



Ferry Weekly Update

09/06/2019

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday	09/11	Ferry Back to School Night	6:30 PM
Friday	09/12	Fisher Detroit River Cruise	9:00 AM

8 Sun	9 Mon	10 Tue	11 Wed	12 Thu	13 Fri	14 Sat
	A	B	C	D	A	
			Ferry Back to School Night		Fisher Detroit River Cruise	



Welcome to Leader in Me

Each new school year brings opportunities for academic growth and growth in all areas of development. Although children must be knowledgeable when they graduate, they must also be healthy, engaged, responsible, and caring people.

Leader in Me provides your school with the vision and language to lead the school in a way that addresses all areas of development. As each child discovers and develops his or her unique gifts and talents, they are given opportunities to lead. As leaders, they become active, engaged partners in their own education and their self-confidence, responsibility, and initiative grows.

The children quickly understand the benefits of different gifts and talents; they learn to listen to new ideas, work together to achieve results, and motivate one another to be the best.

We hope your school enjoys sharing these new opportunities. Together, you will watch each and every child grow throughout the year.



The Grosse Pointe Public School System

Ferry Elementary School

School Lunch

Chartwells pricing is as follows:

Lunch - \$3.10

Milk - \$.50

Ferry Spirit Wear.
Each grade has a specific color t-shirt.

K - Purple

1 - Yellow

2 - Orange

3 - Green

4 - Red

5 - Blue

Important dates

September 11 - Back To School Night

6:00 - 6:26 - Kindergarten

6:30-6:55 - Principal Address in the Gym

7:00-7:25 - 1st - 5th first session

7:30-7:55 1st-5th second session

September 18 - PTO Meeting - 6:30 PM

September 30 - Picture Day

Monday Bell Schedule

09:05 AM Entry Bell

09:10 AM AM Instruction Begins

11:56 AM Lunch Bell

12:46 PM PM Instruction Begins

03:38 PM Dismissal Bell

Tuesday-Friday Bell Schedule

08:20 AM Entry Bell

08:25 AM AM Instruction Begins

11:36 AM Lunch Bell

12:26 PM PM Instruction Begins

03:38 PM Dismissal Bell

By now you should have received an email from the district with your login information to complete the [K12 pre-registration](#). (Click on link to begin)

Login - The login ID will be your student's ID number and the access key will be the student's birthdate: MM/DD/YYYY

Online pre-registration is mandatory for all students in your family every year. Please do not skip siblings.

Email Address - A parent/guardian email address is required to complete the online process. If your email address has changed please update it with the school district by logging in to the [MiStar Parent Portal](#) and clicking on the My Information link to edit this information, or email ParentConnect@gpschools.org and include your name, child's name, school name, and your old and new email address.

Jodie Randazzo
Principal, Ferry Elementary School



**Department of Curriculum,
Instruction and Assessment**

389 St. Clair Avenue
Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230-1599
Phone: (313) 432-3044
Fax: (313) 432-3041
E-Mail: keith.howell@gpschools.org
Twitter: @principalhowell

Keith Howell

Director of PreK-Elementary Instruction

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

As you know, reading is the foundation for success in school and it is essential for all subjects. In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed the Third Grade Reading Law to ensure that students exit third grade reading at or above grade level. The law states that beginning with the 2019-20 school year, third-graders could be retained if they demonstrate reading proficiency levels that are more than one grade level behind. Schools are required to assess the reading skills of all K-3 students at least three times per year in an effort to identify struggling students. Students demonstrating deficiencies are required to have an Individual Reading Improvement Plan (I-RIP) created in partnership with their teacher, principal, and parents. With the exception of the retention language, this law is consistent with Grosse Pointe Public School System's historical approach and dedication to a multi-tiered system of support for our students.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System monitors student progress with Fall/Winter/Spring NWEA testing while using Fountas & Pinnell (Benchmark Reading Assessment) and other classroom assessments to determine a differentiated reading approach for students. Classroom teachers provide Tier II interventions while our trained Literacy Coaches provide Tier III small group instruction for those who qualify. During fall conferences, parents will receive additional information about the available supports and/or services that their child is receiving if they qualify for an I-RIP. At that time parents will receive the I-RIP, identifying the interventions that are already in place, along with any additional strategies to support their child at home. This plan will continue to be updated throughout the school year and revised at parent/teacher conferences. The new legislation will add to the already existing support our children are accustomed to receiving.

A team of educators and administrators continue to collaborate to update our already successful local plan to be consistent with the requirements identified in the Third Grade Reading Law. The district will continue to comply with the mandated testing, keeping our instructional focus on what is best and developmentally appropriate for our students. Family involvement and understanding is a critical part of this effort.

Additional information regarding the legislation is available on [our website under the parent tab](#) and by visiting this [Third Grade Reading Facts for Families](#) link. We appreciate your ongoing support as partners in education. The most important thing you can do is to set aside time each day to read together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Keith Howell'.

Keith Howell

Facts for Families: What is the Read by Grade Three Law?

In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed a law that requires schools to identify learners who are struggling with reading and writing and to provide additional help. The law states that third graders may repeat third grade if they are more than one grade level behind beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. These *Facts for Families* help families understand the Read by Grade Three Law so they can support their child.



How is my child identified as having a reading concern?

Assessments are given to all children who are in Kindergarten through Third grade **within 30 days of the first day of school**. An Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) will be written for all learners who have been identified through these assessments as having a reading concern.

When is an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) developed?

An IRIP is developed following identification of a reading concern **within 30 days** of the screening assessment. The IRIP is developed with the help of teachers, the principal, parent or legal guardian, and anyone else that the team agrees needs to be involved. Your child will remain on an IRIP as long as there is a reading concern. Your child will be assessed several times through the year to check on their progress. IRIPs should be updated to reflect the needs of your child.

What is the “Read at Home” plan?

A “Read at Home” plan is developed between the school and family to develop efforts you will take to support your child at home. Resources and activities are provided to families.

What if my child’s reading does not improve?

Your child will take the M-STEP in the spring of their third-grade year. The M-STEP is the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress. The M-STEP measures what your child should be able to know and do. If your child scores one or more grade level behind the third-grade reading level, then a notification will be generated for you and your child’s school that your child **may** be retained.

Facts for Families: What is the Read by Grade Three Law?

When do I get notification that my child may be retained?

If your child's reading score on the English Language Arts M-STEP is more than one year below grade level, you and your child's school will be notified by **June 1** of that school year.

When do I need to talk to the school if I don't agree with the decision to retain my child?

If you do not agree with the decision, you should request a meeting with your child's school and file a **Good Cause Exemption within 30 days** of receiving a notice regarding potential retention. Your child's school must make themselves available to discuss your child's progress.

When will I find out if my child is being retained after I ask for a Good Cause Exemption?

Your child's school needs to have a decision on retaining your child **30 days before the first day of school**. This decision is made by the school principal and/or superintendent and is a final decision.

What support will my child get if they are retained in 3rd Grade?

The school will provide a reading program that is designed to improve your child's specific reading concern. This program includes teaching strategies to help your child be a successful reader. Your child may also be assigned to a highly effective teacher of reading, a reading specialist, an evidence-based reading program, daily small group instruction, ongoing assessments, or specialized reading help.