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IMPORTANT DATES	
Board of Education Meeting	
Thursday, April 12 & 26, 2018 7 p.m. Administration Building 1220 Howard St. For more information, call (269) 337-1572	
Spring Break April 2-6	
Mandated testing, grades 5-8 Begins April 10, continues through May 4	
PSAT testing, grades 9-10 SAT testing, grade 11 Special event, grade 12 April 10	
Work Keys testing, grade 11 Grades 9, 10 and 12 report at 11:20 a.m. April 11	
M-STEP testing science and social studies, grade 11 April 12	
M-STEP testing, grades 3, 4, 6 and 7 Begins April 30, continues through May 25	
Parent-teacher conferences, grades 9-12 4-7 p.m. May 2 5-8 p.m. May 3	
Parent-teacher conferences, grades 6-8 Hours to be set by schools, May 3	

Bond Would Cover a List of Proposed Projects (see page 10)

Summer Slide Reduction Pilot Launched to Help Students Retain Skills Through Shorter Summer Breaks

Long summer breaks may be fun, but for children with few activities and little reading they can have a negative impact on learning, which is referred to as “summer slide.”

Kalamazoo Public Schools is launching a summer slide reduction pilot at Washington Writers’ Academy and the Woodward School for Technology and Research to combat summer slide and bolster academic achievement.

Starting this summer, the two schools will begin an alternative school calendar. The students will have the same number of days in school annually as all other students in the district, but their new schedule



Woodward School for Technology and Research students will attend school under a new schedule next fall.

will have a shorter summer period to reduce summer slide in reading levels.

Green, assistant superintendent for Teaching and Learning Services for KPS.

“Those days are all critical,” Green said. “Middle-class families have more resources and have more opportunities to provide summer experiences for their kids.

“Working-class and poor families have fewer resources and their children fewer summer opportunities, and the research shows that the summer for their children generates more summer slide than summer growth as a result.”

That lack of stimulation results in what some experts call the “summer slide,” a reduction

(continued on page 5)

KPS Graduation Rates Continue to Rise in 2017

Kalamazoo Public Schools graduation rates continue to rise, according to data released by the state.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice reported the increases to the KPS Board of Education at the board’s Feb. 22 meeting.

The district continues its march towards the board’s 2020 goal of a 79 percent graduation rate. In 2017 (for a 4-year cohort) the district had a 72.9 percent graduation rate, compared to the state’s rate of 80.2 percent.

Rice said the district continues to chase the state graduation rate, but he noted that KPS students are also 50 percent poorer than the state as the whole. While the state rates of students on free or reduced-price lunch tend to range from 45 to 48 percent, KPS is typically in the 65 to 70 percent range.

Rice praised teachers, support staff, administrators, community members, and students themselves for helping the district pursue greater achievement among students. The graduation gains are being made in the face of fewer inflation-adjusted resources and more serious socio-economic challenges, he said.

“We are graduating more

(continued on page 3)

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In the Wake of Parkland

In the wake of the Feb. 14, 2018, tragedy in Parkland, Fla., Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice made the following remarks at the Feb. 22, 2018, Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education meeting.

President Sholler-Barber, members of the board of education, members of the community, I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you at this moment, though it is a sad time in our nation's history.

In the wake of the profound tragedy in Florida, I appreciate the board's approval of a resolution of support of a series of efforts that Congress and the Michigan State Legislature can undertake to make us safer in schools. School districts across the state have had to cut significantly over the last 15 years. The School Finance Research Collaborative study, the state's first comprehensive

school finance a d e q u a c y s t u d y , finalized and published last month, makes clear that Michigan substantially underfunds schools throughout the state. Lieutenant Governor Calley's own study shows that special education alone is underfunded by \$700 million statewide. We need more money in Michigan schools for a wide range of supports — psychologists, social workers, counselors, therapists, nurses, and behavior specialists, not to mention teachers, support staff, and administrators. We also need to prohibit guns in schools across the country. Our board of education had the foresight to prohibit them in our district a year ago. It's time for a national ban.



Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.
Superintendent

I wanted to share a few thoughts on some of the actions that we have taken inside and outside the district in the last few days. These thoughts are not exhaustive but illustrate in a small way what we are working to accomplish given this most recent national tragedy.

I am proud of our students at Kalamazoo Central who began a petition to help make communities safer across the country. I met with some of them on Monday and appreciate their advocacy. I am also proud of our students at Loy Norrix, Hillside, and Maple Street, who yesterday held peaceful walk-outs in support of the students in Parkland.

