

# Bobcat Tales

Whiteford Agricultural Schools  
6655 Consear Road  
Ottawa Lake, MI 49267



## POSTAL CUSTOMER

Whiteford School District  
Ottawa Lake, MI 49267



CAR-RT PRESORT  
BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Nonprofit Org.  
Permit #7

## 2024 – 2025 SCHOOL HOURS / CALENDAR

Building	Starting Time	Ending Time	Early Dismissal Time
Elementary	7:40 AM	2:55 PM	10:55 AM
Middle/High School	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	11:05 AM

August 28 ..... Teacher PD Day  
 August 28..... 1-12 Open House  
 August 29..... TK/K Open House  
 Sept. 3..... First Day of School  
*(students report at noon)*  
 Nov. 1 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Teacher PD Day)*  
 Nov. 14..... EARLY DISMISSAL  
*(Parent-Teacher Conferences)*  
 Nov. 27..... EARLY DISMISSAL  
*(Start of Thanksgiving Break)*  
 Nov. 28-29 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Thanksgiving Break)*  
 Dec. 20 ..... EARLY DISMISSAL  
*(Start of Christmas/Winter Break)*  
 Dec. 23-  
 Jan. 3 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Christmas / Winter Break)*  
 Jan. 6 ..... School Resumes  
 Jan. 20 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)*  
 Jan. 23-24 ..... EARLY DISMISSAL (Exams)  
 Feb. 14 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Teacher PD Day)*  
 Feb. 17 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(President's Day)*  
 Feb. 21 ..... EARLY DISMISSAL

March 21 ..... EARLY DISMISSAL  
*(Start of Spring/Easter Break)*  
 March 24-  
 March 28 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Spring/Easter Break)*  
 March 31 ..... School Resumes  
 April 9 ..... STATE TESTING DAY  
*(No School Grades K-7, 12)*  
 April 18 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Good Friday)*  
 April 21 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Day After Easter)*  
 May 26 ..... NO SCHOOL  
*(Memorial Day)*  
 June 10 ..... EARLY DISMISSAL (Exams)  
 June 11\* ..... EARLY DISMISSAL  
*(Exams & Last Day of School)*

*\*pending weather delays/closings; parents are reminded that additional days may be added to the school year should we exceed our state limitation on number of days/hours cancelled or delayed during the school year.*



### Food Pantry Dates / Hours

#### Crossroads Church

1st Thursday of Month  
4:30 PM—6:30 PM

#### St. Michael Lutheran Church

2nd Saturday of Month  
9:30 AM—10:30 AM

#### Zion Lutheran Church

2nd/4th Tuesday of Month  
10 AM—12 PM

### MOBILE FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

- \*1st Tuesday: 4:00—6:00 Nova Faith  
5105 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614
- \*1st Thursday: 4:30—6:30 Crossroads  
6960 Sylvania-Petersburg Rd., Ottawa Lake, MI 49267
- \*2nd Tuesday: 3:00—5:00 St. Paul's Episcopal  
798 S. Coy Rd., Oregon, OH 43616
- \*3rd Thursday: 12:00—2:00 Lott Industries  
3350 Hill Ave., Toledo, OH 43607
- \*4th Thursday: 4:00—6:00 Indiana Ave Missionary Baptist  
640 Indiana Ave., Toledo, OH 43604
- \*4th Friday: 2:00—4:00 Agape Community Center  
225 S. Irwin Rd., Holland, OH 43528

# WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS Bobcat Tales

This newsletter is also available on the district's website: [www.whiteford.k12.mi.us](http://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us) September 2024

## ELEMENTARY PICNIC!

On August 21, 2024, Whiteford's amazing WPA hosted their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual elementary Back-to-School Picnic which provided the opportunity for students and parents to meet the new elementary principal and find out teacher assignments along with enjoying a tasty meal. Thanks to all the WPA members, teacher volunteers, and the many other helping hands that worked so hard to organize this wonderful event, it was a huge success. And big thanks to everyone who came. It was so exciting to see the playground filled with smiling, happy children again, and their families too!



**GO BOBCATS!**



From the superintendent's office...

## Superintendent's Message

Hey, Bobcat Families,

I hope this message finds you well and that you have enjoyed a restful and rejuvenating summer break. As the summer days begin to wind down, it is with great enthusiasm and anticipation that I welcome you and your children back to school for the 2024-2025 academic year. This time of year is always filled with a sense of excitement, new beginnings, and the promise of growth and discovery.

The start of a new school year is a special occasion for all of us—students, parents, teachers, and staff alike. It represents a fresh start and an opportunity to build upon the successes of the past while setting new goals for the future. Whether your child is returning to familiar classrooms or stepping into our schools for the first time, we are committed to making this year a positive, engaging, and enriching experience for every student.

### Our Commitment to Excellence

As a district, our mission is to provide a high-quality education that prepares all students for success in a rapidly changing world. Our dedicated educators will continue to implement differentiated instruction and innovative teaching methods to meet the diverse needs of our students. By fostering a growth mindset and encouraging a love of learning, we aim to empower our students to reach their full potential.

In addition to academic excellence, we remain steadfast in our commitment to the well-being of our students. We understand the importance of nurturing not only the mind but also the heart. Our schools will continue to provide a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where every student feels valued and respected.

