

SPARTA AREA SCHOOLS

September 2023

BELL RINGER

Home of the Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School

www.spartaschools.org

A Piece of the Puzzle

Hello Spartans!

I hope that you have enjoyed these beautiful summer months. Our school community has had a couple of months to rest and recharge. We are very excited to return to school on August 21. Our expectation is that the 2023-24 school year is the best school year yet. Our work to build a school community that is student centered and relationship focused has continued as we prepare with the staff for the opening of our doors. The work of making a school amazing takes many parts and each individual serves as a piece in the puzzle we continue to solve.

• Staff have been working throughout the summer refining

our essential standards, building formative assessments that inform our instruction and providing summer school experiences to all levels, K-12. We are appreciative of the staff's investment and commitment to the work that makes Sparta the special place that it is. The fruits of this work will be experienced by our learners this school year!

- Administrators and the office staff have been ordering supplies, hiring staff, enrolling students and getting ready to welcome students, families and staff back into our halls.
- We have beautiful grounds and facilities that are being upgraded

and tended to regularly.

- Our Board of Education is reflecting on the work of the past year and making goals for the upcoming year.
- Our wonderful families and amazing students are recharging and preparing to make the 2023-24 school year the best yet.

Each member of the school community serves a role and a purpose. Together we make Sparta Area Schools the amazing school that it is. We are eager to have all of the stakeholders back in our buildings. We look forward to each of us doing our part and serving in our specific way to continue the work, piece by piece, of taking Sparta from Good to

Great, from Great to Excellent. We are grateful for the investment of this community and are proud to serve you in every way that we can. Thank you for each piece of the puzzle that you help us with!

I hope to see you all at our many athletic events, at our Open Houses, in the pickup and drop off line and at the Homecoming Parade this fall. Sparta is a great place. You are a critical piece to the puzzle. I am excited for another year of partnership!

Every Day is a Great Day to be a Spartan!

Joel









Summer Camp at the ECC

Submitted By: Andrea Beckett and Melissa Bowers

The Early Childhood Special Education Summer Camp took place for two weeks over the summer. Our students were provided with fun opportunities to connect with their peers. Over our two weeks students were provided with hands-on play, experiments, and opportunities to have fun, and promote social skills! Students participated in creating tie-dye t-shirts, explored the Appleview Nature Trail, had a visit from Sparta's therapy dog, Toast, enjoyed water days, played T-Ball, and decorated cupcakes. Thank you to Sweet Dreams Icecreams Truck for visiting our students! Staff and students enjoyed making memories over the summer months!







Summer Fun and Learning!

Submitted By Renee LaVancher

The students who attend Sparta K-12 MoCI programs were given the opportunity to attend Summer Camp for two weeks this summer - one in June, one in July. These weeks at camp allow the students to work on social skills, problem solving skills, self-help skills, communication along with community based instruction. One of the best parts of camp is that the students have extended periods of time to interact with other students within the program. The older students really enjoy reading to the younger students, and the younger ones learn from the older students. It is amazing to watch.

The theme for the first week was Community Helpers. The students met and talked about the various helpers in our community, made projects related to them and read books. The highlight of that week was a visit from the Sparta Fire Department. They brought two different trucks and spent a lot of time showing us their equipment, gear and tools. We were also able to take a field trip to a local trampoline park. The week finished off with a spaghetti dinner the kids helped prepare followed by a karaoke/dance party.

The second week's theme was animals. We read about different animals, created projects and played games. On Tuesday we took a trip to Sparta Lanes for some exercise, fun and an opportunity to explore our community. On Wednesday we took advantage of the beautiful weather and spent most of it outside playing a variety of games including a water balloon fight. The last day was a little rainy so the kids worked together to make a giant snake, played animal games and made trail mix.

These weeks are fun for both the students and the staff. They are a great way to keep the kids connected to school, extend learning and assist in a smooth transition to the new school year. We are all grateful to have the opportunity to participate in camp!

SpartaTODAY September 2023 21

Welcome back Spartans!



With back to school quickly approaching we want to make sure you are ready for the 2023-2024 school year! Did you know Sparta Area Schools is a community school?! Find out what that means and how your KSSN Coordinators are here to help!

What is a community school?:

- Community schools aim to make our schools the center of the community. KSSN brings together community partners to help support and meet the needs of our students, families, and community.
- Together we work to help families with resources such as housing, food, mental health supports, and more!
- If you would like to connect with our coordinators check out the emails below for your buildings KSSN Coordinator!

Mobile Food Pantry Information:

• KSSN in partnership with Sparta Area Schools and Feeding America hold a monthly Mobile Food Pantry. This event is held at the front of the Early Childhood Center and is a drive up model. Families are only required to give minimal household demographics in order to register for this event and receive a week's worth of food.

It is all about Routine:

 Getting kids back into a school routine should be started gradually, several days before school starts.

- Transition their bedtime and wake up times closer to back to school gradually.
- Prep their outfits and backpacks the night before to reduce morning stress.

Back to School shopping:

- Have your kids get involved to help reduce your shopping stress.
- Grab extra supplies like pencils, notebooks, markers, and binders early to avoid running out.
- If you need help finding back to school supplies please reach out to our

KSSN Coordinators for more information!

