



**Ashley Elementary**  
**52347 Ashley**  
**New Baltimore, MI 48047**  
**(586) 725-2801/Fax (586) 725-4426**

Mrs. Cathy Pennington, Principal

September, 2009

Ashley Elementary Mission Statement

The Ashley Elementary community will create a positive environment that will foster the growth of students academically and socially. We will encourage our students to become responsible, kind, and respectful citizens.

**Principal's Page**

Parents and Students,

On behalf of the entire staff of Ashley Elementary, I want to welcome everyone back to another school year. Welcome to all the new faces that will be joining us this year as we continue to make our school an exciting home for children to grow educationally and socially. We all share the goal of making Ashley Elementary School a caring, nurturing environment where students come first.

I encourage you to become involved in our school and in your child's educational experiences. Research shows you can assist in your child's success in school if you become actively interested in what your child is doing.

Today, you received an opening day packet of important information from our school. We attached to our newsletter specific information about Ashley Elementary too. Please take the time to read, review, and discuss with your child the information contained in the packet. We do ask that both parent and student sign the acknowledgement forms (in your packet) that you have reviewed the Code of Conduct, Internet Agreement, and the District Parent/Student Handbook. The district handbook can be read through a link on the Anchor Bay/Ashley website at [www.anchorbay.misd.net](http://www.anchorbay.misd.net). If you would like a copy of the district handbook instead, we do have them available in the office. Just stop by and we would be happy to provide a copy for you. Please return these signed acknowledgements to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

This year, I am once again working with our PTG to hold our fundraising efforts to a minimum. We will have **only one** fundraiser for the Ashley office again this year. Our Ashley office fundraiser will be at the very start of the school year and yes, we will once again be selling the delicious and delectable Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough. What can be better than cookies! We had great participation with our families last year and we truly appreciate your support. The monies raised last year were used to upgrade the sound system on our stage. This was a pricey endeavor but well worth it when parents were able to hear and really enjoy the wonderful programs that our students presented. This year our fundraising monies will be spent to provide additional assemblies and hands-on classroom experiences for our students. So...thank you in advance for always supporting Ashley and being so generous even during these economically challenging times.

This year Ashley will be going "Green". We will actively be working on the 20 points of Energy and Environmental Savings so that we will be recognized by the State of Michigan as a "Green" School. We have already begun our initiative and earned many points but there is still work to do. We have Ashley staff and students who are committed to helping us go "green". Please let us know if you would like to get involved too. For more information, you can go to [www.michigangreenschools.org](http://www.michigangreenschools.org).

There are some important dates to keep in mind for September starting with tonight. Hope you are able to attend our Ashley Open House tonight. Parents often tell me that they would love to visit their child's classroom and meet their teacher at the very beginning of the year and so we would love to see everyone tonight. The school will be open from 6:00pm until 7:00pm for you to visit

The staff and I have great things planned for the school year. We are ready to get started. Together, we will make it a great year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cathy Pennington



## Ashley's ABC Character Award Program

### Anchor Bay School District Pesticide Program Notice

In accordance with Public Act 131, school administration must advise parents or guardians of this right to be notified prior to the application of pesticide at their child's school.

As a result of this regulation, you are being advised that a routine application of pesticide will take place the last Friday of every month in each school. These applications will take place after school hours in the cafeteria, kitchen, multi-purpose room and kitchen storage areas. If more specific information is needed, please send a note to: Supervisor of Maintenance, indicating students name, school and if you wish prior notification of pesticide treatment inside and/or outside of school.

Parents, our ABC Character Award Program is in full swing. Your children will be earning ABC tickets/checks to trade them in for the character charms/character bracelets.

There are many opportunities for students to earn their ABC tickets/checks. Classroom teachers will catch students being **kind**, **responsible**, and **respectful**. The lunchroom paras also give out ABC tokens for helping, etc... Anyone on staff can catch students being **kind**, **responsible**, and **respectful** and issue an ABC ticket/check. You may also see other charms that your child is earning. Teachers will be giving out charms for reading, outstanding achievement, thank you charms, helping hand charms, and good effort charms.

The students are very proud of themselves when they come to the office to receive their charms/bracelets. They have earned them and are celebrating what they have earned through their character charms/bracelets. We hope, through this program, to reinforce the three to **bee** at Ashley; **kind**, **responsible**, and **respectful**. Children can also earn recognition by observing the following expectations in the lunchroom, during assemblies, and traveling through the hallways.

