

INSIDE

White
Cloud
Schools

White Cloud Public Schools Newsletter • Spring 2025

Wrapping Up Another Wonderful Year



By Ed Canning, Superintendent

As the days get longer and the air grows warmer, it's time to reflect on another fantastic school year here at White Cloud Public Schools.

The 2024-25 school year has been filled with growth, discovery, and countless moments of WC PRIDE, thanks to the incredible efforts of our students, staff, and the support of our community.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

A special spotlight shines brightly on our graduating Class of 2025.

These remarkable young individuals have navigated their high school journey with resilience, passion, and a competitive spirit that truly embodies White Cloud.

We've watched them excel in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and in countless extracurricular activities. As they prepare to take those next steps on their journey, we celebrate their achievements and the lasting impact they've had on our school. We're so excited to see all the amazing things they'll accomplish!

This year has showcased student accomplishments across all grade levels. White Cloud students have consistently demonstrated dedication and talent. From Quiz Bowl matches to musical performances, and from athletic contests to the goals and dreams attained and perused, White Cloud students continue to shine.

None of these achievements would be possible without the dedication and passion of our incredible staff. Our staff has continued to inspire and challenge students, fostering learning and providing continuous support.

Across all departments, staff work tirelessly behind the scenes to create a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment for everyone. Their commitment to our students' well-being and success is commendable, and we are deeply grateful for their expertise.

The strength of White Cloud Public Schools lies not only within the walls of our buildings but also in the community support. Whether it's cheering from the sidelines, supporting fundraising initiatives, or simply believing in our district's mission, your partnership is invaluable. Thank you for being such an integral part of White Cloud Public Schools.

As we look forward to the upcoming summer, let's carry with us the WC PRIDE and accomplishments of this past year. The future is bright for our graduating seniors, and we eagerly anticipate the continued growth and success of all our students in the years to come.

Have a wonderful spring and summer break! ■



Don't Miss:

Grads with Top Honors:

Pages 16-18

Commencement:



Quiz Bowl News:

Pages 12-15

Summer Meals:

Page 19

INSIDE

White Cloud Public Schools Newsletter

Providing you with important information about your schools.

Address comments and suggestions to:

Ed Canning, Superintendent
P.O. Box 1000
555 Wilcox Avenue
White Cloud, MI 49349
Phone 689-6591

Board of Education

President - James Jones
Vice President - Harry Stevens
Treasurer - Mindy Mench
Secretary - Elaine Engel

Trustees

Megan Cruzan
Rhonda Hedlund
Jeff Murchison

Administration:

Superintendent

Ed Canning

6-12 Principal

Asa Wyers

Assistant 6-12 Principal

Adam Fitzmaurice-Perdue

K-5 Elementary Principal

Lorie Watson

The Board of Education meets the third Monday of each month in the HS Collaboration Room 306. Meetings are open to the public, and begin at 7:00 pm.

Community education offers continuous enrollment in high school completion and GED preparation. Day and evening classes are available. Childcare is available. For more details call 652-4000.



WANTED: Substitute Bus Drivers

White Cloud Public Schools are currently seeking individuals interested in becoming substitute bus drivers. Commercial driver's license, DOT physical, and Bus Driver Continuing Education are required. If you do not already hold all of these credentials, training will be provided.

If you are interested in applying for this important safety-cautious position, please pick up an application at the administrative office or send a letter of interest to:

Lisa Mathews, Transportation Supervisor
555 Wilcox Ave. • P.O. Box 1000
White Cloud, MI 49349



BOOK FAIR MAY 31-JUNE 6

SUMMER READING PROGRAM JUNE 9 - JULY 31



Music to Their Ears

White Cloud 5th graders enjoyed a violin performance by four members of the Grand Rapids Symphony on April 8.

Following the performance, students divided into small groups to learn about the parts of a violin and how the parts make certain sounds, then were taught how to hold and play the instruments.

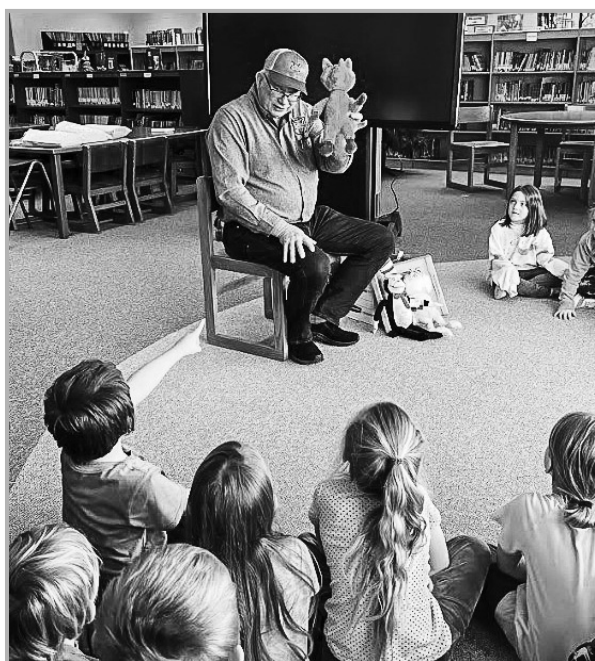
According to the quartet, these 5th graders were the best, most attentive group they have performed for all year! ■



March is
Reading Month!

Thank You, Rep. Fox!

A big White Cloud thank you to State Representative Joseph Fox for reading a story to our WC Elementary students and supporting March is Reading Month. ■



Read On!

White Cloud High School students Jacob Zimmer and Wyatt Karnes give back and read to elementary classes. ■



Summer Blast and Rural Grit

After 30 years of hosting the beloved Summer Magic program, Newaygo County Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (PCA) announced a transition of leadership to TrueNorth Community Services.

TrueNorth has re-tooled and renamed this essential summer youth programming as **Summer Blast**.

The 6-week, half-day program will run June 16-July 31 and will serve youth kindergarten-8th grade.

Summer Blast will take place within the buildings and facilities of local schools in Fremont, Newaygo and Grant. Regularly scheduled Project FOCUS **Rural Grit** summer programming will be taking place in both Hesperia and White Cloud and will closely mirror Summer Blast programming.

Parents in White Cloud who previously sent their children to Summer Magic are encouraged to register them for Project FOCUS Rural Grit summer programming, also K-8th, to ensure they are able to enjoy enrichment and fun throughout the summer months.

For enrollment and/or more information on Project FOCUS Rural Grit in White Cloud, Elementary parents should contact Shelby at (231) 689-2306; jr. high parents should contact Mandi at (231) 689-2181, ext. 3328.

