

Ferry Newsletter

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Dear Families,

As the winter months progress, it is important that I review the Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures. The inevitability of snow and snow mounds from plowing will complicate our established procedures. It is imperative that everyone follow the procedures so safety is not compromised. I have included the detailed procedures in this newsletter. In a nutshell:

- Keep moving forward
- Do not leave space between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you
- Drop your child off as soon as you get to the drop off point (please do not take up a space to keep your child in a warm car until the bell rings- this causes a traffic backup)
- Exit the drop off line as soon as your child leaves your vehicle

Following these simple courtesies will ensure a safe and happy Ferry Community.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very happy holiday season. May it be filled with memorable times shared with family and friends!

Gloria Hinz

January 2019



January 2	Return to school
January 4	Lit. Lockdown - Ms. Flanagan Class
January 5, 12, 19, 26	Grosse Pointe Diamonds Girls Softball
January 7, 9, 14, 16, 23, 28 & 30	Zumba
January 7 & 28	Science Olympiad
January 8	Parcell's Counselors visit with registration packets
January 8 & 29	Staff Lighthouse
January 8, 15, 22 & 29	Boy Scouts
January 9 & 23	Nature Lovers Meeting
January 9, 23 & 25	Girl Scout Troop 71293
January 10	Tier II
January 10, 17 & 24	Boy Scouts Pack 34
January 11	Parcells Middle School's annual CHOIR Tour
January 12	Parent's Night Out
January 15	Student Lighthouse Team Meeting
January 16 & 30	The Wildlife Club
January 16	Nest Activity
January 17	S3 Meeting
January 17, 24 & 30	Choir Rehearsal - Full Choir (Grades 4 & 5)
January 17	Safety Celebration Service
January 18	Townhall
	ES 1/2 Day AM
	Professional Development PM
	MLK Day-Schools Closed
January 21	Girl Scout Troop 74770
January 22	Yearbook Group Pictures
January 23	Girl Scout Troop 71293
January 24	TGA Golf
January 25	Lockdown Drill
	Parcell's Counselors visit helping students register
January 29	First Serve Tennis
January 29	Special Education Consult Meetings

December 2018

School Closing Information

Here are some of the factors that are taken into consideration to close schools in Winter days:

- Actual temperature and wind chills
- Amount and type of snow
- When the snow falls, and when the snowfall is expected to end
- Ability to clear parking lots and sidewalks around school
- Freezing rain and the effect on roads, power lines and tree limbs

All of these factors are reviewed in total, taking into account the fact that the Grosse Pointe municipalities and our facilities staff do an outstanding job of clearing streets, sidewalks and parking lots. The Manager of Building and Grounds and the Assistant Superintendent survey road conditions by driving around the district starting at 4 a.m.

Parking Lot Reminders

Parking lot drop off and pick up: Children should be dropped off curbside from the drop off line. Please do not park and walk your child through the parking lot. This increases the risk of student injury. We also ask that you do not drop children off near the bike racks. This area is intended for buses and our handicap students. When cars are blocking this area the buses get backed up which negatively impacts the drop off lane.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Reporting Absences

Please report all student absences to the office by 8:45 AM.

The attendance line, 313-432-4101, is available 24 hours a day.

VERY IMPORTANT !

Electronic devices from home are allowed in the classroom for classroom work. Students may not use devices to text or email mom, dad, friends, etc. If students are using devices for anything other than classwork, it is considered a misuse of technology and the device will be confiscated and returned to the students at the end of the day. If the offense is repeated, the student code of conduct will be followed.

