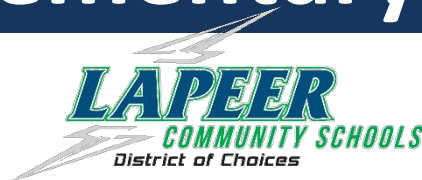


Murphy Elementary Newsletter

1100 Pratt Rd
Metamora MI 48455
Phone: (810) 538-2345
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Katie Jordan, Principal
Laura Van Y, Dean of Students
Jerri DePuy, Secretary



Message from Principal:

I love taking this time to reflect upon the wonders of the New Year. Watching your children flourish with the guidance of the fantastic teachers at Murphy Elementary is a true blessing. While visiting classrooms, I witness children who are engaged and excited about their learning. I am very proud of the children and teachers at Murphy, and I look forward to more great things in 2017.

I want to focus on one of the nine characteristics of high performing schools: Frequent Monitoring of Teaching and Learning. We are very good at gathering, reviewing, and analyzing our student data, and are consistently working on what to do with that data. It is our responsibility to ensure that each student in our school has their academic needs met so they can achieve to those high standards that we expect.

We meet regularly to review student rosters and identify students who need additional support in specific areas. Teams are putting plans into place to help meet those needs, whether it be more time on learning tasks, assistance from a para, inclusion in one of our small groups for intervention, or behavioral support. Parents are integral partners in this process and we need you to join us in frequently monitoring your child's learning. Here are some ways you can help:

- Go through their backpack each night, checking for homework to be completed or important papers/communications to be read.
- Review their planner (intermediate students) just as they should, checking for any assignments due or long-term projects to begin.
- Read to or with them every day. A high level of independent reading is one of the key indicators of school success—plus it is fun!
- Help them review their grade level sight words, or prepare for the next topics in math.
- If you have computer access, encourage them to use their RAZ-Kids, ABC Mouse or IXL account to help build their skill sets in reading and math.
- Talk with them about the importance of school and getting a solid foundation for learning. The good habits they establish now in elementary school will serve them well for years to come.
- Praise them when you read those great stories or see a good grade on their latest assessment. They need validation for the good work they are doing.

Thank you for being our partners in learning and serving our students at Murphy Elementary. With frequent monitoring done by all of us, we can help every student be successful.

Mrs. Katie Jordan, Principal

Reward School!

Two LCS elementary schools achieve Reward School designation from Michigan Department of Education

Lapeer Community Schools (LCS) is proud to announce that Schickler Elementary and Murphy Elementary achieved the Reward School designation from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) for the 2015-16 school year.

"We are very proud of the students and staff members at these schools for their hard work and dedication," said LCS Superintendent Matt Wandrie. "This is a great honor for both schools and we look forward to celebrating this achievement with them."

In order to be designated as a Reward School, a school must have achieved one or more of the following benchmarks:

- ✓ top 5% of schools on the Overall School Rankings
- ✓ top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric) or

"Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Murphy Elementary was listed among the top 5% of schools making greatest gains in achievement. Schickler Elementary was recognized for both "Beating the Odds" and for the improvement metric.

"Beating the Odds" schools overcome traditional barriers to student achievement and are outperforming schools with similar risk factors and demographic makeup.

Only 219 of the more than 3,000 schools in the state were recognized as Reward Schools in 2015-16.

For more information, please contact Jared Field at jfield@lapeerschools.org.

Valentine's Day Parties

Kindergarten through 3rd grade will have Valentine's Day parties on Tuesday, February 14, from 2pm to 3pm. This is a special time for your school-age child. We are asking that younger siblings do not attend the classroom parties. Thank you for understanding. Please look for more specific information to come from your classroom teacher.



Paper Recycling

Murphy school participates in the paper recycling program. There is a container outside on the west end of the building. Anyone is welcome to put paper products in the container. Murphy receives a small check every couple of months for participating. It is a win, win situation. The kids learn about recycling and it helps our environment and the school.

5th Grade Spelling Bee

On February 7th at 8:45am the 5th grade participants will take part in our Murphy School Spelling Bee. Parents are welcome to attend. Please check in the office upon arrival. The winner will go on to compete in the Lapeer County Spelling Bee to be held in March.



5th Grade Band Concert

You are invited to the first 5th grade band concert of the year. They will perform February 9 at Rolland Warner in gym. Murphy students should report at 7:30pm and the concert will start at 8pm.

Mark Your Calendar

Our Mother-Son & Daddy-Daughter Dances will be April 28 & 29. Watch for more details coming in the next newsletter.

Box Tops

Please remember to send in your Box Top to your child/children's classroom before February 17. This will be the last day of the year to collect before the teachers receive their checks. They will still be collecting them after February but it will go for the 2017/2018 school year.

