



Elms Road Elementary School Family Newsletter

Issue Published: October 1, 2026

District Mission Statement: *Swartz Creek Community Schools is a family committed to excellence, instilling the values of integrity and compassion, and encouraging every individual to embrace challenges through continuous learning*

Principal's Message



Dear Elms Road Families,

As we welcome October, our school is filled with learning, growing, and all the excitement that comes with a new season! It has been wonderful to see our students settling into routines, building friendships, and making progress each day.

Thank you to all our families who attended the Goodies with Grownups and the Homecoming Parade while showing school spirit during the week. The enthusiasm and school spirit displayed by our students and staff was outstanding.

I also want to take a moment to celebrate **you—our amazing parents and families**. Your partnership continues to make a powerful difference. Whether it's checking homework, reading together at home, volunteering at school, or simply encouraging your child each morning, your support bridges the gap between home and school. Because of your involvement, our students are more confident, motivated and ready to succeed.

We are also committed to keeping you involved every step of the way. Communication is key, and we encourage you to reach out with any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Together, we can ensure that your child's experience is both enriching and joyful.

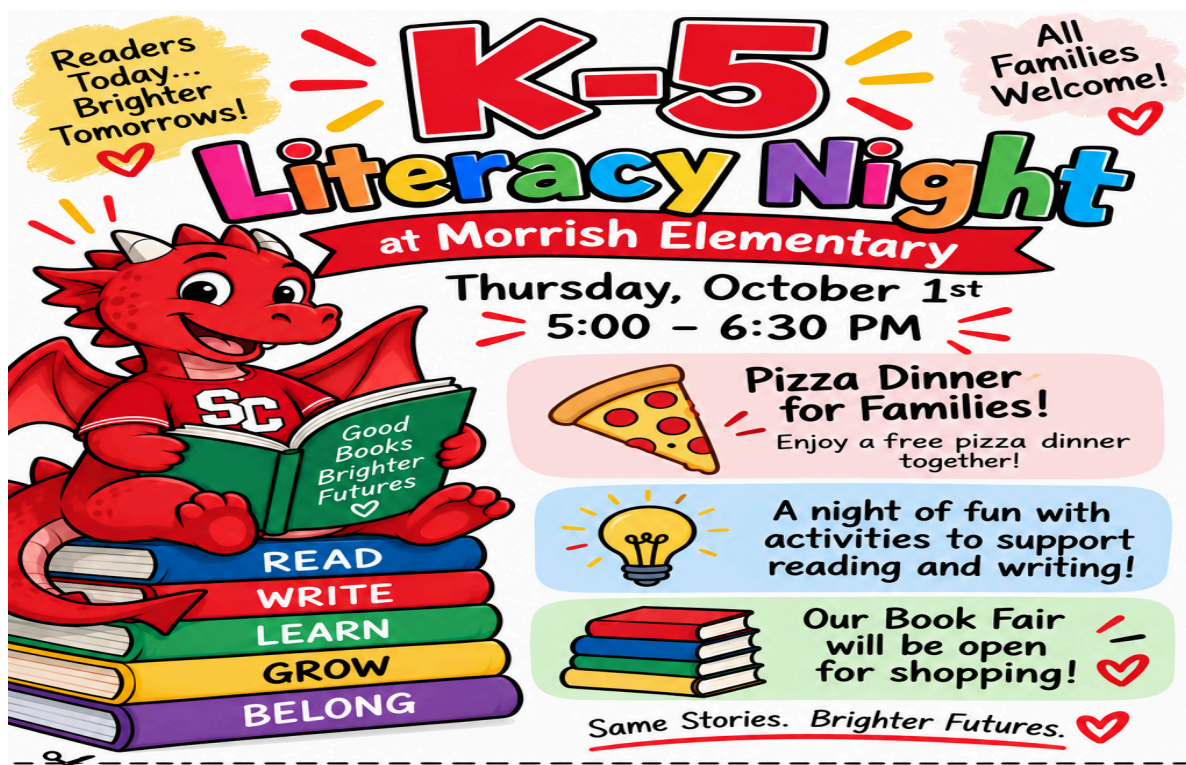
As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 810-591-1249.