### Partnerships with Families

We believe that education is a collaborative effort, and we value the partnership between our schools and families. Your involvement in your child's education is critical to their success, and we encourage you to stay engaged throughout the school year. Whether through attending parent-teacher conferences, volunteering in the classroom, or simply staying informed about your child's progress, your active participation makes a difference.

To strengthen our communication with families, we will be utilizing a variety of tools and platforms to keep you informed and connected. Our district website, social media channels, and regular newsletters will provide you with important updates, event information, and resources.

### Looking Ahead

As we embark on this new school year, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators, who work tirelessly to create a positive and enriching educational experience for our students. Their passion, commitment, and expertise are the foundation of our district's success.

I also want to thank you, our families, for your continued trust and support. We recognize that the past few years have presented unique challenges, and we are deeply appreciative of your resilience and adaptability. Together, we will continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of education and ensure that our students receive the best possible education.

In closing, I want to wish each of you a wonderful start to the school year. I am confident that, together, we can make this year one of growth, achievement, and joy for all of our students. Let's embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and work together to make this school year a memorable and successful one.

Thank you for being a vital part of our school community. Here's to a fantastic 2024-2025 school year!

My Best,

*Scott L. Huard*

Scott L. Huard,  
Superintendent

Superintendent  
of Schools  
Scott L. Huard

### Board of Education

President  
Shane Hillard

Vice President  
Dave Dixon

Secretary  
Mike Iott

Treasurer  
Janelle Young

Trustees  
Jeff Bunge  
Kristi Mock  
Jason Vida

Upcoming  
Board of  
Education Meetings  
6:00 PM

October 14  
November 11  
December 9

MS/HS Boardroom

District  
Mission / Vision

Engaged ...  
in our learning  
Encouraged ...  
by our community  
Empowered ...  
for our world

We are Whiteford!



## Spotlights...



If you haven't seen the news, our **Unity Nelson** was crowned the 2024 Michigan Miss Softball at the pitcher position!

Unity has been a 4-year starter and 4-time All State selection at pitcher. She holds the Whiteford record for strikeouts in a season (317); she toppled the career record for strikeouts her in junior campaign, adding to that total this year. Her record-setting career strikeout total is 1156, amazing in itself, but more amazing when considering she shared the mound and played middle infield when not pitching!

Unity has collected 24 post-season wins in her career. In the post-season ALONE, she pitched 16 shutouts, 8 one-hitters, 5 no-hitters, and 3 perfect games.

Unity will be taking her talents to the University of North Dakota this fall, where she will surely have an immediate impact in the Fighting Hawks' pitching staff.

Congrats Unity, Whiteford is beyond proud of you!



Congratulations to Mr. **Jim DeSilvis**, Social Studies Teacher, and Mrs. **Kim DeSilvis**, MS/HS Spanish Teacher, on their retirement from Whiteford Schools. Mr. DeSilvis and Mrs. DeSilvis received the customary Golden Apple Award for their retirement at the May 13, 2024, Board of Education meeting. Mr. DeSilvis taught at Whiteford for 26 years. Mrs. DeSilvis has been at Whiteford for five years. They were great leaders, mentors, and educators!

Big Shout out to our **BAND of the WEEK!!** On August 20, 2024, our Marching Band and Director Well-were surprised by BCSN and Chic-Fil-A!



### HOW TO CONTACT US

#### MAIN PHONE

734-856-1443

#### PHONE PROMPTS

- 4 Elementary Office
- 5 MS/HS Office Athletic Dept.
- 6 Transportation Superintendent/Business Office/Maintenance

#### ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT SERVICES

Superintendent  
Scott L. Huard  
ext. 101 or 401

Elementary Principal  
Samuel Marsh  
ext. 104 or 110

MS/HS Principal  
Jeremy Fielder  
ext. 102 or 108

Athletic Director  
Marcus Luzier  
ext. 103

Dean of Student Services/Career Coach  
Ken Groch  
ext. 240

Elem. Counselor  
TBD  
Ext. 309

MS/HS Counselor  
Jennifer Head  
ext. 216

Director of Transportation, Buildings & Grounds  
Charlie Butz  
ext. 107 or 401

Director of Finance & Business Services  
Marisa Tebbe-Cousino  
ext. 105

Accounting Assistant  
Laura Cruz-Hartland  
ext. 106

Director of HR  
Cathy Machcinski  
ext. 111

#### OFFICE FAXES

Elementary Office  
734-856-4724

MS/HS Office  
734-856-2564

Superintendent / Business Office  
734-854-6463

ANNUAL NOTICES

AHERA—ASBESTOS: As required by the Federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), this is inform you that the documentation for our District Asbestos Management Plan, the semiannual surveillance inspections (continued monitoring of remaining floor tile in our buildings) and the three-year reinspection are available for your review in the Superintendent’s Office. Information regarding response actions may also be found in the District Asbestos Management Plan.

All questions relating to the District Asbestos Management Plan should be directed to Scott L. Huard, Superintendent, at 734.856.1443, ext. 101.

CONCEALED WEAPONS: State law establishes a “Weapon-Free School Zone” that extends 1,000 feet from the boundary of any school property.

The term "weapon" means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

As a School District, we have policies prohibiting the possession of weapons on school property, inside school buildings, and at school events. Obviously, weapons are not appropriate in a school environment.

