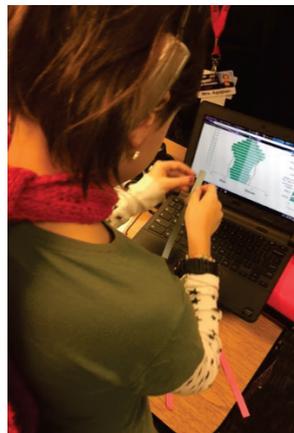


# PINCKNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Pinckney Community Schools places a high priority on providing stellar education, as demonstrated by our award-winning and nationally recognized programs. We are dedicated to providing a caring and supportive environment, tailored to the individual needs of all children, to help them master the knowledge and skills that will enable them to become successful adults.

—  
Take a look inside and see what we have to offer!



Leaders in  
Classroom  
Technology

—  
Nationally  
Recognized  
Programs

—  
Focus on  
Mastery Learning

—  
Outstanding Band  
& Orchestra  
Programs (5-12)

—  
Wide Variety  
of Athletic  
Opportunities for  
ALL Students



2130 EAST M-36 HWY  
PINCKNEY, MI 48169

(810) 225-3900  
FAX (810) 225-3905

PINCKNEYSCHOOLS.ORG



**POSITIVELY PINCKNEY!**  
Live • Learn • Play



# Pinckney Pride

DEDICATED STAFF

HELPING STUDENTS THRIVE

## In The Classroom

At Pinckney Community Schools we pride ourselves on our dedicated, passionate teachers and staff. For us, students always come first. Our smaller district allows teachers and staff to focus on getting to know your child and understanding how to best meet his or her needs. This powerful learning approach is difficult to achieve in larger districts.

### Outstanding Programs

Programs offered from Kindergarten through graduation help our students grow and succeed as active learners and productive citizens.

- Elementary grade configuration for optimized learning
- Technology taught K - 12
- Established one-to-one laptop program from 7<sup>th</sup> grade through high school
- Advanced Placement classes (10 -12)
- Focus on the arts
- Quality programming and support for special needs children
- Nationally recognized project-based learning at New Tech High School
- Nationally recognized robotics and automotive technology programs

- Cyber security program in partnership with Cisco Systems
- Manufacturing program with the latest computer numerically controlled (CNC) equipment
- Virtual Enterprise International Business Program
- Dual enrollment opportunities
- Partnership with University of Michigan – Flint

### Safe and Caring Environment

We are dedicated to providing your child with a safe and caring environment. Teachers and staff make a point of knowing the students in their classes and throughout the building. In addition, each school offers programs to enhance safety.

- Safety Day – fire departments, 911 operators and EMS come to our schools to teach about safety
- It Stops with Students – student-led substance abuse prevention activities
- School social workers in every building to support social-emotional needs that affect learning
- High expectations of students for character, citizenship and service



### Individualized Learning

Students receive individualized attention in our outstanding programs and learning environments. As a smaller district, we have the ability to focus on each child and offer what he or she needs in order to thrive in the classroom.



### Staff Development

Providing the most current information and educational opportunities to our teachers and staff on a weekly basis ensures that they are ready and able to help students perform to their highest potential.

# Early Childhood Programs

## Tuition-Based 3 & 4 Year Old Preschool Program

The Pinckney Community Education Preschool program follows the State of Michigan Standards of Quality for Early Childhood Education. We provide a warm, nurturing setting that encourages children to learn through developmentally appropriate hands-on learning experiences. Our structured and literacy-rich environments allow children to explore the world around them while they grow socially, emotionally, and academically.

Our students are exposed to many educational experiences with learning concepts in:

- Math
- Science
- Language
- Literacy
- Music
- Art

A Pinckney Schools preschool experience includes exploration with cooperative learning and playing with peers. Focused on kindergarten-readiness, our certified early childhood teachers consult with our kindergarten teachers in order to provide children with important kindergarten-readiness activities, especially those which are focused on pre-reading and early writing experiences.

Set within our district's elementary schools, our students are exposed to and become familiar with what our quality buildings have to offer. We believe in a strong correlation between parental involvement and student educational success and, therefore, welcome parental involvement in our State of Michigan licensed classrooms.



## KinderREADY Early Five-Year-Old Program

Pinckney Community Schools is offering a KinderREADY program at Farley Hill and Country Elementary Schools that runs five full days per week during the school year. This is a program specially designed for young school age children (turning age five by September 1, 2017) who are needing a little more time before starting kindergarten. It is normal for all children to develop at their own rate socially, emotionally and intellectually. KinderREADY provides more readiness activities for reading, writing, and mathematics. It also focuses on getting students acclimated to a school environment and used to following directions and sharing with other children. Students are screened individually to determine if KinderREADY is the right fit for the child.

