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IMPORTANT DATES

Board of Education Meeting

Thursday, September 15
7 p.m.
Administration Building

For more information call
(269) 337-1572.

First day of school

Tuesday, Sept. 6

Winter break

Dec. 26-Jan. 6

Spring break

March 31-April 7

CLASS OF 2017 GRADUATION DATES

Adult Education graduation
Monday, 7 p.m. May 22
Chenery Auditorium

Kalamazoo Area Math and
Science Center graduation
Tuesday, 7 p.m. May 30,
Chenery Auditorium

Phoenix High School graduation
Tuesday, 7 p.m. June 6
Chenery Auditorium

Loy Norrix High School
graduation
Wednesday, 7 p.m. June 7
Wings Event Center

Kalamazoo Central High School
graduation
Thursday, 7 p.m. June 8
Wings Event Center

Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program Provides a New Alternative High School Opportunity

Kalamazoo Public Schools high school students will have another alternative program this fall.

The Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program (KILP) is a new, free, alternative high school that will offer smaller class sizes with flexible scheduling and a significant online learning component. Its target are those students who need to focus on credit recovery. The program will launch with about 60 students in the South Westnedge School.

"It is another option at the secondary level for young people to succeed," said KPS Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice. "While we have raised graduation rates over the last



The South Westnedge School will be the home to the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program, a new alternative high school program.

several years, we continue to have room for improvement."

Johnny Edwards, director of secondary education, said students will be recommended by

high school counselors, may self select the program in some cases, and could include students who have dropped out but who want to earn their high school diploma.

The new effort will be run by the Ombudsman Program, a national educational institution that specializes in alternative learning environments. It has been in existence since 1975 and operates in 20 states. The Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program will supplement the district's current high schools: Kalamazoo Central, Loy Norrix and Phoenix.

"Ombudsman has worked successfully with students and districts across the country to help young people who have struggled with life circumstances and, in some cases, with school itself, to become more successful in school and to graduate," Rice said.

(continued on page 3)

Hit the Books, Ask for Help, Get Involved: Seniors Offer Advice for High School Success

Linden Grove Middle School seventh-grade students got insight last spring into preparing for high school from a group of experts — Kalamazoo Central juniors and seniors.

The group of about two dozen high school students, all Linden Grove graduates, visited the school as part of Alumni Day activities. Similar activities took place at other middle schools in the district with high school students from Kalamazoo

Central and Loy Norrix. The goal of the event was to help the younger students begin to think about their transition to high school.

The Kalamazoo Central students had lots of practical (continued on page 3)

Kalamazoo Central Class of 2016 Donovan Williams, left, and Henry Klein spoke to students at Linden Grove Middle School in the spring to share advice about succeeding in high school.



FIRST SATURDAY @ KPL September 3

The next First Saturday @ KPL event will be held at the Kalamazoo Public Library, downtown, on Sept. 3, 2016, from 2-3:30 p.m.

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Fresh Excitement, Renewed Focus in A New School Year

As we approach every new school year, I get excited about the ways in which we are working to expand our efforts to help children reach their promise/Promise.

While goals established with and by our Board of Education — the improvement of reading, writing, math, Advanced Placement, and graduation rates — remain consistent, I look forward to a number of expanded efforts and initiatives, most of which are designed to help move these district goals.

Here are seven areas of growth and improvement for the coming year.

• **Addition of Literacy/Math Coaches.** To continue to improve reading, writing, and math achievement in the district, particularly at our highest poverty elementary schools, the board approved the budget recommendation to add two literacy coaches and a

math coach. The better that we do with student literacy and numeracy in the early grades, the more capable students will be as they progress through their education. Academic coaches will work with teachers to improve instruction at our highest poverty schools.

• **Early Childhood (Pre-K) Materials.** Consistent with the theme of starting young is our expansion of our early childhood program the last few years. We have almost doubled the number of pre-kindergarten slots in the district in the last five years, and have added full-day pre-kindergarten at six of our high-poverty elementary schools. This emphasis on early education to improve later education was



Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.
Superintendent

also the logic of our quintupling of full-day kindergarten in 2008 and of adopting new K-5 language arts materials in 2013.

This year, our pre-kindergarten teachers will be using materials approved by the board in the spring and lessons and units that our teachers have developed.

• **Culturally relevant education training.** Last year, the board approved funding for professional development in culturally relevant education for our secondary school teachers. This work is to share ways to better understand, appreciate, and engage diverse student groups. It began with secondary school teachers, in collaboration both last year and this year with Western Michigan University professors Dr. Joseph Morris and Dr. Mary Z. Anderson and a steering committee of KPS educators, and will be deepened this year. Work with elementary

educators will begin this year on the same important subject.

• **Mentoring.** Last year, 141 male staff members mentored 629 male students in 2,822 meetings, mostly in 5:1 weekly lunch sessions. Our mentoring served students at all levels and most substantially, but not exclusively, our African American male students. Mentoring focused significantly on student interests, goals, dreams, and aspirations.

Given the success of the first year of our effort, we will be expanding our mentoring in collaboration with community partners. More details will be forthcoming in the first month of school.