For more information on Summer Blast, parents should contact Youth Opportunities Coordinator Brie Sova at (231) 924-0641, ext. 120. ■



SUMMER FUN
at
PROJECT FOCUS

White Cloud youth are invited to join this FREE summer program, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, Mondays-Thursdays. Days will be jam packed with endless fun and exciting adventures.

JOIN US FOR:
Learning Opportunities
Outdoor Activities
Hands-on Discovery
Field Trips

JUNE 16 TO JULY 31
*No program June 30-July 4

Elementary Site Coordinator-Shelby Kanouse
(231) 689-2306 or skanouse@truenorthservices.org

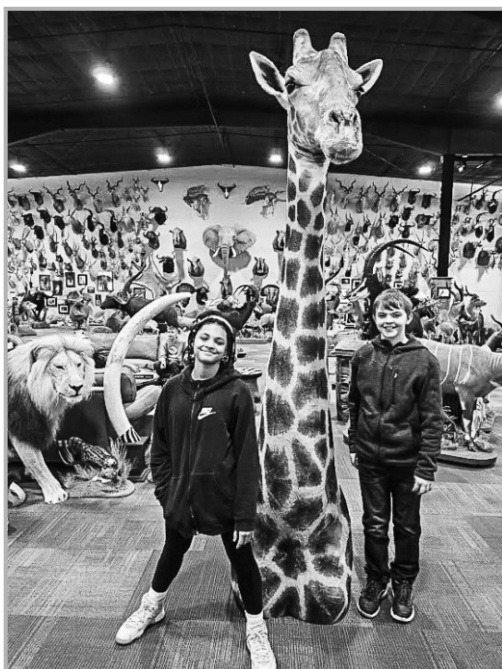
Junior High Site Coordinator-Mandi Krbez
(231) 689-2181, ext. 3328 or mkrbez@truenorthservices.org

Project FOCUS a truenorth community service

TrueNorth community services

Michigan Governor's Award for Learning Centers

Legends!



Seventh grade students recently toured the Legends Ranch Wildlife Center.

Band to Host Spring Concert on May 10

The White Cloud Band Program will host their spring concert on May 10 at the Dogwood Center in Fremont at 2 PM.

Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend.

White Cloud sent junior high and high school ensembles to band festival in February, and both walked away with overall division 2 ratings of "Excellent," with a division 1 rating of "Superior" in sight reading.

We also are very excited about our upcoming marching band show for next fall. Stay tuned for the show announcement!

Junior High is Ready for Spring

By Adam Fitzmaurice-Perdue

White Cloud Junior High is gearing up for an amazing end to our school year.

There is always so much to celebrate at the end of the year: students persevering through tests, exploring college and career choices, showcasing their musical talents, or simply enjoying our amazing end-of-year PRIDE days.

We are also looking forward to next year and welcoming graduating 5th graders as they transition to our building.

One of the highest values in our school is helping students as they begin to think about what they want to be when they grow up, and how their education here prepares them for their next steps.

This spring we are continuing to provide events that students will attend to continue their college and career preparedness.

On April 7th and 8th grade students attended Manufacturing Career Day, where presenters shared different manufacturing

career opportunities in Newaygo County. In May this work will continue with an 8th grade Ferris State field trip.

We take PRIDE by providing these early college field trips and bringing leaders in multiple career fields to meet and work with students on what their college and career could be.

One of our first celebrations is May 10, the spring band concert. This is special because our 6th grade members will have their first-ever band performance, this year at 2 p.m. at the Dogwood Center in Fremont.

Later in May we will have our yearly Pride Party Field Day, during which students play and dance with teachers, build relationships, and have fun!

We also will have our awards ceremony at the end of the month to celebrate the many accomplishments of students and recognize our high achievers.

I am excited and honored to be among the staff and students as we celebrate, recognize, and witness the huge growth of all of our students. ■

Meijer Gardens a Treat for Junior High

Mr. Dipple brought seven junior high students to Meijer Gardens on April 11.

They were accompanied by students from Fremont, Hesperia, Grant, and Newaygo. The trip was sponsored by TrueNorth Community Services.

The butterflies were in full force, the weather was cool but decent, and the kids got to see the wonderful sculptures throughout the complex. ■



Students, from left, are Maya Stinson, Natalie Nichols, Audrianna Johnson, Lauryn Faulkner, Johnny Cooper, Caleb Vining, and Karma Chupp.



Junior High Honor Roll, Semester 1

6th Grade

LILLIAN A. ALONZO
*LEXI L. BARRETT
*ADAYR BELLAH
KAMRYN E. BRANDT
QUINTON CARTER
AADEN S. COLLARD
LYLLIAN A. CONLON
PHOENIX C. COX
CONNOR W. CROTHERS
*VIVA J. CROUSE
*KAMDEN E. CUMMINGS
JACE K. DEBOISE
SHARON E. DONAHUE
LILIANA J. DYKHOUSE
*TRENTON D. FOSTER
ELI K. GARDNER
BREIGHLYNN J. HOLMES
CASH T. KOCH

*KILEY R. MAIKE
DAMIEN E. MANNING
*KONNOR M. MAYLE
*BLAIR E. NARANJO
MADALYNN E. OVERLEY
*EMILY R. PHILLIPS
TAYLER M. PLOTTS
*HAILEY J. RAJALA
ALORA G. SALISBURY
*JARED T. STOCKWELL
ARIA I. STOUTEN
KIERA M. STRAIGHT
A'NIA R. TOBIAS
CULLEN T. TOMPKINS
ZECHARIAH D. TORREY JR
KYLIE A. TUTTLE
RYLEIGH K. VANDEPOL
*MICHAEL J. WIBLE
*KENNIDEE R. WILLIAMS

7th Grade

SOPHIE A. BIRD
BRENNON R. BURKHOLDER
JAYDEN L. BUTTLEMAN
HAYLEIGH J. DEVOS
NAOMEE R. FAULKNER
AUDREONA J. GILLETTE
TREVER D. JENNINGS
SERENITY A. KIMBALL
NA'SHARIYA L. REID
AMELIA E. ROSKAMP
SOFIA M. SAAVEDRA-MENA
JAYDEN M. TRICE
CALEB J. VINING
*KAMUI L. WADE

8th Grade

*ADDISON R. BOOMGAARD
ROWAN B. BURGESS
MONOEVE R. CHERY
AYLA B. FAULKNER
JOSHUA N. FEHRLIN
ROWAN K. PETERSEN
BRYNLEE M. PLOUFF
*JACOB L. STOCKWELL
*KATHLEEN M. THORNE
VAYDA F. TOMPKINS
LILLIAN C. ULMEN
AUBRI S. VINCENT
PAYTEN L. WOLTERS

