

SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"SOARING TO SUCCESS"



Jeff Overkleeft, Principal
455-7230

September 3, 2026
www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Now that we have entered into the month of September, I am pleased to report that our routines and procedures are running quite smoothly.

I would like all of our students to begin their year with exceptional attendance. School attendance is a key factor when it comes to school success and student behavior. Students who are tardy and miss the beginning of class often have a lower GPA, lower scores on standardized tests and lower graduation rates. While most of our students are on time and ready to learn, our goal is for 100% of our students to be on time and ready to learn each day. Our first bell rings at 8:53 AM, so we can begin promptly. Thank you for your support.

Jeff Overkleeft
Principal

LOOKING AHEAD



September

Wednesday, Sept. 16
Wednesday, Sept. 23
Friday, Sept. 25
Wednesday, Sept. 30

PTC Meeting @ 4:15 PM
Operation Library @ 5:30
Picture Day
1/2 Day, 12:15 PM Dismissal

October

Wednesday, Oct. 7
Wednesday, Oct. 7

Thursday, Oct. 8

Count Day
Parent Teacher Conferences
4:30 – 8:30 PM
½ Day 12:15 PM Dismissal
Parent Teacher/
Virtual Conferences
No School
PTC Meeting @ 4:15 pm
Fall Harvest Parties

Friday, Oct. 9
Wednesday, Oct. 21
Friday, Oct. 30

November

Monday, Nov 2
Wednesday, Nov. 18
Wednesday, Nov. 25
Thursday, Nov. 26
Friday, Nov. 27

No School
PTC Meeting @ 4:15 PM
Thanksgiving Break-No School
Thanksgiving Break-No School
Thanksgiving Break-No School

December

Wednesday, Dec. 16
Thursday, Dec. 17

Friday, Dec. 18
Monday, Dec. 21

PTC Meeting @ 4:15 PM
Holiday Parties/ Time TBD
½ day 12:15 PM Dismissal
½ Day 12:15 PM Dismissal
Holiday Break Begins

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



If your child is celebrating a birthday, you are welcome to send a treat. Either send it with your child or drop it off in the office. Teachers will pass birthday treats out when time allows. ***Pre-packaged snacks only please*** (no cakes or balloons).

TOP SECRET

SOUTHWOOD FAMILY READING NIGHT OPERATION: LIBRARY

Mission Briefing:

The library is planning a fun event with a variety of activity stations for families to explore! Dinner is provided!



- STEAM Activity
- Scavenger Hunt
- Crafts
- Giant Games
- Silent Disco

Event Details:

September 23 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM

Location: KDL Gaines Township Library

421 68th St. SE Grand Rapids, Michigan 49548
(Right by school!)



Please Note: All children must be accompanied by an adult.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY'S



PTC MEETING



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
4:15PM COLLABORATION CENTER

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE DURING MEETING

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION
BACK TO SCHOOL UPDATES, UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS, FALL
FEST AND TEACHER GRANTS

**PARENTS, TEACHERS, GRANDPARENTS, STAFF AND
OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!**

QUESTIONS AND DONATIONS PLEASE EMAIL PTCSOUTHWOOD@GMAIL.COM

PARENT DROP OFF AND PICKUP

As you know, our number one priority is student safety. With that being said, we ask for your patience and that you stay in your car, forming 2 lanes, as you pick up your child and exit the lot. A staff member will be sure to bring your student to your car. Do NOT wave your child to your car, potentially endangering them, walking between vehicles. We are working to eliminate congestion, to keep the flow of traffic moving, making pick-up safe and more efficient at the end of the day.

Before School West Parking Lot

Students who are dropped off by parents before school should not arrive before 8:45 AM.

Again, I thank you for your patience as we work through this process.

Please see our signage to assist you with your student's safety!!!



We are a Hand2Hand School!

Sign up to receive one free meal bag a week!

.Iyandikishe kugira ngo ubone agafuka kamwe k'ubuntu mu cyumweru

हप्तामा एउटा निःशुल्क खानाको झोला प्राप्त गर्न साइन अप गर्नुहोस्।

.Registrate para recibir una bolsa de comida gratis a la semana

တစ်ပတ်လျှင် ထမင်းထုပ်တစ်ထုပ် အခမဲ့ရရှိရန် စာရင်းသွင်းလိုက်ပါ။

.Đăng ký để nhận một túi đồ ăn miễn phí mỗi tuần

سجل للحصول على وجبة مجانية واحدة أسبوعياً.

.Jisajili ili upate mfuko mmoja wa chakula bila malipo kwa wiki

SCAN TO SIGN UP:



*What's In a
Weekend Backpack?*



Bags are discreetly dropped off in students lockers.

Reach out to Hand2Hand at permissionslip@h2hkids.org