Sparta Area School KSSN Community School Coordinators:

Emails:

jodi.west@spartaschools. org Ridgeview Elementary

cinda.birely@ spartaschools.org Appleview Elementary

sarah.cline@ spartaschools.org Sparta Middle School

kevin.vandermeer@ spartaschools.org Sparta High School

Back-to-School Open House Information:

- Thursday, August 17th, from 4:30pm-7:00pm
- All 9th 12th grade students and families are welcome!
- Get your school and ID pictures taken
- · Meet your teachers
- Find your classrooms
- · Pick up your parking permits
- · Pick up your Chromebooks if you turned them in

Freshman Orientation for all incoming freshmen and their parents

- Thursday, August 18th at 6:00 pm in the High School Auditorium
- · A virtual option will be available for any families unable to attend
- · Please call the high school office if you need access to the virtual edition

SHS Recommended Supply Lists: *Please note it is not a requirement that your son/daughter arrive with these materials on the first day of school. However, your student will benefit by having them easily accessible.

- Headphones or earbuds to use with audio text in online, ELA and Spanish classes
- A TI 83 or TI 84 graphing calculator to use in all math classes 9 12. Calculators are available for rent from the media center for a cost of \$25 per academic year. We highly encourage you to look for sales or even purchase a used calculator as they can be used in college math or resold after senior year students can use online calculator options available on their chromebooks if you would prefer not to purchase or rent graphing calculators.
- Highlighters (assorted colors)
- Post It Notes assorted sizes (3 x 3 are most popular)
- 2 large glue sticks
- Mechanical pencils or pencils and a manual sharpener
- Blue and black ink pens
- Organizational/note taking supplies (folders, paper, notebooks)

SHS 2023-2023 Daily Schedule for Students

School starts at 7:50 am. Doors will open at 7:40 am. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:40. Students can take their breakfast to their first period classes. Students will end each day with focus time to work on areas of interest or to get extra support to complete assignments.

Daily Schedule 2023-2024

Schedule	A Day	B Day
1st Block 7:50-9:30 Breakfast	1st Period	2nd Period
2nd Block 9:35-11:10 KCTC Lunch 11 - 11:15	3rd Period	4th Period
3rd Block 11:15-1:30 1st Lunch: 11:15 - 11:45 2nd Lunch: 12:10 - 12:40 3rd Lunch: 1:00 - 1:30	5th Period	6th Period
Focus 1:35 - 2:26	Focus Period	Focus Period

Doors open for students at 7:40 am Breakfast is served from 7:40 - 7:50 (Students should grab breakfast and head to their first block class.) (Breakfast and lunch are FREE for all students during the 23-34 school year.)

New Staff at SHS

This year we are welcoming several new staff members at Sparta High School. We are excited for your students to get to know our new staff members. Please join us in welcoming:

Mike Boerman - Athletic Director: Mike comes to SHS with a wealth of experiences from a variety of positions at both the high school and community college level that will go a long way to serving you and our students well. He was most recently Athletic Director at White Cloud Public Schools. Prior to that, he had stops as a high school history teacher at Newaygo High School and the Director of Athletics and Student Center at Gogebic Community College in the Western Upper Peninsula. At Grand Rapids Community College, where he worked for 15+ years, he held many positions in and around athletics from an Assistant AD and Exercise Science Instructor to Sports Information and Fieldhouse Director. He is a proud Grand Rapids Community College alumnus and ultimately earned his Bachelors of Arts in English and Philosophy from Western Michigan University. He later earned his teaching certificate and Masters in Education from Aquinas College. SHS is excited for the changes Mike will bring to our Athletic Department and student athletes.

Michelle Moody- Building Secretary: Michelle and husband are both Sparta graduates. They are a military family with four children who attend Sparta Area Schools. Michelle has volunteered in several positions on Sparta's PTC and Youth Football.- She started her career with Sparta Schools at Appleview three years ago as a Teacher Assistant and has most recently been at Ridgeview the last year as a Secretary. Please join us in welcoming Michelle to the High School Office Staff.

Mack Mroz - Teacher: Mack is also a former SHS athlete and graduate of Sparta (2000), He is happy to be back home. He and his wife Kelsey (also a Sparta graduate) live here in Sparta along with their boys. Mack comes to us with a wealth of experience as a secondary teacher and graduate of Grand Valley State University. He competed in wrestling at SHS and GVSU and has coached wrestling at all levels. Including head wrestling coach here at Sparta, capturing the conference title and add three more All-State wrestlers to a school rich with wrestling history in his first year as head coach.

Mason Tidey - Teacher: Mason has been a member of the Sparta community as a student, coach, and teacher for more than 15 years. He graduated from GVSU with a Secondary Education Math degree. He spent last year teaching 7th and 8th grade math at the middle school. This year Mason will be teaching geometry, pre-calculus, and Ferris concurrent enrollment classes.

Web Multimedia Class Partnering with PBS NewsHour

Students enrolled in Web Multimedia this year at SHS will be partnering with PBS NewsHour and Grand Valley State University to create a Student Reporting Lab. Students will research newsworthy topics and create videos that can be featured on the national PBS NewsHour broadcast and local WGVU station. Students will go on field trips to tour the WGVU TV and Radio stations in Grand Rapids and Allendale and work alongside Broadcast students enrolled at GVSU to create content. Students will learn firsthand how professional news broadcasts are created and get to use equipment used by professionals. Stay tuned to see when a Spartan is featured on your local PBS station or better yet, the national NewsHour broadcast!



