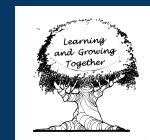


801 Northmen Drive  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
Main Line 348-2150  
Attendance Line 348-2293  
Fax 348-2234

# PETOSKEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## March 2025 Edition NEWSLETTER



### Upcoming Dates

March 6 - MSPA Meeting  
(7:00)

March 3-7 - 8th grade DC  
Trip

March 7 - Northmen Night  
(See Flier)

March 11 - Parent Teacher  
Conferences

March 13 - St. Patrick's  
Day Dance (3:15-5:00)

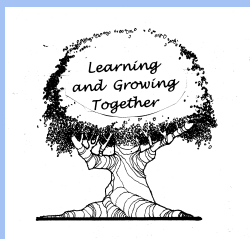
March 14 - No School, PD  
for Teachers

March 18 - Board of Ed  
Meeting, 6:00pm

March 21-31 - Spring  
Break

April 1 - School Resumes

For mental health  
resources and support,  
please visit [this site](#).  
**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT  
OUR OFFICE IS AWARE OF  
ANY CHANGE IN CONTACT  
INFORMATION. IT IS  
IMPORTANT THAT WE  
HAVE CORRECT CONTACT  
INFORMATION SO WE CAN  
EFFECTIVELY  
COMMUNICATE.**



### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday,  
March 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

These conferences will be held on a drop-in basis during  
the 2-hour allotment. Please check-in to the office when  
you arrive. Our secretaries will be here to print off a  
schedule if you need it, and our teachers will be ready to  
discuss your child's progress in school. Thank you for  
partnering with us!

### Parent Survey

At the Public Schools of Petoskey we are continually striving to create the best possible  
learning environment for our students. To ensure that we meet the needs of all our students  
and their families, we value your input and believe that your feedback is essential to our  
continued growth and improvement.

We are inviting you to participate in a short survey that will help us better understand your  
experiences, concerns, and suggestions. The survey is part of an ongoing effort to gather  
valuable insights that will help both our school and the district improve the educational  
experience for everyone.

The survey should only take about 10 - 15 minutes to complete, and all responses will  
remain anonymous. Your honest feedback will provide us with information that will directly  
influence future decisions, programs, and initiatives.

### Survey Details:

- **Survey Window:** March 3 - March 13
- **Link to the Survey:** [Parent Survey Link](#)
- **Survey Topics Include:** Your satisfaction with school communication, resources,  
the learning environment, and more.

We truly appreciate your time and effort in helping us shape a brighter future for our  
students. Your voice matters, and together, we can continue to make the Public Schools of  
Petoskey a place where every child thrives.



## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Attendance

If a student is going to be absent or tardy, a parent or guardian must call the attendance line at 348-2293 by 9:00 a.m., or the absence will be considered unexcused until we receive a phone call or note. If your child does not feel well and you are calling to excuse them from school, please include their symptoms in the voicemail so we don't have to call you back. Thank you for your help with this.

If you are excusing your child for a mid-day appointment, please call the office in the morning so we can do our best to have your child ready.

If you are excusing your child for the day and they attend classes at Petoskey High School, please inform the office to also adjust the high school attendance. Thank you!



### Preparing 8th Grade Students for the Transition to PHS

Eighth graders have completed their 4-year plans and have registered for their 9th grade classes with their PHS counselors. All high school scheduling information, including course descriptions and testing out forms, is accessible through your child's Schoology Course--"Welcome to Petoskey High School."

After spring break, PHS counselors will be sending each 8th grader home with a printout of their 2025-26 schedule, which will need to be signed by a parent and returned to the school. Our goal is to make the transition to Petoskey High School as seamless as possible. Students and parents will be receiving more information from PHS toward the end of the school year. We still have a lot of school left this year, but we definitely have to start thinking about next year already!

### District Band Festivals

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade bands for earning all 1's at the District Festivals last week. If you were able to make the performances, you know just how awesome these kids are! Great work!

### MathCounts Competition

We had 13 students travel to a regional math competition in Traverse City in February through the MathCounts program. Congratulations to Luther and Gigi for placing in the top 10 individuals overall at the competition! Everyone that participated did an amazing job. Any 6th or 7th graders interested in joining the MathCounts team next year should watch the announcements and see Mrs. Brey next December.