REMINDER



2018-2019 Ferry School Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

FRONT

- Our pick-up and drop-off procedures worked very well in past years. We would like to thank all drivers who cooperated with the pick up and drop off rules. This is a very dangerous area for children to be unless these rules are followed.
- When dropping off, please pull in the drop off/pick up lane and pull as **far forward** as you can before letting your child out of the car. Please do not drive up to the front and cut in. By cutting in it causes weaving in and out of cars and this is an accident waiting to happen. It also disrupts the flow of cars pulling forward.
- Please pull as far forward as you can when picking up and dropping off. It alleviates the backup on the street. The students will walk to your car rather than the car stopping before getting directly behind the car in front of them.
- Drivers should not get out of their car. Please make sure the children are getting out on the right side so they are on the sidewalk and not in the road. This will help with the line moving quickly to let more cars in the drop/pick up lane.
- We encourage you to refrain from cell phone use when dropping off and picking up your children.
- If you are late dropping off and the bell has rung, please drop your child off closer to the flagpole. They can enter the doors by the bike rack. **All other doors are locked for security reasons.**
- If you are late picking up and your child/children and they are not outside, we have walked them to the office to wait. We don't want to leave any children out unattended. Please park and come in to get them.
- There is no stopping, standing, or parking by the yellow curb at the end of the drop off lane. There is a fire hydrant there and it is a law to keep it free from traffic.
- Please do not use the driveways as a turn around. This blocks more traffic and we need it to flow.
- If you need to get out of your car, please park by the field past the yellow curb/fire hydrant.

PARKING LOT

- The parking lot is a designated drop-off/pick-up zone. The entrance is at the NORTH end of Ferry school's property and the exit is at the SOUTH end. When you enter, please pull as far forward as possible to keep traffic moving. Your child will be escorted to your car. There is no need to get out.
- Parents of special needs students with a yellow card indicating a physical disability may pull to the front of the line behind the buses and in front of the cars lined up (space #1). If there is no space available please use the handicap spots. **Do not create a second lane.** This creates a traffic backup in the parking lot.
- We encourage you to refrain from cell phone use when dropping off and picking up your children.

- You may enter the lot ONLY from southbound Morningside. You will NOT be allowed to turn left into the driveway from northbound Morningside from 8:00am-9:00am and 3:00pm-4:00pm.
- When exiting the lot, the right lane is for turning RIGHT and the *LEFT* lane is for turning left.
- If you are coming into the building, we ask that you not walk through the parking lot with your child during drop off and pick up times. Please join the drop off line, leave your child with one of the adults outside, then park your car. Again, this is for the safety of the children.

STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING

- You may stop and stand in “No Parking” areas ONLY when dropping off or picking-up your child. If you leave your vehicle, *you are “PARKED” and are subject to being ticketed.* As always, *fire routes are NOT to be used for stopping, standing, or parking.* Officers will be patrolling the area in marked and unmarked police vehicles, recording license plates of violators and mailing tickets to registered owners (This method is used so that officers don’t create more congestion by having to detain violators to issue citations personally).
- We would like you to continue to pull as far forward as possible in the cutout area. Kindergarten students will be escorted to your car. Please do not pull into driveways to turn around. It causes congestion and is a danger to our students. Please proceed around the block to get to your destination.

CROSSWALKS

- As always, we encourage you to drop-off and pick-up your child in areas other than the heavily congested vicinity of the school. Try using Roslyn west of Wedgewood or even Hampton as safe alternatives. The crossing guards at either Wedgewood/Roslyn or Morningside/Roslyn will be there to safely cross your child. On the back of this letter is a map designating *suggested* drop-off/pick-up zones based upon where students enter and exit the building. Thank you for your cooperation in helping make the Ferry School area safer for the students.

WALKERS

- Please do not cross in front of the parking lot entrance or exit. Use the sidewalk that goes around the parking lot. The sidewalk was designed to keep children away from entering and exiting traffic.

BIKERS

- Bikers should use the sidewalk across the street from the school. Walk your bike on school property, cross with the crossing guard. Once you are across the street, you may ride your bike where foot traffic is not so heavy.

The patience, smiles and waves make our jobs easier! The staff is here for your children’s safety and to help the pick up and drop off procedure go smoothly.

MAP

Attached is a map designating drop-off/pick-up zones based upon where students enter and exit the building.
Thank you for your cooperation in helping make the Ferry School area safe for our students.

