

Zemmer 8/9 Campus News

Principal, Dr. Jeff Stanton
Associate Principal, Mr. Zach Hamilton
Dean of Students, Mr. Jack Chittle
Head Secretary, Mrs. Ann Vierk
Athletic/Attendance Secretary, Mrs. Ann Tiffany
Auxiliary Secretary, Mrs. Lisa Huff



1920 W Oregon Road, Lapeer, MI 48446
Ph (810) 667-2413
Office Hours 7:00am–3:30pm
zemmer.lapeerschools.org

December 2020



Mark Your Calendar!

December 21 to January 3

- No School – Holiday Break

January 4

- Students Return from Holiday Break

January 13

- 1st Semester Exams – Full Day for Students

January 14 & 15

- 1st Semester Exams – Reduced Day for Students

January 18

- No School for Students – Teacher Record Day

January 19

- First day of 2nd Semester

Enrollment in Lapeer Virtual

Several parents have inquired about signing up for Lapeer Virtual for 2nd semester. Lapeer Virtual is for students who are looking to learn in the virtual environment, at their own pace. Students who are enrolled in LV (Lapeer Virtual) would take all their courses virtually using one of our approved vendors. LV students do NOT attend the Zemmer 8/9 campus, but instead complete their classes individually at home with weekly check-ins from an assigned mentor. Lapeer Virtual students also do not attend Zooms with teachers or use Google Classroom.

If you are interested in enrolling your student in Lapeer Virtual for 2nd semester, you must contact your child's counselor before the holiday break. The new semester starts on January 19 and early enrollment will ensure their classes are ready to go. (Mrs. Spisz last name A-K or Mrs. VanOoteghem last name L-Z). Students enrolled as LV students must stay enrolled for the entirety of the 2nd semester.

Principal's Message

It is incredible the changes one month can bring! In November's newsletter, we were celebrating month of face-to-face instruction and were looking forward to continuing in that manner. Of course, now with the order issued by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) being extended, Zemmer will continue in a virtual environment up to the holiday break. While virtual instruction is not ideal, we will continue to improve upon the delivery of education using this model. We have learned a lot since March about what is working well, and what we still need to improve upon. Similarly, students are now better prepared to continue their classes virtually.

If these last few months have taught us anything though, there are often changes that happen with very little warning. While we are fully planning on returning face-to-face following the holiday break, stay tuned for any district communication, updates, or announcements about any potential changes.

Continued Virtual Support

If you have not done so already, please go to the Zemmer Homepage for TONS of resources to support students (and parents) while they learning remotely. You can find it here: <http://zemmer.lapeerschools.org/>

On the website you will find links for all of the following:

- [Google Classroom Codes](#)
- [Quarantine Resources](#) (including teacher contact emails and phone extensions)
- [Remote Learning Information](#) (including bell schedules)
- [Teacher Zoom Links](#)

Students Struggling Virtually

We definitely understand the struggles and difficulties a virtual environment can present to students and parents alike. Each day I have conversations with concerned parents about their child's grades being below expectations. Teachers are certainly being accommodating to these difficulties and trying to work with students as much as possible to help them be successful. Additionally, make sure you visit the links above for information on supporting students, and reaching out to teachers.

With that being said, our biggest challenge in the virtual environment is student motivation to participate in a high level from home. It is typical in my conversations with parents to hear that their student has told them they "don't know what to do and can't get help". More often than not, when looking into the matter, the students are not attending their Zooms. The Zooms are the first opportunity for students to get 1-on-1 help from the teacher. Most teachers will do a daily lesson and introduce an activity for half of the Zoom, but then allow students to get help and support if they need it for the remainder of the time. Students have this opportunity three days per week with every single class. If that is not enough, please encourage your students to reach out to the teacher via phone call or email to request specific times to meet with them virtually to get extra support (see the Quarantine Resources link above).

Poor WiFi?

If your household has no Internet, no WiFi, or poor WiFi, please contact Mr. Chittle the Dean of Students at jchittle@lapeerschools.org or 810-667-2413 extension 3405. If you have transportation, we can arrange for students to use the school's WiFi in the cafeteria.



