



Swan Valley Schools

ONCE A VIKING...
ALWAYS A VIKING!

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SWAN VALLEY Communicator



OCTOBER 2020 • VOLUME 48 • NO 1
PUBLISHED 3 TIMES ANNUALLY

DRIVE THRU GRADUATION 2020



Photos by
Heidi McGrandy Photography



Welcome Back 2020



Superintendent McRae

On behalf of the entire staff of the Swan Valley School District and the Board of Education, I welcome you back to another school year. Although this year is very far from “normal,” we are all so happy to back to the business of educating our students!

We could not have made September 1, 2020 and beyond happen without the support of the many stakeholders who supported us in the challenging Return to Learn. Last spring, families asked us for a choice about returning, and we worked very hard to provide that choice. We realized that this fall would be challenging. However, after a few weeks of being in session the smiles on our student’s (masked) faces says it was well worth it!

A special thank you goes out to our district maintenance and custodial staff, led by Jim Doyle, who have been working diligently since last spring to prepare our facilities for a safe return.

Yes, we are still learning and growing each day, and accepting any feedback families feel obliged to provide.

Of course, most deserving of our appreciation is our Swan Valley School District teachers who are, without a doubt, the wind beneath our wings. As we speak, people are hurting, they are frustrated, and they are angry. While it can be difficult, now’s the time for understanding...especially for our teachers who want to provide the best for your most precious possession, your children. With that being said, I want to share a summary of an article from Catherine Pearson which was published in the Huffington Post which is entitled **“7 ways to support your kid’s teachers in this unprecedented school year.”**

The stakes are high. Parents and teachers are on edge. But now, more than ever, we are all in this together. Parents and caregivers certainly want to help support the educators who are risking quite a lot to guide their children through these unprecedented times.

Parents spoke to educators and advocates directly, gathering intel on how we can help them out this year in ways big and small. Here’s what they had to say.

1. Be patient – so, so patient.

Nearly every educator emphasized one point above others: Be patient, be calm and be forgiving as teachers try to figure this – all of it – out.

2. Read everything that is sent to you.

“Check your emails and read them carefully,” remarks many teachers “We know it is a lot,”

“I mean, we are the ones writing all of the emails with checklists and reminders and bulleted points, so we get

it,” she added. “Things are changing constantly, so it is essential that parents stay current with what is happening at their child’s school.”

Teachers are going to be more strapped for time than ever this year, so they won’t have time to keep repeating new information.

3. Let your child’s teacher know when something isn’t working...

Again, so much of what is happening in schools and online this year remains new for teachers, so if something isn’t working, they absolutely want parents to speak up.

“Open communication is so important,” “If I’m doing something that isn’t working and nobody tells me, then I’m going to keep doing that.” Teachers are willing to work with parents and families to adjust, now more than ever, she noted.

Of course, remember the goal is to be helpful, not hurtful.

“Teachers are internalizing a lot of the frustration parents are feeling as a personal attack on them, their profession and passion, and their caring,”

So remember that most policies or changes are not in their control. And be kind.

“I’ve become much more aware of phrasing things in a positive way,” said one teacher, whose own kids will be remote this year. “Instead of complaining that my son can never see his teachers,” He really loves it when you make sure you’re coming back into view frequently.”

4. ... And let them know when something is.

In more traditional years, teachers may have an easier time telling when something they’re doing is really working for their students. This year, between the newness and the distance of remote learning in many cases, that’s not necessarily true.

“If someone tells me something I’ve done worked really well for their child, that makes me feel good,” It also makes her more likely to build on that success, and try to replicate it.

One tip: It can be really helpful at the start of the year to ask your child’s teacher how they prefer to connect. Some like short emails; others might like to hop on the phone. Knowing that ahead of time can make it easier to share feedback (good and bad) and communicate frequently in a way that works relatively well for you and them.

5. Practice mask-wearing – and other COVID-19 safety precautions – at home.

If your child is back in the classroom in any capacity, help their teachers out by having them practice mask-wearing ahead of time, If they won’t be required

to wear one, at least wear a mask around them yourself so they’re used to seeing trusted adults in them. Also, teach them how to wash hands properly and for long enough. Talk to them about what social distance actually means.

Yes, teachers can and will help children learn all of this. However, the more you can help your kids ahead of time, the more time instructors can spend actually teaching your children during the day rather than reminding them to put their masks back on.

6. “Thank you” goes a long, long way.

“Tears come to my eyes when I think of the things I see that little ones give to their teachers,” “They think: OK, I’m in here. I’m nervous about this, but I love these children, I love what I’m doing, I love to see their bright faces. And wow, to be thanked for that is huge. It’s probably more important now than it ever has been.”

