

Rochester Community Schools

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Summer 2018



Growing to meet the needs of our community

Orchestra program rounds out music curriculum

Rochester Community Schools proudly announces the initiation of a strings program, starting at the sixth-grade level, to further enhance the district's music curriculum. Strings include violin, viola, cello, and double bass.

"Adding new programs to the school curriculum is an indication of the strong financial health of our district. Our ability to accomplish the goals set by our strategic plan requires fiscal stewardship,

which includes maintaining a balanced budget that is sustainable, promotes growth, and maintains high quality student programs," said Superintendent Robert Shaner, Ph.D. "This is an exciting time for our district."

The idea of adding a strings program was first introduced at a Board of Education meeting. "The strings program is an example of how we can all work together to achieve great things for

our students. Two community members brought forth a proposal and patiently worked through the process to enhance our programs. We are extremely happy with the results," said Board of Education President Sandy Fiaschetti, Ph.D.

In the spring 2016, the district initiated a task force to research and explore the feasibility of having a strings program.

(continued page two)

RCS Caring Steps Children's Center Quality care now begins at birth

With the early childcare facility slated to open in September 2018, children from birth through age five can receive the quality care and educational expertise that the community has grown to expect from Rochester Community Schools. The new services will be housed in a recently purchased and renovated facility at 3838 North Rochester, near Gunn Road. The location offers 36,000 square feet of space on 23 acres.

Year-round care will be available for newborns, infants, and toddlers from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Flexible scheduling includes two, three, four, and five-day options to accommodate the needs of our families.

"The current Pre-Kindergarten program is at capacity. By expanding our district's preschool program and offering a year-round, extended-hours daycare operation, we can better serve the needs of our families," said Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Debi Fragomeni.

RCS recognizes the importance of early childhood education and currently operates 29 preschool classes for students, ages 3-4, in school buildings throughout the district. These quality



programs and services will continue. The new facility, though, will offer additional options for care throughout the summer months as well.

"We are proud of the work that is being done to enhance our current Pre-K programs, but to fully meet the needs of the community, we needed to expand our footprint. Opening a childcare center offered a solution with great opportunity," said Superintendent Robert Shaner, Ph.D.

"As we open the new facility, the Rochester Community School District will remain committed to providing our youngest learners with innovative programming, exceptional childcare, and a unique preschool experience."

For more information, please call the district at 248-726-3022 or visit our website at www.rochester.k12.mi.us.

Enhancing the educational environment

By approving a \$185 million bond proposal, the community overwhelmingly voted to invest in the educational future of our students. Internal and external building work continues to enhance student and staff safety and school security, improve technology, and address infrastructure needs.



The district is pleased to report that the bond projects are on time and on budget as we enter year three of a five-year commitment. “Every action is strategic and focused on safety and efficiencies throughout the organization,” said Superintendent Robert Shaner, Ph.D. “There has

been a tremendous amount of work accomplished to date, and we truly appreciate all the contributions of our community stakeholders.”

Current projects include renovations to Adams High School, the Alternative Center for Education building, Brooklands Elementary, Hampton Elementary, Hart Middle School, Long Meadow Elementary, and McGregor Elementary School. Some of the highlights for these projects are as follows:

- Hampton will be receiving a six-room pre-kindergarten addition in order to accommodate the needs of the growing community.
- The ACE building will be expanding by 30,000 square feet to accommodate ACE students and provide a dedicated space for students in the adult Special Education program and the Rochester Adult Center for Education.
- Hart renovations represent some of the most significant and invasive projects due to the volume of critical needs. Updates, such as the HVAC and electrical systems, impact every area of the building. Construction efforts for Hart will continue through August 2019.

Upcoming 2018-19 construction projects include work on Delta Kelly Elementary, Meadow Brook Elementary, North Hill Elementary, and the Facility Operations Center. Work on Brewster and University Hills Elementary Schools and Stoney Creek High School will continue through 2020.

The final series of construction projects will include Reuther Middle School, Van Hoosen Middle School, and the Administration Building.

Technology. Through bond resources, we continue to systematically improve our technology infrastructure in order to enhance the teaching and learning environment for all students and staff. Current enhancements include upgrading mobile technology, copiers, and audio systems, and installing additional security monitors.

Completed bond projects

Construction:

- Secure entrances at Hart, Long Meadow, Meadow Brook, McGregor, North Hill, Reuther, Van Hoosen, Stoney Creek, and the Administration building
- Old Brooklands building removal
- Stoney Creek and Hart track replacement
- Adams High School roof replacement
- Larger construction at Baldwin, Hamlin, Hugger, Musson, West, and Rochester High School

Larger project highlights:

- Baldwin / Hamlin – HVAC systems account for nearly half of the budgets
- Hamlin / West – Received additions to the office areas to secure entrances
- Hugger / Musson – Received 20,000 sq. ft. building additions
- RHS – Received improved stadium complex, performing arts wing addition, and mall area
- Other highlights include upgrades and enhancements to media centers, parking lots and sidewalks, playground equipment, windows and doors, furniture, mechanical and electrical systems, and interior facilities and classrooms.

