



Shamrock News

The yearly St. Patrick School Calendar is [here](#).

10/10/25



Congratulations: Congratulations to the winners of the Fall Fest Mega Rock Raffle:

\$5,000	Lois Adams	\$500	Charlotte Maurer
\$2,500	Charlotte Maurer	\$250	Diane Hafner & Michael Hoppes
\$1,000	Sara Smith	\$250	Mike/Rita & Mark/Renee Owen
\$750	Gary & Janet Fedewa	\$250	John Schrauben
\$500	Gary & Barb Hodge	\$250	Keelie Honsowitz

The next grand prize winners will be announced at the Marriage Gala on February 14th.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 23. High School conferences are on a walk-in basis in the teacher's classrooms. Middle School conferences are also on a walk-in basis with parents and student in attendance in the cafeteria. MS & HS conferences times are 12-3p and 4-7p. DK-5 parents need to sign up for a conference time at this [link](#). Please enter at door #1 located by the school office.

2026-27 Financial Aid Applications: The [application](#) and [instructions](#) were emailed to all families. The deadline for round one is December 1, 2025. This applies for students in grades DK-11. **A new application must be filled out each year.** This information can also be found on the school website under Prospective Families, Tuition/Scholarships. Please contact the office for assistance. The sooner you apply, the better!

Picture Retake Day: Pictures were sent home this week. If you didn't like your picture or were absent, picture retake day is on Tuesday, October 28. For those students who would like to get their picture retaken and bought a package, they **MUST** bring their package to the photographer for an even exchange, as pictures will not be reprinted unless those are returned.

*Let's go **SHAMROCKS!***

Friday, October 10

No Busing - PPS not in session

Thursday, October 23

1/2 day of school - parent/teacher conferences
Grades 6-12 dismissed at 11:25a and DK-5 dismissed at 11:40a
No busing after school
No Preschool, no afterschool childcare

Friday, October 24

No School

Halloween Parties and Parade: Halloween parties will take place in the afternoon on Friday, October 31. Please see your child's classroom newsletter for the time. The elementary Halloween parade will take place at 3:15pm. You can watch the parade in the gym. Students may be signed out from their classroom at dismissal if parents would like to take them home early.

Halloween Costumes: As you are buying/making Halloween costumes, please remember that we have a **NO** weapons (real or pretend), gore, blood, or make-up policy.

Pay it Forward Day: This is a day of service where our students do community service such as raking leaves or small service projects in our community. It will take place on Friday, October 31. Students in grades 6-12 are asked to bring rakes and tarps to school (please put names on them). Rakes are not allowed on the bus so make plans to drop them off in advance. It will also be a jeans and spirit wear day. If you know someone within walking distance of the school that needs their yard raked or have a small project, please contact the school.



Calendar of Events



10/10	Var. FB @ Wyoming Lee HS @ 7p	10/16	PSAT for grade 11
10/11	Var. CC @ Greater Lansing INV 9a		Var. & MS CC @ CMAC Jamboree Country Mill Orchard 4p
	5/6 FB vs. Breckenridge @ Byron 10a		7/8 VB vs. P-W @ SPS 5p
10/13	7/8 VB @ Fowler 5p		Var. VB Tri vs. Webberville/Ashley @ Ashley 5:30p
	PTO Meeting in Parish Hall 6p		PTO Candle Pickup at The Port 6-9p
10/14	PSAT for grade 10	10/17	End of 1st Quarter
	7/8 FB @ Morrice 6p		Jeans and Spirit Wear Day
	School Board Meeting Rm. 208 6:30p		Senior Open Campus Lunch
10/15	8th grade to Ionia County College Career Fair 11:45a		DK/KG Field Trip
	Esports Club in room 211 4p	10/18	Var. VB @ Dansville INV. 9a
	JV & Var. VB @ Lansing Christian 5:30p		Var. FB vs. Potterville @ PHS 7p

Virtue Corner

Virtue of the Week: Patience

This falls under the cardinal virtue of fortitude, which helps us to have strength to resist temptation, overcome obstacles, and conquer fear.

Definition: Bearing present difficulties calmly.

Opposing Trait:

- Being impatient while completing a difficult task or in handling challenging circumstances.

Saint: Saint Gianna Molla

Gianna was an Italian doctor and mother. She loved her husband very much, but he had to travel a lot for work. When he was away, they often wrote letters when they could not talk on the telephone. She was honest about her hardships but was never bitter or angry. When she was pregnant with her fourth child, her doctors told her she needed life-saving surgery. She waited as long as she could into the pregnancy and then chose the surgery that would be safest for her unborn child. Her child survived, but the sacrifice she made for her baby cost Gianna her life.

Family Discussion Question: How have you noticed the Lord helping you grow in patience these last two weeks?

Help Make a Difference - Volunteer for the Auction Committee!