We have met or spoken with local law enforcement officials daily. Yesterday, I met with members of law enforcement community: Kalamazoo County Sheriff Rick Fuller, Kalamazoo Township Police Chief Bryan

Ergang, members of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety, and our chief of security, Don Webster. We discussed our current work and efforts underway to tighten security in a variety of ways in our schools. We continue to review building security plans and protocols.

We have begun planning for a range of additional safety measures. Some of these would be funded in our school bond, on the ballot on May 8. These measures would help make physical changes to the schools that would continue efforts of the past several years to improve the physical security in our schools. Other efforts are associated with staff and student training — some underway and in the process of expansion, some in the planning stages — including trauma-informed care, restorative justice practices, and active shooter drills. We currently do lockdown, tornado, and fire

drills during the school year.

Thirty-six staff and community members just completed a three-month trauma-informed care professional development. More will be receiving this professional development in the future. Several staff members are receiving restorative practices training in the next two weeks. More will receive training in the future. Both of these efforts build on earlier efforts of the district, in partnership with community organizations.

We have continued our lobbying efforts in a number of areas. On Tuesday, I met with Congressman Fred Upton, several law enforcement officials, and a few superintendents to urge what our board of education just passed in its resolution: more community mental health funding for our children and families in our communities, more school mental health

(continued on page 3)

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Introducing *The Studio* — a brand new collaborative space for teens in Grades 6–12 to drop in for programming, creativity, and afterschool activities at Central Library.

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KPS Graduation Rates (cont. from page 1)

kids in spite of the fact that graduation standards are higher. We are graduating more students in spite of the fact that inflation means our resources are lower. We are educating more children despite having a higher percentage of poor kids,” Rice said. “It’s a harder gig, and we’re doing a better job.”

Other statistics he shared at the meeting:

- In 2010, when President Barack Obama spoke at the Kalamazoo Central High School graduation as the prize for the First Annual Commencement Challenge, the district’s 4-year graduation rate was 63.1 percent. In 2017, the district’s 4-year graduation rate was 72.9 percent, approximately 10 percentage points higher. This 4-year rate is the district’s highest in the 10-year history of the uniform federal graduation rate formula.
- The district’s 5-year graduation rate is 76.5 percent, the second highest in the last 10 years.
- The district’s rolling 3-year graduation rate for graduation in 4 years has increased each of the last six years. For 2015 through 2017, the rate was 71 percent. Six years ago, the district’s 3-year graduation rate for graduation in 4 years was 63.7 percent in 2009 through 2011.
- The district’s rolling 3-year graduation rate for graduation in 5 years has also increased each of the last six years. For 2015 through 2017, the rate was 76 percent. Six years ago, the district’s 3-year graduation rate for graduation in 5 years was 69.4 percent in 2009 through 2011.
- Kalamazoo Public Schools have cut the gap in 4-year graduation rates between KPS and the state from 11.8 percentage points in 2013 (KPS, 65.2 percent; the state, 77.0 percent) to 7.3 percentage points in 2017 (KPS, 72.9 percent; the state, 80.2 percent).
- KPS African American male graduation rates have increased each of the last four years. The 4-year graduation rate

has increased from 46.7 percent in 2013 to 54.3 percent in 2017.

- The KPS African American male 5-year graduation rate is at 63.4 percent, 2.5 percentage points below the state at 65.9 percent.
- The KPS 4-year drop-out rate was 8.94 percent in 2017, compared to the state’s 8.65 percent. This is the closest the district has ever been to the state in this metric.

While Rice was pleased to report the increases in African American male graduation rates, the district – as well as the state and the nation – continues to wrestle with the challenge of improving these graduation rates. “We still have a lot of work to do and more progress to make,” he said.

Rice said the district has many initiatives in place that are positively affecting graduation rates, such as staff and community mentoring, the introduction of culturally responsive education professional development, a restructuring of Phoenix High School, and the creation of the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program.

Even further down the road, the district may experience improved graduation rates as the result of many initiatives the district has designed to impact “in the pipeline” achievement of younger students. Among some of these initiatives are the expansion of full-day kindergarten, which began in 2008 for students who are now 10th graders, and the expansion of full-day and part-day pre-kindergarten, begun in the last several years.