Athletics

Zach Hamilton, Associate
Principal/Athletic Director
Zemmer 8/9 Campus
810-667-2413,
zhamilton@lapeerschools.org

For information regarding 8th grade athletics, contact Associate Principal & Athletic Director, Zach Hamilton:
zhamilton@lapeerschools.org
810-667-2413

For information regarding Freshman and JV athletics, contact District Athletic Director, Shad Spilski:
sspilski@lapeerschools.org
810-667-2423

All information regarding individual sports will be updated on the website:
<http://lapeerlightning.com>

Athletic Boosters

As most of you already know, the Lapeer Athletic Boosters is now supporting Middle School Athletics. We would love to have more involvement from Middle School parents. Please visit our website at lapeerathleticboosters.org.

There you will see upcoming events, meeting dates, and more information about how you can get involved. You can also check out our spirit store and participate in our current fundraiser the Christmas Cash Raffle!

Contact us at lapeerboosters@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the Lapeer Athletic Boosters!

Office Hours & Phone Numbers

Regular office hours at Zemmer 8/9 Building are 7am - 3:30pm. To facilitate a prompt response to telephone calls, direct lines are provided. The telephone numbers are as follows:

Main Office	667-2413	
Attendance Office	667-2413 x3402	
Counseling Office		
Mrs. Spisz (Counselor (A-K))	667-2413 x3410	
Mrs. Vanooteghem (Counselor (L-Z))	667-2413 x3409	
Dean of Students, Jack Chittle	667-2413 x3405	(Discipline Related Issues)
Associate Principal – Zach Hamilton	667-2413 x3404	(Athletics/Discipline)
Principal – Dr. Jeff Stanton	667-2413 x3403	

The building opens at 7am. After school, students should leave the building by 2:30pm unless involved in a supervised activity or class. The Media Center and the cafeteria are open until 3:25pm for students who need space to work, or are waiting for athletic practices to start.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Meetings

Each month we hold a PAC meeting at Zemmer. The PAC is different than a PTC in that we focus on academics and other matters that are directly related to the school day, rather than fundraisers or other events. Any parent is welcome to attend. For December, we will be having our PAC meeting via Zoom on **December 9th at 9am**. Please use the link below to attend.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81544043435>



Holiday Depot in Lapeer County

Need a little extra support during the holiday season? Holiday Depot of Lapeer helps low-income families in Lapeer County during the holiday with food and gifts. Applications are located in the office at Zemmer if you'd like to apply. More information can be found here.
<https://www.facebook.com/HolidayDepotofLapeerCounty/>

Washington DC Update

Information is available at <http://www.lapeerschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=3097475&pageId=48659143>
Students will be selecting their groups of four for the hotels in January, have them start having conversations with their peers. No worries if you don't have four, we will put individuals and groups together!



School Picture Retakes

Due to the recent move to virtual instruction, and the uncertainty about return to face-to-face instruction, we are waiting to reschedule picture retakes. We will communicate this date when there is more clarity on the schedule.



Honey Bee Club

The Bee Club is selling bottles of their delicious honey in the Zemmer main office. It is \$8 for a 16 ounce bottle. They make great holiday presents! Please make checks payable to Lapeer Honey Bee Club. Of course, cash is always accepted.

Winter Sports Season

Update:

In accordance to MDHHS orders and MHSAA guidelines, all High School and Middle School Winter Sports practices and competitions have been postponed until January, following the holiday break.

As long as we are allowed to start practicing again in person on December 9th, High School Winter Sports practices, along with Middle School Volleyball and Wrestling practices, will resume at that point. If we are allowed to begin competitions in January, Winter Sport competitions will begin at that point as well.

Follow us on social media and continue to check at Lapeerlightning.com for the most up to date information regarding Lapeer Community Schools Athletics.