Way to Go Everyone!

Thanks to everyone that contributed to the annual Food Drive in December. We have such great kids and parents here at Murphy school and appreciate all your generosity.

Fund Raiser for Technology

The RAT will soon start racing through Murphy! We need to start saving those cans and bottles!! For those of you who have no idea what the RAT RACE is, the explanation is simple: Every year, Murphy students send in all their returnable cans and plastic bottles they've been saving and use the money to support technology for our school. It's a competition for Murphy students. They just need cans and bottles to power them up. The rats will run again this year beginning Monday, Jan. 30th and run through Tuesday, February 7th (this includes Super Bowl Sunday on Feb.5th.) Children bring in returnables to their classrooms. They are counted daily and do a grand total at the end of the week.



If you choose, you can take the cans/bottles back to the store yourself and then send in the bottle receipt to be counted. You can also make a onetime donation per student in place of bringing in returnables. We ask that the cans & plastic bottles be rinsed. Alcoholic beverage cans will also be accepted this year as long as they are rinsed. Please no glass containers. The competition is between all the classrooms at school. At the end of the competition, the overall winning class (bringing in the largest amount of cans/bottles for the week) will receive a special prize.

Staff and Students Raised Money for Make-A-Wish Foundation

Murphy students and staff wrote 247 letters to Santa Claus at the North Pole this year.

Macy's Department store donated \$1.00 for each stamped letter they received during their *Believe* Program again this 2016.



Letters were delivered on *National Believe Day*, on which Macy's doubled the donation to \$494. What a difference Murphy students continue to make in the lives of children everywhere!



Physical Education News

Just before the Holiday Break, the students in the physical education classes performed the flexed arm hang/pull up test.

The students in the following list recorded the highest scores for their class.

CLASS	BOY	GIRL
Miles	Wyatt Cross :17	Payton Gourlay :27
Gardiner	Ashton Barker :13	Mary Steffler :17
Dodson	E. Vernatter-3; W. Mauzy 1:26	Caelyn Stiff :19
Pake	C. Hosch-2; T. Sonnenberg 1:00	M. Case :23; O. Hayes-4
Hayes	C. Staph-6; L. Nancy :39	Elise Drake 1:06
Withey	R. Smith-8; J. Lilly 1:22	C. Whipple-3; A. Kirk :20
James	A. G-Hicks-3; C. Melton:13	A. Suttle:39; S. Lanza -7
McCreeady	A. Przekora-11; J. Blaine 1:02	K. Walton-10; J. Caron :41
Nugent	C. Marra-18; J. Stapf 1:28	Ginger Grzyb :40
Phillips	L. Woollard-14; S. Lake 1:14	F. Betzold-10; E. RaCosta 1:10

**Murphy Elementary Students
Are Jumping To Save Lives!!!
March 1st, 2nd and 3rd during P.E. class**



Dear Parent/Guardian:

On March 1st, 2nd and 3rd during PE classes, our school is holding its annual **Jump Rope For Heart** to help the **American Heart Association**. All students will be having fun jumping rope & doing other heart-healthy activities.

While encouraging community service, it is also an **educational program**. Messages of staying tobacco free, eating right and exercising as a lifestyle choice are reinforced while the students raise dollars critical to the development of life-saving research.

Unfortunately, heart disease and stroke are the No. 1 and No. 3 killers in America today. **Do you know someone who has been affected by heart disease, stroke, or other heart related illnesses? Or perhaps someone who has benefited from the research funded by the American Heart Association?**

Family and friends are welcome to support your child's volunteer efforts by making contributions. Your student will be given a collection envelope for that purpose. **Checks for all donations** should be made payable to the **American Heart Association** and submitted by **March 3rd**. As a 501© status non-profit organization, donations are tax deductible. We are asking the students to ask for their parents help collecting donations. Please help them think of trusted adults that they can ask to support their school's Jump Rope for Heart program and the American Heart Association. We do not support children going door to door!

Your child can **even** raise funds on-line! *Step by step instructions about our **simple** on-line donation program are provided on the envelope.*

Those who collect donations can receive thank you gifts shown on the envelope based on the amount of money they raised. Our school also has the chance to earn **free physical education equipment** to help keep the students active!!

If your employer has a **matching gift program**, please indicate the matched amounts on the collection envelope and include the completed form provided by your employer or HR Department. The American Heart Association will take care of the rest.

Please support our event and this worthwhile community service project

Sincerely,
Mr. Baginski
Physical Education Teacher

January 2017

MURPHY ELEMENTARY

PTC HAPPENINGS

Due to the snow day – we had to cancel our January PTC meeting... however rest assured all sorts of great activities are being planned for our Murphy kids! Our next meeting is February 15th at 8:30AM in the library.