### Assembly Behavior/Expectations

- Students are silent as they enter the cafeteria and/or assembly.
- Classes sit in assigned area.
- Students are brought to attention by the "clapping pattern" sitting on their bottom, hands are still, voices are off, and eyes are on the speaker.
- Students are silent throughout the assembly. If students are talking as they enter or during the assembly, they are tapped on the shoulder and leave the assembly and report to the media center.
- When the assembly is over, students should remain quietly seated until they are dismissed grade level by grade level. Their teacher will signal for them to stand, get in a line, and follow silently. They are to be as silent exiting the assembly as they are entering.

### Lunchroom Expectations

- Students follow hallway expectations until seated.
  - Once seated, they may talk to the students in their immediate area.
  - Students stay in their seats unless given permission to move.
- All students will:
1. Keep hands to themselves
  2. Walk at all times
  3. Leave personal space (teachers reinforce concept of personal space)
  4. Use an inside voice

- Students stay seated until teachers/para walk to the table, and give the signal to line up.
- When students are coming in from recess or returning to class, they are to maintain hallway expectations.

### Hallway Expectations

- Students will stand in a straight line (single or double line).
- Eyes are forward
- Hands are at their side
- Voices are silent
- Walk on the right side of hallway

### Snack Cart Guidelines

- Snacks will be sold when Mrs. Billock is done checking in all students for lunch.
- Students are only allowed 2 items from the snack cart per day.
- Snack cart will be closed 5 minutes before dismissal.
- No Open food or drink will be allowed to leave the lunchroom.



**SCHOOL HOURS**  
9:06 A.M.-4:02 P.M.

**KINDERGARTEN**  
A.M.—9:06-12:16  
P.M.—12:52-4:02

**HALF DAYS**  
Dismissal at 12:36 P.M.

### **Observance of Constitution Day Wednesday, September 17th**

In the spirit of this day, we have declared September 17th **RED/WHITE/BLUE DAY**. Please have your child wear something patriotic on this day.

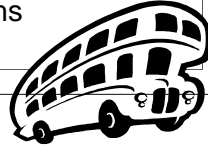


**OPEN HOUSE**  
Tuesday, September 8th,  
6:00—7:00 p.m.  
We look forward to meeting our Ashley Families!



## ALTERNATE BUS FORM

Students may not change bus stops without notification of approval from the Transportation Dept. Please complete an ALTERNATE BUS FORM to provide transportation to or from an alternate address within Ashley's attendance boundary. This alternate stop must be for all five (5) days a week and must be an existing bus stop. Forms are available in the office.



## TAKING A DIFFERENT BUS HOME

Children are not allowed to ride a different bus home from school unless they have a note from their parent/guardian. The note must be given to their teacher and then brought to the office in the **MORNING** for approval.



### Hot Lunch/Milk

A menu for the month of September is in your child's first day folder. Our menu will be on WABS (Channel 6) everyday for your convenience. You can prepay lunches by visiting the web [www.cafeprepary.com](http://www.cafeprepary.com). The

fee for a hot lunch is \$2.00 per day. Milk price is 35 cents per day if you have a cold lunch. Kindergarten milk is \$13 for the semester or \$26 for the year. Please pay this milk fee for the year or by semester in the office by cash or check payable to Ashley Elementary.

For information on food stamps, unemployment, housing, job training and other assistance, visit [www.michigan.gov/helpinghand](http://www.michigan.gov/helpinghand) or call 211 to contact a United Way clearing house.

## APPLICATIONS FOR FREE/REDUCED MEALS

Please be aware that applications for free and reduced meals were mailed home in August. Only one application needs to be completed per family. Parents/guardians may download an application on the Anchor Bay Foodservice website as follows:

Free/Reduced Information letter:

<http://www.anchorbay.misd.net/departments/foodservice/docs/Application-Info.pdf>

Application:

<http://www.anchorbay.misd.net/departments/foodservice/docs/Application.pdf>

Spanish version:

<http://www.anchorbay.misd.net/departments/foodservice/docs/spanishapplication.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact the Food Service Office at 598-7663. Thank you.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO HELPED GET ASHLEY READY FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR. ALL YOUR ENERGY AND CREATIVE IDEAS ARE APPRECIATED BY ALL THE STAFF.  
THANKS!!!! THANKS!!!!



