

News and Views

from the Vandercook Lake Public Schools

Golf Avenue

August, 2004 Volume 46-No.1

Jackson, Michigan

School Starts Wednesday - August 25

School will begin in Vandercook Wednesday, August 25. High school and middle school students, Grades 6 through 12, should report to their first hour classes at 7:45 a.m. Students will be dismissed at 11:00 on Wednesday, August 25, Thursday, August 26, and Friday August 27. Elementary pupils at Townsend School, Grades 1 through 5 and morning kindergartners, will begin their day at 8:00. Classes for beginners assigned to afternoon sections will begin at 11:55.

The registration of Grades 6-12 at the high school will begin Thursday, August 12. During registration, students will be assigned classes and lockers and will pay required deposit. Junior and senior high students can make lunch deposits to their accounts at this time. The price will be \$7.25 for one week. The price for breakfast is 75 cents a day. Breakfast is served approximately thirty minutes before the start of the school day. All lunch periods will be approximately 25 minutes in length for the school year. Sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth grade students are not allowed to leave the school building for lunch. Juniors and seniors may leave the building if they can walk home and return within the lunch period.

At the time of registration, high school students are to pay a \$5.00 deposit fee which will be returned at the end of the school year. All students in Grades 6, 7, 8, and 9, are required to take physical education unless a written excuse is presented, signed by a physician. Each student enrolled in a physical education class will be required to secure a lock for his/her gym locker through the high school. A lock deposit fee of \$3.00 will be refunded when the lock is returned in good condition at the end of the school year.

When students enroll this summer, you will be asked to sign the "Student Acceptable Use and Safety Policy". The policy was approved by the school board and signing it is required by all students. The "Acceptable Use Policy" (AUP) outlines the expected behavior of students as they use the district's technological resources (computers, printers, phones, cameras, televisions, etc.). We encourage you to read the policy (available on our web site and in our office at time of registration) at your earliest convenience.

Registration will take place on the following dates from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the high school: Thursday, August 12- 6th grade; Friday, August 13 -7th grade; Monday, August 16-8th grade; Tuesday, August 17-9th grade; Wednesday, August 18 -10th grade; Thursday, August 19-11th and 12th grades. Families with more than one high school student may enroll at the same time.

Morning basic and kindergarten students will attend on Wednesday, August 25 and Friday, August 27. Afternoon kindergarten will attend only in the morning on Thursday, August 26.

All students who are enrolling in Vandercook Schools for the first time are required by law to present a birth certificate to the school. Please bring this information at the time of registration along with enrollment records and immunization records. All students owing fees should have payment available at registration.

Basic Kindergarten at McDevitt School

Building Administrator: Ms. Sue Haney
 Secretary: Mrs. Dawn Bitner
 Teacher: Mrs. Rene' Smith
 Teacher Assistant: Mrs. Sherri Harvey

The McDevitt building continues to serve an important purpose to the community and our students under the supervision of building administrator, Ms. Sue Haney. The Childcare program, four-year old pre-school program, and high school alternative program and Basic Kindergarten will be at McDevitt School again this year. The Basic Kindergarten will be a morning class. The hours will be from 8:00 - 11:10 am.

The Basic Kindergarten children are invited to a "beary" fun treasure hunt open house at McDevitt School Tuesday, August 24 from 6:15 to 7:00 p.m.

McDevitt Child Care

Childcare registration will be August 16 and 17 in the McDevitt office from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Mrs. Bonnie Harvey and Mrs. Dawn Bitner will be supervising the registration for the childcare program. There is limited space; those registering during the designated registration period will receive priority. Bonnie Harvey will be available at the Open House at Townsend School on August 24 for those who could not register during the designated registration time period. Four-year old children in the Pre-school Program are eligible to register for childcare. **We are also accepting registrations for 3-year olds for the childcare program this year. Your child must be 3 on or before December 1, 2004. Any questions, call McDevitt School - 782-0342.**

Athletic Price Changes

At the July school board meeting the board adopted price changes for athletic contests. This will go into effect at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year.

All varsity contests will be \$4.00 for everyone with the exception of varsity baseball and softball which will be \$3.00. There will be no charge for J.V. baseball and softball.

All junior high contests will be \$3.00 for everyone.

