

Lathers Elementary and Kindergarten Center
28351 Marquette Street, Garden City, MI 48135 (734) 762-8490

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are the Lathers **Kindergarten Connections** Social Workers!

My name is Danica Grceski (left) and I am the full-time School Social Worker that will be working with eligible students at Lathers. I have practiced as a social worker in many settings for over 8 years now, and have been a school social worker for the past 3 years. I am looking forward to working with students and families again this year! I possess a Masters degree in Clinical Social Work, with specialty certifications in both School Social Work and Family and Marriage Therapy. As we all know, there are many factors that can affect our children's day-to-day lives, which in turn can have a negative impact on their ability to learn and be successful in the classroom. My goal is to work with the students, teachers, and parents in order to bridge the gap between your child's school and home life, so that I may assist those students who are struggling academically in the classroom due to social-emotional difficulties, family/home situations, and crisis situations.



My name is Abbey Larkin (right) and I am the part-time School Social Worker who will be working with students, teachers and families this year at Lathers. I have worked as a social worker with the elementary students of Garden City Schools for the past three years and look forward to getting to know many new students this year. I graduated from Wayne State University and Madonna University with both a Masters and a Bachelors in Social Work. In my spare time I enjoy reading, cooking and spending time with my family.

We look forward to working with you and your children during the 2014-2015 school year!

Respectfully,

Danica Grceski, LLMSW
and
Abbey Larkin, LLMSW

WHY **do today's schools need School Social Workers?**

Children today are increasingly impacted by many social factors that may negatively affect their role as students. The family is in a state of change and until it becomes stabilized, in whatever form, children's unmet physical and emotional needs will continue interfere with their ability to learn and adjust in school.

WHO **are School Social Workers?**

School Social Workers are trained mental health professionals with a degree in social work that provide services related the student's social, emotional, and life adjustment to school, family, and/or society. School Social Workers are the link between the home, school and community in providing direct as well as indirect services to students, families, and school personnel to promote and support students' academic and social success.

