

Around the Round!

Round Elementary School 11550 Hibner Rd, Hartland, MI 48353 http://round.hartlandschools.us **Phone: 810-626-2800** Fax: 810-626-2801

> **Absence Line: 810-626-2805** Office Hours: 8:00 am – 4:15 pm

March 2017

Important Dates

March:

- 3/3 Seussabration
- 3/8 PTO Meeting 4pm
- 3/9 Readers Theater at Cromaine Library 6:30 pm

3/14-3/16 Book Fair

- 3/14 Board of Education Mtg.
- 3/15 1st, 3rd and 4th grade Encore Play
- 3/15 2nd Grade to Howell Theater
- 3/15-3/16 Hearing Rescreening
- 3/18 Kindergarten Orientation
- 3/20 Last Day of Healthy Kids Club
- 3/22 4th graders to Farms
- 3/23 Round Rocks Talent Show and Silent Auction
- 3/25-4/1 No School Spring Break

April:

- 4/3 Back to School
- 4/12 PTO Meeting 7pm
- 4/14 No School Good Friday
- 4/18 School Board Meeting
- 4/19 Hungry Howie's Pizza
- Night for Round
- 4/28 Science Fair, Art Fair, and Ice Cream Social

School Hours

Monday -Thursday 8:50 – 3:50pm

Fridays Early Release 8:50 – 2:50pm Students may enter at 8:45am

It is March is Reading Month!!

We have an exciting eventful calendar full of opportunities to facilitate our student's love of reading. Our goal this month is to increase student's volume, stamina and love of reading. If they haven't caught the reading bug yet, we hope they will in March!

Thanks to your continued support and our amazing PTO, we will have a presentation by author Paul Orshoski. Author Orshoski will be sharing the work writers need to do to become authors of books. Our students learn about and develop as writers every day so we are very excited that a published author can add a real-life experience to our writing curriculum in order to inspiring future authors.

A big thank you to our auction donors. A list of donors can be seen on page 13. It is going to be an exciting auction!

We have a special Kindergarten Orientation on Saturday, March 18^{th} from 10:00 - 11:30 am at the Board of Education office. We hope to see all of our future kindergarten families! The orientation will include time for questions as well. Enrollment packets can also be downloaded from the district website at <u>www.hartlandschools.us</u>.

Please see page 7 for an interesting article called, "Parenting Bravely in a Culture of Fear". It is a very interesting read.

As spring approaches we celebrate all of the wonderful learning our students have accomplished and the Round staff's passion and commitment to excellence! Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Dotty Selix

РТО

Recently the PTO supported the purchase of books that will enable K-4 teachers to teach students in small reading groups to ensure we are teaching students how to read more complex texts in third and fourth grade, not just reading to learn. These books are also coming home in your child's reading bag nightly/weekly!

In addition, we would like to thank our PTO for the beautiful rugs in the entries. All of the things that make Round wonderful require a dedicated volunteer group. Please consider volunteering for a PTO event or project.

The Round Elementary PTO plays a vital role in the education of our students. We feel extremely fortunate to have a caring, energetic group of parents that volunteer their time and efforts to give our students the best experience possible. It is an exciting time to be a volunteer in the school. Please consider volunteering for the PTO. The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 8th at 4:00 pm in the Round media center. We hope to see you there. Together Everyone Achieves More – Go TEAM!

Money for Round is in the "Bag"!!

Heads up! We're participating in a continuous Schoola Clothing Drive and turning outgrown clothes into money for our school.

We're headed into warm weather... grab those outgrown or under-utilized children and women's clothes*. Gather them in a bag and bring the bag to school. You can request a bag online at schoola.com.



We are setting up 2 drop-off stations. One bin in the front entrance to the school and the other bin in the gym by student pick up and the lost and found.

Our school will be sending in the bags and then Schoola takes it from there. They will sort, spiff and sell the items. 40% of the proceeds go to Round!!! PLUS if you SHOP on schoola.com and buy clothes to replace the ones you just donated.... Schoola donates \$2 for every \$5 you spend!

