

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



SUPERINTENDENT FAMILY BULLETIN JULY 10, 2023

GREETING

Hey, Bobcat Families! Even with the hallways void of students and staff, there are many great things happening at Whiteford Agricultural Schools in preparation for the new school year. We look forward to sharing important information in August about the new school year, but for now, please take a moment to familiarize yourself with some of the items outlined in today's Superintendent Family Bulletin. I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful Michigan summer weather and taking advantage of opportunities to spend time with family and friends.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

For the month of July, the elementary and middle/high school offices are closed, and they will reopen August 7. If you need some assistance, please contact Deb Motyka-lott at 734-856-1443 Ext. 401 or motyka_iott@whiteford.k12.mi.us. The administrative team is also available to answer questions, so please feel free to email them at:

- Elementary Principal - Marcy Anderson - anderson@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Secondary Principal - Jeremy Fielder - jeremy.fielder@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Secondary Assistant Principal/Athletic Director - Jeremy Simmons - simmons@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Director of Transportation, Buildings, & Grounds - Charlie Butz - cbutz@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Director of Finance and Business Services - Marisa Tebbe-Cousino - marisa.tebbe-cousino@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Director of Human Resources - Cathy Machcinski - cathy.machcinski@whiteford.k12.mi.us
- Superintendent - Scott Huard - scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us

BACK-TO-SCHOOL COMMUNITY KICK-OFF

In coordination with the athletic department and Whiteford Parent Association (WPA), we have planned a Back-To-School Kick-Off on August 15. There will be a fall sports parent meeting from 5-6:15pm in the new gymnasium followed by breakout sessions for each sport. Beginning at 6:30pm, the WPA is sponsoring a connection with families where parents can pick up their back-to-school letter from teachers and see some improvements to the elementary school. Also at 6:30pm, we will be inviting the entire community to join a Bond Grand Opening Celebration highlighting the completed Series I and Series II construction work. We will have bounce houses, food trucks, outdoor games, and a scavenger hunt for kids/families that will allow guests to see our new bond spaces. It should be a great opportunity for our families and community members to gather for a fun evening. A flier will be posted soon to the district website and Facebook page with more information, so mark your calendars and plan on attending this fun community event! We will still have our annual Open House on 8/30 from 5-6:30pm where families and students will visit their classrooms and meet teachers.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Just a reminder to elementary parents and students that a flier was sent home at the end of the school year outlining a Summer Reading Challenge for our elementary students KG-5th grade. The goal is for students to read for just 15-20 minutes per day, five days per week. Each day the student reads, they color in a shape on the corresponding calendar. Students returning the recording sheets this fall at Open House (8/30 from 5-6:30pm) will receive a "Reading Rockstar" t-shirt. The flier and printable summer reading challenge calendars can be accessed [here](#).

NON-HOMESTEAD MILLAGE

Michigan schools are funded under a structure created when Michigan electors approved Proposal A statewide in 1994. Under the plan, Michigan schools are funded with a total of 24 mills on non-homesteads. This is made up of a state-wide millage rate of 6 mills on all property and 18 mills on non-homestead property when approved by local voters. At Whiteford, our last levy of operating millage will be in 2023, so we will be asking voters to consider a renewal and increase to collect the 18 mills on non-homestead property.

On Tuesday, August 8, 2023, Whiteford Agricultural Schools is asking voters to consider two proposals for a non-homestead renewal and increase of millage. **These proposals do NOT impact the taxes on residential properties or most agricultural properties**; only second homes, commercial, industrial, and some agricultural properties are assessed. One proposal will be a renewal of 17.4572, and the second proposal will be an increase of 1.0 mill. If passed by voters, this would get us to 18.4572 mills. Information will be sent home to families the week of July 17 outlining details of the proposals.

BUILDING SCHEDULE START/END CHANGES FOR 2023-2024

During the Bond Project's initial planning stages, a new bus loop was created in hopes of reducing or eliminating traffic congestion at arrival and dismissal. This bus loop will begin at the elementary entrance and extend around the back of the new gymnasium traveling on the east side of the middle school wing to Consear Road. With this new traffic pattern, there is a plan to have the buildings switch/change start and end times. Please make note of the new bell schedules for both buildings. For those students riding a bus, information will be shared with families in August outlining pick-up and drop-off times.

2023-2024 School Year					
	Doors Open	Breakfast	1st Bell	Tardy Bell	Dismissal
Elementary	7:20	7:20-7:45	7:30	7:40	2:55
Middle/High	7:35	7:35-8:00	7:50	8:00	3:00

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL CHANGES FOR 2023-2024

Over the next two weeks, district parking lots will begin the process of being paved, resealed, painted, and receiving additional signage to outline new traffic patterns to improve traffic flow. More information and maps will be shared as we draw closer to the new school year, but listed below are some general expectations with arrival and dismissal processes for bus and car riders/drivers. Note: There will be no bus traffic in the front of the middle/high school per the previous routine.