Senior High Honor Roll, Semester 1

9th Grade

ANNABELLE L. BIRD
LILLIAYN J. BURGESS
AMAYAH T. CANAVAN
NATALIE M. COMPEAU
COURTNEY D. COON
*MASON D'LAMATER
JONATHAN E. DONAHUE
KALEB L. DOOD
ALIVIA R. GRAHAM
DOMINIQUE D. HORTON
ALICE M. HYDE
*KRISTY B. IRWIN
*HARLEIGH R. JAMIESON
AUNDREA M. JOHNSON
MADALYN J. KAISER
BRIAN G. LOVELESS
*KEIRA J. MAIKE
KATE E. MCHANEY
BRAYDEN M. PERDUE
KEITH E. SHICK III
ANDI L. VINCENT
LOGEN U. VOGEL

10th Grade

*ADRIANA J. ALVAREZ-SMITH
ARSYN J. BALKE
DAXTON T. BRISBIN
*NINA M. CAPALLIA-BIRD
JACOB J. CHILES
JUSTICE L. DIXON
LANDON V. EDWARDS
JAMES R. ELLIOTT
BENJAMIN M. FEHRLIN
*KACIE L. KAILING
CALEB W. LEYS
MARKUS A. LORENZ
CLIFFORD L. MAGNAN
*DAMIAN M. MAYLE
SHELBY J. MCKINNON
KAYLEE E. NICHOLS
TEHYAH C. NICKOLOFF
ADRIANNE R. SCHULTZ
ROBERT J. SKUPIEN
TRYSTEN J. TANCOCK
*DAKOTA D. TOWNE
CHASITY M. VANALLSBURG
RHOEN D. WADE
KYLIE J. ZIMMER

11th Grade

CHRISTOPHER D. ANIBAL
PAYTEN E. BIRD
ANDREW J. BURKE
*GABRIELLA E. DAKIN
BROOKLYNN N. DAVIS
MOLLY M. FRANCIS
ANDALEENE R. GORDON
*REECE J. HEWITT
*CHARLOTTE R. KARNES
KELASONDRA L. KIMBALL
*ABBIE M. MCGUIGAN
LIAM R. MCKERRACHER-POVEY
ALEXIS V. MEDINA
JAYDA A. PELLOT
CORLEY A. SCOTT
KALEB A. THORN
ABLE M. WALKER
RIANNE C. WYN

12th Grade

KEIRA L. BAKER
AVERY M. BOWMAN
*HAILEE A. BROWN
KALEB J. CANNING
ELIJAH J. COOK
*COLESON R. CRUZAN
HANNAH J. CRUZAN
HALEY N. DEATON
*MARIAH M. EDWARDS
*BROOKLYN K. FOONDE
TAYLOR J. HANEY
*EMILY L. HEDLUND
*AUBREE M. HERNANDEZ
DAVID W. HIGGS
*TRENTON J. HITS
REECE P. JOHNSON
*WYATT E. KARNES
DANIELLE E. KNOPSNYDER
*JAYLA R. PERRIN
GABRIELLE T. SCHULTZ
*CHARLEIGH L. SCOTT
*KENDALIN J. TRAPP
*MIYAH L. WOLTERS
*JACOB R. ZIMMER

This School Year a Source of Real Pride

From the Principal's Desk

By Asa Wyers

As the vibrant colors of spring begin to paint our landscape here in White Cloud, I want to take a moment to connect with you and share some of the exciting happenings within our schools, particularly at the high school.

The energy and dedication of our students and staff continue to inspire me, and I am filled with pride as we move into the final stretch of the academic year.

A few recent significant events showcase the spirit and commitment of our White Cloud family.

On January 10, we held a meaningful Multiple Sclerosis Night, raising awareness and support for those affected by this chronic health condition. It was a testament to our community's compassion and willingness to come together for important causes.

We also had the distinct honor of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the White Cloud High School Class of 1975 Regional Championship Basketball Team. It was wonderful to welcome back these accomplished alumni and reminisce about their remarkable achievement. Their legacy continues to inspire our current student-athletes.

Continuing our tradition of excellence in STEM education, I am thrilled to announce that White Cloud Junior High teacher Sherry Claflin and her dedicated team of students have been selected for the NASA TechRise Challenge for the third consecutive year!

This is an incredible accomplishment and speaks volumes about the innovative spirit fostered within our junior high. This

week, they are embarking on an unforgettable field trip to Kennedy Space Center to immerse themselves in NASA's groundbreaking work and tour the facilities. We wish them a safe and enriching experience!

Our academic teams are also shining brightly. Our Quiz Bowl team recently competed in the NAQT Class C/D State Championship at Michigan State University. They demonstrated exceptional knowledge and teamwork, achieving an impressive 4th place in the state in the small-school division. Congratulations to the team and their coaches for this outstanding accomplishment!

As the weather warms, so does the excitement for spring sports! Our track, baseball, and softball teams are in full swing, and we are eagerly anticipating competitive and successful seasons.

I encourage you to come out and support our student-athletes as they represent White Cloud with pride and determination.

As we head further into spring, it's important to remember that the academic year is drawing to a close. Now is the time to finish the year strong.

Let's encourage our students to remain focused on their studies, continue to strive for their best, and make the most of the remaining weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of White Cloud Public Schools. Together, we are creating a positive and enriching environment for all our students. ■

Karnes Earns Top Award in Professional Association



Members of the Business Professionals of America at the Newaygo County Career-Tech Center participated in the 53rd Annual BPA State Leadership Conference at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids in late March.

Charlotte Karnes of White Cloud High School placed 1st in Graphic Design Concepts.



Charlotte qualifies to participate and represent Michigan in the BPA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida in May.

Congratulations, Charlotte! WC PRIDE! ■

White Cloud Wins CSAA Chess Championship



By Coach Stephen Smith

In an extraordinary display of strategic brilliance, the White Cloud Chess Club went 5-0 while checkmating all of the competition, capturing the 2025 CSAA Chess Championship in their inaugural entry into the league.

Finishing behind White Cloud were teams from Grant, Kent City, Newaygo, Reed City, and Big Rapids.

Delivering a sensational season from start to finish, the Indians set a firm foundation for years to come.

The Cloud overwhelmed Big Rapids 23-2 victory in their first triumph of the season. In their next contest, the checkmate crew prevailed over Newaygo 18-7.

White Cloud gutted out an impressive 15.5-9.5 win against a Grant squad that had reigned supreme in the CSAA for the past two seasons. Squaring up against Kent City, the team seized the CSAA Chess Championship outright, defeating the Eagles 16-9. The chess crew then outmatched Reed City in fine fashion with a 24-1 victory.

The chess masters executed their fine individual skills at the CSAA chess tournament hosted at Big Rapids. Captain Jarrett Warlick earned all-conference honors with a 5-0 record, as did Brian Loveless with his 4-1 tournament record.