The Lift Up Through Literacy program, launched in summer 2010, has helped provide parent education and early literacy experiences for more than 3,279 families as of last spring.

In future years, the district can also hope to see graduation gains from work being done to support upper elementary teacher specialization and the adoption of new language arts and math programs in the last few years.

In the Wake of Parkland (continued from page 2)

funding for our children and staff in our schools, a background check system that prohibits those with significant criminal or mental health issues from owning guns, a ban on guns in schools, and a review of current gun laws. We have made and will continue to make efforts at the state level as well. The reality is that we need assistance and leadership from both Washington and Lansing.

In recent years, we have added more than 1,000 security cameras in schools and buses. We have added buzzer/intercom/camera systems at the entrances to virtually all of our schools. We have changed a number of our entrances to make them more secure. We have added security staff and returned a school resource officer to Kalamazoo Central, in addition to the school resource officer at Loy Norrix. We have trained staff members—individuals and in some cases whole staffs—in positive behavior supports, Capturing

The board and community’s support and partnership are critical as we address this challenging moment in our nation’s history.

Kids’ Hearts, trauma-informed care, and adaptive schools training. We have partnered with Communities In Schools, Gryphon Place, Kalamazoo County Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the YMCA, the YWCA, and many other community partners. This year, with grant funding from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, in partnership with Communities In Schools and Family and Children Services,

we are incorporating a mental health practitioner at each of five elementary schools, to be expanded next year.

We continue to encourage and appreciate staff, students, and families reporting incidents and issues of concern to the proper authorities. It is particularly critical for our students to know that if they “see something,” they should “say something.” Please help us reinforce this message with our children.

We are under NO illusions: not a single one of these measures is a complete preventative, not a single one a cure-all. But each of these measures makes us a stronger community, a safer community, in support of our students and staff. We have made significant strides in the last several years, and expect to make many others in partnership and collaboration in the coming weeks, months, and years.

The board and community’s support and partnership are critical as we address this challenging moment in our nation’s history. Thank you.



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Artists' Corner

Woodward School for Technology and Research fourth-grade students worked with teacher Todd Patrick to design Earth Day posters for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Natural Resources, and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development 2018 poster contest. Student posters celebrated our environment: air, water, land, wildlife, and ecosystems.



Vanessa Wilson



Graciela Johnson-Muniz



Jayden Vazquez

Chef Shaun • KPS FOOD SERVICE CHEF

Chicken Cacciatore

Hello Kalamazoo. Spring is upon us. Along with fresh gardens being planted, please enjoy this recipe utilizing garden-grown veggies whether from the local farmers market or your own garden. Experimenting with other veggies with the Chicken Cacciatore recipe can be fun — eggplant and squash make other tasty options. Make it your own! As always, please share with family or a close friend. Best Regards, Chef Shaun

Ingredients

4 chicken breasts, boneless, cut into thirds (3-4 pounds)
 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
 Salt and pepper to taste
 2 TBS olive oil
 2 TBS butter
 1 large onion, chopped
 2 celery ribs, sliced
 1 large green pepper, cut into strips

1/2 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced
 4 large tomatoes diced, with juice reserved
 1 8 oz. can tomato sauce
 1 6 oz. can tomato paste
 1 cup dry red cooking wine or water
 1 tsp fresh rosemary, chopped
 1 tsp fresh oregano, chopped
 1 tsp fresh basil, chopped
 3 garlic cloves, minced
 1 TBS sugar
 Hot cooked pasta
 Grated Parmesan cheese

Directions

- Season chicken with salt and pepper. Dust chicken with flour. In a large skillet, brown chicken on all sides in oil and butter over medium-high heat. Remove chicken to platter.
- In the same skillet, cook and onion, celery, pepper and mushrooms for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in the tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato



Shaun Robinson is the district chef for Chartwells at KPS Food Service.

paste, wine, herbs, garlic and sugar. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30 minutes.

3. Return chicken to skillet. Cover and simmer for 45-60 minutes or until chicken is tender.

4. Serve over pasta and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

Servings: 6

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(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

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Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.

Summer Slide Reduction Pilot Launched (continued from page 1)

in reading level in the summer instead of flat to increasing growth. Students who experience summer slide have a more difficult time coming back to school and learning new material, without intensive review. Instead of one week of review, they may require five or six weeks of review, Green said.

