

Kalamazoo Public Schools



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EXCELSIOR

September 2022 · Volume 25, Issue 8



New Year, New Beginings

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year

(MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 4)

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

Newcomer program helps students and families acclimate to Kalamazoo.

PAGE 8



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Looking Back at Successes, Forward to New Year

AFTER two very challenging years for each and every one of us, I'm looking forward to the launch of this school year and what I hope is a return to a more normal environment.

A Message from the Superintendent



Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri

In my two years here as your superintendent, I have come to love the Kalamazoo community and the exceptional people who are Kalamazoo Public Schools. I am honored to be part of the KPS family. It is the people who make up a school district, and I've not met a more dedicated group of educators who truly live by our motto: Every child. Every opportunity. Every time.

You can find evidence of their hard work in the successes our teachers and other staff have been able to achieve in the past few years — despite the unprecedented challenges of the Covid pandemic. We are happy to report significant improvement in student performance last year — with just one year of in-person learning — even though that year was greatly impacted by the pandemic and other related crises.

We are very proud that our students demonstrated growth in every single grade. We are especially proud of the success of last year's juniors and seniors who, despite having their learning impacted by Covid and virtual learning for roughly half of their high school careers, still showed significant growth. We were also happy to see marked improvement in our freshman and sophomore classes, which will impact future graduation rates.

If you examine academic performance through a lens of race and ethnic subgrouping by free and reduced lunch status, you will see that every subgroup improved last school year.

Last year, the district introduced two achievement goals for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. In Goal 1, we wanted an increase in the percentage of students scoring at or above grade level in reading and math. For Goal 2, the district wanted to see all students make at least one year of growth in reading and math.

The district reached the goal of students scoring at or above grade level in reading and math across the district and at most grade levels as shown by assessment results for the NWEA MAP and FastBridge assessments. The district saw especially strong gains among stu-

dents in first through third grade, where the district dedicated additional resources per the KPS Acceleration Plan.

In terms of Goal 2, making at least one year of growth is considered a key indicator of a successful school year. In reading and in math, the district as a whole surpassed the 50 percent benchmark goal, again with notably high gains in first through third grades.

Another key indicator of academic success is to look at numbers of graduates. Often districts will examine a six-year graduation rate, because it allows a district and the state to measure how well the district is paying attention to and ensuring the successful graduation of students who may have fallen through the cracks during the traditional four-year high school tenure. Despite the pandemic, the overall KPS six-year graduation rate rose from the 2020 school year to the 2021 school year.

It's also important to note the district's four-year graduate count. Over the past several years, KPS has been on an upward trajectory of increasing its number of graduates each year. While we took a dip in 2021 due to pandemic-related complications, I am happy to report that our preliminary numbers for the graduating class of 2022 show that not only are we back on track, but we have actually increased the number of graduates despite this school year being less than conventional.

As we look toward the new school year, we will continue to focus on achievement for all of our students by delivering robust instruction in all classrooms, developing curriculum to challenge every student, and tailoring instructional interventions to meet the needs of our students who need extra support.

I hope the community joins me in thanking our teachers and staff for constantly striving to improve their craft and to ensure we raise up all of our students this year and every year. Here's to a great 2022-23 school year.



Fall HOME & COMMUNITY Expo

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Fall is a great time of year to plan your next home project and see what's new and trending for your home — inside and out! The Fall Home & Community Expo, produced by the Home Builders Association of Western Michigan, is also excited to feature **Health & Wellness and Senior Living** at the Expo!

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Summer Program Combined Math Concepts and Construction Trades

KALAMAZOO Public Schools rising ninth graders were in the doghouse this summer — well, multiple doghouses.

Incoming ninth graders attending summer school at Linden Grove Middle School participated in a Southwest MiStem Network program that combined building trades with math and business education.

MiStem provided the materials for students to build birdhouses and doghouses, which were then sold to area businesses to raise funds to help sustain the program for next year. KPS math teachers Grace Wiesner and Bryan Anderson oversaw the project at Linden Grove.

Armani Pompey, who will be a freshman at Kalamazoo Central this fall, said that, “I liked getting my hands dirty. It took me out of my comfort zone. It was an interesting experience.”



Armani Pompey talks to Shakira Bailey about the next steps to take on building their doghouse.



