



AUGUST 29, 2025

PARIS RIDGE ELEMENTARY

Paris Ridge Families,

What an incredible first week it has been! The energy in our building has been contagious, and it has been such a joy to see our students back in classrooms, hallways, and the playground. Teachers and staff have been busy helping students learn routines, get comfortable in their new classrooms, and begin building the important relationships that set the stage for a strong year of learning.

Next week we will hold our flag raising ceremony, a beloved Paris Ridge tradition that brings us together as a school community to celebrate who we are and what we stand for. This year also brings something new and exciting—our district's elementary schools will all share the "Scots" mascot, building an even stronger sense of unity across Caledonia! A quick reminder that there is **no school tomorrow (Friday) or Monday** as we observe Labor Day. This holiday is an opportunity to reflect on the value of hard work and the contributions of so many in our communities. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday as we continue what is already shaping up to be a successful year. Thank you for sharing your students with us—we are off to a great start!

Lance Jones
Principal

From The PTO

PTO Email List and Classroom Directories

Welcome Back, Fighting Scots! If you haven't already done so, please complete the [PTO Google Form](#) for the 2025-2026 email list (yes, it's a new list each year!). This year, you can also opt in to receive a classroom directory (only families who opt in will be listed)!

Join Paris Ridge Families on Facebook!

Please join [our community facebook group](#) for discussion about school events and activities, questions with answers, and photo sharing, as well as PTO updates!

Walk the Ridge Kicks Off Today!

Walk the Ridge is our annual walk-a-thon that raises money to fund the entire PTO budget for the year! This allows the PTO to pay for all field trips, support teachers and staff in a variety of ways, put on assemblies for our students, and provide funds for activities and incentives that benefit our students throughout the school year!

This year, we are moving to an online fundraising platform called 99 Pledges. Please be on the lookout TODAY for an email with your child's personalized fundraising link (make sure to check your spam folder if you don't see it in your inbox!) and also watch for an informational email from the PTO (sent from Mr. Jones). Much more info will be coming out over the coming weeks and if you have any questions, please reach out to us at parisridgePTO@calschools.org.

Walk the Ridge will take place on Friday, October 3rd, so make sure to put that date on your calendar!

Save the Date!

Our Fall Community Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 18th from 7:00-8:00pm! Childcare will be provided. We hope to see you there!

Box Tops for Education App

Please take a minute to download the Box Tops for Education App and select Paris Ridge as your school! This is an easy way for our school to earn extra money throughout the year! Just scan your receipt (paper or digital) each time you shop and any eligible Box Top items will be automatically counted!

If you have not yet downloaded the app, remember to use the referral code DSFK1ZVD...using this code instantly earns our school \$5!

Meet The Student Support Specialist

Mrs. U

HELLO!

I am the student support specialist for all students at Paris Ridge. I am a licensed school counselor. This is my second year at Paris Ridge and my fifth year in the district. I've previously worked in Denver, Jenison, and am now happily rooted in Caledonia!



MY ROLE

I provide social emotional learning (SEL) opportunities for all students. SEL skills help kids get along with each other, make new friends, and feel better when times are tough. I work with students in the classroom setting, in small groups, and individually. I collaborate with families and teachers to provide social/emotional support so that all students can feel safe, loved, and successful.

ABOUT ME

- I love coffee, dark chocolate, and pizza.
- I went to U of M (GO BLUE!)
- I grew up in Ludington, MI.
- I want to write a children's book someday.
- I have four kids (Keaton (17), Rhegan (15), Lowen (6), Leo (2). And my husband, Jeff!
- I have a yellow lab named Callie.

FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME



616-891-7033 Ext. 5706



ustishenm@calschools.org

School Meals Update



As of now, the State of Michigan has not finalized its budget, and discussions continue in Lansing. **At this time, we can confirm that breakfast and lunch will be free for all students through September 30, 2025.**

Once the state budget is approved, we will share updates with families. If the statewide "Free for All" program does not continue, schools will return to the Free and Reduced Meal Program that was in place prior to 2023. To qualify for those benefits, families must complete the Free and Reduced Meal Application.

The Federal Free/Reduced Meal Application determines the amount of federal funding for the district, impacting **ALL students**.

\$ It's more than just free meals...

Why Apply?

- **Extra Funding:** Supports your child's school and programs.
- **Fee Discounts:** Save on college applications, tests (SAT/ACT/AP), credit recovery, and Chromebook Care Plans.
- **Athletics:** Reduced fees for pay-to-participate sports.
- **Tech Access:** Boosts funding for technology and internet access.



It's Easy to Apply!

Visit caledonia.familyportal.cloud or call our Food Service Department at 616-891-0227 for assistance.