"They need to have skills and strategies taught and retaught for a longer period of time than other children," she said. "Our goal is to reduce the number of days students have off in the summer, so they don't have summer slide, so they come to school on a more regular basis

and keep building on what they learn and not slide back."

Research cited in the board presentation on the new program said that a 2013 study showed "summer reading loss accounts for roughly 80 percent of the reading achievement gap between more and less economically advantaged children."

Children roughly learn at the same rates, Green said. But working-class and poor children are more likely to lose skills over

the summer, while middle-class children, who more often receive continued enrichment during the summer, suffer less summer slide, she said.

Tackling summer slide is a major issue, Green said, because repeated loss of skills over the course of a child's K-12 educational experience can have a negative cumulative impact. By the time they are in high school, even students who work hard during the school year may still experi-

ence significant loss of skills.

In the summer of 2017, KPS students had 81 days between the last day of school in June and the start of school in September. Under the summer slide reduction pilot, that break will be reduced to 38 days. It will be balanced out with breaks throughout the year, most of which are tied to other holidays such as Thanksgiving and spring break. The school year ends at the same time for students on the traditional schedule and for those on the new schedule.

The program is launching at just Woodward and Washington, but other schools have expressed interest in trying the new schedule. Green said the district is eager to see what the impact will be from the pilot project.

"I think the pilot an exciting opportunity for children to get the best education possible," she said. "I think there's way too much time off for children in the summer. We want to make sure students do well and have the best possibility to do what they want in life and to decide what they'd like to give back."

The Summer Slide Reduction Pilot Schedule for 2018-2019

In session : July 23-Oct. 12, 2018 *

Not in session : Oct. 13-28, 2018**

In session: Oct. 29-Dec. 21, 2018 *

Not in session: Dec. 22, 2018-Jan. 6, 2019**

In session: Jan. 7-March 22, 2019 *

Not in session: March 23-April 7, 2019**

In session: April 8-June 13, 2019 *

Not in session : June 14-July 14, 2019**

* Days in session reflect a Monday-Friday schedule.

** Days NOT in session reflect a Monday-Sunday schedule.

Additional breaks in the schedule:

Aug. 27-31, 2018 (Five days prior to the Labor Day weekend)

Nov. 19-20, 2018 (Two days off before the regular Thanksgiving holiday)

Feb. 14-21, 2019 (Six days off prior to the mid-winter break on Feb. 22)

May 22-24, 2019 (Three days prior to Memorial Day weekend)

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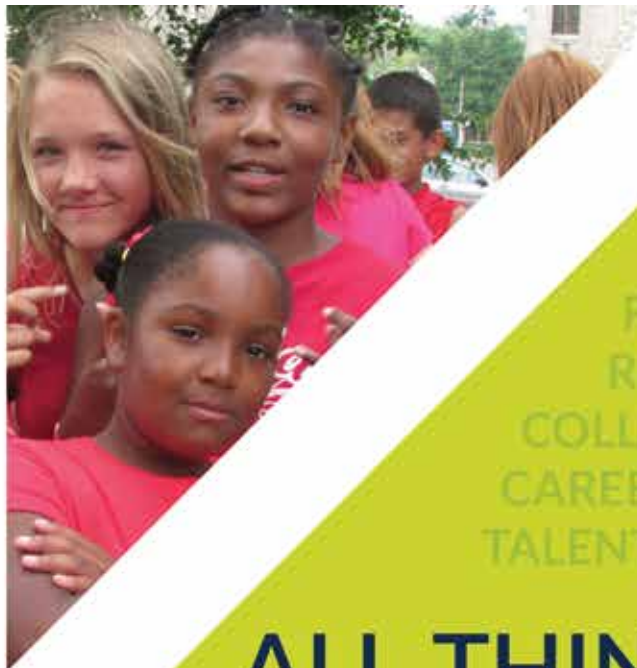
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High School Food Drives Help Fight Community Hunger

Loy Norrix and Kalamazoo Central high schools took two different approaches to holiday food drives, but both schools helped their communities.

Kalamazoo Central collected 8,286 pounds of food in its expanded holiday food drive, which this year was renamed “KC Feeds Kzoo.” The event included the traditional Stuff the Bus at Harding’s Friendly Market on West Main, but it also included collection sites at Theo & Stacy’s, Anna’s House, Gazelle Sports, and door-to-door collections in the Arcadia and the Winchell neighborhoods.

In addition to the food supplies, the students collected \$5,565 in cash donations. All donations went to the local food bank Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes.

