



HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Chuck Hughes, Superintendent

9525 E. Highland Road
Howell, Michigan 48843

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July 22, 2026

Sinking Fund Replacement on November 3, 2026 Ballot

The district is asking the community to consider a ballot proposal to replace the current Sinking Fund millage that will expire at the end of the year. With legislative changes to sinking fund usage, we must legally call this an increase and not a renewal to the current 2017-2026 Sinking Fund which sits at about .4763 after being rolled back from the .5 mills originally authorized in 2017. If you wish to learn more you can visit our website and click on the Sinking Fund Banner to take you to the [Sinking Fund page](#)

HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS
SINKING FUND REPLACEMENT IS ON THE BALLOT

What Is It?
On Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026 voters will be asked to replace the current 0.5-mill sinking fund millage that is set to expire in 2026 and extend the levy from 2027-2036. This levy provides approximately \$900,000 annually to fund:

- Facility & Infrastructure Improvements
- Safety & Security Measures
- Technology Devices & Infrastructure
- Student Transportation & Utility Vehicles

Why Is This Important?
The State of Michigan does not provide funding for school building construction or repair. Instead, school facility upgrades are funded through voter-approved millages. The sinking fund millage ensures:

- Facilities Remain Safe & Up to Date
- Emergency Repairs Can be Addressed Without Disrupting Instructional Budgets
- Maintaining Infrastructure Protects the Community's Prior Investment in School Buildings
- Students & Staff Benefit from High-Quality Learning Environments

How Has the Existing Sinking Fund Been Spent?
Since initially approved in 2016, the sinking fund has provided the resources necessary to make critical infrastructure improvements while preserving the general fund for direct educational purposes.

Building Improvements:

- HVAC/Electrical/Mechanical Upgrades
- Pool Upgrades
- Paving
- Exterior & Interior Doors
- Building Signage

Safety:

- Fire Alarm at Middle School
- Exterior Wall Replacement at Lakes Elementary
- Pool Stairs
- Fencing

Why Does the Ballot Reference an Increase & Not a Renewal?
The law changed in 2017 and 2023 to expand the allowable use of sinking funds to include security, technology and vehicle upgrades. In order to take advantage of the expanded use of funds, the ballot language legally must reference an increase of 0.5 mills, because technically we are putting a different proposal on the ballot rather than 'renewing' the existing sinking fund.

Questions?
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810-626-2100
chuckhughes@hartlandschools.us
Rachel Bois, Chief Financial Officer
810-626-2124
rachelbois@hartlandschools.us

SCAN ME!
to learn more

www.hartlandschools.us

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Teaching Positions Available

Please share the following with anyone you know who may be looking for a position in HCS.

FARMS INTERMEDIATE

- Special Education Teacher
- 5th Grade Teacher

HARTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL AT ORE CREEK

- Counselor / with additional certification preferred

HARTLAND HIGH SCHOOL

- Special Education Teacher (with ELA)

IMPORTANT: 7th Grade Immunization Requirements **REMINDER** for Hartland Middle School

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As we prepare for the 2026-2027 school year, we want to ensure your students' transition into 7th grade is as smooth as possible. In accordance with Michigan State Law, all students entering the 7th grade must be up to date on their immunizations or have an Immunization Exemption completed before the first day of school.

Please be advised: Students who do not meet these requirements by August 19, 2026, will be excluded from attending school until documentation is provided.

Required Vaccinations for 7th Grade

In addition to all previously required childhood vaccines (Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Varicella), 7th grade entry requires:

- Tdap: One dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis vaccine (must be given at or after 11 years of age).
- Meningococcal (MCV4): One dose of Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (must be given at or after 11 years of age).

What you need to do

1. Schedule an Appointment for vaccines with your family physician.
2. Immunization Exemption (formerly called a waiver): If you have a non-medical objection to vaccines, Michigan law requires you to obtain an Immunization Exemption directly from the Livingston County Health Department.