Annual documentation and notifications

STUDENT PRIVACY: FERPA Notice of Rights, 20 USC 1232g(e), 34 CFR 99.8

Each educational agency or institution shall annually notify parents of students currently in attendance, or eligible students currently in attendance, of their rights [to]... (i) Inspect and review the student's education records: (ii) Seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes to be

inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights; (iii) Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's

education records, except to the extent that the Act and §99.31 authorize

without consent; and (iv) File with the [U.S.] Department [of Education] a complaint ...

concerning alleged failures by the educational agency or institution to comply with the requirements of the Act and this part.

FERPA Directory Information Opt-Out, 34 CFR 99.37

An educational agency or institution may disclose directory information if it has given public notice to parents of students in attendance and eligible students in attendance at the agency or institution of: (1) The types of personally identifiable information that the agency or institution has designated as directory information; (2) A parent's or eligible student's right to refuse to let the agency or institution designate any or all of those types of information about the student as directory information; and (3) The period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the agency or institution in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student designated as directory information.

SC Directory Information Opt-Out Form, MCL 380.1136(6)

Each school district, intermediate school district, public school academy, or authorizing body shall [p]resent the optout form [with the list of directory . . . information disclosures and an opportunity to elect not to have directory information used1 to each pupil's parent or legal guardian within the first 30 days of the school year.

Opt-Out Process for Armed Forces Recruiter Access, 20 USC 7908

Each local educational agency shall notify the parents of the students served by the agency of the option to make a request [to the local educational agency, that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released for purposes of military recruiter access without prior written consent of the parent].

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment Notice, Including Physical Examinations and Screenings, 20 USC 1232h

At a minimum, the [local educational] agency shall (i) provide such notice at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies; and (ii) offer an opportunity for the parent ... to opt the student out of participation in an activity described [below].

The local educational agency shall directly notify the parent of a student, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school

year when activities [involving the collection of student information for the purpose of marketing or selling that information] [or surveys or nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening] are scheduled, or expected to be scheduled.

Locker Searches, MCL 380.1306

The board or board of directors shall provide a copy of lits .locker search and privacy] policy to each pupil at a school that has Jockers and to the parent or legal guardian of each of those pupils.

HEALTH & SAFETY/ENVIRONMENTAL: Emergency Drills, MCL 29.19

Not later than September 15 of each school year; the chief administrator of a school that operates any of grades kindergarten to 12, or his or her designee, shall provide a list of the scheduled drill days for the school buildings operated by the school, school district, intermediate school district, or public school academy to the county emergency management coordinator.

Pesticide Application, MCL 324.8316

The primary administrator of a school or day care center or his or her designee shall annually notify the parents or guardians of children attending that school or cared for at that day care center that the parents or guardians will receive advance notice of the application of a pesticide, other than a bait or gel formulation, at the school or day care center. The primary administrator of a school or his or her designee shall give the annual notification not more than 30 days after the beginning of the school year; and the primary administrator of a day care center or his or her designee shall give the annual notification in September.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 40 CFR 763.84, 763.93

Each local educational agency shall ... [e]nsure that workers and building occupants, or their legal quardians, are informed at least once each school year about inspections, response actions, and post-response action activities, including periodic reinspection and surveillance activities that are planned or in progress. The [asbestos] management plans shall be available, without cost or restriction, for inspection by representatives of EPA and the State, the public, including teachers, other school personnel and their representatives and parents.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC 11432

Each local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youths shall ... ensure that public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such children and youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians of homeless children and youths, and unaccompanied youths.

National School Lunch Program Information/Eligibility (For Participating Schools), 7 CFR 210.12

To the maximum extent practicable, school food authorities [the governing bodies responsible for the administration of one or more schools] must inform families about the availability breakfasts for students. Information about the School Breakfast Program must be distributed just prior to or at the beginning of the school year. In addition, schools are encouraged to

send reminders regarding the availability of the School Breakfast Program multiple times throughout the school year.

NONDISCRIMINATION:

Nondiscrimination (Title IX. Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination Act, Section 504)

Title IX: The recipient must notify

applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements .with the recipient, of the name or title, office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the employee or employees designated as the Title IX

Each recipient must notify entitled to a notification [those listed above J that the recipient does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, and that it is required by title IX and this part not to discriminate in such a manner. (34 CFR

public entity shall make available to applicants, participants, beneficiaries, and other interested persons information regarding the provisions of this part [on Americans with Disabilities Act] and its applicability to the services,

 $\underline{\textbf{Americans with Disabilities Act:}}\ A$

programs, or activities of the public entity, and make such information available to them in such manner as the head of the entity finds necessary to

such persons of the protections against discrimination assured them by the Act and this part. The public entity shall make available to all interested individuals the name, office address, and telephone number of the employee or employees

designated pursuant to this paragraph. (28 CFR 35.106, 35.107)

Age Discrimination Act: A recipient [of federal funds] shall notify its beneficiaries, in a continuing manner; of information regarding the provisions of the [Age Discrimination] Act and these regulations. The notification must also identify the responsible employee by name or title, address, and telephone

number. (34 CFR 110.25)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation **Act:** A recipient that employs fifteen or more persons shall take appropriate initial and continuing steps to notify participants, beneficiaries, applicants, and employees, including those with impaired vision or hearing, and unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the recipient that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicap in violation of section 504 and this part. Methods of initial and continuing notification may include the posting of notices, publication in newspapers and magazines, placement of notices in recipients' publication, and distribution of memoranda or other

ACADEMIC RIGHTS: Personal Curriculum, MCL 380.1278b(5)(p)

A school district or public school academy annually shall notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum under this subsection. The annual notice shall include an explanation of what a personal curriculum is and

written communications. (34 CFR 104.8)

state that if a personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public school academy will grant that request. The school district or public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook, or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also shall post the notice on the school district's or public school academy's website.

