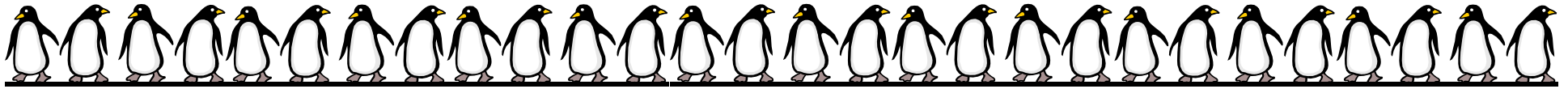


# Burns Park Press - April 2008



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## Calendar of Events

Wed, Apr 2:	<b>3rd Grade Concert</b>
Fri, Apr 4:	<b>Spring break begins at end of day</b>
Mon, Apr 14:	<b>School Resumes</b>
Thur, Apr 17	<b>PTO Meeting, 7pm</b> free childcare in gym
Tues, Apr 22:	<b>1st and 2nd Grade Concerts</b>
Wed, Apr 30	<b>Blood Drive</b>
Sun, May 4:	<b>Burns Park Run</b>
Tue, May 15:	<b>5th Grade Concert</b>
Mon, May 26:	<b>No School: Memorial Day</b>
Wed, May 28	<b>Ice Cream Social, 5:30-7:30</b> Rain date: Thur, May 29
Fri, Jun 13:	<b>Last Day of School (1/2 day)</b>

## Burns Park Run - Sunday, May 4, 2008 - 8:30 am

5K run/walk, 10K run, and 1/2 mile fun run (10:00)

Burns Park's biggest fundraiser needs your support!

You can help in two ways:

1. Volunteer 2 hours of your time on or before race day to help with necessary run tasks. We need at least 30 more people to volunteer. Email me and I will match you to a job.
2. Register yourself and your family for the run. Buy a tshirt for yourself or the kids. Email your friends and family with the link to the informative webpage [www.burnsparkrun.org](http://www.burnsparkrun.org) so they can register. Every registration is money for our school! Our goal is 1,000 participants.

Questions? Contact Jackie Dalton at [a2boss@gmail.com](mailto:a2boss@gmail.com) or 747-6952. You can also email us directly from the webpage.

## Muffins, Muffins, Muffins For The Burns Park Run!!!

Part of the great tradition of the Burns Park Run is to have a brunch, of sorts, after the run. In order to pull this off again this year, we ask that each family bring a dozen muffins to the warming hut the morning of the run, Sunday, May 4. To feed all the runners, walkers, and their friends and family members, we need a LOT of MUFFINS! If you are unable to drop the muffins off the morning of the run, you may deliver them to Teresa Jong at 1406 Brooklyn Ave ahead of the run. If you have any questions, please call Teresa Jong at 327-0605. No need to RSVP. Thank you!

Check out the **PTO websites:**

<http://www.burnsparkpto.org>

and Penguin Talk :

<http://www.burnsparkpto.org/confer/>

## Burns Park Mission Statement:

All of our children will become confident, secure, caring individuals of a diverse community who are lifelong learners and achieve personal success.

## From our Principal

Dear Families,

What fun we had during March Is Reading Month! Thanks again to all of the efforts of the Friends of the Media Center for putting this month's worth of events together.

### School Improvement Team (SIT) Members Wanted

The School Improvement Team (SIT) is looking for a few good parents to replace retiring members for the 2008-2009 school year. No experience necessary! This is a great opportunity for you to help make a difference.

The School Improvement Team is made up of teachers, staff, parents and the principal working together to improve student achievement. The team meets every other month (meetings usually last an hour and a half) to work on key issues that impact our students' ability to succeed and be challenged academically. We encourage members to serve on the team for two years. Please call me at 994-1919, or email me at [morhous@aasp.k12.mi.us](mailto:morhous@aasp.k12.mi.us), or drop a note in my mailbox or the SIT's mailbox to express your interest.

### Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup was well attended. If you were unable to attend Roundup, please stop by the school office to get your enrollment materials and other important information. If you have any questions, please call the office at 994-1919.

