

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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Office Hours 7:00am-3:30pm
zemmer.lapeerschools.org

February 2021



Mark Your Calendar!

February 4

- 9th Grade (next year 10th graders) Scheduling Forms Due

February 10

- PAC Meeting Zoom 9am

February 15

- Midwinter Break – No School for Students

March 2

- Parent Scheduling Help Night @ Zemmer 3:30 pm to 7pm

March 5

- 8th Grade (next year 9th graders) Scheduling Forms Due

March 8

- Parent Teacher Conferences

March 12

- No School for Students – Teacher In-service Day

March 29 to April 2

- Spring Recess – No School for Students/Staff

Principal's Message

2021-2022 School Year Scheduling for 8th Grade (next year 9th graders)

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

Counselors will be visiting classrooms on the following dates.

- Current 8th grade (next year's 9th Grade Students) – Science Classrooms – on **Feb. 17th, 18th, & 19th**.
- Current 7th grade (next year's 8th Grade Students) – Counselors will visit Rolland-Warner on **Feb. 23rd and Feb. 24th in the RW Computer Labs during Social Studies classes.**

All scheduling forms are **due on March 5th**. Zemmer students turn their forms into their Science teachers and Rolland-Warner students turn their forms into their Social Studies teachers.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the scheduling process, we have a **parent support night scheduled on March 2nd from 3:30pm to 7pm**. You can drop in at any time during this time frame. Just check into the main office (**park in front**) and counselors will meet with parents as they are available in our Media Center. Of course, all safety protocols will be in place including masks being required and tables set up to ensure social distancing.

To see the entire course catalog please visit

http://www.lapeerschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_3097392/Image/!2020-2021%20Course%20Catalog.pdf

2020-2021 School Year Scheduling for 9th Grade (next year's 10th graders)

The LHS counselors have been visiting our 9th grade students here at Zemmer in their World History classes to discuss scheduling for next year at LHS. Students received forms that are **due to their World History teachers by February 4th**. The LHS counselors will return to Zemmer starting on February 8th to assist students with inputting their schedule choices into the computer. Should you have any questions or concerns about this process, please contact LHS counselors at 667-2422 or the Mrs. VanOogteghem and Mrs. Spisz here at Zemmer at 667-2413.

PSAT Testing April 12th

You will be receiving a letter soon in the mail that will introduce the PSAT schedule for 8th and 9th grade students. **For all Zemmer students (both 8th and 9th grade) testing will take place on April 12th**. You will begin to see more information coming out about the PSAT in the coming weeks. With each grade level the students advance to, the standardized testing becomes that much more important. The PSAT testing influences many different areas including:

- student scheduling
- placement in advanced courses
- early college credits earned (better scores mean more advanced classes leading to more opportunities for dual enrollment)
- preparation for the SAT for college entrance

For our 8th grade students, the PSAT is their first experience with a completely different format. Some differences include:

- It is taken with paper and pencil and NOT on the computer (unlike M-STEP)
- The test is **TIMED** so students have to be efficient
- The rules and regulations are much more secure. No cell phones will be allowed in the school on testing day

How can you prepare now?

- Please make sure not to schedule student appointments on **April 12th**.
- Begin talking to your student about the PSAT
- Visit <https://parents.collegeboard.org/college-board-programs/psat-89> for general information
- Review the practice test at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-8-9-practice-test-1.pdf> This can help students become familiar with the format of the test



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 **February 10th, at 9am**. Please use the link below to attend.

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

Zemmer Student/ Parent/ Teacher Compact

The Zemmer 8/9 Campus is what is considered a 31a school. What that means is we receive funding from the State of Michigan for our at-risk population. One of the requirements is to communicate with all families our Zemmer Student, Parent, and Teacher Compact annually. Normally, this would be handed out at schedule pickup in August. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions and our desire to create a more efficient schedule pickup, we decided to push back the distribution of this document. You can now view the 2020-2021 compact at the end of this newsletter. We are not requiring signatures or the return of the compacts this year, but rather just ask that you read it over.



Washington DC Update

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

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.

