

# Little Bucks Bulletin

Nurturing Hearts, Developing Minds, Inspiring Dreams

*September 2021 Edition  
Ottawa Elementary School*



## MESSAGE FROM MRS. DENISON

Dear Little Bucks Families,

I am thrilled to be at Ottawa working with our youngest learners and early childhood teaching staff.

For those of you that may not know me, this is my 23rd year as a Buck. I began my career at Moccasin as a special education teacher for two years, followed by sixteen years as a first grade teacher, and beginning my fifth year as a principal.

Guiding, growing, and empowering others, whether they are five or forty-five years old is why I love my job! I believe in continuous growth and learning and encouraging others to do the same!

Every individual that walks through our doors have the ability to learn and thrive. I am so proud to be a Buck and grateful for the opportunity to serve your family.

If you ever have a concern, question, or comment please feel free to call or email and I will be happy to speak with you.

Stacey Denison, Principal



## OFFICE HOURS

Our school office is open 8:00am-4:30pm

Phone: 269.695.8409

Mrs. Stacey Denison, Principal

[sdenison@buchananschools.com](mailto:sdenison@buchananschools.com)

Mrs. Hurd, Administrative Assistant

[mhurd@buchananschools.com](mailto:mhurd@buchananschools.com)

## SCHOOL HOURS

### REGULAR DAY OF SCHOOL

8:35am-3:43pm

ECSE/Preschool AM 8:35am-11:50pm

ECSE/Preschool PM 12:25pm-3:43pm

### WACKY WEDNESDAYS

8:35am-3:10pm

### HALF DAYS OF SCHOOL

8:35am-12:05pm

*No Preschool or ECSE Classes on these days!*



## IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER DATES

- 6 No School- Labor Day Observance
- 7 PTO Meeting 6:30 pm
- 8 Wacky Wednesday 3:10 Dismissal
- 10 ECSE Extra Friday- Mrs. Clark's Class
- 13 Hearing and Vision Screening
- 13 GSRP Open House 5:00-7:00pm
- 14 Hearing and Vision Screening
- 14 GSRP Open House 9:00-11:00am
- 15 GSRP Preschool Begins- Mrs. Chase and Mrs. Monsma
- 15 Wacky Wednesday 3:10 Dismissal
- 17 Constitution Day (Wear red, white, and blue)
- 20 First Grade School Farm Recycling Trip (Sears, Beck)
- 20 Board of Education Meeting 6:00pm
- 21 First Grade School Farm Recycling Trip (Stacy, Smith, Traeger)
- 22 Half Day of School for K-1 Students (Dismissal 12:05), No Preschool/ECSE classes
- 24 ECSE Extra Friday- Mrs. Clark's Class
- 29 Wacky Wednesday 3:10 Dismissal

# Upcoming PTO Meeting

## WHEN

Tuesday, Oct. 5th, 6:30pm

## WHERE

109 Ottawa Street  
Buchanan, MI

## MORE INFORMATION

We will hold the event in person unless COVID protocols change. If you cannot attend in person, we will also have a virtual link you can use to be a part of the meeting.

Meetings will be held inside, masks required.

We will use this video link for all meetings:

<https://meet.google.com/ikj-egyh-jjd>

Please fill out our PTO Volunteer Survey:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdvLpQ1k64cRUe8kBwlqMyxZ90W7\\_VfzUr03TDb7UPgoSOTpw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdvLpQ1k64cRUe8kBwlqMyxZ90W7_VfzUr03TDb7UPgoSOTpw/viewform)

# Preschool Open Houses for Mrs. Monsma and Mrs. Chase's AM/PM Classes

## WHEN

Monday, Sep. 13th, 5-7pm

## WHERE

109 Ottawa Street  
Buchanan, MI

## MORE INFORMATION

There will be two open house events for preschool. If you are unable to join us Monday evening, please stop by Tuesday morning!

Monday, September 13th from 5-7pm

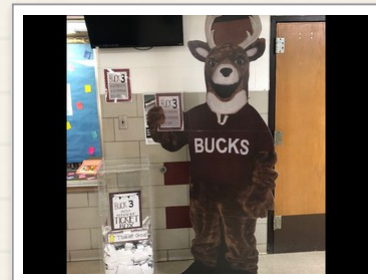
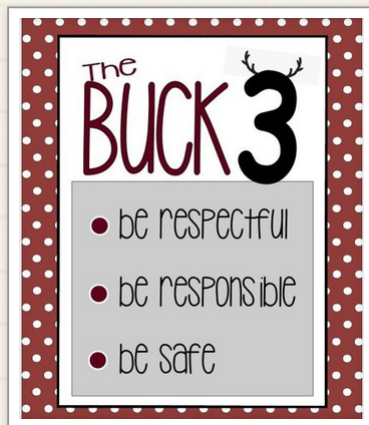
Tuesday, September 14th 9-11am

# PBIS: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

At Ottawa we utilize a three-tiered behavioral system that focuses on improving the school environment with positive behaviors. We model and teach what we expect to see from students with the Buck 3. Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe. We have spent the first two weeks focusing on the Buck 3 and teaching students our school-wide expectations.

