



NEWSLETTER

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 Kyle Schultz, Assistant Principal
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 Fax 248.674.4222 | Phone 248.674.0331

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5145 Hatchery Road, Waterford, MI 48329

September 2019

EVERY DAY

COUNTS!

DON'T LET ABSENCES ADD UP

Are you confused on the difference between an unexcused, excused, and exempt absence? Read the definitions below to learn more.

Unexcused Absence: An absence when the parent/guardian does not call to excuse the absence and, as a result, receives an automated Blackboard Connect alert.

Excused Absence: An absence when the parent/guardian calls the school within 48 hours of the absence to inform the school that the student will not be in attendance. Vacations are an example of an excused absence. Please note that these absences still count towards the student's total number of absences.

Exempt Absences: An absence that is reported but does not count toward the attendance cap. To obtain an exemption the student/parent must provide one of the following to the school office: documentation from a physician, dentist, orthodontist, or therapist stating the student had an appointment that required being absent for a portion of the school day.

- Documentation from a physician stating the student was ill and needed to be absent from school for a specified period of time.
- Documentation of a religious holiday, funeral of a close family member, legal requirements, or out of school suspensions.

Students should miss no more than 10 excused or unexcused days per year. Missing more than this can begin to affect a student's academic success. Each school day is important to ensure students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to be prepared for the next grade level.

For more information on the Waterford School District's Attendance Policy or why school attendance is critical to academic achievement please contact your child's school or the Waterford Success Program at 248-682-1086.

OFFICE HOURS

7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

TEACHER HOURS

7:50 a.m.—3:20 p.m.

Attendance Line: 248.674.1144

Administration: 248-673-1004

Counseling Office: 248.674.3288

Bookstore/Bookkeeper: 248.674.0333

Pierce Food Service: 248.674.7671

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thursday, September 12

6:00-8:00 p.m.

We encourage all parents to attend. You will have the opportunity to meet each of your child's teachers and attend shortened classes, beginning with an assembly in the gym with administrators and counselors.

Please note—Because this is a meeting for parents, and we have limited space, please do not bring children with you.

8TH GRADE WASHINGTON, D.C. PARENT MEETING

Thursday, September 12

8:00-8:30 p.m.

Pierce Gymnasium

EVERY DAY COUNTS! Don't Let Absences Add Up

Chronic absence is missing too much school for any reason, excused or unexcused. Students who miss more than 10% of the school year (just 18 days) are more likely to drop out of school or not graduate from high school. Attendance is a better predictor of dropout rates than grades or test results.

Absences add up quickly. You can expect to hear from your child's school when your child has missed 5 days of school. We need to work together to promote good attendance for your child every day!



Tuesday, September 24
3:15-5:15 p.m.

\$5.00



**Wristbands will be sold
during 6th hour classes.**

Wristbands are not sold at the door and are not sold in the office. Students must purchase them from their 6th hour teacher.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Be Respectful

- Use appropriate and positive language.
- Listen when others are speaking, and speak when it is your turn.
- Respect others, all staff, and property.

Be Responsible

- Follow all staff directions the first time given.
- Take care of your personal belongings, and clean up after yourself.
- Give your best effort.
- Be prepared.
- Take care of personal needs before class.

Be Safe

- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.

3Bs

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY
Wednesday, September 18

All students must have their picture taken for student ID and school record purposes. Students do not have to purchase a package in order to receive student ID card.

Students will receive picture packet information during 6th hour the second week of school. Students who wish to purchase a picture packet should complete the order form and give it to the photographer, along with payment, at the time their picture is taken.

ID cards will be created and given to students immediately after the picture is taken. Students who lose their ID card may obtain another one from the office for a \$5.00 fee.

6TH GRADE MIXER

Friday, September 13
3:15-4:45 p.m.



Admission wristbands will be sold during 6th hour classes. The cost is \$5.

This is a 6th grade only music-activities-food and fun way to get to know your classmates. You won't want to miss out!

Please note—Wristbands are not sold at the door and are not sold in the office. Students wanting to attend the Mixer must purchase a wristband during their 6th hour class.



