

Woodland School Summer Update

Summer Edition

Quote of the Week

"School's out for Summer!"



Woodland Family Updates

Woodland School Summer Newsletter

As summer is just underway, we hope your family is enjoying a well-deserved summer filled with opportunities to relax, recharge, and make lasting memories.

On behalf of the entire Woodland staff, thank you for another incredible school year. Together, we celebrated so many memorable moments—from a successful Hike-a-Thon and Winterfest to

exciting athletic competitions, outstanding band and choir concerts, memorable musical productions, and tremendous academic and personal growth across every grade level. Our students accomplished so much this year, and we couldn't be prouder of all they achieved. Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Your involvement, encouragement, and trust play an essential role in making Woodland such a special place to learn, grow, and thrive. It is truly a privilege to work alongside our families in supporting every child's success. We wish each of you a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back this fall for another amazing school year!

With gratitude,

Parent Survey Update

Thank you to the **57 families** who participated in our 2025 Parent Survey. We sincerely appreciate your time and thoughtful feedback. The results show that **93%** of respondents are satisfied with their child's experience at Woodland, while **88%** reported that their child feels safe at school and that communication with the school is effective.

Your feedback also identified important opportunities for growth, including expanding outdoor learning experiences, streamlining communication, and enhancing student supports. These insights will help guide our continuous improvement efforts as we work to strengthen the Woodland experience for every student and family.

Thank you for partnering with us as we continue to grow and improve.

Middle School Cross Country 2026–2027

NOW is the time to sign your runner up for Middle School Cross Country at Woodland for the upcoming school year. We will be running in at least one meet in August as a team and practices (TBD) can begin in earnest starting August 10th. Please do not wait until school starts to sign up! Get your runner's physical done ASAP. [Details for requirements/cost and sign up form can be found here.](#) The sport is open to anyone who is going to be in the upper village this fall and who wants to do their best to become more fit, have fun and enjoy the outdoors and support their team at meets. Simple as that!

Here are the remaining summer meet-up dates until the season begins:

Monday 7/13/26 5:30-7pm at Woodland

Monday 7/27/26 5:30-7pm at Woodland

Monday 8/10/26 5:30-7pm at Woodland

These meet-ups are informal and open to anyone who is interested in running and having fun. Popsicles are back by popular demand!

If you have questions, please contact Coach Tim Pierce (phone 231-350-8293, email hornbeamcraft@gmail.com) or Coach Andrew Cole (phone 231-735-3284, email acole4@mhc.net). Go Eagles!

Elementary Cross Country 2026-2027

Come run with us! Our team is open to all Woodland students in grades 3-5. We encourage runners of all abilities in grades 3-5 to participate! Race distance is 1 mile. Practices will be held Mondays Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 with meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A detailed meet schedule will be determined in the fall.

Requirements:

- \$50 participation fee, payable to Woodland School (Scholarships available - Please do not let cost hinder participation)
- Cross Country T-shirt, order [here](#)
- Proper running shoes (no spikes)

- A concussion form to be filled out by parent or guardian

If your student is interested in running this fall, please email Rose Hudson at rhudson@woodlandschooltc.org or text (517)403-2080

Woodland Family Council Update

The Woodland Family Council continues to invest in projects that enhance our campus and create even more opportunities for students and families to enjoy our outdoor spaces.

This summer, we're partnering with Northshore Construction to install a new concrete pad on the playground so we can relocate the pavilion from behind the school. We've also selected a new pavilion design with an improved roofline that will provide a more comfortable outdoor eating space while preserving the beautiful view of the pond.

We're excited to unveil this new gathering space in time for our **Back-to-School Picnic** this fall!

After further planning, we also adjusted our original baseball field project due to playground logistics. Instead, we'll be purchasing portable bases that can be used on the football field, along with new balls and equipment to support a variety of sports and recess activities.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Woodland Family Council. Your generosity continues to create meaningful opportunities and lasting improvements for our students.

👋 Not Returning to Woodland?

If your family has decided not to return to Woodland for the upcoming school year, please notify us as soon as possible.

Please contact:

Amy Miller

amiller@woodlandschooltc.org

Rich Watson

rwatson@woodlandschooltc.org

If you would like to discuss your decision or schedule an exit conversation with Mr. Watson, please call **231-947-7474 ext. 102**.

While we're always sad to see Woodland families move on, we understand that life brings new opportunities and changes. Thank you for being part of our Woodland community, and we wish your family every happiness and success in your next chapter.

Saying Goodbye

As we close another wonderful school year, we would like to recognize three outstanding educators whose dedication and service have made a lasting impact on the Woodland community. Congratulations, Chris Post!