## Leaving School During the Day

When it is necessary for a student to leave during the school day, the parent or guardian **MUST** sign their child out on the appropriate form in the school office. This procedure will better insure the safety of our youngsters. Parents should not go directly to the classroom to get their child during school hours, before or after school. If a parent enters the building to pick up their child, **PLEASE MEET YOUR CHILD IN THE LOBBY OR OFFICE.** Please do not go to the classroom door.

Please be sure to review our **Student Arrival & Dismissal Procedures** and **Guidelines** in your opening day folder. Call the school if you have any questions or concerns.



## School Bus Safety Tips

### What Drivers Should Know:

School buses with overhead red and yellow lights:

- ◆ Yellow lights are flashing—prepare to stop.
- ◆ Red lights are flashing—stop no closer than 20 feet from the bus.
- ◆ Red lights are turned off—proceed with caution.

School buses with overhead red lights only:

- ◆ Red lights are flashing and bus is moving—prepare to stop.
- ◆ Red lights are flashing and bus is stopped—stop no closer than 20 feet from the bus.
- ◆ Red Lights are turned off—proceed with caution.

All school buses:

- ◆ Yellow hazard warning lights are flashing—proceed with caution.

### What Students Should Know:

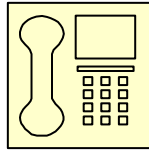
When waiting for the bus:

- ◆ Stay a safe distance from the roadway.
- ◆ No pushing or horseplay.
- ◆ When it arrives, stay away from the wheels.

To cross in front of the bus:

- ◆ After exiting the bus, walk at least three giant steps from the side of the bus.
- ◆ Walk on the sidewalk or side of the road, taking 10 giant steps ahead of the bus.
- ◆ Look at the driver for a signal to cross.
- ◆ Stop at the edge of the bus.
- ◆ Look to the left, right and left again.
- ◆ Keep watching the traffic as you walk.
- ◆ If a paper or article goes under the school bus, ask the bus driver to help you.

## TELEPHONE CALLS



Our policy regarding telephone calls is as follows:

1. When a call comes in for a teacher, the call will be directed to voice mail unless the teacher is on "prep." (You may call the voice mailbox directly by dialing (586) 648-2500.) If the call is regarding an "emergency" situation, please explain that to the office staff and they will connect you as needed...but, please, only in an emergency.
2. Please restrict calls regarding after school arrangements for children. We recommend that you tell your child where he/she is to go after school in the morning and send a note to your child's teacher to avoid confusion during the day (some children become really upset when they are uncertain about where they are to go at the end of the day). We understand that sometimes the "unexpected" occurs necessitating last-minute changes and a call is necessary, but these should be kept to a minimum. Each time we deliver a message, classroom instruction is interrupted and, to some children, this creates a distraction that interferes with the learning. It is important to preserve the quality and atmosphere of classroom education.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## EMERGENCY CARDS



Please complete both sides of the student emergency card you will find in your child's new folder. A parent/guardian signature is necessary in case your child may need any type of emergency treatment during the school year. All cards must be returned to your child's teacher no later than Friday, September 18. Please keep the information on this card current. A phone call or brief note to the office alerting us of any changes will be greatly appreciated.

## Red Apple Fundraiser

Starting Monday, September 14, 2009

Orders Due Monday, October 5, 2009

Pick up will be scheduled the week of  
November 2, 2009

Money Due Monday, November 9, 2009

\*\*\*\*\*Cookie Dough & More\*\*\*\*\*

Great Prizes!

*Help us to raise funds for additional assemblies  
and hands-on classroom experiences.*

*Watch for our brochures coming home soon!*

Red  Apple

Dear Parents/Guardians:

A new school year is beginning. Students are enthused about their classes and teachers are busy planning exciting lessons for their students. Please emphasize to your children the importance of being in school, as daily attendance is essential in order for a student to benefit from his/her educational experience. If a student is not in school on a regular basis, it is not possible for maximum learning to occur. Excessive tardies are a concern because important announcements and classroom instruction are given at the beginning of the day. Good attendance patterns, which include punctuality, are developed at an early age. They must be emphasized in kindergarten and reaffirmed at every grade level. It is the responsibility of the parent to instill in his/her child the importance of attending school. All students in the Anchor Bay School District are expected to be in school on a regular day-to-day basis. Absences should occur only for legitimate, excusable reasons, generally illness. It is the responsibility of school personnel, according to the State of Michigan Compulsory School Attendance Law, to monitor all students' attendance. Parents will be notified in writing, following the seventh, fourteenth and twentieth absence/tardy accumulated within a school year. Excessive absences must be reported to the Macomb County Independent School District Attendance Office.