Write a quick thank-you note or email, she said. Have your kid make a card. Just let them know you appreciate their hard work. Parents should be aware that while teachers are going to do their absolute best this year, their best may not be up to their usual personal standards. Be gentle with them. Know they’re really trying.

7. Get in the team mindset.

One way you can support your kid’s teacher this year is to really, truly think of yourselves as a team — which should hopefully alleviate some of the pressure caregivers may be putting on themselves right now.

“A lot of parents say: ‘I can’t work and teach.’ But we’re not expecting you to teach. You might have to facilitate things, and you might have to get things started for your kids. But my job is to teach the children,”

“I want them to realize they don’t have the whole weight of the world on them. We are here to work together to do what is in the best interest of their child.”

“Parents have been through it too, we know!” “Teachers are so thankful for all that parents did in the spring to support their kids. We know we can’t do this if we don’t do it as a team. We’re grateful to parents for jumping in and going that extra mile with us.”

Again, this year more than ever, we’re all in it together.

Thank you if you took time to read this excerpt. I will conclude with the words of Martin Luther King Jr., *“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.”*

Let’s work together to beat this pandemic and help our kids to emerge from it stronger, more confident, and more resilient. I wish everyone the best as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. **GO VIKINGS!**



Swan Valley Learning Center



Swan Valley Learning Center is a fully licensed year-round program that provides before and after school care, as well as a full and part-time preschool program.

Our certified and enthusiastic team is dedicated to providing the best care for your child. With licensed teachers on staff at all times, we are sure to enhance your child's experience while they are away from home. Preschoolers are sure to gain a well-rounded experience from our lead teachers who bring enthusiasm and imagination to the classroom.

During our before school program, we provide a nutritional balanced breakfast daily, with a variety of hot and cold choices to ensure they start their day out right. After school we allow time for our children to work on their homework. Our Program has iPads and computers available for the children to use to further their learning through educational apps and websites. The children also have time to be with their friends.

Any child who meets the age requirement (3-12) and is enrolled in the Swan Valley District may attend. We also accept non-resident preschool children year round and summer program students. Transportation is provided to and from Havens Elementary and Shields Elementary during the school year.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. • Monday through Friday

Welcome Jordan Moore and Jaden Derleth to our Swan Valley Learning Center Team!

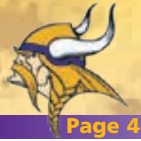


*My name is **JORDAN MOORE** and I am 22 years old. I will be graduating from Ferris State University in December 2020 with a degree in Secondary Education.*



*My name is **JADEN DERLETH** and I am 18 years old. I am Swan Valley High School Alumni, class of 2020.*





Swan Valley Adult & Alternative Education

SHELLEY HANSON, Principal • Phone (989) 921-2472
Fax (989) 921-2405 • shanson@swanvalley.k12.mi.us

Swan Valley Adult and Alternative Education provides a blended and online learning opportunity. For the 2020-2021 school year, all students will work virtually by using online curriculum. Classes are set in a Virtual Classroom provided by Zoom Monday through Thursday from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm and independently on Friday. All classes are self-paced per semester. Alternative students are age 16-21 and Adult students are 22 and older. Free and reduced lunch is available in our evening program and is curbside pickup. All teachers are highly qualified in each of the core curriculum. Any student wishing to apply to this program needs to contact Ms. Hanson and have on hand a copy of his/her transcript, discipline and attendance records, along with a copy of their birth certificate and two pieces of residency are required. Please call the number listed above to make an appointment or view our website (www.swanvalleyschools.com) for Online Registration.

Credit Recovery for Swan Valley High School students is also available through the Alternative program. Students who are deficit in graduation requirement credits need to make an appointment with the principal or assistant principal to create a credit recovery plan. The cost of classes are \$100.00 for credit recovery and free/reduced lunch student cost is \$50.00.

Classes Begin September 1, 2020

TIME	COURSE	TEACHER
MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY		
– Classroom Zoom Meetings		
2:00-3:00pm	Electives Courses	Hanson
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY		
3:00-5:00pm	English	LaBrake
5:00-7:00pm	Math	Mojica
7:00-9:00pm	Independent	Online
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY		
3:00-5:00pm	Science	Halvin
5:00-7:00pm	Wood Tech	Wachowicz
5:00-7:00pm	Social Studies	Haggitt
7:00-9:00pm	Independent	Online
FRIDAY		
9:00am-1:30pm	Independent	Online

Swan Valley School District Board of Education Meetings

Thursday, October 15, 2020 • 7pm	Administration Center
Thursday, November 16, 2020 • 7pm	Administration Center
Thursday, December 17, 2020 • 7pm	Administration Center
Thursday, January 21, 2021 • 6:30pm	Havens Elementary

*The above listed meetings may be electronic meetings.