Jaaron Steffes grabbed three wins and all-conference honorable mention, while Wyatt Karnes and Reece Johnson snatched two wins to complete the event.

The Indians posted a 111.5-37.5 overall team record and an .743 winning percentage.

Captain Warlick turned in a magnificent 28-2 overall performance in the conference. Freshman Loveless orchestrated a stellar 24.5-5.5 win total, Karnes posted an 18-7 finish, Johnson was 20-11, and Steffes achieved a 19-1 posting.

At a critical time for the group, Reece Hewitt dictated the pace in his matches, capturing two wins in the process. Caxton Knight rounded out an all-around team performance with a victory as well.

On behalf of the team, Coached Stephen Smith and Dan Dipple would like to extend gratitude to all parents, staff, administration, and community members who were part of this group's success.

A special thanks goes to White Cloud's Student Council under the direction of Courtney Dolan, which provided financial support to the club.

The chess squad would like to thank Bill Schmidt, Jamie Fletcher, Paula Vining, Kristine Wise, The Gates Foundation, and anonymous donors, whose sponsorship allowed for the purchase of chess boards and timers for competition.

The team also is grateful for the practice opportunities offered by the White Cloud Community Library, where Chadwick Walenga served as a wonderful host.

The team deeply appreciates the Steffes family's generosity in treating the players to a celebratory meal at The Rock. Without the support of so many outstanding individuals, this remarkable season would not have been possible. ■



The chess club, from left, are Jaaron Steffes, Brian Loveless, Captain Jarrett Warlick, Wyatt Karnes, Reece Johnson, Coach Stephen Smith, and Coach Dan Dipple.



Jimmy's Kids Share Holiday Cheer

One cancellation and two snow days couldn't stop the high school's Voice of Reason group from hosting the annual Jimmy's Kids holiday celebration for kindergartners and first graders at the elementary school on December 13.



Jimmy's Kids, dressed for their holiday bash.

In front, from left, are Brooklyn Foondle, Mariah Edwards, Santa Claus, Reece Hewitt, and Mrs. Tuman.

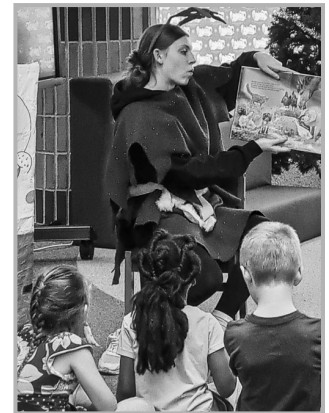
In back are Payten Bird, Charlotte Karnes, Landon Edwards, Nana Capallia-Bird, Wyatt Karnes, Emily Hedlund, Autri Horton, Miyah Wolters, Isabella Shockley, Gabrielle Schultz, Arsyn Balke, Andi Gordon, and James Elliott.

Missing from the photo are Kaylee Nichols and Molly Francis.

As you can expect, our time with the kids was filled with smiles and laughter! ■



Elves Gabrielle Schultz and Miyah Wolters



Elf Brooklyn Foondle reading "Lucky Pup's Christmas."



Charlotte Karnes as Tinker Bell



Birthday Pooh Bear Kaylee Nichols

Honor Society Welcomes New Members



The White Cloud Chapter of the National Honor Society recently held its annual induction ceremony.

Congratulations to new inductees Kacie Kailing, Rianne Wyn, Hannah Cruzan, Nina Capallia-Bird, Damian Mayle, Kylie Zimmer, and Landon Edwards.

Thank you to all current members: Keira Baker, Kaleb Canning, Gabriella Dakin, Brooklyn Foondle, Emily Hedlund, Reece Hewitt, Charlotte Karnes, Wyatt Karnes, Charleigh Scott, Jacob Zimmer, and adviser Mrs. Andrea Atwood.

WC PRIDE! ■



Winter Sports Athletes Earn Conference Honors

Congratulations to our exceptional winter all-conference athletes!

In boys basketball, we are thrilled to announce that three players earned all-conference recognition.

Coleson Cruzan and **Jayden Robinson** were named First Team All-Conference. Their leadership and play were instrumental to the team's performance throughout the season.

Brady Strait earned Honorable Mention All-Conference, acknowledging his valuable contributions and efforts on the court.



Our girls basketball program also boasts two all-conference selections.

Andi Vincent was recognized with First Team All-Conference honors. Her talent and dedication had a significant impact on the team's success.

Payten Bird received All-Conference Honorable Mention, highlighting her hard work and positive contributions to the team's efforts.

We commend these five athletes for the dedication and hard work they bring to our school and athletic program. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments this winter season! ■

Join Cross Country, Discover Lasting Rewards

By Andrea Atwood, Cross Country Coach

The high school and junior high cross country teams are looking to add new members for the 2025 season!

Whether you're an experienced runner or just looking to try something new, this is a great opportunity to join a supportive team, challenge yourself, and build lasting skills.

No prior running experience is necessary – just a willingness to show up, work hard, and be part of a positive team environment.

Cross country might not seem like the obvious choice for student athletes who don't love running, but it offers benefits that go far beyond logging miles.

Participating in cross country builds mental toughness, endurance, and discipline. These qualities translate to any sport. Whether you're a softball player looking to improve your speed, a baseball player aiming to boost your stamina, a track athlete building a strong aerobic base, or a basketball player working to stay quick and energized on the court, cross country training can give you a competitive edge.

Beyond the physical perks, cross country creates a strong sense of community and teamwork. Athletes encourage one

another through challenging practices and races, forming bonds that last beyond the season.

Even if running isn't your favorite activity, the support and shared experience can make it a rewarding journey – and you might even discover a new appreciation for pushing yourself in a different way.

Interested athletes or parents may reach out to Coach Atwood at atwooda@whitecloud.net. Check the student announcements for a meeting in late May for more information. ■



Girls On the Right Track

The White Cloud Varsity Girls track team has begun the 2025 season with promise.

Returning state qualifiers sophomore Justice Dixon and junior Gabriella Dakin lead the sprinters. Newcomers Kiah Rogers, Brooklyn Holbrook and Andi Vincent add to the sprinters mix as junior high record breakers making their high school debuts.

Freshman Courtney Coon is a dynamic athlete that will lead in pole vault, hurdles, and relays. Junior Payten Bird has added shot put to her disc talent this season. She will mentor under-class throwers Amayah Canavan, Kacie Kailing, Jacky Rubio, and Loretta Venditti.

Juniors Caedance Traynor, Molly Francis, and Charlotte Karnes also will be forces to be reckoned with. The freshman class of mid-distance runners, Keira Maiké, Natalie Compeau and Alivia Graham, promise excitement and are expected to produce some stellar races.

