

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



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January 2021

Principal's Message

It's great to back with in-person instruction as of Monday. While there are no guarantees we will stay this way for the rest of the school year, it is definitely a positive and a step in the right direction. It is particularly beneficial for students to be in the building for the next 2-3 weeks. With exams coming up next week, students have an opportunity to check in with teachers (face to face) about any late assignments, or any last-minute tasks they can complete to help improve grades before their exam. Exams will also be MUCH easier to administer in the classroom as opposed to virtually. Additionally, being in school for the start of 2nd semester is helpful with 2nd semester schedules. Students will now have the opportunity to get a hard copy paper schedule here at Zemmer, and be able to meet with counselors if there are adjustments that need to be made. I was very worried how this process would go if we were forced to do it virtually and through the mail.

Like I said though, there are NO guarantees we will remain in face-to-face instruction. As always, we will comply with any new guidelines that are put forth by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). While this newsletter is assuming that we will continue to be present here at Zemmer, any new information will be communicated as necessary.

Late Work Deadline

The deadline to turn in any missing assignments is **January 11th**. Students should have all assignments turned in at that time. With student grades being due by January 18th, teachers need time to grade assignments and record them. Teachers are being very forgiving to students who are showing some effort and attempt to complete work. While we understand the challenges a virtual environment presented, we cannot just excuse all missing assignments. If students have any concerns about their grades or missing assignments, please encourage them to reach out to their teachers this week about what they can do to finish up the first semester on a good note.

Exam Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 13 – Full Day (1st and 6th Hour Exams)

Thursday, Jan. 14 – Early Release-7:40am to 11:50am (2nd and 3rd Hour Exams)

Friday, Jan. 15 – Early Release-7:40am to 11:50am (4th and 5th Hour Exams)

On Wednesday, Jan. 13th (full day), Thursday, Jan. 14th (Early Release), and Friday, Jan 15th (early release), Zemmer will be on the exam schedule for all secondary schools. While not every class is having exams, many are and a special schedule is required to make this happen. Since we share teachers with Rolland-Warner and LHS, all secondary buildings need to have an aligned schedule.

Please note that on the early release days, lunches will not be served to students. Students will ride their regular buses home on these days, so be aware they will be arriving earlier than a normal day. Students should be picked up at 11:50 AM in the car rider loop as is normal, just at an earlier time. **Please see the detailed schedule that is at the end of this newsletter for specifics.**



Mark Your Calendar!

January 4

- Students Return from Holiday Break

January 13

- PAC Meeting Zoom at 9 AM
- 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

January 26

- School Picture Retakes



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 **January 13th, at 9:00 AM**. Please use the link below to attend.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81544043435>

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, please do so by January 8th.** 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.



Washington DC Update

Information is available at <http://www.lapeerschools.org/cms/Online.aspx?portalId=3097475&pageId=48659143>

School Picture Retakes

Due to the Covid-19 closures, we had to cancel a couple picture retake dates. We have now a new picture retake date set for **January 26th from 12:30 to 2:30**. Students who already had pictures taken but want retakes should bring their pictures in that they received and turn those in for their new pictures (no need to fill out a form). For students who have not yet taken pictures, they can pick up a picture packet in the office. All students should get their pictures taken for the yearbook, even if they don't want to purchase any.

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.

Second Semester Schedules

Students will receive their schedules for 2nd semester during the exam week. Please help students remember these schedules on Tuesday, January 19th, which is the first day of the 2nd semester. A good tip we give students is to snap a picture of their schedule on their cell phones. This way, the picture is always with them and even if they forget their schedules, they can view a copy of it on their phone.

As is the case often in grades 6-12, students may be switching teachers at the semester break, even for core classes (Science, Math, ELA, and Social Studies). All classes are at the same point once we reach the end of the semester, so students don't have to worry about being in a different spot than their last class was in. If you have any concerns about your child's schedule, please contact the counselors for assistance. Although the schedule is very tight with little wiggle room, we really try to do our best to ensure students are placed appropriately.

Scheduling for 2021-2022 School Year

Counselors will begin working the schedule for the 2021-2022 school-year very soon for next year's 8th and 9th grade students. We start really early because this is such a complex process.

Counselors will go through scheduling options with students during classroom visits, and then the parent night is available that will hopefully clarify any remaining questions that you may have. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we will not be having a traditional "Parent Night" where parents attend the school in large numbers. Instead, we will most likely have a recorded video presentation that parents can view from home, and then a follow-up Zoom session where parents can ask questions. **We will have this information in February's newsletter with dates and times.**

Student Handbook Notes

Bullying

A pattern of intentional inappropriate conduct that negatively impacts other students' educational, physical, or emotional well-being. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as cyber bullying, hazing, stalking, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats. Suspension up to ten days or expulsion.