There are various ways to promote positive behaviors through Buck 3 tickets and Buck High Five certificates. The tickets are collected throughout the building in classrooms, the library, lunchroom, hallways, anytime we spot consistent positive behavior. At the main entrance of our school is a large ticket bin where all tickets are collected to reach school-wide goals! When goals are reached, we reward students with incentives, such as visits from Bucky!

Information will be sent home for you to become familiar with our expectations and the common language we use each day at school. We use phrases such as 'hands and feet to self' and 'personal space'. Reinforcing this language at home helps build the consistency we instill every day at school.



## OTTAWA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL WIDE BEHAVIOR MATRIX

	DISMISSAL 	HALLWAY 	ALL CLASSROOMS 	BATHROOM 	LUNCHROOM 	PLAYGROUND 
<b>RESPECTFUL</b>	Voice level 2 Personal Space Silent Wave	Voice level 0 Personal Space Silent Wave	Appropriate voice level Follow class rules Listen to adults	Voice level 1 Keep clean Give privacy	Voice level 0 or 2 Use manners Listen Eat only your food	Voice level 3 or 4 Be nice Share Everyone plays
<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	Face Forward Sit in spot Listen	Keep hallway clean Go directly to your location Wear name tag	Stay on task Do your best Follow directions	Wipe Flush Wash Leave	2 hand carry Clean up Take, what you ordered Wear name tag	Put away toys Line up at whistle Follow the rules Dress for the weather
<b>SAFE</b>	Hands and feet to self Walking feet Backpack on	Walking feet Stay in line Face Forward Hands and feet to self	Use material correctly Ask permission to leave Hands and feet to self	Report problems Hands and feet to self	Sit in seat Raise hand for help Walking feet Hands and feet to self	Use equipment properly Report problems right away Safe hands and feet

Voice Levels: 0=No talking; 1=Whisper; 2=Table talk; 3=Strong speaker; 4=Outside voice



Little Bucks Wall, March 2021, Photo provided by Ottawa Elementary School

# Ottawa PTO Bake Sale

## WHEN

Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 8am-1pm

## WHERE

122 Days Avenue  
Buchanan, MI

## MORE INFORMATION

The PTO is looking for donations and volunteers for this Bake Sale! This event will be held at the Buchanan Farmer's Market located at the downtown Commons.

If you can donate items, please fill out the form below with contact information and items.

Items can be dropped off at the school from 4:00-5:00 on October 1st or at the Farmer's Market between 7:30-8:00am.

## DONATION FORM

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlVhZcVFxmKxCJfeSNDsj1g5fSz2EY-01x4rWzXNU3DSfrUQ/viewform>

# LITTLE BUCKS SPIRIT WEAR

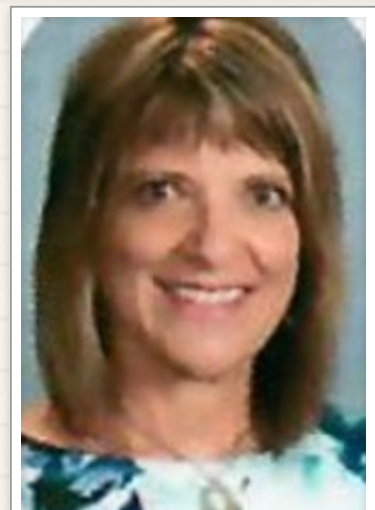
Here is the site to order your Little Bucks gear!

<https://ottawa-elementary-spirit-wear.square.site/>

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

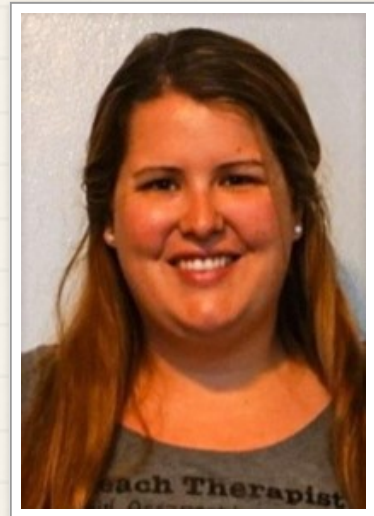
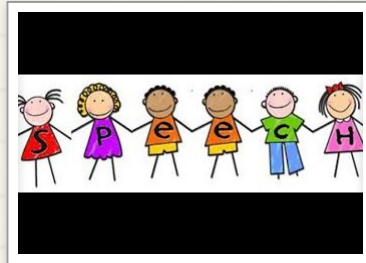
## Mrs. Henckel

Mrs. Henckel is our school counselor and has worked in our elementary schools for over 20 years. She is our PBIS building coach and works to implement career awareness throughout our school. Mrs. Henckel works with students individually and in small groups. She is a great resource when it comes to behavior modification strategies, social and emotional wellness, and de-escalation techniques. If you have questions or would like to speak to her, she can be reached at [henckel@buchananschools.com](mailto:henckel@buchananschools.com).