Other hopefuls for the 2025 season include Ryleigh Chalmers, Nautica Grovesteen, Riley Lyon, Tehyah Nicklloff, and Kate Mchaney.

Seniors Brooklyn Foondle, Shaylia Richardson and Isabel Shockley have the experience needed to lead this young but feisty team.

The girls went to Grand Valley to kick things off at the GVSU Invitational, competing with 37 schools.

The team was led by Justice, who earned three medals. She was 12th of 120 runners in the 60 M dash (8.5), 7th in the 200 (28.2), and was the anchor of the 4x600 for 6th place.

Courtney made her varsity debut with a stellar 2nd place performance in the pole vault (8'0) and was also a member of the 4x600 with Natalie and Kiera. It was a great start to the season!

The girls then competed in the Mohawk Medley on April 12 with stellar performances, raking in 36 medals and bringing home the 2nd place trophy with 98 points, trailing 1st place Ithaca by a mere six points.

Congratulations on an amazing start to the season!

Mohawk Medley

Caedy Traynor, Natalie Dyke, Payten Bird, Courtney ~ 1st place (shuttle relay)

Andi Vincent, Kiah Rogers, Courtney Coon, Natalie Dyke ~ 1st place (freshman 4x200)

Gabriella Dakin, Kiah Rogers, Andi Vincent, Justice Dixon ~ 1st place (4x200)

Izzy Shockley, Courtney Coon ~ 1st place (pole vault)

Payten Bird, Amayah Canavan ~ 1st place (discus)

Gabriella, Kiah, Andi, Justice ~ 2nd place (4x100)

Natalie, Keira, Courtney, Justice ~ 3rd place (4x400)

Gabriella, Caedy ~ 3rd place (long jump)

Molly Francis, Keira Maiké ~ 3rd place (high jump)

Payten, Loretta Venditti ~ 3rd place (shot put)

Gabriella, Andi, Caedy, Justice ~ 3rd place (800 sprint medley)

Natalie, Brooklyn Foondle ~ 3rd place (3200M)

Izzy, Alivia Graham, Brooklyn, Molly ~ 3rd place (4x800)



On Cloud Nine!

White Cloud Teams Dominate CSAA Championships

By Coach Stephen Smith

Launching another era of CSAA Quiz Bowl dominance, White Cloud climbed the heights once again, with new hardware in hand and more titles secured.

White Cloud Varsity A (9-0) captured the CSAA Quiz Bowl Championship in commanding fashion.

White Cloud's Varsity B (6-1) also won their CSAA division.

The Junior Varsity A team claimed their championship as well, finishing 4-2. The junior varsity B and C teams also performed well at their levels.

In the opening evening of match play, the Varsity A squad dismantled the opposition, with impressive triumphs over Newaygo, Grant, and Reed City. In the second round, the team rocketed past Chippewa Hills, Big Rapids, and Morley-Stanwood A.

In the finale, the Indians crushed Lakeview, Kent City, and Central Montcalm A. They totaled 2,710 points as a team, averaging an astounding 301.1 ppg in an incredible display of all-around team performance.

The Indians were led by Senior Jarrett Warlick' incredible 605 points. Mason D'Lamater followed with 170 points, Liam Povey garnered 130 points, and Captain Wyatt Karnes added 90 points.

For their efforts, each player received all-conference accolades and additional hardware in a line-up that featured two seniors, a junior, and two freshmen.

White Cloud's Varsity B establishing their authority early, dispatching Morley-Stanwood B and Reed City B. They later eclipsed Central Montcalm B and Big Rapids B.

In the finale, the team triumphed over Newaygo B and again against Big Rapids B. They only faltered in the final question of the match to lose a close one to Morley-Stanwood B.

Varsity B garnered 1,210 points as a team, with a 201.66 ppg average.

Leading Varsity B was Brian Loveless with 405 points, earning



him all-conference honors. Landon Edwards brought in 140 points, Captain Charlotte Karnes had 40 points, and Andi Gordon added 30 points. The latter three players each earned conference honorable mention for their performances.

The JV A defeated Kent City JV, Lakeview (175-60), a friendly match versus White Cloud JV C, and a close contest against Grant JV. The team scored 725 points in the league while averaging 120.83 points per game.

JV Captain Arsyn Balke earned 180 points, followed by 115 points from Trysten Tancock, 40 points from Kacie Kailing, 30 points from Adriana Alvarez-Smith, and 20 points from Rhoen Wade.

The Junior Varsity B excelled against Morley Stanwood Varsity B, Kent City, and Big Rapids JV. Brayden Perdue led the way with 185 points, while Kate McHaney ended with 170. Captain Annabelle Bird earned 120 points, followed by 10 points each from Kristy Irwin and Alice Hyde. The players amassed 930 total points, with a 132.85 ppg average.

The Junior Varsity C defeated Grant JV and White Cloud's JV A and JV B teams. Ayla Faulkner led the way with 125 points in her first outing. Lily Ulmen added 90 points, Lukas Huff brought in 70 points, Captain Leah Vining tallied 55 points, and Quin Rose rounded out the team effort with 10 points.

It was an amazing season for White Cloud Quiz Bowl!

Coach Stephen Smith and the players would like to thank all the drivers, parents, teachers, staff, donors, and community supporters of our program.

Gratitude and appreciation are also extended to Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie and assistant coaches Arnie Baker, Kiranna Reynolds, Cameron Karnes and Dallas Dowling.

On April 12, Varsity A is scheduled to compete for a state title at Michigan State University at the NAQT Class C-D State Tournament. ■



The champions! From left, seated, are Landon Edwards, Andi Gordon, Captain Charlotte Karnes, Brian Loveless, Mason D'Lamater, Captain Wyatt Karnes, Jarrett Warlick, and Liam Povey. Standing are Assistant Coach Arnie Baker, Coach Stephen Smith, Rhoen Wade, Kacie Kailing, Adriana Alvarez-Smith, Captain Arsyn Balke, Brayden Perdue, Trysten Tancock, Alice Hyde, Lukas Huff, Captain Annabelle Bird, Kate McHaney, Captain Leah Vining, Lily, Ulmen, Ayla Faulkner, Quin Rose, Assistant Coach Cameron Karnes, and Assistant Coach Kiranna Reynolds.

QB Finishes in Top Four at State Championship

By Coach Stephen Smith

White Cloud's quiz bowl team battled fiercely on their way to a fourth place finish in the 2025 Class C/D Michigan High School State Championship.

The state championships brought together 20 elite squads to the campus of Michigan State University.

The Indians ran up a string of three consecutive victories in the morning bracket on their way to the afternoon playoffs.