### MEAP Results Sent Home

MEAP scores have arrived and were sent home with the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. Our students continue to do an excellent job! Third, fourth and fifth graders were tested in math, reading and writing. Fifth graders were also tested in science. Each score reflects the percentage of students that met or exceeded the Michigan standard for that content area.

The reading sub test includes a writing section in which students are required to write a response to what they read. They are asked to make connections between two different reading selections and use key ideas from each one to support their position. All

required writing is hand-scored using a holistic scoring system.

We continue to work to better to understanding the 4th grade writing scores, especially in respect to our 3rd and 5th grade scores. As we do so, we continue to examine our students' writing and refine our writing curriculum to increase our students' writing proficiency.

Scores represent fall testing over the past 3 years.

Burns Park MEAP Scores: 2005—2007															
	Math			Reading			Writing			Combined (Reading + Writing)			Science		
Year	'05	'06	'07	'05	'06	'07	'05	'06	'07	'05	'06	'07	'05	'06	'07
3rd Grade	97	98	96	95	93	92	65	81	85	88	87	92			
4th Grade	97	98	96	95	98	94	73	65	66	90	97	93			
5th Grade	93	91	96	92	93	94	81	77	86	90	91	96	92	95	96

## ... more from our Principal

### Lunch Time Choices

I'd like to extend a special thanks to the many volunteers that helped with Lunch Time Choices. Our students really enjoyed the variety of opportunities that these choices offered them during this particularly cold, snowy winter. Our thanks to Katie Chosid and Niki Wardner as well as the many other volunteers that came in faithfully during the noon hour to help out. We now look forward to Walk and Talk and to enjoying warmer weather!

As Niki's youngest moves on to Tappan next year, we will miss all of her volunteer efforts, especially her commitment to Lunch Time Choices. There will be a large group of students that will especially miss her willingness, year after year, to extend her very popular "Needle Point" choice until the end of the school year.

### Special Interest Fair

Once again, the Special Interest Fair was a tremendous success! It is fun—and impressive—to watch our students go through the process of researching, documenting and presenting their interests so that others can share in them. A special thanks goes to Kim Mass and Patricia Silverman and their committee of volunteers for organizing this great event.

### Science Night

A special thanks goes to Ed Vielmetti, Steve Swaney, and their committee of many volunteers for working with the Ann Arbor Hands On Museum to bring this event to our families. It was a night of scientific inquiry for all of us.

### Class Placement for 2008-9

Please understand that no decisions have been made regarding staffing or staff assignments. Most teachers would like to stay in the grade they are presently teaching (or as close to it as possible). Ms. Campos, 2nd grade, has extended her maternity leave for next year and therefore will not be returning in the fall. Although we expect most of our current staff to return, we cannot guarantee that a particular teacher or teaching situation will be available next year.

Class configurations will not be finalized until late August when our student numbers are closer to being confirmed. However, we do begin to consider student placement now. We will thoughtfully and thoroughly consider all factors when designing a balanced classroom community. (See the March edition of the Press for more details)

The intent is to create the best learning environment for all of our students. Families wishing to share any educational information regarding their child's placement for the 2008-09 school year may do so by writing a letter to me. All letters need to be submitted by Wednesday, April 30.

### 2008-2009 Plans

If you know of families in your neighborhood that intend to enroll children at Burns Park next year, please share this placement information with them. If your child is not returning to Burns Park in the fall, please let the office know that as well.

Educationally yours,  
Kathy Morhous, Principal

## Burns Park Red Cross Blood Drive

the last one of the school year.

When: Wed. April 30th, 2008

Where: Burns Park Auditorium

What times: Anytime between 1:30 and 7:30

If you gave at the last one, you can give again by then :-)

Each pint given saves up to 3 lives!!

Students of Sandy Kreger's elementary class will be working there. You can expect:

- ◆ A hand written thank you note
- ◆ A goody bag with local coupons and treats
- ◆ Home made yummy baked goods
- ◆ A personal chaperone
- ◆ To be treated like royalty
- ◆ Entertainment!

To sign up:

- ◆ Go to [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org)
- ◆ Type in bpe for the source code (which stands for Burns Park Elementary)
- ◆ Make a profile.
- ◆ Pick your favorite time!