- **Morning Arrival-Bus Riders**-Elementary students will be dropped off first and enter "Door C". The buses will proceed around the new gymnasium and bus garage before parking on the east side of the bus garage/middle school wing. Middle/high school students will then be released to enter "Door F" into the middle school wing or near the new weight room "Door G." Students eating breakfast will proceed to the building's cafeteria.
- **Morning Arrival-Car Riders**-Elementary students will be dropped off per the regular routine and enter "Door C." Secondary students will be dropped off in the front at either the high school entrance, "Door A," or middle school entrance, "Door D." Cars leaving the parking lot after drop off will proceed to the middle exit. Students eating breakfast will proceed to the building's cafeteria, and those not eating will remain in the door foyer areas that are monitored by staff.
- **Afternoon Dismissal-Bus Riders**-Elementary students will be picked up first in the designated bus loop, and the buses will proceed to the back of the middle school wing where they will park and pick up middle/high school students outside the designated bus loop near the middle school wing.
- **Afternoon Dismissal-Car Riders**-Elementary students will be picked up per the regular routine. Secondary students can be picked up in the front of the high school. "Door A," middle school, "Door D," or from the main parking lot, "Door J."

MAY STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Todd Schreiber on being selected as the May Staff Member of the Month. Mr. Schreiber was nominated by Jay Yockey and Jeff Thomas for his ability to successfully grow a music program for all students from KG-12th grade. The achievements of his students this past year with top ratings at the MSVMA District and State Choral Festival was no small feat! Mr. Schreiber is dedicated to teaching and serving the students and families at Whiteford Agricultural Schools. Mr. Schreiber was awarded with a \$100 gift card compliments of Leski Wittman Insurance Agency at the Board of Education Meeting on June 12.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Each monthly winner's name for the 22-23 school year was put into a hat, and Chris Andrews was selected as the Staff Member of the Year. Chris was recognized as the September Staff Member of the Month. Chris was nominated by Deb Motyka-lott and Matt VanBrandt. Chris was awarded with a \$500 gift card compliments of Leski Wittman Insurance Agency at the Board of Education Meeting on June 12.

JULY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is July 10, 2023. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the Bobcat Den located in the MS/HS. The Board of Education agenda is typically posted the Friday preceding a meeting and can be found here: [BOE Agenda & Minutes](#).

STRATEGIC PLAN PILLARS OF SUCCESS

[Whiteford Strategic Plan 2022-2027](#)

→ **ENGAGED** in purposeful learning.

→ **EMPOWERED** for a meaningful role in our dynamic world.

→ **ENCOURAGED** by our community.

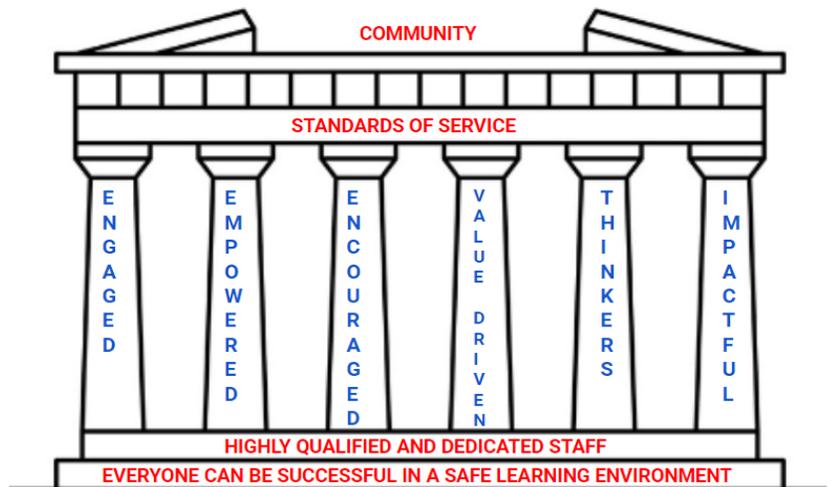
→ **VALUE DRIVEN** leaders.

→ Critical **THINKERS**.

→ **IMPACTFUL** in their community.

→ **STANDARDS OF SERVICE** We will treat all stakeholders (students, staff, parents/guardians, community members) with respect, kindness, and professionalism at all times.

→ **COMMUNITY** promotes, cultivates, and celebrates student and district success.



BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS

<https://whiteford.nutrislice.com/menu>

SCHOOL CALENDARS

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

ATHLETICS WEBSITE/CALENDAR

<https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/athletics/>

THIS WEEK

July 10 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Bobcat Den
July 14 Whiteford Athletic Boosters Golf Outing 9am Legacy Golf Club

NEXT WEEK

UPCOMING

August 8 Non-Homestead Millage Vote
August 14 Board of Education Meeting 6pm Bobcat Den
August 30 K-12 Open House 5-6:30pm
September 4 Labor Day
September 5 1st Day of School (12pm Start)

We are better together - We are Whiteford!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott L. Huard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott L. Huard, ED.S.

Superintendent

scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us

734-856-1443 Ext. 101