## NEW INFORMATION / COMING SOON

### 8th Grade Career Day

On March 12, we will once again be hosting a Career Day specifically for our 8th grade students. Over 20 community volunteers from a variety of careers will be here to share their experience and expertise. Students filled out an interest inventory, which counselors used to assign the students to four different career sessions. This is always a hit for our students! Our local Chief of Police, Rocky Karr, will be delivering the opening address to our students.

### **After School Study Lab**

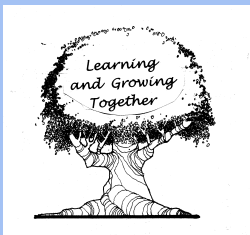
Study Lab is held from 3:15 to 4:15 pm, Monday thru Thursday in the Media Center. Students attending should come prepared with their books, homework, and a pencil. Our own academic aides supervise this study lab and are ready and willing to help!

### **Immunizations**

State law requires that ALL students entering 7th grade be up-to-date on their immunizations in order to attend school. If you wish to obtain a waiver, you must get one through the Health Department. If you have any questions, call the Health Department at 347-6014.

### **Medications**

If your student has prescription or non-prescription medicine that they take during the school day, a medication form must be completed for each medication and the medicine dropped off by an adult to the school office. A new form must be filled out each school year.



### **PEF Scholarships due April 15**

[Petoskey Education Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships](#) are awarded to Petoskey Middle School students currently in the 6th, 7th or 8th grade who have an interest in furthering their education by taking summer instructional programs related to science, technology, music, leadership, debate, visual arts or other academic endeavors. Scholarships up to the amount of \$500 each will be awarded to eligible students for summer study. The application for these scholarships is available by clicking on the underlined title/link above. Completed applications for this scholarship must be returned electronically to the Petoskey Education Foundation email address, [pef.l@northmen.org](mailto:pef.l@northmen.org), no later than April 15.

### **Next Dance is Thursday, March 14**

We have our last school wide dance on Thursday, March 13th (There is no school Friday, March 14). It will be a Saint Patrick's Day theme and the 6th grade staff and Kindness Crew use this dance as a fundraiser. We are in need of volunteers to help chaperone. If you are interested in chaperoning our St. Patrick's Day Dance on the 13th from 3:10- 5:00, please let your child's homeroom teacher know and we will put you on our chaperone rotation. You must have a background on file in order to volunteer. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

[Background Check Link](#)

### **Kindergarten Registration Information - Please share!**

The Public Schools of Petoskey is preparing to welcome the Northmen classes of 2038! [Kindergarten registration](#) is open for the 2025/26 school year to children turning 5 by September 1st.

Little Northmen Preschool is currently accepting [applications](#) for children turning 4 by September 1st. This is now free. Please see the flyer toward the end of this document.

### **CTE Camp Registration is Open**

There are many Career and Technical Education (CTE) camps available to middle school students this summer. [Click here for more information](#) or check the flier at the end of the document. The camps are scheduled for June 17-19, and cover a huge range of topics. Check them out!

If cost is an issue, there are scholarships available. Please reach out if you need any help with this.



## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **6TH GRADE PARENTS - IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR 7TH GRADE**

State law requires that ALL students entering 7th grade be up-to-date on their immunizations in order to attend school. If you wish to obtain a waiver, you must get one through the Health Department. Students who are not up-to-date on their immunizations or do not have a waiver will not be allowed to attend school and will be sent home on the first day of the 2024-25 school year. If you have any questions, call the Health Department at 347-6014.



### OK2SAY



We want to remind students and parents of the OK2SAY program. If you or your child feel unsafe or are worried about the safety of someone else, please speak up by contacting OK2SAY. You can report suspicious or harmful activity anonymously by sending a text to 652729, calling 8-555-OK2SAY, or sending an email to [OK2SAY@mi.gov](mailto:OK2SAY@mi.gov). Tips are then shared with the appropriate agencies, who respond to keep everyone safe!

### Custodial Notices

[Click here](#) for more information about chemicals used in or around the building.