These restrictions shall not apply in the following circumstances to persons who are properly licensed to carry a concealed weapon:

- A. A parent or legal guardian of a student of the school may carry a concealed weapon while in a vehicle on school property if s/he is dropping off or picking up the student from the school, and any person may carry a concealed weapon solely in the parking lot.
B. A county corrections officer, a member of a sheriff’s posse, a police or sheriff’s reserve or auxiliary officer, a State Department of Corrections parole or corrections officer, a private investigator, a Michigan State Police motor carrier officer or capitol security officer, a state court judge, a security officer required by the employer to carry a concealed weapon while on the premises, a court officer, a parole, probation, or corrections officer or absconder recovery unit member of the Department of Corrections if that individual has obtained a Michigan D of C weapons permit.
C. Retirees of the abovementioned law officials with the same proper training and weapons permits with the exception of retired sheriff’s posse or reserve auxiliary officers and retired security officer.

These are very limited exceptions and do not change the district policy that firearms, pistols, and other dangerous weapons are prohibited on school property. Parents and legal guardians are strongly discouraged from bringing concealed weapons on school property even while in a vehicle for pick-up or drop-off of their student. We urge those individuals authorized to carry a weapon to refrain from doing so while in a vehicle on school grounds or while attending a school sponsored event in respect for the safety of our students.

PETS ON DISTRICT GROUNDS: Students play and conduct class and athletic practices on district grounds on a regular basis. Please help us keep our grounds clean and clear of pet debris by not bringing your pet on the district’s grounds. ALL animals (except service animals) are prohibited from being on school property unless approved by the administration.

SCHOOL ZONES: Parents, student drivers and district residents are reminded of the reduced speed (25 mph) in posted “School Zones” on Consear and Sylvania-Petersburg Roads. The reduced speed is in effect from 7:30 AM—8:30 AM and 2:30 PM—3:30 PM. Fines are DOUBLED in these designated areas. To ensure the safety of our children and those approaching the district buildings, please adhere to these speed limits.

USE OF TOBACCO ON SCHOOL PREMISES: In compliance with P.A. 140 of 1993, no person at anytime shall smoke, chew, or otherwise use tobacco products, of any kind, in any school building, at school sponsored events, on School District property, on property under the control of the School District, nor in School District vehicles. This policy is in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, 365 days a year.

WATER QUALITY COMPLIANCE SUMMARY: Due to amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, K-12 schools and day care facilities that are non-transient, non-community water supplies are required to prepare and make available for inspection an annual water quality report from the previous calendar year.

A copy of the report is available for inspection in the Office of the Superintendent, Whiteford Schools, 6655 Consear Road, Ottawa Lake, MI 49267. All questions relating to the water quality compliance report should be directed to Scott L. Huard, Superintendent, at 734.856.1443, ext. 101.

Athletics

The 2023-2024 athletic seasons were once again record setting! Bobcat athletic teams captured five league titles (football, competitive cheer, baseball, softball, and men’s track), five district titles (football, men’s basketball, baseball, softball, and men’s track), and three regional titles (football, softball, and men’s track). Our football and softball teams once again appeared in the state finals.

Individual Accolades from our state championship appearing teams were impressive. Football team members Hunter DeBarr, Jake Iott, Jack Iott, Drew Knaggs, Kolby Masserant, and Ryin Ruddy received all-state recognition. Softball team 46 was named academic all-state with Shay Alexander, Karlei Conard, Keira Griffith, Unity Nelson, and Jillian Webb all earning individual academic all-state. Unity Nelson put an exclamation mark on an incredible softball career at Whiteford being named 2024 Miss Michigan Softball at the pitcher position.

Other record setting individuals from last year were Keegan Masters, boys TCC cross country champion and new school record. Logan Tammerine, baseball all-state and Monroe County player of the year. Luke Vida, Noah Stevens, and Brendon Masters baseball academic all-state.

School records in track included Kolby Masserant long jump, Stepan Masserant pole vault, Zack Kahn, Jakub Diesing, Nate Andrews, and Brek Ruddy 4x8 relay. Nate Andrews, Brek Ruddy, and Ryin Ruddy track academic all-state. Congratulations to all of our exceptional student athletes!

Turning to the 2024-2025 athletic season, there is so much to be excited about. New teams with new faces and new goals, ready to compete their hardest. Let’s make sure we continue to pack the stands and support our student athletes. The new gym had its inaugural season last year and was enjoyed by competitors and fans alike. This year the gym will host volleyball districts, and for the first time in school history, boys’ basketball districts. The outdoor athletic complex has seen continued upgrades and the new bleachers at the football field will be complete for our home opener.

Marcus Luzier
Athletic Director
Whiteford Agricultural Schools
734-856-1443 ext. 103

2024-2025 COACHING ASSIGNMENTS

FALL SPORTS

Cheerleading
HS..... TBA (Head)
MS..... Leslie Lehberger
Cross Country:
Varsity ..... Jay Yockey (Head)

Football
Varsity ..... Todd Thielen (Head)
Ben Avis (Asst.)
Thomas Eitniear (Asst.)
Alex Lipka (Asst.)
Nate Bauman (Asst.)
John Nagle (Asst.)