Bullying is definitely a hot button issue, not just for students and staff, but in the media. It is also a very complicated problem with many layers to it. One of the hardest parts about "bullying" is actually determining what constitutes bullying, and helping students to understand what it looks like. Is this really bullying or are you having a disagreement/argument with a friend? The most important thing that students should know is that if they feel they are being bullied, they MUST contact an adult in the building. Students can fill out slips to see an administrator or counselor in the office, at which point they will be brought in to discuss the problem. The administrative staff spends a great amount of time investigating complaints and working through solutions with students. If your child has mentioned to you that they feel like they are being bullied, please encourage them to see an administrator in the office. There are several methods and strategies we have to help the situation.



Athletics

For information regarding 8th grade athletics, contact Associate Principal & Athletic Director, Zach Hamilton:

zhamilton@lapeerschools.org
810-667-2413

For information regarding Freshman, JV, and Varsity 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. Contact us at lapeerboosters@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the Lapeer Athletic Boosters!

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 16th.

Our Middle School League Athletic Directors are currently working on a plan to be able to finish our Volleyball and Wrestling seasons. Middle School Boys Basketball at this point is still slated to begin on February 8th. Middle School Competitive Cheer is still slated to begin on February 1st.

High School Winter sports are able to start on January 16th. See the schedule below for sport specific information.

8th Grade Volleyball:

Currently, we are still trying to come up with a plan to finish our Middle School Volleyball season.

- In the meantime, 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 still trying to come up with a plan to finish our wrestling season.

- In the meantime, 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/WR/mswrcovid.pdf>

8th Grade Boys Basketball:

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

- Tryouts will be Monday, February 8th – Wednesday, February 10th
- Competitions will begin Monday, March 1st
- Competitions will be every Monday and Wednesday (as well as Friday, March 5th and 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. These will most likely take place at CFI, but time and location TBD.
- 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/mscheercovid.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/1R5AjukAkfmKiOvd6q3Ppn53r8Md2yYX/view?usp=sharing>

High School Winter Sports Information:

Dates and contests could change as schools are making adjustments to their schedules.

All winter sports can begin on Jan. 16th. No spectators or concessions.

Boys Basketball:

- Tryouts outs on 1/18-1/20
- 1/28: 9/JV @ Davison 5:30/7pm
- 1/29: V vs. Davison 7:30pm
- 1/30: 9/JV/V vs. Mt. Pleasant 1/2:30/4pm

Girls Basketball:

- 1/26: JV/V @ Mt. Morris 5:30/7pm
- 1/28: JV vs. Davison TBD
- 1/29: V vs. Davison 6pm
- 1/30: 9/JV/V @ Mt. Pleasant 1/2:30/4pm

Bowling: TBD

Competitive Cheer: TBD

Boys Swim:

- 1/29: vs. Powers @ 4pm at Rec Center

Wrestling:

- 1/27: Quad @ Lapeer vs. Grand Blanc, Davison, Powers Time TBD

Hockey:

- 1/23: @ Oxford/Avondale @ TBA at Detroit Skate Club
- 1/27: vs. Powers @ 8pm at Crystal Field House
- 1/29: vs. Port Huron @ 7pm at Crystal Field House
- 1/30: @ Walled Lake Northern @ 6pm at Lakeland Ice Arena

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 and High Winter School Sports

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 Denise 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

Zemmer First Semester Exam Schedule

January 13 – Full Day			
Period	Start	Stop	Time
1 st Hour Exam	7:40	9:40	2 Hr
2 nd Hour	9:45	10:15	30 min
No 3 rd hour classes			
4 th Hour/iConnect	10:20	12:20	2 Hr
A Lunch	10:20	10:50	30 min
B Lunch	10:50	11:20	30 min
C Lunch	11:20	11:50	30 min
D Lunch	11:50	12:20	30 min
No 5 th hour classes			
6 th Hour Exam	12:25	2:25	2 Hr

January 14 – EARLY RELEASE @ 11:50am (No Lunches Served)			
2 nd Hour Exam	7:40	9:40	2 Hr
Break	9:40	9:50	10 min
3 rd Hour Exam	9:50	11:50	2:00

January 15 – EARLY RELEASE @ 11:50am (No Lunches Served)			
4 th Hour Exam	7:40	9:40	2 Hr
Break	9:40	9:50	10 min
5 th Hour Exam	9:50	11:50	2:00