



A WORD FROM SUPERINTENDENT KARAPTIAN



Hello, my name is Mr. Scott Karaptian and I am your new Superintendent/Principal. My wife and I just moved into the Pentwater Township area after a 20+ year career with the Parchment School District. We are both humbled, blessed and very excited to become a part of the Pentwater community. I am looking forward to meeting and working with our students, parents, community members and staff in the days, weeks, months and years to come!

Our team has been working extremely hard over the summer months getting our building, staff and curriculum ready for the 2016/2017 school year. Pentwater is a very fortunate school district to have the outstanding staff that we have. Mr. Davis, Mr. Blamer, Mr. Cunningham and a couple of student workers have been working extremely hard on the building and grounds to ensure a clean and safe learning environment for all of us! Mrs. Glover and Mrs. Baker have been grinding away to ensure that all schedules, enrollments, bills and many other things have been taken care of to ensure a successful start to the school year. Stephen Rossiter has been busy over the summer preparing for the new school year in the areas of technology! All of the teachers that I have met over the summer are so energetic and eager to start working with our students in preparing them with both the educational and social skills necessary to become successful in their next step or stage in life. Mrs. Wagner, the newly appointed Assistant/Vice Principal, has been working very hard to ensure everyone has schedules, annual assessments are in place, identifying curriculum needs and many other things to include training a new superintendent!

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Larry Brown, as he has been selected as Pentwater Public Schools' new Athletic Director. Since being hired, Coach Brown has been working diligently to ensure all sports are scheduled, officials are hired, and assuring coaches are prepared for an outstanding athletic season and year. Congratulations and thank you, Coach Brown!

Again, I am also very excited to be a part of this community and am eager to start working with our students and teachers to ensure that "*Everybody Is Somebody!*" Enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to meeting all of you at the Open House scheduled for Wednesday, August 31, 2016, from 4:30—6:30pm!

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ENCOURAGES EACH CHILD TO SUCCEED BOTH ACADEMICALLY AND SOCIALLY AS A MEMBER OF THEIR COMMUNITY



Pentwater Public Schools

"Where Everybody is Somebody!"

**Scott Karaptian, Superintendent
Lisa Wagner, Assistant Principal**

www.pentwaterschools.net

Phone 231-869-4100

**BACK TO SCHOOL ISSUE—
AUGUST 2016
Volume 8 Issue 1**

OPEN HOUSE!

There will be an open house on Wednesday, August 31, 2016, from 4:30—6:30pm. JH/HS students will receive schedules/locker information at that time. Mrs. Wagner will be meeting with groups of students/parents at the following times:

7th Grade:	5:00 p.m.
9th Grade:	5:30 p.m.
Seniors:	5:45 p.m.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Each year the District provides public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information". The Board designates as student "directory information": a student's name, parent's name, address, telephone number, photograph-video-or other visual representation, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight, if member of an athletic team, dates of attendance, date of graduation, awards received, honor rolls, scholarships, telephone numbers for inclusion in school or PTO directories, school photographs or videos of students participating in school activities, events or programs. You have the right to opt out of disclosure of directory information for your student. Under the "No Child Left Behind" legislation, military recruiters have access to student addresses from all high school records. If you do not wish to be contacted by a military recruiter, please contact the office to obtain the appropriate form. Male students age eighteen (18) are required to register for the selective service. Parents who do not wish their child's photo or video to be used publicly should contact the school office by September 19, 2016 to sign a form expressing their wish for their child to be excluded from any publication or photo/video. Students who are excluded from the use of photos will not be in the yearbook or in any school publication. The district cannot prevent nondistrict staff from taking photos at events but will not publish any photo or video of a child whose parents wish for them to be excluded and indicate their desire in writing.

QUICK TIP!

There is a link to www.lunchapp.com and www.sendmoneytoschool.com on our website! Go to www.pentwaterschools.net and go to Departments/Food Services

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Students new to Pentwater Public Schools should report to the office for registration. Parents of new students must sign a release form for records from the student's previous educational district. Original birth certificates, immunization records and proof of residency are also required. Kindergarten registration—Michigan law states that all children who will have reached the age of five (5) years on or before September 1, 2016, may attend school this fall. Please register your student as soon as possible.

PESTICIDE USE

Parents have the right to request that we notify them 24 hours before applying any fertilizer, weed killer or pesticide in the school. If you would like to receive this notification, please submit your request, in writing, and include the phone number or email address you would like us to use for this notification.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE AVAILABLE

Pentwater Public Schools does not provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school. As a service to students/families, we make available a student accident insurance plan at a very nominal cost. You may purchase coverage online at www.1stagency.com and then follow directions by choosing STATE and SCHOOL DISTRICT. Information can be found on our website under Departments/Athletics.

MICHILD

MICHILD is a health insurance program. It is for uninsured children of Michigan's working families. MICHILD services are provided by many HMOs and other health care plans throughout Michigan. You can obtain more information on this coverage and apply for the coverage online by going to www.michigan.gov/michild. You can also call 1-888-988-6300 for more information.