### English Language Learner Program

Over the next few weeks, students enrolled in the English language learner (ELL) program will take a national proficiency test. This standardized assessment measures language proficiency for students learning English as a second language. Teachers use the information from the assessment to differentiate learning and help ELL students reach their academic goals and potential. If you would like more information or have questions about the program, please contact Robin Ingalls at 348-2237 or [ingalls.rj.t@northmen.org](mailto:ingalls.rj.t@northmen.org).

### Box Tops for Education

If you are interested in participating in the well-known Box Tops for Education program, please click on [this link](#), or use the QR code. We use this money to purchase items to help our teachers. A few years ago we were able to purchase a laminator for our school using these funds.



### Feeling Sick?

If your child is sick, please keep them home from school. There are many students out with illnesses lately, so we are asking to please abide by our school policy of keeping students home for 24 hours after a fever (100.4 or higher), or experiencing vomiting or diarrhea. Please notify the office of any flu, strep, or other contagious infections.

Also, if you know your child will be out of school for three or more school days, please have them fill out a [Trip Slip](#). This helps everyone stay on the same page!

### OK2SAY

As a reminder, if you or your child feel unsafe or are worried about the safety of someone else, please speak up by contacting [OK2SAY](#). You can report suspicious or harmful activity anonymously by sending a text to 652729, calling 8-555-OK2SAY, or sending an email to [OK2SAY@mi.gov](mailto:OK2SAY@mi.gov). Tips are then shared with the appropriate agencies, who respond to keep everyone safe!



## ATHLETIC INFORMATION

**\*All athletic programs require a current physical prior to participation.**

### 7th and 8th Grade Track

Our first practice will be on March 17th after school until 4:15. On the 17th we'll have an introductory meeting for students to gather paperwork, schedules, and uniform order forms. All students who would like to participate in track must have a physical **ON FILE IN THE OFFICE** before the season starts. We cannot allow student participation without the physical.

Please contact Mr. Carpenter ([carpenter.rj.t@northmen.org](mailto:carpenter.rj.t@northmen.org)), Ms. Strieby ([tstrieb@northmen.org](mailto:tstrieb@northmen.org)) or Mrs. Erickson ([erickson.rl.t@northmen.org](mailto:erickson.rl.t@northmen.org)) if you have any questions.







### 6th Grade Track

6th grade track will begin on April 2nd. In the next few weeks we will have an introductory meeting for students to gather paperwork and uniform order forms. The season is approximately one month. Practices are right after school until 4:30/5 on Monday - Thursday. All students who would like to participate in track must have a physical **ON FILE IN THE OFFICE** before the season starts. We cannot allow student participation without the physical. Please contact Ms. Tompkins ([tompkins.mr.t@northmen.org](mailto:tompkins.mr.t@northmen.org)) or Ms. Bell ([bell.rj.t@northmen.org](mailto:bell.rj.t@northmen.org)) if you have any questions.

### Sports Physicals

Only MHSAA sports physical forms will be accepted at middle/high school athletic departments. Forms are available on the MHSAA website, and our offices have cardstock forms available. The submitted form must be the original form with the doctor's signature. You can obtain these cards in your middle/high school office. Remember, sports physical for the 2024-25 school year must be completed no earlier than April 15, 2024.



For the most up-to-date information, please visit the [middle school athletics website](#). Please watch the student announcements for sign-up information for the upcoming seasons. We encourage students to try new activities during middle school!