These price adjustments will bring us in line with all of the Cascades Conference. The main reason for the price adjustments is that costs for equipment and officials keep rising.

In order to help offset the price increases, a coupon booklet will be offered. The cost of the booklet will be \$25.00 for adults which will have ten tickets in it. The savings will be \$15.00. The booklet for students will be \$20.00 with ten tickets in it. The savings will be \$20.00. Booklets will be on sale in the high school office during school hours.

Booklets will save you almost 50%. The tickets are good for all junior and high school home games.

Four-Year Old School Readiness & Pre-School Program

Teacher: Mrs. Karen Barrett
 Teacher Assistant: Mrs. Pam Petress

Vandercook Lake Schools will be offering a 4-year old program at McDevitt School. Children are eligible for the Pre-school Program the year before they enter kindergarten. Children enrolled in the Program must be at least 4, but not 5, by December 1 of the year in which they enroll. Registration packets for the 4-year old program can be picked up at McDevitt beginning on Monday, August 9. This school year we will be offering both a state-funded and a tuition-paid program. If you have any questions concerning the Four-Year Old Program, please call McDevitt School at 782-0342.

Paul Chilcote - Principal**Townsend Elementary****Diane McQuillan - Asst. Principal****Teaching Staff**

Teacher Name	Grade
Karen Barrett	4-Year Old (McDevitt)
Rene Smith	BK (McDevitt)
Sharon Elzinga	Kindergarten
Katie Marsh	Kindergarten
Colleen Stapley	Kindergarten
Sue Allen	First
Rachel Bailey	First
Amy Leighton	First
Elise Fish	First
Yvonne Rininger	First
Jill Arcaro	Second
Corrie Castle	Second
Kathy Higgins	Second
Terri Siegrist	Second
Kim Jones	Second
Sue Hause	Third
Mindy Kinner	Third
Mark Spaan	Third
Sheryl Waite	Third
Jill Cripe	Fourth
Mark Snyder	Fourth
Patricia Vass	Fourth
Chris VanEpps	Fourth
Doreen Warner	Fourth
Sheri Grant	Fifth
John Myers	Fifth
Jon Packer	Fifth
Dan Wandell	Fifth
Donna Yocum	Fifth
Suzanne Richardson	Art
William Spencer	Gym
Jennifer French	Media Specialist
Holly Okkema	Music
Brenda Johnson	EMI Categorical
Kate Glead	LD Teacher
Jeannette Sobota	Special Ed Teacher
Marianne Berkemeier	Reading Recovery
Lisa Osypczuk	Reading Recovery
Michelle Boorman	Social Worker
Reaney Sheehan	Speech Therapist
Jim Roberts	Teacher Consultant
Marta Skiba	Psychologist
Denise Bjorklund	OT/PT
Donna Gonzelez	Occupational Therapist

Support Staff

Name	Position
Dawn Bitner	Secretary (McDevitt)
Penny Blossom	Breakfast/Lunchroom
Ellen Bos	Lunchroom
Joy Cichy	Computer Lab Aide
Terry Coulombe	Custodian-McDevitt
Amanda Curtis	Inclusion Assist.
Mindy Dingmon	Childcare/Inclusion Aide
Debbie Fall	Teacher Assist. - Third Grade
Melissa Fitzworth	Breakfast/Lunchroom
Beth Fritz	Teacher Asst. - Fourth Grade
Marianne Fushi	Kdg. Assist.
Julie Hale	Teacher Assist. - Third Grade
Sherri Harvey	BK Asst. (McDevitt)
Amy Hildebrand	Playground
Judy Hinton	Teacher Assist. - First Grade
Rick Hodge	Custodian
Karen Horton	Inclusion Assist.
Kim Jackson	Teacher Assist. - First Grade
Geolyn Jacobson	Playground
Sue Jennings	Playground
Deb Jensen	Teacher Assist. - Second Grade
Carla Kelly	Lunchroom
Tanya Keyes	Teacher Assist. - First Grade
Dawn Kimball	Teacher Assist.
Dottie Lawson	Inclusion Assist.
Terry Middlebrook	Breakfast/Lunchroom
Jennifer Miranda	Crossing Guard/Playground
Wendy Morgan	Teacher Assist. - Second Grade
Renee Myers	Kdg. Assist.
Mary Neeley	Crossing Guard/Playground
Pam O'Connell	Library Aide
Walt Ostrander	Custodian
Carol Perdeu	Teacher Assist. - Second Grade
Pam Petress	Teacher Assist. (McDevitt)
Debbie Piper	Lunchroom
Jamie Radford	Secretary
Joette Saari	Secretary
Lori Sedgman	Teacher Assist. - Fifth Grade
Terri Slater	Nurse
Tracey Strong	Teacher Assist. - Second Grade
Mary Taliaferro	Kdg. Assist.
Sharon Taliaferro	Breakfast/Lunchroom
Thurston, Carl	Custodian
Wendy Tripp	Teacher Assist. - First Grade
Cathy Trowbridge	Teacher Assist. - Second Grade
Jack Trumble	Crossing Guard (McDevitt)
Sherry Vincent	Time Out Room
Katie Wilcox	Teacher Assist. - First Grade
Kathy Wilson	Teacher Assist. - Third Grade
Keith Yarbrough	Custodian
Diane Yother	Kgn Bus Aide

