

East Lansing High School

January Announcement



**509 Burcham Drive East
Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: 517-333-7500
Attendance Line: 517-333-7567**

School Hours:

7:45am - 2:35pm

Office Hours:

7:00am - 4:00pm



Attendance:

517-333-7567

Mary.Fata@elpus.us

Please leave your student's name, grade, and reason for absence.

***Visitors must report to the main office and receive a visitor's pass in order to access the building during school hours.**

***East Lansing High School is a closed campus during lunch for freshman and sophomore students.**



High School Administration

Ashley Schwarzbek - Principal

Ashley.Schwarzbek@elpus.us

Quiana Davis - Associate Principal

Quiana.Davis@elpus.us

Jeff Lampi - Associate Principal

Jeffrey.Lampi@elpus.us

Nikki Norris - Athletic/Activities Director

Nikki.Norris@elpus.us

Dorcas Shumake - Dean of Student Success

Dorcas.Shumake@elpus.us

Administrative Assistants

Nikie Tabor - Main Office

Nikie.Tabor@elpus.us

517-333-7504

Mary Fata - Main Office

Mary.Fata@elpus.us

517-333-7502

Bonnie McGraw - Registrar

Bonnie.McGraw@elpus.us

517-333-7508

Kristen Pfaendtner - Student Services

Kristen.Pfaendtner@elpus.us

517-333-7509

Laura Scott - Athletic/Activities

Laura.Scott@elpus.us

517-333-7574

"How to Excuse Your Child from School" A Survival Guide

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We know that life happens. Maybe your high schooler woke up with a mysterious ailment, perhaps a sudden case of "I-don't-want-to-go-to-school-itis," or maybe there's a legitimate reason (like an unexpected visit from aliens). Whatever the reason, we're here to guide you through the magical process of excusing your child from school. All calls or emails must be sent within 48 hours to be able to excuse your student. **New this year, students need to provide appropriate documentation (i.e., doctor/dentist note) to update their attendance code to "MED" and not count toward their overall attendance total. Please see more information on the updated ELHS attendance policy [here](#).**

Option 1: (NEW) Enter Attendance in POWERSCHOOL *this is the preferred method to excuse your student*

- Instructions found [HERE](#)

Option 2: The Ancient Art of the Phone Call

- Please call the ATTENDANCE LINE at 517-333-7567. Please DO NOT call the main office line.
- Let us know how many days your student will be out.
- Tell us your student's name. Speak slowly and clearly. Maybe add in the spelling of the last name if it's a tricky one. (trust me, I have one of those tricky names)
- All calls will be cleared periodically throughout the day and by 4:00 at the latest. So, you may get a notification your student is unexcused if we haven't gotten to it yet. We appreciate your patience.

Option 3: The Mystical Email

- Email Mary Fata at Mary.Fata@ELPS.US
- All emails will be cleared by 4:00

Option 4: The Old School Doctor's Note

- Have your student bring in a doctor's note when they come back to school and we will get those absences excused toot suite!

Please know that the end of the school day is very busy in the office. If you try to call to pick up your student 10-15 minutes early, we may not be available to answer your call.

**With lots of thanks,
The Attendance Team**

ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS

>>COUNT DAY IS COMING!<<

1

1

>> FEBRUARY <<

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR
STUDENT ATTENDS ALL
CLASS PERIODS THIS DAY.

ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS ELHS

EAST LANSING HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2026 INFORMATION

Important Dates:

- 1/19: Yearbooks go up to \$90
- 2/7: Winter Formal
- 5/16: Prom @ MSU University Club
- 5/19: Senior Graduation Auditions
- 5/20: Senior Diploma Cards Due
- 5/22: Senior's last day – Convocation and Bus Parade
- 6/1: Senior Cedar Point Trip
- 6/2: Graduation Practice
- 6/4: Graduation @ MSU Breslin 7pm



**See Cap and Gown
information on
pages 12and 13!**

**This page will have information
pertaining to the class of 2026! If have a
graduating senior, make sure to read
this page every month for updates!**

Notes From Student Services:

Semester 2 Drop/Adds

Students can email their counselors or come in to make an appointment for a schedule change. Last day for schedule changes is January 23, 2026.