“Loaves & Fishes can buy 1.3



Loy Norrix students focused their food drive on serving Norrix families.

pounds of food with each dollar donated, so that money goes a long way,” said KC teacher Rex Hafer, who coordinated this year’s food drive. Loaves & Fishes said the KC drive is the second largest food drive in the area, after the letter carriers’ food drive in the spring, Hafer said.



Kalamazoo Central students pose during their expanded holiday food drive in December.

More than 200 students from a wide variety of KC groups participated in the event.

“We look forward to beating both of these donation numbers next year,” Hafer said.

At Loy Norrix, the holiday food drive is a school-centered event. Student from PeaceJam, National Honor Society, Link Crew and Current Events collect food and pack food baskets that are delivered to Loy Norrix families in need. The school family focus to the Norrix food drive began three years ago,

after the discontinuation of the Kalamazoo Area Holiday Food Drive, said Sveri Stromsta-May, the advisor for PeaceJam.

“The food drive was an amazing opportunity to support students and their families this winter,” said junior Katie Shantz. “Being able to give to those in need is so important and even the smallest of things may make a big difference in somebody’s life.”

Students and classes compete to see who can donate the most food, and PeaceJam collects community donations

to buy pantry essentials such as flour, sugar, and bread for the food baskets.

Even the staff gets involved in the project, with teachers, coaches and Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo staff helping to deliver the baskets.

Businesses which donated to the project included Meijer, Harding’s Friendly Markets, D&W Fresh Market, Costco, Sam’s Club, Texas Roadhouse, LaCantina Ristorante, Best Buy, Five Guys, Noodles & Co., Olive Garden, Fletcher’s Pub, and Ray Ray’s.



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Alumni Day 2017: Graduates Enlighten, Encourage Students

Find a mentor. Be a mentor. Former students returned to Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix high schools in December to offer encouragement and advice to current students during the annual Alumni Days.

Before the events, the alumni gathered to talk with old friends and were urged by principals and Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice to take their new roles as the wise elders seriously as they returned to the classrooms.

Chasity Cooper and Vincent Coakley did just that as they spoke to students at Kalamazoo Central. Cooper, who recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from Western Michigan University, teamed up with Coakley, a 2017 Central graduate who is now enrolled at Michigan State University and is in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

While they offered a lot of advice about getting involved in high school, developing good study habits and learning time management, they also offered some helpful philosophies about relationships and developing character.

Cooper said it's never too early to find mentors to guide you through your educational journey. Parents, siblings, upperclassmen, community members, all have valuable experience and advice, she said.

"They've been through the struggle," she said.

One piece of advice she's glad she listened to: Use the Kalamazoo Promise. She desperately wanted to attend college out of state, but her mentors told her to take advantage of the Promise.

"I'm graduating owing \$3,000. I know other people who owe \$50,000," said Cooper, who graduated from WMU in December and hopes to begin her graduate studies at Howard University in the fall. "Everybody else is in debt. Keep the money in the back of your mind. It is a blessing to have the Kalamazoo Promise."

Coakley looked sharp in his Marine Corps uniform and regaled the students of drill sergeants, endless physical challenges, and the emotional challenge of hopping on a plane to boot camp just days after high school graduation.

Networking goes both ways, said Coakley, who some day hopes to go into law enforcement.

There were people who helped him when he struggled in high school, and part of what that taught him is to reach out to others.

"If you see someone struggling, don't be afraid to help," Coakley said. "Keep pushing to bring someone else up with you."



Chasity Cooper and Vincent Coakley spoke to students at Kalamazoo Central's Alumni Day 2017. Cooper, who recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from Western Michigan University, teamed up with Coakley, a 2017 Central graduate who is now enrolled at Michigan State University and is in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.



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Primavera 2018

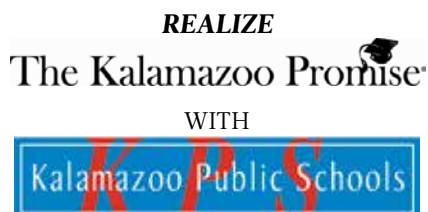
10 De Abril – 31 De Mayo 2018

	Boys & Girls Club on Lake Street	Stones/Christian Life Center	First United Baptist Church	Fresh Fire AME Church	Interfaith Homes	Mount Zion Baptist Church	New Life Fellowship	Skyridge Church	The Church of God Pentecostal
Educación Familiar Edades: K – Adulto	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:00-6:30 P.M.	Miércoles 5:00-6:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.

