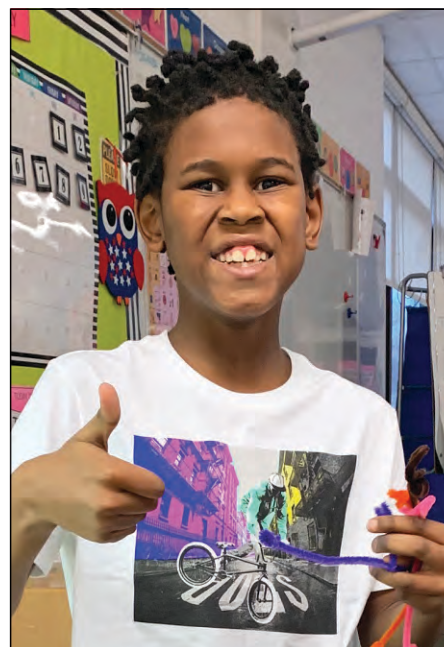


Make
Macomb Schools
your home





The Macomb Intermediate School District ensures all students receive what they need to receive a high-quality education.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF
MACOMB INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Macomb Intermediate School District provides students of all ages and abilities with a quality education.



Early On Macomb is a family-centered program where an individualized family service plan is created for participants.



Macomb Intermediate School District enhances educational opportunities for all students.



The Macomb Intermediate School District provides transportation for students attending MISD center program schools and coordinates transportation for other center programs.



The MISD offers a variety of programs that can give children a good start to their academic experience.

MISD

MISD provides free early childhood development evaluations, support for Macomb County families

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

During no other time in life do we see the brain expand as rapidly as it does between birth and age three. Countless neural connections are made throughout these critical years, leading to rapid physical, cognitive and socio-emotional advancements that lay the groundwork for healthy development and a lifelong love of learning.

So, while early childhood learning might look like just fun and games, there's important growth and development happening behind the scenes through play.

Physical skills and language gains develop rapidly during the baby and toddler years, so these are often the first areas parents closely observe to make sure their child is achieving milestones on an appropriate timeline. Parents who are uneasy or have questions about their child's progress don't have to wait until he/she is ready for preschool. The Macomb Intermediate School District's Early On Macomb program provides free evaluations for Macomb County families that are worried about their child's growth and development in these areas:

- Physical — reaching, rolling, crawling and walking
- Cognitive — thinking, learning and solving problems
- Communication — talking, listening, understanding and gesturing
- Social-emotional — feeling secure, calming and playing with others
- Self-help — eating and dressing

Many children are referred by their pediatrician. Others come to the MISD via the MISD's community partners like the Macomb County Health Department and Macomb County Community Mental Health. However, referrals are not necessary to inquire about services. If parents are concerned about their child's development,

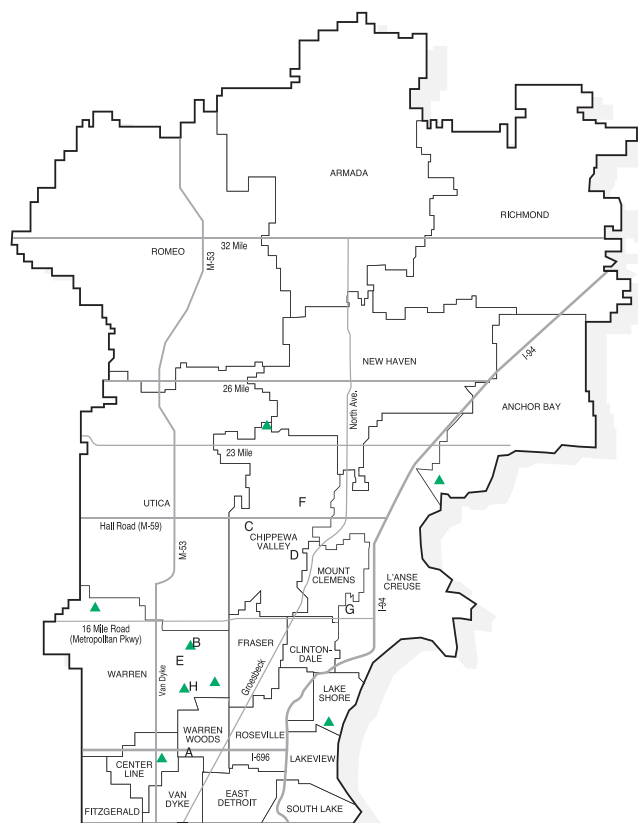
notice that their child isn't talking by age 2 or just have general questions about their child's development, they are welcome to call the MISD at 586-228-3321 and schedule an evaluation or complete a referral online at 1800earlyon.org.

"Early On Macomb recognizes the significant brain development that occurs during a child's first three years of life," said MISD Director of Preschool and Assessment Center Services Jennifer Shelton, and emphasizes early identification and referral to minimize po-

tential developmental delays and enhance learning strategies for infants and toddlers with health conditions or permanent disabilities.

"Our focus is to support parents in helping their child learn and participate in the things they do and the places they go. Parents are provided guidance and support on how to use everyday activities to promote learning so that their child is receiving the best quality intervention," she said.

Additional consultations are available for a wide number of sus-



Macomb Intermediate School District

- A. Keith Bovenschen School
- B. John A. Bozymowski Center for Education
- C. Educational Service Center
- D. Robert G. Lutz School for Work Experience
- E. Maple Lane Elementary School
- F. Glen H. Peters School
- G. Neil E. Reid High School
- H. Rockwell Middle School
- ▲ Sites with Autistic Impaired Programs



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Early On Macomb, call 586-228-3321 or 800-EarlyOn. Parents can also complete an online referral at miearlychildhood.org.

For more information

To learn more about the Macomb Intermediate School District, visit misd.net or call 586-228-3300. Among its Center Schools and services are:

- Autism Program, 586-698-4014
- Keith Bovenschen School, 586-757-7880
- Lutz School for Work Experience, 586-286-0230
- Maple Lane School, 586-977-9170
- Neil Reid High School, 586-469-1590
- Glen H. Peters School, 586-465-6251
- Rockwell Middle School, 586-939-2290

pected or confirmed conditions, including autism, emotional impairments, deaf and hard of hearing and speech and language impairments.

According to MISD Assistant Supt. for Special Education & Student Services Justin Michalak, depending on children's individual needs, they may qualify for services such as home visits, day care visits, playgroups, community events, family training, and/or specialized instruction from professionals if their evaluation identifies an established medical condition or a developmental delay.

After working with Early On Macomb staff, parents and caregivers of eligible children are given an Individualized Family

Service Plan. This document outlines a family's needs and priorities. Since children develop rapidly at this age, the IFSP is revisited every six months and adjusted as necessary to meet current needs and changing priorities.

Early childhood intervention is crucial to future learning. Teachers, occupational therapists, physical therapists and speech pathologists can work to meet children's needs before they start attending preschool or kindergarten. Its programs also offer valuable instruction for parents, providing them with learning tools they can work on with their child at home and connecting them to other families and community resources for support.

"Parents are their child's best teacher," said Shelton.

In addition to Early On Macomb, MISD provides leadership in all areas impacting education. It operates specialized school centers that deliver services to special education students with moderate to severe disabilities and offers instructional support to educators, assisting with curriculum development and other leadership areas.

"We provide current information on regulations, procedures and policies for Macomb County school districts, public academies and MISD schools that operate special education programs," said Michalak. "We work collaboratively to ensure the needs of students with disabilities are being appropriately met so they can thrive."

The MISD's special education services address the needs of children from birth to age 26 with physical, developmental or emotional disabilities who may require additional attention, support materials, hands-on care or specialized equipment to learn and grow.

If needed, special education students can also receive special education support services like occupational therapy, physical therapy, visually impaired services and orientation and mobility.

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(offers a year of exploration
to select a pathway)

The Academy of Business,
Entrepreneurship &
Innovation (BEI)

The Academy of Design,
Engineering &
Manufacturing (DEM)

The Academy of Health,
Human & Public Service
(HHP)



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(including Schools of Choice)

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or go to romeok12.org/enrollment



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ROMEO

Romeo Community Schools updates classrooms, facilities to support innovative learning approach

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

For nearly a decade, leaders at Romeo Community Schools have been strategically reimagining how they meet the needs of today's learners, providing programs that bring learning alive, creating strong community partnerships and preparing students for life after graduation.

This transformation began with the new Romeo High School, designed and constructed to support the implementation of The Academies at Romeo High School.

The first officially designated Ford Next Generation Learning community in Michigan, The Academies at RHS offer students meaningful, career-focused education within three academies: Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Design, Engineering and Manufacturing; and Health, Human and Public Service. Students choose from 15 career pathways that align with their goals and personal interests. From 10th-12th grades, they study core curriculum concepts through the lens of their chosen pathway and receive hands-on technical education experience.

Students become immersed in career paths, giving them a head start on college or career goals. In many pathways, students are able to job shadow community members, earn career-specific certifications and secure internships.

This past year, the district furthered its partnership with Ford NGL to become the first officially designated Ford NGL middle school in the state. The mission of the Academies at Romeo Middle School is to create small learning communities where each student has an advocate, can explore their interests, engage with the community and be empowered to make a change.

"Romeo Middle School leaders imagined a new way to support our middle school students," said Communications & Market-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROMEO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Students in the medical pathway in the HHP Academy learn a host of life-saving techniques.

ing Supervisor Mary Anne Brush. "What would happen if our students were given experiences to learn about nonprofits and community organizations, volunteer with these organizations and be a part of making a change in our local community? Realizing this vision began with the school's inaugural Nonprofit Exploration Fair in February."

While in its first year the non-profit fair was open to all middle school students, next year it will be the guaranteed experience for sixth graders.

"In the sixth grade, we want to pique their interest and in seventh grade, have our students engage with community partners," Brush explained. "By the eighth grade, students will have a change-maker challenge to complete."

To create this smaller learning environment, students are placed in grade-level academies where they can create a community within a community with their teachers and peers. Teachers work collaboratively to develop initiatives within the team based on the needs of current students. The sixth graders are in The Ex-



Romeo High School students in the entrepreneurship pathway in the BEI Academy operate a school store.

plore Academy, seventh graders in The Engage Academy and eighth graders in the Empower Academy. The names of the academies represent the growth and progression the students experience through their three-year journey.

As word spreads about the innovative transformation happening at Romeo Community Schools, interest grows. In March, the district welcomed Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and State Supt. Michael Rice to campus. Whitmer, inter-



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Romeo Community Schools, visit romeok12.org or call 586-752-0200. Romeo Community Schools includes:

- Croswell Early Childhood Center, 175 Croswell St., Romeo
- Amanda Moore Elementary School, 209 Dickenson St., Romeo
- Hamilton-Parsons Elementary School, 69875 Dequindre Road, Leonard
- Hevel Elementary School, 12700 E. 29 Mile Road, Washington
- Indian Hills Elementary School, 8401 W. 29 Mile Road, Washington
- Washington Elementary School, 58230 Van Dyke Road, Washington
- Romeo Middle School, 11091 W. 32 Mile Road, Romeo
- 9th Grade Academy, 62100 Jewell Road, Washington
- Romeo High School, 62300 Jewell Road, Washington
- Romeo Virtual Academy, 62100 Jewell Road, Washington

ested in encouraging young people to establish their careers here to boost Michigan's talent base, toured Romeo's facilities, learned about the Academies and spoke with students.

Brush said the governor was

very impressed by the district's career-focused approach. She even sat down with students in the media production pathway for an interview.

"It was quite an experience for our students," she said.

Just a short time earlier, Romeo school officials hosted a consortium of educators from Scotland and shared information about the district's middle and high school academies. The visitors were interested in the community connected approach Romeo took in its planning process, particularly the focus on culture at the middle school level. For example, middle school teachers have embraced the school's new character curriculum Capturing Kids Hearts, which strengthens connectedness and helps build a relationship-driven environment.

In the upcoming 2025-26 school year, administrators and teachers at the elementary level will help the district realize a fully aligned K-12 Ford NGL experience. A team of stakeholders will begin this process by developing a Profile of an Elementary Scholar, helping those who work with elementary aged students understand K-5 outcomes and how these prepare young learners for middle school.

In addition, students will have the opportunity to learn about how their studies interact with the real world through a series of signature experiences. Each of these experiences is aligned with an academy and pathway. For example, the Layin' Down the Law program, aligned with the law and public safety pathway in the HHP Academy, allows fifth graders to meet with a local judge and school resource officer to learn about the real challenges and risks they may encounter in the coming years, and our Little Inventors initiative, aligned with the engineering pathway in the DEM Academy, challenges fourth graders to create an invention that can help the world.



WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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It is the policy of the Warren Woods Public Schools no person shall on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender/sex, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or employment.

WARREN WOODS

Warren Woods Public Schools: A district built on heart and hard work

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

If there's one thing that Warren Woods Public Schools Supt. Stacey Denewith-Fici wants families to know, it's this: Warren Woods isn't just where students go to school, it's where they grow into who they're meant to be.

"What our staff does every day, often without fanfare, is the foundation of what makes Warren Woods so special. They show up with patience, grit and selflessness through every high and low. They build relationships, solve problems, offer second chances and create reliable spaces where students feel valued and supported. That is the real work of what we are here to do, and the staff at Warren Woods does it with generosity and grace," she said.

Much hard work happens in classrooms daily. The district has had incredible success with Kagan Cooperative Learning Strategies. Kagan structures provide an effective framework for promoting student engagement and interaction in the classroom. This creates a collaborative learning environment that has proven to be much more effective than lectures, worksheets or independent study.

"We believe that all decisions should be made based on what is best for students because they are who we are here to serve," said Denewith-Fici. "Our biggest strength is our ability to evolve while holding tight to our core values."

In addition to its solid curriculum, Warren Woods offers an award-winning fine arts program and its Career and Technical Education programs that connect students with career mentors and certifications continues to expand.

She described Warren Woods as a community-oriented dis-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Award-winning fine arts programs are available for Warren Woods Public Schools students in grades K-12.



Warren Woods students have opportunities to work on reading at their own individualized pace..

trict where every student has at least one adult in the building with whom they have a connection with and on whom they can count. Building relationships is crucial to student learning because it fosters a sense of belonging and trust. When children feel valued and cared for, they are free to focus on the lessons of the day, contribute to classroom conversations and be more engaged in the learning process. The district's high college acceptance rates demonstrate that students value education and are thriving at Warren Woods.

All of the district's successes wouldn't be possible without the

support of students, families, staff and the greater community that shows up at the polls, in the bleachers and through partnerships with local businesses and service organizations. This translates into tangible resources and real-world learning experiences for students.

Thanks to support of the 2020 bond issue, many facility investments have been made to help facilitate learning, make spaces safer and improve energy efficiency.

The superintendent said one of the most exciting projects is the solar array installed on the roof of Warren Woods Tower High



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Warren Woods Public Schools, visit mywwps.org or call 586-439-4401. Warren Woods Public Schools include:

- Warren Woods Early Childhood Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren
- Briarwood Elementary School, 14100 Leisure St., Warren
- Pinewood Elementary School, 14411 Bade Drive, Warren
- Westwood Elementary School, 11999 Martin Road, Warren
- Warren Woods Middle School, 13400 East 12 Mile Road, Warren
- Enterprise High School, 28600 Suburban St., Warren
- Warren Woods-Tower High School, 27900 Bunert Road, Warren

School. This system not only reduces energy costs, but also gives students the chance to engage in real-world research on renewable energy.

Students and families will notice several updates when they return in the fall. They will be greeted with a new parking lot and secure door hardware at Warren Woods-Tower High School. Energy-efficient HVAC units were installed in several buildings, along with new flooring at Briarwood, Pinewood and West-

wood elementary schools.

Denewith-Fici said district staff members have dedicated their life's work to Warren Woods and its students, their families and the entire community. Many spend their entire careers with the district. At this year's Retirement Tea, the district celebrated seven retirees who had spent an average of 27 years in Warren Woods.