## Head Start Early Childhood Program

Our Head Start Program is a tuition-free, federally funded early childhood program that provides:

- Comprehensive early childhood education
- Healthy nutrition
- Parent involvement services to low-income children and their families

The program's services and resources are designed to foster stable family relationships, enhance children's physical and emotional well-being and establish an environment to develop strong cognitive skills.

## Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a tuition-free, state funded preschool program for qualifying four-year-old children. The Great Start Readiness Preschool Program is designed to promote the development of the whole child. This is accomplished by providing a program that includes:

- Both teacher-directed and child-initiated activities
- Quiet as well as active experiences
- Learning through play and exploration in both formal and informal settings
- Curriculum that emphasizes physical, social-emotional, and cognitive development

The Great Start Readiness Program uses the Michigan Early Learning Standards, The Creative Curriculum and the Department of Human Services licensing requirements.

## Call today for more information. Tuition-Based Preschool

(810) 225-3950

**Head Start & Great Start Readiness**  
(517) 548 – 2100

**KinderReady**  
**Farley Hill Elementary**

(810) 225-6400

**Country Elementary**  
(810) 225-6600

# Elementary Education (K-3)

Elementary schools configured to teach Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade provide an optimal learning environment. Our focus on mastery learning allows children to thoroughly grasp the material being taught before moving on. This helps students become confident and eager learners.

## Our Elementary Schools

- Preschool
- KinderReady (early fives)
- Traditionally low class sizes
- Veteran staff with little or no teacher turnover
- Dedicated parents and active PTO
- Fully implemented multi-tiered systems of support in Literacy and Math
- After school Math & Reading clubs
- Michigan Department of Education recognized Title I programs
- SMILE (Students and Mentors in a Learning Environment)
- Upgraded technology and facilities supported by recent district-wide school bond
- Physical education
- Art classes
- Music



## Making It Fun

We provide many fun activities to help our students learn and engage outside of the classroom, such as:

- Conservation Club
- R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs therapy dog reading program)
- Field Day
- Student Run/Walk Program
- Family Craft Night
- Pastries with Parents
- Fall Festival
- Girls On The Run
- Food Drives

## MASTERY LEARNING

Mastery learning is both a philosophy and set of beliefs about teaching and learning, and establishes a method of assessment and instruction.

Favorable learning conditions, where the best instructional match is made for each child, allow virtually all students to access and succeed in learning content at a higher level of application.



A special Friendship Bench on the playground gives children a chance to make new friends.

# Providing for Special Needs

Pinckney Community Schools continuously strives to meet the learning needs of all students, including academic, social and behavioral. When it is suspected that a student may have a disability, school personnel work with parents to determine eligibility and provide services to support the child's learning and engagement in the school environment.

At PCS, we abide by the philosophy that special education is not a place but a service that identifies and meets the needs of students with disabilities through specialized instruction. We are consistent in our adherence to the Federal IDEIA laws as well as the State of Michigan laws.

The district provides Peer-to-Peer (LINKS) in all buildings. This evidence-based support program teaches students how to work and build friendships with students who have disabilities.

A "Friendship Bench" at one of our elementary buildings is the result of a peer-to-peer relationship. This bench is a special place where students can sit when they are in need of a friend. In another building, the LINKS group worked to educate students about the importance of treating all of their peers with kindness and respect.

Our inclusion rate is over 80% (time in general education classrooms) and students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in all school activities.

# Navigator Upper Elementary (4 - 6)

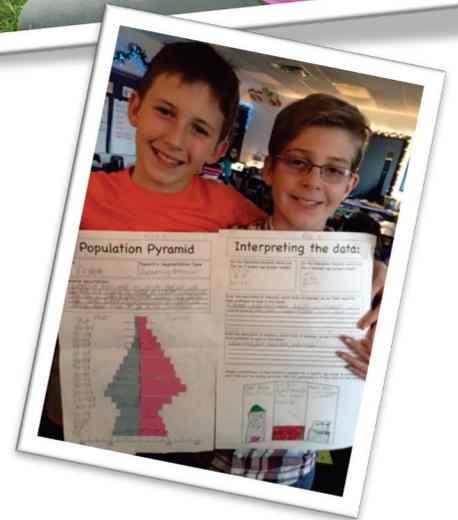
Navigator Upper Elementary School offers education to Pinckney's 4th – 6th grade students. Our staff works hard to create an environment that encourages independence while offering the warmth and support students still need at this level. Staff members work collaboratively on behalf of all students to provide an excellent upper elementary school experience.