Students Armani Pompey, left, and Sha’kiya McClain, right, works with teachers Grace Wiesner and Bryan Anderson to solve a spacing issue on their doghouse.

Wiesner said students studied common math concepts through the project. The hands-on learning gave students a new way to approach familiar math principles.

“We had one special education student who really was struggling with the content, but he has flourished with this project,” she said.

Dr. Diane Owens-Rogers, the Southwest MiStem regional director, said the doghouse program, which is in its first year, was created to support middle

students in learning about construction trades careers, grade-level math content, and social and emotional learning as they worked cooperatively.

“These students participated in instruction that supported their learning of mathematics such as two- and three-dimensional geometry, measurement, and algebraic equations,” Owens-Rogers said. “Students also learned about the knowledge and skills construction trades careers require such as collaboration, communication, and problem solving.”



Nevaeh Warren, left, and Amare Perry work on nailing a side wall on to their doghouse.



Jordan Lee, left, and Alyvia Walker, right, drill holes in pieces of wood to complete their doghouses. Math teacher Grace Wiesner, who looks on, says the project had taught the students about construction trades and how math is used on the job.

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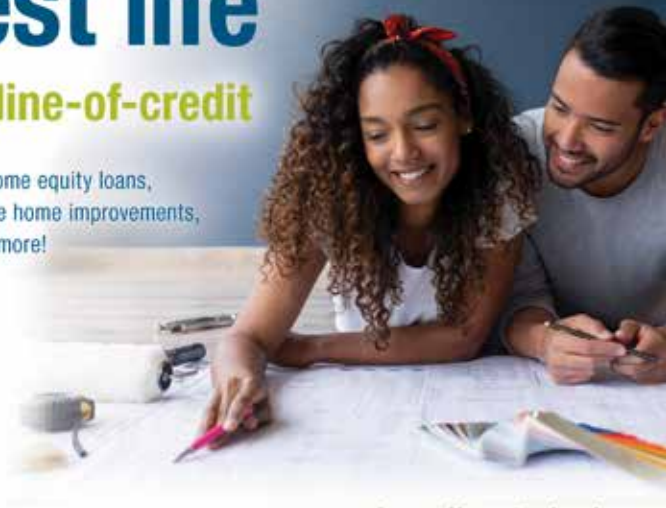
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Maranda Park Party Recess Brings Smiling Faces, Food & Fun



Above, students enjoyed a special cookout as part of the Maranda Park Party Recess. The day also included ice cream and inflatable games.

Roxie Kays, left, and DeShawn O'Large enjoyed the day.

ON THE COVER:

Saffat Akhonji, Jamarion Ballard, and Ava Buchanan.



Marianna Cochran leaps out of the inflatable obstacle course during Maranda's Park Party Recess at Washington Writers' Academy.



KPS Superintendent Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri, left, accepts a donation to the district from Maranda of WOOD-TV 8 and Ron Foor, Fifth Third Bank community executive.

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Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to:

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Kalamazoo Public Schools

1220 Howard St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

**Assistant Superintendent of
Human Resources**

Kalamazoo Public Schools

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www.kalamazoopublicschools.com**Recipe****from the KPS Food Service, Chartwells****Kirsten Strong, registered dietician****Samuel Dunn, executive chef****Quick Pickled Vegetables**

THERE are many fruit and vegetable options in September. The final harvests produce a wealth of choices before the growing season draws to a close with the arrival of fall. Pickling is a great way to preserve some of the summer flavors of your late harvest. Almost any vegetable — and even some fruits — can be pickled.

Below is a quick, simple pickling recipe. You can use whatever combination of vegetables you would like. Quick pickling preserves the crispness of the produce. In the store, these might be found in the cold section of the produce section. These only last about one month (not as long as a standard pickle) but they require minimal ingredients and equipment. Feel free to adjust the flavoring ingredients for your palate.