After **31 years of dedicated service**, Chris Post is retiring from Woodland School.

Chris's leadership, commitment, and genuine care for students, staff, and families have helped shape generations of learners and strengthen our school community in countless ways. His influence and legacy will continue to be felt for years to come.

We are deeply grateful for his many years of service and wish him a happy, healthy, and well-deserved retirement.

Thank You, Nicole Ziegler

Nicole has been a cherished member of the Woodland family for more than **12 years**. She first joined our community as a Woodland parent, then served for six years in a variety of leadership roles with the Woodland Family Council before spending the past **six years** inspiring middle school students as our English Language Arts teacher.

Nicole's passion for education, unwavering commitment to students, and love for Woodland have made a lasting impact on our school community. This fall, she will begin a new chapter as she

joins TCAPS. We know she will continue to positively influence the lives of students, just as she has at Woodland.

Thank you, Carrie Crigier

Mrs. Carrie has also been an important part of the Woodland community for many years. Her children attended Woodland for a combined ten years, and for the past four years she has served as our Middle Village (grades 3–5) teacher.

During her time at Woodland, Carrie helped expand our outdoor classroom and garden spaces, creating meaningful, hands-on learning experiences that will benefit students for years to come. This fall, she too will begin a new position with TCAPS, where we know her passion for education and love of children will continue to shine.

As Chris begins his retirement and Nicole and Carrie embark on exciting new opportunities, we extend our deepest gratitude to all three for their dedication, compassion, and countless contributions to Woodland School. Each has helped shape the lives of our students, strengthened our school community, and left a lasting legacy that will not be forgotten.

Please join us in thanking **Chris, Nicole, and Carrie** for their years of faithful service to the Woodland community. We wish them all the very best in the next chapter of their journeys.

Thank you also to Brian Nefcy for serving over the last 2 years as the middle school math support lab teacher. Brian will also be retiring and enjoying time with his family. We certainly appreciate his service and time helping our students at Woodland School over the last 2 school years with middle school math.

Strategic Planning Retreat

Over the past year, Woodland School has been engaged in a strategic planning process to help shape the future of our school. With the support of the Northwest Education Services ISD team, we have gathered valuable feedback from families, students, staff, and our community. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has shared their thoughts and ideas throughout this process.

On **Wednesday, August 12**, members of our Mission and Vision Committee, Board of Education, parents, staff, and the Northwest Education Services ISD facilitation team will come together from **12:00–5:00 p.m. in the Woodland School library** to review the common themes that emerged from this feedback and begin identifying priorities that will guide Woodland's future. This collaborative work will help ensure that our mission, vision, and goals reflect the values and aspirations of our entire school community.

If you are interested in participating in this important planning session and have not already been selected to serve on the committee, we would love to hear from you. Please email me directly at rwatson@woodlandschooltc.org to express your interest.

Thank you again for an incredible school year. We are grateful for the partnership we share with our Woodland families and look forward to another year of learning, growth, and community. Have a wonderful, safe, and relaxing summer! See everyone in September!

Go Eagles!



WOODLAND SCHOOL

As one of the first charter schools in the state, Woodland School serves as a vibrant example of a healthy learning community. Nestled within 250 acres of wooded land, our K-8 program provides a curriculum that is aligned with state standards but delivered in a way that promotes real life connections, student engagement, and a deep love of learning.

Work with us! We have opportunities for the following positions.

woodland-school2.prismhr-hire.com

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOES



EVENT INCLUDES

New shoes and socks for toddlers through grade 12

Eye exams and glasses (if needed)

School supplies (while supplies last)

All services offered at no cost

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SUPPORTERS!



THE
Father Fred
Foundation

Locally founded, locally funded and locally focused.



Become a Hike-A-Thon Sponsor! (1).pdf

[Download](#)

2.8 MB



Every Kid Outdoors

You and your family get free access to hundreds of parks, lands, and waters for an entire year.

everykidoutdoors.gov

Upcoming Important Dates

Important Upcoming Dates

Cross Country Summer Meet Ups

Join us every other Monday from **5:30–7:00 p.m. at Woodland School**

Remaining Dates

- July 13
- July 27
- August 10

Woodland School Board of Directors Meeting July 8th 5:45 pm Woodland School library

Back to School Picnic, Thursday August 27th @ 5:30 pm at Woodland School



Woodland School Contact information and address

Woodland School

7224 Supply Road
Traverse City, MI 49696
231-947-7474 (phone)

231-947-7667 (fax)

Email: rwatson@woodlandschooltc.org

Website: <https://www.woodlandschooltc.org/>

Location: [7224 Supply Road, Traverse City, MI, USA](#)

Phone: (231) 947-7474



Rich Watson

Rich is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters