

AUBURN ELEMENTARY

AUBURN ATTRACTIONS



SEPTEMBER '19

301 East Midland Road, Auburn, MI. 48611 (989) 662-4921

www.bcpsauburn.com

SEPTEMBER EDITION

Hello Auburn Elementary Families,

We hope that your children have enjoyed their back to school experience this past week. It was such a pleasure to see the excitement the students brought to Curriculum Night and the first day of school. It's always a joy to have the students back into the building ready to grow and learn together. We look forward to the next 9 months together that will be filled with engaging and valuable learning experiences.

Our hope is that you feel a warm welcome from our staff as you transition your child to the start of the new school year. The Auburn Elementary staff is committed to EXCELLENCE for your child(ren). We recognize that hard work and continuous improvement is the key to our success.

As staff, we are appreciative and thankful that we have such outstanding students and parents at Auburn. Please volunteer for any of our classroom and school events as frequently as you can.

Please make sure to let us know if there is anything we can do to make your child(ren) learning environment more positive.

This is your first newsletter of many to come throughout the school year. Please watch for it to come through Skyward as well as be posted out on our website and on Facebook at the beginning of each month. I have listed important dates on the side and will continue to add to those dates throughout the school year.

If you would like to see things that are happening throughout the building on a weekly basis please like us on Facebook as we will be posting pictures of the great things happening here at Auburn Elementary as often as possible.

Have a wonderful month!

IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPTEMBER

6 FUNDRAISER
BEGINS
11 PICTURE DAY
13 POPCORN
27 POPCORN

OCTOBER

11 HALF DAY
12 POPCORN
25 END OF MKP
25 POPCORN
25 HARVEST
DANCE

NOVEMBER

1 NO SCHOOL
5 PTC (4:15-7:15)
7 PTC (4:15-7:15)
8 POPCORN
22 POPCORN
27-29 NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

13 POPCORN

12/23-1/3 NO SCHOOL

**Pre pay popcorn day information to come home the first week of September. Look for it in your child's book bag.

SCHOOL/OFFICE HOURS 8:15a.m.—4:15p.m.

Student Arrival & Breakfast	8:15-8:35a.m.
Classroom Instruction Begins	8:41 a.m.
Student Dismissal	3:35p.m.

WELCOME NEW STAFF

- Mrs. Carol Kuenker, Admin. Asst.
- Trisha Sniesinski, Learning Lab
- Stephen Richard, Physical Ed.

STUDENT SAFETY & SECURITY

During the school day all exterior doors to the building are locked, including the main entrance which has a video monitoring system. Please do not place our students or staff in uncomfortable situations by knocking on locked doors to enter the school. You will be buzzed in to the main office where you will need to have your drivers license to check in with our new Raptor system. You will then be given a badge and can move to the appropriate location within the building.

Safety drills are scheduled and practiced each school year to familiarize students with procedures should an actual emergency occur. Five fire drills, three lock down (secure building) drills and two severe weather (tornado) drills are conducted annually.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Your child may be absent from school for a variety of reasons throughout the school year. These are usually unavoidable situations resulting in an absence for the full day, half day, or maybe just an hour out of the school day. We encourage you to try to schedule appointments so that your child does not miss classroom instruction during the school day. In the event this is not possible, please contact the Attendance Office Associate at (989) 662-4921, (press option #1), to report your child's absence from school. This extension is voicemail only and all you will need to do is record your child's name and reason for the absence.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance record or the BCPS Elementary attendance policy, please contact our Attendance Office between the hours of 8:00a.m.-11:15a.m. at (989) 662-4921, (press option #0).

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

2019/20 PTO Co-Coordinators

Misti Shaver, Laura Hill, Stacie Young, Holly Wagner

1ST MEETING DATE: Monday, September 16, 2019 **CONTACT:** auburnpto@bcschools.net

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS

Every parent who plans to help out in some way (classroom helper, chaperone field trips, etc.) at Auburn Elementary is required to complete a volunteer application through our RAPTOR system. You can find this link below, on Facebook, and at our website under "FOR PARENTS" then PTO & VOLUNTEERS. As always we appreciate your time and support dedicated to our students.

<https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MjA1MDplbi1VUw==>

FALL FUNDRAISER

The annual Fall Fundraiser begins **Friday, September 6th**, with a kick off assembly, and ends Monday, September 20th. This Fundraiser raises \$14,000.00 annually to support teacher supplies for classroom instruction.

