

Zemmer 8/9 Campus News

Principal, Dr. Jeff Stanton
Associate Principal, Mr. Rich Cross
Deans of Students, Jack Chittle, Tanya Blaine
Head Secretary, Mrs. Ann Vierk
Athletic/Attendance Secretary, Mrs. Ann Tiffany
Auxiliary Secretary, Mrs. Michelle Sierakowski



1920 W Oregon Road, Lapeer, MI 48446
Ph (810) 667-2413
Office Hours 7:00am–3:30pm
zemmer.lapeerschools.org

September 2023



Mark Your Calendar!

September 1 and 4

- No School, Labor Day Weekend

September 12

- ALICE Lockdown DRILL

September 13

- PAC Meeting 7:50 a.m.

October 5

- Picture Retakes (forms in office)

October 18

- Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30pm to 7pm

October 24

- Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30pm to 7pm

October 27

- No School

November 20-24

- No School - Thanksgiving Break

Principal's Message

Welcome back for another school year at Zemmer! I am afraid to jinx it, but I cannot remember a first week of school that has went as well as this one. There are always a few hiccups with schedules and other minor "beginning of the year stuff" but I was extremely happy overall. The students were great this week and our 8th graders really seem to be acclimating to the new environment better than any 8th grade group I can remember. We have no current vacancies with staff or long-term subs so that is another major positive. I'm really looking forward to a fantastic year.

The Zemmer Newsletter comes out the first week of every month. As I mentioned in the beginning of the year video for parents, this is your main source of information for important dates, school happenings, and athletic information. It usually does not exceed 3-4 pages so please take 5 minutes a month to review it.

Student Schedules



One downside to the beginning of the school year at the secondary level is schedule changes and adjustments. Unfortunately, this is unavoidable. As is usually the case, the school does not have accurate student counts until after the first couple of days of school when we have a better idea of students that have dropped over the summer. We also always have some new enrollees on the first day.

We understand how schedule changes for some middle schoolers is a really big deal. Here they are in a new school, they finally get their routes and classes figured out, and we go and change it on them. That being said, your student may experience unavoidable adjustments to their schedules. Our goal is to keep class sizes down and equitable. Any student who is receiving a schedule change will be called down to the counseling office where they will be given a new schedule. You can always see the most updated schedule by looking on Powerschool.

Please understand that the only schedule changes we make at this point are out of necessity. Most student schedule change requests are so they can be with friends in classrooms or in a certain lunch. We cannot honor requests like this because even small changes can have a butterfly effect on the rest of the master schedule. Often classes are full and to move students into them require moving another student out. Reasons for schedule changes include they are missing a class, they are supposed to have Geometry and not Algebra, and other similar reasons.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Meetings

Each month we hold a PAC meeting at Zemmer. The PAC is different than a PTC in that we focus on academics and other matters that are directly related to the school day, rather than fundraisers or other events. Any parent is welcome to attend. Our first PAC meeting will be here at Zemmer on September 13th at 7:50 a.m. Please just check in at our main office.

Pickup/Dropoff

When you need to pick up or drop off your student during the school day you may use the front entrance. Please avoid being in the main office parking lot and loop from 7:00 to 7:45 as this time is reserved for busses to drop students off. **You should also avoid the bus loop between 2:15 and 2:45 as well because this is when busses are beginning to line up to pick students up at the end of the day.** If you are in the bus loop at this time, you risk getting blocked in until the busses leave at 2:45.

Yearbooks

Zemmer Yearbooks are currently available. Order now for the lowest price of the year. The weblink for purchasing is <http://jostensyearbooks.com?ref=A01050650>.

Chromebooks



Every Zemmer student was issued a Chromebook this past week. I know I sound like a broken record, but I can't stress enough how important it is for students to bring a charged Chromebook daily to school. I have suggested with all students they take their charger home and take their Chromebook home **every night** and make sure it is plugged in before they go to bed. A charged Chromebook will last an entire day. Here's an example of a great relatively inexpensive charging station. This is the one used at the Stanton household and it has never let us down. [Charging Station](#).

Teachers are continuing to use Google Classroom to post assignments and work for students who are absent. This is not a replacement for instruction but rather a way students can access assignments or materials they have missed while they were absent. This is much better than the old-fashioned way of having to get the printed materials from the teacher upon their return. Later next week we will have all Google Classroom codes posted on our website.

Office Hours & Phone Numbers

Regular office hours at Zemmer 8/9 Building are 7am - 3:30pm.

To facilitate a prompt response to telephone calls, direct lines are provided.