NFHS Network Subscription Watch Viking Athletics LIVE Anywhere You Go!



With the limitation of two guests per participant, the NFHS Network is a great way for family, friends, and fans to watch our Vikings in action from the courtesy of their own home. The NFHS Network subscription can be purchased for \$10.99/month or \$70.00/year and covers any events on the Swan Valley Football Field and in the High School Main Gym.

- **Viking Sports Broadcast:** High School Football, JV/Varsity Volleyball, High School Basketball, Varsity Competitive Cheer, JV/Varsity Wrestling, Varsity Poms, and Varsity Track
- Also includes livestream coverage of those away Viking athletic events at opposing schools that have the pixelott camera installed at their facilities. This will vary by school.



Please scan this QR Code for more information on how to subscribe to the NFHS Network and to view upcoming broadcast events on Swan Valley's NFHS Network page.

Directory Information Opt Out Form for District School Students

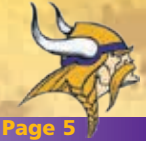
The district may disclose information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if the primary purpose is to allow the district to include this type of information in certain school publications, such as yearbooks, newsletters, playbills, honor rolls, web page, social media, school announcements, local news/media outlets, or military. Directory information includes the student's name, address, email address and telephone number; the parents' names, addresses and telephone numbers; the student's photograph; date and place of birth; class /grade level; enrollment dates; weight and height if the student is a member of an athletic team; awards received; and extracurricular participation.

The district will not disclose directory information unless the district or school will use the information in a publication or a third party has requested the information for a reason that, in the judgement of the district, serves the student's best interests. For example, the district will comply with directory information requests from another school in which a student seeks to enroll, universities and colleges, law enforcement and Child Protective Services. The district will provide directory information for commercial purposes only if beneficial to students, such as yearbook or class ring sales. **Your child's directory information will be released as described above, unless you direct otherwise by checking the box below:**

I DO NOT want my child's directory information released. By selecting this option, I understand that my child's name and/or image will not be included in the yearbook, newsletters, programs, and other school and district publications.

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



English Language Learners (ELL)

The Swan Valley School District seeks to provide every child, regardless of national origin or native language, quality, and meaningful educational instruction. Consequently, students who are English Learners (ELs) are provided instructional services through an English as a Second Language (ESL)/Bilingual program which is designed to meet their unique needs. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the EEOA, all States and LEAs must ensure that ELs can participate meaningfully and equally in educational programs and services. Students who meet the protocol requirements as English Learners

(ELs) must be provided a language assistance program, in addition to the basic/core education services (adopted by the local board of education) that all students in the LEA receive. These federally required language assistance program services ensure that ELs have equitable access to the basic, local board of education-adopted curriculum provided to all students, and acquire English language proficiency.

More information can be found in the Swan Valley School District English Language Learner Handbook available at the District Administration Center.

SWAN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

Pesticides are periodically applied to school district property as part of the district's pest management program. Parents and legal guardians of children enrolled in the district have the right to request prior notification of pesticide applications to the buildings or grounds.

In order to be notified prior to the application of pesticides, the parent or legal guardian must request and return a "Pesticide Prior Notification Request Form." The form may be obtained from:

Swan Valley School District
8380 O'Hern Road
Saginaw, MI 48609
(989) 921-3701

Please understand that emergencies do arise and that pesticides may be applied without prior notice to parents or legal guardians. Parents or legal guardians that have requested prior notification, however, will be notified after pesticide application.

Application of pesticides will be performed only by certified or registered applicators where and when required. If a pesticide is applied in a building, students will not occupy the room for a minimum of four hours. At the time of application, a sign will be posted for 48 hours near the building's primary point of entry. When a pesticide is applied to school district ground, the application will not be made within 100 feet of occupied classrooms, and flags will be inserted in the ground to mark the application area.

This notice was given in compliance with Regulation 637, as amended by Public Act 131 of 1993.

Protection of Pupil Rights:

The Swan Valley School District will make instructional materials available for inspection if those materials will be used in connection with a U.S. Department of Education funded survey, analysis, or evaluation in which their children participate and will obtain written parental consent before minors are required to participate (PPRA USC 1232h; 34 CFR Part 98).

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), school districts must give parents of a child with disabilities a copy of procedural safeguards one year at a time. A copy of the procedural safeguards must also be given to parents upon initial referral or parental request for an evaluation, upon filing a request for a due process hearing, and upon request of a parent.

