



MANISTEE ELEMENTARY

MARINERS MONTHLY



MISSION

Mariners lead the way by providing an inclusive, high-quality, diverse educational environment that inspires and fulfills the goals of all learners at every stage of their journey.

2026-2027 Office Hours

Monday 8:30-4:00

Tuesday-Thursday 7:30-4:00

Friday 7:30 - 3:15

26/27 District Calendar

MAPS Website

MES CONTACTS

Main Office: 231-723-3271

Shelly VanVoorst, Principal
Beth Adams, Assistant Principal
Kassandra Johnson, Secretary
Carly Liston, Office Assistant

MONTHLY WORD

from Principal VanVoorst



Dear MES Families,

We know summer is still in full swing, but here at Manistee Elementary, we are already hard at work preparing for a wonderful start to the new school year! We are so excited to welcome back our returning families and to greet the new students and families joining our MES community for the first time. Whether this is your first year with us or your sixth, we are glad you're here.

We've seen some exciting movement on our staffing team this year. Several of our teachers have stepped into new positions or moved to new classrooms, and we're delighted to welcome a number of new team members to the MES family as well. Change like this is a sign of a school that continues to grow and evolve to best meet the needs of our students and families, and we couldn't be more excited about the year ahead with this outstanding team in place.

A new school year brings new opportunities for our students to learn, grow, and make memories, and we feel so fortunate to be part of that journey alongside our families. Our doors — and our office phone lines and email — are open if you have questions between now and the first day of school.

Thank you for trusting us with your children. We can't wait to see everyone at Open House and for the year ahead!

Warmly,
Shelly VanVoorst
Principal, Manistee Elementary School



ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE

Monday, August 25th

Grades 1 & 2 - 3-5 pm - Grades 3, 4 & 5 - 4-6 pm

Mark your calendars! Our Open House will be held on Monday, August 25th, and the whole building will be open for families to explore. Teachers will be in their classrooms, ready to welcome students and meet parents and guardians.

We'll also have tables set up near the entrance staffed by helpful team members who can walk you through any of the apps and online tools we use at school — so if you have questions about bussing, food accounts, or anything else, that's a great time to get them answered in person.



[Login to
PowerSchool](#)

ONLINE ENROLLMENT

All of our enrollment and re-enrollment **forms are to be completed online.**

Please log into your PowerSchool account ASAP to update all student forms and device agreements for the 2026-27 school year.

The district code for PowerSchool is: RHZF

IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

As you prepare for the new school year, please take a moment to review the following:

- **Bussing App** — Details on how to download and use the app are on the Transportation page of the website, linked below.
- **Food Application** — Please complete this so your student is all set for meals on day one, link on next page.
- **Registration** — make sure your student's registration is complete and up to date in PowerSchool, link above.



By now, every family should have received their child's classroom assignment. If you have not yet received yours, please reach out to the office so we can help right away.

**FIRST DAY
OF SCHOOL
Monday,
August 31st**

SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

Day	Building Open	Start Time	Dismissal
Monday	8:40 am	8:55 am	2:50 pm
Tuesday - Friday	7:40 am	7:50 am	2:50 pm



Need Transportation?

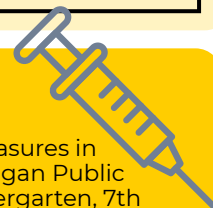
Please register online or call the MAPS Bus Garage if you wish for your child to ride a bus this coming school year.

Bus Garage: 231-723-4821

The deadline to register your student for bus transportation is August 22, 2026.

[Bus Registration](#)

Immunizations



Immunizations are one of the most effective measures in protecting children from harmful diseases. Michigan Public Health Code requires any student entering Kindergarten, 7th grade or a new school district in MI to have an up-to-date immunization history or a valid waiver on file.

If you fall into any of these categories and your child is not up-to-date you will be receiving a letter before school starts indicating what immunizations your student needs and where to get them, or a waiver.

Questions can be addressed at District Health Department #10, 231-723-3595 and under Programs & Services - Immunizations on their website www.dhd10.org. More information can also be found at <http://www.aimtoolkit.org>.



Nutrition Services

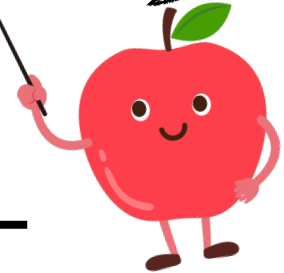
Free Breakfast and Lunch will be provided for free to all students for the 26/27 school year.

Please use the **Meal Magic Family Portal**, to complete the **education benefits form** by clicking the Apply for Benefits tab. It is important to fill out this form, as MAPS uses this information to determine other student benefits, such as device insurance eligibility. Completing this also allows you to access your student's account for payments via the 'My Account' tab.