## Fostering Growth

Our programs are designed to foster growth and independence.

- Advanced Math for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - After school clubs
  - Award-winning Band and Orchestra programs
  - BAAM - Be safe, Appreciations, Attentive listening, Mutual respect (positive behavior support program)
  - Bully-proofing programs
  - Catch-Up Café
  - Community service opportunities
  - Data-driven instructional programs
  - Fifth grade camp
- Flex-time differentiation
  - Instructional Consultation Team
  - Parent and student transition programs
  - Recreation time
  - Strong PTO support and involvement
  - Student-created announcements
  - Technology integration
  - Physical education
  - Art classes



# Pathfinder (7-8)

*Developing respectful, lifelong learners today for successful, independent thinkers tomorrow.*

Pathfinder School is committed to providing a high quality education to all 7th and 8th grade students. Our highly educated staff presents materials in classrooms equipped with interactive whiteboards, digital cameras and wireless access. We have a complete soccer and track stadium, multiple baseball/softball fields, tennis courts, a pool, two gymnasiums and a professional theatre.

We offer many opportunities for students to learn and grow. Beyond our rigorous, relevant and state-aligned core academics, we offer the following:

- Only middle-school in Livingston County with one-to-one laptop program
- Spanish I
- Reading and math interventions
- Supports provided via systematic programs to address students' social and emotional well-being
- Physical education
- Drama, band, orchestra, choir and guitar
- Choose to Lead class
- Classes such as woodworking, food and nutrition, family living, forensic science, nature and natural disasters, creative writing, art, digital media, architectural design and robotics
- Middle school football (South Eastern Conference)
- Clubs such as yearbook, Tasch Techies (theater lights and sound), Back Alley Players (theater group), Cyber Security
- After school homework support
- Student-run school store
- Peer-to-peer program to assist students with special needs
- 7th grade elective exploration
- Southeast Michigan Middle Levels Administrative Association which sponsors a spelling bee, quiz bowl, leadership day, and 8th grade honors night
- Annual events such as Veteran's Day visit, 8th grade trip to Washington, DC, 7th grade field trip to Meadowbrook, 8th grade portfolio project, talent show and multiple service learning projects



## PROGRAM ESSENTIALS



### Teacher Collaboration

The teachers of Pirate Academy have common prep times and weekly team meetings to ensure that expectations are consistent. This level of teamwork and communication is at the heart of Pirate Academy and helping students succeed.



### Building Blocks To Success

During their freshman year PCHS students create a pathway to success by starting out with a good foundation. This foundation includes technological literacy, a solid curriculum, project-based learning, 21st century skills, executive functioning skills and character education. Once these building blocks are in place students will be able to better choose their pathway, be it New Tech High, career technical education, performing arts, visual arts or general academics.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PIRATE

**P**roblem-Solver

**I**ntegrity

**R**esponsible

**A**chiever

**T**echnologically Literate

**E**mpathetic



## Pirate Academy (Freshman Year)

Pirate Academy is a blend of two different nationally recognized programs – Freshman Academy and New Tech High. This program is a foundation for students entering the high school, helping them to build positive relationships, grow critical skills, and develop into well-rounded students. We provide the best of both programs so our students have the opportunity to become full-fledged P.I.R.A.T.E.s - students who are Problem solvers, who have Integrity, who are Responsible, who are Achievers, who are Technologically Literate and Empathetic.

### A Strong Culture

As students transition to high school it is critical to build a strong foundation in their first year that will support them through graduation. The key to developing this support is building relationships between teachers and students.

Our teachers accomplish this by creating classrooms that are safe, comfortable, and challenge students to do their best. Teachers also build bonds with students by simply being present. Every morning PCHS teachers and staff are in the halls greeting students, learning their names, asking how they are doing and getting to know them. This helps build trust and a great learning environment.

### Building The Culture

#### Character Education

- Teaching the assets students need to be successful
- Open forum for discussing real situations that the students go through

#### Service Learning

- Being a part of something bigger than yourself
- Knowing your actions make a difference – “Be the Change!”