**INGREDIENTS**

(For 16 oz. Ball Jar)

1 cup vegetables,
chopped so they fit
into a regular Ball jar
¾ cup water
¾ cup distilled white
vinegar
1 tablespoon kosher salt
Pinch red pepper flakes
(optional)

2 medium cloves garlic,
roughly sliced
1 teaspoon sugar
2 teaspoons black
peppercorns
2 teaspoons whole
yellow mustard seeds
2 sprigs fresh dill

DIRECTIONS

1. Place veggies in a
bowl that just fits them.

2. Heat water, vinegar,
salt, pepper flakes, garlic,
sugar, black peppercorns,
mustard seeds, and dill
in a skillet over high heat
until salt has dissolved
and mixture is simmering.
3. Immediately pour
brine over vegetables.
Cover bowl with a paper
towel pressed directly
against the surface of the

liquid to keep veggies
submerged. Wait at least
30 minutes before serv-
ing (do not drain brine).
4. Or, if you are not serving
immediately, transfer veg-
gies and brine to a seal-
able container, like a Ball
jar or Tupperware. Store
in the brine in a sealed
container in the refrigera-
tor for up to a month.



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Meet Tammo Nelson, the New Winchell Assistant Principal

TAMMO NELSON worked at Saginaw Public Schools for 15 years before coming to Kalamazoo Public Schools to work as a math interventionist at Northeastern Elementary School and as district culture and climate coach.



Tammo Nelson

What are you most excited about in your new positions?

As the new assistant principal at Winchell Elementary, I am most excited about working with staff, parents, and volunteers to help create the best environment for every student to learn and reach their full potential.

What made you decide you wanted to move into an assistant principal position?

I decided to move into an assistant principal position to help impact and mentor teachers so that students are getting the best education possible. I want to help teachers follow best practice, which in turn creates a positive learning environ-

ment for all students. Another reason I decided to move into an assistant principal position to help better prepare me for a future role as a principal. My experience as a district climate and culture coach has helped me learn to work with teachers with a non-judgmental eye and how to use data to inform changes to impact student learning. My past experiences have taught me to be a better listener, communicator, and leader. I understand the importance of nurturing positive relationships to build a foundation of trust.

What's your best advice for students on how to succeed?

My best advice for students is to believe in yourself, have a positive attitude, and never give up. We all have challenges, but with determination and perseverance, we can accomplish anything if we work hard. I also feel it's important for students to build healthy relationships with the adults so they have a trusted adult they can rely on when they feel discouraged, are having a bad day, or just need to talk.

What would you like parents to know about you and your mission as an educator.

My mission as an educator is to help each and every student reach their full potential and to build respectful relationships, create lifelong learners, honor and respect differences, and communicate clearly and respectfully.

Tell us something fun about yourself.

I love to dance, although I'm not very good at it. I absolutely love getting popcorn from the movie theater just to go home and watch TV on the couch. Besides popcorn, my favorite food is wings and fries. I have three kids, ages 20, 16, and 14, and a small dog named Biggie, because he has such a big bark. I like to go swimming, bike riding and walking.

Look for features on the three other new elementary assistant principals in the October *Excelsior*.

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Meet Charles Green, the New Prairie Ridge Assistant Principal

CHARLES GREEN comes to Kalamazoo Public Schools from Central Michigan University and Saginaw Public Schools.

What are you most excited about with your new position as assistant principal at Prairie Ridge Elementary?



Charles Green

I am most excited to provide support to our students, who are adjusting back to the classroom, and to co-create with them safe spaces to take advantage of their learning.

What made you decide you wanted to move into an assistant principal position? What have been some of your most valuable experiences as an educator?

I decided I wanted to be an assistant principal so I could learn how to better support students, teachers, and the community. As a teacher, I have seen the impact building relationships has and I want to do more.

My most valuable experiences have

come from talking with parents and guardians. Parents are a child’s first teacher, so learning to partner with them can strengthen that relationship between home and school for students.

What’s your best advice for students on how to succeed?

My best advice for students to succeed is to be patient with yourself. Learning is a process and you may need more time to understand. Give yourself space and time to learn.

What would you like parents to know about you and your mission as an educator?

I would like parents to know that my mission as an educator is to help students be prepared for the realities of the world and to be a support to students and their families as they take steps toward those realities.

Tell us something fun about yourself.

In my free time I enjoy playing piano. I’m not a concert pianist, but I do enjoy sitting down and just playing. I also enjoy traveling to different places and finding roller coasters.

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Newcomer Program Helps Ease Transition for Students, Families

KALAMAZOO Public Schools wants to ensure that the children of immigrant families who find themselves in Southwest Michigan are given the tools they need to succeed in school and in the community.

