# HOWARD DRAGONS

### April 25' Newsletter

Howard Elementary 1611 North York Street, Dearborn, MI 313-827-6350

Greetings Howard Families,

Spring is here! It is a great time to promote more outdoor activities for our children and less screen time! Less screen time usually leads to happier, healthier, and more focused children. We know it is not always easy to minimize screen time in our digital world, but we hope to work together to promote a healthy balance for all our students. We appreciate the teamwork!

This past month (March is Reading Month) has been filled with fun and educational activities for our children. Thank you to all the staff, students, and parents who have made this month special! We had many guest readers from our community; we consistently received positive feedback about Howard's outstanding students and staff. It is a true reflection of the Howard community! We could not be more proud of our successes, academic achievement and progress, and the school community's teamwork. Go Dragons!

Please contact the office if you have any questions about registering your child for the summer discovery program! We have already sent out many communications regarding this and want to ensure you do not miss any information.

Wishing you a wonderful spring!

Take care and stay connected! Mrs. Sabbagh



Website to practice for online M-STEP: https://wbte.drcedirect.com/MI/portals/mi

All grade levels will take the iReady assessment in math and ELA. iReady testing for students in grades K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade will take place from April 28th to May 9th. Students in 5th grade will take the iReady assessment between April 7th and April 25th (this test will determine admission into STEM middle school for fifth-graders interested in this program).

Beginning in April, grades 3-5 will also take the state M-STEP assessment, which has a testing window from April 7th to May 16th. Click here to view some helpful information for parents; please let your child's teacher know if you have questions.

Please see the testing windows for each grade: 5th Grade:

MSTEP testing will take place from April 7th -May 16th.

4th Grade:

MSTEP testing will take place from April 21st to May 16th.

3rd Grade:

MSTEP testing will take place from April 21st to May 16th.

### Attendance:

Please call the attendance line if your child will be absent at 313-827-6351 or enter it in Parent Connect. The first bell is at 8:55 am, and the tardy bell is at 9:00 am. Instruction begins at 9:00 am. *Please note that if your child is sick*,

we ask you to keep them home; however, please refrain from scheduling non-urgent appointments, events, and vacations during school days. Please review this document to understand when to keep your child at home due to illness. Your child's presence directly impacts their social, emotional, and academic growth and success. We kindly request that you refrain from signing your child out past 3:30 unless it is urgent. If you need to sign your child out for a doctor's appointment, please contact the school in the morning and inform the office/teacher so we can prepare your child for you and avoid classroom disruptions. Thank you for your support and understanding!

## **Important Dates:**

Below is the link to the 24-25' school calendar 2024-2025 School Calendar

- April 1st-Return to School After Spring Break
- April 3rd- "Sweet" Eid Celebration for students hosted by the PTA (schedule will be during school hours, and parents are welcome to join in the cafeteria)
- April 9th-Parent/PTA Meeting @9:15 A.M.
- April 11th-PTA Glow Party in the evening (more details to follow)
- April 12th- Martian Marathon @12pm
- April 14th-Kindergarten Round-up 10-11 A.M. at Howard
- April 17th-PTA Easter Egg Treat for students
- April 18th- No school- Happy Easter to those celebrating!
- April 25th-PTA Bake Sale sponsored by fourth grade; all items are \$1
- April 26th-Spring Bazaar 12-6 pm (Hosted by the Dearborn Education Foundation)

## Traffic/Safety

ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS MUST ENTER USING DOOR 1 (THE MAIN DOOR); PLEASE RING THE INTERCOM BELL.

N. York St. is a one-way street, and DRIVE-UP LANE driving southbound during arrival and dismissal. Please do not park your vehicle and leave it unattended in the DRIVE-UP LANE of N. York St. & Lawrence St. Remain in your car.

- Morning Arrival
  - All students should arrive no earlier than 8:50 a.m. (unless

- your child is in Kid's Club or is joining to eat breakfast at 8:30 a.m.).
- If your child will join us for breakfast, please ensure they are at school by 8:45 a.m.
- Outdoor Recess
  - Students should wear shoes that are appropriate and safe for playing. We recommend sneakers.
  - Please ensure students wear shoes that allow them to enjoy recess without restrictions; please refrain from sending your child to school with "slides/slippers" as they typically do not have a backside/strap to support their heel or side support to support their ankles. We want to ensure students can run, twist, hop, and jump safely with no injuries.;)

# Student Expectations/SEL Support

- Students and staff continue to review our Howard Positive Behavior Expectations Matrix. The Howard School community has pledged to be respectful, responsible, and safe. Please view our <u>Howard PBIS</u> <u>Matrix</u> to understand the expectations.
- Recently, our PBIS assembly included a
  Detroit Lions leadership component.
  Students engaged in an assembly about
  responsibility and never giving up by
  persevering through tough times. The
  students had a great time!
- Also, some grade levels have recently engaged in a "Words Matter" workshop to ensure students understand the gravity of their words and how they impact their peers and themselves.
- Please note that our school social worker, Ms. Georgia Kaiafas is available to provide support. Her <u>April Newsletter</u> is linked so that you can contact her personally.