Pierce Middle School

NJHS Meeting Dates 2019-2020

All meetings are held in the LGI room from 3:20-4:30 p.m., unless otherwise indicated

Wednesday, October 30 (West Café)
Wednesday, November 13
Wednesday, December 11
Wednesday, January 8
Wednesday, January 22
Wednesday, February 12
Wednesday, February 26 (West Café)
Wednesday, March 11
Wednesday, March 25 (West Café)
Wednesday, April 15
Wednesday, April 29

Induction

May 7, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
Pierce Gymnasium

Ms. Teri Khanuja, Sponsor
khanut01@wsdmi.org

Mr. David LeDuc, Sponsor
leducd01@wsdmi.org



Waterford School District

MIDDLE SCHOOL

DRESS CODE

As a school, our goal is to offer an environment that is conducive to learning. We are an educational institution, preparing our children for life-long learning and the world of work. With this in mind, we work hard to establish an atmosphere that is respectful to all, encourages work, is safe and does not distract from the learning process. Our dress code policy is aligned with these goals.

The school has a right to ask a student to change his/her dress or personal grooming habits if it is deemed inappropriate or disruptive to the educational environment. Repeat violations of the dress and grooming code shall be considered defiance of authority and may result in disciplinary action as described in the Student Code of Conduct. Administrators will make the final determination as to what constitutes appropriate attire.

PROHIBITED APPAREL

- Pajamas, pajama pants, loungewear, or other sleepwear.
- Beachwear
- "Bag and sag" pants/sweats/shorts (oversized pockets, oversized crotch, oversized legs) that must be held up to walk.
- Biker and spandex shorts.
- Low cut tops
- Muscle shirts, tank tops, razor back shirts, thin shoulder strap tops, backless, strapless, cut-out or halter-tops, sheer or see through blouses unless a blouse/top is worn over at all times.
- Any article of clothing that displays alcohol or drug slogans/symbols or other suggestive or inappropriate designs, including but not limited to those that promote (suggest) sex or violence. This refers specifically to advertising said products as well as any form of narcotic paraphernalia. Clothing and buttons with writing and/or graphics with objectionable themes or implied obscenities are also strictly prohibited. This would include articles of clothing with any writing placed on the seat of the pant.
- Wristbands (athletic type)
- Headgear of any kind, including hats, caps, scarves, do-rags, stocking caps, bandana hats, visors, and baseball caps (unless permitted for a school spirit day).
- Spiked jewelry or belts
- Slippers or shower shoes
- Any clothing, jewelry, symbol or other object that may reasonably be perceived by a staff member as evidence of membership in or affiliation with a gang.
- Outer clothing such as sunglasses, gloves, jackets, and overcoats designed strictly for outdoor wear are not to be worn in the school building or carried to and from classes. They must be stored in the student's locker. If classrooms are cool, students should bring sweaters to wear at school.
- Any clothing articles that the administrative staff deems inappropriate for a learning environment will not be permitted.

REQUIREMENTS

- All clothing must fit and be worn appropriately (no underclothing may show).
- Shirts must go below the top of the pants at the waist.
- **Tops with thin shoulder straps must have straps the width of three fingers without having to combine other thin-strapped tops with it.**
- All tops must be no more than 3" below the collarbone.
- Pants/shorts/skirts must be worn at the waist.
- **Pants with holes in them higher than the knee must be worn with leggings underneath. No flesh may show above mid-thigh (finger-tip) length.**
- Shorts/skirts must fall midway between the knee and thigh when seated. The general rule is they must be fingertip length.
- Shoes/boots or other appropriate footwear must be worn.
- **Students wearing leggings, jeggings, yoga , or any other thin, tight-fitting pants must wear a top that reaches mid-thigh (or finger-tip) length).**

Students violating the dress code shall be subject to correction and disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by administration.

STUDENT COUNCIL 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

MEETINGS

All Pierce students are invited to join Student Council! Meetings will be held from 3:15-4:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Tuesday, September 17
Tuesday, October 15
Tuesday, November 19
Tuesday, December 3
Tuesday, January 21
Tuesday, February 4
Tuesday, March 3
Tuesday, March 17
Tuesday, April 21
Tuesday, May 5
Tuesday, May 12—Last meeting

Student Council sponsors will announce meeting date changes to all members.

EVENTS

Welcome Back Dance
Tuesday, September 24
3:15-5:00 p.m.

Turkey Trot
Friday, November 15
2:20-3:00 p.m.

Holiday Dance
Tuesday, December 17
during 7th & 8th hours
1:32-3:08 p.m.

Valentine's Dance
Tuesday, February 11
3:15-5:00 p.m.

