



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

Dear Bowen Families,

As we enter the winter season, we want to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership in supporting student success. Our school's mission is for every student to attend school every day, because we know that regular attendance is one of the most important factors in academic achievement, social growth, and building strong learning habits. Winter can bring challenges such as cold weather, shorter days, and seasonal illnesses. While we understand these realities, we also want to emphasize how important it is for students to be in school as consistently as possible. Even missing a few days can cause students to fall behind and feel disconnected from their learning.

Here are a few ways we can work together to support strong attendance during the winter months:

- Every Day Matters: Daily attendance helps students stay engaged, build routines, and feel connected to their classmates and teachers.
- Health Guidance: Please keep students home when they have a fever or are truly ill, but minor symptoms like a runny nose or mild cough often do not require staying home.
- Preparation Helps: Earlier bedtimes, laying out clothes, and packing backpacks the night before can make winter mornings easier.
- Warm and Welcoming School Environment: Our staff is committed to creating a safe, caring, and engaging school experience each day so students feel excited to attend.
- Support Is Available: If winter clothing, transportation, or other challenges are making attendance difficult, please reach out to the school. We are here to help.

We celebrate not only perfect attendance, but also improved attendance. Every effort to be present matters and is recognized.

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed—every day. If you have any questions or need support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Educationally Yours,
Mary Campione - Bowen Principal

Our Attendance Statistics

Perfect Attendance (student count)

	2024-2025 School Year	2025-2026 School Year
September		94
October	75	107
November	91	112
December	90	109

We are proud to share that 13 students have improved their attendance to above 90%. This growth reflects their commitment to showing up and engaging in learning every day. To recognize their effort, each of these students will receive a handwritten postcard celebrating their improvement.

We are proud of their progress and encourage all students to keep striving for strong daily attendance!

Music Program

Theme: On A Starry Night

Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Time: 6-7pm

Location: East Kentwood High School Auditorium
6230 Kalamazoo Ave.

Dress Code: Best Pair of Pajamas

Mark Your Calendar

1.5 School Resumes after Winter Break

1.9 Report Cards (Go Home)

1.15 PTC Meeting 5:30pm

1.16 PTC Popcorn Sale

1.19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

1.23 Chuck E Cheese Family Night 4-9pm

1.26 Used Book Sale

1.28 Lollipops Concert (Grade 1)



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(616) 455-5220



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Robotics

Red Storm Robotics is entering the spring season of robotics with the 4th-5th grade program; FIRST Lego League Challenge (FLL Challenge). The student application will be sent out this week. Bowen is looking for two+ adult coaches to meet two days per week. A weekly curriculum is provided; no technical expertise is required for this level of robotics.

If interested, please contact the Bowen Office.
(616)455-5220

Chuck E. Cheese Family Night

Join us for a fun night of games and prizes on Friday, January 23 from 4-9pm. Coupons for family meals and tokens will be distributed at the door.

Chuck E Cheese - Centerpoint Mall
3671 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, Mi 49512

Make sure you tell them you are there for Bowen Elementary when ordering.

Winter Gear

As the colder months continue, please make sure your student is dressed appropriately for the weather. We go outside for recess unless the weather is severe. It is important for all students to have a warm jacket, hat and gloves. If there is snow, don't forget boots and snow pants!

STEAM Book Fair

Plan now to attend our March STEAM Book Fair.

It's a different type of Fair with an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. Mrs. Gombert and Mrs. Meyer are working together to showcase our Bowen Falcon's projects along with the items for purchase. More information will come out next month.

Stay Connected

Staying connected with your child's school through School Messenger is a great way for you to stay informed and engaged in your student's education. School Messenger provides a wealth of resources and tools to help you keep track of important information and updates.

Other ways to stay connected include:

- *Teacher Platforms (Class Dojo, Google Talking Points, etc.)
- *Kentwood Public Schools website (visit Bowen Elementary)
- *Monthly Newsletters
- *Facebook: Bowen Elementary



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