IDEA Procedural Safeguards Notice to Parents of a Child with a Disability, 34 CFR 300.504

A copy of the procedural safeguards available to the parents of a child with a disability must be given to the parents {at least] one time a school year . A public agency may ...

place a current copy of the procedural safeguards notice on its Internet Web site if a Web site exists.

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy, 20 USC 6318

Each local educational agency that receives funds under this part {Title I] shall distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family involvement

English Language Learner, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 20 USC 6312 Each local educational agency

using funds under this part or title

Ill to provide a language instruction educational program as determined under title III shall, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, inform parents of an English learner identified for participation or participating in such a program, of-- (i) the reasons for the identification of their child as an English learner and in need of placement in a language instruction educational program; (ii) the child's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement: (iii) the methods of instruction used in the program in which their child is, or will be, participating and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how such programs differ in content, instructional goals, and the use of English and a native language in instruction; (iv) how the program in which their child is, or will be, participating will meet the educational strengths and needs of their child; (v) how such program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation; (vi) the specific exit requirements for the program, including the expected rate of transition from such program into classrooms that are not tailored for English learners, and the expected rate of graduation from high school (including four-year adjusted cohort graduation rates and extendedyear adjusted cohort graduation rates for such program) if funds under this part are used for children in high schools; (vii) in the case of a child with a disability, how such program meets the objectives of the individualized education program of the child, as described in section 614(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(d)); and (viii) information pertaining to parental rights that includes written guidance. Michigan Constitution Posting,

MCL 380.10a.

Beginning January 1, 2023, the board of a school district or intermediate school district or board of directors of a public

school academy shall ensure that the text of section 1 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 and section 10, as added by 1995 PA 289, is prominently posted and maintained in all of the following areas, in a manner that is easily accessible by the public:

(a) The room or rooms in which the board or board of directors conducts its meetinas

(b) An office in the school district's. intermediate school district's, or public school academy's administrative

(c) The principal's or chief administrator's, as applicable, office at each school operated by the board or board of directors.

STAFF:

Drug-Free Workplace Act, 34 CFR 84.205

You must require that a copy of the statement [that tells your employees that the unlawful manufacture. distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in your workplace; specifies the actions that you will take against employees for violating that prohibition; and lets each employee know that, as a condition of employment under any award, he or she will abide by the terms of the statement; and must notify you in writing if he or she is convicted for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace and must do so no more than five calendar days after the conviction] be given to each employee who will be engaged in the performance of any Federal award.

FMLA Posting, 29 CFR 825.300 - See **U.S. Department of Labor FMLA** Poster

Every employer covered by the FMLA [i.e., 50 or more employees] is required to post and keep posted on its premises, in conspicuous places where employees are employed, a notice explaining the Act's provisions and providing information concerning the procedures for filing complaints of violations of the Act with the Wage and Hour Division. The notice must be posted prominently where it can be readily seen by employees and applicants for employment. The poster and the text must be large enough to be easily read and contain fully legible text. Electronic posting is sufficient to meet this posting requirement as long as it otherwise meets the requirements of this section.

FLSA Posting, 29 CFR 516.4-See U.S. **Department of Labor FLSA Poster**

Every employer employing any employees subject to the [Fair Labor Standards Act's minimum wage provisions shall post and keep posted a notice explaining the Act, as prescribed by the Wage and Hour Division, in conspicuous places in every establishment where such employees are employed so as to permit them to observe readily a copy.

A local unit shall hold a public hearing on its proposed budget. The local unit shall give notice of the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the local unit at least 6 days before the hearing. The notice shall include the time and place of the hearing and shall state the place where a copy of the budget is available for public inspection. The notice shall also include the following statement printed in 11-point boldfaced type: "The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.".



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4064 Alpine Ave NW, Suite B Comstock Park, MI 49321

(616) 965-1197



Mill Creek Tavern is your friendly, neighborhood pub in Comstock Park. The place to enjoy great food, cold drinks, and fun times with family and friends. You'll relish our warm, stylish interior and genial atmosphere, as well as our friendly, knowledgeable bartenders and hospitable and attentive wait staff.

Our menu is full of delicious offerings, from appetizers, soups, and salads, to wraps and sandwiches, juicy burgers, and full entrées. And we've got a Kids Menu with all their favorites.

DON'T MISS THE BEER TENT! (FIRST BEER TENT IN OVER 30 YEARS!)A portion of the processd will benefit the Comstock park schools hot lunch program!

Mill Creek Days
Beer Tent behind Mill Creek Tavern
in parking lot

Saturday August 12, 2023 1-11pm

Live Bands @ Dwight Lydell Park

Bagpipes • 2-4pm Hard Times • 5-7pm Sheer Pandemonium • 8-10pm

Golf Outing @ Scott Lake Golf Course

Tuesday August 22.2023

To make reservations please call
Kristina Truman
616-213-4842
Email reservations

Kristina.truman007@iCloud.com



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Sparta Middle School welcomes new teammates!