Los Padres De Los Recién Nacidos: Hasta los 36 Meses	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Jueves 2:00-3:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.
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Los Padres Con Niños En Edad Preescolar Edades 3-5	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Por favor seleccione otro sitio	Jueves 2:00-3:30 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Martes 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Miércoles 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Jueves 5:30-7:00 P.M.
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Sitio	Dirección	Teléfono
Boys & Girls Club	915 Lake St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 349-4485
Stones/Christian Life Center	1225 W. Paterson Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 343-7023
First United Baptist Church	821 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 381-3996
Fresh Fire AME Church	2508 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 381-8050
Interfaith Homes	1037 Interfaith Blvd. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 382-5771
Mount Zion Baptist Church	120 Roberson St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 388-3111
New Life Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.	1912 Birch Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49004	(269) 381-1913
Skyridge Church	394 S. Drake Rd, Kalamazoo, MI 49009	(269) 375-3939
The Church of God Pentecostal	2929 East Main Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 349-8181



Lift Up Through Literacy Program

We Need You...Parents, Grandparents, & Caregivers!

The Lift Up Through Literacy Program offers fun hands-on literacy opportunities for family members once a week for 1 ½ hours.

We provide free books, a meal, child care, door prizes, field trips and an end-of-session incentive. Join us and learn more!!!

A light dinner will be served at evening sessions.
For more information please call (269) 337-0833

Spring 2018

April 10 – May 31, 2018

	Boys & Girls Club on Lake Street	Stones/Christian Life Center	First United Baptist Church	Fresh Fire AME Church	Interfaith Homes	Mount Zion Baptist Church	New Life Fellowship C.O.G.I.C.	Skyridge Church	The Church of God Pentecostal
FAMILY LITERACY Ages K – Adult	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:00-6:30 P.M.	Wednesday 5:00-6:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.

PARENTS OF NEWBORNS Up to 36 Months	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Please join another NB site	Please join another NB site	Thursday 2:00-3:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.
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PARENTS OF PRE-SCHOOLERS Ages 3 – 5	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 6:00-7:30 P.M.	Please join another PS site	Please join another PS site	Thursday 2:00-3:30 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Tuesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 5:30-7:00 P.M.	Thursday 5:30-7:00 P.M.
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Community Site	Address	Phone Number
Boys & Girls Club	915 Lake St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 349-4485
Stones/Christian Life Center	1225 W. Paterson Kalamazoo, MI 49007	(269) 343-7023
First United Baptist Church	821 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001	(269) 381-3996
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The Church of God Pentecostal	2929 East Main Kalamazoo, MI 49048	(269) 349-8181

Bond Proposal Projects

Kalamazoo Public Schools will present voters with a bond issue to provide routine facility upkeep and upgrades, improve security, update technology, replace Edison Environmental Science Academy, expand Phoenix High School, and provide the district with a new districtwide kitchen.

The proposal for a 1.25 district millage rate increase for the \$96.7 million bond will be on the May 8 ballot. The proposal would increase taxes \$62.50 annually over the 2017-18 tax rate for the owner of a \$100,000 home.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice received and affirmed the recommendation from the Citizens’ Bond Scope Committee, formed by the KPS Board of Education in the early fall. Rice recommended approval to the board, which voted on Jan. 25 to place the bond on the ballot for vote by the district.

Below is a list of projects proposed for each building in the school district:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Arcadia Elementary School

- Add concrete sidewalk at bus drop off
- Install Pre-K playground equipment
- Install accessible route to play areas
- Install interior signage
- Remodel remaining student toilet rooms (by gym)
- Replace public address system
- Replace clock system
- Provide secure vestibule at main entry
- Replace asphalt basketball court
- Replace marquee sign
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Edison Environmental Science Academy

- Construct new building
- Purchase furniture, furnishings and equipment
- Purchase technology equipment
- Library books

El Sol Elementary School

- Provide secure vestibule at main entry
- Install interior signage
- Install exterior sign
- Install exterior basketball hoops
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books
- 1924 Building:*
- Replace exterior doors, frames and hardware
- Replace windows and window coverings
- Remodel student toilet rooms
- Replace ceilings throughout
- Replace lighting throughout
- 1963 Building:*
- Replace retaining wall at Vine and Oak Streets

