



COMET CONNECTION

NMCS

February 3, 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/1 - 2/14** Community Hope Food Drive
- 2/10** Laps for Learning Kickoff
- 2/15** K-2nd Grade Ice Skating at The Wex
- 2/16** 3rd-5th Grade Ice Skating at The Wex
- 2/17** NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
- 2/20** NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
- 3/20** Association Meeting
- 3/21** Preschool, Young Fives, and Kindergarten Open House
- 3/27 - 31** NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

BRIGHT SPOT

A NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL BROWER

God made our bodies to move! I wish so much you could hear the conversations and joy the sensory walks have added to our hallways! We have been able to install three sensory walks, or as we call them, "Comet Trails" in our school.

Immediately after putting the first one in place, the first student who saw it literally jumped right on it. She hopped on the frogs, grapevined her way down the single black line, took big steps on the circles, balanced with one foot in front of the other on the footprints, and glided down the double lines. When she landed on the red star that marked the ending of the Comet Trail, she looked at me and said, "Can I do this every time I go down this hallway?" I responded, "Of course!" To which she replied, "Thanks! This helps me feel ready to learn." My heart was so happy.

As another student recently finished going down one of the Comet Trails, she said to me, "I love this thing!" I asked her what she liked about it, and she smiled so big and said, "EVERYTHING!"

If you are at school, feel free to walk down the hallway by my office and give it a try.



ALL SCHOOL NEWS



“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR” - COMMUNITY HOPE FOOD DRIVE

Community Hope is coordinating a countywide food drive Feb. 1-14 to benefit Missaukee County Food Pantries. NMCS will be helping collect canned and boxed food items that can be distributed through our local food pantries. You or your students can drop off items at school. There is a table in the hall outside Mrs. Bujalski and Ms. Dieterman’s room for food donations.

Community Hope is a faith-based non-profit organization in Missaukee county that partners with churches, schools, and businesses in order to provide mentoring and food resources that strengthen the people of our County. You can visit www.communityhopemc.org or find them on Facebook for more information.

SEEKING 5TH GRADE TEACHER FOR 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Northern Michigan Christian is accepting applications for a 5th grade teacher. Must be certified to teach elementary in the state of Michigan. Please send resumes to our Superintendent, Scott Curell (scurell@nmcs.us)



NMCS BOARD MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Each year the NMCS Association nominates and elects new members to the school’s Board of Directors. The current Board is accepting applications until Monday, February 13 from Association members who have an interest in serving to guide and direct the school into the future.

Board membership terms are 3 years in length with an opportunity for an additional consecutive term (6 consecutive years). A board member application is attached to today’s Comet Connection. If you are interested in serving the NMCS community in this way, please contact our Superintendent, Mr. Curell, scurell@nmcs.us or request a Board member application from the main office.

START YOUR COMET JOURNEY



Join us at Northern Michigan Christian School on March 21st for a **Preschool, Young Fives, and Kindergarten Information Night** where future Comets can meet their teacher, explore classrooms, and receive information about registration for the 2023-24 School Year! Informational meetings will be as follows:

- Preschool, 5:30 PM
- Young Fives, 6:00 PM
- Kindergarten, 6:30 PM

If you are unsure if your student is ready for Kindergarten, feel free to join us. We have readiness testing available! You may call the office to schedule an appointment. This would be a great opportunity to share with friends, families, and community members that may be interested in Rising Stars or Kindergarten at NMCS!

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER CARE IS NOW OPEN!

Northern Michigan Christian School is excited to offer a Summer Care option for our families! If you are interested in learning more, please see the registration form at the end of this Comet Connection. You may also pick-up a printed copy in the lobby.

HOT LUNCH ORDERS

Parents, please help us to ensure that everyone is getting counted for hot lunch each day. If your child(ren) will be late to school, call the office before 9 AM and let us know if they are eating hot lunch. You should also know that you are always welcome to come to school and have lunch with your child. We simply ask that orders are called in or emailed prior to 9 AM. Thank you!

RISING STARS

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS



We are still taking applications for Classroom Aides for our expanded programming.

