



# HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

*Chuck Hughes, Superintendent*

9525 E. Highland Road  
Howell, Michigan 48843

Telephone (810) 626-2100

Fax (810) 626-2101

September 24, 2025

## **School Breakfast and Lunch Prices**

Over the last few years, school breakfast and lunch have been provided free of charge for all students due to various federal and state programs. Unfortunately, Michigan legislators have yet to pass a school aid budget, leaving the district trying to guess what the future holds. Therefore, if the state does not include funding for free meals in its fiscal year 2026 budget package, beginning October 1, the following breakfast and lunch prices will be implemented:

Schools	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary & Farms	\$2.50	\$3.50
Middle School	\$3.00	\$4.25
High School	\$3.50	\$4.75

These prices represent an increase of 50 cents per meal for breakfast and 75 cents per meal for lunch from the current price structure, which has been in place since the 2019-20 school year. This increase, which was recommended to and approved by the Board of Education, was necessary to cover the increased costs of the program as well as to remain within USDA guidelines for meal pricing. Please share this information with neighbors and friends. Free and Reduced meal applications are available at

<https://sisweb.resa.net/FSApp/default.aspx?connectid=47060>.

## **Why I Did Not Recommend the District Pay for Meals While We Wait for a State**

### **School Aid Budget: Facts to Consider**

If the legislature does not include funding for free meals going forward, then the cost to continue providing free meals to all students would have to come from the General Fund. The Cafeteria Fund cannot use its fund balance to provide free meals to all students, as it is a violation of federal USDA regulations. For context, in the 2024-25 school year, we received approximately \$1.9M from the MI School Meals Program to provide free meals to all students. This would be a substantial cost to the General Fund if the district were to voluntarily continue the program without funding from the state. About 60% of our students participate in the MI School Meals Program.

Given the uncertainty surrounding the state budget, we believe the decision to begin charging for meals beginning October 1 (absent funding for the MI School Meals Program) and increasing the price was the best decision to remain fiscally responsible. Under law, the district was required to adopt a 2025-26 budget by June 30, even though the state has yet to adopt its 2025-26 school aid budget.

## **High School Football Videos**

Hartland v Novi Highlights

<https://youtu.be/r4ahszb7nBQ?si=ad8Cr3ZKMWkQbnIK>

Hartland v Plymouth Highlights

<https://youtu.be/2KliEM87Ov0?si=91lkmm0FGmX75rgh>

### **High School Students Named National Merit Scholarship “Commended Students”**

HHS seniors Andrew Kruger and Jack Tenbusch were recently named as “Commended Students” for their performance on the PSAT Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Commended students are among the top students participating. Congratulations to Andrew and Jack!



### **Annual Coat, Gloves, Hats, Mittens, Boots Drive**

The Hartland Education Association coat drive will be taking place in October. Hartland Schools will be collecting coats and other cold weather items for local families in need. Please consider donating new or gently used winter gear: coats, jackets, snow pants, gloves, hats, boots, etc. We will be collecting items for the whole month of October and donating them to Bountiful Harvest in Brighton. Please drop them off at the boxes placed at the front of each building.



## We Hope To See You at The Homecoming Parade and Football Game

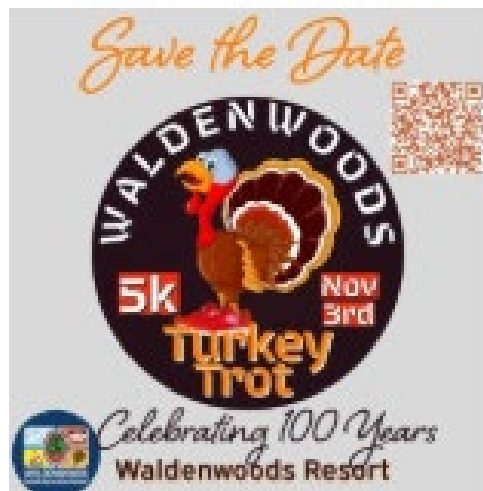
After enjoying the parade, attend the homecoming football game at 7:00 p.m. with a fireworks show afterward. Please note that the fireworks show is paid for by a local business not the district.



## Waldenwoods Turkey Trot 5K Run

If you are interested, you can sign up for the Fall 2025 Turkey Trot at Waldenwoods:

[https://runsignup.com/race/MI/Howell/WaldenwoodsTurkeyTrot?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBE-xU2xzYU9uRWJQU2E1dEtoSQEev9eoS44d-ZL6va2lBe-rEBbxr7grLxpvmVHAPhAkpBHPPcmpQXGhI678DQU\\_aem\\_baG09szoAyQegEuvH7eskA](https://runsignup.com/race/MI/Howell/WaldenwoodsTurkeyTrot?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBE-xU2xzYU9uRWJQU2E1dEtoSQEev9eoS44d-ZL6va2lBe-rEBbxr7grLxpvmVHAPhAkpBHPPcmpQXGhI678DQU_aem_baG09szoAyQegEuvH7eskA)



**Message from Mr. Hughes**

Thank you for supporting the last bond proposal and see you at Homecoming Friday night.

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/rP1GDUIhvaU>

Where Eagles Soar,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck Hughes".

Chuck Hughes

“People will quit on you. You gotta get up every day and make sure you never quit on yourself.”  
Unknown

**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.*