Swan Valley School District NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Swan Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, gender identity or expression, race, color, religion, creed, age, physical handicap, ancestry, national origin, height, weight, military status, marital or family status, or any other legally protected category. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Mr. Mat McRae
Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Nicole Rethman
Special Education Supervisor

Swan Valley School District
8380 O'Hern Road • Saginaw, MI 48609 • 989-921-3701

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvement Act:

The Swan Valley School District must ensure that each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children. Homeless children will have access to the education and other services that such children need to ensure an opportunity to meet the same challenging State student achievement standards to which all student are held (42 USC 11431 et seq.).

AHERA NOTIFICATION

The Swan Valley School District is required by 40 CFR 763.80 to notify all parents, guardians, students and staff of the availability of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Responses Act (AHERA) plan.

Our buildings were first inspected in 1988, and the last three year re-inspection was completed in July 2018.

One copy of the plan is on file in the Principals office in each building and one copy is on file in

the Marvin L. Johnson Administration Center. These plans are available for review during normal office hours by any person who has an interest. Personal copies of the plan may be duplicated within seven working days at a cost of 15 cents per page.

Should any questions arise regarding our AHERA Program, please contact the Asbestos Designated Person for our school at the Administration Center, 989-921-3701.



HELLO VIKINGS

...and welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year.

I am looking forward to another great year at SVHS!! I want to re-introduce myself to you and explain that my role at SV is to help you with anything and everything related to your career searches, college searches, scholarship searches, financial aid searches, etc.

Most of the current information related to these areas can be found on my Schoology pages, *The Bird's Nest 2020-2021*. The access code is **XQ8B9-N7NSD**. In the Bird's Nest, you will find a folder for each grade. However, most of the information is for the Senior Class.

Throughout the year, we will work together to find information and connections in any of these areas. You will see me everywhere – in my office, in your classrooms, in the hallway, in the cafeteria, and at Meijer's. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time. It is important that you access these pages on a frequent basis as they will be updated often!

As always, if you have questions, be sure to ask. I look forward to meeting you and working with you this year.

Have a great 2020-2021! **GO VIKES!**

Mr. Doug Bird
989.921.2409
dbird@swanvalley.k12.mi.us



Congratulations Lynda Thayer, Distinguished Alumna



Photo by Heidi McGrandy Photography

On July 27, 2020, **Lynda Thayer (Brosowski)** was honored as the 2020 Swan Valley High School Distinguished Alumna. The Swan Valley High School Honored Alumni distinction honors Swan Valley graduates who have distinguished themselves through significant career achievements, dedication, and commitment within their chosen profession.

As a 1985 graduate and a member of Swan Valley's 12th graduating class, Lynda was active in band, drama, and the Academically Talented Program. She was also a member of NHS and in the top 20 of her class.

Mrs. Thayer attended Central Michigan University and graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Education (Spanish and English). Though she worked in other districts for her first few years of teaching, Lynda always hoped to carry on the family tradition and teach at Swan Valley. Her father was a teacher and principal at Shields Junior High from 1963 to 1993 and her mother worked in the district in a variety of positions from 1975 to 2006. That means that there has been a Brosowski family member working in the district for 57 years!

At Swan Valley, Lynda dedicated her career to making a difference in the lives of children. When she taught at the middle school, she directed after school drama performances from 2008-2010. As the Freshman Transition teacher, Lynda organized our involvement with the Arms Around Sierra Leone project through Freshman Transition class-raised funds for prosthetic limbs for those in need. She also took students to volunteer at the "I Support the 1%" food pantry. As a Spanish teacher she was the study abroad co-advisor for three trips to Costa Rica, one trip to Puerto Rico, one to Spain, and, even though she is now officially retired, has plans to continue traveling with students. Among many other roles, Lynda was a District School Improvement Team committee member, senior project mentor, class advisor, MEA building representative, social committee member, and the 2019-2020 writing team coach.

Committed to literacy and community, Lynda has served on the Thomas Township Library Board, volunteered for numerous Thomas Township projects and the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy.

Lynda is married to Michael Thayer and is the proud mother of two Swan Valley graduates--Kelsey (Class of 2012) and Kennedy (Class of 2014).

She was recognized by the Michigan Education Association as an Outstanding Person in Education for her contributions to students, schools, and the community. Moreover, Lynda Thayer knows how to have fun, and blends interactive entertainment into classroom lessons, creating a pleasant and safe atmosphere for the teens she works with.

Financial Literacy classes start the BUDGET CHALLENGE

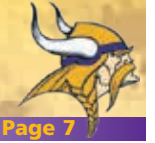


This a 10 week real-time, real-world simulation the students will be participating in to learn and develop budgeting skills for their life beyond high school. First Area Credit Union is our sponsor that is providing the opportunity for our students to participate in this awesome opportunity.