Vandercook Lake Schools Welcome New Board Members



The Vandercook Lake Public Schools Board of Education welcomes two new members to the board. The new members took the oath of office at the organizational meeting of the Board, which was held July 12, 2004. The new members are Eugene Fushi and Scot Harvey.



Eugene Fushi is a graduate of Vandercook Lake Schools and is employed by the State of Michigan working with fire and safety for the Department of Corrections. He is married to Maryanne, also a graduate of Vandercook, and they have two daughters in the school system. Eugene served several years in the Air Force and the Reserves.

Scot Harvey is also a graduate of Vandercook Lake Schools and is employed as a fire-fighter for Summit Township. He is married to Sherri, also a graduate of Vandercook Lake Schools, and they have two boys in the school system. Scot served several years in the Marines.



The two members leaving the board are Diane Schweda and Harold Henry, Jr. They are leaving the Board after serving the district for many years. Diane had served four terms on the Board and Harold had served five terms. We certainly appreciate their many years of dedicated service to the district and thank them for their service.

Townsend Elementary

School will begin in Vandercook Wednesday, August 25. Elementary students at Townsend School Grades 1 through 5 and morning kindergartners will begin their day at 8:00 a.m. Dismissal will be at 11:30 August 25, 26, and 27.

Schedule for kindergartners:

AM attends Wednesday, August 25

PM attends in the morning on Thursday, August 26

AM attends Friday, August 27

The afternoon kindergarten pupils do not attend on Wednesday, August 25 and Friday, August 27. They will only attend Thursday morning, August 26 from 8:00 to 11:30.

Normal starting for morning kindergarten is 8:00 with dismissal at 11:10. The afternoon kindergarten students start at 11:55 am and dismiss at 3:05 p.m.

The Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24. It will begin at 5:30 PM and end at 7:00 PM. Parents and students may visit their classrooms and meet their teacher.

New Students

Parents of Kindergartners not enrolled at the round-up last spring and all elementary students new to the district should call Townsend Elementary School and arrange to have their children register sometime during the week of August 9. Immunization cards and birth certificates must be presented when beginners enroll.

Reminder- Procedures for Entering the Building at Townsend Elementary

All students who arrive and return home by car are to enter and leave the school through the front door. The exception is that all 3rd and 4th grade students will enter through the front door but will exit out the west end door.

Please use the circular drive for drop-off and pick-up only. Parents who wish to enter the school, please park in one of the parking lots in front of the school, along Floyd Avenue.

In order to avoid congestion, please turn **right only** when leaving the circular drive and **right only** when leaving the east parking lot.

There will be adults inside the front entrance who will help students find their classrooms the first week of school.

Students who are eating breakfast may arrive after 7:30 a.m. and go directly to the lunchroom. All other children should not arrive at school until 7:55 a.m. unless special arrangements have been made.