- A-D Jennifer Peatross
- E-K Josh Barrons
- L-R Jennifer Jockheck
- S-Z Luke Smith

Candace Moore: College Advisor Extraordinaire

Our amazing college advisor, Candace Moore, wants to remind parents and guardians to finish your FAFSA! If you or your student have any questions, please reach out to Candace at candace.moore@elps.us.

College, Trade School, and Military Visits:

All college, trade school, and military visits are posted on the Juniors and Seniors Google classrooms. Encourage your student to visit these college representatives.

Trojan Threads: The Students' Needs Closet:

We're always grateful for donations to help provide our most vulnerable students with essentials. We are currently all set with gently used clothing donations at the moment. However, feel free to browse our [WISH LIST](#) on Amazon—any item you choose can be sent directly to the High School, Attention: Kristen Pfaendtner. Thank you so much for your support!



2026-26 Meeting Schedule

In person - January 20

In person - February 17

Virtual - March 17

In person - April 21

Elections in person - May 19

**All meetings at 6pm - In person meetings held
in the HUB at ELHS**

**To request a Google Meet invite,
email elhsc22@gmail.com
or fill out [This Form](#)**

JANUARY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Exams Period 1 & 2	15 Exams Period 3 & 4	16 Exams Period 5 & 6	17
18	19 MLK Day No School	20 Start of S2	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 S2 Curriculum Night 6-7:30pm	29	30	31

Winter Break!

BLACK COLLEGE TOUR

MARCH 26-31, 2026

\$830

COST

\$250

DEPOSIT

Departing from
Lansing, Michigan

Information Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 12 @ 5:30 pm

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
5200 Pleasant Grove Rd.
Lansing, MI 48911



**40 SPOTS
AVAILABLE**

**OPEN to High School
Juniors & Seniors**

EMAIL: Ms. O for more information
Door2Access@gmail.com

PRESENTED BY: Ms. O, Pilgrim Rest
Baptist Church & 32nd Street Theatre



MATH

ELHS

ENGLISH



STARTS
MON 9/15!

After-school PROGRAM

MONDAY - THURSDAY

2:45PM - 3:45PM

ROOM 179 (HEALTH RM)



SUPERVISED BY A
CERTIFIED TEACHER



SOCIAL
STUDIES



GET HELP WITH

HOMEWORK!



Science

STARTING IN OCTOBER, MSU STUDENTS
WILL JOIN OUR PROGRAM AS VOLUNTEER
TUTORS IN ALL CORE SUBJECT AREAS!!!

Dear East Lansing Families,

We are excited to share an update about family-teacher conferences at East Lansing High School and McDonald Middle School. Beginning this year, we are moving to a new, flexible conference process designed to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

This new approach will:

- Allow for more consistent communication throughout the semester, rather than limiting conversations to just a few set dates.**
- Create opportunities for more meaningful communication with students and families who need it most, ensuring that we can provide timely support when it matters.**

Our goal is to make sure every family feels informed and connected to their student's learning. During conference hours, teachers and families can connect via zoom, in person, by email or by telephone. The links below contain information on all our teachers' conference times for the first semester. You can utilize myconferencetime.com to sign up for a conference or contact the teacher directly via email. We hope that these varied options will give your family flexibility to reach out to support as you need it over the course of the year.

We believe this change will provide a stronger, more supportive experience for students, families, and staff, and we thank you for your partnership as we launch this new format.

Sincerely,
Ashley Schwarzbek
Principal, East Lansing High School
Amy Martin
Principal, McDonald Middle School



[East Lansing High School Teacher Conference Times](#)
[McDonald Middle School Teacher Conference Times](#)

Dear ELHS Community,

In our continued effort to support student growth and success, we are placing a renewed focus on punctuality—a critical skill that will serve our scholars well beyond high school. To reinforce this, we are reinitiating lunch detention as a consequence for excessive tardiness.