FOOD SERVICE

Prices for 2016/2017

Breakfast: \$2.25 full pay
\$.30 reduced breakfast
\$2.75 adult breakfast

Lunch: \$2.70 full pay elementary
\$2.95 full pay JH/HS
\$.40 reduced lunch
\$4.25 adult lunch

Milk: \$.35 purchased separately

Breakfast and lunch will be served on September 6. Applications for free or reduced price meals will be distributed to students and online applications are available at www.lunchapp.com.

Parents are encouraged to apply! If eligible, this can assist in a family budget as well as help the district receive all of the funding to which it is entitled.

Parents may also deposit funds into their student's food accounts by going to www.sendmoneytoschool.com and creating an account. Lunch menus will be available on our website as well as sent home with our elementary students. Those students who are eligible for free/reduced lunch are also eligible for breakfast!

POLICY 5517.02—BULLYING

It is the policy of Pentwater Public Schools to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The entire Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior Toward Students policy can be reviewed in its entirety; copies are posted on the informational board at the school front entrance and you may also request to review this policy by contacting the school office. Any questions regarding this policy may be addressed with Superintendent Scott Karaptian at 231-869-4100 ex. 226 or skaraptian@pentwater.k12.mi.us

STUDENT RECORDS & PRIVACY

Students 18 years or older and parents of students have the right to inspect and review their education records, request amendments, if inaccurate, or in violation of the student's rights, and consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information other than that allowed by law. Pupil privacy and parental access to information including: certain surveys, analysis and evaluations is protected by school policy. If you have questions about the use of any of the above, please contact an administrator. Parents also have the right to inspect instructional materials other than tests or assessments. School policies comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment. FERPA and PPRA information can be found in our Student Handbook.

HOMELESS LIAISON

More than 1.35 million children and youth experience homelessness each year. These young people may be living on the streets, but they are most often in shelters or temporarily living with family or friends after losing housing or having financial problems. Homeless children and youth often have problems enrolling and succeeding in school. As a result, Congress passed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act in 1987.

Please call our Homeless School Liaison, Scott Karaptian, at 869-4100 ex. 226 for further information.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To help maintain highly qualified teachers at Pentwater Public Schools, opportunities are provided to instructors and paraprofessionals to attend conferences, classes and training sessions. Teacher and professional names and qualifications are available for review upon request in compliance with No Child Left Behind requirements. Parents and guardians have the right to request qualification information for teachers, and in some cases, paraprofessionals who work with their children. If you would like information about your child(ren)'s teachers' qualifications please contact the Superintendent/Principal with your request.

EXTENSION NUMBERS

Main Phone #: (231) 869-4100

- 210** Toni Glover, Administrative Assistant
- 211** Shelly Hugo, Attendance Secretary
- 212** Kelly McClane, Principal's Office
- 215** Martha Baker, Business Manager
- 216** Anthony Davis, Facilities Director
- 220** Jim Henley, Food Service Director
- 226** Scott Karaptian, Superintendent/
Principal
- 247** Lisa Wagner, Assistant Principal
- 249** Larry Brown, Athletic Director
- 251** Steve Rossiter, Technology Support

School closings will be communicated through our automated alert system, posting on our website and facebook and through local news sources such as WZZM-13.

HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

The local health department is required by law to provide hearing and vision screening to preschool and school aged children. Technicians are in the schools providing this service at certain grade levels throughout your child's school experience. If you do not wish to have your child screened for vision and hearing, please notify the school office.

DRUG PREVENTION

We uphold standards of conduct that prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students as such use and distribution is clearly wrong and harmful. Disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution will be imposed on students who violate the school standards of conduct. Notification of standards and sanctions is included in the student handbook. Lockers are provided for storage and against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. Canine detection, conducted in locker areas and in collaboration with law enforcement authorities may be used when appropriate. Guidelines for personal searches are outlined in policy and available for review.

All medications, including nonprescriptions (i.e., aspirin, cough syrup, etc.) must be maintained in the school office with a written directive by the parent for its use. Please call the school office for more info.

NEW START & DISMISS TIMES

Elementary Schedule (KG-6th Grades):
7:50 a.m.—2:49 p.m.

Secondary Schedule (7th—12th Grades)
7:50 am—2:44pm:

Period 1 7:50-8:38 RDG 11:44-12:09
Period 2 8:42-9:30 Period 5 12:13-1:01
Period 3 9:34-10:22 Period 6 1:05-1:53
Period 4 10:26-11:14 Period 7 1:57-2:44
Lunch 11:14-11:44

Now is an excellent time of the year to prepare your child with a contingency plan for unexpected closings of school.

SENIOR TIMELINE—2016/2017

Now Until December

- Apply to college, tech school or armed services
- Retake SAT test, if desire
- Create student resume of high school accomplishments
- Write an essay for college entrance

January—March 2017

- Apply for Free Application for Student Aid, FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov)

March—May 2017

- Begin applying for scholarships



Graduation Requirements

- Students are required to meet MI Merit Requirements to graduate
- Local requirements include a total of 24 credits
- All students need 40 community pride hours to graduate

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN OUR STUDENT HANDBOOK ON OUR WEBSITE

PENTWATER SCHOOLS—CHAIN OF COMMAND

(Who do I go to with my concerns?)

PENTWATER BOARD OF EDUCATION—

- ⇒ Concerns about final decision or interpretations of Superintendent
- ⇒ Board policy

SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL—

- ⇒ Facility usage
- ⇒ Concerns about board decisions, policy, procedures or job descriptions
- ⇒ Maintenance issues
- ⇒ Concerns about final decisions of Athletic Director, Assistant/Vice Principal and/or Teachers
- ⇒ Scholarships
- ⇒ Scheduling (independent studies, dual enrollment, tech prep, graduation requirements)
- ⇒ School safety
- ⇒ Bus safety/bus issues
- ⇒ Board policy or procedures
- ⇒ Handbook issues or procedures
- ⇒ Concerns about school staff
- ⇒ Issues about which you are uncertain whom you should contact

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR—

- ⇒ Decisions made by coaches
- ⇒ Schedules (practice, athletic events)
- ⇒ Athletic eligibility
- ⇒ Athletic physicals
- ⇒ Sportsmanship

ASSISTANT/VICE PRINCIPAL—

- Curriculum
- Discipline of students
- Testing
- Scholarships
- IEPs

COACH—

- ⇒ Player issues (playing time, treatment, philosophy)
- ⇒ Rules of the game
- ⇒ Sportsmanship
- ⇒ Coaching style
- ⇒

TEACHER—

- Student behavior
- Student grades
- Student work and/or curriculum

Pentwater Public School
600 E. Park Street
Pentwater, MI 49449
www.pentwaterschools.net

Postage Paid
Nonprofit organization
Pentwater, MI 49449
Permit #4

Postal Patron

CALENDAR FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

8/31-9/1	Professional Development
8/31	Open House: 4:30—6:30 pm
9/6	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
9/22	School Picture Day
10/13	School Dentist—Morning
10/14	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
11/4	End of Marking Period 1
11/11	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
11/21-11/22	Parent Teacher Conferences—2pm dismissal
11/23	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
11/24-11/25	Thanksgiving Break—No School
12/9	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
12/22-1/3	Christmas Break—No School
1/3	School Resumes
1/8-1/20	Semester 1 Exams—Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
1/20	End of Semester 1
2/16	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
2/17 & 2/20	Mid-Winter Break—No School
3/10	Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
3/15	End of Marking Period 3
3/21-3/22	Parent Teacher Conferences—2pm dismissal
3/24—4/3	Spring Break—No School
4/3	School Resumes
5/29	Memorial Day—No School
6/7-6/9	Semester 2 Exams—Half Day for Students—11:30am dismissal
6/9	End of Semester 2—Last Day of School

*180 days required—we are permitted 6 forgiven days
(all days over 6 will need to be rescheduled)

In keeping with our goal to offer students a safe and secure environment we can report that procedures for asbestos inspections and handling, pesticide management and warnings, and practice evacuations for emergencies are part of our routines. It is also notable that we had no crimes of physical violence, gang related activity, or illegal possession of substances to report. Our report to the state (SID) on school environment is available for review in the business office. The board of education seeks to protect those staff members who may be exposed to blood pathogens and other potentially infectious materials in their performance of assigned duties. Please refer to policy 8453.01 for further info. The board of education authorizes the use of video surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment at various school sites throughout the district. Please refer to policy 7440.01 for details.

BUILDING USE POLICY

Please remember the policy regarding the use of the gymnasium and other facilities after school. Students may use the gym and fitness room **only** with adult supervision. Everyone using the gym must sign up during the school day by calling the school office (869-4100 ex. 211). Anyone in the gym who is not signed up will be asked to leave. A form to request use of the gym and other areas is available in the principal office. The fitness room is open to residents and property owners in the district as well as parents of students who attend Pentwater Public Schools. An annual user agreement must be signed and on file. All users of the fitness room **must** be 13 years of age or older. The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health of District students. As required by law, please refer to the board of education's approved policy 8510 as it relates to Wellness for the Pentwater School District.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS

Pursuant to policy 9160, the Board of education welcomes attendance of members of the community at athletic and other public events held by the district. No person with a disability will be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity to which Section 504/ADA applies. Upon request to the principal, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in an activity.

It is the policy of the Pentwater Public School District not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, nationality, age, handicap, or genetics in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments and the US Department of Agriculture food and child nutrition programs. Nor shall it discriminate on those basis regarding programs under Title II, Title VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the District Compliance Officer, Scott Karaprian, Superintendent, 231-869-4100 ex. 226, 600 E. Park St., Pentwater, MI 49449.