Support Staff - High School

Mrs. Patricia Blossom, *Secretary*
 Mrs. Theresa Smak, *Secretary*
 Mrs. Jacqueline Hunter, *Secretary*
 Ms Denise Wolcott, *Alternative Ed Teacher Aide*
 Mrs. Deena Griffin, *Special Education Aide*
 Mrs. June London, *Special Education Aide*
 Mrs. Deborah Steffes, *Special Education Aide*
 Mrs. Carolyn Rink, *Instrumental Music Teacher Aide*
 Ms. Dayna Schweda, *Teacher Aide*
 Ms. Glenda Wells, *Teacher Aide*

Maintenance - High School

Mr. Loal Hemminger, *Maintenance Supervisor*
 Mr. Gerald Beebe, *Assistant Maintenance Supervisor*
 Mr. Norman Masters, *Custodian*
 Mrs. Shelly Holderman, *Custodian*
 Mrs. Vicki Nadell, *Custodian*
 Mrs. Debbie Warner, *Custodian*
 Ms. Kay Seffernick, *Custodian*
 Mr. Ken Hamisfar, *Utility*

Hot Lunch Staff - High School

Mr. Dave Center, *Food Services Director*
 Ms. Cathy Conaway
 Mrs. Shirley Haddox
 Mrs. Patricia Kilburn
 Mrs. Phyllis McDaniels
 Mrs. Charlene Strickrodt

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Ronald R. Bennett, *Superintendent*
 Mr. Anthony S. Hollow, *Asst. Superintendent*
 Mr. Burdette W. Andrews, *Superintendent Emeritus*
 Mr. Phillip Garrison, *Technology Director*
 Ms. Sue Haney, *Curriculum Director*
 Mrs. Diane O. Riedel, *Office Manager*
 Mrs. Eve A. Todd, *Payroll Secretary*
 Mrs. Mary Sharp, *Secretary*

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Randall Treacher	President
Mr. Philip Lewan	Vice President
Mr. Kenneth Stevens	Treasurer
Mrs. Delinda Woods	Secretary
Mr. Scot Harvey	Trustee
Mr. Joseph Sheets	Trustee
Mr. Gene Fushi	Trustee

MIDDLE/HIGHSCHOOL STAFF

Mr. Anthony Hollow - *Principal*;
 Mr. Les Essex - *Assistant Principal; Asst. A. D.*
 Mr. Mark Schonhard - *Principal Designee*;
 Ms. Maria Andrijonas - *Science*;
 Mr. Mark Bareis - *Social Studies; Psych.*
 Mr. William Beadenkopf, *Alternative Ed, HS*;
 Mrs. Karen Beaman - *7th Grade English*
 Mrs. Evelyn Budd - *Learning Disabled*;
 Mrs. Karen Benson - *Learning Disabled*;
 Ms. Marcia Bigger - *Librarian*;
 Mr. James Biondolillo - *Counseling*;
 Mr. Chris Blackledge - *Math; Science*;
 Ms. Barbara Blair - *Physical Ed.*;
 Mr. Aaron Bush - *6th Grade*;
 Mr. John Faber - *Art*;
 Mr. Chadwick Frey - *7th Social Studies*
 Mr. Thomas Gass - *English*;
 Mr. Trevor Goedert - *English, Social Studies*;
 Mrs. Joan Hofer - *Spanish; Social Studies*;
 Mr. Dan Hyliard - *Gen. Science*
 Mrs. Wendy Klintworth - *Science*
 Ms. Marion Koetsier - *Counselor*;
 Mrs. Dawn Knight - *Social Studies; Math*;
 Mr. Matthew Laura - *Vocal Music*;
 Mrs. Christine Leindecker - *Special Education*;
 Mr. Bradley Manders - *Physical Education*;
 Mrs. Heather Mergener - *Spanish*
 Mrs. Rita McVey - *Special Education*;
 Mr. Matthew Markwart - *Business Education*;
 Mr. Bradley Moore - *Mathematics*;
 Mrs. Maria Murphy - *Special Education*;
 Mr. Charles Miller - *Athletic Director*;
 Ms. Elizabeth Mortimer - *Art*;
 Mr. Pete Powers - *English*;
 Mr. Timothy Pryor - *Science; Health*;
 Mr. Lyman Robertson - *Technology Lab*;
 Mr. Daniel Roggenbaum - *Mathematics, Chemistry*;
 Mrs. Renee Rudloff - *6th Grade*;
 Ms. Peggy Sayre - *Mathematics*;
 Mr. Chris Sexton - *6th Grade*
 Mrs. Patti Shafer, *Business, - Career Prep Coordinator*;
 Mrs. Terri Slater - *School Nurse*
 Ms. Tammie Sumerel - *Business*;
 Mrs. Debra Talerico - *Alternative Education*
 Mr. Steven Tucker - *English, Journalism; Soc. Studies*
 Mr. Paul Varner - *Physical Education*;
 Mr. Wayne Vibbert - *Social Studies*;
 Mrs. Lisa Weber - *6th Grade*;
 Mr. Gerald Williams - *Instrumental Music*;
 Ms. Erin Wright - *Social Studies*