Spirit Week
March 30—April 3

MRS. SANDY CLARKE, SPONSOR
CLARKSO1@WSDMI.ORG

MRS. REBECCA STERNBERG, SPONSOR
STERNRO1@WSDMI.ORG

MRS. SARAH VAUGHN, SPONSOR
VAUGHSO1@WSDMI.ORG

ORDER YEARBOOKS ONLINE!

Yearbooks on Sale ~ Order Online

- August 1st—September 30th—\$30
- October 1st—January 31st—\$35

Step 1—Go to the following website

- www.yearbookordercenter.com—there are two options for choosing the school
 - Order number is 3607. Type “3607” in the text field provided
 - Or choose “United States-Michigan-Waterford-Pierce Middle School

Step 2—Student name

- Type the student’s FIRST name and LAST name in the respective fields. Click on “SEARCH”
- Click on the circle next to your child’s name. Then click “SHOP FOR SELECTED STUDENT OR BUSINESS”
- If you can’t find your student’s name, you will have the option to add a new student

Step 3—Verify student homeroom

- Student’s homeroom/6th hour class should automatically be listed in the field.
- If the information is correct, click on ‘CONTINUE WITHOUT UPDATING
- If the information is incorrect, please change and click on “UPDATE STUDENT INFORMATION”

Step 4—Order Yearbook

- Yearbook only—\$30
- Click “ORDER”

Step 5—Verify order

- If the order and quantity are correct, click “ADD TO CART”
- Final verification—three options
 - “CHECKOUT” if everything is correct
 - “SHOP FOR A DIFFERENT STUDENT”
 - “CONTINUE SHOPPING FOR CURRENT STUDENT”

Step 6—Check out

- Fill in all fields required for billing purposes and payment options
- Upon completion click “CHECKOUT”

Step 7—Verification of payment

- Verify payment information
- An option to print a receipt will be provided upon final verification

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

The Yearbook can't be everywhere. Sometimes we miss a great shot. We would love to see your photos. There are two ways to share:

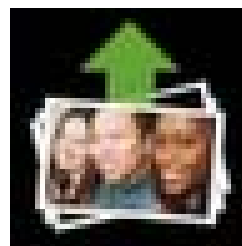
Website

1. <http://www.hjeshare.com/eShare/Index.jsp>
2. Enter school code—3042262
3. Fill out name, email and phone number
4. Hit browse for images
5. Select photos to upload
6. Enter identifying information about the photo you are uploading: names, grades, description
7. Click upload when you are done



App for Smart Phone

1. Click on the App store button on your phone
2. Look for the “hj eShare” app and install it—you can search under “herff jones” or “eShare”
3. To start uploading photos with eShare
4. If it is your first time uploading a photo, touch the “+” to add your school—enter school code 3042262
5. Touch your school name and read the terms
6. Touch Accept (top right)
7. Touch Select Image
8. Choose Select Existing Photo
9. Scroll to the photo you want to upload
10. Touch to select
11. Enter identifying information about the photo you are uploading—names, grades, description
12. Click Upload when you are done, then click Done after the photo has finished uploading



Pierce

SCHOOL CALENDAR

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| September 3 | Students report |
| October 25 | Half day for students, dismissal at 11:08 |
| November 5 | No school for students, Professional Development Day |
| November 27-29 | Thanksgiving Break |
| December 20 | Half day for students, dismissal at 11:00 |
| Dec 23-Jan 3..... | Winter Break |
| January 20 | Martin Luther King Jr Day |
| January 23-24..... | Half day for students, Exam days, Dismissal at 11:00 |
| February 14 | Half day for students, dismissal at 11:08 |
| February 17-18..... | February Break |
| March 10..... | Half day for students, dismissal at 11:08, Professional Development Day |
| April 6-10 | Spring Break |
| May 22..... | Half day for students, dismissal at 11:08 |
| May 25..... | Memorial Day |
| June 11-12 | Half day for students, Exam days, Dismissal at 11:08 |
| June 12 | Last day of school for students 8th grade clap-out begins at approximately 10:55 |

MARKING PERIOD DATES

Marking Period 1—September 4-November 9

Marking Period 2—November 11-January 25

Marking Period 3—January 28-April 12

Marking Period 4—April 15-June 14

Report cards may be viewed on MiStar Parent Portal and MiStar Student Portal approximately one week after the end of each marking period.

