



DETROIT RED WING ASSEMBLY

TRUE BLUE NEWS

December /
January
2018-19



CONTACT INFORMATION

Lee Elementary

68399 Forest, Richmond, MI 48062

Office # - (586) 727-2509

Fax #: (586) 727-9223

Principal – Mr. David Kochan

Dean of Students – Ms. Heidi Napier

Office Staff – Mrs. Pinskey and
Mrs. Propst

START TIMES

Full Day K-4 – 7:50-2:50 p.m.

Half-Day for K-4 – 7:50-11:15 a.m.

Pre-School

3-year old – 7:50-10:50 am (M/W/F)

4-year old (5 day) – 7:50-10:50 a.m.

4-year old (3 day) (M/W/F)
11:30-2:30 p.m.

Great Start Readiness Program

Full Day – 7:50-2:50 p.m. (M-Th)

Half-Day – 11:50-2:50 (M-Th)

Holiday Spirit

Happy New Year!

The start of the New Year always brings excitement and positive outlooks. We are very excited at Lee to continue to focus on a positive environment and a rigorous learning environment for the staff and students.

Students will be taking the NWEA assessment January 14 – 25. The schedule will be posted on the Lee Elementary website on the assessment page. The winter assessments will be used to analyze and adjust the curriculum and instruction for all students. Students will continue to work towards their end of the year goals. The NWEA also helps prepare the 3rd and 4th grade students for the M-STEP assessment which begins in May.

The teachers are in the process of beginning the mid-year DRA

assessment for all students. This will show the reading levels of the students and allow the classroom teacher to focus on areas of strength and areas that need improvement. The scores will be on the report cards so parents/guardians can see the progress students have made.

The end of 1st semester is January 18th and reports cards will be sent home in Friday folders on January 25th.

All newsletters will be located on the Lee Elementary website.

www.richmond.k12.mi.us

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the office.

Cold Weather Reminder

Please remember to send your student to school dressed appropriately for the weather. Even though the weather has been unseasonably warm, the cold weather is on the way. Students will still have physical activity outside during cold weather and snow. Please be sure to label clothes in case anything is lost.

November/December True Blue Staff Members

Congratulations to the following Staff Members who were nominated by fellow team members:

Janel Mueller	Tony Gillespie
Steve Pedri	Elyse Ottenbacher
Haley Tyson	Heidi Napier

Sandy's Kids

Nancy and I wanted to send out a quick thank you for the generosity that was shown this year for Sandy's Kids - there were numerous groups, individuals, shoppers, donations and participation in events that allowed Sandy's Kids to assist 55 kids and 24 Richmond Families this Christmas season. Your generous donations helped to ensure a wonderful holiday to families that otherwise would not have had much at Christmas. Parents were very overwhelmed and appreciative. It truly is what the Christmas season is about - and what an inspiring message you have sent to the students of this district. It's wonderful to work in such a giving and caring community. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Social Work Staff - Jen Cleland & Nancy Laratonda

Student Council by Katie VanSledright and Julie Zvonek

Student Council wrapped up our Smencil sale before Christmas. We sold over 1100 Smencils, and the money we raised will be used for upcoming projects. In January, we're making Valentines to be delivered to the John Dingall VA Medical Center on John R. in Detroit. This spring, we'll be working on projects for Medilodge and adding rocks to our Kindness Rock Garden, along with a few other projects.

Physical Education - Mr. Barnes

I sincerely hope you all enjoyed a restful holiday break. Hard to believe the school year is almost half-over. We are excited to get back in the gym and enjoy our physical education classes here at Lee. This January, we will continue to work with all students to build fundamental motor skills, and we will also be addressing the health-related areas of fitness. Our theme for this month: "Be a great teammate!" We will be giving our student opportunities to demonstrate appropriate personal and social behavior and work cooperatively with others.

As you know, specials classes are a key component of the school experience here at Lee. Students are fortunate to have so many options to explore and have fun in. I feel very blessed to work in a curriculum that truly impacts "Quality of life". I hope as we enter 2019 that your child works really hard in physical education, and has a ton of fun!