At a critical junction of the preliminary rounds, White Cloud decisively dispatched Carsonville-Port Sanilac 260-50. Next to fall was North Muskegon, 270-125, followed by Hackett Catholic Prep 290-120.

The Indians needed the resurgence after early-round stumbles to White Pigeon 165-210 and Jonesville 125-245.

Carrying momentum into the afternoon, the team defeated Sandusky 300-175, then lost a thriller to Saugatuck 170-175.

Pressed once more by adversity, the team was outlasted by Gwinn 130-345, the eventual Class C/D champion.

Remaining steadfast, White Cloud rebounded against Deckerville, 225-140. Yet, in the finale, the quintet succumbed to tournament runner-up Hillsdale Academy 170-345.

White Cloud racked up 2,105 total points and averaged an impressive 210.5 points per game on the day.

Individually, White Cloud was led by senior Jarrett Warlick's 625 total points, an average of 62.5 points per game. For his sensational efforts, Warlick was awarded Second-Team All-State honors as the 6th best of 113 competitors.

Liam Povey racked up 125 points, finishing as the tournament's 27th overall scorer. Senior captain Wyatt Karnes added 80 points to the team's total. And freshmen Mason D'Lamater and Brian Loveless contributed 25 and 10 points, respectively.

With this remarkable finish in the state tournament, White Cloud qualified for the national tournament for the 28th time.

It was the 36th occasion that White Cloud qualified for the state competition, an all-time Class C/D record, solidifying the legacy and tradition of the quiz bowl program.

Additionally, this performance marks the fifth straight year that the program has finished in the top four in the state tournament.

Coach Stephen Smith and the team extend their sincerest thanks to Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie, along with assistant coaches Arnie Baker, Kiranna Reynolds, Cameron Karnes, and Dallas Dowling for their dedication and support.

The team also wishes to express deep gratitude to the parents, teachers, administrators, donors, and community members whose unwavering encouragement continues to fuel the program's success.

A special thank-you goes out to the many parents who showed up in force at the tournament to cheer on the team; your presence and energy meant the world to the team. Without all of you, none of these achievements would be possible.

The NAQT Small School National Championship Tournament will be held in Chicago on April 25-27, 2025. ■



The team celebrated their top four finish at Chick-fil-A.



Brian Loveless, left, Mason D'Lamater, Captain Wyatt Karnes, Liam Povey, Jarrett Warlick, Coach Stephen Smith, Samuel Viher, and Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie.

Cloud Clashes at the Capital City

By Coach Stephen Smith

White Cloud Quiz Bowl entered an academic fray hosted by Grand Ledge High School on March 15. The Capital City Quiz Bowl featured 20 teams from schools all over Michigan.

Waging a determined campaign, the Indians bravely battled for victories, seeking experience and momentum for upcoming state and national contests.

Launching their morning assault, the Indians defeated Roscommon A 360-5, then prevailed over Brethren 275-55.

Following a loss to a formidable Class A Ann Arbor Pioneer team, White Cloud came back with a solid 335-195 win over Williamston A. The Indians later lost to nationally ranked Grosse Pointe South.

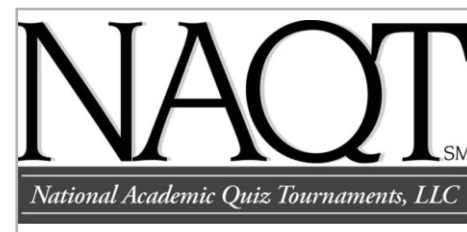
In the afternoon, White Cloud again advanced, defeating Alma 230-110. There followed setbacks against Grosse Pointe North and Detroit Country Day B, and an exciting match that featured nine lead changes before losing to Williamston B.

The Indians closed the day with tenacity, downing Coldwater 290-155.

The team was spearheaded by senior Jarrett Warlick, who posted 515 points. Liam Povey contributed 210 points. Senior Captain Wyatt Karnes added 80, with Brian Loveless gaining 55 points and Mason D'Lamater supplying 45 points. Collectively, the team amassed 2,365 points on the day.

Coach Stephen Smith and the team would like to extend their gratitude to Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie and assistant coaches Arnie Baker, Kiranna Reynolds, Cameron Karnes, and Dallas Dowling.

The team also deeply appreciates their parents, teachers, staff, administrators, donors, and community members who continue to support their success. Without your unwavering commitment, none of this would be possible. ■



WC Shines Brightly at Harris Bunker

By Coach Stephen Smith

White Cloud Quiz Bowl beamed brightly with a 6-4 record at the First Annual Harris Bunker Memorial Quiz Bowl Invitational on March 1.

The tournament honors the memory of Harris Bunker, a former captain of the Michigan State Quiz Bowl squad.

The commemorative tribute was held under the aegis of Michigan State's Academic Club and featured 14 competitive teams.

White Cloud had success in the preliminary matches, defeating Lansing Waverly B, Constantine, and DeWitt. The Indians faltered against Detroit Country Day in a tight contest, and were outlasted in a power battle with Grand Ledge A.

With their early morning performance, the varsity players earned a spot in the championship bracket.

White Cloud's fearless foursome faced stiff competition, and fell short, in their opening match with Utica Academy for International Studies. Undaunted, they came back against Grand Ledge A, avenging their morning misstep, then prevailed over Okemos and Holt.

Vying for a tournament championship, the team squared off again with Detroit Country Day. The match featured multiple lead changes, power barrages, and a blistering finish, with the Yellowjackets outlasting the Indians on the final toss-up.

In earning runners-up honors, the Cloud posted an astonishing 3,530 total points, averaging 353 points per game and garnering the highest points per bonus of any team with 21.27.

Senior Jarrett Warlick led the way with 740 points, ranking third of 52 players in the invitational.

Liam Povey brought in 220 points, Senior Captain Wyatt Karnes earned 145 points, and Brian Loveless contributed 60 points.

Coach Stephen Smith and the team would like to extend their gratitude to Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie. Additional thanks go to assistant coaches Arnie Baker, Kiranna Reynolds, Cameron Karnes, and Dallas Dowling.

The team also appreciates the parents, teachers, staff, administrators, donors, and community members who continue to support their success. Without your continued commitment, none of this would be possible. ■

WC Competes at Rube Goldberg

By Coach Stephen Smith

White Cloud Varsity Quiz Bowl traveled January 25 to the Rube Goldberg Invitational, a once-traditional quiz bowl mainstay competition revived by Michigan State University's academic team.

The tournament featured 30 outstanding teams, with White Cloud finishing 12th.

White Cloud finished 3-2 in the morning rounds to qualify for the winner's bracket, defeating Portland St. Patrick, Grand Ledge, and Williamston B, and dropping contests to Edsel Ford Dearborn and Detroit Central Catholic A.