JV ..... Tony DuPree (Head)
MS..... Rob Recker (Head 8th)
Mike Lee (Head 7th)

Volleyball:
Varsity ..... Janie Valdez (Head)
Jess Waganfeald (Asst.)
JV ..... Jayda Copciac (Head)
MS..... Holly Bunge (Head)

WINTER SPORTS

Boys Basketball
Varsity..... Nick Abalos (Head)
Mark Keeling (Asst.)
JV ..... TBA
7th ..... Isaiah Joerin
8th ..... Luke Masserant

Girls Basketball
Varsity..... Nick Brillhart (Head)
JV ..... Tori Edmonds
Amy Guthrie (Asst.)
8th ..... Troy Giesige
7th ..... Patty Iott

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball
Varsity..... Terry Pant (Head)
Nick Guthrie (Asst.)
JV ..... Chris Owens (Head)

Softball
Varsity ..... Matt VanBrandt (Head)
Varsity ..... Charlie Butz (Asst.)
Varsity ..... Lynn Hammerstrom (Asst.)

Track & Field
Varsity ..... Jay Yockey (Head)
Ben Avis (Asst.)
Jaycee Harris (Asst.)
MS..... Chris Thomas
Kristin Thomas

Golf
(Head)..... Collin Welch

# Fall Athletic Schedules

**NOTE: All dates and times are subject to change.**

## Varsity Cross Country

Tues.....	8/27.....	Nick Haynes Inv.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Tues.....	9/3.....	Mason Relays.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Tues.....	9/10.....	TCC Jamboree (Heritage Park).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	9/14.....	New Boston Huron Invite.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	9/17.....	Blissfield Inv.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Sat.....	9/21.....	Monroe Jefferson Invite.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	9/24.....	TCC Jamboree (Summerfield).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	10/5.....	Hudson Booster Inv.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	10/8.....	Madison Inv.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	10/12.....	A.A. Gabriel Richard Inv.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	10/15.....	TCC Jamboree (Hudson).....	Away.....	4:00 PM
Sat.....	10/19.....	Airport Haunted Harvest Inv.....	Away.....	1:00 PM
Sat.....	10/26.....	MHSAA Regional.....	Away.....	TBA
Sat.....	11/2.....	MHSAA Finals at MIS.....	Away.....	TBA

## Middle School Cross Country

Tues.....	8/27.....	Nick Haynes Inv.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Tues.....	9/10.....	TCC Jamboree (Heritage Park).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	9/14.....	New Boston Huron Invite.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	9/17.....	Blissfield Inv.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Tues.....	9/24.....	TCC Jamboree (Summerfield).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	10/5.....	Hudson Booster Inv.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	10/8.....	Adrian Madison Invite.....	Away.....	6:00 PM
Tues.....	10/15.....	TCC Jamboree @ Hudson.....	Away.....	4:00 PM
Sat.....	10/19.....	Airport Haunted Harvest Inv.....	Away.....	11:30 AM
Sat.....	10/26.....	Open Run @ Regionals.....	Away.....	TBA

## Varsity Football

Thurs.....	8/29.....	Blissfield.....	Home.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	9/6.....	Ida.....	Away.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	9/13.....	Buchanan (JV precedes).....	Away.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	9/20.....	Edon.....	Away.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	9/27.....	Summerfield (Homecoming).....	Home.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	10/4.....	Mason (Senior/Parents Night).....	Home.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	10/11.....	Everest Collegiate.....	Away.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	10/18.....	White Pigeon.....	Away.....	7:00 PM
Fri.....	10/25.....	Lucas Local.....	Away.....	7:00 PM

## JV Football

Wed.....	8/28.....	Blissfield.....	Away.....	6:00 PM
Thurs.....	9/5.....	Ida.....	Home.....	6:00 PM
Fri.....	9/13.....	Buchanan (Varsity follows).....	Away.....	4:00 PM
Mon.....	9/23.....	Edon.....	Home.....	6:00 PM
Mon.....	9/30.....	Summerfield.....	Away.....	6:00 PM
Mon.....	10/7.....	Mason.....	Away.....	6:00 PM
Sat.....	10/12.....	Washtenaw Christian.....	Home.....	7:00 PM

## Middle School Football

Wed.....	9/11.....	Madison (Scrimmage).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	9/18.....	Mason (7th gr first).....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	9/25.....	Ida (7th Gr first).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	10/2.....	Clinton (7th Gr first).....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	10/9.....	Hudson (7th Gr first).....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	10/16.....	Blissfield (7th Gr first).....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	10/23.....	Onsted (7th Gr first).....	Away.....	5:00 PM

## Varsity Volleyball

Wed.....	8/21.....	Tecumseh Invite.....	Away.....	4:00 PM
Sat.....	8/24.....	Adrian Invite.....	Away.....	TBA
Mon.....	8/26.....	Blissfield.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	9/5.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Away.....	6:30 PM
Sat.....	9/7.....	Livonia Stevenson Invite.....	Away.....	TBA
Tues.....	9/10.....	Morenci.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	9/12.....	Summerfield.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Tues.....	9/17.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Away.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	9/19.....	Sand Creek.....	Away.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	10/3.....	Mason.....	Away.....	6:30 PM
Sat.....	10/5.....	Pinckney Tourn.....	Away.....	8:00 AM
Tues.....	10/8.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	10/10.....	Morenci.....	Away.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	10/17.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Tues.....	10/22.....	Sand Creek.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Thurs.....	10/24.....	Mason.....	Home.....	6:30 PM
Wed.....	10/30.....	Milan.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	11/2.....	Jefferson Tourn.....	Away.....	9:00 AM

## JV Volleyball

Thurs.....	8/22.....	Tecumseh Invite.....	Away.....	3:00 PM
Mon.....	8/26.....	Blissfield.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	9/4.....	Quad: Airport, Dundee.....	Home.....	TBA
Thurs.....	9/5.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Tues.....	9/10.....	Morenci.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	9/12.....	Summerfield.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Tues.....	9/17.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	9/19.....	Sand Creek.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Sat.....	9/21.....	Blissfield.....	Away.....	9:00 AM
Thurs.....	9/26.....	Madison.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	10/3.....	Mason.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Tues.....	10/8.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	10/10.....	Morenci.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Tues.....	10/15.....	Summerfield.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	10/17.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Tues.....	10/22.....	Sand Creek.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Thurs.....	10/24.....	Mason.....	Home.....	5:00 PM
Wed.....	10/30.....	Milan.....	Away.....	5:00 PM

## Middle School Volleyball

Wed.....	9/11.....	Summerfield.....	Away.....	5:00 PM
Mon.....	9/16.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Wed.....	9/18.....	Morenci.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Mon.....	9/23.....	Mason.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Wed.....	9/25.....	Sand Creek.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Mon.....	9/30.....	Mason.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Mon.....	10/7.....	Lenawee Christian.....	Away.....	5:30 PM
Mon.....	10/14.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Wed.....	10/16.....	Summerfield.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Mon.....	10/21.....	Sand Creek.....	Home.....	4:30 PM
Wed.....	10/23.....	Britton Deerfield.....	Away.....	4:30 PM
Sat.....	10/26.....	Sand Creek Invite.....	Away.....	TBA

# News and announcements...

## ANNUAL NOTICES

## FOOD SERVICE FAQs

Whiteford Agricultural Schools will again be participating in the Michigan School Meals program as part of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for the 2024-2025 school year. **THE GREAT NEWS IS that all students enrolled at our schools can receive ONE healthy breakfast and ONE lunch each day at NO CHARGE to your household (second meals will be charged at the normal price, as well as any ala carte purchases).**

We still need your household to complete the Free and Reduced-Priced Meal Application since the amount of money the district receives from a variety of State and Federal supplemental programs is based on the number of students who “qualify” for free or reduced-price meals. It is easiest to complete the application via the Family Portal link at <https://whiteford.familyportal.cloud>; a link can be accessed from the district’s website on the Food Service page. If unable to submit electronically, please complete the paper application and return it to the school district as soon as possible.

**Where can I find the monthly menus?** An interactive menu from our food service provider can be found under the Food Service tab on the district’s website (OUR DISTRICT / FOOD SERVICE / then scroll down to the MONTHLY MENUS heading). The menus provide many details regarding the food items served in the district (i.e., nutritional information, allergens, etc.).

How much does breakfast and/or lunch cost\*? Prices for the 2024-2025 school year are:

Milk (grades K-12).....	\$0.60
Breakfast (grades K-12)*.....	\$1.10 (\$0.30 reduced)
Elementary Lunch*.....	\$2.75 (\$0.40 reduced)
MS/HS Lunch*.....	\$3.10 (\$0.40 reduced)

\*Cost of second meal if purchased during breakfast or lunch meal service the same day.

**Where can I find an application for Free/Reduced Price Meals?** Families are encouraged to annually submit applications for free or reduced priced meals—this includes breakfast and lunch. Complete the application online at <https://whiteford.familyportal.cloud>. A link to this site is available on the district’s website (OUR DISTRICT / FOOD SERVICE / then scroll down to the FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATIONS heading). A paper copy of the application is also available online or by contacting your child’s respective building office.

**What is the Meal Magic® Point of Sale System?** Whiteford Schools utilizes a computerized sale system for breakfast and lunch sales, which greatly benefits students, parents and staff alike. Each student has their own account and funds stay with the student until they graduate or leave the district. The most efficient use of the Meal Magic® POS system is to put money on your child’s account to insure sufficient funds are available for all ala carte purchases. Meal Magic deposit envelopes are available near each building office. \*\*\*At this time the district is unable to accept online deposits for meal service.

**How do I know if my child has a low balance for ala carte purchases?** You can view account balances 24/7 at <https://whiteford.familyportal.cloud>; a link can be accessed from the district’s website on the Food Service page. A link to this site is available on the district’s website (OUR DISTRICT / FOOD SERVICE / then scroll down to the right under the RESOURCES link heading).

**Who do I contact if I have questions regarding my child’s account?** Cathy Machcinski at 734.856.1443, ext. 111 or via email at [cathy.machcinski@whiteford.k12.mi.us](mailto:cathy.machcinski@whiteford.k12.mi.us). She can also assist you with setting spending limits or restrictions on purchases for your child.

### NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

### GIVE YOUR CHILD A HEALTHY START!

Mornings can be rushed, but it is important to make time for breakfast. Children can benefit from the School Breakfast Program! Studies show that school breakfast can improve test scores, make kids more alert in class, and improve classroom behavior. *Make sure your kids start the school day with a healthy meal!*

**Breakfast is offered daily for all students from 7:20 AM — 7:45 AM in the elementary building and 7:35 AM — 8:00 AM in the middle/high school building.**

Prices for the 2024-2025 school year are: ..... Milk (grades K-12) .....\$0.50  
Breakfast (grades K-12)\*\$1.10 (\$.30 reduced)

\*Cost of second meal if purchased during breakfast meal service on the same day.