BUDGET CHALLENGE®

ROAD TEST FOR PERSONAL FINANCE®

Students learn how to create a cashflow spreadsheet budget that will help them pay their bills on time and avoid overdraft fees, while saving money with a 401k, college, and regular savings account.



SWAN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL *Welcomes...*



The Swan Valley School District is proud to announce the appointment of **MR. MARKUS MUENNIX** as the new Swan Valley High School Principal. Mr. Muennix was most recently the Chief Administrator and Principal of Kensington Woods Schools in Lakeland, Michigan. He brings to the position fifteen years of experience in administration and teaching.

Mr. Muennix earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, his Master's Degree from Eastern Michigan University, and his Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. Growing up and attending High School in Germany, Mr. Muennix relocated to Michigan 28 years ago and currently resides with his wife and daughter in the Flint area.

Outside of the "educational arena," Mr. Muennix enjoys practicing/teaching Martial Arts, and if you catch him "recharging" it will likely be near a body of water. Mr. Muennix says he is excited to join the Swan Valley family and said he cannot wait to get know the community.



The Swan Valley School District is delighted to welcome **MR. KEN OLINGER** to the position of Assistant Principal at the High School. Most recently, Mr. Olinger served as teacher at Bullock Creek High School in Midland, where he taught science for fifteen years and coached football for eight of those years.

After earning his Bachelor of Science Degree from Oakland University, Mr. Olinger attended Saginaw Valley State University to obtain his Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education, and a Master's Degree in School Principalship from Central Michigan University in 2017. He and his wife are the proud parents of two daughters.

Outside of school, Mr. Olinger enjoys spending time outside camping with family and friends and relaxing by the pool. He says he is excited to become a member of the Viking family and looking forward to meeting our students and partnering with our families, as he will work tirelessly to ensure our students are safe, diverse thinkers, and future leaders of their communities.

MISS REYNA LUPLOW

is beginning another year on the Viking staff, but the territory looks a little different. She has taken on a role in a different building as the new high school English/Spanish teacher. Miss Luplow previously was the middle school's Spanish teacher. This is her third year teaching in the Swan Valley School District.



Testing 2020-2021

As we all know, this year is bringing about all types changes and a variety of new things in education. One of those major changes is the administration of the 2020 SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, and the PSAT 9 & 10. This year our seniors will be taking the SAT that was originally scheduled for the spring last year. Our current juniors will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT on the same day. The SAT, along with the PSAT/NMSQT will be administered here at the high school on **Wednesday, October 14th**. The following day, **Thursday, October 15th** we will be administering the PSAT 9 & 10 for all current freshmen and sophomores.

Our hope is for the regular testing schedule to resume in the spring. We will be sure to keep you updated as we learn more.

More information and further details will be coming your way. Please be sure to check your emails and announcements!



Dear Parents, Students, Staff, Board Members and Members of the Swan Valley Community,

I would like to thank you for the warm welcomes extended to Mr. Olinger and I to the Swan Valley High School family! What a time to accept this challenge!

Welcome back to school! Together with Superintendent McRae and the administrators at the Middle School, Shields and Havens Elementary, we have been working hard to plan and implement procedures to allow us to return to school safely and productively, and we would like to thank you all for the trust you have put in Swan Valley to get this right. Given the challenges of our situation we can confidently claim this has never been attempted before, especially at such scale and complexity. While we are conducting this real time, real life exercise, please know that our priorities will be for safety, followed closely by our efforts to provide an appropriately challenging and enriching learning environment for our students.

We appreciate your patience and well-wishes as we continue working together to get a little better each day, making 2020-21 the best school year possible for our students, families and staff.

In partnership with you,

Markus Muennix

Swan Valley High School Principal





Introducing Middle School Counselor Mrs. Townsend



My name is Mrs. Katie Townsend. I am new to Swan Valley Middle School staff but I am not new to the school district or the community. I attended SV Schools growing up and my husband and I are now raising our family here in Shields.

We have two children and they attend Shields and Havens. I was a high school teacher for five years and have been a counselor (span of K-12) over the last nine years. I have loved all my previous jobs but I am really looking forward to the opportunity to be back to the place that I feel is home to me. It is apparent how close-knit and welcoming this community is and I feel very lucky to be a part of this school district again.

What I love most about middle school is the genuine curiosity students have in their learning and the world around them. It is a crucial time of development and there is so much self discovery happening at this age. I am most excited to empower teens to become independent problem solvers and work towards building resiliency in this over complicated world we live in. I feel thankful to have the opportunity to give back to the school district and community that has given so much to me!

Go Vikings!

Follow Us ONLINE

Visit our web site at

www.swanvalleyschools.com

Follow us on **FACEBOOK** @SwanvalleyMS

Join **SCHOOLGY** as a parent to see your student's courses in real time.