Questions? - e mail Sandy Kreger at [kreger@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:kreger@aaps.k12.mi.us)

## From our PTO Presidents

Thanks to all who attended the PTO meeting on March 20! We discussed the upcoming May 6 ballot which includes two questions that would renew the existing property tax millages which fund nearly half of the AAPS's operating budget as well as a sinking fund that helps pay for building repair and maintenance. These millages replace identical existing provisions which expire at the end of next year, therefore passage of them will not result in a tax increase. As they are critical sources of revenue for the district, passage of the renewals is a must.

Luciana Borbely and Julaine LeDuc, ambassadors from the University Musical Society, presented on the wide range of musical and dance performances that the UMS makes available to students of the AAPS. They offer discounted tickets to daytime performances as well as curriculum guides and workshops so that interested teachers can prepare their students for attendance at these performances. Additionally, UMS has a program "classical kids" which allows students in grades 1 - 8 and their parents to purchase tickets to all classical music concerts at significantly discounted prices. For more information about their programming and to find out about "classical kids" please visit their website: [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org).

Finally, discussion centered on the PTO surplus funds and ideas for how to use them. We voted to allocate \$6000 of the surplus this year to a Platinum Apple grant program for teachers; this will be similar to our Golden Apple program but with a cap of \$2000 instead of \$500. Preference will be given to

grants that are grade-wide or multi-grade. Grants will be reviewed and voted on at the May PTO meeting. Additionally, a significant portion of the surplus will be held in reserve for requests that may come to the PTO during the construction phase. All of these requests will be discussed and voted on at a PTO meeting. Last, we are in favor of using a smaller portion of our surplus (\$1,000 - \$1,500) to make a one time contribution to the district wide "Village Fund" that is being created by the Student Participation Opportunities Team (SPOT) This fund will be held by the Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation and elementary PTO's will be able to apply for funding to allow low-income students to participate in the daily events of school (i.e. field trips, school pictures, Scholastic Book Fairs, ice cream socials etc.) There will be a final vote on this contribution at the April PTO meeting. Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions.

*Helen Starman, PTO President*  
994-8553 or [hstarman@comcast.net](mailto:hstarman@comcast.net)

*Elizabeth DeRose, PTO President-elect*  
677-0882 or [ederose@comcast.net](mailto:ederose@comcast.net)

## You Scream, I Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream!!

**What:** The Annual Ice Cream Social

**When:** Wed, May 28, 2008, 5:30-7:30  
(rain date: Thurs, May 29th)

**Where:** Burns Park playground & park

**Why:** To have fun & make some money for Burns Park!

**How:** Tickets are purchased for each event & food item offered

The Ice Cream Social is more than just ice cream!! It's also pizza, popcorn, desserts, hot dogs, and drinks. It's the cake walk, moon bounce, dunk tank, lollipop tree, golf game, basketball, live music, face painting, and so much more!

It's a great time to really enjoy your kids and community in a fun setting,, all the while raising money for the fabulous programs Burns Park offers us every year.

If you would like to be a part of this amazing team putting on our event, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are interested in new ideas & we can use many more volunteers! We need you to make this event the best ever!

Your Chairwomen,

Jane Wood

[joeljanejack@yahoo.com](mailto:joeljanejack@yahoo.com) or: 734-369-8850

and Linda Joss

[linda@jossfamily](mailto:linda@jossfamily) or 734-994-9708

## Walk And Talk Starts Back Up This Spring

Spring is in the air and Walk and Talk is beginning again. Walk and Talk is an activity where the students gather to walk or run with each other around a specified loop at Burns Park. The kids earn “toe tags” for a certain number of loops around the park and really are motivated by the fresh air, their friends and the encouragement of the parent volunteers.

We had a great turn out this Fall and want to be prepared to run together as the Walk and Talk team for the upcoming Burns Park Run, Sunday, May 4 and help those kids participating in the Martian Marathon conclude their 26.2 miles.

We are hoping to start up the week of March 31 (weather permitting) if we can get our parent volunteers in place by then. Walk and Talk will take place for the 4 weeks beginning on March 31 with the exception of our district spring break.