Last year, the school district launched its Newcomer Program, which helped about 150 K-12 students. Services for students in the Newcomer Program were housed at Lincoln International Studies School, Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology, and Phoenix High School.

“The concept is to get them in a transitional environment with enough support academically, socially and culturally, so they can improve their language and build an understanding of the educational system,” said Wessam Abdelaziz, the coordinator of English as a Second Language and World Languages. “We also want them to understand the expectations and rules before going to mainstream content classes.”

Students can spend anywhere from a few weeks to a few months in the program, with the students’ needs being assessed when they go through intake with their sponsoring organizations, such as Samaritas or Bethany Christian Services.

Both organizations are expecting the arrival of about 200 new families this fall, mostly from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Africa and the Middle East. KPS maintains close contact with caseworkers so the district can have adequate numbers of translators and understand the needs of the families who will, at the most basic level, need information about the academic calendar, transportation, and attendance policies.

“Our Newcomer Centers are a districtwide commitment to the success of students, providing a supportive environment that helps them ease into the excitement and challenges of a new learning environment. Providing encouragement and support for the rest of the family helps ensure we are building a stronger community, which is one of the purposes of education,” said Superintendent Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri.

Creating the centers allowed the district to concentrate its support efforts and make its transition services more effective, Raichoudhuri said.

Students bring a wealth of educational experiences with them — with some having strong English skills from their time in private schools in their home countries and some students having never attended school.

Paraprofessional Duja Alfaraj, far right, reads stories to students and parents during an open house for the Social Emotional Learning Center, which served as a hub for newcomer programs including ESL classes for parents.



Students celebrate their home countries during the parade of flags at the ESL celebration held at the Western Michigan University Fetzer Center.





For information on the Newcomer Program, contact the ESL Department at (269) 337-1579 or email abdelazizwi@kalamazoopublicschools.net.



Arian Homayun, left, recently immigrated to Kalamazoo with his family. He now works as a KPS paraprofessional and helps students, such as this one attending the Newcomer summer school at Linden Grove Middle School.

In the Newcomer Centers, students study English as a Second Language and get acclimated to the American educational system. In addition to their classes in the center, they are mainstreamed into specials such as art, music and physical education with students of the same age so they can begin building connections to their grade-level groups.

“It’s a gradual release program,” Abdelaziz said. “When they are released to their mainstream classes, we don’t just release them. We have to have strong communication with the mainstream teacher, do assessments, make sure they understand the concepts being taught in the classroom.

“For instance in English Language Arts and math, we might review the concepts with their Newcomer

teacher before they are introduced to the concepts with them mainstream teacher.”

The Newcomer Program serves not just the students but their families as well, offering ESL classes that ran twice a week last year. KPS also helped with transportation to the classes and offered free child-care during class.

“The feedback from parents was that they want it five days a week,” he said. “Not only did it help with language but it provided them with the opportunity to bond with their peers. In one of the evaluations, a parent wrote, ‘We feel it’s a small community.’ That was awesome to hear.”

The program also works hard to help parents integrate into the KPS community as employees.

When families first meet with Abdelaziz and other members of the ESL team, they take time to talk to them about their previous work experience and what kind of employment they may be interested in doing.

Staff members have successfully placed parents in jobs with food service and as paraprofessionals within the Newcomer Program. “These parents really want to be a part of the community and to be a part of KPS,” he said.

Abdelaziz said he stands by a statement he made when he joined KPS last year: People need to realize that the diversity these families offer to the district and to the community is a strength.

“There is a lot they can contribute,” he said. “One of our jobs is to understand the barriers that exist for them and to remove those barriers.”

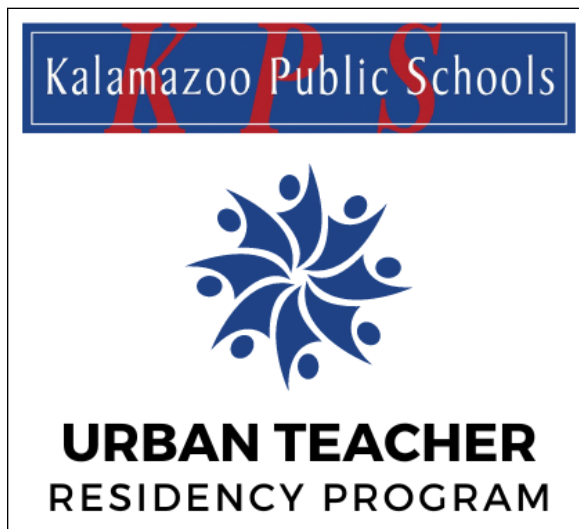
Urban Teacher Residency Program Finds Success in First Year

THE URBAN Teacher Residency Program has hired the first seven residents of the program, and for Kalamazoo Public Schools that means the program was an overwhelming success in its first year.