"We're excited to welcome a few new staff across the district to replace several staff members who retired. These new staff will bring both new energy and deep experience to our team," she said.

Denewith-Fici said everyone works tirelessly to impact students' growth and achievement. This support provides students with a wide variety of programs, including literacy programs; music classes; computer science instruction; and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math elementary specials.

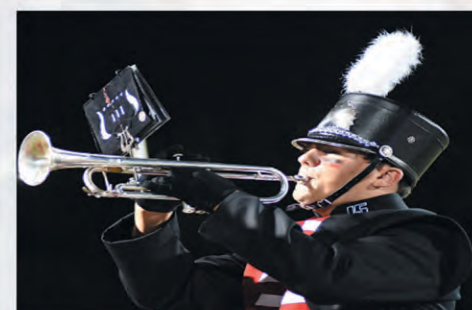
"Our students are presented with exceptional opportunities for engagement from preschool to 12th grade. These aren't extras — they're essential parts of how we reach every learner. By offering varied, hands-on opportunities, we ensure that students see themselves in their learning and stay connected to their goals, their passions and their future," she said.

Warren Woods Public Schools are dedicated to maintaining continuous student achievement within a caring environment that supports individual excellence for all. This commitment shines through in everything they do.

"This district is built on heart, hard work and a deep belief in what's possible for every child. I'm incredibly proud of the people who make that happen every day, and who make Warren Woods what we are," she said. "There is no better place for families to learn, grow and thrive."

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INSPIRATION - INNOVATION - CELEBRATION



LAKE SHORE

Lake Shore Public Schools was joined by Superintendent Dr. DiPonio and Lake Shore High School Principal Dr. Bross to commemorate the completion of the new Student Hub at Lake Shore High School with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Giving back to the community is important to the Shorian Nation. The entire Lake Shore community rallied to make the holidays brighter for our Shorian families! **270 children** found packages under their tree and a holiday meal on their table.

For 12 years, students in the **Building Renovations program** at Lake Shore High School have been giving a drastic makeover to a 1,400-square-foot house on Parkway Street in St. Clair Shores.



Over 150 Class of 2038 students were given a warm welcome at our 2025 **Kindergarten Roundup** event. Future Tigers, Rockets, and All-Stars enjoyed the readiness activities, bus tours, commitment signings, and treats.

Lake Shore was thrilled to kick off a heartwarming new tradition: Meet at the 50! This special event united our incredible senior **Class of 2025** with the bright-eyed Kindergarten **Class of 2037** for a memorable moment on the field.



We have built an online presence located at **shoriansports.com** for our athletic department. Our goal is to bring our athletic programs to life by sharing schedules, scores, and social media while ensuring our athletes get the promotion they deserve.

Excellence in teaching deserves to be recognized. Lake Shore Public Schools proudly announced the 2025 **Teachers of the Year**: Jenny Manor, Megan Buckman, Nicole Salem, Amanda Seiberling, and Dan Mumbroe.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025 LAKE SHORE HIGH SCHOOL



ONCE A SHORIAN, ALWAYS A SHORIAN

We are not just a school district; we are a Lake Shore family.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Lake Shore Public Schools, visit lakeshoreschools.org or call (586) 285-8480.

- Lake Shore Administration Building
- Lake Shore High School
- John F. Kennedy Middle School
- Masonic Heights Elementary
- James Rodgers Elementary
- Violet Elementary
- Lake Shore Adult and Community Education
- North Lake High School





MOUNT CLEMENS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Grades 6-8

155 Cass Ave., Mt. Clemens 586.461.3300

Mount Clemens High School

Grades 9-12

155 Cass Ave., Mt. Clemens 586.461.3400

For more information, visit us at
www.mtcps.org or call (586) 469-6100

Calling all preK-12 students and families
to our Back 2 School Bash at the
Mt. Clemens Secondary Complex!

★ Enroll for 2025-2026 ★

★ Meet the teachers and tour the school ★

★ Receive curriculum and course information ★

★ Learn about our CTE programs, extracurriculars, and athletic teams ★

★ Giveaways and prizes ★ Free food and refreshments ★

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MOUNT CLEMENS

Mount Clemens Community Schools: Igniting a lifetime of learning

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Some skills are foundational — critical to unlocking future learning. Like math, where each concept builds on the last, reading is one of those essential tools. Beyond just learning to read words on a page, developing a passion for reading can open doors across all subjects, throughout a student's academic career and into adulthood.

"If students can develop a love of reading and love of math, then in the future anything is possible," said

Seminole Academy Principal Tina McNeely. "A story that sparks their interest can ignite a lifetime of curiosity and learning."

The district's comprehensive K–5 reading curriculum is designed to build strong literacy skills. It encourages students to not only understand what they read, but to write and think critically about it. Teachers, always watchful that no one gets left behind, use assessments to determine if students are grasping the concepts or struggling to learn.

After-school tutoring is available for those who need additional assistance and practice. McNeely said these tutoring sessions typically are held twice a week and include free dinner and free busing, so parents don't have to worry about working around an extended school day.

Mount Clemens is a close-knit, historic community. Among its scenic waterfronts and vibrant business district is strong community support for its schools. This community spirit has played a key role in helping Seminole Academy build meaningful partnerships that directly benefit students.

According to McNeely, these collaborations not only enhance classroom learning, but also spark enthusiasm among young learners. Students have taken field trips to Anton Art Center, for example, and welcomed doctors from nearby McLaren Macomb to visit and share stories about health careers and exciting advancements in science. University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry has provided free exams through its mobile clinic and Scripps Howard brought a book fair to the school.

By connecting students with local organizations and resources, Seminole Academy creates engaging educational experiences that extend beyond the classroom, reinforcing the school's mission to inspire a lifelong love of learning.

Another key component to learning is building relationships with trusted adults. Teachers and school staff at Mount Clemens Community Schools prioritize positive, meaningful interactions with students and relationships grounded in mutual respect and genuine care. These daily exchanges

go beyond academic instruction; they help create a safe and supportive learning environment where students feel valued and understood. When students know their voices will be heard in a safe and supportive environment, they are more likely to engage fully in their education. This

includes actively participating in classroom discussions and confidently sharing ideas that can lead to deeper learning.

A strong sense of belonging also encourages students to explore extracurricular activities, from athletics to the arts, which further strengthens their connection to the school community. Recognizing this, the district is expanding extracurricular activities across all grade levels, including elementary school. McNeely said beginning in the fall, Seminole Academy will offer elementary sports and clubs like soccer, basketball and chess.

"Participants will learn skills specific to the sport, as well as concepts like teamwork and dedication," she said. "It's a fun way to burn off energy, interact with their peers and help prepare for middle school and high school."

Constructive relationships between students and teachers are essential not only for academic success, but also for emotional and social development, helping students thrive both inside and outside the classroom. McNeely described the school's atmosphere as nurturing and inclusive with small class sizes.

Creativity and stability are valued as Mount Clemens Community Schools aims to equip students with the academic skills and critical thinking abilities they'll need to succeed in a rapidly changing world. To



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOUNT CLEMENS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Participation in extracurricular activities, such as athletics, further strengthens a student's connection to the school community.



Teachers and school staff at Mount Clemens Community Schools prioritize positive, meaningful interactions with students and relationships grounded in mutual respect and genuine care.

achieve this, the district:

- Provides free breakfast, lunch and dinner to students so they can focus on their learning
- Offers Career and Technical Education

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Mount Clemens Community Schools, visit mtcps.org or call 586-461-6100. Mount Clemens Community Schools includes:

- Seminole Academy, DK/K-5, Early Childhood Programs, Great Start Readiness Program, Early Childhood Special Education, 1500 Mulberry St., Mount Clemens, 586-461-3900
- Mount Clemens Secondary Complex, Grades 6–8, 161 Cass Ave., Mount Clemens, 586-461-3300
- Mount Clemens Secondary Complex, Grades 9–12, 155 Cass Ave., Mount Clemens, 586-461-3400

classes to provide students with employment skills and in some cases, college credits or workplace certifications

- Provides students with convenient access to drivers training courses, in partnership with AAA. Transportation is a needed component to maintain a job

- Offers dual enrollment and early college pathways for high school students

- Intentionally implements curriculum that is relevant to career fields and real-world applications

- Offers free health and mental health services

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- High School advanced placement, dual enrollment, and the Early College of Macomb
- Middle School Mathematics Science Technology Center ranked #1 Middle School in the State of Michigan by *U.S. News and World Report*
- Middle School Visual and Performing Arts
- Championship athletics
- Proud *Best Communities for Music Education* district
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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - HIGH EXPECTATIONS - STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

WARREN

Warren Consolidated Schools focused on celebrating student achievement

By Jane Peterson
For MediaNews Group

Take a peek into any classroom at Warren Consolidated Schools and you'll find students participating in hands-on projects, children engrossed in play-based learning and teachers guiding spirited discussions. However, when you look closer, you'll notice what's really the driving force behind student successes — strong expectations, a commitment to making sure every student understands the material and powerful bonds rooted in respect and trust.

"We pride ourselves on the dedication of our teachers, principals and support staff who enable our students to prepare for future success in college, trade school, the workforce and beyond," school Supt. John C. Bernia Jr. said.

He explained that whether it's the bus driver who greets students with a cheerful hello, the parent who packs a healthy lunch or the secretary who smiles at them when they walk down the hallway, everyone has the best interests of students at heart and works together to help them meet their maximum potential.

"Employees throughout our system advance our mission, in partnership with families and community, to achieve a level of excellence in teaching and learning which enables all students to become knowledgeable, productive, ethical and successful citizens," he said.

In his first year as WCS superintendent of schools, Bernia led a series of visits to each classroom in the district that he called Cabinet Instructional Visits.

Along with the chief of employee and fiscal services, the chief academic officer, the executive director of employment and labor relations and the executive director of curriculum,

the team listened to an update from the school principal about how things were going in the building. Then, building administrators would take them through every classroom, where each cabinet member made observations through their unique area of expertise.

Afterwards, cabinet members and building administrators would meet to debrief and school staff received an email from the superintendent with feedback. PTO members and other stakeholders were also asked to provide input to the team.

What Bernia and his team found was that Warren Consolidated students thrive because the district provides evidence-based curriculum at each level. Teachers value personal connections and intentionally work with younger students to instill a positive attitude toward learning. Secondary students are well prepared to achieve their future career goals or workplace objectives.

The Middle School Mathematics Science Technology Center was ranked the No. 1 middle school in the state by U.S. News and World Report and WCS received the 2025 Best Communities for Music Education distinction from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

Other Points of Pride for the district include:

- The Class of 2025 earned an impressive \$15,524,679 in academic and athletic scholarships

- Cromie Elementary teacher Colleen Kohn was named the 2025 Macomb County Elementary School Teacher of the Year by the Macomb Intermediate School District

- Melissa Wheeler, social worker at Grissom Middle School, was named the 2025 School Social Worker of the Year for Macomb County by the Michigan Association of School Social Workers

While the 2024-25 school year was his first as Warren Consolidated Schools' superintendent, Bernia isn't new to administration. Prior to joining WCS, he was the superintendent of Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

Bernia also wasn't a stranger to some in the WCS community as he previously served as the chief academic officer for six years and as principal of Carleton Middle School.

That means Bernia was already familiar with another one of Warren Consolidated Schools' strengths — its strong community support. In 2022, WCS voters approved a \$150 million bond proposal to improve districtwide facilities. During summer 2025, Sterling Heights High School will receive interior renovations and Black Elementary School, Willow Woods Elementary School and Carleton Middle School will receive general renovations, such as various mechanical units, classroom vertical unit ventilators, new HVAC controls, new LED lighting in select areas, new flooring in select areas and site enhancements.

"The bond work helps ensure that WCS facilities remain up to date and continue to provide a proper learning environment. In addition, the bond also provides the district with state-of-the-art technology which is used daily by staff and students to interact and collaborate," said Bernia.

Up next for Warren Consolidated Schools is focusing on targeted goals Bernia and his team developed after the Cabinet In-



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Warren Consolidated Schools, visit wcskids.com or call 888-492-7543. Warren Consolidated Schools includes:

- Angus Educational Center, 3180 Hein, Sterling Heights
- Margaret Black Elementary School, 14100 Heritage, Sterling Heights
- Irma M. Cromie Elementary School, 29797 Gilbert, Warren
- Green Acres Elementary School, 4655 Holmes, Warren
- Homer Harwood Elementary School, 4900 Southlawn, Sterling Heights
- Sven Holden Elementary School, 37565 Calka, Sterling Heights
- Jefferson Elementary School, 37555 Carol, Sterling Heights
- Pearl Lean Elementary School, 2825 Girard, Warren
- John H. Siersma Elementary School, 3100 Donna, Warren
- Margaret I. Susick Elementary School, 2200 Castleton, Troy
- Maurice M. Wilde Elementary School, 32343 Bunert, Warren
- Irene Wilkerson Elementary School, 12100 Masonic Warren
- Willow Woods Elementary

School, 11001 Daniel, Sterling Heights

- Agnes E. Beer Middle School, 3200 Martin Road, Warren
- Will Carleton Middle School, 8900 Fifteen Mile, Sterling Heights
- Lois E. Carter Middle School, 12000 Masonic, Warren
- Virgil I. Grissom Middle School, 35701 Ryan, Sterling Heights
- Middle School Mathematics Science Technology Center, 27500 Cosgrove, Warren
- Middle School Visual and Performing Arts, 27500 Cosgrove, Warren
- Paul K. Cousino High School, 30333 Hoover, Warren
- Sterling Heights High School, 12901 Fifteen Mile, Sterling Heights
- Warren Mott High School, 3131 Twelve Mile, Warren
- Community High School, 35201 Davison, Sterling Heights
- Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center, 27500 Cosgrove, Warren
- Career Prep Center, 12200 Fifteen Mile, Sterling Heights
- Butcher Educational Center, 27500 Cosgrove, Warren
- Hatherly Educational Center, 35201 Davison, Sterling Heights

structional Visits, including:

- Increased tracking of proficiency progress
- Building consistency across buildings and classrooms
- A review efficiency and distribution of laptop computers around the district
- Thoughtful rollout of new district English Language Arts resources
- Continued focus on math instruction, including Teaching Through Problem Solving and daily Number Talks at the middle and elementary level
- Improved rollout of Educa-

tional Development Plans and College Board accounts as part of parent outreach

- Boosting student engagement in high school classrooms
- Revisiting high school programs like Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, International Academy of Macomb, Early College of Macomb, Transitions — Post Secondary Options, Career Prep Center, Community High School, the Warren Consolidated Schools Performing Arts program, and the Macomb Math Science Technology Center to ensure quality opportunities for students.

Richmond Community Schools

WWW.RICHMOND.K12.MI.US

35276 Division | Richmond, Michigan 48062 | (586) 727-3565



Full Day 7:50-2:50pm | M-T-W-Th
Half Day 11:50-2:50pm | M-T-W-Th

TUITION-FREE Preschool for qualifying students. Qualifications based on income. This program is a State-funded preschool program designed to meet the educational needs of the students with a Full-Day and Half-Day Program.



3 YR OLD PRESCHOOL PROGRAM 7:50-10:50am | M-W-F
 11:50-2:50pm | M-W-F

4 YR OLD PRESCHOOL PROGRAM 7:50-10:50am | M-T-W-T-F
 11:50-2:50pm | M-T-W-T-F

High-quality, tuition-based preschool programs use nationally recognized Creative Curriculum for instruction. Creative Curriculum focuses on the whole child development centered around 11 areas: Blocks, dramatics play, toys & games, art, library, discovery, sand & water, music & movement, cooking, computers and outdoor.



