

# ***Houghton Lake Community Schools***

6001 West Houghton Lake Drive • Houghton Lake, Michigan 48629

Julie A. Brown, Superintendent

(989) 366-2031

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

At last night's Board of Education meeting, the Board of Education unanimously voted to accept the 31b Balanced Calendar Program grant! This means that we are ready to accept request for families/students to participate in the 2019-2020 balanced calendar pilot program. Remember some key points about a balance calendar school year:

- increased student achievement
- an opportunity for immediate, intensive intervention for struggling students (during intersession breaks)
- an opportunity for enrichment/advancement programming for advanced learners (during intersession breaks)
- increased opportunities for children to receive free breakfast and lunches (nutritional value which adds to improved student achievement)
- days of instruction (180) and hours in school (8:00-2:55 PM) remain the same
- six weeks of summer break with an additional four weeks of breaks (intersessions) distributed throughout the year
- students are not required to attend intersession breaks, and families may schedule vacations during intersessions
- students on a balanced calendar who are not on vacation are encouraged to sign up for intersession opportunities
- same holiday breaks during the year as the traditional calendar students
- improved heating/cooling/ventilation in balanced calendar classrooms and common areas (gym, library, computer labs, etc.)

Please visit the Houghton Lake Community Schools main web site page, [hlcsk12.net](http://hlcsk12.net), parents will be able to go to the "Balanced Calendar" link to find information and register students for the 2019-2020 balanced calendar program. Seats are limited! Please sign up early.

If you have not had a chance to attend one of the Balanced Calendar presentations, you may find information on the Houghton Lake Community Schools Web site ([hlcsk12.net](http://hlcsk12.net)). On the main page, right hand side, click on the blue icon named "Facilities Updates Forum." Previous presentations, a pro/con list and questions/answers about the balanced calendar are on that tile.

As always, I appreciate your thoughts and opinions. If you would like to share yours, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (989) 366-2035 or email me at [brownjsupt@hlcsk12.net](mailto:brownjsupt@hlcsk12.net).

Sincerely,

Julie A. Brown  
Superintendent

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[www.hlcsk12.net](http://www.hlcsk12.net)

***Houghton Lake Community Schools***

***aspire to be an exemplary school district by preparing all learners for a successful tomorrow***