See below for Middle School Sport Specific Information as of the publishing of this newsletter:



8th Grade Volleyball:

Currently, we are tentatively planning on the following for 8th Grade Volleyball:

- Practice resumes on Monday, January 4th at Zemmer from 5-7pm.
- Competition resumes on Monday, January 11th (even if we are forced to postpone practicing until January 4th).
- Competitions will be every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (other than Monday, January 18th) until Friday, January 29th.
- Until we resume practicing in person, our coaches have created a Google Classroom to continue to engage our athletes in learning and practicing volleyball skills. If you are a member of the volleyball team and are not enrolled in this Google Classroom, please reach out to Coach Tessa or Kevin Becker at tbecker@lapeerschools.org and kbecker@lapeerschools.org

Middle School Wrestling:

Currently, we are tentatively planning on the following for Middle School Wrestling:

- Practice resumes on Monday, January 4th at CFI from 4:30 – 6:30pm.
- Competition resumes on Tuesday, January 12th (even if we are forced to postpone practicing until January 4th).
- Competitions will be Tuesday January 12th, 19th, and 26th as well as Thursday January 28th.
- Home competitions will be at Rolland-Warner starting at 4:45 pm. Away competitions will start at 4:15
- Until we resume practicing in person, our coaches have created a Google Classroom to continue to engage our athletes in learning and practicing wrestling skills. If you are a member of the wrestling team and are not enrolled in this Google Classroom, please reach out to Coach Dixon at ddixon@lapeerschools.org
- Wrestling COVID 19-related accommodations:
 - o There can be no more than four (4) teams at a location, therefore large invitational-style tournaments will not be permitted.
 - o MHSAA Wrestling Return to Play Guidelines <https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/W/R/mswrcovid.pdf>

8th Grade Boys Basketball:

Currently, we are tentatively planning on the following for 8th Grade Boys Basketball:

- Tryouts will be Monday, February 1st – Wednesday, February 3rd.
- Competitions will begin Monday, March 1st
- Competitions will be every Monday and Wednesday (as well as Friday, March 19th) until Wednesday, March 24th.
- We will have two 8th grade Boys Basketball teams.
- Home competitions will be played at Zemmer, with B team playing at 4:15 pm and A team following (approximately 5:30)
- MHSAA Boys Basketball Return to Play and Ball Cleaning Guidelines:
 - o <https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/AD%20Forms/PACKET%20BB.pdf>
 - o <https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/FB/ballcleaning.pdf>

Middle School Competitive Cheer:

Currently, we are tentatively planning on the following for Middle School Sideline Cheer:

- Tryouts will be Monday, February 1st – Wednesday, February 3rd.
- Competitions will begin either the last week of February or first week of March.
- We will have 1 competition per week for until Spring Break.
- MHSAA Competitive Cheer Return to Play Guidelines:
 - o <https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/AD%20Forms/mscheerocovid.pdf>

Winter Sports Parent Meeting for Winter 2 Season – Boys Basketball and Sideline Cheer:

- In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, we will not be conducting our Middle School (6th-8th grade) Winter Sports Parents' Meeting/Meet the Coach Night in person as we have done in the past. Instead, we recorded informational presentation that was posted on YouTube and to our social media pages, VNN, and www.lapeerlightning.com.
- Meet the Coach portion of the meeting will be conducted by the coach of the individual sport at a later date. This meeting is for both the Winter I and Winter II seasons for middle school sports.
- View the video at: https://youtu.be/NNy_bKETI2g
- View the complete Middle School Winter Sports Parents Meeting Slideshow Presentation at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R5AjukAkfmKiOvd6q3Ppn_53r8Md2yYX/view?usp=sharing



Winter Sports Update

Middle School Winter Sports Spectator Covid-19 Safety Information:

Tentatively, as of the time of publishing of this newsletter, the following will be in place for the remainder of Middle School Winter Sports:

- Spectators at events must all wear masks and practice social distancing during events.
- Concessions will not be available at indoor events.
- As of this moment, we are limited to 2 spectators per participant. For middle school events, vouchers will be given to athletes the day before the event and spectators must bring them to the ticket booth the day of the event and pay the \$3 entry.