Technology updates and devices:

- 50 mobile labs with over 2,000 devices
- 1,300 laptops for teachers and administrators districtwide
- 300 SMART Interactive Flat Panels
- 32 copiers
- 54 audio systems
- 25 security monitors
- 1,000 surveillance cameras districtwide
- 500 synchronized clocks

Orchestra program to launch this fall (continued from page one)



An orchestra implementation specialist was also employed to study options and produce a cost analysis and logistics report. After much discussion, deliberation, and refinement, the work was then presented back to the Board of Education in the fall 2017. The study included the recommendation of starting a strings program in the sixth grade, indicating that this level of education provided an opportunity for more frequent instruction and supported a strong retention rate for students. Opportunities for students in the seventh and eighth grades (following the implementation of the strings program) were also examined.

On February 12, the Board of Education approved the initiation of the strings program within Rochester Community Schools. The orchestra program rounds out the music curriculum, which also includes the choral and instrumental (band) programs.

* INTRODUCING *

RCS Caring Steps Children's Center

INFANT AND TODDLER CARE ♦ PRESCHOOL CLASSES ♦ YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES

A new early childcare facility

3838 N. Rochester Road, Oakland Township

Serving children from birth through age five, with the quality, care, and teaching that our families have grown to expect from Rochester Community Schools.

A great choice for your child

- ♦ Year-round, extended-hour childcare for infants, toddlers and preschool students
- ♦ 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. availability
- ♦ Fully licensed, secure facility
- ♦ Open during inclement weather
- ♦ Educational philosophy inspired by the **Reggio Emilia approach**
- ♦ Flexible scheduling with two, three, four, and five-day options
- ♦ Slated to open in the fall 2018

Contact Rochester Community Schools

248-726-3022

or visit our website at

www.rochester.k12.mi.us.



Quality care begins at birth



ROCHESTER
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

Seal of Biliteracy awarded to multilingual students

Congratulations to 28 high school graduates from Rochester Community Schools' Class of 2018, who were the district's first-ever recipients of the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy. The designation recognizes student proficiency in English and at least one additional world language.

The formal recognition is part of a Michigan Department of Education initiative to identify people with biliteracy skills and to provide them with enhanced post-secondary and employment opportunities. Michigan joins 27 other states and the District of Columbia in awarding the seal.

Seniors who achieved qualifying scores on common language assessments in May, as well as those who had previously learned in an immersion experience in another country, were awarded this distinction. The program will be refined for earlier testing to include juniors and seniors in future years.



"Rochester Community Schools is committed to enhancing global awareness as part of the strategic plan," said Carrie Lawler, executive director of secondary education. "The Seal of Biliteracy shows our support for students who aspire to be global stewards."

The MDE's policy on biliteracy does not require a specific course of study, but instead encourages language mastery through multiple pathways, which includes study abroad, traditional language classes, experience in multilingual homes, or development of personal heritage languages or native languages.

"This is a notable indicator of success and achievement for students who are building on cultural strengths," said Elizabeth Arcangeli, RCS world language coordinator. "We are proud to embrace and reward cultural competency as a component of overall student success."

Dr. John M. Schultz Educational Campus

The building located at 1440 John R. Road has a new name—the Dr. John M. Schultz Educational Campus. The facility was recently expanded by 30,000 square feet through the bond efforts to provide space for the Alternative Center for Education, the adult Special Education program, and the Rochester Adult Center for Education.

Dr. Schultz served as the RCS superintendent

from 1983-2005, an unprecedented 22 years!

"I feel so good about this school district. I was a big part of it for a long time, but I didn't do it alone—there's no question about it. I surrounded myself with great people. But I do believe in leadership, and you do have to have leadership to make things happen. And I did that. I'm really honored," said Dr. Schultz.



College-level opportunities enhanced with AP Capstone program

During the 2018-19 school year, 207 sophomores and juniors will be afforded the opportunity to begin coursework and earn academic credit toward an esteemed AP Capstone diploma. This advanced diploma would be in addition to a high school's general diploma.



The intensive Advanced Placement® curriculum is recognized nationally by the College Board that connects students to college success.

The optional two-year program is designed to promote critical thinking, research, and problem-solving skills and includes two courses: AP Seminar and AP Research. Each yearlong course counts as an academic credit and requires a graded final test or project.

The AP Seminar course serves as the foundation to expose students to critical analysis and research using real-world issues. At the end of the course, students take a national standardized AP exam that awards a 1-5 score. AP Seminar is taken during 10th or 11th grade as a prerequisite for the next segment.

AP Research is taken after AP Seminar. In this class, each student is required to select a research topic based on his or her own interests. Topics can include anything from environmental dangers, to technology, to behavioral studies, social injustice, or science—in other words, any

topic that lends itself to rigorous investigation and analysis. The work then culminates with an academic thesis and a presentation.