If you can help out on Monday, Wednesday or Friday during lunch time (approximately from 11:15 – 1:10 or any part thereof or even every other week), please let Marci Ammerman know at 662-7812 or mbammerman@comcast.net.

This wonderful activity can not take place without your help. If you cannot commit to a shift, we would also like to encourage parents to come and walk and talk with the kids – enjoy each other plus the added bonus of modeling/inspiring physical fitness too!

## Walk and Talk & the Burns Park Run

If your child participates in the Burns Park Elementary Walk and Talk program during their lunch period, they are eligible to a part of the BP Walk and Talk team as we participate in the Burns Park Run on Sunday, May 4.

What does it mean to be on the Burns Park Walk and Talk Team? For those kids who are able to participate in the Burns Park Run, they receive a free Walk and Talk t-shirt to wear on race day, we gather together at the race for stretching and encouragement and then their off to the starting line. The younger kids are put into groups and assigned a volunteer parent who will walk/run the course with them.

In order to be on the team (and receive a t-shirt), we will ask the students to come twice a week to Walk and Talk and run/walk at least 3 laps when they come. This is something the kids can comfortably do in the given lunch recess time and builds up their endurance for the big race.

What do you need to do? Parents will need to register their child for the Burns Park Run by completing the official Burns Park Run registration form with the required payment (scholarships are available). Forms can be found on [www.burnsparkrun.org](http://www.burnsparkrun.org). Please mark 5k run (unless anyone is doing the 10k). \*\*The Walk and Talk t-shirt is different than the Burns Park Run t-shirt. Your child will receive a free Walk and Talk shirt to wear the day of the run. If you would like to purchase an official BP Run shirt indicate this on the registration form and pay accordingly.

Please also check your child's backpack for the Walk and Talk Team “form” later in April. Please complete and have your child return to the office as soon as possible. This helps me confirm who will be participating.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 662-7812 or [mbammerman@comcast.net](mailto:mbammerman@comcast.net).

## Special Interest Fair Thank-You

Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Special Interest Fair so successful! In particular, we'd like to thank the Special Interest Fair Committee: Bill Brinkerhoff, Clifton Davis, Edwin Hoffman, Younhee Jee, Agnes Jensen, and Lynda Norton, as well as Ruth Slavin and the Multicultural Committee.

Thanks also to Kathy Kyle, who arranged for table delivery, Noah Mass and Ken Silverman, who helped with table set-up and take-down, and the kids who made the terrific posters: Ben Greenberg, Sam Greenberg, Sophie Greenberg, Holden Mass, Emma Silverman, Nathan Silverman, and Theo Walker.

Most of all, thanks to the more than 70 students who shared their special interests with the Burns Park Community through their creative, informative, and entertaining projects. We really appreciate all your hard work!

Kim Mass and Patricia Silverman,  
Special Interest Fair Co-Chairs

## Art Room News

### Student Artists Honored

During Youth Art Month, the following students had their artwork displayed for the entire month of March at the Ann Arbor Art Center and the Bank of Ann Arbor. They, along with other student artists in the city, were honored at a reception on March 30th at Palio's Restaurant.

!!!!Congratulations!!!!

**5th grade:** Sydney McGee, Casey Jong, Luna Johnston, A'leah Porter, Alexandra Forman, Aidan Connolly, Juliette Killough, Maya Ben-Shahar, Kara Monchamp, Claire Meingast, Santiago de la Cerda-Harlow, Charles Korman, Mildred Marquez Escobar, Katherine Wardner, Tulin Babbitt

**4th grade:** Sara Jackson, Henry Abrams, Paul Metz, Theo Walker, Senelma Heinonen Smith

**2nd grade:** Malachi Mayfield, Alida Norton, Brendan Chen, Nathan Sadlier, Grace Krapohl, Jorge Patino, Matthew Benson, Jack Ammerman.

### African Art at Burns Park

There has been African Art up on the walls of the hallways and in the display cases throughout the school. It has been fun learning the various art forms and artists along with my students this year.