Already nine more potential teachers have enrolled in the second cohort of the program, which provides accelerated education and training opportunities to current employees who are interested in becoming teachers.

"We are extremely pleased with the success of the Urban Teacher Residency Program which not only provides KPS employees the opportunity to advance their educational careers but ensures that we are being proactive in addressing our students' need to have access to diverse and qualified teachers," said Superintendent Dr. Rita Raichoudhuri. "We want to thank Western Michigan University for their efforts to launch UTRP, and we look forward to the expansion of the program."

This year the program will be open not only to



those seeking certification in elementary education but to those who wish to become special education teachers as well.

Steve Leland, the district's administrative personnel officer, said that the first group of UTRP graduates have all been placed as elementary teachers in the district.

"I think the first year went really well," Leland said. "We learned a lot too and have made tweaks to the program to make it more efficient."

Last year, the residents worked as special classroom paraprofessionals, while this year they will be paid student interns to provide a full year of student teaching and more specific classroom experience. Also, instead of having the residents spread throughout the district, they will be concentrated in two schools: Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School and Edison Academy.

"It will give them a cohort of people who are going through similar experiences," Leland said. "They'll be able to bounce ideas off each other. We'll also be able to more easily hold weekly meetings to help them with anything they need. We think being able to interact will help them grow as teachers."

In 2020, WMU and KPS collaborated on a nearly \$5 million grant to create UTRP, which was designed to help districts cultivate teachers from the ranks of current non-teaching staff through year-long, paid student teaching experiences. In addition to their paid positions, the residents receive a \$20,000 stipend to cover tuition and other college costs.

The Urban Teacher Residency Program is just one KPS effort to help build the ranks of incoming teachers and, in particular, teacher candidates from traditionally under-represented groups.

(continued on page 11)

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Urban Teacher Residency Program *(continued from page 10)*

Sheila Dorsey-Smith, KPS assistant superintendent for human resources, said, "The program went well due to the strength of the residents, the flexibility of the school administrators, and the mentoring provided by district lead mentor coach Tonja Washington as well as WMU.

"It gives me great satisfaction that we are producing teachers prepared for success in our schools. Our students deserve the focus and the commitment that this program offers for new teachers. We have hired seven teachers that were in the first cohort of residents and that is what the program was designed to do."

Dorsey-Smith said her only disappointment was there was capacity for at least 10 residents this year, and some of those spots have yet to be filled. As the district continues to build the program she would like to see the program at capacity. Leland said he is hopeful that the recently announced special education expansion of the program will help attract some last-minute candidates.

"The need for teachers in our district and the country is so very great," Dorsey-Smith said. "We want to continue to invest in our current staff by supporting them through enrolling in this incredible program."



Urban Teacher Residency Program began during the 2021-22 school year and provides an intensive, paid learning experience for Kalamazoo Public Schools employees who are interested in earning their teacher certification. In addition to a paid teaching internship with the district, participants earn a \$20,000 stipend. Upon completion of the program, teachers must commit to working for KPS for several years. Residencies are available in elementary and special education.

Contact Steve Leland in Human Resources for more information at (269) 337-0180 or lelandsp@kalamazoopublicschools.net.

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Important AHERA Notice

All Kalamazoo Public Schools Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response (AHERA) Management Plans are available for review by parents/guardians and employees of Kalamazoo Public Schools. They may be reviewed by:

- Contacting individual buildings, where each Plan is located in the administrative office and may be reviewed there during school hours, or
- Contacting Karen Jackson, at the Office of Facilities Management, 600 W. Vine Street, (269) 337-0400.

The district has completed six-month periodic surveillance, as required under the AHERA guidelines, which reassessed all areas of known or assumed asbestos materials to determine if a change has taken place. The results of the inspections have been added to the current AHERA Management Plans.

