

Angling Road School Family Newsletter

Welcome to the week of November 2, 2009

Karen Witvoet, Principal
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Mission Statement: The teachers, staff, & parents of Angling Road School will educate our children to be confident, caring citizens, ready for the responsibilities & challenges of the future.

Electronic Angling Road Newsletters: Sign up by going to www.portageps.org, then elementary, then angling road. Fill in your name and email address and that's all there is to it! Call the office if you need a paper copy.

SCHOOL DIRECTORIES are here for \$3.00 each. Please send your money to school with your student or purchase a directory in the office.

CALENDAR DATES:

- October 30: ALL SCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARADE at 2:15 p.m. with classroom parties to follow!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST – Watch Channel 20 between 4:00-9:00 p.m. to see all the elementary school Halloween Parades!
- November 2: 5th graders and teachers meet with Sherman Lake Staff.
November 4: Picture Retakes
November 4: 3rd Grade Dental Check – Permission Slips required.
November 5: PTO MEETING, 6:30 p.m. Media Center. SPECIAL MEETING, 7:00 p.m. Dr. Ric Perry, Assistant Superintendent for K-12 Instruction, will be here to share important information about state & district budget issues. This is a chance to hear about district financial concerns & up-to-date information. Please attend this important informational meeting.
- November 6: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS -Records Day Teachers/Staff**
November 9: 3rd, 4th, & 5th Graders attend “Blue Dahlia” Chenery Auditorium 10:00 a.m. performance
November 11-13: 5th Graders & teachers at Sherman Lake Camp
November 16: Report Cards for the 1st Quarter go home with all students
November 18 & 19: Parent Teacher Conferences from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Students attend school all day as usual. Green Conference slips were sent home with all students as of Thursday, October 29th. Please confirm your time and return the ½ sheet to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend Parent Teacher Conferences at your scheduled time, please contact Deb Slager in the office to reschedule. *BE SURE CHECK OUT THE ANGLING ROAD BOOK FAIR! *
- November 25: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF**
November 26-27: Thanksgiving Recess
November 30: Back to School!
November 30, December 1, December 2: Hearing and Vision Screening for all students

IMPORTANT PARENT INFORMATION

- **SCHOOL TIMES FOR '09-'10** - *We want to remind all parents that school **STARTS** at 8:35 a.m. We have only one bell that rings at 8:35 a.m. and students enter the building and are expected to go directly to their classrooms to start the day. Students are welcome to wait at the main door entrance any time after 8:30 a.m. All students who eat breakfast at school will enter the building at 8:30 a.m. so they can eat and get to class by 8:35 a.m.*
- **Please call in Student Absences - 323-6000 to report your student absent.** Please leave your child's name, grade, teacher, date of, and reason with symptoms for absence. We have an answering machine & expect parents to call if their child is home due to illness, special appointments, and/or special circumstances.
- **Box Tops News** - Keep clipping! To register - www.boxtops4education.com to see all the great offers online. Then go to www.thebigclip.com and enter Angling Road into the contest to win \$50,000! Let's get clipping!
- **CAMPBELLS SOUP LABELS! GUESS WHAT?** We just purchased new outdoor soccer goals, new footballs, new soccer balls, and two new plastic horseshoe games with our CAMPBELLS SOUP LABELS! Please keep eating soup and saving those labels! The children of Angling Road THANK YOU SO MUCH!
- **ANGLING ROAD BOOK FAIR IS COMING, November 16 - November 20!** Parents, staff, & students will be able to purchase books during Parent Teacher Conferences, November 18 & 19, 5:00-8:00 p.m. as well as Thursday, 1:00-3:30 p.m. and Friday, November 20th from 9:00-3:30! We are looking for parent volunteers to help us so please call Lori Minnard 323-6085 to sign up! Check out our Book Fair link for all the details! <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/publish/anglingroad>

Portage Community Center Offers Free Tutoring The Portage Community Center offers a free tutoring program to students in grades K-12. PCC utilizes volunteer tutors who include professionals from the community, students from local colleges, as well as high performing high schoolers. To enroll, contact Tia for elementary school tutoring or Ruth for middle and high school tutoring at the Portage Community Center, 323-1942, to receive further information.

Weapon Free School Zone

All parents/guardians should be fully aware and review district policy 5360, Weapon Free School Zone, listed on page 14 of the Elementary Handbook. The policy states, "The Board shall permanently expel a student from attending school in the District, if the student possesses a weapon in a weapon free school zone or commits arson in a District building or on District grounds." Weapons include a firearm, gun, revolver, pistol, dagger, stiletto, knife, pocketknife, iron bar or brass knuckles.

Cell Phones, Toys, Gameboys & iPods

Students are not to bring cell phones, toys, Game Boys, iPods or other electronic devices to school. These can be expensive and the school can not be responsible for items lost. Toys & games brought from home also create controversy in regards to who may touch or play with the item. We have invested in new playground equipment, balls, sidewalk chalk, etc. and indoor recess games for all students to use and share. Except for special "show and tell" times approved by the teacher, students are not to bring toys or electronic devices to school.

Birthday Invites & Deliveries

*The staff of Angling Road Elementary School request that students **NOT** hand-out party invitations at school.* Disappointment the students may feel about not being invited to a party, causes a disruption to the educational environment. Invitations to parties should be made outside of the school environment. ***We also request deliveries of flowers or balloons not be made at school.*** These deliveries to students often turn into a distraction to the learning process. Consequently, balloons and flowers will not be delivered to classrooms and will remain in the office until the end of the school day for the student to pick up.

Delivery of Messages To Students In an effort to provide the least disruptive learning environment for students and teachers, messages regarding changes in end of the day routines, after school information and/or other communication, will be given to students at 3:30 p.m. each school day. Office staff will not disrupt classes on a case by case basis, but instead will hold messages until 3:30 p.m. & possibly ask students to come to the office to receive messages at the end of the school day. **Parents/guardians are reminded to contact the school office with information that needs to be given to students prior to 3:00 p.m.** *Attempts to exchange information with students after this time can result in confusion, mistakes and possible unsafe situations for all involved – students, teachers, bus drivers and parents. We ask that parents/guardians take time to review student after school plans with children prior to departure to school and to avoid calling the school office with reminders or changes in routines unless it is an emergency.* Notes regarding end of day changes are helpful too!

Portage Public Schools Notice of Non-discrimination

Portage Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status or handicap in the admission to, access to, participation in, benefits of, or employment in its programs or activities as provided by district policy and in compliance with Federal and State statutes.

The employees below have been designated to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504/ADA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- **School counselor** Hannah Gagie
- **School principal** – Karen Witvoet (323-6000)
- **Title IX Coordinator**
Tom Zahrt, Manager, SPHR
8111 S. Westnedge
Portage, Michigan 49009
- **Section 504 Coordinator**
Gail Van Daff (269) 323-5012
- **Employment** - (269) 323-5152
Tom Zahrt, Manager SPHR
- **Special Education** - (269) 323- 5012
Gail Van Daff, Director

Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, regarding the District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX or Section 504/ADA.