### 4th and 5th grades: doodle4google art contest

I am incorporating the Doodle4google art contest into my art classes for 4th and 5th grades. I was taken by the contest because:

- ◆ It seemed fun and accessible to kids
- ◆ It incorporates art education design principles
- ◆ It has awesome prizes!

Students are designing the Google logo incorporating the theme of "What if....?"

If you are interested in the details of the contest, check out the website: [doodle4google.com](http://doodle4google.com).

Deadline for submissions: March 28. We will be displaying the top 20 designs during the week of March 31-April 4 for voting by the whole school for the top six entries to be sent to Google.

Kate Higgins

### Need a summer babysitter/part-time nanny?

#### Information/Qualifications:

- ◆ Very responsible, with five/six years of experience babysitting
- ◆ Worked as a camp counselor at Clonlara School day camp
- ◆ Volunteered at Childcare Center four years ago (CDC)
- ◆ Salary negotiable or \$10/hour
- ◆ Attending U of M starting fall 2008, if a babysitter is needed during the school year

**Contact Me:** Amy Atzmon

Cell: (734)-709-3820 or Home: (734)-669-4477

Email: [aatzmon@umich.edu](mailto:aatzmon@umich.edu)

The logo for Anne Gilbert features the name "Anne" in a purple serif font above "Gilbert" in a larger purple serif font. To the left of "Gilbert" are three horizontal green wavy lines.

Associate Broker

734 657 7121

[AGilbert@Surovell.com](mailto:AGilbert@Surovell.com)

Burns Park real estate expert and parent. Neighborhood sales information at:

<http://www.AnneGilbert.com>

Edward Surovell Realtors  
1898 West Stadium Boulevard  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

## Pioneer Theater Guild Presents Willy Wonka

Featuring from Burns Park:

**Leo Alf, Jonathan Thomas, Milo Tucker-Meyer, and Patrick Wellman**

ANN ARBOR, MI – A brand new musical based on a most beloved novel and film is cruising down a chocolate river towards Ann Arbor--- and Pioneer Theatre Guild is honored and thrilled to have the opportunity to premiere the pilot of this wonderful show.

Willy Wonka, just adapted by Tim McDonald and Leslie Bricusse for the stage, will be performed by Pioneer High School Theater Guild at **7:30 pm on Sat. April 26 and Fri. May 2 at 7:30 PM**. There will also be matinee performances on **Sun. April 27, Sat. May 3, and Sun. May 4 at 2 PM**.

Based on the iconic novel "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," by Roald Dahl and featuring the music from the beloved 1971 movie by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley, this new musical will also introduce several new songs, in addition to the memorable "Candyman," "Pure Imagination," and "Golden Ticket."

All performances will be at Pioneer High School's Schreiber Auditorium.

The show opens with poor, but kind Charlie Bucket, and Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory, which has been closed for fifteen years. Wonka sends golden tickets by way of his chocolate bars to children

throughout the world. Young, good-natured Charlie wins one of five golden tickets hidden amongst thousands of Wonka chocolate bars. What have Charlie and the other four kids won? A tour through Willy Wonka's chocolate factory, led by the eccentric Wonka himself. The factory itself is like a fantasy world: crazy color schemes, wild inventions, secret rooms, busy elves, and lots and lots of delectable sweets. But Wonka has a hidden agenda, and during the tour he tests each child's character and honesty. When it is clear that Charlie is the most trustworthy, kind-hearted and dependable kid, Wonka awards him with a gift that is every child's dream.

General admission tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students/seniors/Pioneer faculty. Tickets will be available at MORGAN & YORK (1928 Packard Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104) beginning April 16. . Tickets also will be sold at the door starting one hour before the show.

For additional information, go to our website at [www.ptguild.org](http://www.ptguild.org) or contact the student board at [ptguild@gmail.com](mailto:ptguild@gmail.com). Madison Goforth, the Theater Guild president can be contacted at 734-846-4282 or our Producer/Co-Sponsor Susan Hurwitz at 734-395-0041.

## The Michigan Pops Orchestra Invites You To: Victors & Villains!

Sunday, April 6, 2008 at 7 p.m.

Michigan Theater (603 E. Liberty)

Ann Arbor Students: FREE AT THE DOOR!!