[Grade Level Entry and Exit Doors](#)

Distinguished service



The Board of Education recognized 12 employees of the Grosse Pointe Public School System for their distinguished service.

Honored at the regular meeting of the board Nov. 12, were, front row from left, Kate Sharp, Mason Elementary School clerk; Michele Stopinski, a paraprofessional at Barnes Early Childhood Center; Mary Lapish, attendance clerk at Brownell Middle School; Mary Ann Magill, primary music teacher at Ferry and Kerby elementary schools; Mary Tocco, secretary to Principal Kate Murray at Grosse Pointe North High School; and Angela Whateley, second-grade teacher at Poupard Elementary School. Back row, Andrea Gruenwald, life skills teacher at Parcels Middle School; Michelle Kramer, computer lab technician at Maire Elementary School; Michael Novitke, member of the custodial staff at Brownell; Linda Schultz, secretary to Principal Moussa Hamka at Grosse Pointe South High School; Elizabeth Wang, first-grade teacher at Monteith Elementary School; and Denise Sharples, executive assistant in the central office at 389 St. Clair.

Sharples was recognized for her exemplary service in a surprise announcement. As Sharples is the behind-the-scenes organizer of events like the distinguished service employee recognition, keeping her selection under wraps was a challenge, according to Rebecca Fannon, community affairs manager, who supported Superintendent Gary Niehaus's nomination.





nwea

From January 7 to February 8, the students will take the NWEA Winter Test

Students can try **Practice Tests** to become familiar with the types of questions and tools available in actual MAP Growth tests. Practice

Test specifics:

Available in any supported device and all supported browsers, except Internet Explorer

- Available for multiple grades and subjects
- About 5 questions, depending on the grade
- Not adaptive and no score
- No proctor setup needed

To Access Practice Tests:

1. Start students from either location:
 - Practice Test Website: practice.mapnwea.org – or –
 - NWEA secure browser: Click Try the Practice Test from the log-in page.

Note: Do not use Internet Explorer.

2. Complete the generic log-in:
 - Username = grow
 - Password = grow
3. Select the options for grade, subject, language, and test.
4. If needed, select the Text-To-Speech checkbox.

Note: When students use Text-to-speech tools, the Highlighter and Eraser are disabled, and vice-versa.



Practice Test

Login

Information:

Username : grow

Password : grow

[OPEN PRACTICE TEST](#)



Elementary Bell Schedule for 2018-19

PLC Monday

9:05 a.m.	Entry Bell
9:10 a.m.	AM Instruction Begins
11:56 a.m.	Lunch Bell
12:44 p.m.	Lunch Dismissal Bell
12:46 p.m.	PM Instruction Begins
3:38 p.m.	Dismissal Bell

Tuesday – Friday

8:20 a.m.	Entry Bell
8:25 a.m.	AM Instruction Begins
11:36 a.m.	Lunch Bell
12:24 p.m.	Lunch Dismissal Bell
12:26 p.m.	PM Instruction Begins
3:38 p.m.	Dismissal Bell

PLC Mondays

September	10, 17, 24
October	1,8,15,22,29
November	5,12,19,26
December	3,10,17
January	7,14,21,28
February	4,11,25
March	4,11,18,25
April	1,8,15,22,29
May	6,13,20
June	3,10

Service Safety Hours

Mondays

8:50 – 9:05 am (tardy @ 9:10 am) Mornings

3:35 – 3:50 p. (leave class at 3:30 pm)
Dismissal

Tuesday – Friday

8:10–8:20 am (tardy @ 8:25 am) Mornings

3:35 – 3:50 pm (leave class @ 3:30 pm)
Dismissal

Morning Announcements

Monday 9:15 am

Tuesday – Friday 8:30 am

AM ½ Day Bell Schedule

8:20 am	Entry Bell
8:25 am	AM Instruction Begins
11:36 am	Dismissal Bell





Community Volunteerism

During the holiday season, many families look for ways to help others in need.