Competing for White Cloud were senior Jarrett Warlick, Captain Wyatt Karnes, Liam Povey, Mason D'Lamater, and Brian Loveless. ■



At the Rube Goldberg Invitational: in back, from left, are Mason D'Lamater, Brian Loveless, Liam Povey, and Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie. In front are Coach Stephen Smith, Jarrett Warlick, Captain Wyatt Karnes, and Assistant Coach Kiranna Reynolds.

Cloud Battles at Mitten Cup II

By Coach Stephen Smith

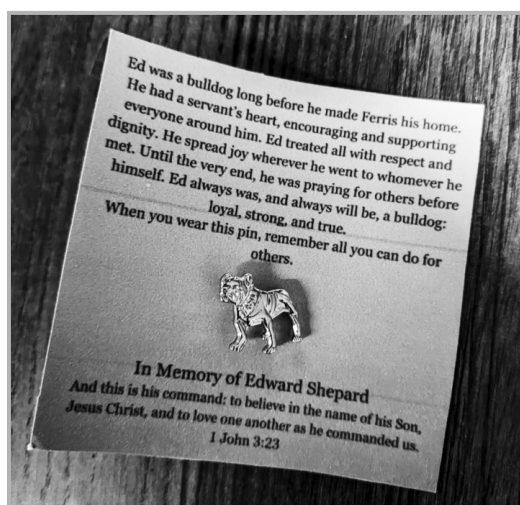
Treacherous snowstorms, harsh winds, and a bitter arctic freeze could not impede the vaunted White Cloud Quiz Bowl team from competing at the Mitten Cup II.

Taking place on January 11, the tournament was held at Mount Pleasant High School under the auspices of the Long Island Quiz Bowl Alliance.

Featuring a daunting field of 23 teams, the Indians (4-6) bravely clashed against top-tier talent in finishing the tournament with a 4-6 mark.

Impressively, White Cloud finished in the top 10.

The Indians defeated Armada, Roscommon B, and Alma in the morning qualifiers, and Mount Pleasant in the afternoon winner's bracket.



Players wore Ferris Bulldog Pins to honor Mr. Ed Shepard.

White Cloud lost to several top-notch teams: Detroit Central Catholic B, Deckerville, Traverse City Central A, Detroit Catholic Central C, and Grosse Pointe South, and Sandusky.

The Indian's were led by Jarrett Warlick, Captain Wyatt Karnes, Liam Povey, Brian Loveless, and Mason D'Lamater.

The team wore Ferris State Bulldog pins to honor the memory of Mr. Ed Shepard. A longtime supporter of White Cloud Quiz Bowl, Mr. Shepard was an honorable man, devoted husband to Melinda, and proud parent to James, Jennifer, and Janessa – each of whom earned numerous awards and accolades as quiz bowl players. ■



At the Mitten Cup: in front, from left, are Liam Povey, Jarrett Warlick, Captain Wyatt Karnes, Mason D'Lamater, and Brian Loveless. In back are Assistant Coach Arnie Baker, Coach Stephen Smith, and Coach Emeritus Tony McHattie.

White Cloud Honors Top Students of Class of '25



Emily Hedlund

Daughter of Pat and Rhonda Hedlund
GPA: 4.497

*I plan to attend Ferris State University
to pursue a degree in biochemistry.*



Wyatt Karnes

Son of Joe and Jacquelyn Karnes,
Stephanie Karnes and Stephen Smith
GPA: 4.304

*I plan to attend either Ferris State
University or the University of Michigan
to pursue a degree in cybersecurity. I
plan to live on campus and participate
in the marching band while continuing
my job at Culver's.*



Jacob Zimmer

Son of Holly Zimmer and
Ronald Zimmer II • GPA: 4.273

*I plan to go to college, start
businesses, invest and gamble.*



Brooklyn Foondle

Daughter of Brent and Courtney
Foondle • GPA: 4.191

*I plan to attend Muskegon Community
College to further my education.*



Charleigh Scott

Daughter of Billie and Justin Scott
GPA: 4.091

*I plan to attend Muskegon Community
College to earn my registered nurse
degree, then go on to complete my
bachelor's degree in nursing.*



Coleson Cruzan

Son of Troy and Megan Cruzan
GPA: 4.042

*I plan to acquire my commercial
driver's license and apply for the
American Line Builders Apprenticeship
and Training program to become an
electrical lineman and eventually
obtain my journeyman's card for the
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers union.*

Top Honors, continued



Miyah Wolters

Daughter of Shaun and Nicole Wolters
GPA: 4.018

*I plan to attend Ferris State University
and later Kendall College of Art
and Design.*



Jayla Perrin

daughter of Michael and Tracie Perrin
GPA: 3.853

*I plan to attend Grand Valley State
University to major in diagnostic medical
sonography and eventually become an
obstetric sonographer.*



Hannah Cruzan

Daughter of Lee and Stephanie
Cruzan • GPA: 3.805

*I plan to attend Muskegon
Community College to pursue a
degree in nursing and also to
continue my athletic career
playing volleyball.*



Keira Baker

Daughter of Justin and Jamie
Silverthorn • GPA: 3.785

*I plan to attend Muskegon Community
College while working as a nurse aide to
earn my associate's degree in nursing.
Afterwards, I would like to extend my
education online to a bachelor's degree
and start my career in a hospital
emergency department.*



Hailee Brown

Daughter of Jennifer Brown and
Kurt Brown • GPA: 3.779

*I plan to attend Grand Valley State
University to study diagnostic medical
sonography.*



Kaleb Canning

Son of Ed and Erin Canning
GPA: 3.634

*I plan to attend Muskegon Community
College, then transfer to Western
Michigan University. Go Broncos!*

Top Honors, continued



Taylor Haney

Daughter of Heidi Haney and
Jeremy Haney • GPA: 3.57

I plan to attend the University of Kentucky to dual major in agricultural education and animal sciences. I would like to become a veterinarian or use my bachelor's degree to teach agriculture sciences.



Gabrielle Schultz

Daughter of Krystal Majors and
Gary Schultz • GPA: 3.573

I plan to pursue a career as an accountant because I enjoy working with numbers and financial analysis. I am still exploring which college to attend but plan to major in accounting. My goal is to become a CPA. I hope to work in a corporate setting or start my own firm. I am committed to working hard and taking the necessary steps to build a successful career.



David Higgs

Son of James and Rebecca Higgs
GPA: 3.551

I plan to earn a sports management degree while playing football for the University of Olivet.



Mariah Edwards

Daughter of Marlon and Heidi Edwards
GPA: 3.524

I have not decided what I would like to do, but I know I want to attend Ferris State University and pursue a degree in nursing or dentistry.