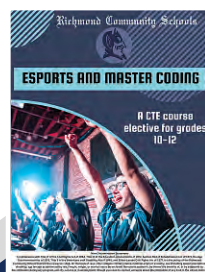
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NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

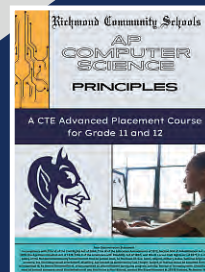
In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Richmond Community School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, military status, national origin or ancestry, sex (including sexual orientation), disability, age (except as authorized by law,) height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or in employment. Should you need to contact someone about discrimination of any kind in the school district, contact the Superintendent at 35276 Division, Richmond, MI 48062. (586) 727-3565

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION (ECSE)
 7:50-10:40am | 12:00-2:50pm

The ECSE Program is an early intervention service designed to provide children and families with early learning experiences in a nurturing environment to promote successful educational experiences. ECSE is staffed with a highly qualified Early Childhood teacher, professional support staff and experienced paraprofessionals. Children must meet eligibility criteria to receive services and/or attend the ECSE Program.



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RICHMOND

A district on the rise: Richmond Community Schools celebrates growth, achievement, community engagement

At a time when public education faces mounting challenges, Richmond Community Schools is setting itself apart through student-centered innovation, academic achievement and strong community ties. With a commitment to excellence from preschool through high school, the district continues to grow in both numbers and impact.

Through forward-thinking programs and a relentless focus on student success, Richmond High School, Richmond Middle School and Will L. Lee Elementary School are demonstrating what's possible when educators, families and the community work together.

Richmond High School: Preparing students for what's next

At Richmond High School, students aren't just preparing for life after graduation — they're already living it. More and more students are taking advantage of dual enrollment opportunities through Macomb Community College, earning college credits while still in high school. These courses equip students with real-world skills and reduce the cost and time needed to earn a degree.

Career and Technical Education programs also are expanding, giving students hands-on experience in high-demand fields like health sciences, skilled trades, business and information technology. With access to professional certifications and job-ready training, students are leaving high school with a clearer understanding of their future path.

Behind the scenes, Richmond High School's educators are working hard to align curriculum with Michigan academic standards. Through collaborative efforts, teachers are developing scope and sequence documents and implementing performance-based assessments that emphasize critical thinking and true understanding.

This combination of academic rigor and real-world application ensures students are not only prepared for college or a career, but are positioned to thrive.

Richmond Middle School: Growth in numbers and spirit

Serving grades 4-8 under one roof, Richmond Middle School has become a model for innovation, inclusion and stu-

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Richmond Community Schools, visit Richmond.k12.mi.us or call 586-727-3565. Richmond Community Schools includes:

- Early Childhood Learning Center, 68399 South Forest St., Richmond
- Will L. Lee Elementary School, 68399 South Forest St., Richmond
- Richmond Middle School, 35250 Division Road, Richmond
- Richmond High School, 35320 Division Road, Richmond

dent growth. The school has seen steady enrollment increases reflecting families' confidence in its academic and social-emotional supports.

"Our staff is deeply committed to what's best for kids," said Principal Jennifer Marella. "We focus on the whole child — academics, emotional well-being and a sense of belonging." Students at the middle school benefit from a broad academic menu, including high school credit classes and enrichment options for advanced learners. For those who need extra help, targeted support classes ensure no student falls behind. This balance of rigor and support is foundational to the school's success.

Outside the classroom, Richmond Middle School students thrive in a wide variety of extracurricular activities and athletics. These opportunities help students build confidence, leadership skills and a sense of teamwork.

"Our coaches and sponsors do more than teach — they mentor," Marella noted. "They help shape character."

Will L. Lee Elementary: Academic excellence and lasting connections

At Will L. Lee Elementary School, student success is celebrated in many ways — academic growth, strong relationships and the simple joy of learning. For four consecutive years, Lee Elementary School has posted some of the highest M-STEP



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RICHMOND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Career and Technical Education programs are expanding, giving Richmond students hands-on experience in high-demand fields.



Richmond Middle School students benefit from a broad academic menu, including high school credit classes and enrichment options for advanced learners.

scores in Macomb County, particularly in math and English language arts.

These strong results are a reflection of student-centered instruction, expert teaching and a deep partnership with families.

"Our strength comes from the connection between home and school," said Principal Heidi Mangune. "We're on the same team, working together for each child's success."

That partnership is enriched by community involvement. One standout program is "Bikes for Books," sponsored by the Richmond Masons, which rewards students for reading chapter books and completing thoughtful reports. Over 14 bicycles have been awarded this year, encouraging literacy, responsibility and healthy habits.

Will L. Lee Elementary School also is proud of its positive school culture, built on kindness, respect and high expectations.

Teachers, support staff and administrators work together to ensure every student feels known, supported and celebrated.

Points of pride

- Top M-STEP scores in Macomb County for four straight years
- Engaged families and a strong home-school partnership
- Dedicated staff who go the extra mile
- Community programs that promote literacy and learning

One District. One Mission. One Future.

Whether in preschool or preparing for college, students across Richmond Community Schools are thriving.

"Our mission is to provide every student with the tools to succeed — not just in school, but in life," school Supt. Brian Walmsley said. "We're focused on academics, yes — but also on character, citizenship and creating meaningful opportunities."

With enrollment growing, student achievement climbing and community support at an all-time high, Richmond Community Schools is more than just a school system — it's a united and forward-looking community.

With a shared vision, dedicated leadership and the support of families and the community, Richmond is not only educating students — it's building a future that every family can believe in.

And that's something worth celebrating.



Van Dyke
Public Schools
Every Student, Every Day, No Matter What



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- ✓ Award-winning Career & Technical Education Programs
- ✓ Safe & Secure Schools
- ✓ Transitional Kindergarten in All Elementary Buildings
- ✓ No Fee Athletics
- ✓ College Credit Opportunities
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- ✓ Free Breakfast and Lunch for All Students

- ✓ Before and After School Care through Lakeshore YMCA
- ✓ Success Academy-Flexible Setting Providing Alternative Path to Graduation
- ✓ Academic Interventions and Supports in Math & Reading
- ✓ Free Summer Credit Recovery and Enrichment
- ✓ Thriving Enrichment Programs in Grades K-12: Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology
- ✓ Award-winning Band Program



VAN DYKE

Van Dyke Public Schools creates safe, welcoming spaces full of fun, learning

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

When the Van Dyke Public Schools varsity boys basketball team became Division 2 state champions for the first time in the district's history in 2024, it was a big deal and the community celebrated together.

When the team won back-to-back championships in 2025, it was a really big deal and the entire community once again showed its support with a parade that further forged bonds and generated a genuine sense of pride throughout the town.

Beyond state championships and the fun that comes with being a part of a team, athletics can also motivate students to do better in the classroom. School Supt. Piper Bogнар explained that participation in sports, the performing arts and other extracurricular activities can be the highlight of a student's day and prompt them to attend school regularly. This is important because students can't learn if they are chronically absent.

In addition, she said these activities teach skills and character traits that can only be developed through that close-knit team experience. Perseverance, teamwork, confidence and leadership teach students important life lessons and this can serve them well in college and the workplace.

Success also can inspire others. After their historic win, the basketball team invited elementary students to the court for a game and then the older students signed autographs for their younger counterparts. Simple actions like these can make an impact on children, providing them the encouragement they need to pursue their own dreams.

Van Dyke educators work tirelessly to equip students with the knowledge and information they need to succeed in a society that is constantly evolving. No one knows what tomorrow will bring, but a good education — and a passion for learning — will never let a Van Dyke graduate down.

Educators believe in providing opportunities for all students to succeed. The district's Mission Statement reads "Every Student, Every Day, No Matter What." A rigorous curriculum, innovative programs and caring staff makes that happen.

In addition to its robust Career and Technical Education program with 21 different career pathways, the district offers

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Van Dyke Public Schools, visit vdps.net or call 586-758-8331. Van Dyke Public Schools includes:

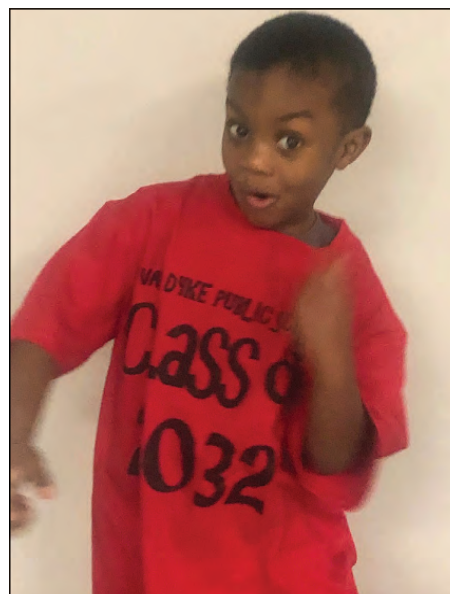
- Kennedy Early Childhood Center, 11333 Kaltz St., Warren
- Carlson Elementary School, 12355 Mruk St., Warren
- Lincoln Elementary School, 22100 Federal St., Warren
- McKinley Elementary School, 13173 Toepfer St., Warren
- Lincoln Middle School, 22500 Federal St., Warren
- Lincoln High School, 22900 Federal St., Warren
- Success Academy, 23500 MacArthur Blvd., Warren



Van Dyke's youngest learners explore dental health in a hands-on, interactive lesson.

a well-researched, evidence-based curriculum that prepares students for their next chapter after graduation.

The district offers the Science of Reading literacy curriculum for all K-12 students. This focuses on five main pillars of literacy — phonemic awareness, phonics and word recognition, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. These are the foundational skills of literacy for younger



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VAN DYKE SCHOOLS

Safe, nurturing and welcoming spaces make it possible for students to learn and thrive at Van Dyke Public Schools.



Intel brings smiles to the faces of students.

students while secondary learners benefit from building academic language, digital literacy and writing skills.

Van Dyke Public Schools educators are always looking for ways to make connections with students. A mentoring relation-

ship with a staff member reinforces to students that adults in the building see them, care for them and want them to be successful.

"Everyone in the district is very student-centered," said Bogнар. "We aim for all students to have a meaningful connection with an adult in the school community."

Safe, nurturing and welcoming spaces make it possible for students to learn and thrive. In recent years, Van Dyke Public Schools leaders have focused many of their efforts on securing facilities, using safety grants provided by the state. They also focus on the physical and mental health of students.

Intel and Tater Tot play a huge role in not only keeping school facilities secure but also bringing smiles to the faces of students. As the district's only four-legged staff members, these canines act as detection dogs, performing hall sweeps to keep out items that could be used to cause harm to students. While acting in their official capacity, the detection canines perform double duty as therapy dogs that students can pet when they need to de-stress, hug when they need to be comforted or read to when they want to practice their literacy skills.

"Students are very used to the dogs. They are just like staff members," Bogнар said. "Their handlers are also part of our staff and they are very involved with students. They coach, attend sporting events and even went to prom."

The two resource officers are part of the Warren Police Department and Lincoln High School graduates. They care about students and the community at large. Their goal is having positive interactions with students as much as possible.

Another layer of safety is the district's MI HEARTSafe School certification. This designation demonstrates the district's commitment to preventing sudden cardiac death of the young, which kills more than 300 Michigan children, teens and young adults each year. Van Dyke Public Schools has a fully trained cardiac staff at every building, ready to leap into action at any time. In addition, staff members have received AED and CPR training.

"It's another way for the community to know that the safety of students, staff and families is an important priority for the district," said Bogнар.

TOP TEN REASONS TO BECOME A NEW HAVEN ROCKET

1.

A small district that is a melting pot of diversity and inclusion and offers a 21st-century curriculum.

2.

Kindergarten through 5th grade students have 1-to-1 Chromebooks in school and can sign them out for homework.

3.

Kindergarten through 12th grade math curriculum includes a digital platform to assist with homework and mastery of key concepts.

4.

6th-12th grade students receive 1-to-1 Chromebooks for the entire school year!

5.

Monthly Rocket Resolution Program that focuses on self care and positive conflict resolution.

6.

Curriculums for the 2024-25 school year include STEM for Y5s-5th and ELA for Y5s-8th.

7.

Several opportunities for our youngest learners: GSRP, 3 & 4s preschool, Y5s, Head Start and on-site child care.

8.

ASL and Spanish offered for foreign language credit.

9.

Several AP courses & dual enrollment opportunities for our high school students, and a partnership with LTU with university classes on our campus.

10.

Students are well known and supported by their teachers and administration.

Truly, we're a hidden gem!



Preschool:

- Small class sizes and low ratios
- Onsite childcare with before & after care
- Family participation opportunities

Elementary:

- New math and reading curriculum
- Teacher-developed priority standards
- Literacy coaches for student success
- Zero 3rd grade retentions
- Active parent clubs

Middle School:

- After-school activities: drama, chess club, robotics, Kindness club, National Jr Honor society, Student Council
- Restorative facilitator for conflict resolution
- STEM classes: drones, coding, robotics

High School:

- Increasing advanced placement courses
- Onsite Partnership with Lawrence Tech university *at the high school*
- Competitive athletics program
- Growing Career and Technical Education Program
- Post-secondary exposure: college and industry visits

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NEW HAVEN

New Haven Community Schools: Being a smaller district has its advantages

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Although it's consistently growing, New Haven Community Schools continues to embrace its small-town roots.

School Supt. Cheryl Puzdrakiewicz said because every student is known to each building administrator and most teachers, no one gets left behind. They are able to truly educate the whole child, taking into account their academic successes and struggles, their socio-emotional challenges and their family's unique needs.

"Many of our staff live in the community so they see students outside the classroom at the grocery store, in the park and at local restaurants," she said. "Our staff is constantly stepping up, going to after-school activities and tutoring students after class. They know that we are all working toward the same goals, that we're on the same team."

When students know their teachers and adult staff members care about them, they are more engaged and take responsibility for their own learning. Puzdrakiewicz said. They may be more willing to ask questions during class, for example, or reach out for extra assistance before they fall too far behind.

New Haven Community Schools serves the communities of New Haven, as well as portions of Chesterfield, Lennox, Macomb and Ray townships, which total more than 1,400 students. With current home building rates on the rise, the school district also continues to grow.

To address overcrowding issues at the elementary and middle schools, the New Haven community supported the school system by passing a millage in May 2024. This resulted in a renovation of Siefert Elementary School. Construction on that project is now underway and the school will



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about New Haven Community Schools, visit newhaven.misd.net or call 586-749-5123. New Haven Community Schools includes:

- New Haven Elementary School, 57701 River Oaks Drive, New Haven
- Endeavour Elementary School, 22505 26 Mile Road, Ray
- Endeavour Middle School, 22505 26 Mile Road, Ray
- New Haven High School, 57700 Gratiot Ave., New Haven

house grades K-4 when it reopens in fall 2027, Puzdrakiewicz said.

"It will be brought up 100 percent to code and look brand new," she said. "The best part is that this building will have a lot of room to grow."

Additional bond monies are allocated for upgrades to technology, playgrounds, athletic facilities and other school buildings.

The New Haven community has always shown up for its students. People take great pride in the district, said Puzdrakiewicz, and they have a ton of school spirit.

"Football games are a community event," she said. "We have homecoming parades with floats and the entire district gets involved, not just the high school."

A thriving school district is



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEW HAVEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

New Haven High school students are well prepared for graduation thanks to Advanced Placement courses, Early College Macomb and dual enrollment.



STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math,) as well as STEM and literacy classes and activities, are available for younger students.

important to the New Haven community and its smaller size makes it an environment for educating the whole child by offering a strong core curriculum as well as a wide variety of elective classes and afterschool programs. The district offers an American Sign Language classes and a robust slate of Career and Technical Education classes at New Haven High School

CTE pathways are intensive, hands-on programs where students have the opportunity to explore future careers by learning from local business professionals while still in high school. Sometimes business leaders visit the classroom to speak with students and answer their questions. Other times students may tour a factory or additional facilities. Some students also establish mentorships,

externships and job shadowing opportunities.