Bus Students

Wednesday morning, August 25, buses will leave the school at 7:00 a.m. and cover approximately the same routes as last year. Elementary bus runs will be made at 7:20 a.m. and will cover the same routes as last year.

All Kindergarten through fifth grade classes will be at Townsend Elementary.

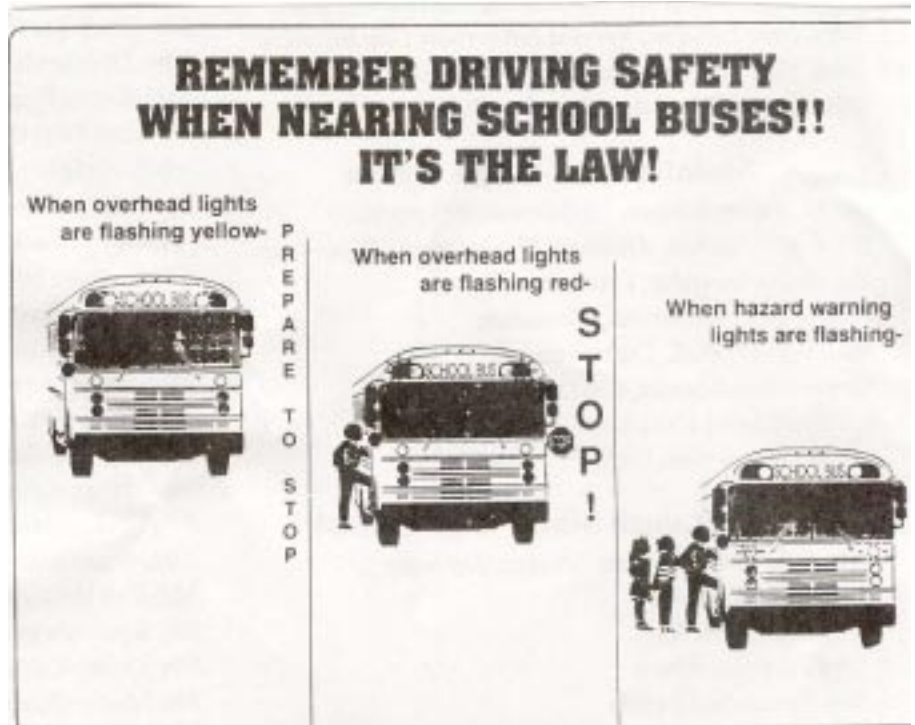
All students in Grades K-5 who live close to Townsend School will walk. The parameters will be from McDevitt to Marion, and Draper to Hague. There will be some adjustments made to the bus routes after the school year begins. Parents of kindergarten students in areas to be covered by school bus runs will be contacted before school starts.

Normal dismissal times will be 2:40 p.m. for junior high and high school students and 3:05 for elementary students.

Transportation Supervisor: Gerald Beebe

Bus Drivers: Martha Futrell, Gloria Rose, Alan Kilchenman, Diane Yother, Roger Kaywood, Debra Hubbell, Kathy Rochefort,

Bus Drivers are needed. Anyone interested in driving a bus should contact the central office at 782-9044. All training will be provided at the expense of the Vandercook district.



Bus Safety

The mission of the transportation department is to safely and efficiently transport students to and from school. Student behavior that interferes with this mission cannot be tolerated. Misbehavior may result in students being denied the privilege of being transported.

Bus rules will be given to each student riding the bus. If rules are broken and students do not behave appropriately on the bus, the driver will talk to the student and, if warranted, that student's parent or guardian. The next step could be a written warning or removal from the bus and copies sent home by the appropriate principal.