Kristyn Sack

Kristyn Sack will be joining our team at SMS and will be teaching 6th and 7th grade ELA. Kristyn

comes to us from Traverse City Area Public Schools. She is a graduate of Michigan State University and will be starting her third year of teaching. Welcome to SMS, Kristyn!

Andrew Buikema

Andrew Buikema is our new Assistant Principal at SMS. Andrew has spent the previous two years at Tri-County Middle School where he served as their Assistant Principal. Andrew has been in educa-



tion for more than twenty years. He earned his undergraduate degree from Western Michigan and completed his Master's in Educational Leadership at GVSU. We are very excited to welcome him to our team!







Sparta Early Childhood Center

This summer our childcare group enioved lots of activities including water days, lots of art activities, field trips, and new friendships. In just a few short weeks, we will be welcoming our 2023-2024 school year and our building will be filled with lots of new young learners! We are excited and looking forward to meeting new families

and children and to a fantastic school year. The Early Childhood Center Staff work together to build a love or learning while teaching students the skills they will need in Kindergarten. The foundation is built on play as the primary mode of learning as well as a consistent daily routine, meals, group times, outdoor time and peer interactions. Throughout

the year the children will be building their skills in the areas of math, literacy, social emotional, gross and fine motor, writing, and the sciences. The home-school connection is a critical piece of preschool ensuring that families feel accepted, comfortable, and part of their child's education at the early childhood center.

For questions or information: Call (616)887-0068 or email steve.johnson2@spartaschools.org. Educationally, Steve Johnson Director of Sparta Early Childhood Center

Mark Your Calendar Now...Important Dates/Information for the 23-24 School Year:



SMS 2023 Beginning of School Year Open House:

- Date: August 17th
- Time: 4pm-6:30pm
- All SMS Students & Families Welcome!



- Student Pictures will be taken at Open House
- o Picture Retakes will be September 25th



Student Schedules will be distributed at Open House and released on that same day.



Chromebook Pick-Up:

- · Chromebook pick-up will be at the SMS Open House.
- . Students who did not pick-up their Chromebook will receive it on the first day of school.



· Thursday, August 21st

Summer Office Hours at SMS:

August 1st-11th: 8am-3pm, Monday thru Thursday

August 14th-18th: 8am-3pm, Monday thru Friday

August 21st: First Day of School!

23-24 SMS Daily Schedule:

23-24 SMS Recommended School Supplies List nded Supply Lists link:

7:30 Doors Open for Students/Breakfast is Served in the Cafeteria 7:40-8:05 Essentials 4 Success (E4S) 8:10-9:40 Block 1/2 9:45-11:15 Block 3/4 11:20-1:25 Block 5/6 E4S/Earned Activity Time (EAT)
• 1:30-1:35: Attendance 1:30-2:16 1:35: Bell will signal for

1:38: Bell will ring to end

alf-Day Schedule: lo E4S on 1/2 Days*			
7:30	Doors Open for Students/Breakfast Served in the Cafeteria		
7:40-8:35	Block 1/2		
3:40-9:35	Block 3/4		

Block 5/6

-A notebook for writing, used only for this class Headphones or earbuds to use with audio text Spiral notebook or loose-leaf lined paper Erasers (cap erasers preferred) Ruler and/or Protractor Scientific Calculator A highlighter 3 Ring Binder 2 Spiral Bound Notebooks Highlighters Headphones/Earbuds for school only 1 Inch 3-Ring Binder Spiral Notebook or <u>Loose Leaf</u> Paper Pencils & Colored Pencils Headphones or Earbuds

3 Ring Binder, Earbuds and a writing utensil

Pencils 1 inch 3-ring binder with pockets and page protectors Instrument (band only)

pockets and fasteners for paper)

-A binder with pockets, used only for this class (or a folder with

*Please note it is not a requirement that your son/daughter arrive with these materials on the first day of school. However, if you are able to provide them with these items it would be greatly appreciated.



9:40-10:31

SMS Personal Electronic Device/Technology Policy:

Students at SMS who choose to bring a personal electronic device of any kind to school, do so at their own risk. Teaching staff and administration are not responsible for lost or stolen or broken devices. Students are expected to follow the SMS technology policy to ensure responsible use of technology at all times, to maximize in class learning, to maximize their safety and the safety of those around them. Administration reserves the right to revoke technology privileges as needed due to students' use/misuse.

- Phones, smartwatches, and PEDs must be safely stored in a bag or other secure location out of sight and not on their person where it cannot cause a distraction to themselves or others.
- Phones must be on silent or turned off while on school grounds upon arrival at school through the end of the school day at 2:40. Vibrating phones
- Student use of cell phones, smartwatches, and PEDs in any school bathroom is
- Taking pictures or recording video is strictly prohibited at all times while on school grounds, or on school buses without a school official's permission.
- Use of social media on school grounds is prohibited.
- Students may use their cell phones, smartwatches, and PEDs to communicate with home after the end of day bell sounds.

*Students will always be granted permission to call home during the school day from a school phone. Students may also ask permission of their teacher to make a phone call using their device while in class on a case by case basis.