Experiencing first-hand what it's like to work in a specific field, students can easily gauge if this is the direction they want their career to go. Many are able to determine this before they even graduate, avoiding the potential costly mistake of choosing the wrong major in college.

Students also are able to better plan their path to success, which may not always be attending university. Once they are comfortable with their career path, they can envision their dream job and they plot their path to get there, whether that means trade school, college, university, certifications, an apprenticeship or more.

New Haven offers CTE pathways in Business/Marketing Education, Automotive, Graphic Design, Computer Science, Sports Medicine and Medical Careers. Through partnerships with neighboring school districts L'Anse Creuse and Richmond, students have access to an expanded slate of CTE opportunities.

In addition, high school students can take advantage of Advanced Placement courses, Early College Macomb and dual enrollment.

There also are drama options at the middle and high schools and a new guitar class. Elementary, middle and high schools have active robotics teams that meet after school and compete against other schools. There are additional enrichment opportunities for students during summer school classes such as Girls Coding and Girls in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math), as well as STEM and literacy for younger students. Elementary students are introduced to STEM concepts during weekly class "specials," that rotate daily and include art, music, technology and physical education classes.

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FRASER

Teaching students about potential career paths, exploring options starts early at Fraser Public Schools

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Remember when you were a kid and someone asked what you wanted to be when you grew up? In elementary school, you most likely said an athlete, singer or movie star.

Chances are you named these careers because these were what you were familiar with at the time. No one had talked to you yet about the important roles that a physical therapist, a data analyst or even an architect play in society.

Fraser Public Schools is changing that by developing a K-12 Career Development Continuum designed to introduce students to age-appropriate career awareness activities.

"We have a K-6 CTE advisory committee that is creating opportunities for career awareness in grades K-6 that builds upon existing activities, such as a wax museum, market day and learning about communities," said K-12 CTE Director Brent Brasure. "A unique component of the plan is having high school students work with our elementary schools, providing a rich learning experience for various age groups at the same time."

Future Teachers are students from Fraser High School who aspire to be teachers. During the program's capstone course, students gain valuable experience by leading full group and small group lessons and learning about other ways to support elementary classroom teachers.

In recent years, Future Teachers students have taken part in a costume reenactment with kindergarten students. Younger students dress up in costumes representing various careers then Fraser's Future Teachers participants lead discussions about these careers to make them come to life.

In another collaborative project, Fraser High School marketing students participated in Fourth Grade Market Day. They visited elementary classrooms and taught young learners about marketing, entrepreneurship and product development careers. Meanwhile, third graders learned personal finance and budgeting skills. Then, using third grade students as their target market, fourth graders developed their own products and hosted a market day where they tried to sell them to the younger students.

"Students soak up so much information



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Fraser Public Schools, visit fraser.k12.mi.us or call 586-439-7000. Fraser Public Schools includes:

Dooley Little Learners Center, 16170 Canberra St., Roseville

Walt Disney Elementary School, 36155 Kelly Road, Clinton Township

Thomas Edison Elementary School, 17470 Sewell Ave., Fraser

Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School, 31275 Eveningside Drive, Fraser

Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School, 32151 Danna St., Fraser

Jonas Salk Elementary School, 17601 Fifteen Mile Road, Clinton Township

Mark Twain Elementary School, 30601 Calahan Road, Roseville

Richards Middle School, 33500 Garfield Road, Fraser

Fraser High School, 34270 Garfield Road, Fraser

at this age and thrive by learning through hands-on instruction," said Director of Elementary Instruction Kate Mulligan, "but these activities involve multiple grade levels for a win-win."

A Wax Museum activity in the second grade is also a very popular activity. Students pick a career they want to learn about, then in collaboration with the 21st century and art teachers, complete a presentation on that career and design a costume. The project culminates in having students share their findings with first grade students, staff and parents.

"Career awareness activities like these have long been a part of classroom learning, but the advisory committee helped us bring consistency across the district so students in all six elementary buildings have the same experiences," Brasure said.

Upper elementary students utilize Xello, a program that helps align a student's interests with different career paths. Students completed a self-assessment of their



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRASER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Career exploration begins in kindergarten in Fraser Public Schools. Students at Mark Twain Elementary School learned about different careers then played dress up.

skills and interests.

Through a series of visits with Fraser High School career navigators, six graders dive deeper into Xello, discovering ways to use this tool to help them in career exploration at Richards Middle School and FHS. High school CTE students host hands-on career fairs for sixth graders, providing a breakfast with business partners and RMS staff where they learn more about local career opportunities.

In addition to following Fraser's robust, comprehensive curriculum, the elementary career opportunities will closely model the Michigan Department of Education's six career zones:

- Arts & Communications
- Business, Management, Marketing & Technology
- Engineering, Manufacturing & Industrial Technology
- Health Science
- Human Services
- Natural Resources & Agriscience

This will help familiarize young learners with how different careers are connected and varied career choices can be in each field.

As students enter middle school, which is grades 7 and 8 in Fraser, career awareness transitions to career exploration and students have more opportunities to explore CTE. In addition to introductory classes they can take at RMS, there is a series of lunch-and-learns where FHS students visit with RMS 8th graders during lunch and share hands-on activities.

In the spring, all eighth grade students visit the high school's CTE classes, then return to spend more time in classes that interest them. Finally, they select which of the 17 certified CTE programs they would like to take when they start high school.

At FHS, all students are prepared for future careers. All freshmen are invited to the MI Career Quest, where they meet with representatives from more than 100 businesses and careers.



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SOUTH LAKE

South Lake Schools to enhance classrooms with bond-funded upgrades

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

South Lake Schools continue to evolve both inside and out, thanks to recent bond-funded building improvements. The changes aim to better equip students for success while creating more engaging, interactive learning environments.

"We need our classrooms to reflect our updated curriculum that's all about collaboration," school Supt. Ted VonHiltmayer said. "Students are working more and more in groups to discuss and solve problems. We don't want them to just get the right answer. We want them to be able to think critically and explain their reasoning."

Flexible seating will help the district achieve its goal at Avalon and Elmwood elementary schools. VonHiltmayer explained that the furniture will be on wheels so that classrooms can be easily reconfigured according to student needs. He said this will be more engaging for students than traditional desks lined neatly in rows and it also supports professional development that teachers have completed on current teaching strategies.

Without the flexibility to design learning environments, teachers would be limited in implementing new, evidence-based teaching methods. By strategically arranging tables, desks and chairs into various configurations and group sizes, educators can cater to the diverse needs of their students by incorporating a wide range of seating options. They will be able to create customized learning centers that support different learning styles and help students stay more focused on their tasks.

Whether it's small group work, independent study or collaborative projects, adaptable seating arrangements can promote comfort and productivity, contributing to a more dynamic and student-centered classroom. Avalon Elementary School will have the new furniture at the start of the school year, Elmwood will get new furniture next summer.

Teachers also can utilize technology tools as they supervise discussions, guide students through lessons and assist as needed. The combination of flexible seating and educational technology helps foster a learning environment that is both adaptable and responsive, empowering students to take ownership of their learn-



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about South Lake Schools, visit solake.org or call 586-435-1600.

South Lake Schools includes:

Avalon Elementary School, 20000 Avalon St., St. Clair Shores

Elmwood Elementary School, 22700 California St., St. Clair Shores

Koepsell Early Childhood Center, 21760 Raven Road, Eastpointe

South Lake Middle School, 21627 California St., St. Clair Shores

South Lake High School, 21900 E. 9 Mile Road, St. Clair Shores

ing while allowing teachers to meet individual needs more effectively.

"Students become active participants in their learning experience," he said.

This approach also allows teachers to create more personalized instruction that targets the needs of individuals. It helps them identify more quickly what concepts students are picking up on and which ones they need additional work with so that lesson plans can be implemented that meet those specific needs.

Students will notice other changes in their classrooms, too. Old fluorescent lighting has given way to LED lighting. In addition, ceiling tiles have been replaced, painting completed, flooring installed and HVAC systems updated.

"We've done the work on the outside. Now it's time to move to the indoors. Elementary classrooms will look like brand new rooms this fall," said VonHiltmayer.

South Lake Schools has been steadily making progress on its goals to create more positive, engaging learning environments that follow current best practices in elementary education.

First, it restructured its two elementary schools in 2020-21 to create smaller class sizes. Avalon Elementary School now serves K-2 and Elmwood Elementary School serves grades 3-5. With bond ap-



Above: At South Lake High School, numerous programs help students prepare for future careers after graduation.

Right: South Lake #2: South Lake Schools upgraded its playgrounds to promote developmental growth.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SOUTH LAKE SCHOOLS

proval in 2023, the district forged ahead with outdoor improvements that focused on keeping children safe, like reconfiguring the bus loop and drop-off parking at Avalon and Elmwood elementary schools. The district also upgraded its playgrounds to promote developmental growth and introduced a new reading curriculum.

All of these efforts work together to create the best possible learning experience for young students. Building a strong academic foundation early on creates curious, eager learners who will develop the confidence, independence and educational skills they need to build upon as they advance to higher grade levels. When children are given the right tools and support from the start, they become lifelong learners who are better prepared to take on new challenges.

"We want students to talk with each other, to work in small groups and have them excited about learning," said VonHiltmayer.

Big plans are in the works for secondary



students, too. The high school library will be refreshed and technology infrastructure enhanced, including HVAC upgrades. The middle school parking lot was expanded.

High school students have access to Advanced Placement classes, dual enrollment, Career and Technical Education and free extracurriculars — including a plethora of athletics, fine arts and clubs.

A new English Language Arts curriculum at the middle school reduced the quantity of novels students were reading to boost the quality and breadth of understanding of the books they do read. Now, time is spent studying informational writing and short stories and receiving exposure to other styles of writing.

MACOMB COUNTY



Head Start 586-469-5215

Federally funded program offering 2 options:

- Early Head Start (ages birth-3)
- Head Start Preschool (ages 3-5)

Support services for both programs that include disabilities, mental health, education, nutrition and family services.

Great Start Readiness Program 586-228-3468

State funded free PreK for All program for four-year-olds. As a nationally recognized program, the Macomb County GSRP programs provide developmentally appropriate learning in a safe, nurturing and positive environment.

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www.misd.net/earlychild/readiness.html

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If Your Child Turns

5 years old

by September 1, 2025,*

**please contact your local school district ASAP
to complete Kindergarten Registration forms.
This is an IMPORTANT time for your child's learning.**



*According to Michigan law, if a child residing in a district is not five years of age on or before September 1, 2025, but will turn five years of age not later than December 1, 2025, the parent may contact the school district to obtain a possible Waiver for their child to enter Kindergarten this year.

- Anchor Bay Schools
www.anchorbay.misd.net
- Armada Area Schools
www.armadaschools.org
- Center Line Public Schools
www.clps.org
- Chippewa Valley Schools
www.chippewavalleyschools.org
- Clintondale Community Schools
www.clintondaleschools.net
- Eastpointe Community Schools
www.eastpointeschools.org
- Fitzgerald Public Schools
www.fitz.k12.mi.us
- Fraser Public Schools
www.fraser.k12.mi.us/
- Lake Shore Public Schools
www.lakeshoreschools.org
- Lakeview Public Schools
www.lakeviewpublicschools.org
- L'Anse Creuse Public Schools
www.lc-ps.org
- Mount Clemens Community Schools
www.mtcps.org
- New Haven Community Schools
<https://newhaven.misd.net>
- Richmond Community Schools
www.richmond.k12.mi.us
- Romeo Community Schools
www.romeok12.org
- Roseville Community Schools
www.rosevillepride.org
- South Lake Schools
www.solake.org
- Utica Community Schools
www.uticak12.org
- Van Dyke Public Schools
www.vdps.net
- Warren Consolidated Schools
www.wcskids.net
- Warren Woods Public Schools
www.warrenwoods.misd.net

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Anchor Bay School District has set the standard for academic achievement, leading the county in test scores since 2009. But our commitment to student success goes beyond numbers - Anchor Bay provides a well-rounded education through diverse K-12 career pathways in Engineering, Manufacturing, Natural Science, Agriculture, Health & Human Services, Arts & Communication, and Business & Technology.

Anchor Bay Elementary Schools offer:

- Young 5's & Traditional Kindergarten Options
- K-4 Art, Music, Science, STEM, Physical Education, and Technology Enrichments
- Math & Literacy Intervention Specialists at Every Building



Anchor Bay Middle Schools offer:

Starting Fall 2025 - 5th & 6th Grades will attend Middle School North

- 5th Grade Enrichments: Computers, Science, Art, STEM, PE, Swim, Music, and Band
- 5th Grade Intermural Sports
- 6th Grade Electives: Life Skills, Choir, Art, PE, Swim, Band, Broadcasting, MakerSpace, & Writing
- 6th Grade Sports including Cross Country, Wrestling, and Swimming



Starting Fall 2025 - 7th & 8th Grades will attend Middle School South

- Honors Classes in Math, English, Science, & Social Studies
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- Full Sports Program (No Pay-to-Play Fees)
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Anchor Bay High School offers:

- Enhanced Dual Enrollment, Honors Classes, and 11 Advanced Placement Courses
- Over 50 Competitive Team Sports with No Pay-to-Play Fees
- Award Winning Theatre, Art, Band, and Choir
- JROTC Programs for 9-12 Graders
- Foreign language: French, Spanish, & German
- 17 Career Technical Education Programs

Anchor Bay is a Schools of Choice District. Empower your student to succeed - apply today!
www.anchorbay.misd.net or call 586.725.2861

Find us on social media: Facebook @ABTarSpirit and Instagram ABTarSpirit

Questions? Call 586-725-2861, Anchor Bay School District, 5201 County Line Rd., Casco, MI 48064

ANCHOR BAY

Anchor Bay School District champions college, career readiness for K-12 students

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Anchor Bay School District is making bold strides in preparing students for success beyond the classroom, thanks to a renewed focus on college and career readiness driven by a \$169 million bond passed in 2022. This substantial investment by the community empowered the district to launch an ambitious strategic plan, transforming educational opportunities for students from kindergarten through high school.

At the heart of this transformation is a deep commitment to real-world learning and career preparation. Expanded college credit options, hands-on career experiences and the introduction of industry-recognized certifications provide students with access to a wide range of pathways designed to help them thrive in college, technical programs and the workforce.

“Our goal is to ensure every student finds their best path in life,” school Supt. Phil Jankowski said. “In today’s dynamic world, it’s no longer sufficient to equip students with academic knowledge alone. They need tools to explore, understand and pursue the vast career opportunities available to them.”

A new partnership with St. Clair County Community College offers high school students the opportunity to take tuition-free college courses that explore health, business and general education tracks during the school day. Additional pathways, including engineering, manufacturing, agriculture and the arts, are set to launch in future years.

Anchor Bay’s Career Pathway Framework is also taking shape, with its 17 Career and Technical Education programs now housed at Anchor Bay High School. CTE offerings enable high school students to dive deep into career-spe-

cific training while still in school. These courses integrate academics with a student’s area of interest, creating a powerful learning environment that aligns with their future goals. Combined with field trips, guest speakers, job shadowing and internships, students complete graduation requirements while gaining employable skills and career-focused knowledge.

Among the district’s offerings are an expanded welding program that offers hands-on experience in this high-demand field and a brand-new student-run restaurant slated to open this fall that will provide practical experience for culinary arts program participants.

In addition to robust high school programming, Anchor Bay has introduced career exploration classes for all K-12 students, helping younger learners identify interests and build foundational skills early.

To support these initiatives, Anchor Bay is investing in cutting-edge learning tools, including makerspaces at elementary schools. Makerspaces utilize technology to encourage creative play and hands-on exploration.

Additional technology, such as 3D printers, an Anatomage table that provides 3D views of human and animal anatomy and gloforge laser cutters that can cut and engrave a variety of materials, will further bolster student learning experiences.

Plans are also underway to launch future-focused career classes at the reimagined Middle School South, which will serve grades 7-8.