Greenwood Elementary School

- Replace basketball court and add fence
- Replace interior signage
- Remove portable classroom
- Replace modular hot water boilers
- Provide secure vestibule entry at main entry
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Indian Prairie Elementary School

- Install digital marquee sign
- Replace interior signage
- New addition for new office to create a secure entry vestibule
- Replace ramps to portable classrooms
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

King-Westwood Elementary School

- Replace roofing and insulation
- Install interior signage
- Remodel remaining student / staff toilet rooms (units C & D)
- Install lockers (remove coat hooks)
- Replace and upgrade electrical panels throughout building
- Relocate office to existing classroom and construct new classroom
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Lincoln International Studies School

- Replace Pre-K playground equipment
- Replace remaining exterior doors, frames and hardware
- Replace sections of damaged plaster in auditorium
- Replace interior signage
- Replace classroom flooring
- Replace stair handrails
- Replace heating pumps, add variable frequency drive for balancing
- Replace drinking fountains
- Provide secure vestibule at office entry
- Replace auditorium sound system
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Milwood Elementary School

- Replace damaged section of exterior sidewalks
- Replace window coverings
- Remodel 1949 toilet rooms
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Northeastern Elementary School

- Install Pre-K playground equipment
- Replace hard surface play areas
- Replace roofing and insulation
- Install interior signage
- Replace lighting throughout building with LED type including building mounted exterior
- Replace selected electrical panels
- Replace public address system
- Install generator and emergency lighting
- Provide secure vestibule at main entry
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Northglade Montessori Magnet School

- Replace asphalt paving
- Replace all sloped roof areas
- Install interior signage
- Remodel student toilet rooms (near gym)
- Install lockers
- Replace cafeteria lighting
- Replace classroom lighting in 1959 section

- Replace clock system
- Add / create secure vestibule (add doors)
- Replace carpet in A-4; install carpet in D-13 and D-14
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School

- Replace standard asphalt parking area – North parking
- Replace damaged exterior wood surfaces
- Replace damaged soffits and frieze boards
- Install interior signage
- Replace domestic water heaters
- Replace two domestic water tanks
- Replace water softener
- Replace drinking fountains
- Replace gymnasium lighting with LED type
- Install infrastructure for interactive classroom systems
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Prairie Ridge Elementary School

- Install infrastructure for interactive classroom A/V systems
- Provide secure vestibule into office
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Spring Valley Center for Exploration

- Install digital marquee sign
- Install interior signage
- Provide secure vestibule at main entry
- Install ceiling fans in classrooms where feasible
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Washington Writers’ Academy

- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Winchell Elementary School

- Install Pre-K playground equipment
- Install digital marquee sign
- Install interior signage
- Install lockers (remove coat hooks)

- Enlarge and remodel office and secure entry
- Add cooling to cafeteria air handling unit
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

Woods Lake Elementary – A Magnet Center for the Arts

- Construct new south parking lot and drop off (relocate play area)
- Replace South parking lot
- Replace windows in library, courtyards, north and south wings
- Replace exterior doors, frames and hardware
- Replace all casework in original building
- Replace lockers
- Replace HVAC system and add cooling
- Provide secure vestibule at main entry
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

The Woodward School for Technology & Research

- Replace drinking fountains
- Replace lockers
- Technology equipment
- Security equipment
- Library books

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Alternative Learning Program

- Install exterior signage
- Replace porcelain fascia panels
- Replace windows including window coverings
- Replace exterior doors, frames and hardware
- Install interior signage
- Replace classroom, workroom and office ceilings
- Replace corridor ceilings and extend walls to deck
- Replace casework
- Install lockers
- Replace fire alarm system
- Replace HVAC system and add cooling
- Upgrade service and electrical distribution gear
- Replace clock system
- Install generator and emergency lighting

(continued on page 11)

Bond Proposal Projects (continued from page 10)

Install drinking fountain near gymnasium
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Hillside Middle School

Install accessible route to athletic facilities
Remodel kitchen / serving lines
Replace remaining hot and cold water distribution
Replace water softener
Replace water heaters with high efficiency
Replace drinking fountains
Install infrastructure for interactive classroom A/V systems
Provide secure vestibule entry into office area
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Linden Grove Middle School

Replace laminate countertops in media center and computer lab with solid surface
Replace cafeteria lighting with LED type
Install infrastructure for interactive classroom a/v systems
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