We are excited to begin planning our upcoming school fundraiser, and we need your help to make it a success! We're looking for enthusiastic and organized parent volunteers to lead and support our **Auction Committee**.

This is a fantastic opportunity to contribute your time and talents to an event that directly benefits our students, staff, and school programs. Whether you have experience planning events or are simply passionate about giving back, your involvement will make a big impact.

As part of the committee, you'll help with tasks such as collecting donations, organizing auction items, promoting the event, and helping everything run smoothly on the big day. It's a rewarding way to meet other parents, collaborate as a team, and support our school community.

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the school office. We can't wait to work together to make this year's auction the best one yet!

PORTLAND COMMUNITY FUND ASSOCIATION COAT DRIVE AND GIVEAWAY

Our annual coat drive will begin Friday, October 3 and run through Friday, October 17. Adult and children's clean, useable coats will be collected along with outerwear such as hats, mittens, gloves and boots. Snowpants are especially needed. General clothing and garage sale items are not being collected. PLEASE DO NOT donate these items. A "Stuff the Bus" will be provided by the Portland Public Schools, Ted Goodman of TAG Detailing and Scott Teachout and Joel Vanslambrouck of G. & B. Pool supplies. The bus will be the only location to drop off donations. The bus will be located at Bill's Party Store at 1153 E. Grand River in Portland. The coat giveaway will be Saturday, October 18 from 10:00- 1:00 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church located at 8867 Kent Street in Portland land. Coats and outerwear will be available to anyone needing them.

We also have a large selection of men's and women's size shoes available for anyone needing them. Another option to get a coat is to visit the Portland Community Clothes Closet located at the Portland United Methodist Church, 310 Bridge Street. The coats and clothing are available free of charge. The hours are Monday from 9:00 a.m. to noon and Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



PTO Candle Fundraiser

*Pick Up
Information*

*Thursday
October 16, 2025*

6-9pm

at The Port

143 Kent Street, Portland



*20% of all bottle sales during pick up
will go back to St. Patrick School*

HAPPY SOCK-TOBER!!

St. Patrick School will be partnering with The Michigan State Police Training Division to collect brand NEW socks of all sizes and colors from October 1 - October 28, 2025.

Delivery date 10/29/25.

This Corporal Work of Mercy will make a huge difference!

All donations will go to Homeless Angels.

What a great way for our community to help those in need!

Warm Feet!! Warm Hearts!!!



Safe Firearm Storage (MCL 28.429 / House Bills 5450 & 5451)

Michigan law requires firearms to be securely stored in homes where a minor is present or likely to be present. As mandated by law (House Bills 5450 & 5451, signed January 22, 2025), all schools must share this information annually. Please review the flyer from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services: [Safe Storage Flyer](#) (MDHHS)



What is the safe storage law in Michigan?

Michigan passed a firearms safe storage law that went into effect on Feb. 13, 2024.

SUMMARY OF THE LAW (MCL 28.429)

- The law imposes safe storage requirements on a person who knows, or reasonably should know, that a minor is, or is likely to be, present on the premises.
- Safe storage of a firearm includes storing in a locked box or container or storing unloaded with a locking device.
- A person is liable for any harm caused by a minor who gains unsupervised access to a firearm, if unlawfully stored.
- When a minor gains proper supervised access to a firearm with parental permission, no penalties will be imposed if the firearm is used during the minor's employment, ranching/farming, or target practice/instruction in the safe use of a firearm.
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is working with the Michigan State Police to distribute gun locks through home visits, MDHHS local offices, and some local health departments.

IMPORTANCE AND BENEFITS OF SAFE STORAGE TO HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

Legal ownership of firearms is a Constitutional right. This comes with important safety responsibilities to prevent accidental firearm deaths, thefts, and suicide, including among children. Hiding unlocked firearms or keeping them on a shelf out of reach does not guarantee or equal safe storage under Michigan law. Safe storage reduces the risk of accidental death among children and theft of guns. When access to guns is reduced, the overall suicide rate drops.

FIREARM SAFE STORAGE OPTIONS

There are simple measures everyone can take to protect their family or other children and reduce the risk of unintentional firearm injury or death.

- ① Gun safe
- ② Trigger lock
- ③ Cable lock

Also, it is important to store ammunition separately from the firearm.



Accidental firearm deaths among children 17 years and younger most often happen:

- With guns that are loaded and unlocked.
- When a child is playing with a gun or showing it to someone else.



In these situations, the most common victim of an accidental firearm death is a friend or a sibling of the child.



Closets and nightstands are the most common locations of guns used in these fatal unintended shootings.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Project ChildSafe](#)

[University of Michigan Family Guide to Firearm Home Safety](#)

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline \(Call or text 988\)](#)

For more information and a full list of other resources, visit the MDHHS firearm safe storage page at Michigan.gov/mdhhs/safety-injury-prev/firearm-safety