*If morning meals are difficult for your family, let the School Breakfast Program help you out!*

### Whiteford Parents' Association (WPA) News

Submitted by Ali Houghtaling, WPA President

We are looking forward to a great school year! The WPA Board has elected new officers for the 2024-2025 school year: Ali Houghtaling- President, Amy Fyn-Vice President, Kristi Browning Treasurer, Ahna Roush- Secretary. We would like to thank Jackie Warren and Dianna O'Neal for their years of service to the WPA board, including serving as President and Vice-President. Their hard work and dedication to the students, staff, and families of Whiteford was appreciated as well as their support with the transition of the new board.

On August 21, 2024, we hosted the Elementary Back to School Picnic! This event kicked off our school year and provided the opportunity to meet our New Principal, Mr. Marsh! Students that attended were able to find out their Teacher assignments! Hot dogs, chips, and cookies were provided to 260 students and their families! It was a beautiful day and an excellent turnout!

The WPA hosted a Staff Breakfast on September 3, the First Day of School. We welcomed back the Teachers and Staff with treats from Emmy's Kitchen.

Our Cookie Dough Fundraiser started September 24, and runs through October 9! Students in Transitional Kindergarten - Sixth Grade will be selling Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough and other items. Please email [whiteford.parents@gmail.com](mailto:whiteford.parents@gmail.com) if you have questions on how to purchase. Students will have the opportunity to earn a Limo Ride for Pizza based on their sales.

Dine and Donate Opportunities will continue this year. Look on our Facebook page for dates and details. These events will be open to all grade levels and community members and will help raise money for the WPA while supporting local restaurants. A percentage of sales will come back to the WPA with each purchase. Our first Dine and Donate event was on Thursday, September 5, at Mayberry Ice Cream! This was a fun way to celebrate the first week of school! Our October event will be on Thursday, October 3, at Jo-Jo's Original Pizzeria. (5614 Mayberry Square S., Sylvania, OH 43560) Please join us and let them know you are there to support the WPA!

WPA Meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM in the Elementary School cafeteria. Our first meeting is September 17. Mark your calendars for October 15, November 19, January 21, 2025, February 18, March 18, April 15, and May 20! We hope to see you there!



From the booster groups...

## Whiteford Recreation Club

K-6th Grade Sports (WRC)

Whiteford Recreation Club wants to thank all our volunteer parents who are helping to develop the next generation of student-athletes, teaching athleticism and community values. You are what makes Whiteford Agricultural great!

### Winter Sports Sign-ups in September!

SATURDAY KINDERGARTEN CLINICS JANUARY- FEBRUARY

1st & 2nd GRADE CO-ED BASKETBALL JANUARY-MARCH  
3rd-6th GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON OCTOBER-DECEMBER  
3rd-6th GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL JANUARY-MARCH

### Spring Sports Sign-ups in February!

6U CO-ED COACH PITCH/Lobb ball NO TRAVEL BASEBALL (5-6 YEARS OLD)  
8U BOYS pitching machine TRAVEL REC BASEBALL  
8U GIRLS pitching machine TRAVEL REC SOFTBALL  
10U BOYS TRAVEL REC BASEBALL  
10U GIRLS TRAVEL REC SOFTBALL  
12U BOYS TRAVEL REC BASEBALL  
12U GIRLS TRAVEL REC SOFTBALL

APRIL-JUNE

TRAVEL: SUMMERFIELD, DUNDEE, LENAWEЕ CHRISTIAN, ERIE MASON, IDA, MADISON,  
MORENCI, BRITTON-DEERFIELD, SAND CREEK, WHITEFORD STONECO, NORTHVIEW,  
SOUTHVIEW, MCCORD

### Fall Sports Sign-ups in May!

1st-4th GRADE FLAG FOOTBALL SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER  
5th & 6th GRADE TRAVEL TACKLE FOOTBALL AUGUST-OCTOBER

Do you want to stay up to date on schedules, sign-ups, and league rules?

Find all you need to know on our website. <https://sites.google.com/view/whitefordrecsignups/home>  
or connect with us at <https://www.facebook.com/whitefordRec>

Join the volunteer team each month in the High School Media Room on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

## Athletic Boosters

Athletic Booster meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the MS/HS Media Center. Come join the fun and help support Whiteford athletics!

### Kroger Community Rewards Program

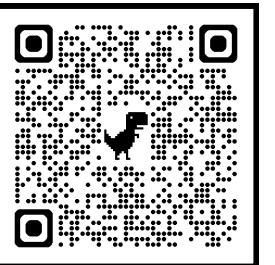
If you are not currently supporting an organization through the Kroger Community Rewards Program, please take a few minutes to register today and help support Bobcat athletics. Go to [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com), log into your account and follow the links to the Community Rewards page. Select organization number **PV787** as the donation recipient. Remember, this is free money and will not affect your fuel points!

# Whiteford Agricultural Schools Community Survey

Your input is vital as we consider future improvements to our schools and campus. We are currently exploring possible facility and campus upgrades to better serve our students, staff, and community. To ensure we make informed decisions that reflect your priorities and needs, we are conducting a survey to gather your thoughts and feedback.