Hall of Fame

1) AN ATHLETE:

A. MUST have been one of the top athletes in their conference / All Conference where applicable.

B. Athletes MUST HAVE GRADUATED FROM SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL.

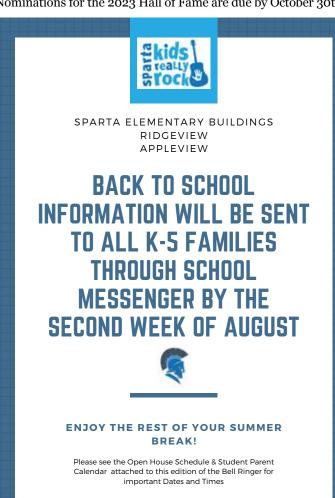
C. Athletes must have had a positive influence and brought honor to Sparta High School.

D. Graduated from Sparta High School ten years prior to induction.

2) A COACH:

A. MUST have been retired from coaching for a minimum of five years.

Online nomination forms are available on the Sparta Area Schools webpage under the athletics tab. Paper copies are also available in the High School office and athletic office. Nominations for the 2023 Hall of Fame are due by October 30th.





From the Sparta Sports Boosters:

A BIG thank you to all of our sponsors, advertisers, volunteers, high school sport's teams and community members for supporting the Sparta Sports Boosters and ultimately our athletes. During the 2022-2023 school year, we were able to honor all requests from our athletic programs and give over \$60,000. Our organization proudly purchased the following supplies and equipment:

- Boys and girls basketball: team bags and warm ups
- Softball: pitching machine and slide mat
- Indoor/outdoor track: training implements
- Boys and girls soccer: six training mannequins
- Bowling: jackets and tournament play supplies
- Baseball: helmets, pullovers and pitch speed radar
- Wrestling: 42' x 42' sport flex mat
- Boys and girls tennis: customized racket bags and tent
- Girls tennis: uniforms
- Hockey: uniforms for new Sparta co-op
- Unified Basketball Team: uniforms

For all athletes: a tow behind hydration system and 40 courtside chairs for the gymnasium We could not have supported our teams without the hundreds of volunteer hours. We greatly appreciate all the time from our coaches, parents, grandparents and athletes! We look forward to another outstanding year!

If you are interested in joining the Sparta Sports Boosters please connect with us at spartaboosters@gmail.com

Sparta Area Schools Athletics



Mike Boerman, Athletic Director Alison Sparling, Athletic Secretary

Sparta Area Schools Athletic Participation Fees

Athletic Fee Information 2023-2024

SHS Individual Student Athlete - \$50 per Athlete
SMS Individual Student Athlete - \$35 per Athlete
Family Cap – \$180 for the year
Reduced Lunch Student Athlete** - \$20 per year. \$40 Family Cap
Free Lunch Student Athlete** - No Charge

Fees are due prior to the start of tryouts/seasons through FinalForms.

Athletic Fee Information 2024-2025

SHS Individual Student Athlete - \$75 per Athlete
SMS Individual Student Athlete - \$50 per Athlete
Family Cap - \$220 for the year
Reduced Lunch Student Athlete** - \$30 per year, \$60 Family Cap
Free Lunch Student Athlete** - No Charge

Fees are due prior to the start of tryouts/seasons through FinalForms.

Athletic Fee Information 2025-2026

SHS Individual Student Athlete - \$100 per Athlete
SMS Individual Student Athlete - \$75 per Athlete
Family Cap – \$250 for the year
Reduced Lunch Student Athlete** - \$40 per year, \$75 Family Cap
Free Lunch Student Athlete** - No Charge

Fees are due prior to the start of tryouts/seasons through FinalForms.

**An approved free & reduced lunch application must be on file in order to be considered for a free or reduced athletic fee.

Sparta Area Schools



Ridgeview 2023-2024 Supply Lists

Developmental Kindergarten



Kindergarten

- Labeled hard plastic water bottle
- 2 boxes of tissue
- 2-4 pks of Crayola washable markers
- 2-4 pks Crayola Crayons
- Sturdy Folder with child's name on it
- 6 Elmer's large size (0.77 oz) glue sticks
- 4 containers of play-dough
- 2-4 sets of individual Crayola water color sets
- Girls package small plastic cups
- Boys Box of plastic spoons
- Labeled coloring book for rest time
- 4 packages of baby wipes
- 1 package of fine point Sharpies

Optional/Helpful:

- 1 package Post-it notes
- 1 roll of heavy duty Scotch packaging tape

- 3 Elmer's washable glue sticks large size only (.77 oz) (The small sticks dry out quickly and break off easily)
- 3 boxes of Crayola crayons 24-pack
- 1 box #2 HB Dixon Ticonderoga soft lead pencils (pre-sharpened preferred)
- 2 packs of washable Crayola markers 4 pack
- 2 boxes of tissues
- Pencil box-hard plastic box
- 1 roll of paper towel
- 2 containers of Clorox disinfectant wipes
- Boys 1 pkg zip lock baggies (gallon size)
- Girls 1 pkg zip lock baggies (sandwich size)
- 1 pair Fiskars scissors 5" pointed tip
- 1 blue plain (no pictures) plastic 2 pocket folder
- 1 red plain (no pictures) plastic 2 pocket folder with prongs

Optional:

• 1 box of classroom snack

please only label the pencil box with the child's name



First Grade



Second Grade

- 3 boxes of Crayola crayons 24-pack (no larger or smaller amounts)
- 2 boxes #2 HB Dixon Ticonderoga soft lead pencils
- Pencil Box
- 1 pair Fiskars scissors 5" pointed tip
- 2 boxes of Crayola Washable markers 8-pack, classic colors, wide tip
- 4 plain (no pictures) plastic pocket folders
- 12 Elmer's washable glue sticks large size only (.77 oz) (The small sticks dry out quickly and break off easily)
- 1 box Expo dry erase markers
- 2 containers of Clorox wipes
- 1 Roll of Paper Towel
- 1 box Ziplock bags (variety of sizes)
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer (8 Oz)

Optional Items:

paper plate, band-aides, package of napkins, classroom snack

- · 2 boxes of Ticonderoga soft pencils only (presharpened preferred)
- 1 package of pencil erasers, pink
- 2 Large Elmer's washable glue sticks (.77 oz)
- 1 box of Crayola crayons 24 count or more
- 1 pack of washable Crayola markers (8pk)
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 1 pkg of expo black markers
- 1 pencil box or pencil pouch
- 1 pair of scissors pointed tip
- 2 spiral notebook wide ruled 70 pages
- Pocket folders, 1 red, 1 yellow, 1 green, 1 green, 1 blue (No prongs please)
- 2 container of Clorox wipes
- · 2 boxes of tissues
- Girls 1 gallon size bags
- Boys 1 sandwich size bags · 1 box of a classroom snack
- 1 Sanitizer bottle



2023-2024 School Hours and Open House Information

2023-2024 School Hours

Early Childhood Center

Mon-Thurs 6:30a-9:10a & 3:30p-6:30p Friday: 6:30a-6:00p

3's Preschool: Full day: Mon-Thurs 9:00a-3:30p Partial Day: Tues, Wed & Thurs 9a-12noon

Monday-Thursday AM Section: 8:30a-11:45a Pm Section: 12:35p-3:50p

GSPR 4's Monday-Thursday 9:10a-3:55p

Headstart Monday-Thursday 7:45a-2:45p

Ridgeview: K - 2nd Grade School Hours: 8:45am-3:55pm Drop-Off: 8:35am Bus Rider Release: 3:55pm Parent Pick-Up Release: 3:35p Half Day Release: 12:00noon

Appleview: 3rd - 5th School Hours: 8:30am-3:40 Drop-Off: 8:20am Parent Pick-Up: 3:40pm Half Day Release: 11:45am

Middle School: 6th - 8th Drop-Off: 7:30am
Parent Pick-Up: 2:16pm
Half Day Release: 10:31am

High School: 9th - 12th School Hours: 7:50am-2:26pr School Hours: 7:50am-2:26| Drop-Off: 7:40am Parent Pick-Up: 2:26pm Half Day Release: 10:45am

Open House Date & Times

Early Childhood Center

3's Preschool

Open House: Tues Sept 5 4:30-6:30p. First Day: Monday, Sept 11, 2023

Open House: Thur, Aug 17, 2023 4p-6p First Day: Monday, Aug 21, 2023

Open House: Tues, Sept 5 4:30p-6:30p First Day: Monday, Sept 11, 2023

Ridgeview: K - 2nd Grade

Thursday, August 17, 2023 4:00pm-6:30pm

Appleview: 3rd - 5th

Thursday, August 17, 2023 4:00pm-6:30pm

Middle School: 6th - 8th

Thursday, August 17, 2023 4:00pm-6:30pm

High School: 9th - 12th

Thursday, August 17, 2023 Freshman Orientation: 6:00pm 10th-12th Grades: 4:30pm-7:00pm

We WILL. www.spartaschools.org

Sparta Area Schools

Appleview Elementary School Supply List

3rd Grade:

Ad

- 2 box Crayola crayons (16 or 24 pack)
- 1 pair scissors, 5" pointed tip
- 24 wooden pencils (#2 Ticonderoga or Dixon)
- 2 highlighters (different colors)
- 24 pencil cap erasers
- 1 handheld pencil sharpener (with receptacle)
- 1 spiral notebook, wide-ruled (1 subject size)
- 2 composition books
- 4 poly folders, 2 pocket (1 each of blue, red,
- 2 Expo Thin Fine Tip Dry Erase Markers Headphones/Earbuds - wired only please

Wired/Wireless Mouse (strongly recommended)

Disinfectant wipes

4th Grade:

- 2 Elmer's washable glue sticks (.77 oz)
- 24 wooden pencils (#2 pencils)
- 1 2-pack highlighters (multi-colored) 3 spiral notebooks
- 4 folders, 2 pocket, blue, red, green and yellow 2 folders, 2 pocket (plastic) any color
- 1 box of crayons or colored pencils

Earbuds

No Trapper Keepers please

Optional:

Tissues

2023-2024

- 6 Elmer's washable glue sticks (.21 oz)
- 1 box washable markers
- 1 box of colored pencils (12 pack)
- 1 zippered pencil pouch (3-hole,10"x6")
- green and yellow)

Facial tissues

- 2 Expo Markers

Hand Sanitizer

5th Grade:

Underlined items will be color-coded by teacher. This will be communicated when teachers are assigned in August.

