

# Huth Road Elementary

*A good beginning never ends...*



The mission of the  
Grand Island schools  
is to  
foster academic excellence,  
personal growth  
and social responsibility.



**Parent/Student  
Handbook**  
2019/2020



Grand Island Central School District Office  
1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, NY 14072  
716-773-8801 Office Hours: 8:15 am - 4:00 pm

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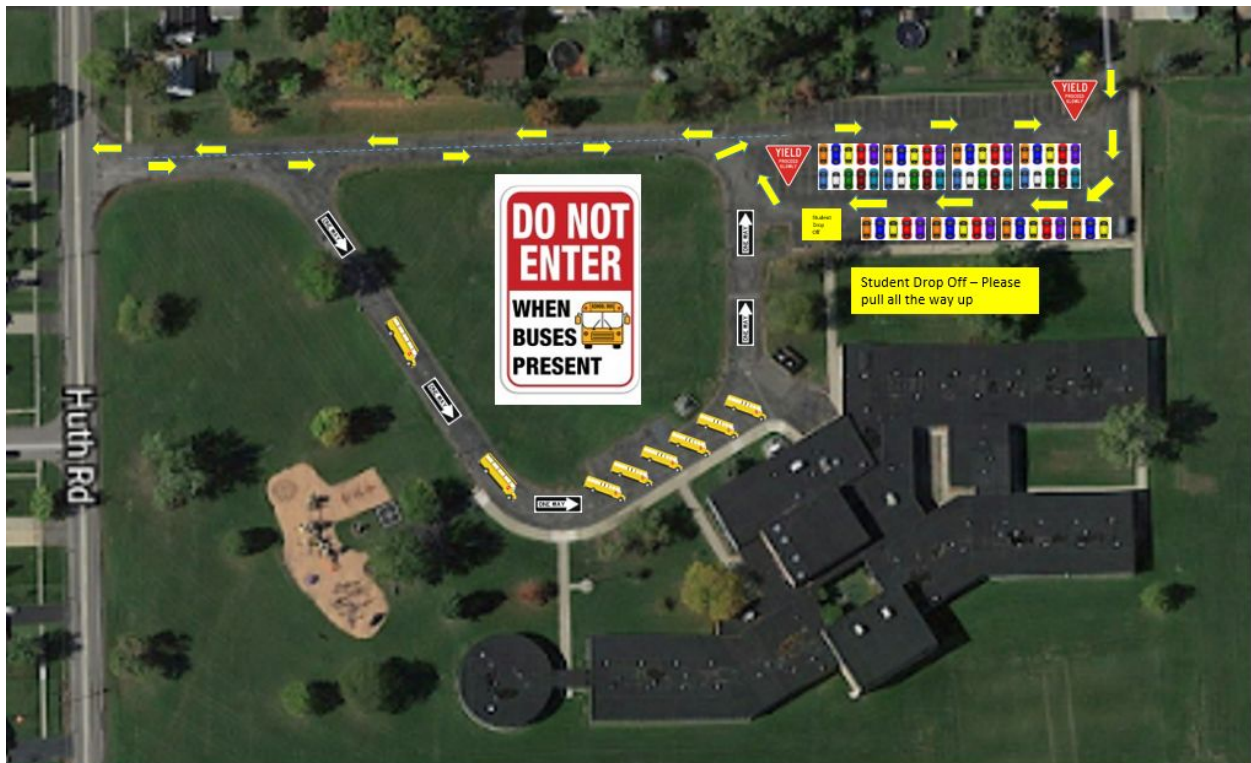
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# I. SCHOOL OPERATION

## SCHOOL HOURS

- The school day for students is 8:50 am – 3:05 pm
- Students are marked tardy after 9:00 am
- Students can enter for breakfast at 8:35 am
- Office Hours are 8:15 am - 4:00 pm

Students arriving before 8:50 am are asked to wait outside the building for the bell. In the event of inclement weather, students will be allowed to enter the main office vestibule no earlier than 8:30 am.



## **DROP OFF PROCEDURES**

For the safety of our children, please follow the one-way flow of traffic in the parking lot during arrival and dismissal. **DO NOT attempt to pass cars stopped in the line.**

## **PARKING**

Our main parking lot is available for daily use. For your convenience, we have a smaller, **visitor parking lot near** the main entrance. **Please do not park in the visitor parking lot if your departure must be timely.** We often have visitors arrive when the loop is clear only to return to find that a bus has blocked their car. We apologize for this inconvenience, and we hope that by working together, we may prevent unexpected delays in your schedule.

## **ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS**

The first step in helping your child succeed in school is being sure he or she is in school every day for the full instructional day. We are required to keep records of student attendance, including those times when students are late or dismissed for any part of the school day. A written excuse is required for any absence, tardiness, or early dismissal. Legal excuses include illness, inclement weather, and religious observations. An absence for which no legal excuse is provided is marked illegal. It is important to call the school office at 773-8850 to report the reason for your child's absence. If you do not call, the attendance clerk will call home reminding you that a note must be sent to school.