The move will provide earlier exposure to CTE classes as the building already houses a greenhouse, auto shop and restaurant area. Middle School North will house grades 5-6.

Looking ahead, the district is preparing for Michigan’s move



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANCHOR BAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Middle school students visited bond construction sites as part of their career exploration class, gaining firsthand insight into the building and trades industry.

toward universal preschool, with plans to convert Lighthouse Elementary School into an early childhood education center. This proactive move ensures Anchor Bay is ready to welcome more families into the district’s strong educational system and welcoming school community.

Outside of academics, Anchor Bay students benefit from a wide array of extracurricular opportunities. The high school offers 52 competitive sports teams — all with no pay-to-play fees — as well as award-winning theater, art and music programs. Student-led clubs like HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), BPA (Business Professionals of America), DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) and E-Sports regularly compete at state and national levels.

“We firmly believe a well-rounded education includes meaningful extracurricular involvement,” said Jankowski. “These experiences build community, foster belonging and help our students grow into confident,

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Anchor Bay School District, visit AnchorBay.misd.net or call 586-725-2861. The Anchor Bay School District includes:

Ashley Elementary School, 52347 Ashley St., New Baltimore
Great Oaks Elementary School, 32900 24 Mile Road, Chesterfield Twp.
Lighthouse Elementary School, 51880 Washington St., New Baltimore
Lottie Schmidt Elementary School, 33700 Hooker St., New Baltimore
Maconce Elementary School, 6300 Church Road, Ira
Naldrett Elementary School, 47800 Sugarbush St., New Baltimore
Middle School North, 52805 Ashley St., New Baltimore
Middle School South, 48650 Sugarbush St., New Baltimore
Anchor Bay High School, 6319 County Line Road, Fair Haven
Early Childhood Center and SACC, 52680 Washington St., New Baltimore
MacDonald Early Childhood, 5201 County Line Road, Casco
Aquatic Recreation Center, 52401 Ashley St., New Baltimore

capable young adults.”

As the district continues to evolve, Anchor Bay’s commitment to excellence remains clear. With a growing portfolio of academic,

career and enrichment opportunities, the district is setting a new standard for student success and building a brighter future for the entire community.



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ROSEVILLE

Roseville Community Schools students find much success in positive changes

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

As Roseville Community Schools celebrated its 100th graduating class in 2025, the district continues to evolve and innovate, offering students cutting-edge educational opportunities and a strong foundation for success.

"We've continuously adapted to ensure students are prepared for future challenges," school Supt. Mark Blaszkowski said.

Roseville High School added two new courses to their already diverse curriculum last year —

Introduction to Drones and Guitar.

Introduction to Drones provides students hands-on experience with unmanned aerial

vehicles, more widely known as drones. It covers key topics like drone design, maintenance, flight strategies and interpreting pre-flight weather reports as students learn to safely operate drones, navigate obstacle courses and capture aerial photos and videos following Federal Aviation Administration safety guidelines. Members of the Macomb County Sheriff's Department visited to bring real-world relevance to classroom lessons by demonstrating how drones are used in law enforcement and public safety operations. At the end of the course, students can earn their FAA TRUST certification for recreational drone use.

The new Guitar course was an idea brought to the administration by students. It introduces students to the fundamentals of acoustic guitar performance and explores a range of musical styles. Emphasizing traditional music literacy, students learn to read standard musical notation rather than tabs, helping them build a strong foundation in both technique and theory.

Roseville has remained commit-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROSEVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

The Eastland Middle School (pictured) and Roseville Middle School bands both earned a perfect level I rating at the MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival, qualifying them for State Festival where the Roseville Middle School Symphonic Band earned the highest honors, a I division rating.

ted to providing something for everyone with exceptional programs in academics, including career and technical education, arts and athletics, said Blaszkowski.

In 2023, the high school's news and broadcasting studio underwent extensive renovations that included a larger space for student video productions. Using state-of-the-art production equipment, like a green screen and editing suite, students create daily school announcements and cover school events from start to finish, learning how to plan production, create scripts, film and edit footage for a public audience.

Roseville provides a broad range of STEAM-focused (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) courses across all grades. A districtwide strategic plan, adopted by the Roseville Board of Education, ensures the opportunity for every student to engage with STEAM concepts in the classroom, including robotics.

At RHS, the REST (Roseville Engineering, Science, and Technology) Robotics club had another successful season. At an April competition, the Underwater Innovative Vehicle division of REST took home first place in "Innovative En-

gineering," first place in "Presentation" and second place in "Overall Performance." In May, the Mini IVD team took home second place in "Innovative Engineering," third place in "Performance" and second in the "Grand Champion" category.

Additionally, members of REST Robotics and the Roseville High School Mechatronics class were invited to participate in the Automate Student Challenge sponsored by the Square One Education Network and Siemens.

This challenge took place on the show floor of the Automate Conference, North America's largest automation conference. RHS student Luis Gomez and his 3D-printed, custom arduino-powered vehicle was chosen as the "Professional's Pick" award, voted on by industry professionals.

Two dozen sixth grade girls took part in the fourth year of the Girls STEAM Camp, held at the end of June. During the week, students got hands-on through many enriching activities, including learning about assistive technology, soldering a circuit, using Cubelets and Little Bits to practice making circuits with new technology and building and coding a Lego Spike Prime robot. The girls also learned

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Roseville Community Schools, visit rosevillepride.org or call 586-445-5500. Roseville Community Schools include:

Dort Elementary School, 16225 Dort St., Roseville
Fountain Elementary School, 16850 Wellington St., Roseville
Green Elementary School, 18530 Marquette St., Roseville
Kaiser Elementary School, 16700 Wildwood St., Roseville
Kment Elementary School, 20033 Washington St., Roseville
Patton Elementary School, 18851 McKinnon St., Roseville
Steenland Elementary School, 16335 Chestnut St., Roseville
Eastland Middle School, 18700 Frank St., Roseville
Roseville Middle School, 16250 Martin St., Roseville
Roseville High School, 17855 Common St., Roseville

how to properly use power tools such as a drill, hammer, sander, electric screwdriver and measure using a square. On the final day of camp, the students met with women in STEAM careers for a Q&A session.

Christopher Kawiecki's fifth grade class at Green Elementary had a unique, interactive learning experience when it was selected by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as one of 40 recipients of the Salmon in the Classroom grant. The class raised the salmon for several months before about 75 salmon were released to their new home in Lake St. Clair.

"This is so much more engaging for students than studying the life cycle of a salmon in a book," said Blaszkowski.

Additional points of pride included:

Nearly a dozen Panthers signed letters of intent to play sports at the collegiate level.

The Panther wrestling team earned All-State All-Academic honors, led by RHS junior Jay'Den Williams who won the D1 165-pound State Championship. He finished his season with a 53-0 record, including an MHSAA record 49 tech falls, completing one of the most historic seasons in Roseville history.

The RHS Unified Basketball

team was one of two unified teams in the entire state chosen to play at halftime during MHSAA basketball semifinals held at Michigan State's Breslin Center. A few weeks later, they played at Little Caesar's Arena and received tickets to watch the Pistons game. The following weekend, they won the state championship.

Both middle school bands earned a perfect level I rating at the MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival, qualifying them for State Festival where the Roseville Middle School Symphonic Band earned the highest honors, a I division rating.

Senior Daniel Duhaylonsod was chosen for the 2025 Michigan High School All-State Jazz Band. Only five trumpet players were chosen statewide through blind auditions.

The RHS Jazz Band performed at the 52nd Annual Jazz Weekend Festival at Central Michigan University. The brass section earned the 2nd Runner-Up Award for Outstanding Section and Daniel Duhaylonsod earned the Award for Outstanding Soloist.

Several RHS students performed at the MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festival, all earning Division I ratings.

The RHS Symphonic Choir received a division I rating, qualifying them for State Festival.



We have much to celebrate!



With the support of multiple local fire departments, three graduating students passed their practical exams for their state **Firefighting Certification**.



CLPS sees the importance of extracurricular activities in student development and **does not require students to pay-to-play**.



Through a partnership with the Center Line Department of Public Safety, **School Resource Officer Tony Valdes** is stationed at Center Line High School and Wolfe Middle School to provide an added measure of safety and serves as a liaison with Center Line and Warren PD. He is also on call to assist at the other schools in our district.



Center Line Public Schools is a **Ford Next Generation Learning Community--1 of only 4** school districts in Michigan to earn this designation!

All of our **HOSA teams** qualified for state competition in EMT, Disaster Preparedness and Response (CERT), and Veterinary Science; Nancy Reeder and Samantha Lepire took 2nd place in EMT.



CLHS competed in Forensic Investigation, EMT, and Firefighting at the **SkillsUSA** competition in Grand Rapids. Floyd Drinkhorn and Jaclyn Kupraszewicz placed 2nd in EMT.

Both **Marching Band** and **Concert Band** earned superior Division 1 ratings at MSBOA.



New This Fall: Dispatch 911 & Criminology!

This is a comprehensive course on learning how to become a public safety 9-1-1 dispatcher. Students will experience both live and computer aided simulations. Upon successful completion students will earn the NECI Basic 9-1-1 Dispatch Certification.

Boys Basketball and Wrestling won **District Championships**. Boys Swim and Girls Soccer were **Conference Champs**. Four wrestlers made it to **State** level competition, and freshman Carmella Clarke placed 5th!



Freshman Academy

- Helps with transition from middle to high school
- Forms small learning community
- Builds skills to be successful
- Explores interests and careers

Health & Human Services Academy

- Health & Wellness
- First Responders
- Law & Justice
- Public Service

Industry, Technology & Innovation Academy

- Engineering Technology
- Innovative Art & Design
- Business, Commerce & Entrepreneurship
- Digital Design & Communication

Center Line High School is bridging the world of work and school.

Eyes on the Future

Connections with local and nationally recognized businesses help prepare our students for life after high school, providing students with **hands-on, real-world** experiences. CLPS students can graduate with **college credits and/or industry certifications in high demand jobs**, increasing graduates' chances of finding future employment while filling a need in the community for skilled trade workers. CLPS participates in the Early College of Macomb and Dual Enrollment programs, where students can earn college credits at no cost while still in high school.

Scan the QR code or visit
linktr.ee/CenterLinePublicSchools
for videos highlighting our
academies and other great links!



Our community supports our students!

Bonds passed in 2017 and 2023, allowing us to open a new elementary school in 2021 and renovate each of our schools.



Our students support our community!

Volunteering helps students become better citizens. Younger students participate in service projects, and each high school student graduates with at least 20 hours of community service.



All CLPS schools are one-to-one.

Each student receives a personal Chromebook with all of the necessary tools to be successful.



CLPS has student-to-student support at all levels. Younger students are partnered with older students through Link Crew, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs), and our elementary leadership teams.



CLPS provides support for our students beyond academics.

In addition to a full complement of counselors and social workers, our high school also hosts an **Ascension School-Based Clinic** that provides free services to the children of our community.



The Early Childhood Center: Where the roots of education begin!

Call 586-510-2800 to register in one of our programs, the *Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)* or *Early Childhood Special Education*.

Discover - Explore - Experience

Join our family! CLPS is open for school of choice to Macomb County residents only for grades K-12 and for Academy 21, our hybrid learning program established in 2011 (contiguous counties, grades 6-12) through August 25. Visit clps.org for more information or contact us at 586-510-2000 or enroll@clps.org.





Why are so many families choosing Fitzgerald Public Schools? Fitzgerald Public Schools offers first-class academic and extracurricular programs that students and parents in this region demand of their schools in the 21st century. Give your child the Fitzgerald edge!

- ✓ An outstanding kindergarten/young 5's program that actively engages children in hands-on learning experiences that support their academic, social and emotional development.
- ✓ 1-1 technology (iPads or Chromebooks) that students can use for hands-on, interactive learning with the latest technologies.
- ✓ Top-notch science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs - including advanced robotics - that prepare students for college and careers.
- ✓ The English Language Development (ELD) program is dedicated to supporting students and families whose primary language is not English. Fitzgerald has a highly qualified.
- ✓ Automotive Technology I-IV, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapy Aide I & II, Marketing, Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Advanced Marketing, Intro to Digital Media Production & Advanced Media Productions - which help students get specialized jobs right after graduation or go into college programs.
- ✓ Vibrant theatre, choir and band programs and strong athletics programs, a new synthetic field turf for the football field and a world-class, eight-lane track.
- ✓ Opportunities for students to earn college credit by taking Advanced Placement classes and by participating in dual enrollment in local colleges, at no tuition cost to the family.
- ✓ The Fitzgerald Virtual 9-12 Academy will offer an online option for families that are more comfortable with their children learning at home.
- ✓ Schools of Choice enrollment.



***We look forward to
welcoming you
to the Fitzgerald Family!***

**21st CENTURY
Fitzgerald Public Schools
EDGE**

Questions? Contact the Fitzgerald Public Schools Superintendent's Office at (586) 757-1750.

FITZGERALD

Strategic teaching, varied opportunities help all Fitzgerald Public Schools students be their best

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

Not all children learn at the same pace, are interested in identical subjects or share similar cultural backgrounds. What works for one student may not for another, so Fitzgerald Public Schools educators take the time necessary to meet the needs of everyone.



"We focus on each student, to make sure all students are getting what they need to learn and be their best selves," Interim school Supt. Laurie Fournier said.

"We use several data points to differentiate instruction for all learners."

The journey starts at the preschool level with the Great Start Readiness Program, a free, state-funded preschool for 4-year-old children.

"We are excited to expand this program to a full day in the fall and open more classrooms for our growing program," said Fournier.

Classrooms in Fitzgerald's Early Childhood Special Education provide a variety of developmentally appropriate activities to meet each child's individual needs.

At the elementary schools, the district introduced a new K-5 literacy curriculum called Benchmark Advance. Fournier said the program builds strong foundational skills by focusing on reading, writing, speaking and listening skills through high quality, diverse texts.

Afterschool activities, 1:1 technology and safe, innovative buildings enhance the curriculum and enrich the learning process. Evening events extend learning beyond the regular school day and participation continues to grow.

Chatterton Middle School adopted two key learning platforms: The Reveal Math curriculum that uses differentiated math instruction using online/computer resources and Amplify ELA curriculum, a knowledge-building literacy curriculum that tackles complex text using leveled assessments and differentiated instruction.

A unique part of the middle school is the state-of-the-art Dr. James D. Edoff Fitzgerald Planetarium that provides planetarium shows not only to Fitzgerald students, but

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Fitzgerald Public Schools, visit fitz.k12.mi.us or call 586-757-1750. Fitzgerald Public Schools includes:

Schofield Early Childhood Center, 21555 Warner Road, Warren

Westview Lower Elementary School, 24077 Warner Road, Warren

Mound Park Upper Elementary School, 5356 Toepfer, Warren

Chatterton Middle School, 24333 Ryan Road, Warren

Fitzgerald High School, 23200 Ryan Road, Warren

to others within Macomb County. Learners explore topics using interactive displays, simulations and live presentations.

Because students often have other issues that need to be taken care of to improve their academic performance and overall sense of well-being, schoolwide Positive Behavior Intervention Support programming addresses their social, emotional and academic needs.

At the secondary level, Fitzgerald offers a wide range of courses to prepare students for their next chapter whether that means entering the workforce or heading to a trade school or university.

Career and Technical Education courses at Fitzgerald and consortium districts include Auto, Culinary Arts, Physical Therapy, Nursing, Dental Assistant, Firefighting, Digital Media Arts and Pharmacy Technology. Many students complete these programs with internships in their chosen field.

In addition, Fitzgerald offers several Advanced Placement and Honors courses to prepare students for post-secondary success.

The high school also has amazing sports programs, a large performance arts curriculum offering choir, band, marching band, jazz band, and theater with two large productions each school year. Robotics, engineering and health career preparation courses round out the offerings.