One 1" three ring binder 3 composition notebooks

2 plastic folders 5 plastic dividers with pockets

- 1 packet of loose leaf wide ruled lined paper (at least 150 sheets)
- 1 pack of pencil cap erasers At least 1 package of 24 pencils 1 pencil pouch with 3 holes for binder 1 pair of earbuds/headphones REQUIRED (with
- case preferred)
- 1 pair of scissors 2 highlighters
- 4 Expo (low odor) dry erase markers (any colors)
- 1 pack of sticky notes (any colors)
- 1 box of markers 1 box of colored pencils

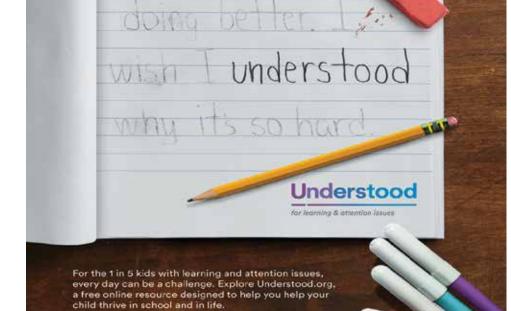
1 black Sharpie marker

OPTIONAL:

1 box of facial tissues 1 large hand sanitizer 1 pack/tub of disinfecting wipes

1 wireless computer mouse **TEACHER SPECIFIC COLORS (for**

binders/folders/notebooks): Cavner - PURPLE Kuzniewski - GREEN Swihart - BLUE



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Extra Extras for Education!



The Sparta Education Foundation (SEF) is beyond thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for the Sparta community that has the potential to impact Sparta students for decades to come! We are embarking on our Extra Extras for Education Campaign - a matching gifts campaign. This campaign is made possible through an incredibly generous gift given by anonymous donors who are long-time Sparta area residents and ardent supporters of Sparta Area Schools.

These donors have made available to SEF a gift of up to \$100,000 to be used as a matching grant. This gift will match donations dollar for dollar up to the end of the fiscal year of June 2025.

For instance, a \$50 contribution will be matched with an additional \$50, thus making a total of \$100 available to help provide innovative and creative educational materials and experiences to the students of Sparta Area Schools.

SEF has always been proud to "Provide Extras for Education". This \$100,000 gift will help SEF expand our mission to ignite the potential for enhanced learning in Sparta Area Schools through financial support. Potentially we will be able to provide twice as many classroom grants than we are currently able. Past grants have included extras such as Toast, the support dog, drone cameras for media classes, instruments for music classes, and assemblies such as Lion Heart.

The Sparta Education Foundation was founded in 1991 with the goal of supporting creative, progressive, and innovative educational opportunities for the students of Sparta Area Schools which are beyond the normal operating budget of the school district. Teachers

present SEF with grant proposals three times a year. Our current operating budget for each round is \$10,000. This two-year partnership is designed to enable the SEF to expand our grant-giving activities, build our endowment. establish a foundation for increased business/SEF partnerships, and provide incentives for expanding our base of community donors.

Individuals in our community now have the opportunity to double the impact of their financial gift to SEF. When you donate to SEF, you are joining hundreds of supporters in giving to a cause that impacts the lives of students. These same students will grow to be the next business owners, civil servants, and service providers . You can be a onetime donor, become a monthly donor, or give a gift in honor or memory of another.

Who can give? Anyone! Additionally, your donation may also be eligible for a matching donation from your employer. Many companies offer to match

their employee charitable contributions which means your gift to SEF could go twice as far! Contact your HR department to find out if they participate.

The SEF will be able to accept credit cards and electronic donations through our website once it is up and running. We expect that to occur sometime in August. If you wish to donate in the interim, please reach out to our Executive Director, Matthew Hayes, at SEFExec-Dir@spartaschools.org.

The SEF has never had an opportunity like this which could exponentially increase our impact on the students and teachers of Sparta. We are so very grateful for this amazing opportunity. Now it is up to us, the Sparta community, to take advantage of the opportunity which could benefit generations of students for years to come!

LeAnn Kitson, **SEF Board President**



Sparta Area Schools 2023 - 2024 Parent/Student Calendar

August 17	. District Open Houses
August 21	. First Day for Students

September 1	No School
September 4	Labor Day - No School
September 29	Homecoming

October 4	Student Fall Count Day
October 20	Half Day for All Students

November 10	. Half day K-5 only -	Conferences

November 22		No School		
November 2	3 24	Thanksaiving	Brook	

... Half Day 6-12 only (Records) December 21 ...

December 22 Half Day for All Students December 25-29...... Christmas Break

January 1-5..... .. Christmas Break

January 8..... School Resumes

. Student Spring Count Day February 14 Half Day K-5 only - Conferences February 16 ..

February 19-20 Mid-Winter Break

March 28-29..... .. No School

. Spring Break

April 8...... School Resumes

. Half Day K-5 Only (Conference)8th Grade Recognition

. High School Graduation

May 27 No School-Memorial Day Half Day for All Students

May 31 Last Day of School - Half Day

	First Day of School - Mon, August 21st
	Half Day All Students (K-12th)
	Half Day Elementary Only (K-5th)
	Half Day Secondary Only (6th-12th)
	No School

School Building	School Hours	1/2 Day Dismissal
Ridgeview	8:45am-3:55pm	12:00pm
Appleview	8:30am-3:40pm	11:45am
Middle School	7:40am-2:16pm	10:31am
High School	7:50am-2:26pm	10:45am

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

OCTOBER 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

NOVEMBER 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER 2023				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JANUARY 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29		

MARCH 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

APRIL 2024				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

MAY 2024					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	24	
27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2024				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28