Note: Schedule your exemption education session online as soon as possible. Do not wait until August as it takes 3- 5 business days to process.

3. Documentation: If you select the virtual option, all documentation will automatically appear in the MCIR system. Otherwise, documentation must be provided to the front office secretary on or before the 1st day of school. Our goal is to have every student in class on the first day. Thank you for your prompt attention to this health requirement and for helping us keep our school community safe.

Hartland High School Advanced Placement (college level courses) Students Continue Upward Trend

The district works hard to continue challenging students to engage in rigorous coursework. Below you will find the 2025-26 AP data.

- A. 23% of Hartland High School students took at least 1 AP course this year (22% in 2024-25).
- B. 87% of these students take at least 1 AP end of course test (82% in 2024-25).
- C. Of the students who took an AP test, 82.4% earned at least a "3" out of 5 on their test (81% in 2024-25).
- D. The average AP test score (out of 5) was 3.52 (3.43 in 2024-25).

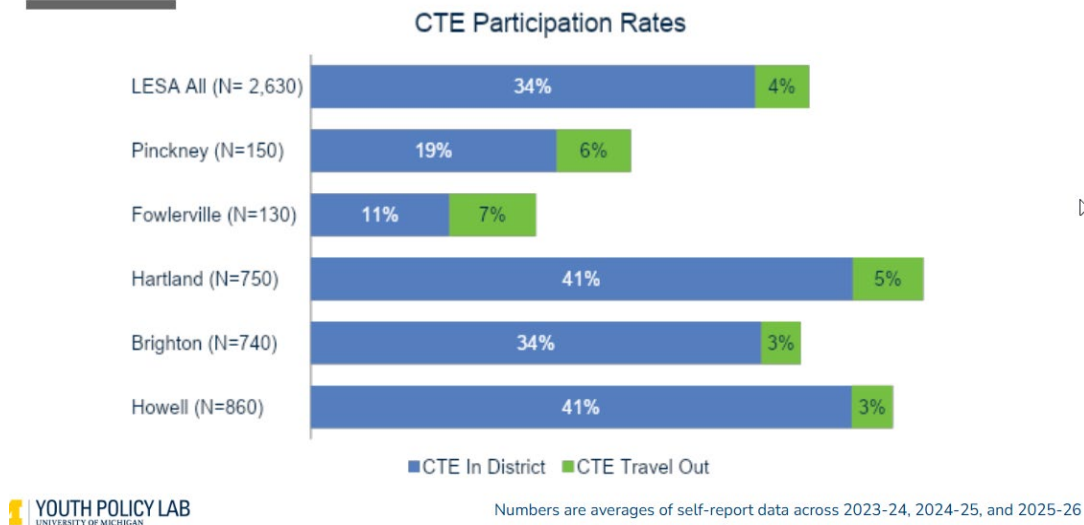
As you can see, we provide opportunities to engage in rigorous course work and the students are taking advantage of this and performing well. Results continue an upward trend. Remember, we also have students choosing to take college courses through dual enrollment and middle college

programs. Additionally, advanced Career Technology Education courses are in high demand.

CTE Survey Data Preview (Strategic Plan)

The County Career Technology Education (CTE) community, parents, and staff survey results have been delivered. It was good to see that the rate of CTE participation in Hartland (average over three years) is the highest in the county at 46%. I regularly heard some community members share that they feel HCS needs to provide more opportunity but often these same individuals cannot specify what MORE looks like.

CTE Participation Rates



Overall, the county public schools experience about 38% of students participating in CTE courses on average, per the first line on the chart above. The survey data indicated that 88% of respondents value CTE opportunities but only 9% indicate that their child has participated. The question is, how can we do a better job marketing these offerings and increasing student participation in skill level courses that can lead to “sustainable living wage” careers?