Any questions, please contact Trish VanTichelt, <u>trishvant79@gmail.com</u>

*School takes infant-teen children's clothing and women's clothing/shoes/handbags. No sleepwear, undies, socks or damaged/stained/altered items.

4th grade Fundraiser!

We are collecting cans to offset the cost of our trip to Mackinac Island.

Cans are collected in the vestibule daily.





Safety in the Parking Lot!

Thank you to PTO for the new signs in the "kiss and go" lane! Please remember to pull all the way forward before stopping. If everyone pulls forward, three or four cars can let children out at the same time. PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY and put the safety of our students first. This is particularly important during the winter.

The drop off lane is a "kiss and go lane", please stay in your car, give them a kiss and a hug, send them out to the sidewalk on the right side of your car. Children exiting cars on the left hand side could be stepping out into traffic. If you need to help your child out of the car or they must exit on the left, then you need to park in the lot to ensure everyone's safety. We need the line to move quickly so parents with other morning commitments can be on time.

Please do not drop children off on the east side of the building. The buses exit the parking lot on the east side and it can be dangerous to drop children off in front of the buses. If you use the east parking lot, please park and walk your child to the front door.

Please remember to save the parking spaces labeled 'handicapped' for those with the appropriate legal designation. Thank you for your cooperation.

End of the day pick up reminder!

We want to thank you for all you have done this fall to ensure we had a great start to the school year. We need to clarify the 'end of the day procedures' because there has been some confusion.

Please be aware that half of the office staff go to the gym for end of the day pick up at 3:40. At the same time, teachers send students being picked up to their lockers to get their things and head to the gym. Some students may even be on the playground or at essentials. Parents can pick students up in the gym at 3:45.

If you want to pick your child up between 3:40 and 3:50 you have 2 options:

- 1. Pick them up in the gym beginning at 3:45
- 2. Sign them out in the office and wait on the sidewalk for your child to exit the building at 3:50

We do not like to release students from the office between 3:40 and 3:50 unless it is an emergency. Please help us to make the end of the day an efficient and safe experience for everyone between 3:40 and 3:50 by choosing one of the above options.

Please remember that students miss valuable instruction time when they are picked up early or dropped off late.



Fourth Grade enjoyed their trip to the Planetarium and the States of Matter Experiment!

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT & ORIENTATION FOR 2016-2017



A <u>Kindergarten Orientation</u> will be held on Saturday, March 18th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am at the Hartland Education Support Service Center, 9525 Highland Road. The orientation will provide parents an opportunity to hear from kindergarten teachers about the "typical" school day and the kindergarten curriculum. In addition, administrators will be on hand to talk about school safety, transportation, school attendance areas, student nutrition, and answer questions. This will be a family-oriented event and you are encouraged to bring your kindergarten child.

Hartland Consolidated Schools will be accepting kindergarten enrollment packets at the Board of Education office, the Community Education office and at each elementary school office. Enrollment packets can also be downloaded from our website at <u>www.hartlandschools.us</u> Enrollment packets will be accepted during school office hours beginning February 2, 2017.

In addition to the enrollment packet, the following documents must be presented when registering:

- Original birth certificate with seal, plus a copy of same certificate for school records
- Immunization records with proof of DTP, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, Chicken Pox vaccines (or proof of having illness), and vision screening, plus copy of same for school records
- Proof of residency using one of the following: certificate of occupancy, purchase agreement, builder's permit, rent receipt or agreement, mortgage statement/payment receipt, voter registration card, utility bill, driver's license.

Children are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in September 2017 if they will have their fifth (5th) birthday on or before September 1, 2017. A child who turns 5 after September 1st and before December 1st, 2017 may enroll if parent/legal guardian signs a waiver and is supported by the school district.

A full-day Junior Kindergarten program may be offered on a limited basis. A minimum number of students are required for the program to be made available. Parents may need to provide transportation in order to participate. You may contact Scott VanEpps at 810-626-2111 or <u>scottvanepps@hartlandschool.us</u> for more information

JK or Kindergarten: What's the Difference if they are both full day?