Log into **SKYWARD** to monitor your students' attendance, grades, registration and other information



SVMS Pandemic Learning

It goes without saying that 2020-21 is unlike any year before. Although school looks different, the basic premise is the same, we are here to care for and educate our students.

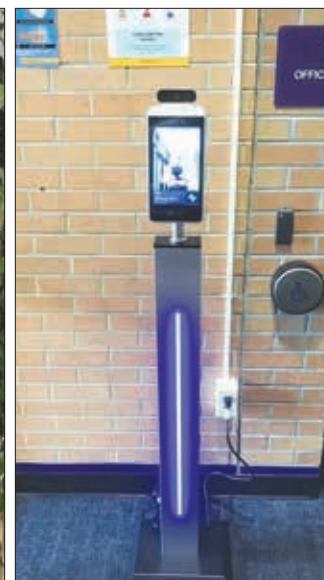
We want our students here 100% of the time. We want our students to take part in extracurricular activities ranging from athletics to yearbook and everything in between. But to ensure everyone's health and safety that is not possible at this time. In the meantime, we have modified our practices, procedures and policies to accommodate. We look forward to getting back to normal, to paraphrase one of our 8th grade students, "That's so 2019!"



The socially distanced cafeteria



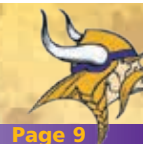
Touchless passes through QR codes



Temperature kiosks at the door



Wearing masks and wiping down tables and chairs at the end of class.



SWAN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

2020-2021

Calendar of Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT
09/21 - 10/03/2020		Homecoming Spirit Week
09/29/2020		No School – Teacher Professional Development Day
10/02/2020	7:00pm	Homecoming Game
10/14/2020		LifeTouch Picture Retakes
10/29/2020	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity (Sponsored by Art Department)
10/30/2020		Middle School Marking Period 1 ends – Dress Code Change
11/06/2020		Middle School Report Card Release – Electronic
11/20/2020		VIRTUAL: Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal
11/23 - 11/24/2020		VIRTUAL: Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal
11/25/2020		No School – PD Day
11/26 - 11/30/2020		No School – Thanksgiving Break
12/03/2020	7:00pm	VIRTUAL: Middle School Band Concert
12/05/2020		Middle School Solo & Ensemble
12/10/2020	7:00pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Mock Rock
12/21 - 01/03/2021		No School - Holiday Break
01/04/2021	7:30am	Return to school
01/18/2021		No School – PD Day
01/21/2021	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity
01/22/2021		Middle School Marking Period 2 Ends
02/11/2021	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity
02/15/2021		No School – PD Day
02/16/2021	7:00pm	NJHS Induction
02/23/2021	6:00pm	VIRTUAL: Middle School Band Concert
03/01/2021		March Into Reading Kick Off
03/12/2021	8:00am	TENTATIVE: Middle School Career Day

DATE	TIME	EVENT
03/18/2021		8th Grade Scheduling for High School
03/18/2021	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity
03/22/2021	6:30pm	8th Grade Parent Night at High School
03/26/2021		Middle School Marking Period 3 Ends
03/29 - 04/06/2021		No School – Spring Break
04/06/2021	7:30am	School Resumes – Dress Code Change
04/09/2021		Middle School Report Card Release – Electronic
04/12 - 05/08/2021		MSTEP Testing Window – 8th Grade
04/13/2021		8th Grade PSAT8
04/15/2021	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity
05/03 - 05/29/2021		MSTEP Testing Window – 6th & 7th Grades
05/05/2021	7:00pm	Middle School Spring Band Concert
05/10/2021		8th Grade Orientation to High School / 5th Grade Orientation to Middle School
05/12 - 05/17/2021		DC Trip – 8th Grade
05/20/2021		Middle School 8th Grade Band Camp Day – High School
05/20/2021	2:35pm	TENTATIVE: Middle School Dance/Activity (5th Grade Invited 2:35-3:20)
05/26/2021	6:00pm	5th Grade Parent Orientation – Middle School Library
05/27/2021		8th Grade Send Off Event
05/28/2021	1:10pm	Middle School Awards Assembly – Middle School Gym
05/31/2021		No School – Memorial Day
06/07/2021		Middle School I-Pad Collection
06/07/2021	7:00pm	High School Graduation
06/11/2021		Last Day of School
06/11/2021	8:00am	Middle School Talent Show – Middle School Gym
06/14/2021	8:00am	No School – Teacher Work Day



New Face in the Building!



MRS. WORKMAN shifted her role from Spanish Teacher to Kindergarten teacher!

Her students are lucky to have her and we wish her well on her first classroom assignment.