Some Hartland High School staff have been recruited to begin working on task force discussion around this work with our county partners. More to come as we dive deeper into this work.

hARTLand Art Walk Information



Regional Transportation Consortium (RTC) Success With Driver Recruitment (Strategic Plan)

Recently, the RTC spearheaded by the Livingston Educational Services Agency and Howell Public was recognized with a [Gold Medallion Award](#) for what schools have been doing to attract bus drivers. Hartland is a member of the consortium and wishes to thank these two organizations for the work they are doing to help us attract and retain bus drivers. You may recall that the Hartland Consolidated School District hired an outside organization to assess the work being done in our transportation department. The report basically indicated that HCS was doing what they could do to attract and retain drivers with an emphasis on building a collaborative culture as a key to retention.

At the same time, the RTC was continuing to meet and brainstorm ideas for attracting and retaining drivers. This resulted in a partnership between LESA, Howell, Brighton, Pinckney and Hartland geared toward investing in a marketing strategy led by Howell Public Schools and LESA.

This partnership has been extremely positive and successful in attracting and retaining drivers, thus last year HCS had no transportation pauses during the daily operations of delivering students to and from school. The power of the RTC shined to solve a problem.

The RTC Committee met in March of 2026 and came to an agreement on proposed the following changes to help with attracting new drivers and retaining current drivers:

- **Wages:** 2.5% increase in 2026-27 and 2.5% in 2027-28
- **Trainers:** create a separate scale for trainers equal to \$1 per hour more for all hours (not just the \$1/hr. "training time")
- **Cash for Unused Sick Days:** Ability to cash out 3 sick days at spring break (can already cash out 3 at Holiday Break and 3 days at the end of year)
- Continue the "summer recruiting program" (\$5,000 bonus for a fully certified driver) now through September 30, 2026. Hartland (only), offers new drivers a \$2,000 bonus to drive for the district which turns into an annual \$2,000 attendance incentive for drivers who do have any absences without pay for the school year.

The RTC Committee believes these changes are fair and pay increases are consistent with other employee groups. If someone is comparing only the hourly wage, it may appear slightly behind some other districts, but when you consider the entire package including bonuses, cash in lieu (CIL or money for not taking an insurance package), etc., we are comparable and even better in some areas. This is important marketing information when we recruit new drivers and for current drivers to understand.

I again want to show appreciation to RTC members LESA and Howell for their efforts at making a difference and helping all the RTC members to find drivers and keep member districts from having to deal with the challenge of driver shortages. You are making a difference and Hartland is proud to be an RTC member with you! Together we are stronger than trying to do this work as a single district. Difference Makers!

No bus needed, click below

Please help us plan our routes by completing this quick form. Knowing who will not be riding allows us to create more efficient bus routes for our students. Thank you!

[No Bus Needed in AM or PM or Both Form](#)

— JOIN —

HARTLAND TRANSPORTATION

— AT THE —
*Hartland
Farmers Market!*



SATURDAYS

JULY 25

AUGUST 1

AUGUST 8

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM



COME MEET US

Meet our team, ask questions
about being a bus driver
and learn more!



RURAL KING
PARKING LOT
HARTLAND

WE'RE HIRING!

BECOME A HARTLAND
BUS DRIVER

- ✓ STARTING PAY **\$21.30 – \$23.65** PER HOUR
- ✓ UP TO A **\$5,000** SIGN-ON BONUS
- ✓ PAID CDL TRAINING
- ✓ FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
- ✓ GREAT BENEFITS
- ✓ MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY



COME MEET US!

BRING THE KIDS AND PICK UP A
FREE SCHOOL BUS SAFETY COLORING BOOK!



Superintendent Retirement Announced

I wanted to share with you that I have announced my retirement effective December 31, 2026. I have attached my notice of retirement that was delivered to the Board of Education President on Monday, July 20, 2026, (see end of this Weekly Update). I wish the district the best moving forward and will forever have great memories of the people who have ensured that HCS is a “Premier School of Choice” public school district!