Its formula is working as Fitzgerald High School's graduation rate is 93%. It also had 14 students graduate from the International Academy of Macomb, part of the International Baccalaureate World



PHOTO COURTESY OF FITZGERALD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fitzgerald Public Schools educators take the time necessary to meet the needs of all students in a collaborative environment.

School.

The district also has welcomed more than 100 new families to the Fitzgerald Family this past year. Fournier said the district represents a remarkable diversity of races, cultures and places of origin. So everyone's needs are met, vegetarian and halal breakfast and lunch food choices available daily in each building's cafeteria.

"Currently, the district serves nearly 400 multilingual students, representing approximately 15 percent of the total student population. This diverse group includes students born outside of the U.S., refugees and long-term English Learners (ELs) with more than 20 languages spoken across the district," said Fournier. "We are proud of our student population and the rich traditions that come from our students and families."

The English Language Development program at Fitzgerald Public Schools is dedicated to supporting students and families whose primary language is not English.

Once students are identified through

a home language survey and a screening process, they receive language support tailored to their individual needs.

"Over the past decade, the number of ELs in Fitzgerald Public Schools has increased, prompting the growth in the program. The district is proud to have a team of highly qualified and dedicated support staff, including one EL coach, five EL teachers and eight bilingual paraprofessionals," she said. "This team works collaboratively to provide comprehensive support to ELs, ensuring they have the resources and assistance needed to succeed academically and socially. ...

"We are excited for our future. We have so many great things in place and the work that we have put in the past few years with our curriculum and our physical buildings is showing its success," said Fournier. "Fitzgerald continues to evolve and demonstrate continuous improvement. Our parent participation is increasing and student achievement data is aligning with our goals and we are seeing positive student growth."



**UTICA
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS**

Where Bright Futures Begin

Whether your child thrives in the classroom, on the field, on stage or in the workshop, Utica Community Schools believes every student deserves a future filled with opportunity, achievement and inspiration.

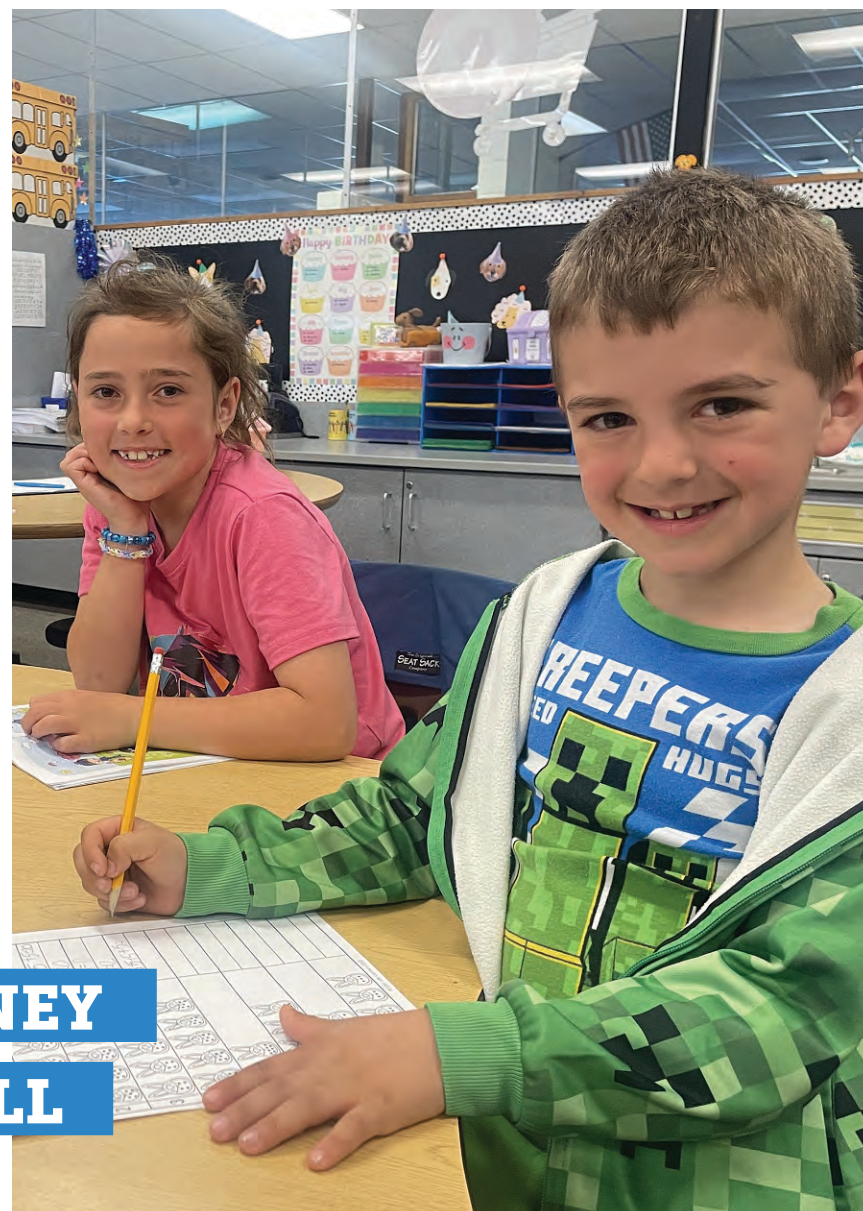
As Michigan's second-largest school district, we are proud to offer award-winning programs designed to unlock every student's academic and personal growth potential.

Our schools are consistently recognized for excellence at both state and national levels, with one of the top graduation rates in the nation. At UCS, we offer:

- A safe, supportive learning environment led by expert educators and staff
- A whole-child approach that nurtures educational and emotional success
- Customized programs and services that match your child's unique learning style and interests
- 1-to-1 technology for all students

START YOUR CHILD'S JOURNEY

WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/ENROLL



UTICA

Designed for success: Utica Community Schools begins to reconstruct elementaries to enhance safety and learning

The future begins this fall for Utica Community Schools.

In late August, more than 500 DeKeyser Elementary School students will start their year in a newly reconstructed school, introducing a design template to influence future work throughout the district.

“The reconstructed DeKeyser Elementary represents the transformational nature of our 2023 Safety and Success Bond Issue,” school Supt. Robert S. Monroe said. “With a focus on safety, Utica Community Schools is drawing on its legacy of excellence through a new learning environment that fosters academic success for our students.”

DeKeyser, opened more than 50 years ago, is the first of three UCS elementary schools that are currently scheduled for reconstruction. Over the next two years, both Graebner Elementary and Havel Elementary will be completely reconstructed to reflect the new building design. The modern and flexible design will reflect community pride and enhance neighborhood property values.

Inspired by DeKeyser’s design template, this transformative work represents the first steps in a long-range plan for UCS school buildings.

A focus on safety

The reconstruction illustrates the district’s safety focus by creating grade-level classroom configurations with multiple barriers that will restrict access. The building also will utilize the safety features that are being implemented across the district, including secure entryways, new classroom safety locks, and impact resistant glass. In addition, a new audio-visual system connects teachers directly to the main office in case of an emergency.

Community-based learning

Learning communities will introduce a new way of teaching and learning at the elementary level.

Classrooms are grouped together by grade levels with a shared learning community outside of each group of classrooms. The shared space emphasizes collaboration and creativity through visible learning, with students seeing these important life skills modeled at school

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR FUTURE

DeKeyser Elementary Open House
Sunday, Aug. 24, from 2-4 p.m.
uticak12.org/dekeyseropenhouse

daily by staff and their peers.

Integral to the individual teaching approach and unique learning style of each student is the flexibility of instruction by use of furniture, technology and resources.

This flexibility will be a design focus of classrooms and learning communities alike, allowing for students and staff to adjust the space to best support student achievement at the individual, small or large group, and classroom level.

High-tech classrooms and instructional flexibility

Academic growth will be supported through new technology installations across the school district.

Utica Community Schools students have 1:1 technology with district provided, personal computer laptops (upper elementary) or iPads (lower elementary).

DeKeyser — along with all UCS classrooms across the district — also will begin the year with a new audio-visual system. The AV system has three components: a projection system, document camera, and a lanyard microphone staff can use to amplify their voice or create an alert in the main office in an emergency. The classroom provides teachers with instructional flexibility to support large, small or individual instruction with furniture and whiteboards that support multiple teaching stations in the classroom.

The future of Utica Community Schools

DeKeyser Elementary represents the beginning stages of a long-range plan for UCS schools. Through its ongoing strategic planning process, the district will continue its transformation of school facilities as it builds for the future.

For more information on the process, visit uticak12.org/safetyandsuccess.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

A group of DeKeyser Elementary School students work together using new modular furniture.



This rendering shows a DeKeyser Elementary School classroom.



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- Offering Early Childhood programs and two Kindergarten options: Traditional Full Day and Transitional Kindergarten (2-year program)
- 1 to 1 Technology in grades K-12 and interactive whiteboards in all elementary schools
- College credit opportunities through Advanced Placement courses, Dual Enrollment and Early College of Macomb
- Over 20 Career Technical Education courses linked to jobs in demand
- Specialized Math/Science/Technology (MST) program
- Esteemed fine and performing arts programs
- Competitive athletics in middle and high school



L'ANSE CREUSE

District, community works together to put L'Anse Creuse Public Schools students first

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

There's something magical about the moment you see the expression on a student's face when a concept just clicks or when you watch a learner's enthusiasm for a subject grow right in front of your eyes.

At the Pankow Center, these types of moments happen for educators almost every day. Located on the campus of L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, the center is the heart of the district's Career and Technical Center program, a place where teen learners explore careers pathways and plan for their future beyond high school.

"It's an impressive place," school Supt. Keith Howell said. "So many students are able to get a good start on their careers and flourish because of the education they receive here."

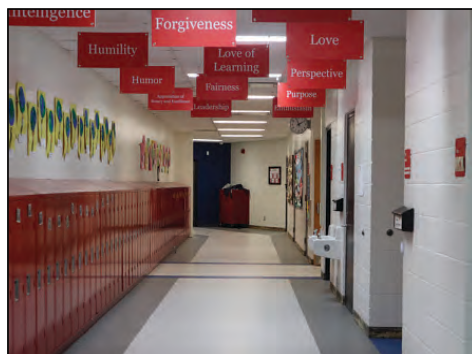
As students immerse themselves in in-depth study of a subject they're excited about and work alongside professionals in the field, they're often able to push the fast-forward button on their career. They may narrow down their career interests to a specific job, decide that they want to go to college to learn more about the industry or that they are ready to enroll in trade school. Some CTE programs even offer certification credentials that students can earn before they graduate from high school should they want to go straight into the workforce.

On the other hand, students may decide that what they thought was the perfect career for them is not what they dreamed it would be. Instead of investing time and money in college to come to that conclusion, they can figure it out early and modify their plans.

The career pathways are varied, offering something for everyone. Pankow Center houses seven CTE programs:

- Arts and Communications
- Business, Management, Marketing and Technology
- Computer Technology
- Engineering/Manufacturing & Industrial Technology
- Health Sciences
- Human Services
- Natural Resources & Agri-Science

The pathways cover a wide array of career choices, ranging from TV and broadcast media and horticulture science to automotive collision and cybersecurity.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF L'ANSE CREUSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bond monies are addressing aging facilities, such as installing new flooring at three elementary schools.

L'Anse Creuse Public Schools has long relied on a strong core of academics balanced with diverse offerings in arts, robotics, clubs and other activities to create enthusiastic learners.

"Students have a number of options to choose from," said Howell. "There is an activity for everyone, where they can share similar interests."

He is proud of student successes. He said this year there were many academic, performing arts and athletics accomplishments. L'Anse Creuse had athletic state qualifiers with over 30 students signing letters of intent to continue competing at the collegiate level. The high school band had a successful season, Skills USA students performed well at the state conference and

the DECA teams at both high schools had an impressive year. Most recently, as part of the Little Inventors initiative, out of 1,800 submissions, only 10 inventions were selected by a professional designer and two of those were created by L'Anse Creuse students. In addition, the district celebrated L'Anse Creuse students who were named to the Macomb County All-Academic Team.

Howell speaks very highly of L'Anse Creuse staff.

"Teachers are motivated to connect and create opportunities for students," he said. "You can see their passion in what they do every single day."

Beyond a welcoming, nurturing environment, L'Anse Creuse Public Schools provides a safe, secure place to learn. Approval of a \$188 million bond is helping the district enhance safety and security features at all schools. Among the items included are replacing exte-



L'Anse Creuse students are immersed in learning, participating in creative projects that help them with problem-solving skills.

rior doors, windows, and lighting; upgrading existing secure entry vestibules; upgrading the security camera and phone systems; installing an emergency alert system; and replacing public address systems.

Bond monies also will address aging facilities. First phase projects include installing new sidewalks and upgrading concrete surfaces throughout the district, replacing the roof at L'Anse Creuse High School — North, upgrading the high school baseball and softball fields with turf, pool filtration and dehumidification updates and putting in new flooring at three elementary schools.

People are excited to see these spaces revitalized, said Howell, adding that it's been 20 years since the district completed the last updates. These upgrades also will help protect the community's investment in the district's facilities for years to come.

Other work to be completed in the next few years includes replacing student instructional technology; replacing audio-visual systems; improving heating and cooling systems; replacing parking lots and sidewalks; replacing aging roofs, playground surfaces and equipment; updating tennis/pickleball courts and playing fields; and purchasing band trailers and band equipment.

"We want kids to feel excited about their spaces," said Howell. "We want them to feel comfortable so they can focus on learning and feel like this at home while they are here."

As bond work progresses, he believes that the community will appreciate the changes, as well. He said the district works with everyone to put students first.

"I'm excited for what the future holds. There are many opportunities here at L'Anse Creuse," said Howell.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, visit lc-ps.org or call 586-783-6300. L'Anse Creuse Public Schools includes:

- Atwood Elementary School, 45690 North Ave., Macomb
- Joseph M. Carkenord Elementary School, 27100 Twenty-Four Mile Road, Chesterfield
- Green Elementary School, 47260 Sugarbush Road, Chesterfield
- Francis A. Higgins Elementary School, 29901 Twenty-Four Mile Road, Chesterfield
- Emma V. Lobbetael Elementary School, 38495 Prentiss St., Harrison Township
- Marie C. Graham Elementary School, 25555 Crocker Road, Harrison Township
- South River Elementary School, 27733 South River Road, Harrison Township
- Tenniswood Elementary School, 23450 Glenwood Ave., Clinton Township
- Donald J. Yacks Elementary School, 34700 Union Lake Road, Harrison Township
- L'Anse Creuse Middle School — Central, 38000 Reimold St., Harrison Township
- L'Anse Creuse Middle School — East, 30300 Hickey Road, Chesterfield
- L'Anse Creuse Middle School — North, 46201 Fairchild St., Macomb
- L'Anse Creuse Middle School — South, 34641 Jefferson Ave., Harrison Township
- L'Anse Creuse High School, 38495 L'Anse Creuse Road, Harrison Township
- L'Anse Creuse High School — North, 23700 Twenty One Mile Road, Macomb
- Frederick V Pankow Center, 24600 Frederick Pankow Blvd., Clinton Township
- DiAnne M. Pellerin Center, 24001 Frederick Pankow Blvd., Clinton Township



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- ✿ Newly updated, student-centered English and math curriculum for grades K-12
- ✿ Before- and after-school care available in district through YMCA partnership; after-school partnership with Boys & Girls Club site at Eastpointe High School
- ✿ Strong Career and Technical Education opportunities, including Culinary Arts, Law Enforcement, Marketing, and more
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EASTPOINTE

Eastpointe Community Schools proud of continued progress on strategic initiatives

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Implementation has been smooth and progress steady as Eastpointe Community Schools leans into the third year of its five-year strategic plan.

"We're seeing lots of progress from our students," said Caitlyn Kienitz, communication and marketing coordinator for the district. "Student assessments are showing substantial growth thanks to the new curriculum that enhances consistency across K-12 grade levels."

