



Cummings Elementary

Our Students are Above The Line!

Responsible, Respectful, Productive, Safe and Nice

September, 2014

Highlights Included In This Issue:

- Welcome
- School Day Schedule
- Pick-up/Drop off procedures
- Attendance
- Nurse's Notes
- PTC Corner
- Staff Name/Phone List

Upcoming Dates:

Make-up School Pictures **9/10**

Picnic 5:30 pm **9/15**
PTC Mtg/31A/
Annual Report

Goodies Factory Sale Ends **9/19**

Standale Ref. Church hosts clothing give-away **9/20**
9 am-1 pm

Spirit/Popcorn Day **9/26**

Box Tops/Label Contest begins **9/29**

Tailgater at GHS Football **10/10**

Welcome Students and Parents to the 2014/15 School Year!

Dear Cummings Families,

What a great start we have had to our school year. It has been so fun seeing everyone and catching up with all of the summer news with the kids. The students have been great this week and I look forward to a fun year.

Thank you so much for all the cooperation with our new student pickup and drop off procedures. Things are going very well in that area as well. I do want to remind everyone that parents dropping off or picking up students should be doing so in the south parking lot. (The front of the school building.) The east parking lot at the side of the building is strictly for buses only. Also, if you are going to park for any reason during drop off, please park in a parking space in the south lot, not within the drop off zone in front of the school. This allows for traffic to keep moving and prevents back ups. Thank you again for your cooperation.

This week classroom teachers have spent a lot of time reviewing classroom and building procedures. We are excited to be implementing our Above The Line behavior plan again this year. Be sure to ask your child about it. Next week we will begin our annual base line testing. Students in grades K-3 will be taking the DIBELS test. Students in grades 2-6 will be taking the MAP tests. These tests will provide us with a baseline to begin charting achievement growth throughout the school year.

Thank you for a great start to the year!

David Martini
Principal

Substitutes Needed

We are hoping to expand our list of people who are available to sub in our lunchroom and on the playground. If you have some flexibility during the noon hour and would like to be an on-call sub, please call the office at 254-6041 and we will tell you how to get signed up!

Our district is also looking for qualified individuals to fill a need as substitute teachers. If you have 90 or more earned college credits and are interested in this type of flexible schedule, apply with PESG on-line at: <http://www/subpass.com/go> (Call 616-254-6589 if you have questions.)

Treats

No food prepared at home may be consumed by our students at school parties, etc. Candies and baked goods purchased from a commercial establishment and in their original packaging are permitted.



Like Cummings Elementary School on Facebook!



Follow us on Twitter
@CummingsElement

Daily Schedule

Entry Bell 8:20	Tardy Bell 8:30
Recess/Lunch for Gr. 6	11:50—12:50
Lunch/Recess for Gr. 5	11:45—12:45
Lunch/Recess for Gr. 4	11:50—12:50
Lunch/Recess for Gr. 3	11:55—12:55
Lunch/Recess for Gr. 2	12:05— 1:05
Recess/Lunch for Gr. 1	11:45—12:45
Lunch/Recess for Kdg.	12:15— 1:15
Dismissal Bell	3:38

Please make sure each student wears a pair of rubber-soled shoes on gym days or has an extra pair to keep at school!



School Day

Our building opens to students at 8:20 a.m., and for their own safety they should not arrive before that time, unless they are having breakfast. Those students having breakfast may enter through the door at the

northeast corner of the building (across from the gym) at 8:10 and go directly to breakfast.

Students who walk or ride a bike must cross Cummings at the designated crosswalk at

the entrance drive and follow the instructions of our crossing guards, Mrs. Marckini and Mrs. Turney.



Drop Off/Pick Up Procedure

If you will be picking up or dropping off your student please do so at the south side of the building. To ease congestion for the busses and increase safety for students, the busses will once

again drop off and pick up students in the east parking lot area.

Parents dropping off or picking up students should drive up parallel to the

school for their child to exit the vehicle on the side of the school, then continue around the circle drive to exit the school. Thank you for your cooperation!

Family Picnic~ 31A Info~ PTC Meeting (Annual Report Presentation)

You are invited to our FREE Back-to-School Family Picnic on Monday, September 15. We are sending a reservation form home today. Please return the form or call our school office to let us know if you are coming. We hope to see you there!

Important Notes for Parents



When completing the yellow "Student Data Form," please know it

is essential that the phone numbers are accurately listed. They may be updated if any changes occur throughout the year. Students may only be released to those people listed

on the data form unless we have a note from the parent.