All Day Kindergarten

- Arrival
- Morning meeting, calendar, lunch count, weather
- Shared Reading: Emergent story book, big book, poem, or traditional story
- Readers workshop
- Snack and Recess, Centers (fine motor center, dramatic play, math center, literacy centers, etc., Teacher meets with guided reading groups)
- Writers Workshop
- Lunch and Lunch Recess
- Read Aloud
- Math
- Essentials: gym, art, music or media
- Snack and Recess
- Education Through Music, Centers (fine motor center, dramatic play, math center, literacy centers, etc., Teacher meets with guided reading groups)
- Interactive Writing, letter work and word study
- Read Aloud, science, social studies
- Clean up and get ready to go home

All Day Junior Kindergarten

- Arrival
- Morning meeting, calendar, lunch count, weather
- Shared Reading: Nursery rhyme, poem, or traditional story
- Snack and Recess
- Interactive Writing
- Read Aloud or Shared Reading
- Prepare for lunch, lunch, recess and wash hands after lunch
- Read Aloud
- Writers Workshop: oral language and storytelling (talk, draw, write)
- Essentials: gym, art, music or media
- Education Through Music or Centers
- Snack and recess
- Letter work, centers, crafts, small group instruction and afternoon snack
- Read Aloud or Shared Reading
- Clean up and get ready to go home

How to Parent Bravely in a Culture of Fear

by Malinda Carlson.

(This article is part of the **Positive Parenting FAQ** series. Get free article updates here.)

I long, in a romantic, nostalgic way, for the days of my childhood. Running in open fields. Biking down the road with my friends. Building forts and dams down by the creek. Camping in the woods. With nary an adult in sight. But that nostalgic longing isn't about me. I am sad *my kids* can't experience the wild freedom of my childhood. And why can't I give my kids have that same carefree childhood that I had?



Fear.

I fear for my children. For their safety. I fear that they will be kidnapped. Hit by a car. Harmed by doing something because they didn't think through to their consequences. I fear the consequences will be more than I can bear.

Parenting isn't for wimps. It is soul-wrenchingly awful to let your heart out of your body and go walking around where you have no control and can't protect it.

Before I had even realized it, I had forgotten the carefree joys of my childhood. And had turned into a clichéd <u>helicopter parent</u>. I would strive to shield them from all consequences. I would hold their hands tightly as we crossed any street. I would stop them just as they

were about to jump off the playground equipment, a mere 2 feet in the air.

It takes a lot of guts and bravery to let our children go and live their lives. I used to think that moving across the country alone with 2 suitcases, no job, and \$1000 was the bravest thing I ever did.

Nope. Now I realize, that pales in comparison to parenting. Parenting has been the scariest thing I've ever attempted. I think I was more terrified than my kids on their first day of pre-school. And that was only the start!

I couldn't keep going down that path though. Because soon I realized, as kids grow older, so do the number of things I could be scared of. Continuing down that path of fearful parenting would someday have lead me to a nervous breakdown.

I chose to learn how to parent bravely. It hasn't always been easy. And it's a conscious effort. Here are 4 key things I learned along the way.

#1 You HAVE to Learn to Be Vulnerable

In her book *Daring Greatly*, Brene Brown confides that she only feels vulnerable when she is in a state of fear; when she is anxious or unsure of an outcome. Her therapist recommended more *feeling* and less *thinking*. To stop over-analyzing how we are living and just live.

I am not comfortable with feeling vulnerable. Especially when it comes to my children. I suspect not many people are.

It's horrifying. I must have control over them and our relationship (or feel like I have some control) in order to feel comfortable. Yet, I cannot have an honest connection with them if I try to exert so much control that the connection suffocates.

When I shape these connections to my own ideas of what I need, I miss out on fulfilling needs I am not consciously aware of! And, by controlling how my children interact with the world I also miss the greatness they are actually capable of. For years I was convinced that I needed to be there to translate the world for them. And then, we had to move to Switzerland, a country where I didn't have any concept of the culture. Talk about feeling vulnerable! Because I couldn't speak the language I couldn't translate how my own interactions with others would go, much less my boys' interactions. It was more than a bit terrifying. But I had no choice.