Parent Pick-Up and Drop-Off

The pick-up and drop-off lines for any school are never perfect. Essentially, you are trying to get a 100 or more cars through a loop in a short amount of time. Our number one concern is the safety of our students, but we also try to be as efficient as possible. Please adhere to the following guidelines when dropping off or picking up students to help ensure the safety of all of our students.

- In the morning, the drop off line only backs up between about 7:25 to 7:35. If you are able to bring students before then, there is very little wait.
- In the morning before school and the afternoon after school, only pickup/drop off students in the car rider loop behind the Zemmer campus. **The front entrance is reserved for buses** and excess traffic creates a dangerous situation. It also prevents our buses from making it to their next run in an efficient manner.
- Do not park in any adjacent lots (the doctor's offices next door).
- Keep an eye out for students and please stop at the crosswalk. We have been encouraging students to utilize the crosswalks instead of just randomly crossing the loop line.
- Avoid cutting in line or passing cars. This not only creates a dangerous situation; it really isn't fair to the majority of cars who are following the correct procedures.

Zemmer Yearbook: *Last chance to GUARANTEE a yearbook*

Last chance to guarantee your student a yearbook. As the world adjusts to change, one thing that remains constant is the yearbook tradition. This yearbook will capture the story of this unique school year! We will not be ordering extra books. The cost of the yearbook is \$40.00. Order today at this link

<http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A01050650>

Student Handbook Notes

Page 20: The student who brings a cellular phone and/or ECD on school property shall assume responsibility for its care. At no time shall Lapeer Community Schools be responsible for preventing theft, loss or damage to cellular phones and/or ECDs brought onto its property.

Every year we have students who end up misplacing their cell phones. While the majority of lost cell phones manage to turn up within a day or so, there are unfortunately times when students will lose a cell phone and it does not turn up. We strongly urge students to make sure they keep property such as cell phones on them at all times and not allow other students to borrow them. In the event a phone is lost, the school is not responsible for replacing the item.

LHS Temporary Virtual Period

All Zemmer families should have been notified this week regarding the temporary virtual period that has been instituted at Lapeer High School through February 16th. For most of our Zemmer students, this will have little to no impact. Students who are impacted are students who take classes at LHS. These students will be working in one of our computer labs or in the media center during the class they would normally be at the high school. High school teachers are Zooming those classes for students on Zoom days and students will be working on assignments on Google Classroom days. For the full schedule and detailed information please visit <https://lcsblog.com/2021/02/02/lapeer-high-school-to-return-to-remote-learning-for-two-weeks/>



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

MDHHS Order/Update

On Friday, January 22nd, Governor Whitmer and the MDHHS announced that practices for Winter contact sports – including MHSAA activities in girls and boys basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling – will remain non-contact through Sunday, February 21st. Competitions for these four sports will be also delayed through Feb. 21st. Provided the current MDHHS Order is not extended, boys basketball, competitive cheer, and wrestling will be permitted to resume contact practices on Monday, February 22nd. We will post new updates as they become available.

Current MDHHS Order from 1.22.21:

https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_98455-550215--,00.html

COVID 19 Guidelines for middle school athletic events:

The following COVID 19-related accommodations are in place for volleyball matches, but are expected to be similar for wrestling, cheer, and boys basketball when they begin competing:

- The two-spectator-vouchers-per-participant system will be in effect due to the reduced capacity guidelines set forth by the MHSAA.
- There will be no concessions available per MHSAA guidelines, however, spectators are permitted to bring their own capped (water, Gatorade, pop, etc.) beverages.
- All players, coaches, and spectators must wear a mask at all times.
- All players must provide their own water.
- We will be charging \$3 at the gate per usual.

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.

8th Grade Volleyball:

Volleyball restarted the season with practices starting January 19th and Games starting Monday, January 25th.

Specifics regarding volleyball games:

- 7th Grade home matches start at 4:45 p.m. and 8th Grade follows at 6:00 p.m.
- For away games, 7th Grade starts at 4:15 p.m. and 8th Grade follows at 5:30 p.m.
- Due to the reduced spectator capacity, we will be playing all games on a single court, beginning with 7th Grade Lapeer/Lightning. Each team will play two (2) – 25 point sets in standard rally scoring format.
- 7th Grade spectators will be permitted to access the gym at approximately 4:30 p.m. and may remain in the gym for both 7th Grade games (Lapeer & Lightning). At the conclusion of the last 7th Grade set, the gym will be cleared of all 7th Grade players, coaches and spectators. At that time it is recommended that all 7th Grade players and spectators please exit the building.
- 8th Grade spectators will not be permitted access to the gym until after it has been cleared of all 7th Grade players, coaches and spectators. It is not recommended that 8th Grade spectators arrive to Rolland-Warner prior to 5:45 p.m.

