

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Hello and Welcome to Home-Community! My name is Ms. Catherine Goetze (“Gets”) and I will be your child’s teacher and speech-language pathologist this year. Your kids will call me “Ms. Goetze” and my aide this year is Terrie Fraser. They will call her “Mrs. Fraser.” I hope that you had a wonderful summer. I am looking forward to a great year, teaching your child and helping them develop their communication skills. I hope this document will help you understand our classroom program!

A little about me...I am starting my seventh school year with Northview. I graduated in 2015 from Central Michigan University with a Masters of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology. This year will be my third year as the teacher/speech language pathologist of the Home-Community program and my seventh year as the SLP for ECSE. I love spending time with my husband Matt, son Mason & our dog Bear, going on walks, hiking, being outside, photography, interior decorating, and reading!

School Calendar: This Home-Community Classroom Program follows the Northview Public Schools calendar. We start class on **Tuesday September 6th** this year.

Sometimes school needs to be closed due to poor road conditions or other problems beyond our control such as lack of power or water. If Northview Public Schools is closed or has a two hour delay on a Tuesday or Thursday, then the Home-Community classroom will also not be in session. I would suggest checking MLive.com in the morning to determine these closings. You can also sign up for our instant message information that will send a call or text to your phone. You can access this information on the Northview Public Schools website or go directly to the Honeywell Instant Alert Website which is: <https://instantalert.honeywell.com>

Starting and Ending Times (8:15am-11:32am Tuesdays/Thursdays ONLY): Children who ride the bus will be met by me and our teacher aide in the bus loop area. If you are transporting your child, you will need to park and walk your child to us. If you are picking up your child, please be here on time and come find us in the bus drop off area.

Those of you who are using the bus should have received a call from **Dean Transportation** department about your bus number and time of pick up/drop off. When you have questions, you should call them at (616) 885-1678 ext. #1689. Dean Transportation appreciate it if you can call your child in ill if they are not going to be riding the bus that day. We can bus your child to and from your home as well as any daycare or family member’s home/facility as long as it is in Northview district.

Forms: If you are new to our classroom, we will need:

- 1.) Birth Certificate
- 2.) Proof of Residency (e.g. utility bill)
- 3.) Shot record from the doctor
- 4.) Emergency forms so we know who to call and who your child can be released to.

If you need any help or another copy of these please call the school office at (616) 361-3470. Likewise, you can drop these off at the school office if you want to start getting these documents in (so we don’t have to call and bother you!)

If you are returning from last year, you already have these on file and do not need to supply them again.

Snack: A snack/drink will be offered to your student throughout the day provided by the school.

Our Classroom Schedule:

- Table top time/fine motor/attendance
- Group speech and language lesson (weather, calendar, letter of the week, speech sound of the week)
- Small group and 1-1 speech lessons
- Bathroom break, snack, book read aloud
- Movement songs/music
- Recess

Communication: I will provide your child with a folder for school news, art projects, etc.; please send this back and forth to school. Be sure to check your child's backpack daily. Please feel free to contact me throughout the year with questions or concerns. Messaging me on ClassDojo is generally the easiest way to connect with me during the school day. I invite parents to add this app to their phones prior to the start of the school year. There is a "Messages" feature that is similar to texting. I also use the "Class Story" feature to share pictures of an activity that we worked on that day. Feel free to also reach to me via email cgoetze@nvps.net or by phone (616) 361-3470 ext. 26210.

If your child is going to be absent, please call the main line and let our secretaries know. I also appreciate when parents contact me to let me know when their child is going to be absent (could be through the messaging app on ClassDojo or through email.)

I am very excited for the upcoming year and I know that by working together we can make it successful. Thank you in advance for all of your hard work and help this year! I look forward to seeing your student soon!

Best,

Catherine Goetze, M.A., CCC-SLP

Below you will see a list of supplies your child will need within the first week of school.

To start the year your child will need:

- Any paperwork you have yet to turn into the office.
- A backpack sent every day, large enough to hold a folder, art projects, and labeled winter gear in the cold months!
- Kleenex (2-3 boxes please)
- Glue sticks (the kids love the jumbo glue sticks)
- Crayola crayons
- In a large/labeled zip lock bag, please pack an extra outfit (including underwear and socks) that can be stored at school. Accidents happen and we can get messy.
- If your child is not yet potty-trained, you can send a pack of diapers **and** wipes to leave at school.

Please Please Please.... Remember to label everything you send with your child, especially when the winter weather gear comes out!

Let me know if you have trouble obtaining any of these items and I will be more than willing to help you!

Important Information

West Oakview Elementary School
3880 Stuyvesant Avenue Northeast
Grand Rapids, MI. 49525
Phone: (616) 361-3470
Fax: (616) 361-3492

STAFF:

Special Education Director	Dan Heitzman	dheitzman@nvps.net
Building Principal	Tony Quinn	tquinn@nvps.net
Classroom Teacher	Catherine Goetze	cgoetze@nvps.net
Classroom Teacher Assistant	Terrie Fraser	tfraser@nvps.net
Speech Pathologist	Catherine Goetze	cgoetze@nvps.net
Social Worker	Liz Maher	emaher@nvps.net
Occupational Therapist	Kristina Suchecki	ksuchecki@nvps.net
Physical Therapist	Stephanie Anderson	stephanieanderson@kentisd.org