A student who normally does not ride a bus must have written permission from the parents and approved by the principal to ride a bus.

Parents please discuss the importance of bus safety with your students.

HOT LUNCH MENU

MONDAY 8-23- 2004 No School	TUESDAY 8-24-2004 No School	WEDNESDAY 8-25-2004 1/2 Day Breakfast only No lunch	THURSDAY 8-26-2004 1/2 Day Breakfast only No lunch	FRIDAY 8-27-2004 1/2 Day Breakfast only No lunch
MONDAY 8-30-2004 Pizza or Nachos w/Meat & Cheese Green Beans Pineapple Tidbits Milk	TUESDAY 8-31-2004 Pizza or Turkey & Gravy Mashed Potato Roll Pears Milk	WEDNESDAY 9-01-2004 Pizza or Ham & Cheese on Bun Doritos Dill Spears Mixed Fruit Jello Milk	THURSDAY 9-02-2004 Pizza or Spaghetti w/meat sauce Tossed Salad Roll Applesauce Milk	FRIDAY 9-03-2004 No School

Daily Choices: Hamburg on bun, vegetable, fresh fruit, crackers, 2% or whole milk (choc or white)

Based on family income, applications will be made available at all school offices for free or reduced price lunches. School officials will NOT use the information on this application for ANY purpose other than deciding if your child should get free or reduced price meals, Title I benefits, and/or other benefits as authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Lunches may be paid by a computerized point-of-sale debit card system. This system provides a more accurate and secure means of handling student breakfast and lunch funds. How does this system work? First, your student is issued a student identification number. Second, checks, money envelopes, or cash are deposited in your student's breakfast and lunch accounts. (Checks are preferred.) Last, a positive balance of \$5.00 would be appreciated at all times.

Please be sure to include your student's name on all checks. For money envelopes, please put your student's first and last name, the amount of money enclosed, and the teacher's name on the outside of the envelope.

Prices for lunches are as follows:

Junior and Senior High Students	Townsend Elementary	Breakfast for all students (K-12)
\$1.45 per day	\$1.35 per day	\$.75 per day
\$7.25 per week	\$6.75 per week	\$ 3.00 per week
\$29.00 per month (four weeks)	\$27.00 per month (four weeks)	\$12.00 per month (four weeks)

If extra milk is desired, it may be purchased for 20 cents. Parents can also request a printout of their students' selection and account balance. If any money is left in your students' account at the end of the school year, it will be carried over to the following school year unless parents request a refund.

If you have any questions regarding the system, please feel free to call David Center, Food Services Director at the high school cafeteria at 782-9044 - Extension 218.

New Policy on Inclement Weather

Following is the revised policy on inclement weather adopted by the board at the board meeting held June 9, 2003. The major change is students will be kept in school in the event of a tornado watch/tornado warning.

The Board of Education recognizes that its responsibility for the safety of students extends to possible natural and man-made disasters and that such emergencies are best met by preparedness and planning.

The Board authorizes a system of emergency preparedness which shall ensure that:

- A. the health and safety of students and staff are safeguarded;
- B. the time necessary for instructional purposes is not unduly diverted;
- C. minimum disruption to the educational program occurs;
- D. students are helped to learn self-reliance and trained to respond sensibly to emergency situations.

All threats to the safety of District facilities shall be identified by appropriate personnel and responded to promptly in accordance with the plan for emergency preparedness.

During a tornado watch, all students will remain in school. All curricular activities and sporting events will be cancelled until the tornado watch is cancelled.

During a tornado warning, all students will remain in school until the tornado warning is lifted. All curricular activities and sporting events will be cancelled until the tornado warning is cancelled.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the handling of all emergency evacuations.

Policy on Armed Forces Recruiting ("Opting Out")

The Board shall in accordance with State and Federal law, provide at least the same access to the high school campus and to student directory information (names, addresses, and telephone listings of secondary students) of the students enrolled in the high school as is provided to other entities offering educational or employment opportunities to official recruiting representatives of all the following for the purpose of informing students of educational and career opportunities available in the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the armed forces of the United States. "Armed forces of the United States" means the armed forces of the United States and their reserve components and the United States coast guard.

