



June 2018

Dear Northview Families,

Welcome to summer! We hope that you are looking forward to a slower daily pace and an opportunity to spend time outside enjoying the magic of a Michigan summer. At Northview, we use the summer to both refuel and prepare for another action-packed school year. This year, we are proud to announce the opening of our first environmentally-focused, outdoor learning "Field School" for the 2018-19 school year. Northview believes that children are inspired by nature, and Field School is one way our district can use that inspiration to encourage learning.

Field School will provide an immersive, outdoor learning environment along with student-centered teaching practices. It will foster students' mastery of all core subjects, while also encouraging curiosity, stewardship, community, leadership, and adventure. Students attending Field School will develop a connection to the natural world, a strong growth mindset, the ability to understand and solve complex problems, and skills to communicate with the world. Students will spend time outdoors throughout all seasons, and will learn how the natural world is a living textbook.

Field School will be located in the portable classrooms at East Oakview. There will be one combined Kindergarten/1st grade class and one combined 2nd/3rd grade class. The selected field instructors are Jenna Rykse (K/1st) and Matt Fenech (2nd/3rd). Both are certified to teach K-8, are aware of current environmental topics that will provide powerful learning experiences, and have teaching styles that will play to the strengths of kids learning outdoors. The school will also be supported by Rich Youngberg, Director of Community Education and Outdoor Experiences and Liz Cotter, Director of People, Organization, and Accreditation.

Any Northview student entering grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade in the Fall of 2018 is eligible to attend Field School, however, class sizes will be limited. Families who may be interested in sending a student to Field School, or who want to learn more, should fill out an interest form at this web address: <http://nvps.net/east-oakview/field-school/> no later than June 22, 2018. Families are also encouraged to attend a **Field School informational open house at East Oakview Elementary School on June 21st from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**. Information about enrolling in Field School, curriculum themes, and other important details will be answered at the open house, and through email to those who complete the interest form.

We are excited to have this opportunity to connect students with nature while also giving teachers an opportunity to use their unique gifts and talents. We are looking forward to telling you more about Field School soon and hope you'll consider this exciting new program.

Sincerely,

Liz Cotter
Director of People, Organization and Accreditation

Curiosity

Growth

Stewardship

Community

Leadership

Adventure