How This Will Work

- Each week, a tardy report will be generated through PowerSchool.
- Students who are tardy to class **at least 20% of the time or more than 4 class periods in a week** will be required to serve detention the following week.
- Students will be notified via their School Gmail, and are expected to check their email daily.

Detention Details

- Detentions will be held weekly on Tuesdays during lunch
- Missed Detention will result in In School Suspension on The following day
- Continued noncompliance may lead to further disciplinary actions, including but not limited to;
 - Attendance Intervention
 - Loss of school privileges

Attendance Expectations

- Students are expected to be in class on time every day.
- Arrivals more than 10 minutes late(UNV_UT) will be marked as absent, as stated in the student handbook.
- Students who arrive after the bell will be marked Tardy (UT)
- Students should be physically present in the assigned classroom as reflected in PowerSchool, either with the teacher of record or a designated substitute.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (517) 333-7500.

Thank you for your partnership in promoting responsibility and accountability.

Sincerely,

ELHS Administration

CLASS OF 2026

IT'S TIME THE

TO PURCHASE YOUR CAP AND

GOWN

Herff Jones is our vendor for Senior Cap and Gown orders. Varsity jackets, rings, and yard signs are also for optional purchase. Packets are available in the main office, or use the QR code below:

<https://youtu.be/mld0tSw5clo>

QR Code on next page



East Lansing High School



GRADUATION PRODUCTS



YARD SIGNS



ACHIEVEMENT JACKETS



CLASS RINGS



Follow Us! @miherffjones



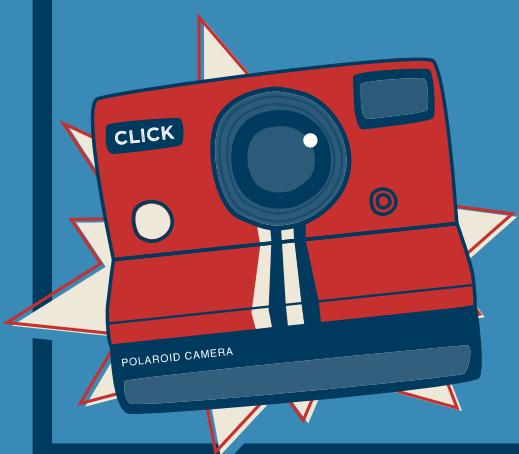
miherffjones.com

KEEP THE MEMORIES!

2026 YEARBOOK

ORDER YOUR
YEARBOOK HERE!