"We're always looking for occasions to enhance student opportunities," said Carrie Lawler, executive director of secondary education. "Scholars who choose to participate in the AP Capstone program will be able to further develop college-level research and analytical skills, while enhancing communication and collaboration techniques."

"The program provides a great opportunity for inquisitive students to explore personal interests, consider multiple points of view, and develop critical analytical skills," said Rochester High School Principal Neil DeLuca. "We are pleased to provide this option to deepen student learning and enhance college readiness."

Meet your Board of Education



Sandra Fiaschetti, Ph.D., president, was elected to the Board in 2014. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Michigan Dearborn and a Master of Arts degree and Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Wayne State University. As co-founder of Magnet Consulting, Sandy partners with organizations to increase employee engagement and effectiveness. Sandy is a long-time resident of Rochester Hills. She and her husband have five children.



Kristin Bull, vice president, was elected to the Board in 2014. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alma College and attended the Michigan State University graduate program for Journalism. A former teacher in the journalism department at Oakland University, Kristin currently serves as an editor for Crain's Detroit Business. Kristin and her husband have been residents of Rochester Hills for more than 10 years. Together, they have two children.



Michael Zabat, treasurer, has served on the Board since 2012. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of the Philippines and a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Southern California. A former lecturer at the University of Southern California, Mike currently works as a lead associate for Booz Allen Hamilton. Mike has lived in Rochester Hills with his wife and two children for more than 20 years.



Michelle Buettel, secretary, was elected to the Board in 2016. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Statistics and Communications and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan. Michelle has served for 14 years on various school and district PTA boards and was the chair for the Rochester PTA Council STEAM Career Exploration Fair. Michelle and her husband, John, have been residents of Rochester Hills for more than 20 years and have two children.



Kevin Beers, trustee, has served on the Board of Education since August 2015. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Central Michigan University, with a concentration in English and Broadcast Arts. A former teacher, Kevin currently works as a public relations coordinator for Health Quest Physical Therapy and a sports announcer for Oakland University. Kevin is a 15-year resident of the Rochester area. He and his wife have four children.



Barb Anness, trustee, was selected to serve on the Board in July 2017. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Graphic Design from the University of Cincinnati. A freelance graphic designer, Barb has volunteered her time and professional talents for many community organizations. A Federal Legislative Chair for the Michigan PTA, Barb also serves as a member of their board of directors. Barb has lived in Rochester Hills for more than 20 years. She and her husband have two children.



Andrea Walker-Leidy, trustee, was appointed to the Board in 2018. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in English from Rochester College. Andrea serves as Development Director for Meadow Brook Theatre and manages her own business, Walker Publicity Consulting. Andrea was previously named a Young Professional of the Year and was recognized as Oakland County's Elite 40 Under 40. A resident of Rochester for nearly 10 years, she and her husband have one son.

Stay informed. Sign up for RCS news alerts.

Community members, alumni, former employees and retirees are invited to sign up for RCS news alerts and learn about the great things happening in our schools.

To sign up to receive email updates through our SchoolMessenger system, please go to:

[http://www.rochester.k12.mi.us/
pages/45803/community-messenger-
self-signup](http://www.rochester.k12.mi.us/pages/45803/community-messenger-self-signup)

If you have questions,
call 248-726-3137, or email us at:
communityrelations@rochester.k12.mi.us.

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Talk to us.

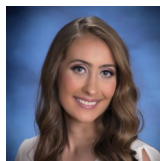
We value your opinion.

Use the Talk to us® feature on our website to contact us anytime, day or night. When residents go to www.rochester.k12.mi.us and click on the Talk to us button in the upper left corner of the screen, they can make a comment, offer a compliment, ask a question, or report a problem. We pride ourselves in a 48-hour turnaround time for most comments.

RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher - Four or more Advanced Placement® courses - SAT composite score of 1450 or higher - or ACT composite score of 32 or higher

* National Merit Scholar Finalist



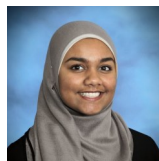
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Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



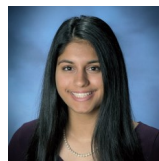
Zahra Ahmed
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Oakland Univ.



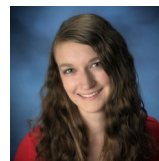
Annabelle Angus
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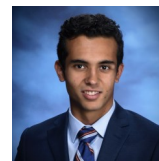
Afrah Ansari*
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Wayne State



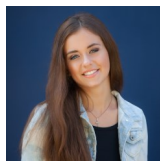
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Meredith Benson
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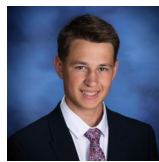
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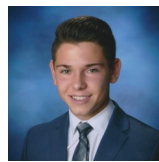
Keeley Bombard
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Boston Univ.