If your family's time is limited, consider just one or two projects a year and make them a family tradition (for example, making and donating gift baskets to care facilities for the elderly around the holidays).

Why should your family lend a helping hand?

- It feels good
- It strengthens your community
- It can strengthen your identity as a family

What can children learn from volunteering?

- A sense of responsibility—children learn about commitment, to be on time, do their best, and be proud of the results.
- One person, one family can make a difference—children learn that they and their family can have an impact on someone or something else.
- The benefit of sacrifice—children learn that there are important things besides themselves.
- Cooperation and unity—children learn that working together as a family can unite the family and that two heads are better than one.
- Job skills—children learn about fields that may help them decide on future careers.
- How to fill idle time wisely—children learn to use time to help others.

Ultimately, children learn that we're all responsible for the well-being of our communities. Whatever community service you choose, your community and your family will benefit.

Welcome to our Ferry visual arts gallery on Artsonia. Thank you for visiting and supporting the arts. The money generated through Artsonia will help purchase art supplies for your student! Please enjoy.

THE ART ROOM





Halloween at Hogwarts

Young People's Concert
Orchestra Hall

Saturday, October 27, 2018
11:00 a.m.

All aboard the Hogwarts Express! Join the DSO for selections from your favorite Harry Potter films and more. Witches, wizards and even muggles are invited to participate in the annual costume contest and other spooktacular pre-concert activities!



The Snowman

Young People's Concert
Orchestra Hall

Saturday, December 8th
11:00 a.m.

Based on the award-winning children's book by Raymond Briggs, *The Snowman* comes to life on the big screen! The DSO performs Howard Blake's memorable soundtrack while the animated classic plays above the orchestra. Come inside from the cold to enjoy this and other musical winter favorites!

Some exciting concerts presented by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra are coming up this year that your children are sure to enjoy!

The concerts are designed with young people in mind and are usually about an hour long and feature high-interest music. (see below) Tickets sell out quickly, so you are encouraged to act quickly if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

Please follow this link for more information: [DSO Young People's Family Concerts](#)



Young People's Concert

Orchestra Hall

Saturday, March 23rd
11:00 a.m.

An irritable grouchy old man moves in to the apartment above Christoph and his family in Vienna. Christoph is not pleased by **Beethoven's** arrival, but he begins to understand his genius and the beauty of his music. See the full story unfold in this interactive theatrical concert.



Young People's Concert

Orchestra Hall

Saturday, May 4th
11:00 a.m.

Travel to a galaxy far, far away with the DSO! This family-friendly program highlights the music behind favorite characters from the beloved Star Wars film series.



Our mission is to celebrate and grow our love of nature and inspire others to do the same.



This year Mrs. Lassiter has 2 Nature Clubs that meet at lunch.

THE NATURE LOVERS (only 2nd graders from her class) will meet at lunch in room 120 on the following dates:

Jan. 23	Mar. 20	May 8
Feb. 6	Apr. 10	May 22
Mar. 6	Apr. 24	June 5

THE WILDLIFE CLUB (2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders from other classes) will meet at lunch in room 120 on the following dates:

Jan. 16	Mar. 13	May 1
Jan. 30	Mar. 27	May 15
Feb. 27	Apr. 17	May 29
		June 5



So far this year we have had a scavenger hunt in Ferry's Nature Center and made painted leaf prints using leaves from the Ferry Forest. Upcoming projects include making bird feeders, planting flowering bulbs, and making animal and bird posters.





NATURE CLUBS NEWS



The Nature Lovers and the Wildlife Club planted daffodil bulbs in the nature center. We learned about the depth and spacing for planting. We packed the soil down well to prevent our squirrel friends from using them for food! Watch for them to bloom in the spring!

We also began a project to study the animals that live in Ferry's Nature Center. Using animal trading cards from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, we figured out some of the possible inhabitants. They include cottontail rabbits, fox squirrels, American toads, eastern garter snakes, little brown bats, field mice, and a variety of birds. Mallard ducks have also been seen using our tiny pond and nesting in the spring. Our next step is to do some research on these animals and then create informational posters to share with other Ferry students.