Please return your updated data forms as soon as possible, if you have not already sent it in.

Since we are committed to becoming a "green" school our preferred method of sending notes is through e-

mail. Many families are already taking advantage of this method of communication.

Please make sure your e-mail addresses are updated on the parent portal. If you wish to switch back to receiving a paper copy of our correspondences, please contact our office.



We publish a directory of all our students' names, addresses, parent names and phone numbers each fall. If you do not want your child's information included in the directory, please call the office at 254-6041 before September 30.

Community Tailgater

Please join us at the Grandville High School Football game on Friday, October 10. A Community Tailgater is set up for families at Century Park, West and Cummings Elementary Schools.

Tickets are \$5 each with a family maximum of \$20. This includes a 'hotdawg' dinner (hotdog, chips, cookie and drink) and entry into the football game. Tickets

are available in the school office. The theme is "**Super Hero**" so feel free to come dressed accordingly. Come and support your Bulldogs! We hope to see you there!



If

Communicator

your family is not receiving the Grandville Public Schools newsletter, "The Communicator", please e-mail Rebecca Dykhuis at rdykhuis@gpsbulldogs.org with your mailing address. The communicator is distributed six times a year and contains district news and information. The communicator is distributed six times a year and contains district news and information.

Board Partner

We are honored to have Board of Education member, John Garbarino, as our building partner this year! Thank you for the time and energy you spend serving our district and our school!



Absence Policy



Please call the school office and leave a message if your child will be absent from school. This

enables us to be aware of illness patterns in our school and serves as protection for our students. In the event that we do not receive a call, Mrs. Schuling or Mrs.

DeVries will be calling a parent or guardian.

To reach our attendance hotline, please call 254-6078.

Student Agenda/Handbook

Thanks to the generosity of our Cummings PTC, each student in grades 3—5 received an agenda again this year. These will be used to record homework each night as well as keep track of important school calendar days.

Teachers will be familiarizing students with their agendas during the first few days of school. Parents, please read carefully the policies regarding Administration of medication, Release of students, Indoor Recess Request, Treats, School Dress Code,

Special Events Busing and our Attendance Policy.

Additional school information is listed on our Friday Folders, which the students will bring home each Friday containing all of the notes for that week.

New: Gaga Ball Court!

Former Cummings student, **Spencer Snoap**, recently built a gaga ball pit on our playground for his Eagle Scout project. Mr. Leonardo has been teaching our students who to play the game during gym classes this week. There are plans underway for two more courts. Thank you, Spencer!



Nurse's Notes

A medication form must be on file in the office for ANY medication needed by an elementary student during the school day. This includes inhalers. Forms are available from our school office or on the district website (click on "Resources", then on "Parent.")

A few reminders as we start off the 2014/15 school year:

1. Please remember that students are not to bring medications to school themselves! Any medication needed by a student during the day should be brought in by the parent and be in the ORIGINAL container.

2. Do not send your child to school if they have been vomiting or have had a fever in the previous 24 hours.

3. Make sure you talk directly to your child's teacher if your child has a life-threatening condition or allergy, so appropriate safety measures are set up promptly.

Please make sure your child's name is on all coats, lunch boxes and backpacks!



CUMMINGS ELEMENTARY

4261 Schoolcraft St SW
Grand Rapids, MI

Phone: 616-254-6041
Attendance: 616-254-6078
Fax: 616-254-6043

Mr. David Martini, Principal

Learn more at
www.grandville.k12.mi.us

The Five C's of Cummings: Cooperation, Creativity, Challenge, Community and Caring

PTC Corner

Our first PTC meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15 beginning at 6:30. Our PTC budget and the Annual Report for the 2013-14 year will be presented.

Please look over the PTC Volunteer Booklet, which can be found on our blog at **Cummingsptc.com**. Print out slips for the areas where you are willing to volunteer and send the slips to the office. Thank you in advance for taking

time to look through these activities and signing up to help!

The Goodie Factory Sale ends Friday, September 19. We appreciate everyone's efforts to reach our \$8,000 goal by that date. Last year our students reached that goal and were treated to a black light dance party! They had a great time and hope to do it again. Thank you for your efforts in helping with this sale!



The 5K Dawg Dash is scheduled for Saturday, October 4. This fun run is for everyone—walkers or runners. Anyone is welcome to participate. If you are not planning to walk or run in this event we also have volunteer opportunities available. Check out the PTC blog at or stop by the office to pick up an entry form. If you have questions please call Mr. Peltz at 254-6060.