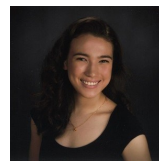
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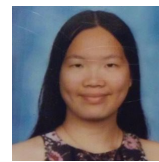
Benjamin Borschke
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Kevin Buca
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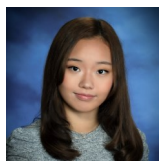
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Joanna Chang
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Oakland Univ.



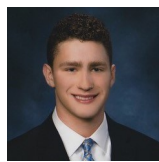
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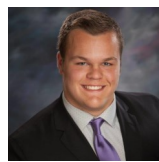
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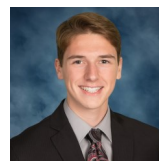
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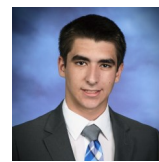
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Michigan Tech



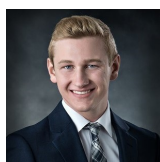
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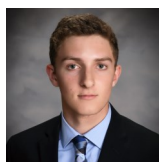
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Adams
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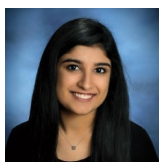
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Stoney Creek
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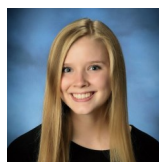
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Stoney Creek
Hope College



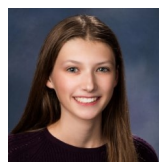
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Arya Desai*
Adams
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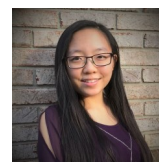
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Katherine Dyar
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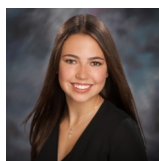
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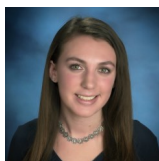
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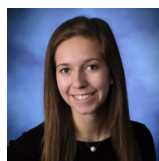
Natalie Fylak
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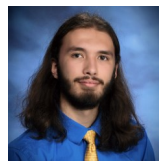
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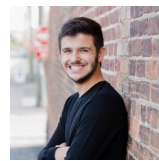
Claire Gleason
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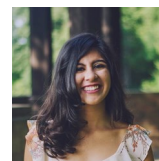
Sarah Graber
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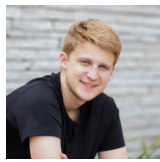
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Anoushka Gulati
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Jack Hasselbring
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Michigan State



Skyler Hau
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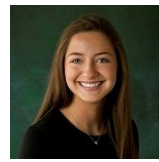
Olivia Hayen
Rochester
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Claire He
Rochester
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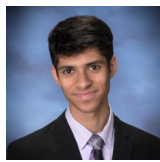
Matthew Heaphy
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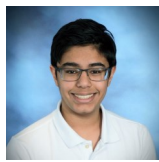
Anna Heath
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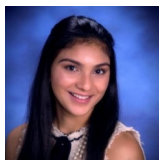
Lilly Heitman
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Shewar Ibadat
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



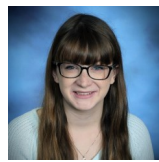
Bilal Ibrahim
Rochester
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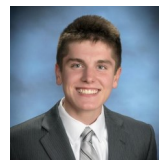
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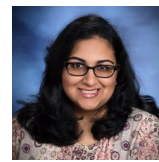
Isabel John
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Ramona Johnson
Rochester, Case
Western Reserve Univ.



Nicholas Johnston
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Univ. of California

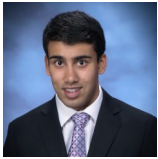


Shachi Joshi*
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RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

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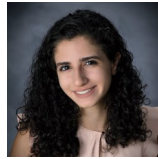
* National Merit Scholar Finalist



Rohan Kamat*
Stoney Creek
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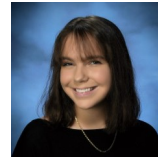
Serafina Kamp
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Univ. of Michigan



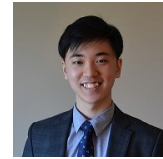
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Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Gita Kattimani
Rochester
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Lyndsay Kerns
Adams
Oakland Univ.



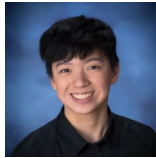
Timothy Kim
Stoney Creek
Centennial College



Alex Kim
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



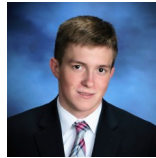
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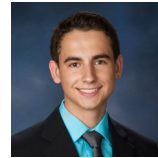
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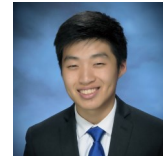
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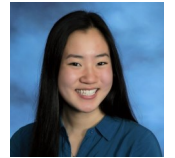
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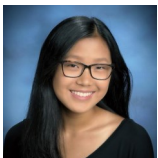
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Rochester
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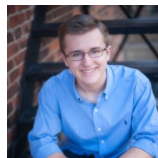
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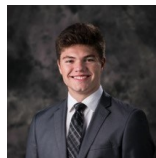
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Jonathan Li
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Univ. of Michigan



Anthony Ligessi
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Oakland Univ.