I had to learn to feel vulnerable so I could make new friends, learn German and be able to feed my family. And I learned along the way *how strong my children are*.

When I let go and moved outside my comfort zone, I learned my children actually *do* know how to get to the park and back. They *do* know how to conduct themselves in public. I learned they *can* survive without me. It was the most liberating feeling I've ever had. I had no idea how much stress and pressure there was built up inside me. As soon as I allowed myself to be vulnerable and release some control I also released a huge amount of anxiety. I could feel it deflate like a balloon that had been pushed up against my ribs. I floated with relief.



#2 You HAVE to Start Small

I didn't just start off trying to parent bravely with letting my kids go off to the store by themselves. I started small. With little tasks and opportunities that I was already confident about.

Things like running to the neighbor's house and then back to drop something off. Getting them to help chop vegetables with an actual real-and-fortrue sharp knife. Having them play in the yard with some friends from the neighborhood and leaving my windows open so I could hear them.

By starting small you can reaffirm what you are already good at and solidify your foundation of confidence. Then <u>you can take steps</u>, no matter how small, that will grow your confidence in other areas. After I felt confident in my sons' foundational abilities, I worked up to things that felt a little more risky. Like leaving my 9 year old home alone for an

hour while I ran his younger brother to violin lessons ten minutes away. Or like having them go 3 stops on the tram by themselves to where I could meet them. And going for a family bike ride on some of the more urban routes!

Finally, after about 9 months of slowly stretching edges of my comfort zone and having my boys learn how to be safely independent I made a leap. I let them come home by themselves from school on the tram. It was a 40-minute ride with their school friends to a transfer at the central station. Then another tram ride with a 4-block walk home. It was a ride they'd done 216 times with me over the school year. I was confident they knew the route.

It felt like forever. I wore a hole in the carpet with all the pacing I did at home. I made a cup of tea and feigned a leisurely attitude as I drank it on our balcony while searching for signs of them. When they got home I had to reign in my anxiety though — they were bursting with pride. They felt, and I finally believed, they were ready to conquer the world!

#3 You HAVE to Give Benefit of the Doubt a Chance

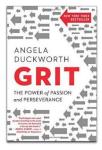
What ever happened to the benefit of the doubt? To trusting others? Our children? Our neighbors? Heck! To even trusting ourselves! More importantly, how can we bring it back? I started with how I viewed others. I tried to stop judging others on <u>how they parent</u> and how they live their lives.

I began approaching everyone with courtesy and grace, saying "thank you" and "your welcome" and "I'm sorry." I tried helping those who are in need rather than be afraid of getting involved. Benefit of the doubt is rooted in trust and belief. Believing that you have a responsibility to yourself and the society around you. And trusting that society will treat you and your family with a reciprocal, unconditional positive regard. <u>Unconditional positive regard</u> is the belief that everyone around you is doing their best and to respect what decisions they make in living their lives. Carl Rogers, who developed the theory of unconditional positive regard, believed that the more people feel their life choices are respected, the more connected to society they feel.

We start to believe others know we are trying our best. We start to believe that they will help us along our paths. We start to see we share larger goals: a safe place to live; for our children to be happy and healthy; and to be happy and healthy ourselves. When you feel connected to society you start to give others the benefit of the doubt. And to have faith that should your kids need help when you are not around, there will be other grownups who will provide that help. Just as you would to some stranger's child in need. It's a key piece to learning to parent bravely.

#4 You HAVE to Accept the Consequences as Theirs

A final step to parenting bravely is to let your children test themselves and then to allow them to fail. As a parent nothing is harder than letting your child face the consequences of their actions. I think my stomach does more flips that <u>Simone Biles</u> when I step back and let my boys try to solve their own problems.



But stepping in to solve their problems and take on their consequences hinders their growth. When we protect them like this they don't learn tenacity. They don't learn how to pick themselves up after they fall. They don't learn grit.

<u>Angela Lee Duckworth</u>, a psychologist, MacArthur Genius Grant winner, and and bestselling author of <u>Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance</u>, has found that a child's determination and grit is a better determiner of success than intelligence or natural talent.

