

# SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## “SOARING TO SUCCESS”



Jeff Overkleeft, Principal  
455-7230

February 9, 2026  
[www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/](http://www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/)

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

#### Winter Weather

Winter has certainly arrived here in Michigan. Please make sure your child is prepared for the snow and cold weather during their recess time. If the wind chill is zero or below we will stay inside for recess. We also look at the conditions of our playgrounds to make sure it is safe.

However, if it is warmer, your child is expected to go outside unless you have provided a note stating otherwise. If you need support with winter clothing for your student, please contact our office and we will do our best to help. Stay warm!

Thank you for your support.

Jeff Overkleeft, Principal

**Reminder**  
**Mid Winter Break**  
**No School**

**Monday, February 16, 2026 and**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

### LOOKING AHEAD



#### February

Wednesday, Feb. 11  
Monday, Feb. 16  
Tuesday, Feb. 17  
Wednesday, Feb 18  
Friday, Feb. 20

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

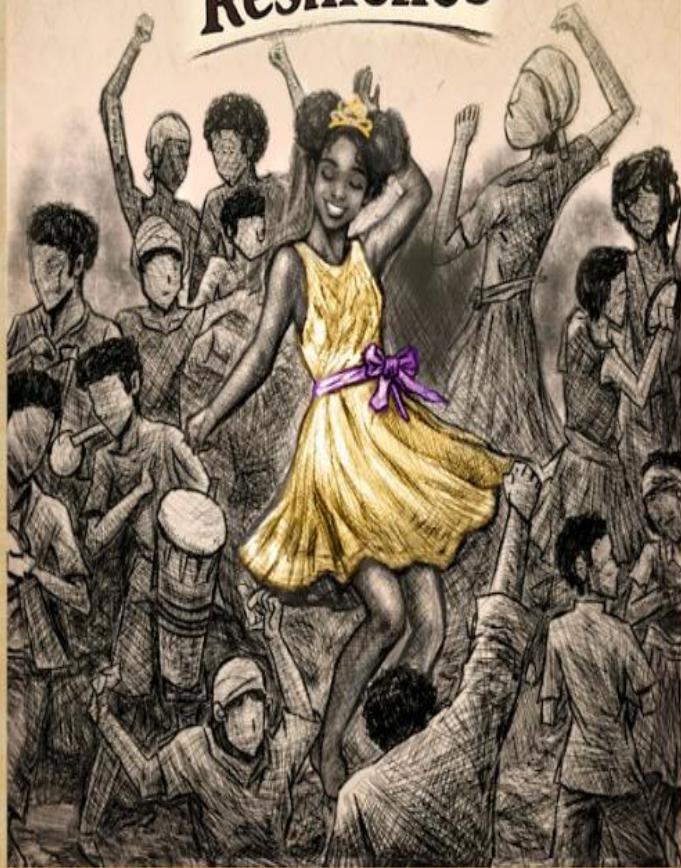
½ Day/Dismissal @ 12:15 PM  
Spring Break – No School  
Classes Resume  
PTC Meeting @ 4:20 PM  
Popcorn Friday

PTC MEETING  
Wednesday, February 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