Replace tennis courts
Replace concrete steps to playfield
Remove two sets of steps to playfield
Replace entire roof
Replace interior signage
Replace drinking fountains
Add storage unit
Replace exterior basketball court
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Milwood Magnet School – A Center for Math, Science and Technology

Remove / replace flagpole
Replace baseball backstops
Replace gymnasium roof
Remodel kitchen / serving lines

Provide secure vestibule entry into office area
Construct wall between library and computer lab 924
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

HIGH SCHOOLS

Kalamazoo Central High School

Replace concrete walks
Replace resilient track surfaces
Replace elevator in 3-story section
Rebuild loading dock
Replace overhead garage doors at grounds storage building
Install interior signage
Replace cafeteria flooring
Replace drinking fountains
Remodel locker rooms, shower rooms and toilet rooms
Install additional 20 amp circuits on both sides of football bleachers
Cut in new floor boxes in gymnasium floor
Remodel photography classroom into computer lab for 50-60 students
Purchase furniture for computer lab
Purchase technology equipment for computer lab
Purchase two (4 x 12) display cases for art
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Loy Norrix High School

Separate bus and visitor parking areas
Install drywells and re-grade site for improved drainage
Replace concrete stairs at unit K
Replace concrete walks
Replace concrete curb and gutter
Remove / replace student, visitor, staff and drive asphalt
Install concrete around catch basins
Remove and replace receiving area asphalt
Replace resilient track surfaces
Replace tennis courts
Install site wayfinding signage
Replace kitchen elevator
Replace soffits throughout unit J
Replace interior signage

Replace classroom flooring in units A, B, C and D
Replace pool iron filter
Provide ventilation / cooling to pool spectator seating area
Install infrastructure for interactive classroom A/V systems
Replace soft surfacing at early childhood playground
Replace pool boiler
Relocate softball field
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

Phoenix High School

Replace concrete at loading dock
Install digital marquee sign
Install interior signage
Replace casework
Replace HVAC system and add cooling
Upgrade electrical service
Install generator and emergency lighting
Construct gymnasium with bleachers and locker rooms
Construct four classroom addition including office, meeting and counseling space
Purchase furniture for classroom / office addition
Purchase technology equipment for classroom / office addition

Purchase outdoor seating for cafeteria
Technology equipment
Security equipment
Library books

OTHER FACILITIES

Administration Building

Replace concrete sidewalks
Install digital marquee sign
Replace HVAC system
Replace water softener
Technology equipment
Security equipment

Community Education Center

Remove / replace sections of concrete walk
Install interior signage
Replace security camera system
Replace drinking fountains
Install infrastructure for interactive classroom A/V systems
Technology equipment

Lakewood / Valley Center

Remove / replace asphalt parking lot
Replace clock system

South Westnedge School

Install digital marquee sign
Replace ceiling in 2-story area

Remove / replace glass from corridors
Replace clock system
Install infrastructure for interactive classroom A/V system
Install ceiling fans in classrooms

Transportation Facilities

Buses
Technology equipment
Security equipment

West Main School Professional Development Center

Replace asphalt parking lot
Install digital marquee sign
Add exterior sun control awnings at office windows
Technology equipment
Security equipment

DISTRICTWIDE PROJECTS

Construct districtwide kitchen
Technology equipment
Telecommunications / security equipment
Playground equipment
Art / Music equipment
Districtwide equipment
Food Service equipment
Furniture

Her heart cries out.



A struggling child needs a listening ear, a helping heart.

Parents have found the answers that make a difference for their children – in The Counseling Center at Family & Children Services.

A century of expertise responds.



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1608 Lake Street Kalamazoo

IGNITE IMAGINATION!



100+ Rare Air & Space Craft • Interactive Exhibits • Amusement Park Rides
Full-Motion Flight Simulators • Amazing Experiences • Camps & Much More!

APRIL FUN AT THE AIR ZOO!

Boy Scout Space Exploration Merit Badge Day!



April 14th, 9:00am – 4:15pm

Boy Scouts will spend the day at the Air Zoo while completing all requirements for the Space Exploration Merit Badge!
Visit www.AirZooScouting.org for details and registration.

Air Zoo Summer Science Day Camps!



From Chemistry to Rocket Science and everything in between, the Air Zoo's hands-on Summer Science Camps for grades PreK – 12th offer amazing experiences for all! Don't miss out, register now!
Visit www.AirZooCamps.org for info.

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