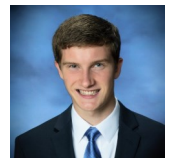
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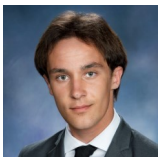
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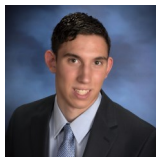
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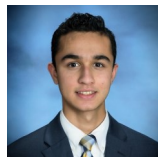
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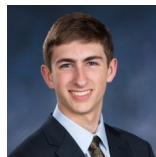
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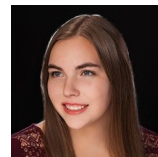
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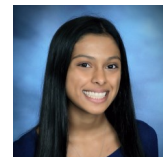
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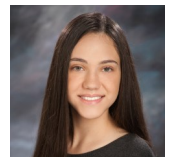
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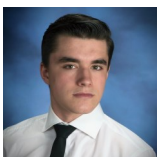
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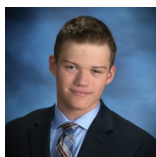
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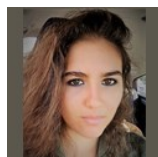
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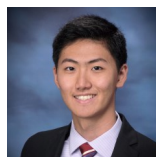
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Charles Olson
Adams
Grand Valley State



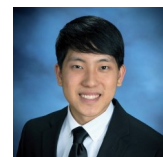
Shelli Orzach*
Adams
MA Inst. of Tech



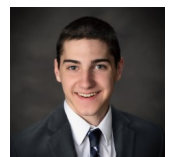
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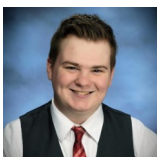
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Univ. of Michigan



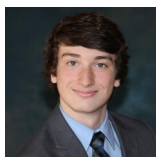
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Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



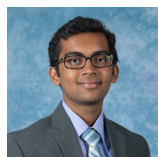
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Adams
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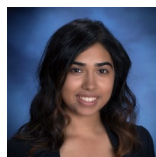
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Univ. of S. Carolina



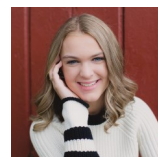
Andrew Picklo
Adams
Oakland Univ.



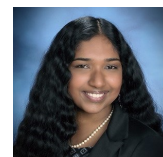
**Prateeksunder
Pinchi,*** Adams
Univ. of Michigan



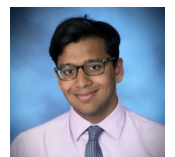
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Univ. of Michigan



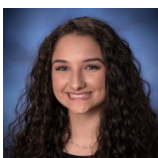
Paige Prizlow
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Univ. of Michigan



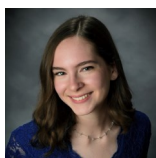
Asha Raghavan*
Stoney Creek
Ohio State Univ.



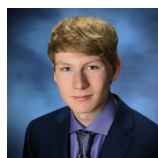
**Anirudhan
Ramaseshan,***
Rochester
Univ. of Pittsburgh



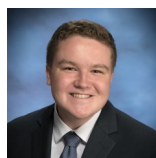
Michela Rea
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



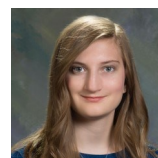
Rachel Rettie
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Nathan Richards
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Gray Robertson
Stoney Creek
Michigan State



Megan Rylko
Adams
Michigan State



Margaret Schmitt
Adams
Ohio State Univ.



Victoria Schwutke
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan

RCS Scholars of Highest Distinction

GPA of 3.9 or higher - Four or more Advanced Placement® courses - SAT composite score of 1450 or higher - or ACT composite score of 32 or higher

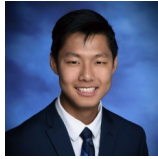
* National Merit Scholar Finalist



Christina Shepich
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Jeein Shim
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Jacob Shin
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



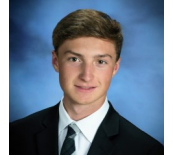
Delna Sholapurwalla
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



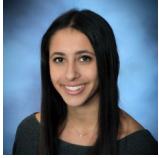
Keneth Sokoli
Rochester
Oakland Univ.



Swathi Srikantan
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



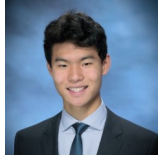
Jack Straetmans
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Maya Subramanian
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



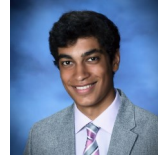
Crystal Sun*
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



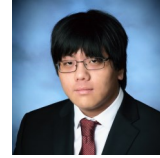
Kyle Sun
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Univ. of Michigan



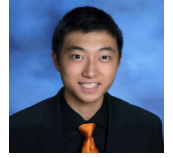
Preethi Surapaneni
Rochester
Carnegie Mellon



Arman Tabaddor
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Edward Tang*
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Jeremy Tang
Stoney Creek
Purdue Univ.