- **Young Fives Classroom Aide:** Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **2 Summer Care Lead Teachers:** 5 days a week beginning Summer 2023.
- **1 Lead Teacher and 1 Classroom Aide for After School Care:** 2:30-5:15 daily during the school year.

Preferred requirements for Lead Teachers: obtained or pursuing a CDA or an associate degree in Early Childhood or bachelors degree in Early Childhood or related field. Please send your resume to our Superintendent, Scott Curell (scurell@nmcs.us), if you are interested in joining our mission of challenging minds, nurturing hearts, and developing the gifts of students.

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

There are still spots available in both our Young Fives and 1/2 Day Preschool programs! Our Rising Stars curriculum presents a Christ-centered worldview. Questions? Call 231-825-2942. To enroll, scan the QR code or visit www.nmcs.us, Admissions, and New Family Enrollment.



K-5TH ELEMENTARY



CONGRATULATIONS SUPER COMETS!

AVERY S. - 2ND GRADE

Avery is very deserving of the Super Comet Award. She is such a kind and helpful child. When she sees someone that needs help, she steps right in and helps. When I ask her to do something she always does it with a smile. She is kind to everyone. Avery works hard at her school work and tries her best. She has a servant's heart.

EASTON P. - 5TH GRADE

Easton is a positive role model and leader not only in the classroom but for the elementary. He is so kind and encouraging outside at recess when he plays sports and in the classroom when he is working with others. He has a great attitude and is a great friend to others!



ANNUAL ICE SKATING AT THE WEX

- **Friday, February 3:** \$2 (per student) and Permission Slips Due
- **Wednesday, February 15:** Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Field Trip *
- **Thursday, February 16:** 3rd - 5th Grade Field Trip

See attachments for more information and permission form. * K-2 students are asked to bring warm clothes including coats, snow pants, and gloves/mittens for safety purposes.



6TH - 12TH MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

A LA CARTE IS BACK!!!

Your student will have access to a list of items available that day for purchase on a Google form. These items include things like bosco sticks, chicken fries, french fries, side salad, an oversized cookie etc. Your student will be able to order this with their lunch or in place of their lunch, their choice.

The items ordered will be charged to your hot lunch account the morning when they are ordered. It is their responsibility to pick it up after ordered. No shows still get charged because we made the food. If for some reason (student goes home sick, etc.) they can't pick up their items please let the kitchen know or email sssieting@nmcs.us. ASAP to alert us to not make the items ordered and avoid a charge. Please discuss with your student the amount that is appropriate for your student to spend and whether they will also be signing up for hot lunch etc. so you don't have a surprise in increased lunch money owed!

ATHLETICS

JOB OPENING

NMCS is seeking a Track & Field and Cross Country Head Coach. If you are interested, please contact Trey Reed (treed@nmcs.us)

- Basketball schedules are updated online at www.nmcs.us/athletics. The Google Calendar is still a resource for athletic schedules.
- Not part of the athletic email chain from Athletic Director Trey Reed? Email him at treed@nmcs.us to be included on important communication updates.
- Volunteers needed reminder - Sign up at www.nmcs.us/athletics

COMET COMMUNITY

MISSISSIPPI MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

February 13, 2013 - Benefit supper for the Mississippi Mission Trip at Lake City Christian Reformed Church. Serving from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM by donation. Please make checks payable to Lake City CRC Mississippi Trip.

A CALL TO PRAYER

Join us Monday mornings at 8:00 in the Chapel as God equips us for a godly life through prayer. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Kuperus michele.kuperus@gmail.com

PAINTER HERE

Need something painted? Call Cindy Sneller at [231-884-0159](tel:231-884-0159) I also do TRIP!!!



Northern Michigan Christian School

Elementary Ice Skating Adventure

Wexford Civic Center (The Wex)
1320 N Mitchell St, Cadillac, MI 49601

**We will be gliding the afternoon away soon,
and we can hardly wait for all the fun!**

Who is going and when?

- Grades K- 2 Wednesday, Feb 15
- Grades 3-5 Thursday, Feb. 16

Departure from NMCS: 12:30pm

Departure from WEX: 2:15pm

Can parents join the fun?

YES! Parents are more than welcome to join us!

May parents take their children home from the ice rink at the end of the day?