If a student or the parent or legal guardian of a student submits a signed, written request to the Board that indicates that the student or the parent or legal guardian does not want the student's directory information to be accessible to official recruiting representatives, then the officials of the school shall not allow that access to the student's directory information. The Board shall ensure that students and parents and guardians are notified of the provisions of the opportunity to deny release of directory information.

Public notice shall be given regarding right to refuse disclosure of any or all "directory information" including in the armed forces of the United States and the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

A fee, not to exceed the actual costs incurred by the high school, for copying and mailing student directory information under this section, may be charged an official recruiting representative.

Directory information received under armed services authorization request shall be used only to provide to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the armed forces of the United States. An official recruiting representative who receives student directory information under this section shall not release that information to a person who is not involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of the United States or the service academies of the armed forces of the United States.

Annually the Board will notify male students age eighteen (18) or older that they are required to register for the selective service.

The Board may disclose "directory information" on former students without student or parental consent.

The Board shall not permit the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information for that purpose.

Asbestos Management Plan Notice

The school district has conducted an extensive asbestos inspection of all buildings. This survey and a follow-up management plan were completed by state certified inspector-consultants. Insulation on pipes, furnaces, hot water tanks, etc. are encapsulated according to EPA recommendations. The survey and plan indicate no friable materials in school buildings.

To ensure the health and safety of building occupants, surveillance by local certificated personnel is conducted every six months. Reinspections by state qualified inspectors also are required and made every third year.

The plan is available for inspection at the central office in the high school, and if requested, it will be supplied to school patrons within five working days at a cost of \$.30 per page.

Smoke-Free School District

The Board of Education of the Vandercook Lake Public Schools adopted a resolution that there will be no smoking on school grounds at any time. The policy took effect in the 1999-2000 school year. This smoke-free policy affects athletic contests. If someone needs to smoke between games or at half-time, they must leave the school grounds. This resolution is not intended to inconvenience too many people; however, it will benefit the entire community to be smoke free. Use of tobacco products includes:

1. The carrying of a lighted cigar, pipe or other lighted smoking device.
 2. The inhaling or chewing of a tobacco product.
 3. The placing of a tobacco product within a person's mouth.
- (Tobacco-Free School Law-Enrolled Senate Bill 459, 1993).

Weapon Free School Zone Policy

The Board of Education of the Vandercook Lake Public School District, as both an employer and a public school district, is concerned with and interested in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of students, employees, and visitors. The Board recognizes that school buildings, facilities, vehicles, grounds and other school property are best utilized in the educational process in the absence of threats to physical well-being and safety, by individuals possessing weapons.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of the Vandercook Lake School District shall permanently expel a pupil from attending school in the school district if the pupil possesses a weapon or commits arson or rape in a weapon free school zone.

This law continues to be discussed at the state legislature. Vandercook Schools will maintain a policy in full compliance with this law.

It is the policy of the Vandercook Lake School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status or handicap in its educational program, activities, or employment as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972. Direct inquiries to Superintendent of Schools, 1000 Golf Ave., Jackson, Michigan, Phone 782-9044.

Drug Free Schools Notice

The Vandercook Lake School District attempts to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all of its students and patrons. To this end and because the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful, the district complies with the Federal Drug Free School Act.

In accordance with this federal law and Board of Education policy, the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs or alcohol by students on school grounds, in school or school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event is prohibited. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process, up to and including expulsion from school and prosecution. Compliance to these standards by students is mandatory.

The district is concerned about any student who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and will facilitate the process by which he/she receives help through programs and services available in the community.

Non-students who violate the provisions of the Drug Free School Zone subject themselves to severe penalties under the law.

OSHA Regulations

The Vandercook Lake School District is subject to federal regulation from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to restrict the spread of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immune deficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace. These regulations are designed to protect employees of the district who are, or could be, exposed to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties.

Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the district is committed to taking the necessary precautions to protect both students and staff from its spread in the school environment.

Part of the federally mandated procedures include a requirement that the district request the person who is bleeding to consent to be tested for HBV or HIV. This information would then be provided both to the exposed employee and the treating physician to determine proper medical treatment.

The law does not require parents or guardians to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the district to request the consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we wanted to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way, if the situation does develop, you will understand the reason for our request and will have an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation, we can prevent them from spreading.