Opt-Outs for PK-12 District-Wide (Strategic Plan)

One of the Strategic Plan components is to create more avenues for parental choice under the Culture & Learning Goal: *Develop and launch opportunities for stakeholder involvement in 3R's education.*

Providing parents with the opportunity to opt-out of non-mandated activities that they are not comfortable with was advertised with communications home as a strategy under this objective. The strategic goal metric was to “see less than 5% utilizing this option.” The percentage of opt-outs for these activities ended up at less than 1% (or .13%).

2025-2026 Opt Out Data

School	# of Events	Total Opt Outs	Total Potential Opt Outs	% of Student Opt Outs
CE	19	4	4872	.1%
LE	20	4	5709	.1%
RE	9	10	2126	.5%
VE	16	3	2584	.1%
FIS	10	2	4848	.04%
MS	11	8	2324	.3%
HS	2	0	1930	0%
LEGACY	3	0	186	0%

Total Opt Outs

of Events – 90

Total Opt Outs – 31

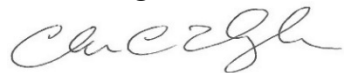
Total Potential Opt Outs – 24,579

% of Student Opt Outs - .13%

Hartland Alternative Education Opportunity Available

The Hartland Consolidated School District offers students in grades 6-12 an online option through the Hartland Virtual Academy and students in grades 9-12 an opportunity to experience high school in a smaller environment at LEGACY. If you are interested in these opportunities, please see the flyer at the end of this Weekly Update.

Where Eagles Soar,



Chuck Hughes

“Never stop being a good person no matter how bad someone else treats you.
Their words and their actions reflect who they are, not who you are.”

Anonymous

Notice of Web Accessibility: In order to remain compliant with web accessibility when sharing this Weekly Update, any public service announcement shared with me must be forwarded with a link that I can include in the text for people to view information if they choose to do so.

Retirement Announcement July 20, 2026

Madame President Kristin Coleman Hartland Consolidated School District Board of Education

Dear President Coleman and Members of the Board:

I have regularly shared with people who ask me about retirement that my plan has always been “60 and out”. As I approach my 60th birthday in January of 2027, this personal milestone has given me cause to reflect on my long journey with the district and in public education. Consequently, I am formally announcing my retirement as Superintendent of the Hartland Consolidated Schools, effective December 31, 2026.

My journey began in 2000 when the Board entrusted me to lead Hartland High School during its transition to the "new" high school. Since that time, I have had the opportunity to continue to serve the district and community as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent. The collective efforts of so many have established Hartland Consolidated Schools as a top-tier public school district; it is an accomplishment the entire community can carry forward with pride.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to you, President Coleman, as well as Vice President Shaw, Trustee Campbell, Trustee Custodio, and past Presidents Mr. Thom Dummond, Mr. Chris Costa, and Mrs. Meghan Glabach who served to create a collaborative environment for our students, staff and community. Your unwavering support has been the cornerstone of our district's growth. However, my tenure has truly been defined by the incredible staff I have had the privilege to work alongside for the past 26 years. Whether they were transporting students, maintaining facilities, providing nutrition, or leading in the classroom, departments or buildings, I am immensely proud of the dedication shown by every member of the team. We have learned to lean on one another, proving that as a team, we are truly strong.

Because of the immense talent I have witnessed daily, I encourage the Board to look closely at the talent within our own district as you identify the next district superintendent. For 38 years, this district has thrived under a culture of building internal leadership capacity, from Mr. Peter Caroselli to Mrs. Janet Sifferman, and me. I urge the Board to prioritize this internal continuity, which has been central to our culture of success, before seeking external candidates. You have an important job ahead of you, I wish you the best.

I depart in December with the peace of mind that I am leaving a legacy of fantastic people who will continue to move Hartland in a positive direction. Until my final day, my heart remains in Hartland, and I will stay fully committed to fostering a safe, engaging environment where every child can be successful—without exception!

