Congratulations to Mae Brouwer and Asher Lewis for being recognized as our Students in the Spotlight this month.

Mae is a kindergartener in Mrs. Hess' class. She is a leader in class who works hard every day. She is a great friend and is always willing to help others.

Asher is in Mr. Phillips fifth grade class and is also viewed as a leader and role model among his peers. Asher 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.



Summer Extension

The summer school program this year will be called Summer Extension. It will extend grade level content from the 2022-23 school year and provide additional academic support in reading and math for students that have not demonstrated mastery of essential standards/skills. Instructional content in this program will target individual gaps in learning from the 2022-23 school year.

Students will be invited to participate if they meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled in Huron Valley Schools during the 2022-23 school year
- Enrolled in grades K-5 during the 2022-23 school

year

- Performance on key assessment indicators identifies gaps in grade level mastery of essential content
- Reading - students currently on an individualized reading plan (IRP) or below grade level on reading benchmark assessments
- Math - students below grade level on domains within i-Ready, NWEA MAP and district common math assessments
- Instructional staff indicates a student's need for targeted instructional support in reading and/or math to promote academic readiness for the next

grade level.

The program's main goal will be for students to demonstrate reading and math proficiency with grade-level standards. HVS certified teachers will be matched with students to address gaps in reading and math.

Transportation, breakfast and Grab-and-Go lunch will be provided. Students will be invited to attend one of two sessions:

Session 1: July 11 - July 27, 2023
(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Session 2: August 1 - August 17, 2023
(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Parents of students who qualify will receive an invitation from Mr. Chisik later in April.

The MSTEP Window is Open

The 22-23 MSTEP window has now opened for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. During this time, students will be spending time completing competency assessments all across the state of Michigan.

Parents can support students by making sure appointments are not scheduled on the days that testing is scheduled. Parents are encouraged to discuss the testing with their children and remind them that this assessment is a

tool that helps their teachers to best understand what they know and what they still need to work on. Make sure to encourage your child to put forth their best effort and not to worry about scores.

Spring 2023 M-STEP Testing Schedule Kurtz Elementary

3rd Grade:

- ❖ **Tuesday, April 11 - ELA**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:45 - ELA (2 hrs)*
- ❖ **Thursday, April 13 - Math**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:15 - Math (1.5 hrs)*

Specials Schedule Changes

(2nd & 3rd grade switch specials)
Tuesday, April 11 & Thursday, April 13
 2nd 11:05-11:50
 3rd 3:15-4:00* (see below)

*4/11 Peterman SEL with Smith (not Art)
 *4/13 Kazer SEL with Smith (not PE)

4th Grade:

- ❖ **Wednesday, May 3 - ELA**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:45 - ELA (2 hrs)*
- ❖ **Tuesday, May 9 - Math**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:15 - Math (1.5 hrs)*

Specials Schedule Changes

(2nd & 4th grade switch specials)
Wednesday, May 3 & Thursday, May 9
 2nd 10:15 - 11:00
 4th 3:15-4:00

WIN Schedule Changes

(2nd switch WIN to 4th grade's Time)
Wednesday, May 3 & Tuesday, May 9
 2nd 9:35-10:10
 4th NO WIN

5th Grade:

- ❖ **Tuesday, April 18 - ELA**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:45 - ELA (2 hrs)*
- ❖ **Thursday, April 20- Math**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:15 - Math (1.5 hrs)*
- ❖ **Tuesday, April 25- Social Studies**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 10:45 - Social Studies (1 hr)*
- ❖ **Thursday, April 27- Science**
 - 9:30 - Begin reading directions
 - 9:45 - 11:15 - Science (1.5 hr)*

Specials Schedule Changes

(1st & 5th grade switch specials)
Tuesday, April 18, Thursday, April 20
 1st 9:25-10:10
 5th 2:25-3:10

Tuesday, April 25 & Thursday, April 27

1st 9:25-10:10
 5th 2:25-3:10

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+Empowering+Achieving=GREATNESS!

PTA Corner

Hello Kurtz families! We hope this newsletter finds you well rested and rejuvenated after a wonderful Spring Break. As we come closer to the end of the school year, we have a lot of exciting events and activities planned for our students.

April is going to be a busy month, and we are looking forward to hosting a number of fun-filled events for our students and their families. We have something for everyone, from our upcoming McDonald's Kurtz Takeover to our Family Fun Game Night and Teacher Appreciation Week. Watch your emails and social media for details.

As June 14 draws closer, we would like to remind everyone to stay engaged with our Kurtz community. We have a lot of opportunities for your involvement, including volunteering at



events or joining our PTA.

We would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout

this school year. Your support has been invaluable, and we are so grateful for your participation!

We want to thank everyone for supporting the Penny War last month. We raised over \$2,400 and had a blast collecting coins and "sabotaging" other grade levels.

Congratulations to the third grade team for ending up with the most pennies donated. The PTA is so appreciative of all the family support for this activity. All of the proceeds are designated for our own Email Angels, which supports our families who need financial support.

Upcoming Events:

April 12 General Membership Meeting 7pm

April 18 McDonald's Kurtz Takeover 5-7PM

April 26 Cereal Box Domino Challenge 3pm

April 28 Breakfast with a Buddy 8:15 AM

May 1-5 Teacher Appreciation Week

May 2 No school

May 10 General Membership PTA meeting – 9:30 AM (last meeting of the year) – new board election

June 14 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

All are welcome to join the next Kurtz PTA General Membership Meeting in the cafeteria **April 12, 2023, at 7 PM.**

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

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

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