Volleyball Schedule:

- Monday January 25th – home vs. Brandon
- Wednesday January 27th – away @ Fenton
- Monday February 1st – away @ Goodrich
- Wednesday February 3rd – home vs. Carman-Ainsworth
- Friday February 5th – home v. Grand Blanc West

Middle School Wrestling:

- Voluntary non-contact workouts for 6th-8th grade wrestlers began on Wednesday, January 20th from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. at CFI. Workouts will run Monday - Friday from Wednesday, January 20th through Friday, February 19th.
- Middle School wrestling practices will resume on Monday, February 22nd from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at CFI. Meets are tentatively scheduled to begin in late February/early March. More information will be forthcoming once a schedule is set.
- Wrestling COVID 19-related accommodations:
 - o MHSAA Wrestling Return to Play Guidelines
<https://www.mhsaa.com/portals/0/Documents/WR/mswrcovid.pdf>

8th Grade Boys Basketball:

- Tryouts will be Monday, February 22nd and Tuesday, February 23rd from 5:00-7:00 and Wednesday, February 24th from 5:00-6:15pm
- We will have open gyms on Wednesday February 3rd and Friday February 5th at Zemmer from 5:30-7:00. All 8th grade students are welcome to attend.
- Competitions are scheduled to begin Wednesday March 3rd and will take place every Wednesday until Spring break. As of now we are planning on our basketball season continuing for 2 weeks after Spring Break, with competitions taking place on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- 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 8th – Wednesday February 10th at Zemmer at 4:30 in the cafeteria.
- Practices for the first 2 weeks will be non-contact with social distancing requirements being followed.
- Competitions are slated to begin the first week of March with 1 competition per week 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/1R5AjukAkfmKiOvd6q3Ppn_53r8Md2yYX/view?usp=sharing

High School Winter Sports Information:

- High School winter sports are under way! Follow Lapeerlightning.com for the most up to date information regarding schedules and updates.

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

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT COMPACT
A Learning Partnership Between Home and Zemmer 8/9 Campus
2020 – 2021

Student Name: _____

Pupil Commitment:

I want to reach my full potential; therefore, I will commit to do all of the following to be successful:

- Attend each class on time each day.
- Demonstrate respect to everyone who is a part of the school (staff and peers).
- Conduct myself in a manner that follows all state and federal laws.
- Conduct myself in a manner that follows the rules of the district, school and classroom.
- Pay attention and participate in class discussions and activities.
- Complete all classroom activities and homework on time in a way that is neat and accurate.
- Personal goal(s): _____

Student signature: _____

Teacher Commitment:

I want each student to reach his/her full potential; therefore, I will commit to do all of the following to ensure his/her success:

- Promote quality instruction using the district's curriculum with high instructional standards.
- Notify the parent/guardian in the event an attendance or grade issue develops.
- Establish a classroom environment that is welcoming and promotes the belief that my students will succeed.

Teacher signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Commitment:

I want my child to reach his/her full potential; therefore, I will commit to do all of the following to support my student's success:

- Ensure my child attends school/class every day, dressed appropriately. (2 or more absences per month means a child is 85% more likely to fail.)
- Send my child to school on time and ready to learn.
- Review that homework assignments are completed and offer assistance when needed.
- Monitor my child's progress by attending school functions, supporting school activities, make efforts to communicate with his/her teachers, check PowerSchool on a regular basis and attend Parent-Teacher conferences.
- Contact the teacher via phone or email if a concern or question arises.
- Other goals: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Administrator Commitment:

- Provide frequent communication on student progress, through Progress Reports and Report Cards.
- Consider outside resources to address extenuating circumstances to assist students, parents/guardians or teachers in achieving their above-mentioned commitments.
- Establish a school environment that is welcoming and promotes the belief that all students will succeed.

Administrator signature: _____