The district's new core curriculum strengthens its offerings, especially in the math and English language arts sectors. The move was part of a strategic plan approved by the Board of Education

after numerous Eastpointe teachers successfully piloted the programs and shared their experiences. Input from staff, parents and stakeholders also was considered.

According to Kienitz, the enhanced curriculum identifies learning needs and meets students where they are. With supplemental tutoring in math and reading, guided reading and small group reading instruction for elementary students, the district continues to be encouraged by the consistent improvement made by its students.

Other changes within the district also support the new curriculum. Last fall, for example, classrooms received new furniture designed to facilitate flexible, collaborative learning in various layouts depending on curriculum needs.

This August, more changes are in the works as the district's four elementary schools will go back to housing K-5 students. For the past several years, two elementary buildings were designated K-2 and two were 3-5. The move is being implemented for several reasons, said Kienitz, but the top priority was having students back in their neighborhood schools closer to home.

"We know it's going to be more convenient for families – especially those who have children in multiple grades," she said, "but we really want to build community around the school and foster stronger relationships."

It will be a big transition, Kienitz said, adding that the move will also allow fourth and fifth graders to step into leadership



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Eastpointe Community Schools, visit eastpointeschools.org or call 586-533-3000. Eastpointe Community Schools includes:

Eastpointe Early Learning Center, 23750 David St, Eastpointe
Bellview Elementary School, 15800 Bell, Eastpointe
Crescentwood Elementary School, 14500 Crescentwood, Eastpointe
Forest Park Elementary School, 18361 Forest, Eastpointe
Pleasantview Elementary School, 16501 Toepfer, Eastpointe
Eastpointe Middle School, 24701 Kelly Road, Eastpointe
8th Grade Academy, 15501 Couzens Ave., Eastpointe
Eastpointe High School, 15501 Couzens Ave., Eastpointe
Eastpointe Alternative Center, 15320 E. 9 Mile Road, Eastpointe

roles, becoming mentors and role models for younger students.

All four elementary buildings will be air-conditioned and offer the same activity opportunities for students.

The strength of Eastpointe Community Schools is the positive, welcoming learning environment district leaders have worked hard to cultivate.

The district's Early Learning Center continues to thrive, offering free preschool to 4-year-olds, taught by experienced and caring early childhood teachers. Attending preschool makes a huge difference in children's kindergarten readiness and Eastpointe is proud to have such a fantastic program.

The district also invites parents, grandparents, guardians and caregivers to get involved through volunteering in the classroom, working behind the scenes, attending student performances and athletic events, helping with homework and at-



PHOTO COURTESY OF EASTPOINTE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Class of 2025 participates in their commencement ceremony at the Eastpointe High School auditorium.

tending parent-teacher conferences. Taking an active role demonstrates to students that their education is important and they can feel the support, encouragement and pride from their loved ones.

Clubs, athletics and other student organizations not only provide valuable outlets for students to explore new interests, they get children excited about coming to school every day. Good attendance is critical to student achievement and can help struggling students from falling further behind, Kienitz said.

These activities have resulted in several Points of Pride for Eastpointe Community Schools during the 2024-25 school year, including these memorable moments:

One of the largest track team turnouts in recent years created much excitement and the school celebrated an all-state finisher

The Lady Shamrocks placed first in the Mac Bronze conference for girls basketball

Graduation was hosted in the district's own auditorium for the first time since the 1940s

Culinary arts students placed in the top 10 in the pasta category at a statewide competition and were invited to prepare their dish at the Michigan Food & Hospitality Show

DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) students entered competition once again. The extracurricular club prepares tomorrow's leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management

A new athletic director spreading lots of



Eighth grade students in Bob Lozelle's English class wrote their own poems for a poetry slam in February.

positive energy in the role

The number of opportunities to participate in afterschool activities continues to increase

The district hosted its first wrestling meet at home since before the COVID-19 pandemic

These successes, combined with upcoming construction projects that received support from the community through passage of a \$36.4 million bond issue approved August 2023, continue to move Eastpointe Community Schools into a strong position now and for years to come.

Achievement

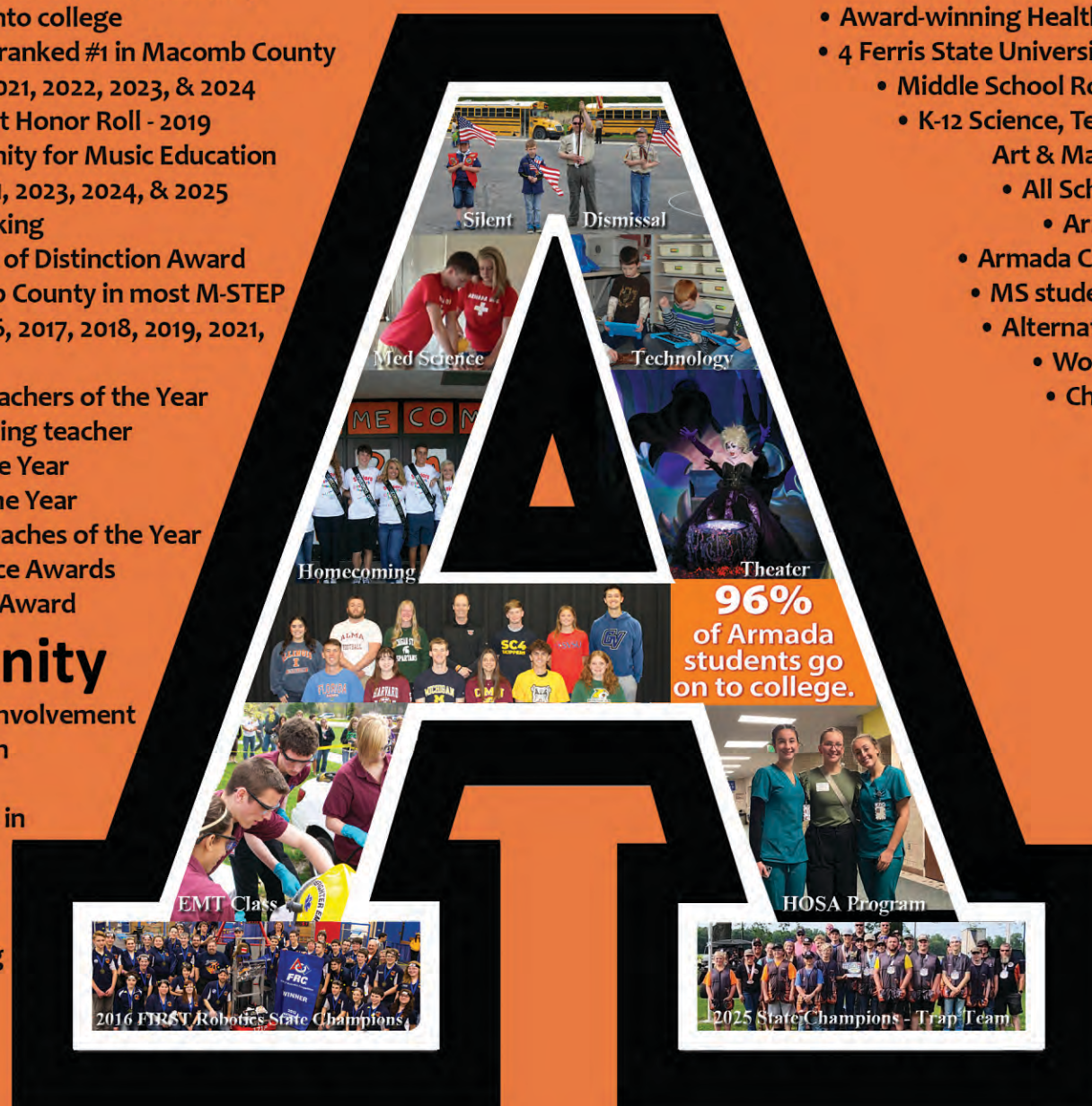
- Highest graduation rate in Macomb County
- 96% of students go onto college
- Armada High School ranked #1 in Macomb County in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, & 2024
- 9th Annual AP District Honor Roll - 2019
- NAMM Best Community for Music Education 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024, & 2025
- 5-Star Preschool Ranking
- 2015 National District of Distinction Award
- Ranked #1 in Macomb County in most M-STEP categories - 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, & 2024
- 5 Macomb County Teachers of the Year
- 1 Milken Award Winning teacher
- 5 State Coaches of the Year
- 1 National Coach of the Year
- 7 Macomb County Coaches of the Year
- 9 Education Excellence Awards
- 2013 Michigan's Best Award

Community

- High level of parent involvement
- Close-knit, small town environment
- Mentoring programs in all grades
- Positive, welcoming atmosphere
- Personalized learning with updated technology
- Small class sizes

Innovation

- Armada Middle Academy of Arts & Sciences
- Award-winning Health Occupations Program
- 4 Ferris State University Early College Classes
- Middle School Robotics State Champion
- K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math (STEAM) curriculum
- All Schools Cognia accredited
- Armada Science Academy
- Armada Conservatory of the Arts
- MS students can earn HS credits
- Alternative education program
- World travel opportunities
- Champion robotics teams at elementary, middle, and high school levels
- Career Internships
- 11 AP Classes



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ARMADA

Armada Area Schools: Small hometown district celebrates big achievements

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

Thanks to a variety of innovative programs and a community committed to providing their students a quality education, Armada Area Schools is a place for children to explore their interests, grow their knowledge and confidently prepare for life after high school graduation.

"We have award-winning staff members, enjoy great support from our community and boast a family atmosphere," school Supt. Michael Musary said. "This contributes greatly to the success of our students."

The district has a long list of achievements.

For the past seven consecutive years, Armada High School has been ranked the top high school in Macomb County according to the Michigan Department of Education. In addition, the district consistently ranks in the top of the county for M-STEP test scores and is proud to have an award-winning music program that is nationally recognized as a Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Education.

"Only 21 school districts in the state earned this honor in 2025," he said.

These are huge honors for any school district, but especially for one that serves 1,800 students with a graduating class of approximately 150 each year. Armada Area Schools includes Krause Elementary School, Armada Middle School and Armada High School. All three schools are located on the same campus.

Armada students thrive because they receive a very personal academic experience that is closely monitored to meet their individual needs. Learners of all ages are given every opportunity to be successful, including additional support if they are struggling with specific classroom concepts or accelerated learning activities if they are excelling in their current lessons.

People in Armada, a bedroom community located within 80 square miles, support the success of its students and the district as a whole. Here's a look at a few points of pride:

The Armada High School trap team, which began participating in the Michigan State High School Clay Target League in 2016, won the Class 2A Michigan State High School Clay Target League State



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Armada Area Schools, visit armadaschools.org or call 586-784-4268. Armada Area Schools includes:

Krause Elementary School, 23900 Armada Center Road, Armada
Armada Middle School, 23550 Armada Center Road, Armada
Armada High School, 23655 Armada Center Road, Armada

Championship in June. The team previously won a state championship title in 2019.

Even though Armada High School is a Class B high school with 530 students, it continually has the most students in Macomb County earn All-Academic Award status. In 2025, the district was proud to have 10 students earn this award.

Krause Elementary School students participate in TinkerTech, music, science and art specials during the school day for a well-rounded education. Fourth and fifth graders also have the option to join the school's strings program.

Students have the ability to begin earning high school credits while still in middle school.

Armada Middle School students have access to a MakerSpace that inspires their creativity as they learn through hands-on experiments and engage with different types of technology.

Elective opportunities at the middle school include Renewable Energy, Culinary Arts and Introduction to Medical Sciences.

High school students have more than 10 Advanced Placement courses to choose from, including AP Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, Environmental Science, English Language and Composition, Physics, Spanish, Statistics, U.S. History and World History.

High school students receive robust, hands-on learning experiences through Armada's many Career and Technical Education programs, including Building



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARMADA AREA SCHOOLS

Phase 1 of HVAC work at Armada High School will replace the boiler system and all pipes/valves.

Trades, Culinary Arts, Medical Careers and Business.

Armada High School students enjoy strong music and arts programs, including orchestra, jazz band, chorale, theatre and multiple art courses.

Every high school student completes a two-year career sequence and finance course before graduation.

Armada students can participate in the Macomb Academy of Arts and Sciences as well. Located just a few blocks away from the main campus, students are selected to attend the academy based on their interest and potential to achieve in math and science subjects.

At Armada Area Schools, the student body tells the story. District leaders said 33.3% of students from 20 different school districts are School of Choice and choose to enroll with the school system because of its supportive learning environment and smaller class sizes where teachers develop genuine relationships with their students and their families.

An amazing 96% of district students con-

tinue to trade school, community college or a four-year university. Musary is proud that students are well prepared for whatever path they choose after graduation.

Students will return to school this fall and immediately notice some changes. Following passage of the \$26.5 million bond issue in May 2023, the district has been busy with several construction projects this summer. One of the most notable is construction of the new high school office with a secure entrance.

In addition, many other facility improvements have taken place or will be wrapping up soon, including:

Repaving the transportation parking lot and adding new lighting.

Phase 1 of HVAC work at the high school which will replace the boiler system and all pipes/valves.

Renovation of the old high school athletic building.

Three renovations at the middle school — expanding the cafeteria into adjacent space, renovation of both locker rooms and renovation of the stage to become a fitness room.



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- Early College Credit and Scholarships
- Inclusive Culture, Diverse Student Body
- Safety and Security Focused
- Free In-district Bus Transportation
- Championship-Caliber Athletics in Football, Boys Basketball and Track
- iCampus Virtual Learning
- Schools of Choice K-11
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CLINTONDALE

Clintondale Community Schools to offer expanding opportunities for secondary students

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

Clintondale Community Schools is not just a school district. It's a place where children and their families can learn, belong and thrive together.

A student-centered district where students are given the tools to succeed, the district takes pride in its small class sizes and dedicated team of educators who care deeply about student growth and help students reach their full potential.

The district is constantly evolving. This fall, families will notice several changes — most notably, the reinvention of its secondary campus.

"Our goal is to create a more unified, student-centered campus that enhances learning for grades 6-12," school

Supt. Kenneth Janczarek said. "By bringing middle and high school students together under one roof, we can better share resources, strengthen collaboration and expand academic offerings. Our current high school building will be repurposed to serve grades 6-12, while the middle school building will become the new home of our

iCampus virtual program and support future partnerships."

The new middle school entrance will be located on 15 Mile Road. Middle school and high school students will be on different floors of the building and will have separate bell schedules.

Clintondale Community Schools is also expanding its Career Technical Education program offerings and extracurricular options.

New elective courses in cosmetology, cybersecurity and performing arts (dance) will be added to the course catalog for the year ahead.

The goal is to build these into full CTE pathways, adding to an already powerful lineup of state-certified CTE programs in Marketing, Teacher Cadet, Media Production, Culinary Arts and Graphic Production. Robotics is also offered but not yet state certified.

In addition, the district is working toward dual enrollment articulation agreements with Wayne State University for health and science and business and engineering, and with Macomb Community College for welding, HVAC and automotive.

New middle school electives in environmental science and dance also are being introduced.

Clintondale also offers championship-caliber athletic teams in football, boys basketball and volleyball as part of its 14 varsity and junior varsity sports lineup.

"We stress academics with our student athletes," said Janczarek. "They receive both a quality education and effective coaching and mentoring."

Bus transportation is available for every student in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLINTONDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Clintondale's Class of 2025 celebrates graduation day with a clap-out.

district who lives farther than one-quarter mile from the school they will be attending.

Clintondale's iCampus Virtual Learning program offers students in grades 6 through age 22 a tuition-free, flexible path to a Clintondale High School diploma. With dedicated teachers, mentors and loaner Chromebooks provided, this program is ideal for those who thrive on a non-traditional schedule outside of a brick-and-mortar setting. In person, drop-in assistance is available three days per week, as well.