Constantine Tangelos, Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Kyle Terry*
Adams
Michigan State



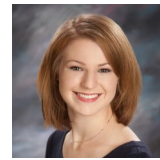
Henry Theodoroff
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Megan Tigues*
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Kendra Trader
Rochester
Michigan State



Natalie Treichel
Rochester
Undecided



Michael Tsai
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Amelia Vacante*
Stoney Creek
Univ. of Michigan



Dain Vargo
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



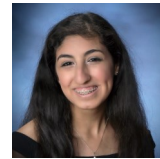
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Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Jeremy Wang
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



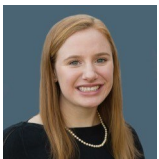
Ziyi Wang
Stoney Creek
Undecided



Nicole Wanis
Stoney Creek
Oakland Univ.



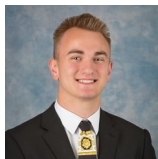
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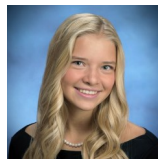
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Rochester
Undecided



Tyler Wei*
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



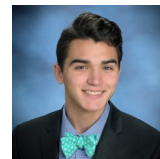
Grant Werling
Stoney Creek
Indiana Univ.



Isabella Wetzka
Stoney Creek
Vanderbilt Univ.



Sonja Wilhelm
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Oakland Univ.



Erik Williams
Rochester
Univ. of Michigan



Kacper Wojtowicz
Adams
Oakland Univ.



Alayna Wong
Adams
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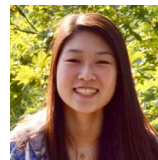
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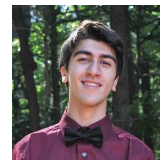
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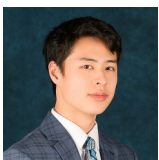
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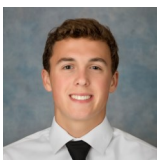
Arman Zadeh
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Univ. of Michigan



Saadat Zaman
Adams
Univ. of Michigan



Jerry Zeng
Adams
Univ. of Mass.



Evan Ziehl
Stoney Creek
Michigan State

“One of the greatest blessings of being an educator, and there are many, is to be able to watch promising young people grow into adults with kind hearts, bright futures and the ambition to change the world.”
~Superintendent Robert Shaner, Ph.D.

Superintendent Shaner engages with Vice President Pence

Engaging local and national leaders

Rochester Community Schools superintendent, Dr. Robert Shaner, was honored to engage in a conversation with Vice President Michael Pence this spring. Pence was in the Detroit metro area visiting the construction site of Frank Rewold and Son to celebrate the company's 100th anniversary as a fourth-generation business in Rochester. Dr. Shaner attended the event as a community leader and trusted business associate.

Dr. Shaner shared the following narrative about his experience with the vice president.



"The last time I saw a U.S. president was in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993, while serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. Politics aside, it was a thrilling experience. I

always try to set a good example for my children and display behavior I wish to see in others.

"Vice President Pence was nothing but a gentleman. He had done his homework. He knew I was going to be at the Rewold celebration, and he had a few questions for me about the district's educational programs, specifically those that expose students to opportunities in business and industry.

"We talked about CTE (Career and Technical Education) programs and how Rochester Community Schools, with the help of companies like Frank Rewold and Son and FANUC America, is working to build strong partnerships with the business community. I proudly shared with him that Rochester Hills is home to one of the largest producers of robots in North America and that the robotics program at Adams High School is the largest in the state of Michigan.

"It was a great conversation that was more than a couple minutes long. Considering the vice president's busy schedule, I appreciate him taking the time to talk with me. I also appreciate that Frank thought to include me in the celebration."

Dr. Shaner is committed to continuing the dialogue about public education with local and national leaders. He attended the Mackinac Policy Conference in June, where he talked with government officials and news correspondents about preparing students for the professions of today and tomorrow.

"I welcome every opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations with successful leaders, both inside and outside of the educational sector. These interactions provide the opportunity to expand our viewpoint so we can grow as leaders and make a positive difference," said Dr. Shaner.

About Rochester Community Schools

With more than 15,000 students, RCS is one of the top 10 largest school districts in the state of Michigan. The district leads the way as an exemplary public school system. This past year, RCS was the only district in the U.S. to have three individual schools receive National Blue Ribbon status.

Rochester Community Schools maintains a balanced budget that is sustainable, promotes growth, and supports high-quality student programs. With a highly skilled, caring staff, all students are afforded the opportunity to receive a world-class education. Ninety-six percent of students graduate, and of those, 95 percent attend post-secondary schools.

The district offers CTE programs in the areas of marketing and sales; finance and financial management; business administration; computer programming; digital/multimedia and information resources design; drafting and design technology; engineering technology; and mechanical drafting.

"By exposing our students to a wide range of diverse opportunities, we inspire them to find their passion—whether it's serving in the military, which is the original path I took, or working in the medical field, technology, engineering, or skilled trades—we instill the hope, enthusiasm, and optimism needed for our community's children to pursue their dreams," said Dr. Shaner.