Upcoming Events & Planning Ahead

10/1	Morrish Literacy Night 5:00-6:30
10/2	Fun Friday-Snap Bracelets \$.25
10/6	Texas Roadhouse Dinner
10/7	Count Day
10/7	Fall Picture Day 📷
10/9	Fun Friday-Highland Cow Figures \$.50
10/10	Panda House Dinner Night
10/12	PTO Meeting- 6:30 PM MakerSpace
10/16	Fun Friday- Airhead Candy \$.25
10/20	STEM Night 5:00-6:30pm
10/23	Fun Friday- Earth Stress Balls \$.50
10/30	Fun Friday- Halloween Design a Face Sticker Sheets \$.25
10/30	End of Marking Period- Half Day K-5

This calendar is helpful for parents as you plan ahead for days off school, ½ days, and so forth for the school year. Click here to see: [2026-2027 School Calendar](#)

Save The Date





Please pack a change of clothes!!!

Parents/Guardians, It is so important to pack a change of clothes for your student(s) of all ages! Even if you don't think they will need them, accidents do happen. Food gets spilled, a paint catastrophe can happen and sometimes kids can't resist those mud muddles. So when in doubt always pack a change of clothes!!!

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are always needed! If parents wish to help out at events, in the classrooms, or chaperone field trips, Elms Road Elementary School must conduct a background check. Please complete a Volunteer Profile Form and submit it to the Main Office at least one (1) week before the event you wish to volunteer for so the office has adequate time to conduct the required check.

[Elms Road 26-27 Volunteer Form](#)

NURSE REBECCA

As we head into the new school year and the upcoming fall, many questions come up regarding COVID/Flu/RSV/ etc., so we want to pass along the most updated recommendations from the CDC:

- You can go back to your normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:
 - Your symptoms are getting better overall, and
 - You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).
- When you go back to your normal activities, take added precaution over the next 5 days, such as taking additional [steps for cleaner air](#), [hygiene](#), [masks](#), [physical distancing](#), and/or [testing](#) when you will be around other people indoors. This is especially important to protect people with factors that increase their risk of severe illness from respiratory viruses.
 - Keep in mind that you may still be able to spread the virus that made you sick, even if you are feeling better. You are likely to be less contagious at this time, depending on factors like how long you were sick or how sick you were.
 - If you develop a fever or you start to feel worse after you have gone back to normal activities, stay home and away from others again until, for at least 24 hours, both are true: your symptoms are improving overall, and you have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). Then take added precaution for the next 5 days.

TRANSPORTATION



If your child will be riding a school bus this school year or will be attending AM and/or PM Latchkey, please take a few minutes to carefully review the link with transportation instructions and complete the required Transportation Change Request form in your PowerSchool/PowerParent account (only if there are changes).

Please note the following important reminders:

- You must answer "YES" to the question asking if your student needs transportation. If you do not select YES, your child will not be assigned to a bus.
- Complete the form carefully, selecting the appropriate transportation option (AM, PM, or both) and the correct pick-up/drop-off location.
- Transportation requests may take up to 5 business days to be processed and assigned.

The 2026-2027 Transportation Instructions link also includes:

- StopFinder setup instructions for families using the district's bus tracking app.
- Latchkey transportation instructions for students attending AM and/or PM Latchkey.

2026-2027 [Transportation Instructions](#)

Thank you for completing these steps as soon as possible to help ensure your child's transportation is in place before the start of the school year.

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate staff listed in the instructions.
John Miehm, Transportation jmieh@swcrk.org (810)591-2113

StopFinder Info

If you need to sign up for a STOPFINDER ACCOUNT, don't hesitate to contact transportation to request an invitation. Click the links below to watch a short video on how to set up and use your StopFinder app and to answer the FAQ.

[Stopfinder.com](https://stopfinder.com)

[Link to video](#)

Snacks & Water Bottles

Help your child stay fueled and hydrated throughout the school day! Students are encouraged to bring a healthy classroom snack and a reusable water bottle that can be refilled at our bottle-filling stations. Please be sure to clearly label your child's water bottle with their name so it can easily find its way home!

School Safety

Your child's safety is our utmost responsibility while they are at Elms Road Elementary. Throughout the year, we will conduct safety drills for emergencies such as fire drills, tornado drills, evacuation drills, and lockdown drills. Your child's teacher will discuss all emergency procedures with their class and teach them the proper way to handle each situation. If you have any safety concerns, please contact the main office at (810) 591-1249.

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

As the chilly weather sets in, please make sure your child comes to school prepared for outdoor recess. Warm coats, hats, gloves, and boots help keep everyone comfortable and ready for fun outside.

We go outdoors whenever possible—even on cold days—so please be sure your child is dressed for the weather. Thank you for your help in keeping our students warm and cozy!

Absences or Change in Pick-Up

Please call in all absences to the school office by 8:30 am.