Middle School Athlete Covid-19 Safety Information:

Tentatively, as of the time of publishing of this newsletter, the following will be in place for the remainder of Middle School Winter Sports:

- Athletes for all Middle School Winter Sports must wear masks at all times during competition and while on the sidelines. Please bring a mask to all practices and games.
- Water will not be provided so bring water to all practices and games.
- Athletes will be screened for Covid-19 symptoms and have a temperature check before every practice and every game.

Clearance Process and General Information for Winter 2 Sports – Boys Basketball and Competitive Cheer:

Middle School Mandatory Winter Sports Parents Meeting/Meet the Coach Night: See above

Both student and parent should be present at the clearance process in order to be able to fill out all necessary paperwork (unless the paperwork is pre-filled out). 8th grade athletes should turn in their paperwork to Mrs. Tiffany in the Zemmer Office. 9th grade athletes should turn in their paperwork to Mrs. Loper in the LHS athletic office.

The following items are available in the Zemmer or LHS office or online at <http://lapeerlightning.com> and MUST be turned in prior to first practice/tryout:

- All athletes must have a completed **2020-2021 MHSAA Physical** (dated April 15, 2020 or after – must be new form or sign waiver when turning in.) or a complete **MHSAA Health Questionnaire** (<https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/health%20safety/healthquestionnaire.pdf>) along with a valid **2019-2020 MHSAA Physical** (dated April 15, 2019 or after)
- All athletes must have a completed **Emergency Card**
- All athletes must have a signed **Athletic Code of Conduct Card** (parent & student signatures required)

***Pay to Participate must be paid in full before any athlete may participate in a game/contest/meet. Information will be forthcoming regarding when parents may begin paying pay-to-participate fees.**

***Please see the Athletic Code of Conduct for information on 8th Grade Eligibility requirements (grades) needed last year and current.**

***Impact Testing is required for all 9th graders, as well as 8th Graders participating in athletics that did not complete it last year as 7th grade student athletes:**

Time and Location of Impact testing TBD – 6th grade wrestlers do not need to complete impact testing

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lapeer Athletic Booster Club is a non-profit (501-C3) organization with the purpose of promoting 6th through 12th-grade athletics at Lapeer High School and the middle school campuses of Rolland- Warner and Zemmer in an atmosphere that is consistent with the educational philosophy of the school community.

- Our objective is to develop an organization with an active and involved membership that is concerned with the total athletic program and all of its participants regardless of sex, race, socio-economic status or chosen sports activity.
- We strive to promote school spirit and sportsmanship and encourage attendance at all athletic events.
- We encourage and support the academic endeavors of student-athletes.
- We provide supplementary financial support for the various athletic activities at our middle schools and high school.
- We aid the staff in organizing and staging special events and projects.
- We aid and support school staff in areas of sports promotion, publicity, and program development.
- We provide scholarship opportunities, as funds are available, for qualified student-athletes as selected via an application process.