6TH GRADE CAMP

September 23 or September 24
Half of 6th graders attend each day

September 13.....Payment due (\$70.00)

8TH GRADE WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

May 18-21, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aug 20-Oct 31 | Raffle fundraiser |
| September 12..... | Parent Meeting, 8:00-8:30 |
| November 26..... | Raffle drawing, 2:30 |
| March 24 | Roommate selections during 8th hr |
| April 14..... | Parent Meeting, 6:00 |
| May 15 | Bus meetings during 8th hour |

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| September 3 | Volleyball tryouts, 7-3:30-5:00; 8-5:00-6:30 |
| September 4 | Volleyball tryouts, 7-3:30-5:00, 8-5:00-6:30 Cross Country starts, 3:15 |
| September 6 | Volleyball tryouts, 7-3:30-5:00, 8-5:00-6:30 |
| September 9 | PTO Meeting, 7:00-8:00, Library |
| September 10 | Cross Country Parent Meeting, 4:30 |
| September 11 | Cross Country at Clifford Smart, 4:00 Volleyball at home vs Geisler, 4:00 |
| September 12 | Curriculum Night, 6:00-8:00 Washington, D.C. Parent Meeting, 8:00-8:30 |
| September 13 | 6th grade Mixer, 3:15-4:45 6th grade Camp payments due |
| September 16 | Volleyball at Clifford Smart, 4:00 |
| September 17 | Student Council, 3:20-4:00, West Café |
| September 18 | School Picture Day Cross Country at home vs Millennium, 4:00 Volleyball at home vs Millennium, 4:00 8th grade Football at home vs Smart, 4:00 |
| September 23 | Volleyball at Mason, 4:00 |
| September 24 | Welcome Back Dance, 3:15-5:15 |
| September 25 | Cross Country at Mason, 4:00 Volleyball at home vs Oak Valley, 4:00 7th & 8th grade Football at home vs Mason, 4:00 |
| September 30 | Volleyball at Muir, 4:00 |
| October 2 | Student Membership Count Day PAVA/Spanish Fundraiser Kick-off Cross Country at Sarah Banks, 4:00 Volleyball at Sarah Banks, 4:00 7th grade Football at Smart, 5:30 8th grade Football at Geisler/Banks, 4:00 |
| October 7 | After school tutoring, 3:15-4:00, Library Volleyball at home vs Walnut Creek, 4:00 |
| October 9 | After school tutoring, 3:15-4:00, Library 7th Football at home vs Geisler, 4:30 8th Football at home vs Creek, 6:00 |

All events/dates/locations/times subject to change.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

Athletic announcements will be made to student during our daily announcements. Athletic information will also be posted on the Pierce Athletic Facebook page at www.facebook.com/piercepiratesathletics and/or on our website at www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pierce. **Practice schedules and changes to game schedules may be obtained through the coaches or the building athletic manager.** The schedules below are **tentative**.

CROSS COUNTRY

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|--|------|------|
| Wednesday | 9/11/19 | Clifford Smart | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 9/18/19 | Millennium | Home | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 9/25/19 | Mason | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/2/19 | Sarah Banks | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/9/19 | Sarah Banks & Oak Valley at Oak Valley | Away | 4:00 |
| Friday | 10/18/19 | LVC Conference Meet—location TBD | Away | TBD |

VOLLEYBALL

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------|------|------|
| Wednesday | 9/11/19 | Geisler | Home | 4:00 |
| Monday | 9/16/19 | Clifford Smart | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 9/18/19 | Millennium | Home | 4:00 |
| Monday | 9/23/19 | Mason | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 9/25/19 | Oak Valley | Home | 4:00 |
| Monday | 9/30/19 | Muir | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/2/19 | Sarah Banks | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/9/19 | White Lake | Away | 4:00 |
| Thursday | 10/10/19 | Mason at Kettering | Away | 4:00 |
| Monday | 10/14/19 | Walnut Creek | Home | 4:00 |
| Saturday | 10/19/19 | LVC Tournament –location TBD | Away | TBD |

FOOTBALL

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|---|------|------|
| Wednesday | 9/18/19 | 8th grade—Clifford Smart | Home | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 9/25/19 | 7th & 8th grades—Mason | Home | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/2/19 | 7th grade—Smart / 8th grade Geisler/Banks | Away | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/9/19 | 7th grade—Geisler/Banks / 8th grade Creek | Home | 4:00 |
| Wednesday | 10/23/19 | 7th & 8th grades—Mason | Away | 4:00 |

All events/dates/locations/times subject to change.