Absence line is available 24-7: (810) 591-1249. All absences require a phone call, note, or email.

Any changes to your child's normal pick-up routine needs to be made BEFORE 3pm with the office.

Medication

If your child has to take medication during the school year, please stop by the office to fill out the appropriate forms and bring in the medication in their original bottles. DO NOT send medication in with students as this is a safety concern and against district policy. [You can access all relevant Medical Forms here.](#)



Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

PTO board of officers:

President: Lindsey Barker

Vice-President: Megan Parsons

Secretary: Jessica Dunn

Treasurer: Sarah Granger

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Book Fair and Goodies with Grown-Ups! We hope everyone had a great time!. We look forward to seeing you at our next event.



First PTO Meeting

Join us on **Monday, October 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the MakerSpace** PTO meeting! Childcare will be available. Everyone who attends will be entered into a gift card drawing. We would love to see you there! **October Dine-Out Nights:** Texas Roadhouse on October 6 from 3–9 p.m. and Panda Express on October 10 from open to close. Family Night Out will be October 7th from 5–8 p.m. for just \$22 per family (up to 6 people). Fun Fridays will also begin next Friday, October 2! Finally, the PTO would like to thank everyone who joined us for Goodies for Grown-Ups and supported our Book Fair—both events were a great success thanks to our wonderful families!



Yearlong Pop Can Drive

Our pop can drive will continue all year! Families may send returnable cans to school with their child to place in the collection bin located outside the main entrance doors. Every can helps support Elms Road PTO!

Backpack Program

Starting October 18th, our school partners with local community organizations to provide non-perishable food items to families who may need additional support. Participation is completely confidential. Students will receive a bag of food placed discreetly in their backpack each week. This program is designed to support families; there is no penalty or judgment for participating. If your family is in need of a backpack, one can be provided at no cost.

Please help us by ensuring your child's backpack is kept clean and free of extra items so we can easily and discreetly place food inside each week.

Please complete the form below if you would like your child(ren) to be included.

[BackPack Program Sign Up](#)

Old Newsboys



Old Newsboys of Flint
* *Let No Child Be Forgotten* *

Christmas Package = for Children =

Old Newsboys of Flint Christmas Package
is available to eligible children
from newborn through high school. ♥

Our goal is to
help make
Christmas
a little brighter
for every child. ♥

Each child may receive:

-  **A new age-appropriate gift**
-  **A new outfit, sweatsuit, or pajamas**
-  **2 pairs of socks**
-  **2 pair of Underwear**
(or 1 onesie for newborns)
-  **Warm winter gloves**
-  **A warm winter hat**
-  **Dental hygiene items,**
including a toothbrush,
toothpaste and dental floss



 Old Newsboys of Flint has been helping
children in our community **since 1924.**
**Thank you for helping us
make a difference!** ♥ 

Old Newsboys of Flint, Inc.

6255 Taylor Drive

Flint, MI 48507

New Coat and Boot/Shoe Program

2026 School Year

Dear Parents and Administrators,

The Old Newsboys of Flint would like to make you aware of our assistance program for eligible students in Genesee County schools, grades K–8. Qualified students may receive:

- A brand-new coat, and
- Either a pair of Sperry shoes OR a Meijer gift certificate valued at \$40.00 to purchase new shoes or boots.

The decision to provide Sperry shoes or a Meijer gift certificate will be made at the discretion of the Old Newsboys of Flint staff.

Eligibility Requirements for a New Coat

- Students must be enrolled in grades K–8 and wear coat sizes 6 through Adult Large.
- Students who received services last year are not eligible. Eligibility will be verified when the parent or guardian calls our office.
- A parent or guardian must schedule an appointment for the child to be fitted for the coat, and the child must be present at the appointment.
- Failure to attend a scheduled appointment (“no show”) will result in loss of services.
- If the child requires a size larger than Adult Large, the parent or guardian must notify our office when scheduling the appointment. Due to cost, we are unable to restock larger sizes.
- Appointments will take place during school hours. An excuse note can be provided upon request.

Eligibility Requirements for Sperry Shoes or a Meijer Gift Certificate

- Students must be enrolled in grades K–8.
- Students who received services last year are not eligible. Eligibility will be verified when the parent or guardian calls our office.
- We were fortunate to receive a donation of Sperry shoes in a variety of styles and sizes.

Old Newsboys staff will determine whether the child receives a pair of shoes or the Meijer gift certificate.

- The Sperry shoes or Meijer gift certificate will be provided during the coat appointment.