Seniors' Journeys Winding to a Close

To the class of 2025's graduating seniors and their families, the excitement is building as we approach the culmination of your high school journey!

We're thrilled to share some key dates for your senior end-of-year celebrations.

Stay Connected to Senior Google Classroom

Seniors, please keep a close eye on your Senior Google Classroom for the most up-to-date information and any potential changes. This will be our primary communication tool for all senior-related announcements.

In April, you received an end-of-year activity letter mailed to your home address detailing all senior activities. This information is also uploaded in the Senior Google Classroom. Please be sure to read it carefully.



Friday, May 16 - Seniors' Last Day

Monday, May 19 - Senior Luncheon

Monday, May 19, 6pm - SENIOR "CRUZE" (Note: There is NO weather make-up date)

Thursday, May 22, 7pm - COMMENCEMENT DAY, football field (Weather Permitting)

Tuesday, May 27 - *WEATHER MAKE-UP DATE*

We are so proud of the Class of 2025 and all that you have accomplished. We look forward to celebrating with you as you reach these important milestones.

Congratulations Class of 2025!

—Mrs. Foster and Mr. Wilk, Senior Class Advisers

Fuel Your Mind & Body with Breakfast

By Monica Traynor, Director of Nutrition Services

White Cloud Public Schools continues to offer breakfast free to students. Breakfast is offered daily at the elementary school in the classrooms starting at 7:50 a.m. and in the junior high/high school cafeteria starting at 7:30 a.m.

As a friendly reminder, breakfast is available to any student who arrives late. If you are late, please check in at the office first.

Meet Up and Eat Up Summer Program

Our schools will continue to participate in this summer program. Meals will be available at the junior high entrance from 11 a.m. to noon.

The meal will include lunch and breakfast. Anticipated dates for this service will run from June 9 through August 1, Monday through Friday. Friday's meal pack will include meals for Saturday and Sunday.

Meal service will not be available on June 11 or the week of June 30 because the district will be closed to observe the July 4 holiday.

Meals may be picked up by students and parents or guardians. We are not allowed to provide students with meals for their siblings or have a family pick up for another family. These are some changes from the previous year by the state that we must follow. This is all based on our application and pending approval from the state.

Based upon this current information we may need to make changes to have our application approved. More information will be coming soon once the application has been approved.

Any questions can be directed to the Nutrition Services office by calling (231) 689-3231 or emailing traynorm@whitecloud.net.

Summer EBT is Back!

What are SUN Bucks?

SUN Bucks is the new name for the summer EBT. Eligible families of school-aged children will receive \$120 per child for qualifying groceries.

Families will be automatically enrolled in the SUN Bucks if they are already enrolled in the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), or some types of Medicaid if you completed the Education

Benefit Form and receive free or reduced-price school meals.

Families that are not automatically enrolled should apply. For schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), it is especially important to spread the word. Families need to complete a Summer EBT/SUN Bucks application through the MI Bridges portal to receive these benefits. See the attached flyer for more information on how to apply.

Deadlines: Apply by April 15, 2025, to be eligible for the first issuance of benefits in May. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until August 31, 2025. The second issuance of benefits can be expected at the end of summer if you missed the deadline to apply. ■



Stretch Your Grocery Budget With SUN Bucks!

This Summer

The Sun Bucks program offers a \$120 grocery benefit for eligible school-aged kids, so you can buy more healthy foods and enjoy meals together.

Why SUN Bucks?

- \$120 in grocery benefits for each eligible school-aged child.
- SUN Bucks are in addition to other benefits like free Summer Meals, *SNAP, and *WIC.
- Choose the foods your kids love and keep them fueled all summer long.

*SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
*WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

Scan to find out about meal options and grocery benefits in your area.

MDHHS-SEBT@michigan.gov
(833) 905-0028, option 2
<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food/summer-ebt>

Funding provided in part by the United States Department of Agriculture. Summer 2025.

SUN BUCKS
MICHIGAN SUMMER EBT

A Heart of Gold

Elaine Engel Receives 2024-2025 "I Care" Award

White Cloud is shining a little brighter this year, thanks to the extraordinary dedication and unwavering spirit of Elaine Engel, the well-deserved recipient of the 2024-2025 "I Care" Award.

Elaine's life story is a testament to the power of compassion, education, and community involvement, a narrative woven with threads of genuine care and tireless service.

Elaine's journey began in the bustling streets of Chicago, Illinois, but her heart found a second home in the tranquil beauty of White Cloud, where she spent cherished summers until the age of 15.

This early connection to our community foreshadowed her eventual return, a homecoming that has enriched us all.

Her academic foundation, built at St. Priscilla Grammar School and Immaculata High School, blossomed into a lifelong dedication to education. She earned her BA from Mundelein College and later, her MA from Fresno Pacific University, arming herself with the tools to shape young minds. For 28 years, she illuminated classrooms in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois, leaving an indelible mark on generations of students.

Elaine wasn't just a teacher; she was a visionary. As a team leader, she spearheaded the alignment of Illinois State Science Standards to the K-8 curriculum in Du Page County, and as a co-leader, she bridged the gap between middle and high school science education.

She pioneered hands-on, STEM-based learning at St. Petronille School, and even introduced inquiry-based science to kindergarteners, proving it's never too early to ignite a passion for discovery.



In 2005, White Cloud welcomed her back, and she immediately began contributing to our community. For nine years, she served as a dedicated substitute teacher in Newaygo County, bridging educational gaps and providing vital support to our schools.

Her commitment deepened in 2015 when she joined the White Cloud Public School Board, becoming a steadfast advocate for our students.

Elaine's leadership was instrumental in the successful 2016 bond passage, and she remains actively involved in the pending 2025 bond

proposal, scheduled for May 6, 2025, continuing her dedication to ensuring safe and conducive learning environments.

She works tirelessly alongside fellow board members, administration, and staff, driven by a shared vision of providing the best possible education for our children.

But her dedication extends beyond the classroom. Elaine generously volunteers at the Arts Place in Fremont, mailing out flyers and supporting the vibrant cultural offerings that enrich our region. Her commitment to community is as broad as it is deep.

Elaine Engel embodies the true spirit of the "I Care" Award. She is a beacon of compassion, a champion of education, and a tireless advocate for our community. Her life is a testament to the power of one person to make a profound difference.

White Cloud is truly fortunate to have her among us. Congratulations, Elaine, on this well-deserved recognition! ■

RURAL ROUTE BOX HOLDER
POST OFFICE BOX
OR OCCUPANT

White Cloud Public Schools
P.O. Box 1000
White Cloud, MI 49349

Important School Phone Numbers

Superintendent's Office
(231) 689-6591

High School
(231) 689-1705

Junior High
(231) 689-2181

White Cloud Elementary
(231) 689-2300