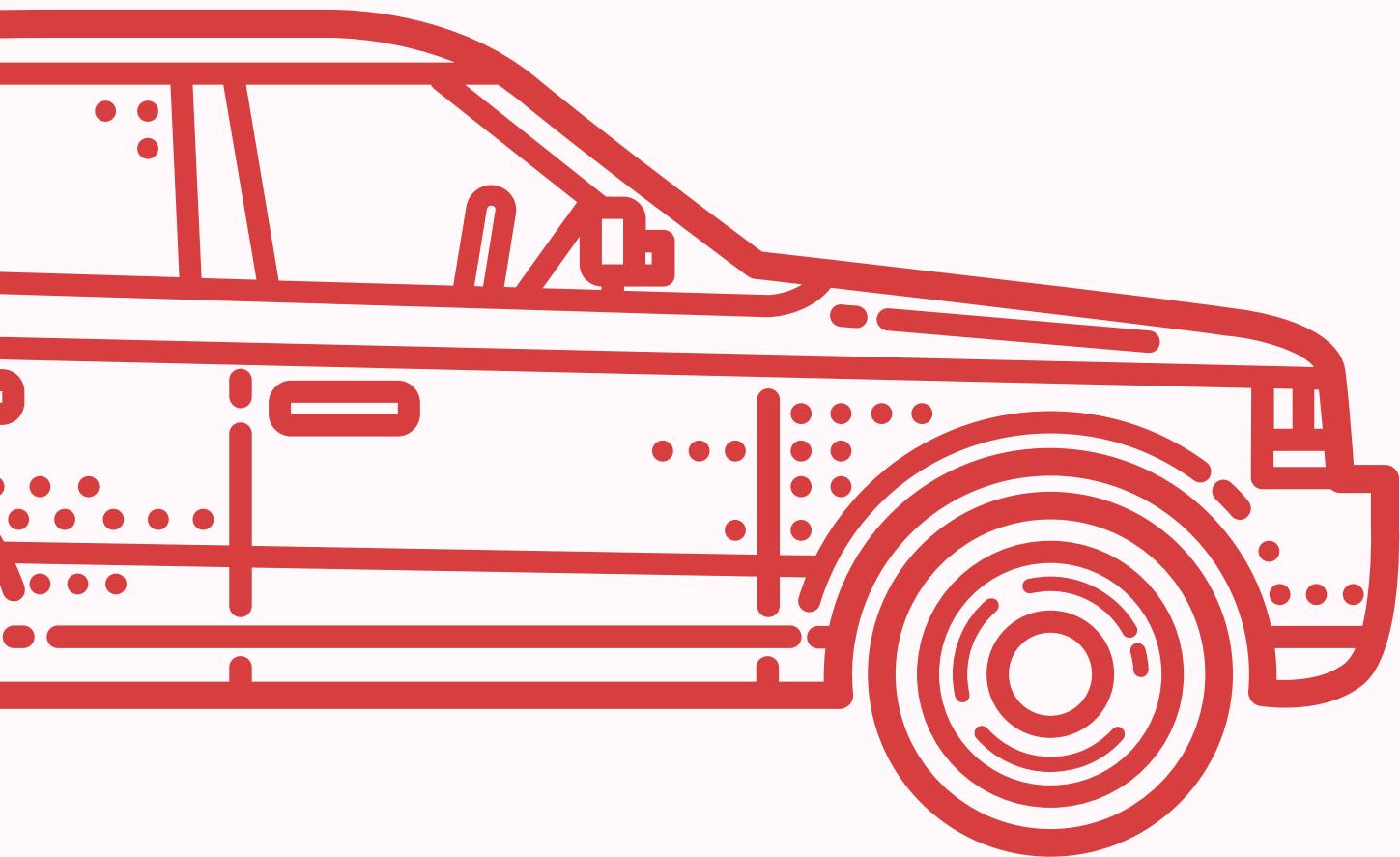
WE ARE DOWN TO EIGHT PAGES
OF SENIOR AD SPACE LEFT,
WHICH MEANS WE'VE SOLD
NEARLY THREE-QUARTERS OF
OUR AVAILABLE SPACE. DON'T
WAIT—SAVE YOUR SPACE BY
PURCHASING A SENIOR AD AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE!



PARKING PASSES

\$35/ YEAR

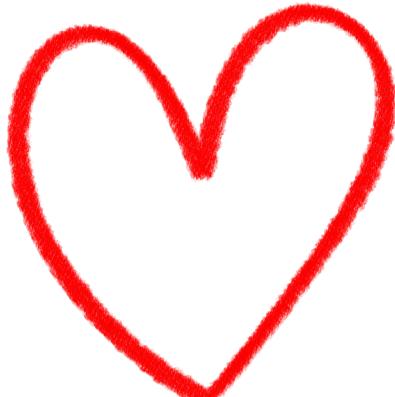
BRING TO MAIN OFFICE
CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT
INFORMATION NEEDED:
MAKE, MODEL, COLOR
AND PLATE NUMBER





Ele's Place
Grief Group
Interest Form

Ele's Place grief support group is returning to East Lansing High School this fall. This group takes place during Excel for 8 weeks. Completing the interest form above simply lets me know that you have some interest in learning more - it does not grant permission or formally register your student for our group.



EAST LANSING HIGH SCHOOL
ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES A

- 75TH ANNIVERSARY -

Celebration Concert

MAY 21, 2026

7:00 PM

EAST LANSING HIGH SCHOOL



**ALUMNI OF THE ORCHESTRA
PROGRAM ARE INVITED TO
PERFORM. MRS. MCDONALD
WILL BE THERE!**

More Information

here

www.eastlansingorchestra.org