#### Link Crew

- Support from upperclassmen (academic and social)
- Great place to ask the questions that freshmen are sometimes afraid to ask

### Curriculum

Freshmen will have four hours within Pirate Academy. The remaining hours are filled by electives such as language, band or orchestra, physical education or one of many other courses PCHS offers. Honors classes are also available to Pirate Academy students.

This team model and structure promote integration among subjects, teachers and programs.

#### Pirate Academy Courses

- Language Skills 9A and 9B
- U.S. History and Geography I and II
- Earth Science
- IT Systems / Digital Multi-Media

### College & Career Readiness

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Communication and Collaboration
- ICT (Information, Communication, and Technology) Literacy
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-Direction

#### Agency and Executive Functioning Skills

- Time Management
- Organizational Skills
- Self-Advocacy
- Reflection



## Robotics Program

Our program offers students a real world, hands-on engineering experience. The lab utilizes state-of-the-art industrial automation equipment to provide advanced mechatronics training. Students earn articulated college credit and nationally recognized certifications, and exit the program prepared for post-secondary success.

## Automotive Technology Program

Our autos class provides college and career preparation in the automotive field. Students learn every part of the automobile through this comprehensive program.

## Cyber Security & Computer Networking

The Computer Networking and Cyber Security course is a Career & Technical Education program (CTE) through Pinckney High School and Livingston Applied Technology Education Consortium (LATEC). CTE, which stands for Career & Technical Education is a national program that allows schools to provide training to high schools students in professional career pathways. Cyber Security is one of the fastest growing job fields in the world. By 2020, there will be 1.2 million global cyber security jobs with no one to fill them (based on our current supply of trained workers). At the heart of cyber security is computer networking. Other areas that connect to the world of networking and security including: programming, data analytics, and innovative technologies. Students will be exposed to all of these areas through this program, however, the core content will focus on computer networking and cyber security.

## Early Middle College

The Livingston County Early Middle College is a unique opportunity for students to earn college credits, an associate's degree, industry credentials or technical certificates while in high school.

Students will begin blending their high school work with Career and Technical Education programs and college level coursework in 11th grade, adding additional college courses in 12th grade and complete a full schedule of college coursework in a 13th year.

Students in Livingston County can access an Early Middle College program in Machine Tool Technology or Welding through Pinckney Community High School. Both programs are supported by Mott Community College, the M-Tech Center and local businesses.



# Pinckney Community High School (10 - 12)

PCHS has earned state and national recognition for many programs:

- Robotics
- Cyber-Security Training
- Automotive Technology
- Cisco Academy
- Computer-Aided Manufacturing Technology
- Freshman Academy
- New Tech High School
- Performing Arts and more

## Honors & Advanced Placement

PCHS offers over 15 Advanced Placement & Honors courses that cover many subjects:

- Computer Science
- English Arts 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- English Literature & Composition
- English Language & Composition
- Calculus
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology
- Environmental Science
- Economics
- Psychology
- U.S. History
- U.S. Government & Politics
- Spanish V

## Dual Enrollment

Pinckney Community High School offers students the opportunity to earn college credits through dual enrollment at local universities and community college.

## Involved Students

- **Key Club**  
An international student-led organization that provides service to our school and community. Student's grades 9 -12 are welcome to join the bi-weekly after school meetings. Past

projects include school wide food drives, sock for MOTT's Children's Hospital and many more. Members also volunteer at the Howell Nature Center and in elementary school activities.

- **National Honor Society**  
Membership is based not only upon a G.P.A. of 3.4 or higher but also a student's demonstrated leadership, character and community service.
- **Link Crew**  
Made up of juniors and seniors who help freshmen transition to high school.
- **Positive Peer Influence**  
Team of students who are known as peer group leaders and are chosen after an extensive interview process. These students are peer mediators, trained to assist students in working through conflicts.
- **Student Government**  
Advocates for the PCHS student body and act as a liaison between students and administration, faculty, and the community. It also facilitates communication between student organizations and the student body. Student Government offers opportunities for leadership development, involvement and personal growth.
- **Camp Skyline**  
An intensive weekend for students to learn communication skills and gain experience in reaching out to others. Students are taught creative and healthy ways to have fun and feel good, and to support others. The goal is for students to learn about leadership in their own environment so they can return to PCHS and make a positive impact. After attending, many students have stated, "This was the best weekend of my life!"

## PROVEN EFFECTIVE

New Tech schools prioritize a culture that empowers, teaching that engages, technology that enables, and outcomes that matter.