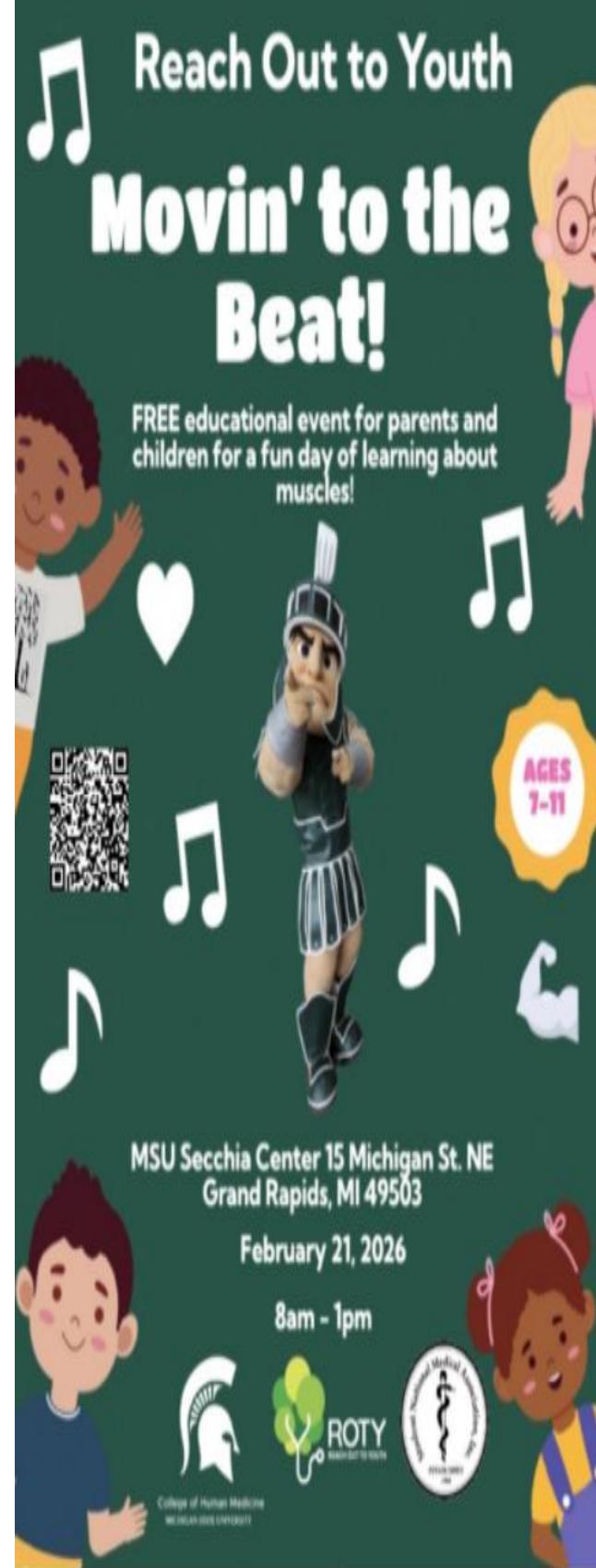


**FEBRUARY 18, 2026**



For more information call 616-698-4700

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



*It's showtime!*

**50¢**  
/BAG

SOUTWOOD  
PTC  
PRESENTS

**\$5**  
YEARLY  
PASS

# POPCORN FRIDAY!

**NEXT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

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*Money due **THURSDAY!***

EKHS GRASSROOTS EDUCATORS PRESENT:

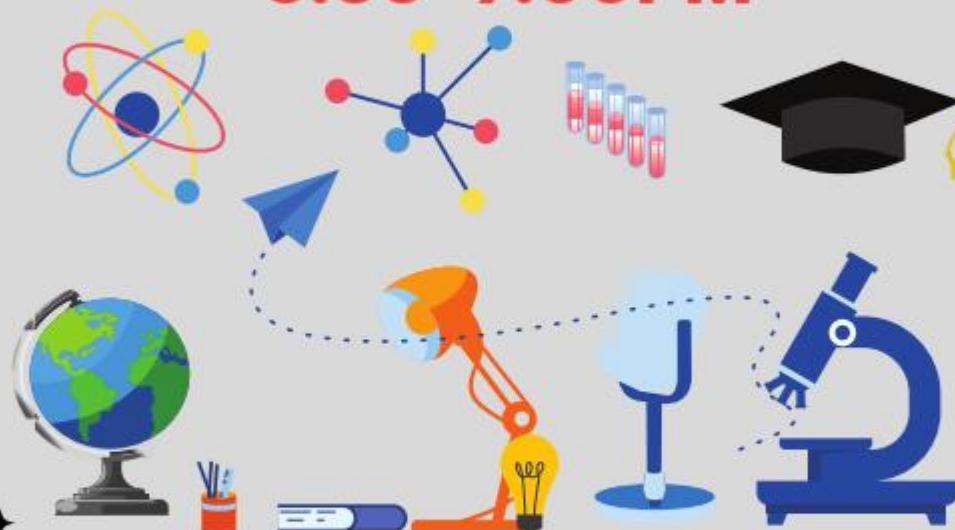
# STEAM NIGHT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

## SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

5:30-7:00PM



**A Free Community Event**

**Hands-on activities**

**Educational games**

**Food!**

Join us as EKHS students lead you and  
your family through a fun learning  
experience!



# Attendance



## HIGHLIGHT

In January, 41.6% of students were at 90% or below attendance rate.

That means 158 students out of 380 have missed 10% or more school days.



## INSIGHT

Missing 10% of school days by the end of 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 are experiencing any barriers or need any resources 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 (I)
  - PINK-OUT BOW (I)
  - PINK-OUT SOCKS (I)

## DEADLINE

July 24<sup>th</sup>

2026

**\$115 PER ATHLETE**

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

- POMPOMS
- 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"

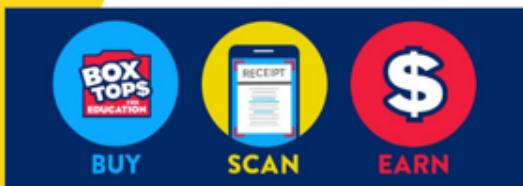
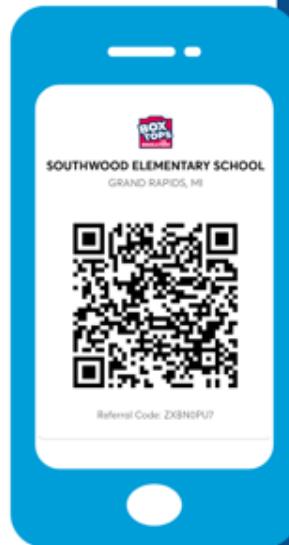


### NO TIME TO SCAN? BRING YOUR RECEIPTS TO SCHOOL!

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 **ZXBNOPU7** or scan the QR code to make sure your earnings support **Southwood Elementary**.



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