As painful as it is, our children need to not only fail, but also accept their part in the failure. If my boys can't accept and understand their role in their failures they won't understand how to fix them. They won't figure out how to do better next time.

My boys hate to accept the consequences of their actions. They would love nothing more than have no one notice that they are skirting their consequences. But as parents we need to enforce those consequences. Especially the small ones. The small ones are easier to enforce, actually. The smaller the consequences the fewer emotions are involved on my side. I can much more easily enforce the cleaning of a broken cup or taking away iPad privileges if I'm not on the verge of losing my temper. Not only that, my boys can take the consequences with more grace if I keep my emotions out of it.

As we take the emotions out of enforcing consequences we can help them to <u>analyze the outcomes using</u> <u>Appreciative Inquiry</u>. We can teach them how to think ahead and how to make better choices the next time. As they learn how to make better choices it becomes easier for us give them more freedom. And it becomes a tiny bit easier to parent bravely.

The 2-Minute Action Plan for Fine Parents

- Take a few minutes today to sit down and think how you can parent more bravely.
- What freedoms and risks do you allow your child to take?
- What are 3 small risks just outside your comfort zone you can let your child take this week? Is it taking out the trash? Or using a real knife to help prep dinner?
- When was the last time you gave a stranger the benefit of the doubt?
- How often do you model grace and courtesy towards strangers? Saying thank you or please? Offering someone assistance? Or, simply smiling kindly at someone who seems to be having a rough day?
- What do your children do when they are facing consequences? How do you react? What happens between the two of you when you have to enforce consequences? Do things change when you try to keep your emotions in check?

The Ongoing Action Plan for Fine Parents

The long-term action plan this week is a journey into vulnerability and exploring the benefit of the doubt. How comfortable are you with vulnerability in your own life? Journal or just take time to think about how being vulnerable makes you feel. Think about one thing where you can let go of control and feel vulnerable this week. It can center around your children or another relationship or be in a completely different area. Focus on how you physically feel and the thoughts that come up as you allow yourself to feel vulnerable. Start mentally tracking your initial gut reactions to people you see on the street, on the subway, or in restaurants. Do you feel neutral? Or even joyful? Are you defensive? How can you give them the benefit of the doubt? If you are having trouble, try making up a story about them living a life similar to yours. How do you feel about them now?

About Malinda Carlson Mindy Carlson, M.S.O.D., is a life coach, wife, and mother of 2 spirited boys living in Switzerland. After growing up on a farm in Iowa, she went into university administration and then Montessori pre-school education before becoming an organization development consultant. She blogs about parenting and travel as the Swiss Family Carlson at <u>http://www.MindyQs.com</u>

Around the Round

Gary Chareeb brought a hands-on Native American experience to our third graders. Students were able to learn interesting facts about Native American life including the construction of tools, shelter, toys and games





Above: Abigail Chester, Riley Griffon, and Cameron Greene Below: Kyle Whitney, Blake Raymond, and Benjamin Billings

Above: Michael Stanek Below: Madelyn Gutzeit, Olivia Moulton, Kyra Coats and Haley Cox







What are you waiting for?

Download the free app & start fundraising in minutes.



Thanks to our Supporters!

Round's annual Spring Fundraiser is around the corner. We will have a fun "Round Rocks" staff talent show and silent auction on March 23, 2017. *More information and flyers to come.* Even though our list continues to grow, the PTO would like to begin thanking all the very generous companies, organizations, and people who have already made donations to make our event a special one so far! Watch for exciting auction items and donations from these fabulous places! Sending a big thanks to:



We Need Your Help to earn money for our school programs.

Please bring your recyclable papers to our Green & Yellow Paper Retriever® Bin.

ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Shopping Catalogs
- Mail
- School Papers
- Office Papers
- Envelopes

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- NO Cardboard
- NO Cereal/Soda Cartons
- NO Food wrap/containers
- NO Tissue Products
- NO Phone Books
- NO Plastic
- NO Glass

<u>RESOURCE SAVINGS</u> from Recycling One Ton of Paper:

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7,000 gallons less of Water

390 gallons of oil



Make Every Page Count"

Thank you for recycling