The following survey has been created for those **individuals that live and are registered to vote within the Whiteford Agricultural School District**. The projects utilized in the survey are those that were part of the previous bond campaign in August 2024. The survey is **ANONYMOUS** and **VOLUNTARY**.

Your participation will guide us in creating a plan that meets the evolving needs of our district while responsibly managing resources. We encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the survey and share your valuable insights. Together, we can make decisions that will positively impact our students and the future of our schools. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in shaping the future of our district!



You can access the survey by visiting the district website at: <https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/> or the QR Code. If you would like to have a voice in the planning of future facility and campus improvements, complete the survey by **Sunday, October 13, 2024**.

The Strategic Plan 2022-2027, which was created by a very broad and diverse group of 32 stakeholders and the survey results of over 400 people, was Board approved at the May 9, 2022 meeting. Throughout the planning process, the community expressed high expectations of Whiteford Schools becoming a world-class school district and having all students graduate from high school. Even though some of the goals are extremely high, they reflect the strong desire that has been expressed to embrace significant change and dramatically improve the school system for the next five years.

## Mission

Whiteford Agricultural School District's mission is to engage in purposeful learning and empower all for a meaningful role in our dynamic world.

## Vision

Whiteford Agricultural School District's vision is to develop value-driven leaders and critical thinkers who will positively impact their community.

## Shared Belief Statements

We Believe...

- Everyone has the ability to be successful.
- In meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe.
- A highly qualified and dedicated staff.
- Community support is valuable in promoting student success.

## Strategic Plan Goal Areas

Academics & Programs

Personnel & Leadership

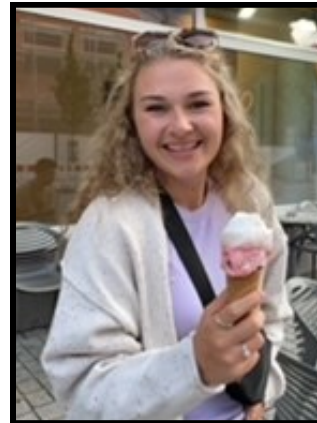
Culture & Learning Environment

Facilities

## New Faces At Whiteford



Hello everyone! My name is **Marcus Luzier**, and I will be joining the Whiteford Schools administration team as the new Athletic Director. I'm an Eastern Michigan graduate, returning to education after 20 yrs as a private business owner. I have previously coached middle school football in the district for 6 years and truly love this wonderful school and community. Go Cats!!



Hello everyone! My name is **Lainey Hillard**. I am very excited to be joining the Elementary team as the TK teacher. I graduated this past spring with my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Toledo. I graduated from Whiteford in 2020 and I am so excited to be a Bobcat again as a teacher.



Hola, my name is **Angie Moore** and I am excited to be teaching Spanish this year grades 8-12. I am originally from Dundee, and I currently live in Ohio with my husband and two children. I graduated from The University of Toledo with a degree in Secondary Education with majors in Spanish and English Language Arts. I taught Spanish for over twenty years at Airport Community Schools. I am very excited



Hello, My name is **Julie Harsh** and I am the new bus driver for bus number 4! I am retired from Siena Heights University in food service

finance and also worked many years for Saline Area Schools as their Food Service Director. In 2023 my daughter made the comment "hey Mom Whiteford needs bus drivers" That's all it took! I was trained in Manchester and worked last year for Whiteford and Manchester but decided I hated the dirt roads in Manchester and asked Charlie if he had a position here for 2024. I have four grandchildren in the district with one more joining next year... I have even moved here in August. What really amazes me are the wonderful people that stop for our buses on Consear Rd as we try to exit in the morning after we drop the Middle and High School students off. Every time I see that I just think what a wonderful community I've moved to!! And thank you very much. You don't know how that makes our day!!

Hello Bobcats! My name is **Greg Russell**, and I look forward to working with you this upcoming school year!



I will be teaching science courses in the Middle/High School this fall. I graduated from Ferris State University with a Bachelor's in both Biology Education and Mathematics Education. My beautiful wife and I have been looking to settle down in a new community that reminded us of home, and Whiteford has looked the most promising. I look forward to this new year and Go Bobcats!


*From the booster groups...*

# ANY HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN JOINING ROBOTICS?


Drive  
Programming  
Scouting  
Strategy

Pit  
Marketing  
Social Media  
And more!

Message us on Facebook at Whiteford Robotics Team 6570, use the QR code below to visit our website, or reach out to one of our coaches, our very own Mr. Welling!



WWW.WHS6570.COM



Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Elementary

I hope you are all having a great summer! My name is Samuel Marsh, and I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new principal of Whiteford Elementary School. It is with great excitement and a deep sense of responsibility that I step into this role. As a Monroe County resident my family and I have admired Whiteford and are eager to become a part of this wonderful community.

I bring with me ten years of experience in education, having served as a classroom teacher in Dundee and a dean of students in Plymouth-Canton. At Whiteford Elementary, my primary goal is to build on the strong foundation that has been established and to work collaboratively with the dedicated staff, engaged parents, and, most importantly, the amazing students. I am committed to maintaining high academic standards while also ensuring that our school is a safe, welcoming, and nurturing place for all.

I firmly believe that education is a partnership between the school, families, and the broader community. Therefore, I encourage open communication and welcome your input and involvement. Together, we will create an educational experience that not only meets but exceeds the expectations of our students and their families.