Yes, you may. We simply need you to indicate that choice on the registration form so we can have your child bring his/her backpack along from school.

What should students bring?

- Students should dress appropriately for the ice rink. It's chilly! K-2 students are asked to bring warm clothing including their winter coat, snow pants, and gloves for safety purposes.
- The concession stand will be open so you may send money with students if you want them to be able to purchase something there.
- If students have their own ice skates, they may bring them.

What does it cost?

- There is a \$2 fee for students which includes skate rental and time on the ice.
- There is a \$2 fee for parents wishing to skate that can be taken care of at the WEX center when you arrive.

Questions?

Ask your child's teacher.

**Please complete the attached form and return it with the \$2 by FEB 03
to your child's classroom teacher.**



Northern Michigan Christian School

Elementary Ice Skating Adventure Registration Form

Due: Friday, Feb 03

Wexford Civic Center (WEX)
Grades K- 2 Wednesday, Feb 15
Grades 3-5 Thursday, Feb 16

Student Name _____ Date _____

Teacher Name _____

Please check all appropriate boxes.

My child

will ride the bus back to school after ice skating.

will ride home with me after ice skating.

My child's \$2 fee is included with this registration form.

My child has permission to attend the NMCS Ice Skating Adventure.

Parent Signature

Date

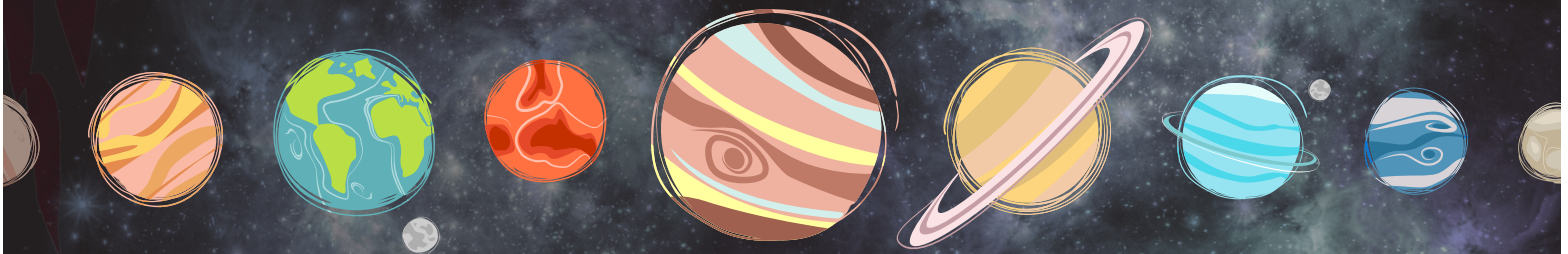
START YOUR COMET JOURNEY

PRESCHOOL, YOUNG 5's, &
KINDERGARTEN INFO NIGHT

MARCH 21
5:30 - 7:00 PM

● **INFORMATION MEETINGS**
● PRESCHOOL 5:30 PM
● YOUNG 5's 6:00 PM
● KINDERGARTEN 6:30 PM

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATION NIGHT WHERE STUDENTS CAN MEET THEIR TEACHER, EXPLORE OUR CLASSROOMS, AND RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!



COMET SUMMER CARE

As with all things new, we are learning! Based on initial feedback regarding the launch of our Comet Summer Care Program, we have increased our originally planned hours to **7:30am - 5:30pm**. Thank you for your input!

Ages

5 to 12-year-olds

Weeks, Days, and Hours of Operation

- **Monday, June 5 - Friday, August 18**
 - Comet Summer Care will **NOT** be offered the week of July 3-7.
- **Five days a Week**
 - Parents can select which days of the week they want their children to consistently attend. For example, a parent could choose to have their child join us M, W, F each week. Once days are selected, parents are committed to those days for the summer.
- **7:30am to 5:30pm**

Daily Schedule

Daily schedules may be subject to change due to weather, special events, or other circumstances.