Shields School IMPROVEMENTS

Air Conditioning!

Shields has had some major upgrades done this summer, the biggest by far being the introduction of air conditioning throughout the school.

The building looked torn up much of the summer while electricians and HVAC workers installed the conditioners.

A big shout out to our Swan Valley Custodians for working right to the wire to get the building ready for students. Classrooms will now be much more comfortable during those hot, muggy days that sneak up on us in Michigan.



IMPORTANT DATES

No School.....	Monday, October 5
Picture Day	Monday, October 19
End of Marking Period	Friday, November 20
Conferences.....	December 2nd & 3rd
Half Days.....	December 2nd, 3rd & 4th

Shields Students Learning More than Just Academics

This year Shields students are learning far more than just academics "at" school. They are also learning in more places than just face to face at 6900 Stroebel Road.

Due to Covid 19, Shields students are found both at school and at home. Already in the first few weeks, students and teachers are waist deep in Seesaw which is the program that is facilitating learning for both sets of students. Teachers are teaching as well as providing instructional videos and feedback for all students whether they are in person or at home.



Aside from academics, students are (even more than normal) learning more technologies and learning about ways to make sure they keep their families and each other safe. Whether it is wearing a mask or washing their hands consistently and properly, they know that they can all do their part!

New Walking Path Completed

Over the past years, innumerable families have participated in our fundraisers (e.g. FunFest and RunRaiser) and after school extracurricular activities (e.g. Fit Club, Painting). This summer, in conjunction with Swan Valley Community Education, we had a walking path paved at Shields.

Already we have seen the benefits of having it, as it allows us additional, hard surface play areas at recess this fall.

We hope that it will have healthful benefits for years to come!





Welcome to the 2020 School Year from Havens Elementary!



New Faces at Shields & Havens



MRS. LIBBY ROBINSON

We are excited to welcome new **Special Art** and a new **Teacher Mrs. Libby Robinson** this year.

Ms. Robinson is certified K-12 visual arts and has experience teaching art at the elementary level.

We welcome Mrs. Robinson to Swan Valley and we look forward to seeing our students be able to explore the arts and create new masterpieces.



MS. HEATHER BRITT

Welcome to **Ms. Heather Britt**, our new **Elementary Music Teacher**.

Ms. Britt has a degree in Music Education and experience as a music instructor. Her well rounded education in music and experience teaching at the elementary level will be an asset to our schools.

We are thankful to be able to continue providing students a high quality music education at the elementary schools.



IMPORTANT DATES

No School.....	Monday, October 5
End of Marking Period.....	Friday, November 20
Conferences.....	December 2nd & 3rd
Half Days.....	December 2nd, 3rd & 4th

Congratulations!

MS. LAURA ROBINSON retired after teaching for 20 years in the Swan Valley School District.

MS. BETTY GARLICK retired after 16 years as lunch aide in the Swan Valley School District.

We appreciate their service and dedication to our SV students and wish them the best!

New Fundraiser: Ready, Set, Fund!

New this year Havens will be doing a fundraiser called Ready, Set, Fund. Details will be available soon both on our website and on our Havens Facebook page.

Don't forget... we also sell Scrip cards. Please consider us rather it's gift cards for your shopping, dining out or for gifts for friends and family. Check out the list of cards that we have available to you!

www.shopwithscrip.com

(Enrollment Code: CDBDDC672563)

Once you are on the Scrip page click "Join a Program" and enter enrollment code.

You can also call the office to see what we have on hand. If we don't have what you need, we can place an order for you.



2020 FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

New Swan Valley Girls Basketball Coach Reyna Luplow To Teach More Than Basketball



By Swan Valley Athletic Director, Ryan Stephens

New to the Swan Valley Girls Basketball Program, but no stranger to Viking Country, is teacher and coach Reyna Luplow. By day, Reyna has taught Spanish at Swan Valley Middle School for the last two years and will move up to the High School this coming school year to take the place of recently retired teacher Lynda Thayer. Like teaching, Reyna has much

passion and enthusiasm for coaching. She has 8 years coaching experience in multiple levels and various roles at Swan Valley Middle and High School, Wisconsin Lutheran College, Spring Arbor University, and Clare Public Schools. The last 3 years, Reyna has coached the Varsity Girls Track Team, 5-7th Grade Girls Basketball Teams, and has helped as an assistant on both the JV and Varsity Girls Basketball squads.

Coach Luplow brings much commitment, dedication, leadership, and organizational skills to the Girls Basketball Program. She excels in effective leadership and establishing quality relationships, hence her Masters of Education in Leadership & Innovation at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Reyna also founded That Girl on Fire back in 2015, a faith based non profit organization for teenage girls that encourages confidence, self-esteem and a positive attitude in a world of negativity and insecurity.