Even if meals are free, submitting the application helps **ALL students** in our district.

Let's work together to make the most of this opportunity!



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Meal Prices

Breakfast will be free for all students through September 30, 2025

Serving Times

High School North/South - 7:00 AM

Duncan Lake MS - 7:00 AM

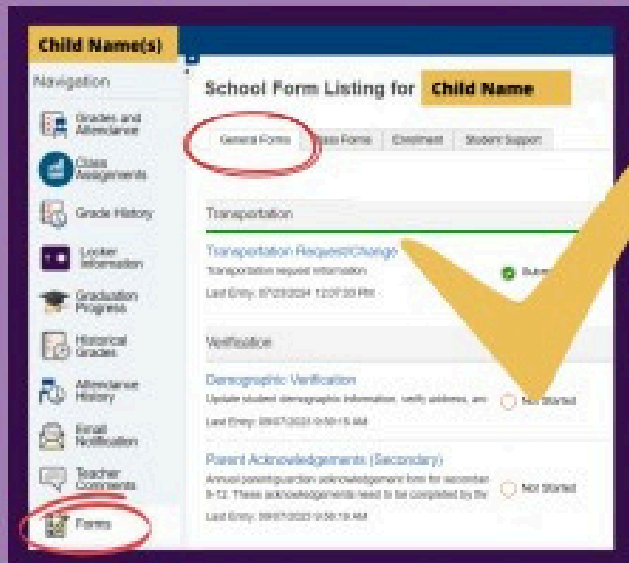
Kraft Intermediate - 7:00 AM

All Elementary Schools - 8:30 AM

Location: Breakfast is served in all cafeterias

START YOUR DAY OFF RIGHT
The Student Breakfast Program is available to all students every weekday morning. School breakfast makes good sense - it provides 25% of your child's daily nutritional needs and meets dietary guidelines and recommendations. This year, we are also switching back to real Uncrustables (rather than the soy-butter sandwiches), giving students a familiar and well-loved option to start their day.

PowerSchool Forms



Be sure to complete your forms online today.

As we begin the new school year, we ask all families to go into PowerSchool to update their forms. These include parent acknowledgements, student demographic information, photo releases, and more. Keeping this information current helps us serve your student and stay connected throughout the year.

Buildings can help reset passwords if needed.

District Code: GHDL
Deadline: September 30

Need Help?
www.calschools.org/resources/powerschool-support/

Chromebook Coverage

Caledonia Community Schools is offering the optional but highly recommended ChromeCare Plan for all district-issued Chromebooks for the 2025–26 school year. **The purchase window is open now through September 20.**

Families who do not opt in will be responsible for all repair or replacement costs. For payment directions, repair cost details, and information about the Student Chromebook Initiative, go to our [website](#) for more information.



ChromeCare Insurance for district provided devices is **\$20***

*Discounted pricing is available for families who qualify for free or reduced meals, as well as a family maximum rate for larger families.

Questions? Contact the Tech Office at helpdesk@calschools.org

www.calschools.org/departments/technology/student-chromebook-initiative/

Apps to Keep You Connected

MyRide App!

- Download the My Ride App
- Create an Account, Select CCS, and add your student(s)
- View bus stop locations, routes, and pickup times
- Receive real-time updates on bus arrivals

🔗 www.calschools.org/resources/my-ride-support/

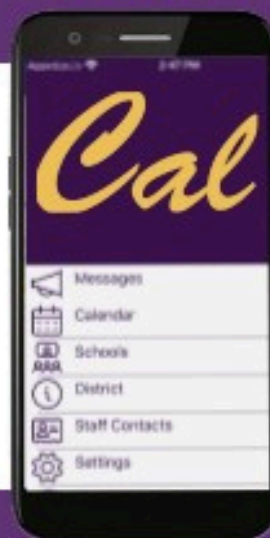


Download the
APP today!

CCS App!

- Access school news, calendars, and extracurricular updates
- Receive notifications from district or school(s) you follow
- Works on iPhone, iPad, Android, Chromebook, or web
- Subscribe for text/email updates if you don't have a smartphone

🔗 www.calschools.org/resources/app-support/



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Community Events & Flyers

Visit the [Community Events & Flyers page](#) to stay connected with happenings in Caledonia and view community flyers!

- **Community Flyers** are submitted by local non-profits and youth organizations, and are published by CCS after review
- **Submit a flyer** via the district's Google Form (allow at least 5 business days)
- **Subscribe to notifications** via the CCS app (follow "Community") or the website RSS feed

Our amazing community provides opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Stay connected through our apps and website to ensure your family never misses an update.

