

SOUTHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“SOARING TO SUCCESS”



Jeff Overkleeft, Principal
455-7230

November 15, 2024
www.kentwoodps.org/southwood/

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Our Student Council will begin collecting non-perishable items for our annual food drive. Your donations will be given to a family in our Southwood community that could use a little extra help over the two week holiday break. The student council representatives assigned each grade level different food categories to help balance the food boxes, but any donation will be welcome. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher.

ASD	Pasta/Sauce or Mac and Cheese
Young Fives	Canned Fruits
Kindergarten	Soup/Canned meat
1st Grade	Canned Vegetables
2nd Grade	Boxed Potatoes or Rice or Beans
3rd Grade	Peanut Butter and Jelly
4th Grade	Cereal
5th Grade	Canned Vegetables

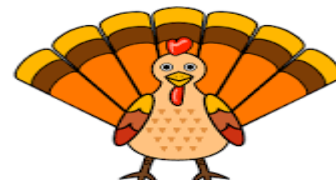
Thank you again.

Jeff Overkleeft, Principal



It is starting to get cold. Please dress your student appropriately for outdoor activities.

LOOKING AHEAD



November

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Thursday, Nov. 28

Friday, Nov. 29

PTC Meeting @ 4:15 PM

Thanksgiving Break-No School

Thanksgiving Break-No School

Thanksgiving Break-No School

December

Wednesday, Dec. 18

Thursday, Dec. 19

Friday, Dec. 20

Monday, Dec 23

PTC Meeting

Holiday Parties @ 2:50 PM

½ Day 12:15 PM Dismissal

Holiday Break Begins

January

Monday, Jan. 6

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Monday, Jan. 20

Classes Resume

PTC Meeting @ 4:15 PM

No School, MLK Day



PTC Meeting Reminder
Next Meeting
Wednesday, November 20
@ 4:15PM

STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE



Southwood Student Council will be collecting non-perishable food items to help families in our community before the winter break. Please see the list below for any items you can donate before **Friday December 6**. These assignments are just suggestions; any non-perishable food will gladly be accepted.

ASD	Pasta/Sauce/ Mac&Cheese
Young Fives	Canned Fruits
Kindergarten	Soup/Canned meat
1st Grade	Canned Vegetables
2nd Grade	Boxed Potatoes or Rice or Beans
3rd Grade	Peanut Butter and Jelly
4th Grade	Cereal
5th Grade	Canned Vegetables

Student Council will be collecting food until Monday November 18 through Friday December 6.

Thank you from Southwood PTC!

Thank you to all who participated in the Frandale Sub and Pie Sale. We appreciate all of our families!



East Kentwood Dance Team HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

Date: Saturday December 7th
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Address: 6230 Kalamazoo Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49508
FREE ADMISSION to Craft Show

Input Needed on New Elementary School Boundaries for 2025-26

Kentwood Public Schools is opening a new elementary school in August 2025. Our student population continues to increase, as KPS is a destination district, a place where families want to be in order to offer their children an environment for learning that includes a caring culture and a culture of excellence for academics. The new Hamilton Elementary and Early Childhood Center will be the district's 11th elementary school. Because of this, the district is in the process of creating new attendance school boundaries for all elementary schools, including our school.

Input from families, students, and staff has been very important throughout this process in making these important decisions. You have an opportunity to learn more about the changes for 2025-26 and to provide input at a series of town hall meetings, taking place at each elementary school throughout the fall. A meeting at our school will take place on (insert date) at (insert time.) There is also a virtual option being offered in case you are unable to attend in person. To attend a town hall meeting, go to this link: bit.ly/hamiltonrsvp. To learn more about the process, visit our website at: <https://www.kentwoodps.org/ourdistrict/elementary-redistricting/>

Your voice and input matters to us. Hope to see you there! Thanks for your continued support of Kentwood Public Schools.

Holiday Assistance 2024

ALL of the following can be accessed by calling:

United Way Phone Number 211

United way can help families get linked to a variety of Community resources

You may only choose 1 of the following programs for Gift support

Toys For Tots: (Birth to 13 years)

Registration is from **Now until November 30, 2024**

Signing up this year is online. Distribution of gifts will be at a particular drop off sight on Saturday December 21, 2024. You will receive a confirmation email regarding the site.

Follow this link to register: [Toys for Tots](#)

[Application](#)

To check your application status, log back in or text 616 259-5119 with your name or email

kent.county.mi@toysfortots.org

Salvation Army Angel Tree (birth to 16)

Registration is open until **December 2, 2024**.

The Salvation Army collects necessary information for participation in the program and details on each Angel. Some examples: photo ID, proof of residence-utility bill, lease agreement, etc.

Apply at: <https://saangeltree.org/>

Enter a valid email address and fill out the application. [Salvation Army Angel Tree Application](#)

Santa Claus Girls

(for children up to 12 years of age)

Registration is now open. You will be sent an additional form via your email after you first register. You will be required to provide your DHS case number this year. **Gifts will be delivered on Saturday, December 14, 2024 between 9-4pm.** Each child will receive a toy, a book, hats and mittens, and pajamas or blankets. Register here:

<https://www.santaclausgirls.org/family-register/>

Food Pantries (choose the one that is closest to your neighborhood)

Feeding America West Michigan

Go to: <https://www.feedwm.org/mobile-pantry-schedule/>

Enter County. Site will provide mobile pantries locations and times

Streams of Hope

260 60th St SE

The Pantry is **OPEN:** Tuesdays 6-8PM,

Thursdays 11-1PM, 6-8PM

Contact them at 616 272-3634 for additional information.

[Food Sign up](#)

<https://streamsgsr.org/>

Catherine's Health Center (located in the Streams of Hope Kentwood Campus)

260 60th st SE

Providing access to high quality, affordable, and compassionate health care to all. Services include: dental, medical and behavioral health services.

Contact them at 616 483-0750

<https://catherineshc.org/>

The Green Apple Pantry

The Pantry is OPEN: Monday and Tuesday 9-1PM, Wednesday and Thursday 9-3pm

Contact: 616-455-9411

info@thegreenapplepantry.org

Website: <https://thegreenapplepantry.org/>

Additional Resources:

Electricity or Heat

<https://newmibridges.michigan.gov/>

Or call your individual provider to see what assistance they can offer.

Mental Health Crisis

Kent County Network 180 Crisis Line- (616) 336-3909

National Crisis Hotline- 988

Domestic Violence

The holidays are often the hardest and most isolating times for those experiencing violence- you are not alone.

YWCA West Central Michigan- 616-454-9922
Safe Haven Ministries- 616-452-6664 (Text Available)