One quality that stands out about Reyna is her resiliency and ability to embrace and adapt change. After having taken a backseat to the high school program the last few years, she is ready to lead a relatively young team and help each girl in the system reach their true potential. When asked what type of impact she wants to have on her athletes and the program, she expressed, "Honestly, I want my athletes 10-20 years down the road to look back and say 'That was fun; I am glad I had that experience.' Girls should be excited to hoop, and the plan is to implement a culture that girls from the bottom up will want to be a part of."

True to her mission statement of creating a positive experience and assisting her student-athletes in growing to be respectful, compassionate young women, servant leaders and ultimately world changers, Coach Luplow plans to help her girls see the parallels between sports and life.

2020 VARSITY FOOTBALL

Friday	October 2	Home	7:00	Open
Friday	October 9	Away	7:00	Freeland
Friday	October 16	Away	7:00	Garber
Friday	October 23	Home	7:00	Birch Run <i>(Parent Senior)</i>

2020 JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL

Thursday	October 1	Away	6:00	Bay City John Glenn
Thursday	October 8	Home	6:00	Freeland
Thursday	October 15	Home	6:00	Garber
Thursday	October 22	Away	6:00	Birch Run

2020 FRESHMAN FOOTBALL

Thursday	October 1	Open	4:30	TBD
Thursday	October 8	Home	4:30	Freeland
Thursday	October 15	Away	4:30	Millington
Thursday	October 22	TBD	TBD	Open

2020 VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Wednesday	October 7	Away	7:00	Freeland
Saturday	October 10	Away	10:00	Beaverton Quad
Monday	October 12	Away	TBA	Brown City Quad
Wednesday	October 14	Away	7:00	Bridgeport
Saturday	October 10	Away	8:30	Caro Invite
Saturday	October 17	Away	8:00	Spirit of St. Louis Invite
Wednesday	October 21	Home	7:00	Garber
Wednesday	October 28	Home	7:00	Alma
	November 2-7	Home	TBA	Districts @ Swan Valley

2020 JUNIOR VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Wednesday	October 7	Away	5:30	Freeland
Monday	October 12	Away	TBA	Brown City Quad
Wednesday	October 21	Home	5:30	Garber
Wednesday	October 28	Home	5:30	Alma

2020 FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL

Wednesday	October 7	Away	5:30	Freeland
Saturday	October 17	Away	9:00	Mt. Morris Freshman Tourn
Wednesday	October 21	Home	5:30	Garber
Saturday	October 24	Away	8:30	Caro Invite
Wednesday	October 28	Home	5:30	Alma
Saturday	October 31	Away	9:00	Ogemaw Heights Freshman Inv

2020 BOYS VARSITY SOCCER

Monday	October 5	Away	4:30	Alma
Wednesday	October 7	Away	4:30	Birch Run
Friday	October 9	Away	4:00	Nouvel
Monday	October 12	Away	6:00	Chesaning
	October 14-16 & 19-24	Away	TBA	Districts @ Midland B.C.

2020 VARSITY BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday	October 6	Away	4:30	Birch Run Fall Invite - Taymouth Township Park
Tuesday	October 13	Away	4:00	TVC #3 Birch Run - Taymouth Township Park
Saturday	October 17	Away	9:00	Freeland Invitational
Tuesday	October 20	Away	4:00	TVC Conference - Hosted by Ithaca
Saturday	October 24	Away	TBA	Saginaw County - Hosted by Freeland
	October 30 or 31	Away	TBA	Regional Tournament - Shepherd

2020 MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

8th GRADE

Tuesday	October 6	Home	5:30	Hemlock
Wednesday	October 7	Home	5:30	Millington
Monday	October 12	Away	4:30	Frankenmuth
Wednesday	October 14	Away	5:30	Alma
Monday	October 19	Home	5:30	John Glenn
Wednesday	October 21	Home	4:30	Freeland

7th GRADE

Tuesday	October 6	Home	4:30	Hemlock <i>(A only)</i>
Wednesday	October 7	Home	4:30	Millington <i>(A only)</i>
Monday	October 12	Home	4:30	Frankenmuth
Wednesday	October 14	Away	4:30	Alma <i>(A only)</i>
Monday	October 19	Home	4:30	John Glenn <i>(A only) - Christa McAuliffe Middle School</i>
Wednesday	October 21	Away	4:30	Freeland

2020 MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday	October 13	Away	4:00	TVC #3 Birch Run - Taymouth Township Park
Thursday	October 22	Home	4:00	TVC Conference - Roberts Park
Saturday	October 24	Away	TBA	Saginaw County - Hosted by Freeland