Thank you for welcoming me into the Whiteford family. I am honored to serve as your principal and am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Let us work together to make this school year a memorable and successful one for all our students.

Sincerely,



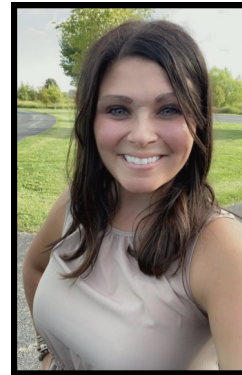
Samuel Marsh  
Whiteford Elementary Principal



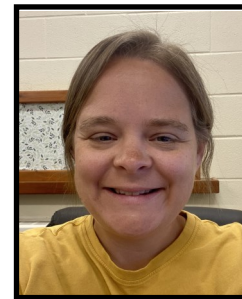
## New Faces At Whiteford



Hello. My name is **Sheila Smiddy**. I graduated from the University of Toledo with a bachelor's degree in education. For 14 years I have been a substitute teacher here at Whiteford, the past 4 years being the Building Substitute at the MS/HS. This year I will be the new part-time Administrative Assistant working in both buildings. My husband David and I have lived in Whiteford for over 30 years. We have 3 sons: Sam, Kenny, and Joey, and one daughter-in-law, Danielle, all of whom graduated from Whiteford. My husband and I are very excited at becoming grandparents for the first time this Fall. I am looking forward to this new job opportunity and am happy to continue to be part of the Bobcat family.



Hello Bobcats! My name is **Brooklynn Keene** and I am so excited for not only myself, but my kids to be Bobcats! I will be a new LRE this year. I previously worked for Bedford Public Schools as a Paraprofessional and also did lunch/recess duty. I am married to my husband, Mitch and have two children. I have heard nothing but great things about Whiteford and everyone has already been so welcoming. I am so excited for this new adventure not only for myself, but my children also! GO BOBCATS!



Hello Bobcat families! My name is **Ashley Van Camp** and I am excited to join the athletic department as an Administrative Assistant. Previously, I worked at Summerfield Elementary as an Instructional Assistant for 1<sup>st</sup> grade. I live in Petersburg with my husband, two daughters (grades 8 and 7), and spoiled dog. I'm originally from Cincinnati, Ohio and moved to Michigan from Chattanooga, TN to be closer to our families. I am looking forward to a great first year as a Bobcat!



Hi! My name is **Terah Milot** and I am very excited to be joining the Bobcat family as an LRE in the elementary. I have always loved working with children. I have three sons, two of which are already Bobcats and now my youngest will be entering kindergarten this fall so I felt like it was the right time for me to become a Bobcat as well!



Hello, Whiteford! My name is **Tracy Papenhagen** (but I'm called "Ms. P"), and I was born and raised in Michigan. I am a third-generation Blissfield Royal, and I have been teaching for over 15 years. I've taught in Indiana and Ohio, and I can tell you that Michigan students are definitely the best and brightest! I have three grown children who live in Toronto, New York, and Boston, and you'll hear me talk a lot about them. I have no pets currently, but I love doggies. I try to make my classrooms look and feel as comfy as possible so that all my students feel safe and excited to learn. It's good to be back in the Mitten!



*From the classroom...*

## Middle School / High School

We are pleased to introduce to you our new “**Land Lab**” where Ag students can learn about field crops, corn and soybean production, crop fertility, and marketing our final grain products. The goal is also to plant different soybean (this year) and corn varieties to compare results and growing characteristics. On Wednesday, June 5th Owen Lievens and Lincoln McCormack stayed after the half day to plant this 5-acre field that Whiteford FFA is farming.

Much of this is made possible with the help of some Career and Tech Education grant money, which helped us purchase our two-row plot planter and 8' field cultivator. We even had a couple of small breakdowns in the process, but with some quick thinking and engineering, the boys did a little welding and fixed the problem.

We're excited to see what the future holds and all the learning opportunities that will take place here.



*From the classroom...*

## Elementary

On April 25th and May 2nd the Whiteford Track and Field teams hosted 75 elementary students at a **youth camp** to help introduce the sport of track and field. Students learned about high jump, long jump, shot put, hurdles, and ran relays and dashes.



On August 21, 2024, the MISD hosted **Playdates with Principals** event! Students ages 0-5 got to meet with Principal Marsh and play on the school playground. Principal Marsh jumped right in to help serve our new littles some yummy popsicles!

*From the classroom...*

## Middle School / High School

### FFA Ag Skills Contest

On Friday, April 19th 39 Middle School and High School FFA members were among the 3,000 students who competed in the 2024 Michigan FFA Ag Skills Contests. Students have 17 contests to choose from ranging from Agronomy to Floriculture and Forestry to Veterinary Science. Students showcase different skills used in the workplace by identifying specimens, taking knowledge exams, and completing hands-on practicums. Congrats to all who competed!



May 6, 2024, was **Ag Day** at Whiteford and it was a success! Our Bobcats learned a lot about the agricultural world and had a GREAT time doing it. A few things they got to see were tractors, farm machinery, horses, goats, plants, drones, and puppies. Not to mention face painting and lots of other fun activities thanks to the FFA and all who helped plan this special day.

*From the classroom...*

## Middle School / High School