VOLUNTEER

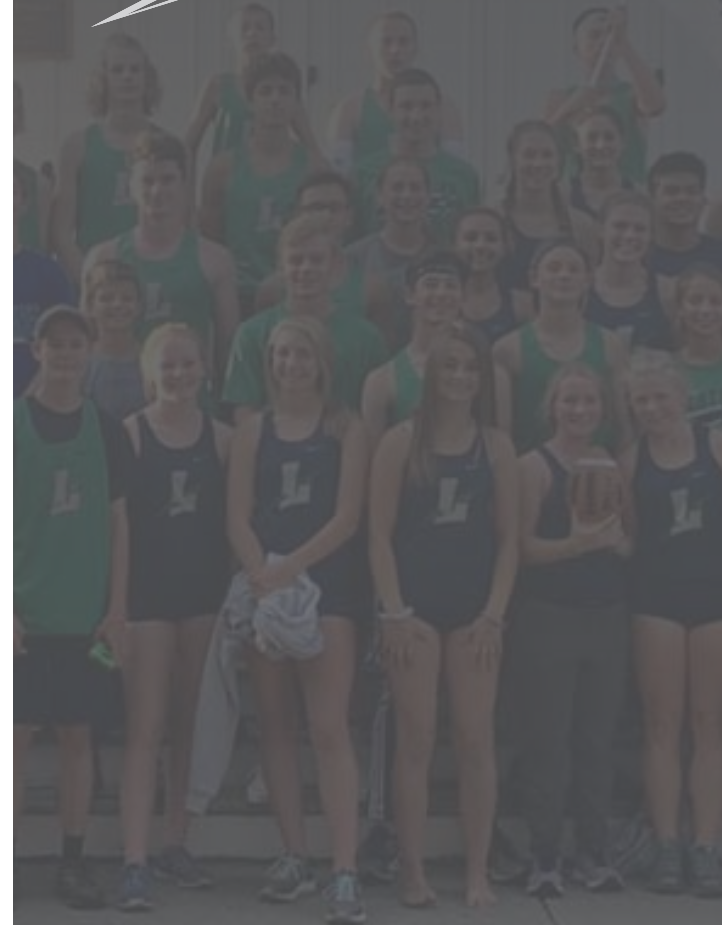
We are a dynamic group of individuals passionate about our athletics and the student-athletes at Lapeer Community Schools. Our volunteers serve the organization in many ways with each person bringing something unique to the table. Our events and fundraising endeavors cannot be successful without the assistance of many. We need you! Our membership is free and open to anyone. Please consider joining the Lapeer Athletic Booster Club. Go Lightning!

MEETINGS

Our meetings are open to any and everyone. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at Lapeer High School. Please join us!



Visit us at lapeerathleticboosters.org for more information.





OUR IMPACT

We surpassed over \$100,000 in financial donations to our high school athletic teams and scholarship recipients!

Recent support given includes:

Donation to the Anthony Herbert Memorial Foundation to help ensure athletes have proper heart screenings.

Provided financial support for the purchase of new benches on the Lapeer CFI tennis courts.

Provided financial support for the purchase of a new digital scoreboard installed at our swim facility at the Lapeer Community Center.

Provided financial support for the purchase of new wrestling equipment ensuring the safety of our students at practice.

Provided financial support to the LHS softball program to purchase batting cages.

Awarded 18, \$500 scholarships to our graduating student-athletes within this past year alone.

Provided financial support to the Middle School Cross Country team for the purchase of a timing system- our first financial award given to a middle school program.

Plus much more!!



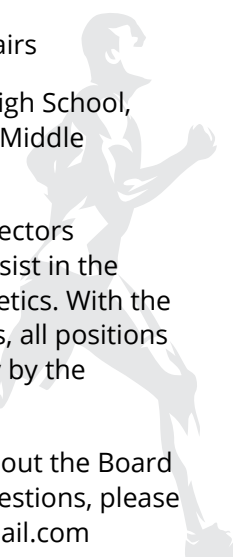
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Board is made up of:

- Executive Committee consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer
- Standing Committee Chairs
Current standing committees include Marketing, Spirit store, Concessions, and Volunteer Committee
- Middle School Committee Chairs
- Athletic Directors of Lapeer High School, Zemmer and Rolland Warner Middle Schools

The members of our Board of Directors graciously donate their time to assist in the continued support of Lapeer Athletics. With the exception of the Athletic Directors, all positions are voluntary and voted on yearly by the booster club members.

If you would like to learn more about the Board of Directors or if you have any questions, please contact us at lapeerboosters@gmail.com



FUNDRAISING

In order for us to complete our mission and provide financial support to our athletic programs, we must raise funds. This is done throughout the year through various fundraising events.

We are very thankful for all the support we receive within the community that allows us to have successful events.



Some ongoing and up and coming fundraisers include:

- Football Concessions at Center for Innovation Sports Complex
- Spirit Store-online and at sporting events
- The Great Escape Travel Raffle
- Holiday Craft Show
- Virtual 5k
- Softball on Ice
- Corporate Sponsorships