Nutrition Services is looking for students, parents and community members to start two committees/clubs and a continuing committee - Gardening/Sustainability, Menu Development and Local Wellness Policy. Contact our Nutrition Services Director, Haleigh Savage (hsavage@manistee.org) if interested. Additionally, please contact the nutrition services department if you have any questions.

[Meal Magic Portal](#)

Hey students
and parents
interested in
wellness!



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

For the 2026/27 school year, students will only need to bring the following supplies:



Refillable
Water
Bottle



USB-C Cable
Headphones



Pair of
Gym Shoes



Our building and grounds have been busy all summer! You'll notice some beautiful new landscaping around the school — projects that were started last summer but paused for winter have finally been completed. We're proud of how the building is looking and can't wait for you to see it.



DROP-OFF

LATE START MONDAY : 8:40AM - 8:50AM
TUESDAY-FRIDAY : 7:40AM - 7:50AM

DROP-OFF

Stay to the right curb on Robinson St. in the designated car line and drop your student(s) off in the pick-up/drop-off zone area shown here near the main entry doors. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE UNATTENDED!**

WALK-UP

If you need to escort your student, please use the designated side street indicated here (Oak Street, North of 6th St.) We strongly encourage all parents to use the vehicle drop-off lines to make morning drop-off as smooth as possible.

PICK-UP

MONDAY-FRIDAY : DISMISS AT 2:50PM
SCHEDULED HALF-DAY : DISMISS AT 11:20AM

Students will be dismissed using the PikMyKid App. Please follow instructions below for "Announcing" upon arrival to the Manistee Elementary Campus.



1. Get in Car Line or park at Walk-Up Parking Area
2. ANNOUNCE up to 10 mins. prior to dismissal (be sure you have selected your dismissal option 24 hours prior to announcing)

- Car Line
- Bus
- Parent Walk-Up
- Student Walking

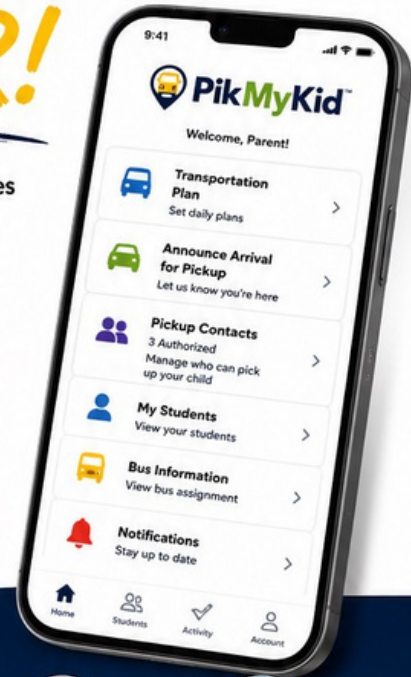




NEW THIS YEAR!

**PikMyKid™**SMARTER TRANSPORTATION.
SAFER STUDENTS.MANISTEE AREA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LEAD THE WAY!TRANSPORTATION JUST GOT
SMARTER!Beginning this school year, MAPS families
will use PikMyKid to simplify daily
transportation and dismissal.

- ✓ No more last minute phone calls.
- ✓ No more handwritten notes.
- ✓ No more wondering if changes were received.

**EVERYTHING HAPPENS
RIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.****WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?****UPDATE**
your child's
transportation plan
anytime**LET US KNOW**
you're in the
pickup line
with one tap**AUTHORIZE**
trusted adults
to pick up
your child**VIEW**
your child's
bus
assignment**RECEIVE**
important
dismissal
notifications**KNOW**
your child has
been safely
dismissed**WHY MAPS CHOSE PIKMYKID**

At MAPS, student safety comes first.

- ✓ IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY
- ✓ REDUCE DISMISSAL TRAFFIC
- ✓ INCREASE COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES
- ✓ MAKE TRANSPORTATION CHANGES EASIER
- ✓ SAVE FAMILIES VALUABLE TIME EVERY DAY

GETTING STARTED IS EASY!

- 1 **DOWNLOAD**
the FREE PikMyKid
Parent App.
- 2 **REGISTER**
using the email
on file with MAPS.
- 3 **SET YOUR**
student's transportation
preferences.
- 4 **YOU'RE READY!**
You're all set for the
first day of school!

SCAN TO GET STARTED!Download the app and
register today!**PikMyKid™**Download on the
App StoreGET IT ON
Google Play**SAFE STUDENTS. STRONG COMMUNITY. BRIGHT FUTURES.**Together, we
Lead the Way!