



**Schoolcraft Community
Schools**

Administration Building
269-488-7390

Schoolcraft Early Elementary
269-488-7200

Schoolcraft Upper Elementary
269-488-7250

Schoolcraft Middle School
269-488-7300

Schoolcraft High School
269-488-7350

November 6, 2011

Greetings Parents:

We have just completed the first quarter of our instructional year and look forward to seeing you at conferences this week. **Conferences** will be held on **Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 – 8:00**. On Wednesday, teachers will be meeting parents in their own classrooms. On Thursday, we will be holding all conferences in the gymnasium.

In terms of our shared and part-time teachers, Mrs. O'Donnell (Room 9), Mrs. Outman (Library), and Mrs. Triemstra (Room 1) will be available on Wednesday only. Mrs. Hoekstra will be holding conferences on Thursday evening. If you come on Wednesday, please pick up your child's report card in the office before going to your meetings. On Thursday, report cards will be available in the gym.

Last, in terms of conferences, please remember that you always have the option of requesting a different time to talk with a teacher should you believe that the discussion needs to be more lengthy or in-depth.

I want to thank the parents who attended the **Principal-Parent Forum** recently. It was a great evening of sharing information, dialogue, and idea generation. I am so appreciative of the positive involvement of the parents here. For those of you who were unable to attend, several of the issues discussed will be the topics of future parent letters. So, please stay tuned. The next forum will be held on **Thursday, January 26th at 6:30**.

Thank you to those who are using the north turn-around to drop off and pick up their children. Things are definitely safer in the front of the building these days. It has been requested, however, when using the turnaround that cars continue to move forward up to the drop-off area to keep traffic from backing up too far. Thanks.

The proverbial shoe that I have been mentioning in previous letters has finally been dropped by the state. I am referring, of course, to the more rigorous proficiency criteria used to calculate the MEAP scores. You should have received a letter from Dr. Stitt last week and possibly you've seen the article in the Gazette last Friday. The most recent data available to us is from the tests taken in October of 2010. All last year, teachers here have been attacking some of our challenges in this regard, and even more intentionally continuing to do so this fall. It will take some time but we will once again meet this new standard. Our students are more than capable of doing so.

Some upcoming dates you will want to be aware of include the following:

Tuesday, November 8 @ 6:30 PTO meeting at the UE

Tuesday, November 8 @ 7:00 District Honors Band concert at
Vicksburg HS

Monday, November 21 @ 7:00 Board of Education Meeting

Wednesday, November 23 through

Friday November 25

Thanksgiving Break

Please check the district and athletic calendars for other events of interest. Also don't forget that we run after school lab until 4:00 on most Tuesday and Thursdays. If your child needs some guided support or a place to get some work done, please utilize this resource.

Sincerely,
John