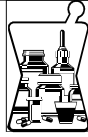
The Michigan School Law states:

Every parent, guardian or other person in the State of Michigan, having control and charge of any child between the ages of 6 and 16 years, shall be required to send the child to the public schools during the entire school year, and such attendance shall be continuous and consecutive for the school year fixed by the district in which such child is enrolled....

We realize there are circumstances that contribute to a child's absences/tardies. We suggest that you obtain medical verification for all absences or tardies when applicable. When a child has excessive absences without medical documentation these absences may be investigated by school officials.

School and home must work together to insure that students in the Anchor Bay School District develop to their maximum potential. Your support in the matter of school attendance is appreciated.

## **MEDICATION**



Absolutely no medication will be given to any student unless a special medical form from the school district is completed by your physician. These forms are available in the office. If obtaining prescription medication, please ask your doctor to place pills in two bottles (one with directions for school personnel and one for home use. School personnel will not administer any non-prescription medication (aspirin, cold medication, etc.). Please contact the school if you have any questions.

For information on the H1N1 (Swine Flu) Virus, visit the Anchor Bay School District website at [www.anchorbay.misd.net](http://www.anchorbay.misd.net)



Parents....

Did you know that Ashley has received an "A" on their Michigan Report Card for the past six years? Congratulations to the Ashley Staff & Students!



## **MACOMB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**



The Health Department will be providing hearing screening by a State Certified Hearing Technician for students in Kindergarten, second and fourth grades on September 22, 23 and 24. A second screening is given at a later date for children who do not meet State of Michigan guidelines. Watch for more information going home.

Please keep in mind that we are participating in the following programs this school year. Remember to save some of these items for us or sign up to participate in the rewards programs at the businesses listed below. Thank you for help.

Campbell's Soup Labels	Box Tops for Education	America's Finest Car Wash
Ink Jet Cartridges	VG Receipts	Pop Can Tabs
Meijer Award Program, Ashley School ID #232967		
Target Take Charge of Education		
Cell Phone & Cell Phone Batteries Recycling (office)		
Drink Pouches (not drink boxes) Slit the bottoms and rinse out		
Paper Recycling (drop off bin in parking lot)		

Congratulations and welcome to this years PTG Board!

Cheryl Hoppe—President  
Angela Paddock—Vice President  
Linda Heaney—Secretary  
Abby Bridges—Treasurer

All are welcome to the first PTG Meeting on Thursday, September 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

## **Book Fair**

Week of September 28th!

Cruise through our assortment of new & exciting books!  
More information coming home soon.



## **Chili Cookoff**

To raise funds for two family members of Ashley Students who need life-saving surgeries.  
Sunday, September 27, 12 noon-4:00 p.m. at Ashley Elementary  
Call (586) 201-6378  
for more information



Ashley office will be sending any office correspondence home with students on Thursday of each week and with the oldest/only child in each family. Time sensitive notes will be sent home as needed. For your convenience, all Ashley monthly newsletters, Ashley Annual Report, staff voice mailboxes and email addresses, calendar of upcoming events, and all other information that we can share with you will be on our Ashley Web Page at [www.anchorbay.misd.net](http://www.anchorbay.misd.net), the Anchor Bay Website.



## **STUDENT PICTURES**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009**

ALL STUDENTS WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHED ON PICTURE DAY.

Watch for Picture Order forms going home this month!

## **CAMPBELL LABELS FOR EDUCATION**

### **2009-2010 PROGRAM!**

Do your part this year to support our school by sending in UPC's from Campbell products. Look for a letter coming home to all families explaining how you can help us make our goal of 20,000 points this year.

Campbell's is sponsoring a special online contest NOW THRU OCTOBER 31, 2009.

It is called "**BUSLOAD OF GEAR**". Go to the "labelsforeducation" website and click on the "Busload of Gear" icon on the bottom of the home page. Enter the drawing using ASHLEY ELEMENTARY as your school of choice.

WE CAN WIN \$25,000 in gear for our school!!! You can enter once a day every day between now and October 31<sup>st</sup>.