## Miss Patnoudes and Mrs. Lietz

This wonderful duo are our speech pathologists! Miss P works with our preschoolers and first graders. Mrs. Lietz works with our ECSE and kindergarten students. Both bring a wealth of knowledge regarding speech and language. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's speech patterns, these are the two to speak to. They can be reached at [slietz@buchananschools.com](mailto:slietz@buchananschools.com) and [mpatnoudes@buchananschools.com](mailto:mpatnoudes@buchananschools.com).



**Mrs. Lietz**

**Miss Patnoudes**

## New Staff

We would like to welcome to Ottawa the following fantastic new staff members!

**Ms. Prestine** is our music teacher. She has taught in several area school systems and comes with an extensive background in music education and working with young students. Her passion for music and inspiring students makes her a great addition to our team!

**Mr. Schlutt** is our integrated arts teacher. He has an elementary degree and has experience working with students as an interventionist. His goals include integrating all subject areas, especially literacy, into his art instruction. We are so lucky to have Mr. Schlutt join our team!

**Mrs. Clark** is our teacher in the early childhood special education (ECSE) classroom for the fall semester. Mrs. Clark has been a substitute teacher, primarily at Moccasin last year, holds an elementary degree, and has several children that attend Buchanan. We are happy to have her join the ECSE team and share her teaching expertise with our youngest students.



**Miss Kaltenbach** joins us as a healthcare paraprofessional. She is a Buchanan graduate and is ecstatic to come back and support our Little Bucks. Her patience and enthusiasm for children makes her a wonderful addition at our school!

## DISMISSAL/TRANSPORTATION CHANGES







We want to make sure every single student gets out the door and home safely. Please remember the following:

- You **MUST** contact our school office by 2:00 pm if you need to make changes to your child's transportation routine.
- If you need to make changes involving a bus, these changes must be communicated to our office by 1:30 pm, before the buses leave for their middle/high school routes.
- Please do not message or email teachers as they are often in session and do not receive the messages until it is too late.
- If you need a numbered car tag for the pick up line, please come into our office.
- If you are picking your child up as a walker, they will be dismissed at the doors by our front office.
- Only car riders with parents in the pick up line will be dismissed at the north parking lot doors.



COMING SOON!!

HOME COMING WEEK: OCT 4-8

<p><b>MONDAY 10/4</b> WEAR YOUR FAVORITE COLOR!</p> 	<p><b>TUESDAY 10/5</b> TROPICAL TUESDAY WEAR SUNGLASSES AND SHORTS!</p> 	<p><b>WEDNESDAY 10/6</b> WORKOUT WEDNESDAY CELEBRATE PE BY WEARING GYM SHOES AND CLOTHES!</p> 
<p><b>HOMECOMING WEEK, 2021</b> October 4-8 Elementary Days</p>		
<p><b>THURSDAY 10/7</b> TEAM SPIRIT DAY! WEAR YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM (T-SHIRTS, HATS, ETC)</p> 	<p><b>FRIDAY 10/8</b> BUGS SPIRIT DAY!</p> 	<p><b>PARADE 10/8</b> 6:00 pm THROUGH DOWNTOWN</p> 



## PICTURE DAY 10/18

Picture Day will take place Monday, October 18th! This year we are excited to be using Geskus Photography Inc.

## Board of Education Meetings

- September 20th
- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 13th

Meetings will be called to order at 6:00pm unless advertised differently.

## Transportation

269.695.8402

## Central Office

269.695.8400

Superintendent

Mrs. Patricia Robinson [probinson@buchananschools.com](mailto:probinson@buchananschools.com)

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Mrs. Michelle Munyon [mmunyon@buchananschools.com](mailto:mmunyon@buchananschools.com)

Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Mark Kurland [mkurland@buchananschools.com](mailto:mkurland@buchananschools.com)

Business Office Specialist

Mrs. Carrie Brunsting [cbrunsting@buchananschools.com](mailto:cbrunsting@buchananschools.com)

Director of Special Education

Mrs. Karin Falkenstein [kfalkenstein@buchananschools.com](mailto:kfalkenstein@buchananschools.com)

Director of Technology

Mr. Philip Place [psplace@buchananschools.com](mailto:psplace@buchananschools.com)

## YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT!

We work hard every day to make our school the best it can be. Please tell us how we're doing!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedhHzyguA0\\_cCpd2Ue17IUTG5bV9LXzCoe6sP2f\\_BJrovA1Q/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedhHzyguA0_cCpd2Ue17IUTG5bV9LXzCoe6sP2f_BJrovA1Q/viewform)



**YOU MATTER**