If the child only needs shoes or the gift certificate, an appointment is still required. This program is available on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. We are currently accepting appointments. To schedule an appointment, please contact our office at 810-744-1840.

Sincerely,
Lisa D. Kirk
Director of Development
Old Newsboys of Flint, Inc.
810-744-1840
lkirk@oldnewsboys.org

Food Services

 **HELP US REACH 100% PARTICIPATION!**

2026-2027 EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS APPLICATION

 **WHY IT MATTERS**

Every completed application helps Swartz Creek Community Schools receive state and federal funding, including Title I and At-Risk funding, that helps provide programs, services, and educational opportunities that benefit our students.

- ✓ Takes less than 5 minutes
- ✓ One application per family
- ✓ Every submission matters



SCAN TO APPLY

 swartzcreek.familyportal.cloud

QUESTIONS?→ adelgado@swcrk.org



Swartz Creek Families:

Help Us Reach 100% Participation! One of the easiest ways you can support your child and every student in Swartz Creek Community Schools is by completing the 2026-2027 Educational Benefits Application through our Family Portal.

 It takes less than 5 minutes

 Only one application per family

100 Our goal is 100% family participation. Even if you don't think your family qualifies, please complete the application. Every submission matters. While this application is not used to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals, it is still incredibly important.

☒ Every completed application helps Swartz Creek Community Schools receive state and federal funding, including Title I and At-Risk funding, that helps provide programs, services, and educational opportunities that benefit our students. Complete your application today!

Tony Delgado, Food Services adelgado@swcrk.org 810-591-1858

Annual Directory Information Notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that our District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Swartz Creek Community Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised our District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Swartz Creek Community Schools to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications such as a school yearbook, honor roll lists, and special event programs (please access the [Directory Information Opt-Out](#) webpage for more examples).

SAFE STORAGE RESOURCES

Michigan law requires schools to provide families with information about the importance of safe firearm storage. This notification is part of a statewide effort to promote student safety and comply with MCL 28.435 (Public Act 17 of 2023).

Please review the resources provided by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS):

[Safe Storage Resources for Families](#)

These materials explain safe storage practices and provide guidance to help ensure firearms are secured properly, reducing the risk of accidental injury.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Ensuring the safety of our students and community is a shared responsibility.

Communication

We use our website, parent emails, phone calls, Facebook, and X(Twitter) to communicate with our families, as well as sending notes home with students in their communication folders. Please help us stay in contact with you by ensuring all contact information is up to date, including current addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. [Change of Address Form](#)

We want to stay in regular communication with our families, and in case of an emergency, we need to be able to reach you in a timely manner. We ask that you regularly check to make sure your voicemail box isn't full and can accept messages. We also would ask that you get in touch with your emergency contacts that you plan to provide us and let them know to do the same. Also, please be sure to check your email address regularly.

Staff Directory and General School Information

School Address: 3259 Elms Road, Swartz Creek, MI 48473

Websites:

District - <https://www.swartzcreek.org/>

School - <https://elms.swartzcreek.org/>

[Elms Road X \(Twitter\) Page](#)

[Elms Road Facebook Page](#)

[Elms Road Instagram Page](#)

Main Office (810) 591-1249
Fax # (810) 591-1274

Shauntel Manning, Principal
smanning@swcrk.org (810) 591-1250

Carlotta Brooks, Secretary

cbrooks@swcrk.org (810) 591-1287

School Dismisses at 3:25 pm

John Mieh, Transportation
jmieh@swcrk.org 810-591-2113

Half Day AM starts at 8:25 am
School Dismisses at 11:40 am

Anthony Delgado, Food Service
adelgado@swcrk.org 810-591-185

Half Day PM starts at 12:30 pm
School Dismisses at 3:25 pm

The School Day

Students may enter the building at 8:15 am

Classes begin at 8:25 am

Community Resources

[Community Counseling Resources](#)

[Genesee County Resources](#)

[Crisis Text Line](#)

[GHS Crisis Services](#)

tip of the week

Pack the bag together! - To save time in the morning pack the night before! Ask your child to pack their own back pack and you do the final check! Include homework and any forms that need to be returned in their red folders. Don't forget to pack that extra change of clothes!

CREEK EXPECTATIONS

C-Commit to Learning

R-Respect Others

E-Everyone is Responsible

E-Everyone is Safe

K-Kindness Counts



Stay Connected With Us!

Download the District mobile app ("*Swartz Creek Community Schools*") from **Apptegy**:



Leading, Learning, Growing