Mrs. Lassiter

Coordinator of the Nature Clubs

THANK YOU!



A BIG THANK
YOU TO ALL THE
FERRY FAMILIES
AND STAFF FOR
DONATING TO
THE HOMELESS
ANIMALS AT THE
ANIMAL SHELTER.



THE ANIMALS THANK
EVERYONE!

Detroit Dog Rescue needs your empty paper towel/toilet paper tubes and newspapers! We use those empty tubes and newspaper to wrap treats for the shelter dogs to open - keeps them engaged, enriched and allows them a bit of fun during their stay at DDR. There is a large box in the front hallway near the big Leader in Me sign for your contributions. Thank you for your support!



DDR
DETROIT DOG RESCUE
RESCUE.NOT RETAIL.



Kids Club Program

KIDS CLUB WORKED ON A FUN PROJECT ENTERING OUR SNOWMAN INTO A CONTEST WITH ALL THE OTHER EIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.



WISH US LUCK, IF WE WIN, WE GET A NEW TOY FOR A PROGRAM!



Digital Picks

*From your Elementary Library
Media Specialists*

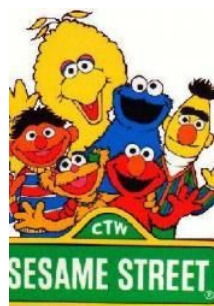
December 2018

Volume 7 Issue 4

Please enjoy this month's educational, informational, and entertaining websites and apps—"digital picks"--selected by the Elementary Library Media Specialists for the families of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. We hope you find our reviews helpful, and welcome your suggestions.



Stack the States is a U.S. geography game that helps reinforce learning around state information. Kids can study the information first, using included state "flash cards," or they can dive in and learn by trial and error. Age 8+. Available for iPhone, iPad, iTouch. Cost is \$2.99.



Sesame Street is a website that is a fun, safe, and educational place for kids to play and learn. Parents can set up playlists of videos and games that even pre-readers can navigate through. Downloadable podcasts allow parents to take shows on the road -- or just watch them later. The PlaySafe feature available on some browsers allows parents to lock a playlist or game page so that kids left to play on their own can't get to other Web sites. Available online. Cost is free.



Preschool Puzzle Town is an app from Highlights with five different types of puzzles geared at preschoolers. There are the classic hidden picture puzzles that Highlights is known for, and lots more: a matching game, a picture puzzle, mazes, and difference-finding. Age 3+. Available for iPhone, iPad, iTouch and Android. Cost \$2.99/month.

Elementary Library Media Specialists

- Danielle Gostomski
- Amy Hermon
- Sherry Martin
- Cheryl Quinlan
- Rachel Walpole





News from Grosse Pointe Public Schools

Schoology Update



Schoology is now available for staff and students in the district!

Schoology is the new Learning Management System (LMS) that will allow staff, students, and parents to be able to access instructional material, class announcements, grades (secondary only), and assignments throughout their courses.

You can access Schoology by going to:
gppss.schoology.com

Your account name and password is the same as your network username and password



Family Home Login Guide

Grosse Pointe Public School System uses Clever as a convenient way for students to access many of our learning applications in one place including Lexia. Clever also serves as a home to bookmark frequently used digital resources.



Step 1



a.) Access our district portal at <https://clever.com/in/gppss> from your preferred internet browser.

or

b.) Download and access Lexia Core 5 app and the Clever app available in the iTunes store. Once the app is downloaded, you will have to enter in your child's teacher's email address. Once complete, click on "log in with Clever".

Step 2

Login to Clever with one of these options:

Active Directory	Clever Badge
 Log in with Active Directory	
Login: Student identification number	Obtain Clever Badge from classroom teacher.
Password: Unique to student	 Clever Badge Log in
	Hold Clever Badge up to camera, lining it up with the square.

District Partnerships



FROM THE
FERRY FAMILY

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**