JUST THINK OF HOW MANY ENTRIES WE COULD HAVE IF EVERY FAMILY ENTERS DAILY!!!!!!

We look forward to another successful year with the Campbell's program at Ashley.

Thank you.

Diana Kortas (coordinator)

586-716-3867



## **CARE**

(Community Assessment Referral & Education)

Parent Education Series—Fall 2009 Series  
Parenting School Aged Children (6–12)

\*Wednesdays, 9/16-11/4—9:00-11:00 a.m.\*

Faith Trinity United Church, Warren

\*Mondays, 10/5-11/23—6:30-8:30 p.m.\*

Hatherley Elementary, Sterling Heights

\*Mondays, 10/5-11/23—6:30-8:30 p.m.\*

Lobbestael Elementary, Harrison Twp.

\*Tuesday, 10/5-12/1—6:30-8:30 p.m.\*

Henry Ford Hospital-Warren Campus

\*Wednesdays, 10/14-12/9—6:30-8:30 p.m.\*

Collins Elementary, Sterling Heights

Programs are also available for Parenting Teenagers and many other Specialty Workshops are offered.

Visit the website at [www.careofmacomb.com](http://www.careofmacomb.com)

Or call CARE at 586-541-0033

### **Join the Marrow Registry**

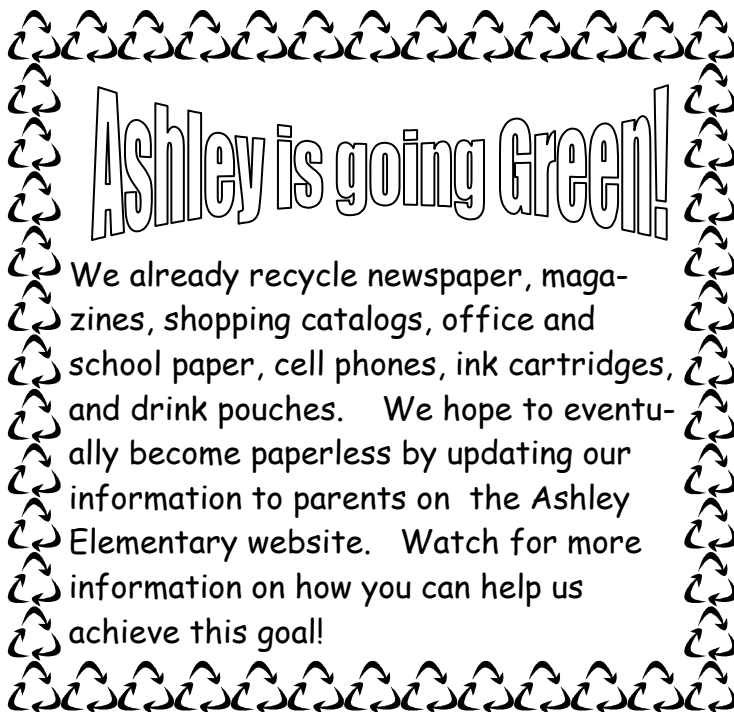
BeTheMatch.org - 1 (800)MARRO-2

Each day, more than 6000 people need a life-saving bone marrow transplant

To register or for more information attend Saturday, September 19, 2009, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Chesterfield Township-Station #3, 3391 23 Mile Road

Or call Tara Motowski @ 586-725-5223



# Ashley is going Green!

We already recycle newspaper, magazines, shopping catalogs, office and school paper, cell phones, ink cartridges, and drink pouches. We hope to eventually become paperless by updating our information to parents on the Ashley Elementary website. Watch for more information on how you can help us achieve this goal!

The New Baltimore Citizens Advisory Committee  
Proudly Presents:

### **MEET THE CANDIDATES**

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, September 16, 2009

TIME: Program 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Doors open at 6:30pm

LOCATION: Performing Arts Center,  
Anchor Bay High School,  
6319 County Line Road

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) invites the community to participate in this event. It is an opportunity for residents meet the candidates running for office in November's election and ask questions. When you arrive a CAC member will give you a 5x7 index card to write your questions and will collect them. Only the moderator will be permitted to ask the questions. Please join us for what promises to be an interesting and informative evening.

## **Community Events**

To support our efforts to become more paperless, watch for community event postings on our Community Bulletin Board located in our front office lobby.