

# SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## “SOARING TO SUCCESS”



Jeff Overkleeft, Principal  
455-7230

January 26, 2026  
[www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/](http://www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/)

### LOOKING AHEAD

#### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

In today's world, technology is all around us. Our students do not know a world without cellphones and the internet. I encourage you to have internet safety discussions with your child and always be aware of their activity while online. We do talk about internet safety here at school, but I encourage you as a parent to reinforce this with your child. Below is a link to a website that can give you more information about how to keep our kids safe on the internet.

<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/net-safety.html>

Thank you for your support.

Jeff Overkleeft, Principal



#### February

Tuesday, Feb. 3

Friday, Feb. 6

Wednesday, Feb. 11

Monday, Feb. 16

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Wednesday, Feb 18

Friday, Feb. 20

Southwood Music Program

Popcorn Friday

Count Day

No School/Mid Winter Break

No School/Mid Winter Break

PTC Meeting @ 4:20 PM

Popcorn Friday

#### March

Wednesday, Mar. 4

Friday, March 6

Wednesday, March 18

Friday, March 20

½ Day /Dismissal @ 12:15PM

Popcorn Friday

PTC Meeting @ 4:20 PM

Popcorn Friday

#### April

Thursday, April 2

April 3-10

Monday, April 13

Wednesday, April 15

Friday, April 17

½ Day/Dismissal @ 12:15 PM

Spring Break – No School

Classes Resume

PTC Meeting @ 4:20 PM

Popcorn Friday



Students go outside for at least two recesses a day. Please remember to dress your student appropriately. Winter coats, snow pants, hats, boots and gloves.

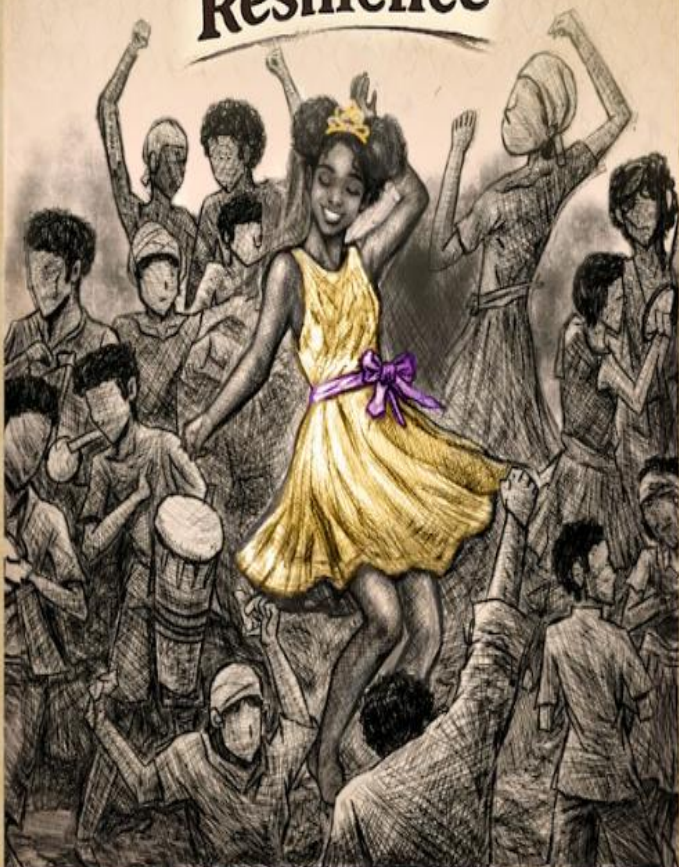
Thank you.

PTC MEETING  
Wednesday, March 18  
4:20 PM

Everyone is welcome and we appreciate  
your ideas and input.

Kentwood Public Schools Annual Black History Program  
EKHS Fine Arts Auditorium

# Voices of Freedom; Roots of Resilience



**FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

KPS For more information call 616-698-6700

Community Reception 5:30-6:15  
Program & Student Performance 6:30-8:00

# Reach Out to Youth Movin' to the Beat!

FREE educational event for parents and children for a fun day of learning about muscles!



AGES 7-11

MSU Secchia Center 15 Michigan St. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

February 21, 2026  
8am - 1pm



College of Human Medicine  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



*Reminder:*

**50¢**  
/BAG

**SOUTWOOD  
PTC  
Presents**

**\$5**  
/YEARLY  
PASS

**POPCORN  
FRIDAY!**

**NEXT FRIDAY!! FEBRUARY 6**

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*Money due* **THURSDAY!**

# Attendance



## HIGHLIGHT

This month, 38% of students are at 90% or below attendance rate.

That means 145 students out of 382 have missed 10% or more school days.



## INSIGHT

Missing 10% of school days by January usually means about 18 days, which translates to roughly 126 hours of missed school.

We want our students here as much as possible. We miss our students when they aren't here.



## WAYS TO IMPROVE ATTENDANCE

- Establish morning routines
- Plan ahead for appointments to avoid school hours
- Prepare clothes and lunch the night before
- Talk positively about school
- Reach out for help



## RESOURCES

If you need any help please contact Meghan Swayne via email or phone number.

[meghan.swayne@kentwoodps.org](mailto:meghan.swayne@kentwoodps.org)

616-426-4280 ext. 27301

# CHEER

## REGISTRATION

- WEEKLY CHEER PRACTICE
- WEEKLY GYMNASTICS
- PERSONALIZED WELCOME GIFTS
- ANNUAL PINK-OUT GAME FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
- RED AND BLACK BOW (1)
- PINK-OUT BOW (1)
- PINK-OUT SOCKS (1)

**DEADLINE**  
**July 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**2026**

**\$115 PER ATHLETE**

**GRADES 3<sup>RD</sup> (AGE 8) - 6<sup>TH</sup>**

- POM POMS
- CHEER CAMP
- END OF THE YEAR BANQUET
- END OF SEASON GIFTS
- AND MORE!

**PINEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**2100 60<sup>TH</sup> ST SE**

**GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49508**

**WWW.KRFA.ORG**

**KRFA**  
**Falcons Cheer**



# SUPPORT SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY WITH BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Help Southwood PTC earn some cash  
for our school - it's **EASY** and **FREE!**



## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Box Tops gives our school 10 for every participating product you buy. No more clipping - just scan your receipt, and the app does the rest. Over time, these small amounts add up to **THOUSANDS** of dollars for supplies, programs, and more!



### 1 DOWNLOAD THE BOX TOPS APP

Get it in the App Store  
or Google Play.  
Search: "Box Tops for  
Education"



### NO TIME TO SCAN? BRING YOUR RECEIPTS TO SCHOOL!

Let us do the hard part for you! Send your  
receipts in with your child or drop them  
off to the office. We'll scan them for you  
so your purchases still earn money for  
our students!

### 2 SIGN UP & USE PROMO CODE:

Enter referral code  
**ZXBN0PU7** or scan the QR  
code to make sure your  
earnings support **Southwood  
Elementary**.



BUY



SCAN



EARN



### QUESTIONS?

e-mail us @ [ptcsouthwood@gmail.com](mailto:ptcsouthwood@gmail.com)