Highlights:

Penny Wars! What a fantastic time we had with the Penny Wars this year! In total \$1083.23 was brought in ... that is a LOT of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters! Thank you to all who participated! The money will be used to support the enrichment of our Murphy students.

What's New?

Chris Cakes! Flying Pancakes! Come on out Friday February 24th from 4:30 – 7PM for breakfast for dinner! Tickets are \$8 each and include all you can eat pancakes and sausage! In addition to flying pancakes we'll have a photo booth onsite. Don't miss it!

Murphy Mom2Mom Sale! On Saturday March 11th we will be having a Mom2Mom sale at Murphy. We are looking for both sellers and buyers! 8 foot tables rent for \$20 – thru Feb 17th and \$25 after. Mom2Mom sales are a cross between a flea market and a garage sale – where parents rent tables to sell clothes, toys and gently used items. Please see the following pages for information on renting a table.

SHOP WITH SCRIP! Scrip is a great program being used in many schools to raise funds to help support student activities. We've started it here at Murphy and all you have to do purchase gift cards thru the Scrip program and go shopping! If you need more information – contact us at the following email address:

murphyelementaryptc@gmail.com.



Upcoming Events

February 9th – Popcorn and Spirit Day

February 15 – February PTC Meeting

February 24th – Chris Cakes! Flying Pancakes

March 9th – Popcorn and Spirit Day

March 11th – Murphy Mom2Mom Sale

March 15 – March PTC Meeting

March 13 – Science Alive

Popcorn / Spirit Day!

On the second Thursday of each month Murphy students get a chance to show their school spirit and enjoy some fresh popped popcorn! (2/9, 3/9, 4/13, 5/11). In January Mrs. Mile's 1st Grade Class won the spirit wear competition and won free popcorn for February! Congratulations!



Murphy Elementary Mom2Mom Sale

Proceeds from the sale will benefit Murphy Parent Teacher Committee general fund, which supports the educational and enrichment of the students at Murphy Elementary. .

Saturday March, 11 2017

Murphy Elementary School

1100 Pratt, Metamora, MI 48455

9AM - 1PM \$1 Admission

The sale will feature good quality and gently used clothing, toys,
books, baby equipment, baby furniture and more!

Murphy PTC MOM2MOM SALE REGISTRATION FORM

Sellers must complete this form and submit it with payment by

Friday, February 17th - early registration (\$20)

After February 17th - late registration (\$25)

NAME _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

OF TABLES _____ X \$20(early) \$25(late) ea. = _____

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS _____

*Please make checks payable to Murphy PTC and return with your child to school.

Note: Tables will be rented on a first come first served basis. Tables are not considered reserved until payment has been received. Please review the rules and additional information provided.

Any questions, please contact Lindsay Makela at (810) 797-2110 - Email: lindsaymakela@yahoo.com

Murphy Mom 2 Mom Rules & Information

- We will have a Big Item Room for larger items. Cost to place items in this area is \$1 per item.
- Set-up for the sale will be Friday March 10th from 12-2PM. There is no school this day. If you are able to set-up your space at this time, we highly recommend doing so as Saturday morning will be very busy and hectic with sellers rushing to set up in the pre-opening hours.
- Sellers will have access to the school at 7:00am on Saturday morning, 2 hours before the sale starts. We ask that you be at your table no later than 8:45am Saturday morning.
- Sellers are responsible for their own items and for their own cash/change. Please DO NOT leave money unattended. We recommend a cash box or a bag where you can have it with you at all times.
- Please make sure that all items are clean and in very good condition to sell.
- We recommend that you bring in grocery/paper bags for your customers.
- Sellers are NOT allowed to bring in personal tables. An 8ft. table will be provided and set up for you for each space that you rent. You may use the space underneath and around your table to display your items.
- Sellers may bring in one clothing rack per table rented. For example if you are renting one table, you may bring in one clothing rack. If you are renting two tables, you may bring two clothing racks and so on. Please make sure that all racks are sturdy and will not tip over when customers are browsing.
- Please DO NOT bring drop down cribs, car seats that are not up to standards, or any recalled items to sell in our sale. If you are questioning an item that you have, please check for recalls or if you have additional questions, please ask!
- After registering for the sale, email communications will be sent out to you prior to the sale with additional information. They will be titled "Murphy PTC Mom2Mom Sale".
- If you would like to have your table next to a friend who is also participating in the sale, please make a request in the comments section and we will do our very best to accommodate you.
- If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay Makela at (810)797-2110 or by email: LindsayMakela@yahoo.com

Thank You for participating in the Murphy Mom2Mom Sale!

Proceeds from the sale go directly to support the education and enrichment of our students! We appreciate your support and hope that you have a very successful sale!

Murphy Elementary School

1100 Pratt, Metamora, MI 48455