Hot Lunch Program



A lunch menu will be sent home monthly for students and parents to review. The price this year will be \$1.95 per lunch (milk or juice included), and 40¢ for milk and juice purchased separately. Breakfast is served each morning beginning at 8:10 and that cost is \$1.10.

Parents have the option of sending money on a weekly basis or paying ahead, if they

wish. Please send money in an envelope indicating the child and teacher's names. Make checks payable to "Grandville Public Schools." You may also check balances and pay for your child's hot lunch through the computer, using a credit or debit card by setting up an online account. You can access this system through: sendmoneytoschool.com

Call the office for your child's student number, which is needed to set this up.

Those students who qualify for free or reduced meals will be notified after their application has been processed. PLEASE NOTE: Unless you already received a confirmation letter from Grandville Public Schools, you must reapply again every year. If you have questions about your child's account, please e-mail Diane Turney at dturney@gpsk12.net

Backpack Buddies/Clothing Give-Away

Cummings is partnering with Standale Reformed Church to provide food to children who are at risk of going with limited food over weekends. Bags with non-perishable items are provided in the student's locker each Friday. If this is something that would benefit your family, please contact Mrs. Schuling in the office at 254-6041.



Standale Reformed Church is holding a "clothing give-away" on Saturday, September 20 from 9 am - 1 pm. Many sizes will be on hand so please stop by and check out what they have.

Address: 202 Cummings Ave.
Phone number: 616-453-0005

2014/15 CUMMINGS ELEMENTARY STAFF & PHONE NUMBER LIST

(ALL PHONE NUMBERS BEGIN WITH 254-)

OFFICE

Dave Martini, Principal (6041)
Amy Schuiling, Secretary (6041)
Cheryle DeVries, Cl. Aide (6057)

Y5/KINDERGARTEN

Brittany Austin-Y5 (6064)
Kim Folkertsma (6059)
Laurie Michmerhuizen (6177)
Liza Moorlag (6177)
Carol Wright (6002)

FIRST GRADE

Linda Orosz (6179)
Sherry Plaggemars (6180)
Maria Yacks (6052)

SECOND GRADE

Valarie Command (6049)
Kristen Elder (6051)
Mimi Madden (6047)
Kori Yurick (6075)

THIRD GRADE

Cathy Cartwright (6063)
Stacey Gkekas (6176)
Kathryn VandenBerg (6804)

FOURTH GRADE

Val McCloskey (6056)
Teresa Snoap (6054)
Nathan Peltz (6060)

FIFTH GRADE

Kyle Anderson (6092)
Dan DeWulf (6061)
Courtney Gritter (6255)

SIXTH GRADE

Katie Clark (6068)
Chris Horton (6065)
Brenda Travis (6795)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Monique Bassett, Res. Rm. (6062)

PRESCHOOL

Tracy Burri (6780)
Terri Marckini, Para Pro

SPECIAL SERVICES

Colin DeVos, Behav. Spec. (6237)
Jennifer James, Psych. (6778)
Naomi Betancourt, Social
Worker (6716)
Laura Bergman, Speech
Pathologist (6772)

SPECIALS CLASSES

Jim Leonardo, PE (6751)
Judy Priest, Science (6759)
Janell Mergan, Music (6761)
Nick Leonard, Art (6496)

PARAPROFESSIONALS

Sue Athanon, Lunch/Playground
Kathy Austin, 31A/At-Risk(6066)
Karra Brinks, 31A/At-risk (6067)
Kelly Kammenzind (Noon Mntr.)
Becky Kamps, Noon Mntr./Para
Terri Marckini, Lunchroom
Barb Miller, Noon Monitor
Shannon Milner, Playground
Brittany Naill, 31A/At-Risk
Kim Reynolds, Playground
Kelly Rutherford, 31A/At-Risk
Elaine Schripsema, Playground
Diane Turney, Lnchrm (6901)
Vicki Wondergem, 31A/At Risk
(6069)

LIBRARY SUPERVISOR

Toni Burdick (6044)

COOKS

Sue Smith (3053)
Lisa Leszczynski

CROSSING GUARD

Terri Marckini
Diane Turney

CUSTODIANS

Brian Peuler (6906)
Ron Rosenberg

ELL

Darcy Shealy

BILINGUAL

PARENT ADVOCATE

Jamie Vazquez (6576)

CUSTODIANS

Brian Peuler
Ron Rosenberg

Attendance (254-6078)

Fax (254-6043)