Through iCampus, the district also offers year-round, tuition-based out-of-district credit recovery for high school students who need to get back on track.

New secure front entrances at all buildings district-wide will add another layer of safety and security for students and staff.

Last year, Clintondale introduced a key fob entry system, new public address system, a Nightlock security system and a school resource officer as part of its safety initiatives.

"These updates reflect our ongoing commitment to improving both the learning environment and the overall security of our schools," said Janczarek.

The superintendent also is excited to welcome Kevin Knoblock as the new director of special services. He brings a wealth of experience to his new role as the district's primary advocate for special education.

Knoblock will oversee a full continuum of specialized services ensuring students receive the tailored instruction and support they need to thrive both academically and socially.

Clintondale Community Schools is strengthened by

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Clintondale Community Schools, visit clintondaleschools.net or call 586-791-6300.

Clintondale Community Schools includes:

McGlinnen Elementary School, 21415 Sunnyview Drive, Clinton Township

Parker Elementary School, 22055 Quinn Road, Clinton Township

Rainbow Early Childhood Center, 33749 Wurfel St., Clinton Township

Clintondale Middle School, 35200 Little Mack Ave., Clinton Township

Clintondale High School, 35200 Little Mack Ave., Clinton Township

Clintondale iCampus, 35300 Little Mack Ave., Clinton Township

the dedication of its staff and the strong leadership of its Board of Education. Teachers and support staff inspire students every day, and the Board provides the vision and direction that keep the district moving forward.

"Staff and teachers are the heart of Clintondale Community Schools," said Janczarek, noting that their dedication, creativity and commitment to students make a lasting impact. He also praised the Board of Education for its strong leadership and direction that support the district's continued growth.

"From guiding academic growth to supporting students' social and emotional development, our staff and board create a safe, engaging and inclusive environment. Their achievements — in the classroom, through programs, or in professional development — reflect their passion for education and belief in every student's potential. We're proud to have such a talented, caring team," he said.

The Clintondale community also rallies around its schools with local organizations, businesses, families and alumni consistently stepping up to volunteer, donate and cheer on students.

"Our community plays a vital role in creating a positive and connected environment. That strong support network is part of what makes Clintondale such a special place to learn and grow," said Janczarek.

Clintondale Community Schools is where innovation meets caring. Its Rainbow Early Childhood Center offers Great Start Readiness Preschool, a free program for 4-year-olds, and kindergarten for 5-year-olds. Tuition-based child care services are also available for ages 6 months to 12 years.

"Whether you are new to the area or looking for a school that truly sees your child, we offer a welcoming environment built on trust, relationships and the belief that every student has unlimited potential. We invite you to discover all that Clintondale has to offer," he said.

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LAKEVIEW

Community pride is always front and center at Lakeview Public Schools

By Jane Peterson
For Media NewsGroup

For Lakeview Public Schools Supt. Karl Paulson, the resilience, determination and focus of students and staff and the commitment of parents and the community never cease to amaze. Grant funds and recent bond-related construction projects have helped Lakeview leapfrog ahead in academic opportunity and facility options for students, staff and the community.

Now in his 18th year as superintendent, Paulson said celebrating these accomplishments is an honor, but he takes the most pride in the district's commitment to provide students with the tools they need to be successful in the workforce or a college classroom after graduation. New curriculum and instructional materials have been purchased at multiple grade levels. Elementary and middle school students are challenged and supported to achieve success. New course options for high school students, including an on-site partnership with Lawrence Technological University, bring opportunities to students unlike anywhere else in the area.

Technology is integrated in almost every part of Lakeview's curriculum. This is possible thanks to continued improvements to the district's technology infrastructure that have been made with recent bond monies. Without the upgraded wireless ports, cabling and Internet access, large numbers of students wouldn't be able to access their devices at the same time and the 1:1 laptop initiative for secondary students would not be nearly as successful.

"Instead, our technology infrastructure meets all of the new demands on equipment and works without problems," he said.

This applies to the elementary schools, as well, which also have more individual technology available for students to use every day



FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Lakeview Public Schools, visit LakeviewPublicSchools.org or call 586-445-4000. Lakeview Public Schools includes:

- Ardmore Elementary School, 27001 Greater Mack, Saint Clair Shores
- Greenwood Elementary School, 27900 Joan St., Saint Clair Shores
- Harmon Elementary School, 24800 Harmon St., Saint Clair Shores
- Princeton Elementary School, 20300 Statler St., Saint Clair Shores
- Jefferson Middle School, 27900 Rockwood St., Saint Clair Shores
- Lakeview High School, 21100 East Eleven Mile Road, Saint Clair Shores
- Wheat Early Childhood Center, 27575 Harper Ave., Saint Clair Shores

with classroom laptop carts at all buildings.

School safety is also a top priority and Lakeview continues to be proactive in safety planning. Canine safety teams are in the schools every day. Lakeview hired ZebraK9 teams (retired state police) with dogs trained to search for explosives, guns or narcotics, including vape devices.

"Preliminary data indicates the presence of these teams has reduced related discipline cases, keeping our schools safer. How-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAKEVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lakeview's construction bond projects have improved and expanded every school in the district.



Parent volunteers and events were back in full force at Harmon Elementary School.

ever, these preventive and training measures never substitute for real-time information from students or parents. Remember, a 'tell us if you see something' mindset for parents, students and staff prevent many issues from ever happening," said Paulson.

Other safety improvements include:

- Physical barriers like door locks and secure entrances at all schools
- Collection of data through a threat assessment process that can indicate success at preventing harm to self or others
- The Bluepoint Emergency Alert system, which allows any staff member or student to initiate a lockdown from anywhere in any building and call police automatically

▪ Having an armed St. Clair Shores police officer in the district every day. He works closely with administration and provides training as needed.

"This does not mean we are satisfied because we continue to look at safety issues often and train staff each year on a variety of safety topics and scenarios," said the superintendent. "I hope the day never comes where we have to put our training and plans into action, but we train our staff to be prepared if it does."

Lakeview's construction bond projects have improved and expanded every school in the district. Paulson shared that classrooms, playgrounds, offices, parking lots, gyms, the pool, auditorium and stadium are more functional, safer and visually ap-

pealing than in the past.

Lakeview High School now has a Class A stadium to accommodate highly successful soccer, football and track teams. More work inside LHS on the pool area, gyms, weight room and auditorium was completed during the 2024-25 school year.

"Classroom additions, office renovations, heating and cooling upgrades, technology improvements and site work will give students and staff more space, more flexibility and better security at all buildings as we look to the future," said Paulson.

In the meantime, Lakeview Public Schools staff and students continue to thrive.

CAD/CAM students explore real-world design and manufacturing processes on industry standard equipment because of a grant from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, providing over \$200,000 worth of updated equipment for students to utilize and learn. Auto program students work with similar industry standard equipment in the full-service, National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation-certified training facility.

Several LHS sports teams achieved multiple conference, division and state recognition.

High school students earned over 2,000 credits in college courses in 2024-25, paid for by Lakeview. Lakeview students can dual enroll in Baker College and Lawrence Technological University, where professors come to the high school to teach. Large numbers of high school students also attend classes on the campus of Macomb Community College.

In addition to dual enrollment, Lakeview High School offers Advanced Placement classes and Career and Technical Education courses. AP classes are college-level classes and students who earn a qualifying score on the Advanced Placement course examination earn college credit.



CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS

At Chippewa Valley Schools we inspire and empower students to achieve a lifetime of success. State-of-the-art facilities, tech-enhanced classrooms, and comprehensive instruction ready our learners for the rigors of the 21st century.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

From the moment your child enters school until the day they leave us, CVS is committed to their development and success. We provide a strong, challenging curriculum that ensures college readiness and creates productive, responsible, and caring students who love to learn.

SAFE & SECURE

Students learn best when they feel safe and secure. Our Safe Schools, Strong Schools bond improvements fund essential security enhancements district wide. School guard glass, emergency alert systems, security cameras, and improved locks and door systems ensure our students feel safe at school.

CTE PATHWAYS

At CVS, we're committed to preparing students for post-high school success. Our award-winning Career and Technical Education program is launching students into high-paying careers. With 15 comprehensive pathways to choose from, we support all our students' diverse interests.

DEDICATED EDUCATORS

Our learning community would be nothing without our tremendous teachers and support staff, who feel like family. They all help to create a warm, inspirational learning environment in which your child will feel at home. Our teachers share a clear focus to ensure an outstanding classroom experience for every student.

CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITY

A close-knit school community is one of our biggest assets. We believe parent involvement and community support are key to student success. Parents and families volunteer, attend meetings, conferences, and extracurricular events throughout the school year to show students they care.

FINE ARTS

Fine arts programs give learners the chance to explore their passions. Our students receive local, state, and national awards in the arts. With classes in art, photography, music, band, choir, theater, and more, we're igniting students' creativity.

ATHLETICS

Athletics at CVS are an essential part of learning cooperation, teamwork, sportsmanship, and leadership - qualities that last a lifetime. They make players into community leaders and teach them how to strive for a goal, handle mistakes, and cherish growth opportunities.

To learn more about enrolling in the Chippewa Valley School district visit:
choosechippewa.com or call us 586-723-2240.

CHIPPEWA VALLEY

Chippewa Valley Schools is taking a fresh look at its middle school elective course offerings

By Jane Peterson

For Media NewsGroup

When students can choose what they learn, they instantly become more excited about — and invested in — their education.

While core classes are essential to the learning experience, elective classes provide the perfect opportunity for students to explore a personal interest, discover talents they never knew they had and broaden their general knowledge about the world around them. A selection of well-curated elective courses can enhance core classes, teach practical skills and get students excited about going to school every day.



Chippewa Valley Schools is planning to expand its elective offerings at the middle school level. The plan was recently approved by the CVS school board with support from the district's middle school staffs and the Chippewa Valley K-12 Curriculum Council.

"Elective courses contribute to a well-rounded education and can complement what students are studying as part of the core curriculum," school Supt. Ronald Roberts said. "Studies show that elective classes can make the school day more enjoyable for students and boost student engagement overall."

Administrators are seeking to standardize programs throughout the district and transition from the current 10-week enhancement schedule to 20-week electives.

As part of the process, new classes will be added to the offerings while many current electives will receive upgrades. Personal Finance, Careers and Success 101, for example, will receive updates and new titles like Passion to Paycheck and Passport to Success. To fit into the semester format, traditional electives like band, choir, technology education and physical education will undergo major updates, as well.

"Working with stakeholder surveys, focus groups and contributions from more than 60 teachers and 20 administrators, we took a long look at what we wanted electives to look like at Chippewa Valley middle schools," Roberts said. "These decisions were not made lightly, and we believe they are the best options for our students."

Among the new elective choices are:

Communication — Speak, Share, Connect. This class focuses on developing effective communication skills, fostering positive relationships and creating strategies to navigate today's multimedia world through hands-on projects in critical thinking, creativity and digital citizenship.

Game On — Computer Science. Problem-solving and communication skills will naturally be developed as students are introduced to website creation, animation, game design and app development.

AI in Action. Students will explore all aspects of artificial intelligence, including how machines learn and how coding applications are used for real-world problem-solving.

Middle School Moguls. All angles of entrepreneurship are studied as students learn what it means to be an entrepreneur, how to generate and grow ideas and how to create multi-media presentations. They will also learn about the roles problem-solving, teamwork and budgeting play into today's fast-paced business environment.

Everyday Essentials. Students will become proficient at practical life skills while building confidence and performing daily tasks independently.

Science Seekers. This class will engage students in hands-on investigations of engineering, animal science, human biology, chemistry and space exploration.

The district also is taking a broader look at how its buildings are utilized, hoping to take a proactive approach to population shifts and lower birthrates.

"We have a responsibility to ensure that our buildings are being fully utilized and provide the best support possible for our students," said Roberts.

CVS staff and the Board of Education have been working with Fielding International, an educational consulting and architectural firm that specializes in demographics and facilities. The firm plans to survey community members, create specialized focus groups and work with a Design Advisory Team composed of school staff, administrators, parents and students to gather input during the discovery and visioning phases of the process. From there, a master plan will be developed with potential building and program changes taking place gradually from 2026-29.

"Depending on the findings and feedback from our stakeholders and staff, we could potentially have several options ranging



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS

Students in Chippewa Valley learn valuable tech-inspired and hands-on lessons.

from consolidating schools and repurposing buildings for better use to expanding and relocating programs like Career Technical Education (CTE), alternative education and preschool to more suitable spaces," Roberts said.

While elementary school enrollment across Michigan continues to decline, programs like CTE continue to grow. Chippewa Valley Schools offers a comprehensive, challenging CTE program that includes 15 programs of study in automotive technology, business, construction trades, culinary arts, design technology, family and consumer science, graphic design, marketing, mechatronics and robotics, medical academy, information technology, cybersecurity, accounting, and woodworking and cabinet-making.

These classes allow students to explore job training and careers in a particular field of study that interests them. Teachers share their on-the-job experiences, work-based projects and career expectations with students. Some programs offer a certification credential or articulated college credit upon successful completion.

"What makes CTE so special," Roberts said, "is its ties to industry and work. Students connect with those who are making a real difference in their community and can pursue internship and apprenticeship opportunities. It answers the age-old question, 'Why do I need to know this?' loud and clear, setting students up for future success in college and the workplace."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Chippewa Valley Schools, visit choosechippewa.com or call 586-723-2240.

Chippewa Valley Schools includes:

- Little Turtle Preschool Macomb, 50375 Card Road, Macomb Twp.
- Cherokee Elementary School, 42900 Rivergate Drive, Clinton Twp.
- Cheyenne Elementary School, 47600 Heydenreich, Macomb
- Clinton Valley Elementary School, 1260 Mulberry, Mt. Clemens
- Erie Elementary School, 42276 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Twp.
- Fox Elementary School, 17500 Millstone Drive, Macomb
- Huron Elementary School, 15800 Terra Bella, Clinton Twp.
- Miami Elementary School, 41290 Kentvale, Clinton Twp.
- Mohawk Elementary School, 48101 Romeo Plank Road, Macomb
- Ojibwa Elementary School, 46950 Heydenreich, Macomb
- Ottawa Elementary School, 18601 Millar, Clinton Twp.
- Sequoyah Elementary School, 18500 24 Mile Rd., Macomb
- Shawnee Elementary School, 21555 Vesper, Macomb
- Algonquin Middle School, 19150 Briarwood Lane, Clinton Twp.
- Iroquois Middle School, 48301 Romeo Plank Road, Macomb
- Seneca Middle School, 47200 Heydenreich, Macomb
- Wyandot Middle School, 39490 Garfield, Clinton Twp.
- Chippewa Valley High School, 18300 Nineteen Mile Road, Clinton Twp.
- Chippewa Valley 9th Grade Center, 42755 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Twp.
- Dakota High School, 21051 Twenty-One Mile Road, Macomb
- Dakota 9th Grade Center, 21055 Twenty-One Mile Road, Macomb
- Mohegan High School, 19230 Cass Avenue, Clinton Twp.

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Clintondale Community Schools www.clintondaleschools.net

Eastpointe Community Schools www.eastpointeschools.org

Fitzgerald Public Schools www.fitz.k12.mi.us

Fraser Public Schools www.fraser.k12.mi.us/

Lake Shore Public Schools www.lakeshoreschools.org

Lakeview Public Schools www.lakeviewpublicschools.org

L'Anse Creuse Public Schools www.lc-ps.org

Mount Clemens Community Schools www.mtcps.org

New Haven Community Schools newhaven.misd.net

Richmond Community Schools www.richmond.k12.mi.us

Romeo Community Schools www.romeok12.org

Roseville Community Schools www.rosevillepride.org

South Lake Schools www.solake.org

Utica Community Schools www.uticak12.org

Van Dyke Public Schools www.vdps.net

Warren Consolidated Schools www.weskids.net

Warren Woods Public Schools www.warrenwoods.misd.net



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