**We are also collecting Box Tops for Education so please send them in as well to your child's teacher.

NWEA TESTING

Starting the first week of September students will be taking the nwea MAP Growth test in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics. This test is given three times per year (Fall, Winter, Spring). Teachers will use this data to inform instruction, personalize learning, and monitor the growth of individual students.



HOW IT WORKS

MAP Growth is a computer- adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If he/she answers incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.

WHAT IT MEASURES

MAP Growth uses a RIT (Ready for Instruction Today) scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time which allows you to track your child’s progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, he/she will receive a RIT score.

THE RESULTS: YOUR CHILD’S RIT SCORE

RIT scores will be sent home with students approximately a week after testing. Students will have an opportunity to review their data and create a personal growth goal. Please look for this to come home after testing is completed.

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR TESTING...

You can’t study for this test. However, you can encourage your child to get a good night’s rest, eat a healthy breakfast, and come to school with a positive mindset prior to testing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher or Mrs. Bailey at 989-662-4921 or by email at baileya@bcschools.net.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conference scheduling is an on-line process this school. A “*Sign-Up Genius*” link will be sent to you via email to schedule your child’s Parent Teacher conferences.

- Fall PT Conferences
Tuesday, 11/5/19 & Thursday, 11/7/19
- Spring PT Conferences
Tuesday, 3/24/20 & Thursday, 3/26/20

NAVIGATING THE PARKING LOT

The capacity of the Auburn Elementary parking lot is extremely limited. We know that the size of the parking lot creates challenges during school arrival, events and dismissal. A lot of options have been explored to resolve the congestion but, in the end, we need your patience, cooperation and help to make student drop-off and pick-up safe for students.



MORNING EXPRESS DROP-OFF LANE

The express drop-off lane in the morning is for dropping-off child(ren) curbside only. When using this lane please drive your car past the school bus lane entrance to the walkway island, drop off your child(ren) at the island and then proceed either to a parking space if you have school business to conduct or out of the parking lot. Do not park your car in the express drop-off lane and then walk your child(ren) inside.

SCHOOL EVENTS & DISMISSAL

Be cautious about where you park your car when attending Auburn Elementary events or during student dismissal. We encourage you to utilize school bus transportation, provided by the district, to avoid the parking lot congestion during school dismissal. Please park your car in a designated parking space; not in entrance and exit lanes or the school bus parking lane. The Bay County Sheriff's Department has warned that tickets will be issued to anyone parking in no parking zones, handicapped spaces as well as any business parking lots used by anyone but patrons of that business around Auburn Elementary.

STUDENT PICK-UP ZONE

Students are not permitted to walk, unattended, to meet parents at their car parked in the parking lot at dismissal. Parents are asked to park their cars and walk to the Student Pick-Up Zone to meet their child(ren). The Student Pick-Up Zone is the yellow cone and striped area at the end of the gated walkway near the digital message sign. Our staff will walk students to the Student Pick-Up Zone to meet parents. Parents are asked not to stand in the parking lot entrance and school bus lanes near the Shipping and Receiving exit or along the gated area; please wait in the designated yellow cone and striped zone. Our staff will ensure your child(ren) make it to your location.

Skyward is the Bay City Public Schools on-line student data base and it can be accessed by parents and students through internet or a cell phone application. Attendance, academic grade books / progress reports and messages from your child's classroom teacher(s) can be viewed on Skyward. All you need is an email address to have access to academic and attendance information for your child(ren), receive messages from your child(ren)'s classroom teacher(s), school newsletters or other school community related information.



If you are not already able to access Skyward, or you forgot your password, please contact our school office, confirm or provide an email address and a Skyward account user email will be sent to your email address. Once you login you will be prompted to change your password and you can then begin using Skyward.

3RD GRADE READING LAW

A Parent Guide to Public Act 306



1 What Is The Law All About?

- ▶ In an effort to boost reading achievement, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in October 2016.
- ▶ Michigan's test scores on both the Michigan-based M-STEP ELA assessment and the NAEP (National Assessment of Education Progress) reading assessment have shown a need for attention to early reading and literacy.
- ▶ On the 2015 NAEP Michigan was 41st in the nation for the 4th grade reading achievement.
- ▶ To help more students be proficient by the end of 3rd grade, the law requires extra support for K-3 students who are not at grade level in reading.
- ▶ The law also states that a child may be retained in 3rd grade if he is one or more grade levels behind in reading at the end of 3rd grade.

3 How will This Affect My Child?

In Grades K-3:

- ▶ Your school will use tests to identify students that need extra help with reading. These students:
 - ▶ Are at risk of not passing the M-STEP ELA in 3rd grade.
 - ▶ Are not reading at the expected level for his or her grade level and time of year.



If your child is identified as needing additional supports (extra help), your school will provide your child with an individual reading improvement plan. This means your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support in his reading development and create a plan to support him.

- ▶ The extra supports in your child's reading improvement plan will occur in small groups during the school day.
 - ▶ Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.
 - ▶ Part of your child's reading plan will include a read at home plan that encourages you and your child to read and write outside of the school day.
 - ▶ Your child may also be encouraged to participate in summer reading programs.

Your child's teacher will also receive supports in evidence-based effective practices in teacher reading and writing supporting all learners to grow as readers and writers.

2 What Do I Need to Know As A Parent?

- ▶ Your child's reading progress will be closely monitored.
- ▶ If your child is not reading where expected, a plan to improve reading will be created. This includes:
 - ▶ Extra instruction or support in areas of need
 - ▶ Ongoing checks on reading progress
 - ▶ A Read at home plan
- ▶ If you are notified your child may be retained, you have the right to meet with school officials and to request an exemption if in the best interest of your child. You have the right and are encouraged to be involved every step of the way!



In 3rd Grade:

- ▶ Starting in 2019-2020, a student will not be promoted to 4th grade unless he:
 - ▶ Receives a reading score of less than 1 year behind on grade 3 ELA state assessment (M-STEP)
 - ▶ Shows a grade 3 reading level on another test approved by superintendent of public instruction
 - ▶ Shows a grade 3 reading level through a portfolio, or collection, of student work in all grade 3 ELA standards.
- ▶ A child will only be required to repeat 3rd grade once.
- ▶ You may be notified by the state and district if your child may be required to be retained.
- ▶ You as a parent have a right:
 - ▶ To ask for a "good cause exemption" with the school or district within 30 days once notified.
 - ▶ To request a meeting with school officials (principal, etc.).



3RD GRADE READING LAW

A Parent Guide to Public Act 306



3 How will This Affect My Child? *continued*

Are there any exceptions? Considerations may be made if your child:

- ▶ Has an IEP or 504 plan
 - ▶ Is a English proficient student (speaks second language)
 - ▶ Has had a reading improvement plan for 2 years and was previously retained
 - ▶ Has been enrolled in current district for less than 2 years and did not receive reading support
 - ▶ Is grade level in all other subjects
 - ▶ Is in the best interest of the student and requested within 30 days
- ▶ If a request is made, the district superintendent will make a decision in writing and notify parents.
- ▶ The decision will be shared at least 30 days before school begins. The decision is final.

If your child repeats 3rd grade:

- ▶ His class will be with a highly rated teacher and/or reading specialist.
- ▶ Most of the day will be spent on reading instruction but some 4th grade standards will also be taught.
- ▶ Students will still have an independent reading improvement plan and get extra support.
- ▶ Student progress will be closely monitored.



4 What Can I Do To Support My Child?

Read at home with your child daily with books they enjoy-even in the summer. Some ways to do this:

- ▶ Read out loud to your child
- ▶ Listen to your child read.
- ▶ Echo read (You read a line, then they repeat).
- ▶ Read together at the same time.
- ▶ Reread or retell favorite stories.
- ▶ Talk to your child about the reading.



As you read:

- ▶ Ask your child to share what they remember.
- ▶ Ask questions about the reading.
- ▶ Talk about your favorite parts, what you've learned, or who is in the book and what they do.
- ▶ Talk about the pictures in the book how they connect to the words on the page.
- ▶ Help connect the stories to your child's life or other books you've read.

Contact: Curriculum Department
Bay City Public Schools, 989-671-8131
Information compiled from Saginaw ISD

Talk to and with your kids a lot- knowing more words helps kids to understand the words they read better.

Encourage writing – Let children write the sounds they hear, spelling is developmental and a work in progress.

Be involved in your child's education and support the reading plan if your child has one.

Watch this reading activity and try it at home with your child:

Echo Reading



<http://bit.ly/2dUEDPI>



Contact your classroom teacher for further information and support for your child.