Business Partnerships

"The pace at which our contractors have been working on the



bond construction projects is truly remarkable. We are fortunate to have such skilled professionals from Frank Rewold and Son and French Associates who are dedicated to keeping the projects on schedule and true to the

district's mission," said Dr. Shaner. "We are also proud that our construction efforts have helped drive the local economy. At the beginning of this past school year, 171 contractors employed 1,460 employees who worked nearly 200,000 hours on the construction projects.

"I would like to express my sincere thanks to Frank for inviting me to celebrate the success of his family-owned company. It is always an honor and a pleasure to celebrate Team Rewold. Our stakeholders and partners play a key role in our district's success, and I am confident that through our continued collaboration, we will continue to exceed expectations in preparing our next generation for a bright future."



RCS Foundation raises nearly \$70,000 during Hometown Hustle

It gets better every year! The annual Hometown Hustle 5K run/walk, the RCS Foundation's premier fundraiser, continues to break records. Not even a rainy day could stop the spirit and support of the community.

With generous sponsorship from Chief Financial Credit Union, along with 59 other local businesses, and the collective

support of more than 1,300 participants, the 2018 Hometown Hustle raised nearly \$70,000 to support RCS artistic, academic, and athletic programs.

Now entering its 14th year, this RCS tradition celebrates fitness and family time. Runners, walkers, athletes, families, and pets are always welcome to join in the fun and festivities.

For more information on how you can

Save the Date
Hometown Hustle
May 11, 2019

get involved as a participant, volunteer, or sponsor, please call the foundation office at 248-726-3190, or email:

foundation@rochester.k12.mi.us



Excellence in Education Award



The Excellence in Education Award was developed by the Rochester Community Schools Foundation in 1997 through a generous donation from Marie and John Pino of the Pino Insurance Agency. Now managed by Michele Beitelshees, the Pino Insurance Agency remains committed to continuing the tradition of recognizing exemplary performance throughout the district. The dollars awarded are used by the recipients to purchase materials or services which will enhance a school classroom or program. The 2018 recipients pictured are: James Ferden, Adams High School; Robin Carter, Administration; Mandy Lyons, Meadow Brook Elementary; Katherine Christie, Long Meadow Elementary; and Sara Sullivan, Van Hoosen Middle School.



What kind of **LEGACY** will you leave?

The mission of the Rochester Community Schools Foundation is to support and advance learning for all students by obtaining contributions for academics, arts, and athletics.

For help in customizing your legacy, please call Joann Beydoun at **248-726-3190**.

All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

The RCS Foundation would like to thank those who contribute so generously to the following scholarships.

Alice G. Horter
Amy Aplin Memorial
Blessings in a Backpack
Gage Garmo Memorial
Gordon Case Memorial
Grace and Rick Drummer

Hayes Family Memorial
Jessica Rogers Memorial
John M. Schultz
Judith Freund
Judith K. Long
Laura Jermyn

Leslie Gouldey Memorial
Ray Lawson
RCS Foundation
RHS Athletic Boosters
RHS Swim and Dive
Rochester PTA Council

SCHS Athletic Boosters
Summer Music Theatre
Susan Thomasson "Heart for Service"
Trudy Karas Memorial

Safety remains a top priority for all students and staff

The recent threats and acts of school violence reported in the news have caused tension and heightened fears across the country as parents worry about the safety of their son or daughter. At Rochester Community Schools, we take the safety of our students and staff very seriously. Protecting our family is our top priority.

One of the most frequently asked questions we receive from community members is: “What are you doing to keep our children safe at school?”

The district convenes its Critical Incident Team and consults with safety experts on a regular basis to continue to enhance our daily operating procedures. These procedures ensure that:

- All visitors must enter through the main entrance using the visitor verification system. Guests are required to show picture ID and sign-in, documenting their name, time in and out, and purpose of the visit. Staff, students, and guests should never open a door for other visitors.
- All exterior doors will be locked throughout the school day. If staff or a community member notices a door that has been propped open for any reason, they should close the door and report the incident to the front office personnel immediately.
- All interior classroom doors will be locked at all times.
- All exits and hallways will be clear of desks, material, and debris so as to allow for a quick exit in an emergency.

Throughout the school year, each school conducts drills during both structured and unstructured times. Drills are observed by our school liaison officers. They include, at a minimum, three lockdown/shelter-in-place drills, five fire drills, and two tornado drills.

Dr. Shaner personally joined our school liaison officers for a professional development session regarding lockdown procedures and reviewed a training video that was produced by Officer Amy Drehmer. Our liaison officers and members of their respective departments feel that our current lockdown protocols reflect the latest recommended tactics necessary to handle threats involving an aggressive intruder.

The district is also spending \$6 million through the bond efforts to enhance safety and security. Efforts include:

- Redesigning the main building entrances and providing staff with a better visitor verification system and building lockdown capabilities.
- Adding locks that latch from the interior side of the classroom door and installing video surveillance cameras in the schools and on buses.
- Updating the districtwide telephone system and PA system will also ensure proper notification and warning during an emergency.