- New Tech Students attain a 92% graduation rate, 9 percentage points higher than the national average of 83%
- New Tech Students grow 52% more Critical Thinking skills than national comparison groups over the last 3 years, as measured by the College and Work Readiness Assessment
- New Tech Students persist in college at a rate of 82%, 4 percentage points higher than the national average of 78%



## CONTACT US:

Julia McBride  
Director of High School Instruction &  
New Tech High  
jmcbride@pinckneypirates.org  
(810) 225-5516  
Follow us!  
Twitter: [/PinckneyNewTech](#)  
Facebook: [/PinckneyNewTech](#)

# Internships

Since 2012, New Tech students have completed a 40-hour internship with Lowry Solutions (formerly Lowry Computer Products) of Brighton, MI. In addition to internships, several students have been selected for paid positions at Lowry.

***“Today’s high school students are the future of our society. Our partnership with [Pinckney] New Tech is far more than we had imagined when it started. The students are bright and energetic, allowing for our organization to learn just as much from them as they learn from us. We look forward to a longstanding partnership with this outstanding education program.”***  
- Mike Lowry CEO of Lowry Solutions



# New Tech High School (10 - 12)

## A National Network

Pinckney New Tech High (PNTH) is a member of the New Tech Network (NTN), a national network of nearly 200 elementary, middle and high schools that adhere to a proven school model based on four design pillars: Culture that Empowers, Teaching that Engages, Technology that Enables, and Outcomes that Matter.

## Vision for Student Success

New Tech schools hold a shared vision for student success - college and career readiness for all students. At New Tech, this means that every New Tech graduate will leave aware, eligible, and prepared to pursue and persist in post-secondary education, training, and careers.

## 21st Century Skills

Research indicates that the top skills employers are looking for today are critical thinking and problem solving, effective oral and written communication, organizational skills, and the ability to collaborate with others. At PNTH, those skills, along with technological fluency, are integrated into all of our project-based units.

Students at PNTH give an average of 15-20 presentations each school year. They regularly collaborate on group projects which require them to analyze, research, and solve complex real-world problems. They practice reading and writing how those "in the field" do, measured based on national rubrics created by New Tech Network in collaboration with Stanford University. The public speaking, discipline-specific writing, and problem solving skills that PNTH students develop prepare them for the colleges and careers of their future.

## Student Voice & Advisory

New Tech schools pride themselves on a school culture that empowers and engages students, connecting them to one another and our community. PNTH students have the opportunity to drive the approach to the PNTH Advisory Program, while continuously informing improvements to the school.

Every other week, PNTH students gather to continually tend to a small learning community culture of trust, respect, and responsibility. Led by Student Voice, Advisory is a place for students to connect with one another within and across grades, and to engage in activities that bridge them with the community and their future.

## Project-Based Learning

Project-Based Learning is the core teaching and learning methodology at PNTH. Rather than the traditional project at the end of a unit, at New Tech, an authentic project or problem is what drives the learning. As students work together to complete a project, they learn the standards-aligned content and 21st Century skills they will need to apply in the project, on college entrance exams, and in life beyond high school.

## An Esteemed Team

Most of the 2017-18 PNTH staff was a part of the original team who launched the program in 2010. This team has earned multiple distinctions ranging from New Tech Certified Teachers & Trainers to school-wide recognition as a New Tech National Demonstration Site multiple years in a row. New PNTH Director, Julia McBride, comes from the national New Tech Network and previously supported this team as its NTN School Development Coach from 2010-2016.

# Go Pirates!

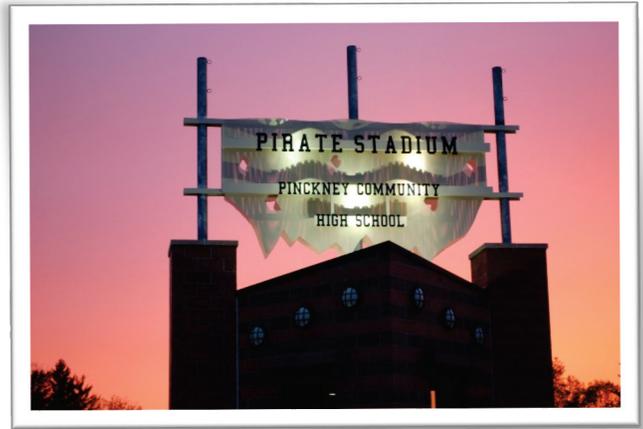
Pinckney High School Athletics are a proud member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and the Southeastern Conference. The SEC hosts 13 schools from Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties; there are two divisions within the SEC (Red and White) based on both enrollment and geography. PCHS is part of the White Division along with Adrian, Chelsea, Dexter, Lincoln, Tecumseh and Ypsilanti High Schools.