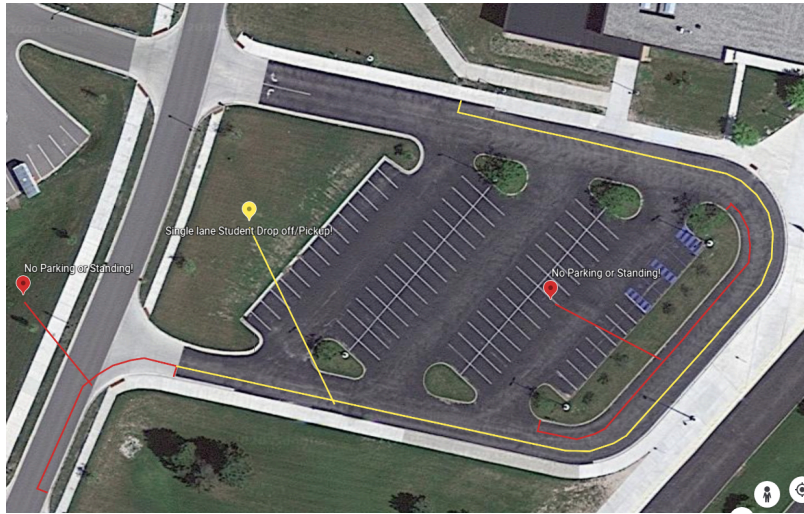
## DROP OFF / PICK UP PROCEDURES

The parent drop off and pick up procedure is an extremely important process that everyone must abide by. There has been an article in this newsletter for the past several months explaining the procedure, but it is important to review for the safety of all of our children. Parents should drop off and pick up students on the right side of the loop. The left side should be used for moving forward and is a no parking area. If you need to park for an extended time, please use the parking lot. It is also important to not obstruct Northmen Drive. Please see the picture below. The school parking lot is usually extremely busy and congested before and after school, and it will likely be an even greater challenge this year. To help maintain safety and traffic flow, we ask that you use the parent loop and parking lot accordingly. Also, remember that there is an alternate drop off location on the PHS side of Northmen Drive. Students dropped off there can walk to the Middle School through the tunnel.

No vehicles other than school buses are allowed in the bus loop. We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe.

**Also, please do not block Handicap parking spaces!**





**Students crossing Northmen Drive at any time should use the tunnels!**

The District will not discriminate against any person based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), height, weight, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, military service, or any other legally protected class. The Board reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination.

*Civil Rights & Title IX Coordinator, Becky Smith, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Spitler Administration Building, 1130 Howard Street, Petoskey, MI 49770  
231-348-2352, [TitleIXCoordinator@northmen.org](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@northmen.org)*

petoskeyschools.org

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF PETOSKEY

(231) 348-2100

# **P** Little Northmen Preschool **P**



Developmentally appropriate & district aligned curriculum



Play-based learning with academic investment to prepare for Kindergarten



Slots available for wrap around care from 7:30-5:00

**ENROLL NOW**

**32 slots in Ottawa Elementary**

**Highly qualified, certified teachers**

**For students turning 4 by September 1, 2025**

**Priority given to residents of the Petoskey School District**

**FREE  
Preschool**

SCAN ME



**5 Days a  
Week**



**CAMP DAGGETT**

SINCE 1925

# SPRING BREAK STAYCATION

**MARCH 24-28, 2025**

**9:00AM - 3:00PM**

*(drop off from 8:30-9:00, pick up from 3:00-3:30)*



**Char - Em Local 6th- 8th Graders - \$50 per day**

*Get ready for a week of creativity, games, and outdoor adventures at Camp Daggett! With lunch provided and new activities each day, like arts and crafts, team games, nature exploration, and classic camp fun while making new friends and unforgettable memories!*

***Register Here!***





Youth

# Girls Lacrosse

## Youth Development Team • Grades 1-4

**\$45**

- Practice Monday & Thursday
- Practice from 6pm-7pm
- Learn basic skills & play training games

Students welcome from **Petoskey, Harbor Springs & Boyne City** areas.

Try lacrosse for **free** at **Sunday** indoor play now through March.

No prior experience needed, equipment available for use.

The season runs from **early April** (after spring break) to **early June**.

## Middle School Team • Grades 5-8

**\$95**

- Practice Monday & Thursday
- Practice from 6pm-7:30pm
- Travel to play tournaments
- 3 tournament weekends

## 2025 Girls Tournament Schedule

**May 3-4 • Boyne Falls**  
Boyne Mountain Boys & Girls Jamboree

**May 10 • Traverse City**  
Northern Michigan Play Day with TC

**May 18 • Grand Rapids**  
Queen of the Hills

*2025 Registration Open!*

Registration is \$45 for the Youth Development Team and \$95 for the Middle School Team. Additionally, you'll need a \$35 USA Lacrosse membership. This program is sponsored by Petoskey Lacrosse. Find more information at [petoskeylacrosse.com](http://petoskeylacrosse.com).

