

*Great Students!
Great Staff!
Great Expectations!*

West Ottawa Public Schools

Great Lakes

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January 25, 2012

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IB Mission Statement

Great Lakes Elementary

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Great Lakes PTO

Stay informed with what's going on at Great Lakes. Log onto <https://sites.google.com/site/greatlakesempto/> and bookmark it today!!!

Drop off and Pick Up

Just a reminder that the school bell to come inside at the beginning of the day does not ring until 8:20 a.m. It also rings at 8 a.m. IF they need to come in to have breakfast but that should be the only reason a student should be in the building before 8:20 a.m. They should be waiting outside the front doors or on the playground after 8:05 a.m., when the playground monitors arrive.

At the end of the day your child should NOT be picked up any earlier than 3:23 p.m. unless they have an appointment and you have called to let us know ahead of time or sent a note. If children leave any earlier than that, it will be counted as an "M", which is missing part of the day on their attendance record. Also, parents/guardians MUST wait in front office area, this keeps from distracting children during those last few minutes of instruction time in class.

We appreciate all of your help and cooperation with this matter. Thank you!

Important Dates

January 26– Half Day, Dismissal at 11:37 A.M.

No PM Kinder classes

January 27- No School

February 2– 5th Grade Orientation Meeting at Harbor Lights 6:30-8 p.m.

February 8– Student Count Day for the State of MI

February 9– Daddy & Daughter Dance at High School (South) 6:30-8 pm

February 10– Wear a Hat to school. Donate \$1 to "Hats for a Cure"

February 20– PTO Meeting 6 P.M.

February 29– Late Start Day
School starts at 10:20 A.M.
No A.M. Kinder Classes

Walk For Warmth

Raising money to help families in Ottawa County keep heat and utilities turned on in the winter.

When: Sat., Feb. 11, 8:30 a.m.

Where: City on a Hill, 100 Pine Street
Zeeland, MI

Everyone is welcome! Registration is free. Last year the Walk for Warmth helped 130 families stay warm! Show your school spirit and your compassion for others by creating a Walk for Warmth walking team! If you are interested in participating, you may pick up more information from the office or visit: miottawa.org/caa>Walk For Warmth

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE AND NON-RESIDENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2012-2013

Internal schools of choice:

Elementary and middle school renewal forms will be mailed January 23.

Kindergarten applications are part of the Kindergarten Round Up packet.

New applications will be available February 1 at all West Ottawa schools and online at www.westottawa.net

To assist us in planning for the 2012-2013 school year, renewal forms and applications are due by March 1.

Non-resident applications must be completed each year and will be available February 1 at all West Ottawa schools and online at www.westottawa.net.

Pink Out 2012

FEBRUARY 10

COME TO WEST OTTAWA HIGH SCHOOL

Pre-Game starts @ 5

Girls Varsity basketball game starts @ 6

Boys Varsity basketball game starts immediately after girls game

Approximately 730

Where?

WOHS: North Building (North Gym)
3685 Butternut Drive, Holland, MI 49424
Phone: (616) 994.5000

Why come?

You will be supporting cancer research and all proceeds go to Van Andel Cancer Research Institute

Where to park?

North building off 152nd street. (Make sure you go to the North building not South)

Cost?

Adults: \$5/each Students: \$3/each Children 5 & Under: FREE

Pre-Game: \$7/person

What's the Pre-Game?

Games, prizes, food from Qdoba, Hog Wild, Dairy Queen & Lance Armstrong's bike will be there, take pictures and ride!

YOU can help support!

Want to buy a shirt?

Go to this website! Deadline is 1-27-12
[http://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?](http://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dFRXZmtCdU5pOWdTMnVTRzMwcnBVZGc6MQ)
[formkey=dFRXZmtCdU5pOWdTMnVTRzMwcnBVZGc6MQ](http://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dFRXZmtCdU5pOWdTMnVTRzMwcnBVZGc6MQ)

*Fill out your name, Address, Phone Number, Pick-up Place...etc.



West Ottawa Wonders and Spanish Immersion Preschool Enrollment Begins

February 6 for the 2012-13 school year.

West Ottawa is excited to offer two tuition-based preschool programs: West Ottawa Wonders (W.O.W.) Preschool and Spanish Immersion Preschool. Both programs are designed for 3-and 4-year-olds, and are offered to all families.

Preschool programs are currently located in Lakeshore Elementary School. Families are able to take advantage of 2 or 3-day programs. Class size is limited. Child care options for preschool age children are also available.

A Preschool Open House will be held Monday, February 6 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Lakeshore Elementary School. Children are welcome to attend.

If you would like to speak to someone regarding West Ottawa Wonders Preschool, Spanish Immersion Preschool, or District child care options, please contact Katy Van Dam at 786-1433.

Preschool Round-Up

When: January 31, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Pine Creek Elementary

This is a FREE program to families who qualify

**If school is cancelled the round-up will be re-scheduled for: Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Please bring the following documents:

1. Certified birth certificate (Child MUST be 4 yrs. Old by December 1, 2012)
2. Immunization Record
3. Proof of Income (W-2, check stub)
4. Two proofs of residency (Driver's License, Utility bill or rental agreement)

WEAR A HAT TO SCHOOL DAY!

Feb. 10th is "Hats for a Cure" Pink Out at West Ottawa. Send \$1 to your child's teacher by Thursday, Feb. 9, and your child will be allowed to wear a favorite hat to school on Friday, Feb. 10th.



Daddy & Daughter Dance

This is for girls K-5 and cost is \$20 a couple and \$5 for each additional person. Please come to the Holland Township office to sign up or go to www.eteamz.com/hollandtownship to sign up online under the registration options portion of that website. Contact Amber for more information at 395-0178 x3. There will be refreshments, dancing, and a special keepsake picture for you to remember your great night.

Deadline for signup will be Mon., Feb. 6, 2012

Held at West Ottawa High School- South Building located at 3600 152nd Street- Holland.

Great Lakes Elementary

West Ottawa School District

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The Great Lakes PTO and school have been so fortunate to have outstanding support from our Great Lakes families. All of your fundraising and participation has made it possible for additional technology and library purchases and extra educational support to benefit our school and children this year. At our January PTO meeting, we approved four proposals made by Mr. Stefanich and the School Improvement Team, made up of teachers from each grade level. Here is a list of them below:

- Over \$2000 will be spent on increasing the book selection in the Great Lakes library. In addition to this, another \$500 that we earned from the Scholastic Book Fair will fund literature circle books for upper elementary classrooms.
- \$300 per grade level, a total of \$1800, will be used to build a collective resource of nonfiction texts supporting IB units of inquiry.
- A 1-year license of IXL.com, an on-line math curriculum which can be played at school and/or at home, to include all Great Lakes students in grades 3-5 for the rest of 2011-2012. This license totaled \$1500.
- An after-school writing club for 3rd grade students to support 4th grade MEAP preparation. The writing club will meet on Friday afternoons and will be taught by Kate Vanderkolk, our English Language Learners' teacher.

We think these expenditures will help enhance the learning that our children are already doing at Great Lakes. Additional plans may be made throughout the year and will be discussed at our PTO meetings each month. Please join us if you'd like to learn more. A calendar of our meetings can be found on our new website, <https://sites.google.com/site/greatlakeselempto/>. Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely,
The Great Lakes PTO



Mark your calendars...

SCIENCE NIGHT!

Thursday, February 23rd

6:30-8:00

Great Lakes Elementary

More info to come...

You WON'T want to miss it!!!

Please join us at our next
PTO Meeting...

February 20th

6:00pm

Great Lakes Library
Free Childcare