Attendance letters are automatically generated and sent home by our system when a child is late and/or absent 10, 15, and 20 times. Because school attendance is vital to your child's success, the school will work closely with you to resolve any attendance concerns that may arise before contacting an outside agency, such as Child and Family Services, for support.

We encourage all students who are sick or contagious to remain home until they are well and no longer contagious. More information on our Attendance Policy can be found on the district website.

## **EARLY DISMISSAL**

Please make every effort to avoid taking your child out of school early for appointments and family matters by scheduling such needs outside of school hours. If an early release is unavoidable, **please send a note to your child's teacher in the morning indicating the time of dismissal and name of the adult who will pick up your child.** Parents must report to the main office for pick up. Picture identification is required.

## **VISITORS**

Visitors are always welcome! Please follow these procedures to ensure the safety of our students and respect for their learning environment:

- Stay in close communication with your child's teacher regarding visiting and classroom volunteering opportunities.
- Visitors must use the main entrance only (entrance #1). Please do not enter the building through any other doors, *AT ANY TIME*.
- The office will provide visitors with a school pass to be worn in a visible place while on school premises. Staff will ask visitors without a visible pass to immediately report to the office.
- Thank you for helping us maintain quiet in the hallways.

Please note that the main office button is a buzzer and not a call box. Press *once* to buzz the office. *DO NOT* press the buzzer to talk. If you do, the buzzer will continually sound in the office, and we won't be able to hear you. Thank you!

### **EMERGENCY CLOSINGS**

In case of inclement weather, please listen to one of the local radio stations listed below, or check the local TV stations for announcements regarding school closings.

- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| • WBEN (930)  | • WBUF (93)             |
| • WKBW (1520) | • Channel 2, 4 and/or 7 |
| • WGR (55)    |                         |

Should the building be closed for a reason other than inclement weather, such as a water main break, gas leak, etc., parents will be contacted with a recorded message via telephone. Please be sure your contact information is always up to date. Call district office at 716-773-8800 to update your contact information.

### **JUST FOR KIDS Before and After School Care**

*Just For Kids* offers a before and after-school childcare program at Huth Road Elementary. Qualified coordinators and aides staff the program. Activities include arts and crafts, sports, special projects, stories, games, and quiet time for homework. Contact Info:

PH: 716-783-4023, FAX: 716-636-1469,  
[www.justforkidsonline.org](http://www.justforkidsonline.org); [jfkhuth@gmail.com](mailto:jfkhuth@gmail.com)

## II. TRANSPORTATION

Bus routes and bus numbers are mailed from the transportation department prior to the beginning of school. Please call them at 716-773-8890 with questions or comments.

### **BUS SAFETY**

The safe transportation of our students is of primary concern to us. The same courtesies are expected at the bus stop and on the school bus as in the classroom. We ask that you review the following expectations with your child.

- Students should be at their assigned stops at least 5 minutes prior to the arrival of the bus—buses cannot wait for students to arrive.
- Students must board at their assigned location.
- Students are expected to wait in an orderly manner and be considerate of other students' property, as well as their own.
- Students who cross before boarding or after leaving a bus must:
  - Wait for a signal from the bus driver before starting to cross.
  - Walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus.
  - Never cross behind the bus.
- Students must remain seated at all times when the bus is in motion.
- Students may not place any part of their bodies or any objects outside the windows of the bus.
- Students should be quiet, orderly, and listen to the directions of the driver.
- **Electronic devices of any kind are not allowed unless given prior approval from the principal.**
- **No food or beverages may be consumed on the bus.**
- Students are not allowed to transport prescription medicine or over-the-counter medications on the bus unless given prior approval by the nurse.
- Bulky packages or projects, large musical instruments, animals, or potentially dangerous objects may not be brought on the bus.
- Students' hands should be free when boarding the bus. Supplies and other items should be carried in backpacks.
- Glass containers are prohibited on buses and in school.
- Knick knacks attached to backpacks are not allowed as they can swing and injure other students who are sitting on the bus as a child is walking in the aisle.
- **Horseplay, yelling, fighting, bothering others, using profanity, and not cooperating with the driver are strictly prohibited.**

### **INFRACTIONS**

A notice is sent home to parents detailing any infractions. Repeated infractions will result in the loss of bus riding privileges. If a child is suspended from riding the bus, it is the parent's responsibility to transport the child to and from school.

## **BUS STOP**

If there are problems at a particular bus stop, the school may be able to assist in resolving the problem; however, the responsibility for supervising behavior at the bus stop rests with the parents.

## **BUS PASSES**

Occasionally, your child may **take a different bus** at the end of the day. The student must give the bus pass form to the classroom teacher *in the morning*. The bus pass will be returned to your child to be shown to the driver upon boarding the alternate bus. Students are not permitted to take a different bus without a bus pass. Understandably, we cannot allow for dismissal changes communicated to us after lunchtime as we need plenty of time to ensure the safety and well-being of our children.

Requests for regular **alternate transportation**, such as for daycare, must be made through the bus garage located on Baseline Road behind Sidway School or 773-8890.

## **LATE BUSES**

Late buses are provided for students in grades 3 – 5 attending after-school activities or staying for extra help. The late bus leaves school at 4:00 pm. Please be patient with the drop off time for late bus runs. Some days more students will be taking the late bus than other days, and the drop off times can vary greatly.

## **BICYCLES**

Only students who *do not* qualify for bus transportation may ride a bike to school. If your child qualifies for bus transportation, s/he must be accompanied by an adult if riding a bike to school. Please note the following safety rules:

- Bicycle helmets are required.
- Bicycles must be securely locked at the bike rack when not in use.
- All safe bicycle riding rules must be obeyed or the privilege will be revoked.

## **BUS LOOP**

**Cars must not use the loop during arrival and dismissal times or anytime a bus is present.** This area is reserved for our buses. Please use the parking lot on the side of the school when you are planning to be at the school during arrival, dismissal, late bus dismissal, or anytime you see school buses on the property such as for a field trip. Should you choose to use our visitor parking, please keep in mind that you may be blocked by a bus at any time. We greatly apologize for this inconvenience.

## **DROP OFF PROCEDURE**

Each morning, there will be a line of cars in the parking lot to drop off students at the walkway stop sign. Please note that the parking lot is **one way**. For our children's safety, parents must not pass other cars in the parking lot.



### III. LUNCHES AND CAFETERIA

#### **BREAKFAST**

Huth Road Elementary provides a nutritional breakfast of juice, milk, cereal and a bread product for \$1.00 every morning **beginning at 8:35 am.**

#### **LUNCH**

In addition to the choices on our lunch menu, daily alternates include: pizza, hot dog, PB&J and Fun Lunch. Children buying and those bringing lunch from home may also purchase bottled water, milk, ice cream, cookies and chips. Lunch is \$2.50. Menus are posted in the cafeteria, in classrooms, and on the district website. Our cafeteria manager can be reached at 716-773-8847.

#### **CAFETERIA MONEY**

The easiest way for our students to make cafeteria purchases is by using a declining balance. Please send a check of any amount made payable to "School Lunch Fund" anytime of the year, or visit [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). There is no lunch card to keep track of, and balances "roll over" from year to year. If your child's balance gets low, s/he will be given a reminder note to take home. If the account is depleted, s/he will call home to let you know. Thank you for maintaining a positive lunch account balance.

#### **FREE & REDUCED PRICE MEALS**

We ask that **all** families, regardless of income, complete the free and reduced lunch form at the beginning of each school year as this information determines our government funding for the school. Information will be kept strictly confidential. **Be sure to complete a new application each September.**

#### **CONSENT TO RELEASE FREE/REDUCED ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

If your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, s/he may be eligible for other benefits as well, such as free school supplies, personal care items or field trips. In order to receive these benefits, you need to provide consent to share your information with the principal or representatives of certain programs. The consent form does *not* affect your child's eligibility for free or reduced lunch.

#### **FOOD ALLERGIES**

If you have a child with allergies, be sure to contact the school nurse and your child's teacher to discuss a care plan before the school year begins.

#### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

Students' names are read over announcements to celebrate birthdays. If your child would like to bring a treat to share with the class, please contact your child's teacher to make arrangements. **If the treat is edible, only store bought items with posted ingredients are allowed unless your child's teacher indicates otherwise.** Thank you for including any paper products students may need to enjoy the treat. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

## **CAFETERIA PROCEDURES**

To help maintain a happy, healthy, and orderly cafeteria environment, students and staff are to observe the following procedures.

- Use the bathroom before *or* after lunch, not during.
- Glass containers are not permitted.
- No saving seats. Look for ways to be a good friend, and do not tolerate bullying. (Stick up for each other, and/or tell the monitor in private.)
- Stay seated with your knees under the table.
- Raise your hand for help.
- Use a quiet voice.
- No sharing or trading food or drink.
- If it is not yours, do not touch it.
- When asked to do so, throw out trash including checking for any dropped items on the floor.
- Wash hands *after* eating to remove any possible allergens.

## IV. HEALTH SERVICES

Our school nurse is a licensed R.N. assigned to our building on a full-time basis. You may contact her by calling the school office at 773-8850.

### **WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS**

It can be difficult to decide whether to send children to school when they wake up with early symptoms of an illness or complaints that they do not feel well. In general, unless your child is significantly ill, the best place for him is in school. Remind your children to discard used tissues promptly, not to share personal items, to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, to keep their hands away from their faces, and to wash hands thoroughly and often with soap and warm water. There are some situations in which it is best to keep your child home to rest or to arrange for an appointment with your healthcare provider. The following are a few such situations that warrant being absent from school:

- Persistent fever greater than 100.4° orally, including a fever that requires control with medication, like Tylenol
- Child is too sleepy or ill to profit from sitting in class all day
- Significant cough that makes a child feel uncomfortable or disrupts the class
- Sore throat that is severe, accompanied by fever, and/or ill feeling that persists longer than 48 hours, OR after known exposure to a confirmed case of streptococcal throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts that might be impetigo; OR a rash in various stages including boils, sores, and bumps that may be chicken pox; OR a significant rash accompanied by other symptoms of illness such as fever
- Red, runny eyes that distract the child from learning
- Large amount of discolored nasal discharge, especially if accompanied by facial pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or drainage from the ear
- Severe headache, especially if accompanied by fever
- Any condition that you think may be serious or contagious to others

Whenever there is an outbreak of a specific contagious infection, the school sends out a notice to parents to watch for symptoms. If your child starts to develop symptoms, it is important that you alert your own health care provider that your child had possible exposure. Be sure to ask your provider when it is safe for your child to return to school both for your child's health and for the health of the rest of the schoolchildren and personnel.

### **EXCUSES FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

On occasion, it may be necessary for children to be excused from physical education classes. Excuses from phys. ed. are approved through our school nurse. Excuses for more than five consecutive days must be issued by a

physician, and the student must be seen by a doctor to resume normal activity. Students who have an excuse from phys. ed. are not permitted to use the playground or engage in other physical activities.

### **REQUESTS FOR HOMEWORK FOR SICK STUDENTS**

If you expect your child to be absent for several days due to illness, you may request that homework be available for pickup in the office or sent home with a sibling or friend if you think your child is well enough to complete it at home. Please be aware that the preparation of these materials takes time, so adequate notice is greatly appreciated. It is expected that work requested will be completed and brought back with the child upon returning to school.

### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Health Appraisals are required by NYS for all Pre-K, K, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 10th grade students. If one is not provided, a written notification will be sent to inform the parent/guardian that the school medical director will perform a health appraisal in 30 days unless a current health appraisal is provided to the school within that time. A district health appraisal form is available on the website.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

If your child has needs that require the assistance of an adult on a field trip, such as to take medication, please discuss the matter with your child's teacher and the school nurse before the trip.

### **MEDICATION IN SCHOOL**

Prescription and over-the-counter medication must be brought to the school nurse by a parent in its original, labeled container. Additionally:

- Written permission must be submitted by the parent to the health office requesting that the school district comply with physician's orders.
- Written orders from a physician or instructions by the pharmacist must accompany the medication and include the name of drug, dosage, time interval, possible side effect, etc.
- During field trips or other school activities, classroom teachers will be advised by the nurse regarding procedures.

# V. CURRICULUM

## **INTRODUCTION**

We work hard to help our students master the curriculum and standards outlined by the District and NYSED. We use Fountas & Pinnell's Continuum of Literacy Learning to form the basis of our balanced literacy approach for ELA. For math, we utilize the EnVisions Math Program. Families of Grand Island Central Schools have access to a variety of Internet based tools to support individualized learning both in and out of the classroom. Be sure to visit our website to access these tools.

## **ASSESSMENTS**

The NYSED assessment calendar outlines when students in grades 3, 4 & 5 will take the NYS assessments. For more information on the NYS assessments, including sample questions, visit the NYSED website.

## **CLASSROOM PLACEMENTS**

Classroom placements are made in collaboration with teachers familiar with your child. It is important that we have all the information we need to place your child appropriately for the following school year. Should you have private information that should be considered when making placements that you do not wish to share with your child's current teacher, please send the information to the principal no later than April of the current school year. Note that we cannot accept requests for specific teachers.

## **CO-TAUGHT CLASSROOMS**

Each of our classrooms includes students with unique learning needs. All students receive differentiated instruction in a variety of ways. Some of our students' programming requires the expertise of a special education teacher within the classroom. Such a room is called a co-taught classroom. The majority of children assigned to a co-taught classroom do not have instructional accommodations while a handful of anonymous students do. The special education teacher collaborates and cooperates with the classroom teacher when planning and teaching lessons so that *all* students in the room can reach their full potential.

## **ART, MUSIC & PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Music and art classes are provided weekly to all students. Students should bring a smock with them to art class. Physical Education is provided at least twice weekly. Students may not wear jewelry of any kind to phys. ed. Sneakers must be worn. All students must be prepared for phys. ed. class outside during the fall and spring. A jacket and sweatpants may be needed according to the weather. Fourth and fifth grade students will need a change of clothing including shorts, a t-shirt and a towel for physical education classes. Deodorant should be used at home as necessary.

# Welcome to New 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

There are many exciting things you will learn this year! Some of them are...

## ELA

- Reading stories, including fables and folktales from different cultures, and identifying the lesson or moral of the story
- Reading texts about history, social studies, or science and identifying the main idea
- Answering who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about stories and books
- Describing the reasons that an author gives to support a point
- Learning and using new words
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Participating in class discussions by listening and building on what others are saying
- Describing in your own words information learned from articles or books read aloud
- Working to gather facts and information on a topic
- Writing about a short series of events and describing actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Writing about opinions on books using important details and examples to support a position

## **Math**

- Quickly and accurately adding numbers together that total up to 20 or less and subtracting from numbers up through 20
- Solving one- or two-step word problems by adding or subtracting numbers up through 100
- Understanding the place values in a three-digit number
- Adding and subtracting three digit numbers
- Measuring lengths of objects in standard units such as inches and centimeters
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length
- Solving problems involving money
- Breaking up a rectangle into same-size squares
- Dividing circles and rectangles into halves, thirds, or fourths
- Solving addition, subtraction, and comparison word problems using information presented in a bar graph
- Writing equations to represent addition of equal numbers

<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
Scientific Method	Exploring <i>communities</i> including culture, geography, citizenship, history, economics, civics and government.
Weather/Water Cycle	
Living Things/Life Traits	
Life Cycles, (Eggs to Toads kits)	
Energy, (heat, light, sound)	

Wow! You're going to have a great year! You may want to visit The Buffalo Science Museum, The History Museum, and the library to pique your interest in some of these topics.