Time (min)	AM Activity	Time (min)	PM Activity
45	Free Play	30	Lunch
30	Devotions & Prayer	60	Quiet time (resting, reading, drawing, etc...)
60	Outdoor Play	60	Planned Activities and Games
15	Snack	15	Snack
30	Story Time with Related Activity	60	Exploration of God's World*
60	Exploration of God's World*	45	Bible Story, Activity, & Prayer
30	Planned Activities and Games**	60	Free Play

* Art, Music, Library, Spanish, Technology and more! ** May be indoors and/or outdoors

Fees

- **\$45.00 per day**, per student, which will be billed monthly. Please note that by enrolling your student you are committing to the entire summer.
- **\$100 non refundable registration fee** per family will be applied as a credit on the first invoice.

Food

- Parents are asked to have children eat breakfast before coming to Child Care and to pack daily lunches. There will be two snack times each day. Labeled Ziploc bags will be sent home at the beginning of summer, in which parents can put individual snacks for children. We will let you know when your child's snack bag is running low.

Please return completed forms and your \$100 deposit to the main office by Friday, March 24 to secure your spot. Late registrations may result in being waitlisted.

Questions? Please contact Melissa Brower at mbrower@nmcs.us and for additional information, please review our Comet Summer Care Handbook.

REGISTRATION FORM AND SUMMER CARE HANDBOOK ATTACHED.

Comet Care Registration Form

- Please return this page with a \$100 deposit per family to complete registration for Comet Summer Care 2023.
- Return completed forms to the main office by Friday, March 24 to secure your spot.
- Late registrations may result in being waitlisted.

Parent Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Complete the registration information for each student attending Comet Summer Care 2023. Students aged 5-12 on June 1, 2023 are eligible. Comet Summer Care is offered Monday through Friday from 7:30am - 5:30pm for **\$45.00 per day per student**. Daily rates will not be adjusted for late arrivals, absences, or early pick-ups.

To help us adequately prepare for staffing needs, please select the days when student(s) will be attending and the times at which you anticipate drop-off and pick-up on those days.

Name	Age as of 6/1/23	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
		Drop Off	Pick-Up	Drop Off	Pick-Up	Drop Off	Pick-Up	Drop Off	Pick-Up	Drop Off	Pick-Up
Ex: John Smith	5	7:30 am	4:00 pm	7:30 am	4:00 pm			7:30 am	4:00 pm		

Please return completed forms to the main office by Friday, March 24 to secure your spot. Late registrations may result in being waitlisted.

**Application Form
Board Member
Northern Michigan Christian School**

(Please fill out this form and return it to Elisha Helsel or Scott Curell at school, or supply the information to the questions below and e-mail it to ehelsel@nmcs.us or scurell@nmcs.us by February 13, 2023.)

Name: _____ Church: _____

Home address: _____ City _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

Spouse's name: _____ School-aged children's names and grades (if any):

(In answering the following questions, please limit your answers to a paragraph for each question.)

- 1. Please describe why you support Christian day school education.**

- 2. How have you been involved in Northern Michigan Christian School up until now (children in the school, committees, financial support, volunteering, etc.)?**

- 3. What has been your involvement in other community and church organizations?**

- 4. What skills, interests, and/or commitments do you have which God could use if you were to serve Northern Michigan Christian School as a trustee?**

- 5. What dreams do you have for NMCS and its future?**

Mission: Northern Michigan Christian School exists to educate God's children by challenging minds, nurturing hearts, and developing gifts for service in Christ's kingdom.

Vision: Northern Michigan Christian School will be the most compelling educational choice for God's children in northern Michigan.



Grand Rapids Academic Summer Programs



Lori Peterson, Director ~ petersonl@grps.org

Phone (616) 819-2548 Fax (616) 819-2545

2405 Leonard St NE, Grand Rapids MI 49505

<http://grasp.grpublicschools.org/>

GRASP is a summer math and reading program used throughout the U.S. to help students retain skills learned during the past school year. Students finishing Kindergarten to 8th grade receive a packet of materials with a booklet containing 9 units of review exercises. They complete one unit a week and mail the lessons to GRASP where they are scored and returned with comments.

We also have an online version of GRASP for students in 4th to 8th grade.

The results of each question are shown immediately.

Children successfully completing at least 7 units with 70% accuracy are awarded a certificate. Those successfully completing all 9 units with 70% accuracy receive a medal (one per child).