Advance Tickets Available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office or 763-TKTS

Adults: \$8, UM Students: \$5

Pops is a student-run, student-conducted orchestra at the University of Michigan. Our concerts are always full of great music, funny antics, and an a-maize-ing audience that it's time for you to be a part of! Come join us as we play:

- ◆ Theme from "Superman" and "Spiderman"
- ◆ "Defying Gravity" from Wicked
- ◆ Music from "Hercules"
- ◆ Theme from "007"
- ◆ "Night on Bald Mountain" by Mussorgsky
- ◆ Theme from "Spiderman"
- ◆ "Voodoo Violin Concerto" featuring composer and Michigan Alum Daniel Bernard Roumain

....And more great music that will take you on an adventure between the forces of good and evil!

Need more info? E-mail [michiganpops@umich.edu](mailto:michiganpops@umich.edu)

## Thanks a Million!

Many, many thanks to:

- ◆ Steve Swaney, Ed Vielmetti and all the parent volunteers for a fantastic Math & Science Night.
- ◆ Kim Mass and Patricia Silverman for organizing the Special Interest Fair.
- ◆ Miss Erdstein, Elizabeth DeRose, Deborah Fisch, the Friends of the Library and the Read-a-Thon committee for planning the many events of March is Reading month!
- ◆ Meg Wallace and Ellen Janke for organizing our Note Card Fundraiser.
- ◆ Stadium Market and Morgan & York for putting our "Read to Feed" collection jars on their counters. Please thank them with your patronage!

Helen Starman  
PTO President

### Classifieds:

Need a babysitter? I'm available for childcare during after school hours and/or weekends. I'm an Eastern Michigan graduate and have worked at Burns Park for the past two years as a Noon Hour Supervisor and currently, as a Teacher Aide. If interested or have further inquiries, I can be reached at 313-213-1020 and by email: [nicole\\_erlacher@hotmail.com](mailto:nicole_erlacher@hotmail.com). References available upon request. Nicole Erlacher

UM new grad seeks house-sitting opportunity. Non-smoking/drinking, clean and nice. Pieter ([boshoven@umich.edu](mailto:boshoven@umich.edu)) 734-709-3871.

Grand Haven Lake Michigan Cottage available for summer rental. \$2100/week. John 475-3241.

## Burns Park Press Submissions

This newsletter is published monthly by the Burns Park PTO. Contributions from teachers, staff, parents, and students are welcomed. Articles can be sent via email (preferred) or placed in the BP Press box in the office. Articles for the May 2008 issue are due no later than **Friday, April 18**. Late submissions may not be included. Any questions, comments or suggestions about the Press are welcome!

Anne Gilbert, 657-7121 or [AGilbert@Surovell.com](mailto:AGilbert@Surovell.com)

## Burns Park Press Advertising

**Display Ads:** We welcome ads for companies and services of interest to our Burns Park community. 1/8 page ads are \$35/ issue or 3 months for \$100. 1/4 pages ads are \$70/issue or 3 months for \$200.

**Classifieds:** Classifieds are to be used by the families of the Burns Park area to sell/buy personal items and/or services. Classifieds rates are \$.20/word.

**Electronic Submission, please!** Submit your ad to Anne Gilbert, BP Press Editor, [agilbert@surovell.com](mailto:agilbert@surovell.com).

**Payment:** Please place your check (made out to Burns Park PTO) in an envelope labeled "BP Press Ads, attn: Treasurer" in the PTO box in the school office. (They may also be mailed to the school at 1414 Wells, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.) Both the electronic ad copy and payment must be received by the published deadline for the issue in which the ad is placed.

**Questions?** Contact Anne at 657-7121 or [AGilbert@Surovell.com](mailto:AGilbert@Surovell.com).

## PTO Executive Board

### Principal

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[morhous@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:morhous@aaps.k12.mi.us)

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### Ann Arbor Public Schools Non-Discrimination

**Policy:** No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any educational program or activity available in any school on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, creed, political belief, age, national origin, linguistic and language differences, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, height, weight, marital status, or disability. The Ann Arbor Public School District will provide reasonable aids and accommodations to individuals who desire information regarding the education of District students.