A message from Dr. Shaner:



“All members of our school community should be able to experience an environment where they feel safe, valued, and respected. I sincerely thank our community members for their deep concern and support in working with us to keep our children safe. I am confident that, together, we can continue to maintain an environment where our children feel a sense of love and belonging and that our school buildings remain a source of hope and inspiration.”

Budget Overview

The 2018 debt fund millage rate required to support principal, interest, abated taxes and servicing costs of previously voter-approved bond debt is 6.01 mills. The general fund budget in its broadest terms is outlined below. (Amounts are in millions.)

	2016-17 Actual	2017-18 Amended	2018-19 Proposed
Revenue	\$169.3	\$173.6	\$173.9
Expenditures	162.8	173.0	172.7
Surplus (Deficit)	6.5	.6	1.2
Ending Fund Balance	28.9	29.5	30.7
Ending Fund Balance as a % of Expenditures	17.8%	17.0%	17.8%

Rochester Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, creed or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, height, weight, familial status, arrest record or physical and mental disabilities in accordance with the Elliot-Larson Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) MCL 37.2206, Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act (PWCRA), MCL 37.1206, Title II, Title VI, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendment Act of 1972, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (8U.S.C., Section 1324A Et.Seq.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. In addition, individuals will not be excluded from, or be denied, the benefits of participation in any program or activity for which the Board is responsible. Rochester Community Schools has designated the following authorities as Compliance Coordinators: Title IX, Title II and Section 504 – Students: Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, 501 W. University, Rochester, MI 48307 (248)726-3106; Equal Employment Opportunity/Section 504 for non-students: Chief Human Resource Officer, 501 W. University, Rochester, MI 48307, (248)726-3110.

The Community Update is published by the RCS Community Relations Department. For feedback, please call 248-726-3185 or use the *Talk to Us* button on our website. Community Relations Director Lori Grein, Secretary Sharon Ahearn, and Contributing Writer Amy DiCresce.

**POSTAL PATRON
ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

2018-19 District Calendar

August

- 22-23 New Teacher Orientation
- 27-29 Teachers Report, Professional Development, Staff Meetings

September

- 4 First Day of School; Full Day (6-12 and Post High);
Half Day (K-5); Professional Development PM (K-5)
- 5 Full Day of School (1-12 and Post High)
Kindergarten Student Last Names A-M Only
- 6 Full Day of School (1-12 and Post High)
Kindergarten Student Last Names N-Z Only
- 28 Half Day of School (K-12 and Post High)
Professional Development PM (K-12 and Post High)

October

- 10 & 18 Parent/Teacher Conferences (6-8)
- 11 & 17 Parent/Teacher Conferences (9-12)

November

- 2 End of 1st Quarter (6-12) and 1st Trimester (K-5)
- 5 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High)
Professional Development (K-12)
- 6 No School (K-12 and Post High), Election Day
Professional Development/Records (K-12)
- 13,15,19 Parent/Teacher Conference (K-5)
- 20 Thanksgiving Recess Begins at End of Day
(K-12 and Post High)
- 21 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High)
- 26 Classes Resume

December

- 21 Winter Recess begins at End of Day (K-12 and Post High)
Winter Recess December 22, 2018 – January 6, 2019

January

- 7 Classes Resume
- 21 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High),
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 23 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Professional Development PM (6-12)
- 24 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Records PM (6-12)
- 25 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Half Day for Students AM (K-5); Prof. Development/
Records PM; End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester (6-12)

February

- 15 Midwinter Recess Begins at End of Day (K-12 & Post High)
- 18 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High)
- 19 Classes Resume

March

- 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences (9-12)
- 7 Parent/Teacher Conferences (6-8)
- 8 Half Day for Students AM (K-12 and Post High)
End of 2nd Trimester (K-5) Records PM
- 19 & 21 Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5)
- 29 End of 3rd Quarter (6-12 and Post High)
Spring Break Begins at End of Day (K-12 and Post High)
Spring Break April 1 – April 7, 2019

April

- 8 Classes Resume
- 9 Grade 9 PSAT, Grade 11 SAT, No School Grades 10, 12
- 10 10th Grade PSAT, 11th Grade ACT WorkKeys,
Late Start 9th and 12th Grade
- 19 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High)

May

- 3 Half Day for Students AM (K-12 and Post High)
Professional Development PM
- 24 Memorial Day Recess Begins at End of Day
(K-12, Post High)
- 27 No School for Students (K-12 and Post High),
Memorial Day
- 28 Classes Resume

June

- 12 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Professional Development PM (6-12)
- 13 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Records PM (6-12)
- 14 Half Day for Students (6-12 and Post High), Exams AM
Half Day for Students AM (K-5)
End of 4th Quarter/2nd Semester (6-12)/
3rd Trimester (K-5)/School Year
Records PM

** Please note that any potential future changes to the Oakland Schools calendar may affect the above dates.*