2019-2020 School Year

Meeting Dates

The PTO will meet from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Pierce Library on the following dates.

Monday, September 9

Wednesday, October 23

Monday, December 2

Wednesday, January 29

Monday, March 9

Wednesday, April 29

Monday, June 1

All parents are welcome to join us!

Events

6th grade Mixer
September 13
3:15-4:45 p.m.

Halloween Dance
October 30
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Zap Zone Fundraiser
January
Time and Date TBD

St. Patrick's Day Dance
March 17
3:15-4:45 p.m.

Nerf Games: Pierce vs Mason
April
Time and Date TBD

Staff Appreciation Week
May 4-8

Color Fun Run
May/June
Time and Date TBD

Watch for restaurant fundraisers, Kroger rewards info, Amazon rewards info, and Box Tops Challenge info.



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

OK2SAY is the student safety program which allows students to confidentially report tips on potential harm or criminal activities directed at school students, school employees, and schools. Call 8.555.OK2SAY, text 652729 (OK2SAY) or email OK2SAY@mi.gov.

You
can
Quit!
We can help!

1-800-QUIT-NOW
1-800-784-8669

SAFESTOP BUS APP Register today!

The Waterford School District has partnered with SafeStop to launch a new app for parents to keep track of their child's school bus as they make their way along daily routes. With the SafeStop App, parents and students alike will be able to see the exact location of the bus and when it's expected to arrive at their stop. The software updates the expected arrival time every 30 seconds. Parents can also click on a button and see where the bus is physically on a map, eliminating guesswork. These features are available 30 minutes before a scheduled stop.

Parents must use their child's student ID to register for SafeStop. **Parents can find their student's ID in Parent Portal, located under the Demographics Module listed as "Local ID"**. Only one account per student ID can be created, so parents with babysitters or other caregivers will need to share that login information if they want multiple people to have access to the app. However, log in information is kept confidential by SafeStop and not shared with other students and/or parents.

The SafeStop app is available through the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. You can also view the web version of the app at www.safestopapp.com/web. Please review the **How to Get Started** document included in this Update.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT MISTAR Parent Portal—Student Portal

BLACKBOARD CONNECT MISTAR Parent Portal—Student Portal

There are three components of our district communication system:

Blackboard Connect, MISTAR Parent Portal and MISTAR Student Portal

Blackboard Connect is a notification system that allows you to be informed of school closings, emergency situations, district and school news, etc. MISTAR Parent Portal is a Parent Portal where parents can go to get information about schedules, attendance, grades, and more. When logging into the portal for the first time, verify and/or edit your contact information in the system by clicking the account link at the top. Add your email if it does not appear in the contact information. Emergency contact changes will be handled through the main office. Each parent or legal guardian will have their own unique access to the portal, unless legal bindings prohibit such access. Please bring documentation to the school office if this is the case.

Report cards will be available electronically in the Parent Portal for all grade levels. If you require a printed report card, you will have the ability to print the report card from the Parent Portal.

The web address for the Parent Connect page is:

<https://mistar.oakland.k12.mi.us/waterford/parentportal>

The web address for the Blackboard Connect page is:

<https://020812081.bbcportal.com>

The web address for the Student Connect page is:

<https://mistar.oakland.k12.mi.us/waterford/studentportal>

Links to these sites can also be found on the district webpage at:

www.waterford.k12.mi.us

URGENT SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

In the event that the District must close school(s) for inclement weather or other emergency situations, information regarding the closing will be available via:

Comcast Channel 22 WSDTV

[Channel 4 WDIV](#)

[760 AM WJR](#)

[95.5 FM WKQI](#)

[Channel 2 WJBK](#)

[Channel 7 WXYZ](#)

[950 AM WWJ](#)

Urgent information will also be available on the [district webpage](#) and via emails sent directly to your inbox for registered Blackboard Connect users.



Facebook.com/waterfordpiercemiddleschool
Facebook.com/piercepiratesathletics

Board of Education

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Pierce Middle School

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Kyle Schultz, Assistant Principal
Annette Noble-Familoe, Counselor
Stacey Taplin, Counselor
Jeff Tunnicliff, Counselor
Sandra Clarke, Social Worker
Erin Clark, Psychologist
Julie Rule, Teacher Consultant

Superintendent

Scott Lindberg

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Services

Lisa McFee

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Carly Stone

Director, Instructional Services & Technology

Darin Holley

No person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, disability, height and weight, or marital status shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program, activity, or event.