The fees for the summer of 2023 are \$38 for one subject or \$68 for both subjects for each child. Most people order the grade just completed in school but order the level that is appropriate for your child.

To register, complete the enrollment form below and mail or fax it (address and fax # on form below.)

Or, to register online, go to grasp.grps.org and click Register:

- Enter first student and click Enroll Me in GRASP
- Select Pay Online
- Choose the mail or online GRASP option, subject, grade level
- If you have more children to register, indicate YES
- When done registering all children, **note the Family ID (usually name of one child) and Total Due**
- Click Pay Now to finish and use the Family ID and Total Due on the payment screens



GRASP ENROLLMENT FORM

(Detach and mail with fee to 2405 Leonard NE, Grand Rapids MI 49505 or fax to 616-819-2545)

Child's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Parent's Email Address _____ Child's School/District _____

Enroll my child in: (Check one or both)	Math <input type="checkbox"/>	Grade Reviewing _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Online</u> (grades 4-8 only)
	Reading <input type="checkbox"/>	Grade Reviewing _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For those ordering books, we are working on a way to email the results to you instead of mailing. This will save time and keep costs low. Check here to choose this option when it is ready.

How did you find out about GRASP? Friend/Relative School/District _____
 Advertisement Child is a previous GRASP student

Method of Payment:

<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard	<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover	<input type="checkbox"/> Check	Expiration Date	Security Code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Amount Paid: \$38 for one subject \$68 for two subjects

**SUGGESTED RETURN DATE FOR FIRST LESSON IS JUNE 9TH.
ALL LESSONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 4TH**



GRASP



Summer At-Home Math and Reading

To order: <https://www.grps.org/departments/grasp>

616-819-2548

GRASP is a correspondence program in reading and math for grades K-8. There is also an online version for grades 4-8. The program seeks to help students retain skills learned during the past school year by providing review exercises.

A student is enrolled in reading and/or math in the grade level just completed. GRASP has 9 lessons to be submitted during the summer—one per week. Each lesson reinforces the basic skills typically found in most curricula at that particular grade level. GRASP staff score the lesson and return it to the student with comments.

Students who successfully complete at least 7 of 9 lessons by the deadline are awarded a GRASP certificate. A medal is awarded for 9 successfully completed lessons.



Students do GRASP because they

- ◇ enjoy math or reading
- ◇ need extra time in the summer to learn concepts
- ◇ want to retain what they learned
- ◇ are required by their district in order to move to the next grade

Sample from 1st grade Math

42. Choose the correct amount.



- A. 25c
- B. 6c
- C. 25c
- D. 19c

43. Choose the correct amount.



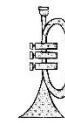
- A. 5c
- B. 14c
- C. 8c
- D. 23c

44. About how many inches long is the clarinet below?



- A. 2 inches
- B. 4 inches
- C. 3 inches

45. How TALL is this horn?



- A. 2 inches
- B. 3 inches
- C. 4 inches

PUNCTUATION

Select the correctly written sentence.

1. A. "What are you watching on the television?" asked Adam.
- B. "What are you watching on the television," asked Adam?
- C. "What are you watching on the television?" asked Adam.
2. A. "I'm not sure," answered Ken, it just started."
- B. "I'm not sure," answered Ken, it just started.
- C. "I'm not sure," answered Ken, "it just started."

HOMOPHONES

Decide which word best completes the sentence.

- E. Let's get the party invitations and stamps when we go
 - A. too
 - B. two
 - C. to
6. When it's _____ cold outside, be sure that you aren't outside very long.
 - A. too
 - B. two
 - C. to



Sample from 5th grade Reading

COMMENTS:

You have a very sound program and I am personally and professionally pleased with the outcome it has produced in my daughter. She is becoming more confident with her mathematical skills and looks forward to the new experiences your program offers.

— Stanley, father and associate professor

Thank you so much for this program. I feel the reading program is excellent. You really did "GRASP" what reading skills are important. My son will be a strong reader because of your program.

— Joan, parent and teacher

I am enjoying GRASP. It is something I look forward to doing each summer.

— Payton, 3rd grade

We are so thankful you offer this program to help our children stay in the study habit.

— Kent and Marilyn, parents and teacher