I leave you with a quote I have lived by: **“Be true to your heart. Be honest with yourself. Live inside your integrity. Endeavor to do the right things for the right reasons. Let that be your reputation. Stand firm. In this way, you will always respect the person in the mirror”.** By Zig Ziglar

Sincerely,



Chuck Hughes
Superintendent Hartland Consolidated Schools



**HCS
ALTERNATIVE
EDUCATION**

**NOW
ENROLLING
2026-2027**

HARTLAND VIRTUAL ACADEMY

- ✓ GRADES 6 - 12
- ✓ FLEXIBLE TIME, PACE AND PLACE
- ✓ ONLINE CURRICULUM 24/7
- ✓ HARTLAND TEACHER MENTOR
- ✓ DROP IN COMPUTER LAB
- ✓ 100'S OF CLASSES AVAILABLE
- ✓ REDUCE STRESS; GAIN FOCUS

LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL

- ✓ GRADES 9-12; SMALL CLASS SIZES
- ✓ M - TH SCHEDULE 8:20 - 2:05
- ✓ EARNED FLEXIBLE FRIDAYS
- ✓ ACADEMIC INDIVIDUALIZATION
- ✓ TEACHER MENTORSHIP
- ✓ CREDIT RECOVERY AVAILABLE
- ✓ BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS

DUAL ENROLLMENT, SHARE-TIME & AP CLASSES AVAILABLE IN BOTH SCHOOLS

MORE INFORMATION :

- 📞 810.626.2100
- 🌐 HCS ALTERNATIVE
EDUCATION
- 📍 HARTLAND, MI



**ALL STUDENTS EARN A
HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED
SCHOOLS DIPLOMA**



June 1st - August 6th

Locations weekly throughout Livingston County

Everyone Welcome

**Warm Meal or Sack Lunch, Meal Kit + Recipe,
Fresh Produce & Snack Bag**

<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/mi/howell/lake-st-corps/>

503 Lake St., Howell, MI 48843 / 517.546.4750

While supplies last. Meal type may vary by location.

In Partnership With





THE SALVATION ARMY—SUMMER LUNCH BUNCH

LOCATION	DATES	TIME	INFORMATION
Howell Carnegie Library 314 W. Grand River Howell, MI 48843	Monday June 1st—August 3rd No Service June 29th	Lunch: 11:45 am - 12:15 pm	Enjoy a free family event outdoors at the library 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. More info— howelllibrary.org .
Brighton Village Mobile Home Park 7500 Grand River Ave. Brighton, MI 48114	Monday June 15th - August 3th No Service June 29th	Dinner: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	We'll be set up by the Mailboxes
Fowlerville Library 130 S. Grand River Fowlerville, MI 48836	Tuesday June 9th - August 4th No Service June 30th	Lunch: 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	www.fowlervillelibrary.org
Howell Estates Mobile Home Park 515 Mason Rd. Howell, MI 48843	Wednesday June 10th - August 5th No Service July 1st	Dinner: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	We'll be set up near the mailboxes or by the playground parking lot.
Hartland Meadows Mobile Home Park 13634 W. Highland Rd. Hartland, MI 48353	Thursday June 11th - August 6th No Service July 2nd	Lunch: 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	We'll be set up by the Club House

LOCATION	DATES	TIME	INFORMATION
Fun In The Ville 230 N. Grand St. Fowlerville, MI 48836	June 13th	Activities: 10:00 - 3:00 pm	No Food Service Outreach & Interactive Games
Food Truck Fridays The Square Downtown Pinckney Pinckney, MI 48169	June 12th July 17th August 21st	Activities: 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm	No Food Service Outreach & Interactive Games



Stay connected and up to date with our latest Events, Programs and Initiatives.

Visit us at: SalvationArmyLivingston.org