Over Christmas break I ran into a really interesting article regarding physical education in schools. Feel free to click on the link below and see for yourself. Welcome back!

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/12/12/kids-need-more-physical-education-core-school-subject-column/2216457002/>

Music Notes – Mr. Finlay

Hello and thank you for reading. I hope everyone has had a nice holiday. Our 2018 third and fourth grade Christmas concerts were a great success. Also I would like to thank everyone for coming. Again, a special thanks is due to our great school district for lending us the high school auditorium for our concert.

I was just thinking that things could not get any better when I remembered that this month, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade will be studying Peter and the Wolf, while kindergarten, and first grade, will be learning children's music and singing games of the 20th century. Also we don't just study the music we act out the stories as well. So in the meantime enjoy the month of January and so will we... It's a great time to be in music.

Backpack Blessings Program

Richmond Community Schools is again partnering with United Methodist Church of Richmond in their Backpack Blessings program. Families are welcome to contribute: there is a donation box in the school lobby for non-perishable food items.

Arrival and Pick-Up Parking

Please be aware that the area by the baseball field, across from the bus loop, is a **No Parking area**. There are signs posted that cars will be towed if parked in that area. Please use the designated parking lots for arrival and pick-up. Thank you for your cooperation.

PTO Happenings

What's happening in your Lee PTO?

We hope everyone had an amazing Christmas break. The PTO was very busy in the month of December. All the students had a great time shopping for their families at Santa Shop. It is always such an amazing experience seeing the kids get so excited to be able to pick out their own things. This year's Santa shop was Polar Express themed. A student from each grade won a box of hot chocolate, a train whistle, and the Polar Express DVD. This year the PTO also responded to letters written to Santa by the whole school and was able to gift each student with a book. We also sponsored a boy and girl from Sandy's Kids to fulfill their Christmas wishes and supply them with clothes. The PTO bought the crossing guards hand warmers and Tim Horton's gift cards to keep them warm during the winter season.

In January we will be holding our 2nd annual **Mom Prom on the 26th**—this is an event you DO NOT want to miss out on. We will also be working on many other events and would love the help and input from any parents that want to help make these things possible.

Upcoming PTO Meetings: January 7th @3:00pm in the Lee Library
 January 21st @3:00pm in the Lee Library

All are invited and welcome, we need you to help make this school year amazing!



Blue says:
Be Respectful
Live Responsibly
Use Caution
then
Everyone Belongs

2018 December True Blue Students

Pre School

Brandon Barczy (Ottenbacher/Mrs. C)
 Brooklyn Gibson (Spratke)
 Orin Kremser (Spratke)
 Lennon Ottenbacher (Ottenbacher/Mrs. C)

Kindergarten

Gabby Battani (Stevenson)
 Lucas Bird (Zvonek)
 Audrey Champine (Gibson)
 Dax Davidson (Gibson)
 Vera Gardner (Zvonek)
 Natalie Mikolasik (McCoy)
 Austin Schultz (McCoy)
 Wyatt Sexton (Stevenson)

1st Grade

Lily Dietrich (Dorsey)
 Sarah DiMambro (Constance)
 Colton Force (VanSledright)
 Brianna Hebel (Constance)
 Layla Kleinhans (Ranger)
 Cody Monte (Dorsey)
 Brayden Rix (Ranger)
 Faye Stackpoole (VanSledright)
 Brooke Teschler (Ranger)

2nd Grade

Kennedy Barrand (Schroeder)
 Kayli Brickel (Ricossa)
 Mia Bugamelli (Goddard)
 Jack Fouchia (Schroeder)
 Ashlyn Kramer (Ricossa)
 Aubree Lane (Goddard)
 Zeena Lowary (Ricossa)
 Izzabella Rose (Barrett)
 Clayton Schultz (Barrett)

3rd Grade

Brenden Bergdoll (Powers)
 Brent Fraley (Hooks)
 Ethan Griffith (Studer)
 Remi Plichta (Powers)
 Ava Rewalt (Kreger)
 Trinity Steece (Kreger)
 Riley Suiter (Hooks)
 Brinn Wesley (Studer)

4th Grade

Skylar Boutillier (Gillespie)
 Katelin DeVogd (Munro)
 Leah DiMambro (Walters)
 Nicholas Oldani (Walters)
 Lucas Sheridan (Munro)
 Karly Thompson (Gillespie)

Mrs. Boettcher's Technology Update

In Mrs. Boettcher's Computer Lab students are learning how to use Kid Pix and Microsoft Paint to create digital pictures using shapes and free drawing tools and adding text boxes to input sentences. The pictures of these were on our Will L. Lee Facebook page.