***BE SURE TO READ EVERYDAY AND PRACTICE YOUR MATH FACTS!***

# Welcome to New 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

There are many exciting things you will learn next year! Some of them are...

## ELA

- Reading a wide range of stories and describing how a story teaches a lesson
- Describing characters in a story and how their actions contributed to events
- Reading texts about history, social studies, or science and answering questions about what they learned
- Referring to information from illustrations such as maps or pictures as well as the words in a text to support their answers
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Learning and using new words, including words related to specific subjects (such as science words)
- Participating in class discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story using relevant facts and details and speaking clearly
- Writing stories with dialogue and descriptions of character's actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Gathering information from books, articles, and online sources to build understanding of a topic
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

## **Math**

- Understanding and explaining what it means to multiply or divide numbers
- Multiplying all one-digit numbers from memory (knowing their times table)
- Multiplying one-digit numbers by multiples of 10 (such as 20, 30, 40)
- Solving two-step word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Understanding the concept of area and perimeter
- Relating the measurement of area to multiplication and division
- Understanding fractions as numbers
- Understanding and identifying a fraction as a number on a number line
- Comparing the size of two fractions
- Expressing whole numbers as fractions and identifying fractions that are equal to whole numbers (for example, recognizing that  $\frac{3}{1}$  and 3 are the same number)
- Measuring weights and volumes and solving word problems involving these measurements
- Representing and interpreting data

<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
Scientific Method	Comparing and contrasting a variety of world communities to learn about the social, political, geographical, economic and historical characteristics of the world's peoples and cultures.
Ecosystems/Biomes	
Plants	
Earth Movement and Interactions (Solar System)	
Simple Machines	

Wow! You're going to have a great year! You may want to visit The Buffalo Science Museum, The History Museum, and the library to pique your interest in some of these topics.

***BE SURE TO READ EVERYDAY AND PRACTICE YOUR MATH FACTS!***

# Welcome to New 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

There are many exciting things you will learn next year! Some of them are...

## ELA

- Identifying the theme or main idea of a story, play, or poem
- Comparing stories from different cultures
- Explaining how an author uses facts, details, and evidence to support their points
- Reading and understanding information presented in charts, graphs, timelines, and other illustrations
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Learning and using new words, including words related to specific subjects (such as science words)
- Participating in class discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story using relevant, organized facts and details and speaking clearly
- Writing stories with dialogue and descriptions of character's actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Taking notes and organizing information from books, articles, and online sources to learn more about a topic
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

## **Math**

- Adding and subtracting whole numbers up to 1 million quickly and accurately
- Solving multi-step word problems, including problems involving measurement and converting measurements from larger to smaller units
- Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers
- Extending understanding of fractions by comparing the size of two fractions with different numerators (top numbers) and different denominators (bottom numbers)
- Creating equal fractions ( $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3 \times 2}{4 \times 2} = \frac{6}{8}$ )
- Adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator
- Building fractions from smaller fractions ( $\frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$ )
- Connecting addition and subtraction of whole numbers to multiplying fractions by whole numbers
- Connecting addition of fractions to the concept of angle measurement
- Representing and interpreting data
- Converting fractions with denominators of 10 or 100 into decimals
- Locating decimals on a number line
- Comparing decimals and fractions using the symbols  $>$  (more than),  $=$  (equal to), and  $<$  (less than)

<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
Magnetism	Native American Indians of NYS
Human Genetics	Colonialism
Environmental Changes	Revolutionary War relative to NYS
	Exploration
	Global and NYS geography

Wow! You're going to have a great year! You may want to visit The Buffalo Science Museum, The History Museum, and the library to pique your interest in some of these topics.

***BE SURE TO READ EVERYDAY AND PRACTICE YOUR MATH FACTS!***



# Welcome to New 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

There are many exciting things you will learn this year! Some of them are...

## ELA

- Determining the theme of a story, play, or poem, including how characters respond to challenges
- Comparing and contrasting stories that deal with similar themes or topics
- Explaining how authors use reasons and evidence to support their points or ideas
- Drawing on information from multiple books, articles, or online sources to locate an answer or to solve a problem quickly
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Learning and using new words, including words related to specific subjects (such as science words)
- Understanding figurative language
- Participating in class discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story, introducing relevant facts and details in a clear, logical order
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

## **Math**

- Quickly and accurately multiplying multi-digit whole numbers
- Dividing numbers with up to four digits by two digit numbers
- Using exponents to express powers of 10 (in  $10^2$ , 2 is the exponent)
- Reading, writing, and comparing decimals to the thousandths place
- Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals to the hundredths place
- Writing and interpreting mathematical expressions using symbols such as parentheses. For example, “add 8 and 7, then multiply by 2” can be written as  $2 \times (8+7)$ .
- Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (bottom numbers) by converting them to fractions with matching denominators
- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers and other fractions
- Dividing fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by fractions
- Analyzing and determining relationships between numerical patterns
- Measuring volume using multiplication and addition

<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
Geology	The Western Hemisphere: The U.S., Canada and Latin America, including geographic, economic and social/cultural understandings.
Weather	
Chemistry	
Ecosystems	

Wow! You're going to have a great year! You may want to visit The Buffalo Science Museum, The History Museum, and the library to pique your interest in some of these topics.

***BE SURE TO READ EVERYDAY AND PRACTICE YOUR MATH FACTS!***

## VI. OTHER INFORMATION

### **HOMEWORK**

The amount of time families schedule for homework depends on many factors, but on average, your child should plan for 30 minutes of homework for grades 2 and 3 and 45 minutes of homework for grades 4 and 5. Students are also required to read from a good book each evening. If your child says there is no homework, be sure to check his or her agenda.

Assignments typically include math, a writing assignment, and reading. Students will also complete 3 research projects per year, and some of this work may be completed at home. Teachers have discretion on what to assign students for homework. They care deeply about our children's success, so do not hesitate to contact them with questions.

Our Shared Decision Making Team created a variety of short, home-made videos to support parents with typical homework and organization challenges. They are called Hurley's Homework Hints and are posted to our website. We hope you find them helpful!

### **READING AND MATH INCENTIVES**

To help motivate and encourage students to read and practice their math facts at home, those who reach their goals can be nominated by their teachers to become "Math Masters". Such students have their names announced over announcements and receive a special certificate from the principal indicating their achievement.

### **SUMMER READING**

Students are expected to read regularly throughout the summer and complete a summer reading log, which is distributed to all students at the end of the school year, shared out via e-news, and available on our website. Students who bring the completed book log to school in September participate in our Summer Reading Celebration. The celebration includes a special assembly of games and treats.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS**

School supply lists are available in the final report cards, on the website, and in the office. Teachers may ask for additional items at the beginning of the school year. We ask for parents' cooperation in sending in the items in a timely manner. School supplies are provided for those families who qualify. Please call the principal for information.

In addition to school supplies, parents may wish to keep the following items available for home use:

- Pencil sharpener

- Crayons, markers, colored pencils
- Glue and/or glue sticks
- Scissors
- Poster board for projects
- Loose leaf paper

## **TEXTBOOKS, LIBRARY BOOKS, & AGENDAS**

Textbooks and workbooks are provided for students. In the event that a student damages or loses a textbook, workbook, or agenda, the student's parents or guardians are responsible for the cost of replacing the item.

Students are responsible for returning library books on time. If a book is lost or damaged, a replacement fee will be assessed.

Agendas are used school wide as a means of teaching children organizational skills. Our PTA funds a portion of the cost, and parents are responsible for the balance. Should a replacement agenda be needed, parents will pay the full price of the agenda.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **PBIS INTRODUCTION**

Maintaining reasonable school discipline is a responsibility of both school and home. We expect our students to **behave in a courteous manner** always. We insist on certain rules of common courtesy, safety, and acceptable social behavior, not only in the classroom, but also in the cafeteria, on the bus, walking in the halls, on the playground, and in all special area classes. Students are responsible for their behavior and, as such, are taught that all behavior, both positive and negative, has consequences. The **"Viking Values"** are the district behavior expectations that were adopted by our District PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Committee. The Viking Values are explicitly taught in each of the areas identified by the PBIS Committee. The Viking Values are: **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.**

### **CONSEQUENCES**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly way. School staff, the principal or the principal's designee will discipline students who violate the school rules or the district's Code of Conduct. Consequences depend on the level of severity and may include verbal warning, requirement of verbal or written apologies, restitution, calls to parents, loss of privileges, in or out of school suspension, or a combination of consequences.

### **PLAYGROUND**

Our playground is paid for and maintained by our school through fundraising efforts. We expect our school community and visitors alike to treat our playground with respect and follow these safety rules:

- The playground is *not* for those older than twelve. Of course, parents and babysitters accompanying children are always welcome!
- The playground opens at dawn and closes at dusk.
- Go down the slides feet first, facing front. Do not slide backwards.
- Do not kick or throw the wood chips.
- Use a single line when climbing up stairs or waiting your turn.
- No pushing or pulling others.
- No jumping off equipment.

Residents living in homes adjacent to our playground are asked to help us maintain playground respect and safety by calling the sheriff (716-662-5554) or state police (716-297-0755) to report loitering or trespassing.

## **STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY for COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY**

### **APPEARANCE and DRESS**

#### Student Dress Code

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and/or back) short shorts, cutoffs, muscle shirts/tank-tops and see-through garments are not appropriate.
3. Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.
4. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is deemed inappropriate and/or a safety hazard as determined by the Administrator will not be allowed. (Students at Huth are encouraged to wear sneakers or rubber soled shoes daily.)
5. Not include the wearing of hats in the building and/or classroom except for a medical, religious or relevant instructional purpose.
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
8. Jewelry shall not be worn during the participation of athletic events and physical education including, but not limited to, any body piercing.
9. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student

who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

Huth students will have physical education classes outside as much as possible in the fall and spring. A jacket and sweatpants for cooler weather will be needed. Fourth and fifth grade students will need a change of clothing including shorts and a t-shirt for physical education classes—deodorant is to be applied at home prior to coming to school and may not be sent to school.

Teachers will inform the children if special attire is required for a field trip or picnic. Students attending special field trips such as to the Buffalo Philharmonic, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Studio Arena Theater, etc. are asked to dress up for the occasion. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are asked to dress up for their Moving Up Day ceremony at the end of the school year. The dress code must be followed, although secure shoes may be worn instead of sneakers on dress up days.

Please note that our Lost & Found is most active when the weather is cold in the morning and hot by the afternoon. Be sure to remind your children to put their outerwear in their school bags to return home each day.

### **LOCKERS & PERSONAL ITEMS**

Each student is assigned a locker to be shared with other students. Locks are not permitted, and students may not hang items on the inside of their locker door. Valued items should be left at home as lockers are not secure.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

A lost and found box is located in the hallway just outside of the office. Note that lost jewelry, watches and other small valuables are kept in the office. Children are encouraged to check regularly for missing items. Parents are also encouraged to check the lost and found with each school visit. Families often do not know what is missing until it is discovered in the lost and found. Items left unclaimed are donated to charity at each holiday break.

### **CELL PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES**

Cell phones or electronic devices may not be used during school hours, on the bus, or at after school activities without prior permission from the principal. Cell phones or electronic devices in use without permission will be confiscated and kept in the office for a parent to retrieve. If a parent wishes for his/her child to have a cell phone or electronic device in school, the parent must consult with the teacher first. Please note that the school is not responsible for the safety or security of cell phones, electronic devices, or any valuables brought to school. Lockers are not secure.

## VII. PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION

### **INTRODUCTION**

We believe that parents and teachers are partners in teaching children, and communication is vital to a successful partnership. Please keep in close contact with your child's teacher throughout the year. Open Houses, conferences, email, e-news, teacher webpages and newsletters are just a few of the ways to keep in touch. When calling the school to speak with a teacher, please be prepared to leave a message so that the teacher may return your call once students are dismissed. Teachers will make every effort to return your call by the next day.

### **PARENT CONFERENCES**

Parent conferences are scheduled on the calendar twice per year. Teachers will communicate with parents regarding the best way to schedule conferences. Parents wishing to schedule a conference outside of the scheduled conference days should contact the teacher to set up a mutually agreeable time.

### **PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARDS**

Progress Reports (report cards), are sent home with your child three times during the school year. Teachers also send home graded assignments and projects throughout the year. Be sure to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress.

### **STAFF DIRECTORY**

A staff directory is available on our website. To reach any staff member in the Grand Island Central School District via email, type the employee's first and last name followed by @gicsd.org.

### **HUTH HAPPENINGS – WEEKLY UPDATE**

Grand Island Schools use a message system to share important school information via email. Please be sure your contact information is current by updating the census verification forms sent home with children on the first day of school. You can also make changes by calling or visiting our district office, 1100 Ransom Road, 716-773-8800.

### **PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION PTA**

The Huth Road PTA has an active role in the school. The PTA supports a number of enrichment programs throughout the year such as concerts, theater performances, curriculum presentations, and others. The PTA also sponsors the Book Fairs, Fall Fundraiser, school pictures, yearbook, the distribution of PARP (Pick A Reading Partner) books, our annual Bazaar, and a host of other activities. Your involvement in your child's school is an investment in your child's future. Thank you for purchasing a \$5 membership.

PTA meetings and events are scheduled on the district calendar available online. PTA newsletters are sent home periodically via email. Please feel free to contact the PTA president, Mrs. Kate Girard, at [kgirard926@gmail.com](mailto:kgirard926@gmail.com) with questions or comments.

## VIII. SPECIAL AREAS & PROGRAMS

### INTRODUCTION

In addition to the core curriculum of English Language Arts, math, science and social studies, we also have physical education, art, music, library/research, orchestra, band, chorus, co-curricular activities, resource room, counseling services, speech/language, RtI, OT, PT, and ELL. All students participate in physical education, art, music, and library/research. If you would like more information about any of our other special services, please contact your child's teacher.

### RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION RTI, TIERS 2 AND 3

All students in NYS participate in RtI, or Response to Intervention, Tier 1. RtI or Response to Intervention, Tiers 2 and 3 is a state mandated instructional program designed for students who demonstrate a need for extra instructional support based on multiple assessment measures. If your child is recommended for RtI services over Tier 1, you will be notified. S/he will receive "push-in" or "pull-out" instruction in addition to the instruction taught in the classroom. You will be notified again once your child no longer qualifies for the extra support.

### THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION CSE

The Committee Special Education, or CSE, works with families of students with special education needs. Often times, students with special education needs have a document called an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) that outlines the accommodations and/or modifications needed to help the child succeed in school. Grand Island has created a Support Network for families of children with special education needs. Be sure to sign up to receive their e-news messages on your e-news profile as needed.

### SPEECH/LANGUAGE/OT/PT/ELL

Huth Road Elementary offers services in speech/language, OT (Occupational Therapy), PT (Physical Therapy), and ELL (English Language Learning) for those students who qualify.

## IX. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### INTRODUCTION

Huth Road offers an assortment of co-curricular programs for students in grades 3 – 5. Late buses, which leave the school at 4:00 pm, are provided for the transportation of students who stay for school sponsored after-school activities.

Co-curricular activities are updated regularly on the school website and are communicated to students from the respective teachers. If your child is interested in participating in a co-curricular activity, please discuss the long-term nature of the commitment with him or her.

All after-school activities require students to take the late bus home. Exceptions to this rule will be made for students who present a note from a parent/guardian stating that they will be picked up. Students must be picked up before the late buses leave the campus; otherwise the student will be sent home on the late bus. Delayed parents who notify the school about their tardiness in picking up their child will be given exception to this rule; however, these instances must not be recurring events.

If your child is signing up for any of our co-curricular activities, it is expected that they make **EVERY** attempt to attend ALL of the meeting dates – it is very difficult for our teachers to plan when they don't know when each student will be there.

The following activities are offered throughout the year:

### **CHORUS (Grades 3-5)**

Like band and orchestra, our choral groups are very popular. Students are expected to learn the music and basic choreography for performances. Like band and orchestra, concerts are scheduled in the evenings two or three times per year and various concerts are held during the school day. Attendance at the evening concerts is mandatory. Most choral rehearsals take place after school September through May, however, Select Chorus meets before school. It is the responsibility of the students to attend all rehearsals unless they have an excused absence. There are four sections of choir/chorus:

- Boys' Choir (Grade Levels 4 & 5)
- Girls' Chorus (Grade Levels 4 & 5)
- Third Grade Chorus
- Select Chorus (by audition only)

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (Grades 4-5)**

Opportunities for instrumental music lessons are provided to students beginning in Grade 4. Strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion instruments are available. Student preferences are accommodated when possible, however, aptitude and the formation of a balanced performance group, such as band and string ensemble, are considered as well. Instrumental lessons are held weekly on a rotating basis so that students do not miss the same subject continually. Students are responsible for any missed work in the classroom, weekly preparations, as well as performance preparations. Most instruments must be rented by the parents. Please check with your child's music teacher to determine whether the instrument is available through the school.



### **BAND (Grades 4-5)**

Students are welcomed to perform with the large instrumental ensemble after 4-8 months of school lesson instruction on wind, brass or percussion instruments. Band rehearsals are held after school twice a week September through May and focus on performances three times during the year. Students must be enrolled in music lessons at Huth Road and demonstrate skill levels necessary for invitation to participate in the band.

### **ORCHESTRA (Grades 4-5)**

Participation in orchestra is offered to students studying a string instrument when they reach a required skill level as identified by the instructor. Students must be enrolled in string lessons to participate. Practice outside of school is necessary and attendance at all concerts is required. The orchestra is a combined group of students from Huth Road and Kaegebein. Rehearsals may be scheduled at either building from October through May. A special bus transports students to and from rehearsals.

### **BOYS' / GIRLS' INTRAMURALS (Grades 4-5)**

Our phys. ed. Teachers offer a program of organized sports and activities in five sections October through May. **Students must wear sneakers.**

### **HOMEWORK CLUB (Grades 3-5)**

Students may participate in Homework Club either voluntarily or by teacher recommendation. Participants receive organizational and basic HW support once a week after school. Students are responsible for having their materials ready for each session.

### **EARLY ACT (aka SERVICE CLUB) (Grades 4-5)**

The Early Act Club meets approximately once a week from October through May depending on the level of participation required for each project. Projects are chosen according to their benefit to our school, the Grand Island community and the WNY area. Early Act is sponsored by the GI Rotary Club.

### **ART CLUB (Grade 5)**

Art Club is offered October through May for students interested in the visual arts. Students will create individual works of art as well as group projects. Students may be presented with media or techniques that they have not had an opportunity to explore previously. Most work will be displayed in school and throughout the community.

### **SAFETY PATROL (Grade 5)**

Students in Safety Patrol are assigned a duty station in or outside the school at arrival and dismissal. Safety patrols provide a safe entry and departure of all students by maintaining order and reinforcing the Viking Values.

### **STUDENT AMBASSADORS (Grade 5)**

Students that are Student Ambassadors are representatives of Huth Road for events like welcoming new students to the school and/or district, being a lunch buddy for someone, being a reading buddy for someone, helping with the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade orientation, secret kindness missions, service projects throughout the year, just to mention a few. Students will be recognized with a certificate and our 5<sup>th</sup> grade moving up day. These students will work directly with the Principal throughout the school year. If interested, please email me at [maxwellpikula@gicsd.org](mailto:maxwellpikula@gicsd.org).