Our Athletic Department facilitates over 875 contests, competing with 65 teams, led by more than 110 coaches and volunteers. Since opening the new high school in 1999, Pinckney has added over 100 All-State Athletes to the *Athletic Hall of Fame*, inclusive of 10 individual and three team State championships.

The academic and value structure of athletics creates a strong leadership environment for our student athletes.

## Pirate Athletics

- Archery
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bass Fishing
- Bowling
- Cheerleading
- Competitive Cheer
- Cross Country
- Equestrian
- Field Hockey
- Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Ice Hockey
- Ice skating
- Lacrosse
- Poms/Poms
- Skiing
- Snowboarder Cross
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swim/Dive
- Tennis
- Track/Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling



## Focus on the Arts

### Music • Drama • Art

Pinckney Community Schools places a strong emphasis on the performing and visual arts. Art classes are offered kindergarten through high school.

Band and orchestra begin in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and carry on into high school with marching band, concert band, concert orchestra and chamber orchestra. In addition to band and orchestra, the high school also offers choir and varsity choir.

Students at Navigator and Pathfinder interested in performing arts can participate in the student-run Back Alley Players, an International Thespian Society Junior Theatre Troupe, Tasch Techies, where students learn to operate the light and sound booth, and Garage Band.

Once at the high school, theater students can join Act2, our internationally recognized student-led Thespian Society.

- The only established 5 – 12 orchestra program offered in Livingston County public schools
- Consistent Division 1 ratings at the District & State Levels of MSBOA
- Chamber Orchestra Best Overall Music Ensemble at Dixie Classics Festival 2011
- Side-by-Side concert with Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
- Marching Band Camp (required) at Grass Lake where students learn new music and drills for the following season
- Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble that consistently earn admirable ratings at the MSBOA





## Recreation

Pinckney is surrounded by many beautiful, wooded trails that are enjoyed year-round for activities from bike riding to cross-country skiing.



*Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

## Entertainment

Since 1991, the community theater group, Pinckney Players, has been entertaining audiences with plays and musicals performed in Jane Tasch Theater.



## Community

Our community hosts many events that bring families together to enjoy the downtown area in a festive atmosphere. Residents enjoy parades, an art festival, holiday celebrations and much more.

# Our Community

Pinckney / Hamburg and their surrounding areas offer much more than a great education. Countless recreational activities, cultural offerings and local events are all part of what makes ours a great community.

Beautiful lakes, state parks and wooded trails help residents experience that "up north" feeling without leaving home!

## Recreation

If you and your family love the outdoors and being active, the greater Pinckney area is perfect for you. Boating, swimming and fishing on our many lakes, biking, hiking and horseback riding on over 40 miles of recreational trails, and golfing our premier courses are just some of the ways your family can enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds us.

Enrichment activities are offered through Pinckney Community Education for both children and adults. Courses include everything from arts to sports and wellness.

## Arts & Entertainment

Pinckney is home to many theater groups including Pinckney Players, Act2 and a local dinner theater. In addition to great theater in our community, there are many local venues to enjoy live music.

## Restaurants

The Livingston County area is host to a variety of restaurants. Whether you are looking to enjoy homemade Italian cuisine, grab a burger, some Chinese or fresh tacos, enjoy traditional diner fare, or cool off with ice cream in downtown Hell, you won't have to travel far.

## Libraries

Our community is proud to offer residents two public libraries. The Hamburg Township Library and the Pinckney Community Library offer programs for children and adults including book clubs, movie viewings and more.

Computers are available for children and adult use at both libraries. There are also meeting rooms available by reservation.

## Events

With its open space, playground and seasonal ice rink, the Township Square in downtown Pinckney is a wonderful place for neighbors to gather, for children to play and for residents to enjoy community events.

Events held throughout the year include:

- Art in the Park
- Pinckney Spooktacular
- Light Up The Square Holiday Celebration
- Movies in the Park
- Hootin' in the Park
- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Memorial Day Parade

Hamburg Township is host to an annual Family Fun Fest offering a week of amusement rides, entertainment, fireworks and 4-H events.

## Community

Of the many wonderful features our schools and community have to offer, a sense of belonging is perhaps the best one. Life in a close-knit community provides ample opportunity to get involved, to know your neighbors and raise your children in an environment that values family and supports youth.