School Improvement Update – Mrs. VanSledright

Our School Improvement team has been meeting monthly to continue working on our School Improvement Plan. We have the academic strategies (Classroom Instruction that Works and Balanced Literacy) in place. We're working on monitoring their usage and strengthening teacher knowledge of certain components. This month, staff will be evaluating our school using the School Systems review. We're also planning on sending out brief staff and parent survey to help inform some of our decisions for the second half of the year.

Art – Ms. Hadella

Sunflowers brighten winter days...

The elementary art classes are starting off the New Year learning about Post-Impressionism painting and using watercolor. We are currently working on a Master copy of Vincent Van Gogh's "Sunflowers" to brighten these somewhat gray winter days. I am quite impressed with the quality of student work on this assignment! The students are given their choice of painting from a tracing of the Van Gogh Masterpiece or free-drawing their own version on watercolor paper. I've attached two samples of first grade work which turned out quite well! We will be working with watercolors on more assignments this semester.



STEAM/Lego Club/Jr. FLL – Mrs. Durst

Students are now moving into coding/programming robots. Kindergarten and first grade are using BeeBots to learn how to code and program. Students were asked to create a program (algorithm) to move their BeeBots on a grid in order to get to a specified destination. Science vocabulary words were used for the grid that related to weather. Second grade began learning how to code/program Dash Robots by using the Blockly App. This app used block coding, which has students click and drag the coding blocks into their program. Third graders learned how a Sphero robot works. This week they will use the Sphero EDU app to program their robots through challenges. Fourth graders were given LittleBits kits to explore how they work. In the coming weeks, they will build and program using the LittleBits kits.

Lego Club started this week. Students in grades 1-4 who signed up will be attending the club after school for an hour. Students will participate in Lego Build Challenges. Each week designated grade levels will display their structures in the Media Center cabinet which can be seen through the front windows of the Media Center. Lego Club runs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Jr. FLL will begin on March 4th. I am happy to say ALL students who applied were accepted onto one of our three teams. Students will meet 2-3 times per week and participate in a spring competition in May.

Upcoming Dates

Jan. 14 – Jan. 25	NWEA Assessments
Jan 16	Half Day Dismissal at 11:15 am
Jan 17	Half Day Dismissal at 11:15 am
Jan 18	Half Day Dismissal at 11:15 am
Jan. 18	End of 1 st Semester
Jan. 25	Report Cards sent home – End of First Semester
Feb. 18	No School

Please visit the Richmond Community Schools website to view the district calendar.



Will L. Lee is now signed up with the
Kroger Community Rewards Program

Please sign up:

- Go to www.kroger.com
- Go to register if you need to make an account
- Or go to sign in if you have an account
- Log in, then go to the Community Rewards Tab
- Go to the orange tab for the school name
- Search for Will L. Lee Elementary #23846
- Click that you support us and you are done
- Will L. Lee Elementary should show up on the bottom of your Kroger receipt

www.richmond.k12.mi.us

Need Extra Cash?

Join the School Meals Team at

Richmond Community Schools

This is an exciting opportunity to become a part of the school nutrition program. We currently have 2 openings for substitute workers for the current school year. The School Meals Team works together to prepare and serve healthy breakfasts and lunches for our students. Good nutrition is an essential part of the educational process. Work hours are during the school day. Join our team today to be a part of our great program!



Non-Discrimination Statement

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972, Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Richmond Community School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, military status, national origin or ancestry, sex (including sexual orientation), disability, age (except as authorized by law,) height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or employment. Inquiries related to any nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Superintendent, 35276 Division Road, Richmond, MI 48062, (586) 727-3565.