Telephone numbers follow:

Main Office	667-2413
Attendance Office	667-2413 x223402
Counseling Office - Mrs. Isa	667-2413 x223410
Counseling Office - Mrs. Spisz	667-2413 x223410
Dean of Students, Jack Chittle	667-2413 x223405 (Discipline Related Issues)
Dean of Students, Tanya Blaine	667-2413 x223403 (Discipline Related Issues)
Associate Principal – Rich Cross	667-2413 x222348 (Athletics/Discipline)
Principal – Dr. Jeff Stanton	667-2413 x222380



The building opens at 7:15am for all students. After school, students should leave the building by 2:35pm unless involved in a supervised activity or class. The Media Center is open until 3:30pm for students who need space to work. The cafeteria is open until 3:30pm daily for athletes who are waiting for practices or games to start.



Teacher Contact

Teachers may be contacted by using their email address at Zemmer 8/9 Campus. This is a quick and easy way to keep in touch with your child's individual instructors as well as all staff members. Email addresses are typically be the teacher's first name, a period, their last name @lapeerschools.org.

Example: (Jane Smith)
jane.smith@lapeerschools.org

Student Meals

Breakfast and **LUNCH** will be free for all students. We ask that all families to apply for free and reduced lunches. This process is required by the State of Michigan for Title I and 31a purposes. Paper applications can be found at our Administration Services Center. The online application for the 2023-2024 school year can be found here:

<https://lapeer.familyportal.cloud/>

Powerschool



PowerSchool's user-friendly and easy-to-navigate interface provides a convenient way to check your student's grades, attendance, school bulletins, notes from teachers, and any missing assignments. We highly recommend enabling the e-mail notifications in Power School to automatically receive daily, weekly, every other week, or monthly updates via e-mail. This eliminates the need to log into PowerSchool to check your student's progress and attendance.

Attendance

Having good attendance is extremely important to the academic success of students. Good attendance has a direct correlation to better grades. Our honor roll students all generally have less than 4 or 5 absences for the entire year. If you are having any trouble ensuring your student is here on a daily basis let us know as there may be things we can do to help.

If a student is absent, a parent should do the following:

Call the Attendance Office, for students in grades 8-9, by dialing **direct (667-2413, ext. 223402)** to excuse the absence. Also, provide a note from the parent/guardian for the attendance office on the first day back from an absence (the note should explain the reason for the absence.)

The attendance and truancy policy will be explained and provided to students during the first week of school. Please take the time to review this policy with your student. You can find these policies in the student handbook.



Athletic Update

Middle School Fall Sports 2023

Rich Cross

Associate Principal - Zemmer 8/9 Campus
Middle School Athletic Director
richard.cross@lapeerschools.org
810-667-2413 (ext. 222348)

Ann Tiffany

Attendance/Athletics Secretary
Zemmer 8/9 Campus
ann.tiffany@lapeerschools.org
810-667-2413 (ext. 223402)

Amanda Turner

Attendance/Athletics Secretary
Rolland-Warner 6/7 Campus
amanda.turner@lapeerschools.org
810.538.2334 (ext. 223302)

All information regarding individual sports will be updated on the district athletics' website:

<http://lapeerlightning.com>

FALL SPORTS CONTACTS

7th Football

Jim Lane
james.lane@lapeerschools.org

8th Football

Lenny Gosciniak
leonard.gosciniak@lapeerschools.org
Matt Nowak
matthew.nowak@lapeerschools.org

MS Cross Country

Ken Baginski
kenneth.baginski@lapeerschools.org
John McCreedy
john.mccreedy@lapeerschools.org

7th Girls Basketball

Kent Meister
kent.meister@lapeerschools.org

8th Girls Basketball

Steve Brandt
stephen.brandt@lapeerschools.org

7th Sideline Cheer

Lexie Coulter
alexandria.coulter@lapeerschools.org

8th Sideline Cheer

Deanna Michalik
deanna.michalik@lapeerschools.org

Fall Sports Athletic Clearance

To participate in athletics, all student athletes need a physical (dated on or after April 15th, 2023) completed on a MHSAA Physical Form, a signed Athletic Code of Conduct acknowledgement, and a completed emergency medical form. All of these forms are available in the RW Main Office and online at www.lapeerlightning.com

Fall Sports Practices

7th Football - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. @ RW (behind school)

8th Football - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. @ Zemmer (behind school)

MS Cross Country - 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. @ RW Campus

7th Girls Basketball - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. @ RW Gym

8th Girls Basketball - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. @ Zemmer Gym

7th & 8th Sideline Cheer - 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday @ Zemmer Cafeteria

Fall Sports Schedules

7th Football

<https://lapeerlightning.com/teams/3764075/boys/football/7th%20grade/schedule>

8th Football

<https://lapeerlightning.com/teams/3764074/boys/football/8th%20grade/schedule>

MS Cross Country

<https://lapeerlightning.com/teams/3754180/girls/cross-country/8th%20grade/schedule>

7th Girls Basketball

<https://lapeerlightning.com/teams/3764081/girls/basketball/7th%20grade/schedule>

8th Girls Basketball

<https://lapeerlightning.com/teams/3764080/girls/basketball/8th-grade>

Sportsmanship

Some general sportsmanship reminders for spectators:

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and yell for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Remember that school athletics are learning experiences for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.