Bus Vandalism Sanctions Strengthened

H.B. 4155 (bus vandalism) was signed by Governor John Engler in April to take effect August 1, 1995. P.A. 13 (H.B. 4155) establishes a five-year prison term and a fine of up to \$5,000 for creating a health or safety hazard by damaging a bus. Previously such conduct was punishable as a malicious destruction, carrying a prison term of up to four years and a fine of up to \$2,000.

Pesticide Control Act Required Notice of Pesticide Application

At the beginning of each school year, administrators shall notify parents and guardians of children attending that school of the right to be informed prior to any application of a pesticide at that school.

The notice described in the previous paragraph shall contain information, obtained from the person applying the pesticides, which includes a statement that a pesticide will be applied, the approximate location of the application, and the date of application.

Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Vandercook Lake School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, or handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity and in employment as required by Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972; or American Disabilities Act of 1990.

Student Harassment Policy

Harassment of a student(s) by other students or any member of the staff is contrary to the Board of Education's commitment to provide a physically and psychologically safe environment in which to learn and may be in violation of federal or state law. Anyone found to have violated this policy and/or the Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion from the district.

Senior Citizen Passes

Passes are available to all Vandercook Lake School District senior citizens compliments of the Board of Education. This pass will allow our senior citizens the opportunity to attend Vandercook Lake School sponsored events held in any of our district facilities free of charge. Exceptions to the free admission include but are not limited to MHSAA tournaments, non-school -sponsored programs and events, fund-raising activities, and school plays/dramas requiring admission due to royalties. Passes are available from the Superintendent's office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Senior citizens are at least 60 years of age and retired.

Board of Education
meetings will be held
the second Monday
of each month at 6:00
p.m. in the high
school library.

2004 CALENDAR

August	12	6th Grade Registration
	13	7th Grade Registration
	16	8th Grade Registration
	17	9th Grade Registration
	18	10th Grade Registration
	19	11th Grade Registration
	19	12th Grade Registration
	24	Open House - See Article on Right
	25	Students first day - 1/2 Day
	26	1/2 Day
	27	1/2 Day
31	High School Tailgate Party - 6:30 pm	
September	3	No School
	6	Labor Day Holiday - No School
	13	Regular School Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
	14	Middle School Tailgate Party 6:30 p.m.
	24	School Pictures
25	Marching Band Invitational	
October	1	Homecoming
	5	Awards Night
	11	Regular School Board Meeting 6:00 pm
	18	Teacher In-service - No School
	27	H.S. Band/Choir Concert - Church
28	Middle School Band/Choir	
November	2	Picture Retakes - 8:00-9:00 am - H.S.
	3	Parent Teacher Conferences - 6-8 pm H.S.
	3	Parent Teacher Conferences - Elementary (evening)
	4	Parent Teacher Conferences - Elementary (afternoon)
	4	Parent Teacher Conferences - MS/HS 1-4; 6-8 pm 1/2 day for students - Dismissal 11:00 am
	5	1/2 day for students - Dismissal 11:00 am
	8	Regular School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
	19	Downtown Christmas Parade (Band) - 6:00 pm
20	Apple Pie Sale	
25-26	Thanksgiving Break	
December	3,4,5	5th and 6th grade girls basketball tournament
	10-11	Madrigal Dinner - Music Dept. - McDevitt 6-9 pm
	13	Regular School Board Meeting 6:00 pm
	16	High School/Middle School Band/Choir Concert - JCC
	17,18,19	7th/8th grade girls basketball
	20 thru January 2, 2005	Winter Break

Open House
Tuesday, August 24, 2004

Open House will be held earlier again this year to allow parents to tour the building, find their child's classroom, meet the teachers, and to hear what the school year will be like. The curriculum, classroom expectations, and ways parents may become involved will be explained. Parents go directly to the classrooms to meet with the child's teacher. Everyone is invited to tour the building. We hope this will help make the start of school a little smoother for all.

Times:
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Townsend Elementary
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Middle/High School

Tailgate Party

The annual tailgate party will be held on Tuesday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m for the high school and Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 for the middle school. Food will be furnished. Bring your own card tables and chairs. The tailgate party is sponsored by the Athletic and Band Boosters organizations. All fall athletic teams and band members will be introduced.

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