Jessica Rosecrans Named Parkwood-Upjohn Principal, Excited to Build Connections

JESSICA ROSECRANS smiles — she knows it sounds a little goofy — but the most exciting moment of her life may have been being named principal of Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School.

“I mean I haven’t done anything like skydiving,” she said with a laugh. “Becoming a principal, that would have to be one of my top experiences.”

Rosecrans is originally from Hartland. She moved to Kalamazoo 10 years ago to work for Portage Public Schools. She was a Young 5’s teacher for three years, before becoming a fourth-grade teacher. For the last five years, she’s been the Engagement Specialist for Angling Elementary School, which included serving as the leader of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion team, coordinator of Multi-Systems of Support, leading the building scheduling, and serving as an instructional coach and facilitator of the school’s Restorative Practice Circles.

She holds a bachelor of arts in elementary education from Central Michigan University, a master’s degree in the art of teaching from Marygrove College, and administrator certification from the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals Path to Leadership.

Rosecrans said she always knew she wanted to be an educator, but she didn’t know what that would look like. She loved being a teacher but said she found her



Jessica Rosecrans

true calling when she became the engagement specialist. In that position, she assisted the principal in supporting the whole building and worked with families.

“As I took on more and more leadership roles, I found I was good at helping other people be leaders,” Rosecrans said. “I knew it was the right fit for me.

“When I was teaching, I loved growing my own family culture, a small, cozy atmosphere. I loved connecting with families and students. I was really good at building connections and relationships with

(continued on page 13)

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Jessica Rosecrans *(continued from page 12)*

students. As a leader I built the same connected feeling with more students and more families.”

Establishing trust and connection with families and students is even more important as schools continue to come out of the pandemic-era lockdowns.

“I want to help people get back that community feeling, that connectedness and support academically and socially-emotionally,” she said.

Rosecrans lives in the Winchell neighborhood with her husband and two children. She said she is excited to launch the next segment of her career in Kalamazoo Public Schools and that she has long been aware of Parkwood-Upjohn as a parent.

“My kids go to Winchell Elementary, and I’ve been an active part of that community. It was with intention that I applied for the job at Parkwood. I love the feel of Kalamazoo as a community and a school district,” she said.

One of the things that she appreciates about the district is the diversity of its community.

“I am biracial. I was adopted when I was 4. I come from a multiracial family. For me and my family, I wanted to be part of the diversity of a bigger community. I look forward to getting to know people and families of all traditions and backgrounds,” she said. “It is important for me on a personal level and it’s professionally important.”

As an educator, she’s long been interested in reading and literacy, which is one of her education certifications. She has also been active in restorative practices in school, to help rebuild relationships and ensure a sense of community in a school.

Rosecrans said she’s excited to meet her staff and families and is anxious to get busy on the business of learning but also to build those connections that make everyone feel like they have a place at Parkwood-Upjohn.

“I’m really open with families. I encourage them to text me, to communicate. One mom at my old school said, ‘My daughter said you’re like family here.’ I just loved that we connected. When I hear that students and families and staff feel they are seen and heard, I feel good about that. That’s exciting for me.”

FUN FACTS ABOUT MS. ROSECRANS:

- **Pets:** She has two cats, Savannah and Iggy. Iggy is named after a Super Mario character.
- **Biggest hobbies:** Reading and being out in nature. We’re a reading family. And, we love camping and going to the Nature Center.
- **Favorite food:** Pepperoni pizza
- **Book:** “I Am Enough,” by Grace Byers. It’s very empowering. It shows kids from all backgrounds. It’s about the things they say when they’re feeling strong.

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Board of Education



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Paid for by Jennie Hill for KPS
3106 Bobolink Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

District Accomplishments as Board Member

- Graduation rates are rising at a steady pace for all
- Enthusiastically worked to pass district bonds and millage with voters' support
- Have strengthened student safety with construction of secure entrances in schools
- Career Pathways Program launched in 2021

Issues I will continue to advocate for



- Continued emphasis on Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten enrollment and curriculum that better prepares our students for their school experience
- Greater focus on nontraditional pathways of learning so that all students have the opportunity to graduate
- Increase career exploration by students
- Safe and secure schools
- Continued commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

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Lemonade Day Is a Hit with KPS Elementary School Students

LEMONADE DAY, a national educational initiative, provided Kalamazoo Public Schools students with the opportunity to learn about important math, business, and social skills in the spring and summer. Students at Lincoln International Studies School and Prairie Ridge Elementary School held their events before the end of the school year, while Washington Writers' Academy and King-Westwood Elementary School held their lemonade stands in June.

During Lemonade Day, students set up lemonade stands to sell the summery drink to other students and members of the community. Students determine the pricing, sales pitches and flavor of the lemonade (sweet or sweeter). Washington Writers' Academy Summer Learning teacher Tammo Nelson said, "Lemonade Day taught the students what entrepreneurship was. They learned how to make a business plan, the importance

of advertising, how to make a budget, donate, save, and spend. "The students learned how to compromise with the members of their team and that everyone has to have a voice." Coordinated by the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency's Career and Technical Education, the program has been held at schools around the county for the past two years.



From left, Mari'Anna Ballard, Zamyiah Gilbert and Natalie Rubalcava-Sandoval served lemonade with smiles at the Washington Writers' Academy Lemonade Day.



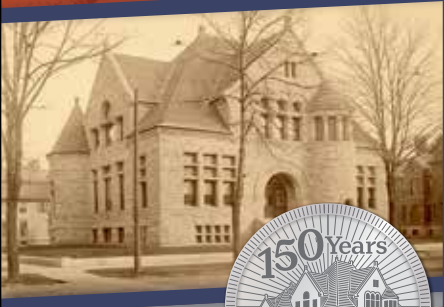
From left, Cashay Givhan-Warren, Evan Boyd, and Theodore Thompson III.



At left, from left, KamBria Nixon, Skye Merino and Jasiah Smith learned business skills during the Washington Writers' Academy's Lemonade Day.

KPL

Celebrating 150 Years





This fall, Kalamazoo Public Library will celebrate 150 years of service to the Kalamazoo community!

Take a trip back in time and learn about the impact the library has had on the neighborhoods it serves.

Visit kpl.gov/150 to learn more.

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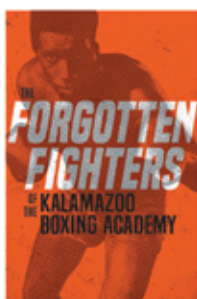
Henrietta Lacks

EVENT & EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT OPENS
SEPT. 1 | FREE

A HeLa Story: MOTHER OF MODERN MEDICINE

Enjoy a free play and mini exhibit about Henrietta Lacks, whose cells, taken without her consent, led to major medical breakthroughs. For play showing information and more, visit kalamazoomuseum.org. Seating is limited. First come, first served.



LAST CHANCE TO SEE

CLOSES SEPT. 18 | FREE

FORGOTTEN FIGHTERS OF THE KALAMAZOO BOXING ACADEMY

Celebrate the history of the KBA on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 1:30 p.m. with a documentary premiere, reception and guest speakers.

EVENT FREE RAIN GARDEN TOURS

Learn about rain gardens and how they help our precious groundwater. For tour days and times, visit kalamazoomuseum.org.

EXHIBIT NOW - SEPT. 11 | FREE

RUBE GOLDBERG™ THE WORLD OF HILARIOUS INVENTION EXHIBIT!

Rube Goldberg's cartoons and zany contraptions come to life through 3D, life-size machines and more in a humorous investigation of classic engineering principles.

This exhibit was created by the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh in partnership with the Heirs of Rube Goldberg.



EXHIBIT NOW - DEC. 2023 | FREE

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PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

Magic Tree House: Space Mission | Grades 3 & up | 11 a.m.

Travel through space with brother-sister duo Jack and Annie as they investigate questions left behind in a mysterious note.

Living Worlds | Grades 4 & up | 2 p.m.

Take a journey through space and time that examines how our understanding of life on Earth can aid in our search for life beyond our planet.

PUBLIC HOURS: Tuesday - Friday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday | 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday | Noon - 4 p.m.

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

Note: Some areas of the museum may be closed due to exhibit changes, staffing needs, special programs or collections care. We thank you for your patience.

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is operated by Kalamazoo Valley Community College and is governed by its Board of Trustees.



230 N. Rose St., Kalamazoo
kalamazoomuseum.org | 269.373.7990