• **Graduation Rates.** Some believe that the high-water mark in the district was in 2010, when Kalamazoo Central won the first annual Race to the Top Commencement Challenge. President Obama spoke at graduation, and praised the school, district, and

community for our efforts to create a college-going culture.

Yet the district raised its graduation rate 7.9 percentage points from 63.1 percent in 2010 to 71.0 percent in 2015. Kalamazoo Central raised its graduation rate 7.6 percentage points, from 77.4 percent in 2010 to 85.0 percent in 2015. Loy Norrix raised its graduation rate 13.3 percentage points, from 65.0 percent in 2010 to 78.3 percent in 2015.

In spite of the improvement, we continue to have work to do in this area. Most notably, while our African American girls now graduate at a higher rate (77.1 percent 2015) than our district as a whole, our African American boys graduate at a much lower rate (51.8 percent in 2015). Though this is a state and national problem as well, we need to do better here in Kalamazoo, the reason that I raised this issue with our community last year. I am

(continued on page 7)

Kalamazoo
Public Library

Kalamazoo Public Schools

First Saturday @ KPL

**Saturday, September 3
2 - 3:30 pm, CEN**

Take your family to the library the first Saturday of each month! Get your library card or pick out some books to check out. Enjoy stories, activities, special guests, and door prizes. Something different each month! First Saturday is a partnership program for KPL and Kalamazoo Public Schools. Each monthly event is co-hosted with an organization serving children and families in Kalamazoo. In September, we will celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with our host, Despierta Kalamazoo!

Partners

Boys and Girls Club of Kalamazoo
Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo
Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan
Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan
Great Start Collaborative
Great Start Collaborative Parent Coalition
Hispanic American Council
Kalamazoo in Bloom
Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
Kalamazoo County Ready 4s

Kalamazoo Institute of Arts
Kalamazoo Literacy Council
Kalamazoo Public Schools
Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra
Kalamazoo Valley Museum
KRESA
NAACP
Northside Ministerial Alliance
Parents for Public Schools of Greater Kalamazoo
SW Michigan AEYC
Western Michigan University Reading Clinic

Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program

(continued from page 1)

Edwards said the new program will include:

- A flexible schedule, with a morning session running 7:30 a.m.-12:23 p.m. and an afternoon session running 11:30 a.m.-4:23 p.m.

- Student interaction with a classroom teacher, who guides students through the online curriculum. The teacher's main role is that of facilitator, to help the students work through the online instruction at a student-directed pace.

- A focus on the Michigan Merit Curriculum that emphasizes completion of academic core classes in math, English, science, social studies and world languages.

- Small class sizes. Thirty students in the morning and 30 in the afternoon session will be divided between two teachers.

- Socio-emotional and

career development guidance to help students learn social skills for post-secondary education and career goals.

"This is even less traditional than Phoenix," Edwards said. "KILP will have smaller classes with a smaller student-to-adult ratio. In addition, there will be tutors and other support staff to help with the career and socio-emotional components."

"Graduates of the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program will be Promise eligible."

Graduates of the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program will be Promise eligible, he said.

The Board of Education approved the program in June. KILP will initially run as a pilot program.

Current students may contact their high school counselor for more information. The Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program office can be reached at (269) 548-0190, after Aug. 29.

Seniors Offer Advice for High School Freshmen

(continued from page 1)

advice for the middle school students, including:

Take high school seriously — from the start. Freshman year is the platform, that's what you will build on, said Olivia Terrentine. "There's no room for error. Once your GPA is low, it's hard to get it back up. Take your freshman year seriously."

Do the work. Jacobi Nabors told the students that taking school seriously means mostly one thing: You have to do the work. Learn to plan and to organize your time. Do your homework every night — don't try to cram it in during the class before it's due.

Take advantage of Advanced Placement classes, honors classes, Education for Employment, and Education For the Arts classes. Don't just go for the easy class; think about your classes as an investment in the future, Henry Klein said. Use the AP classes to boost your portfolio.

Know your limitations but push yourself, Donovan Williams said. He encouraged students to think about EFE classes for additional hands-on learning in fields like engineering or EFA for advanced performing and visual arts.

Get involved. High school will be more fun if you explore all of the activities that are open to students. If you like to write, try the school paper. If you like music, try the marching band. If you like football, try baseball as a freshman. "When you're applying to college, one thing that makes you stand out is your extracurriculars," Klein said. In addition to marching band, he was involved in the Model UN. Williams was also a member of the marching band and made his mark on the award-winning Mock Trial team. "Get involved in something that builds your character," Williams said.

Set some goals for high

school. Klein said to think about where you want to be in the future. "Maybe you want to be an astrophysicist. Physics is hard. Set that goal but don't be too strict about it. Explore, have an adventure that makes high school more than nights filled with homework."

Build a good rapport with teachers and staff. Be on your game. Be respectful. Try your best. Your teachers will notice, Terrentine said. Make those relationships early, so they see that you're trying. That helps if you do run into difficulty and need to ask your teacher for help, she said. And, if you do fall behind, keep working and don't be afraid to ask for the help you need, Nabors said.

Finally, avoid the drama. Terrentine warned that "drama," petty arguments and personality conflicts are nothing but a distraction. "It just gives people power over you," she said. "It's a waste of your time."



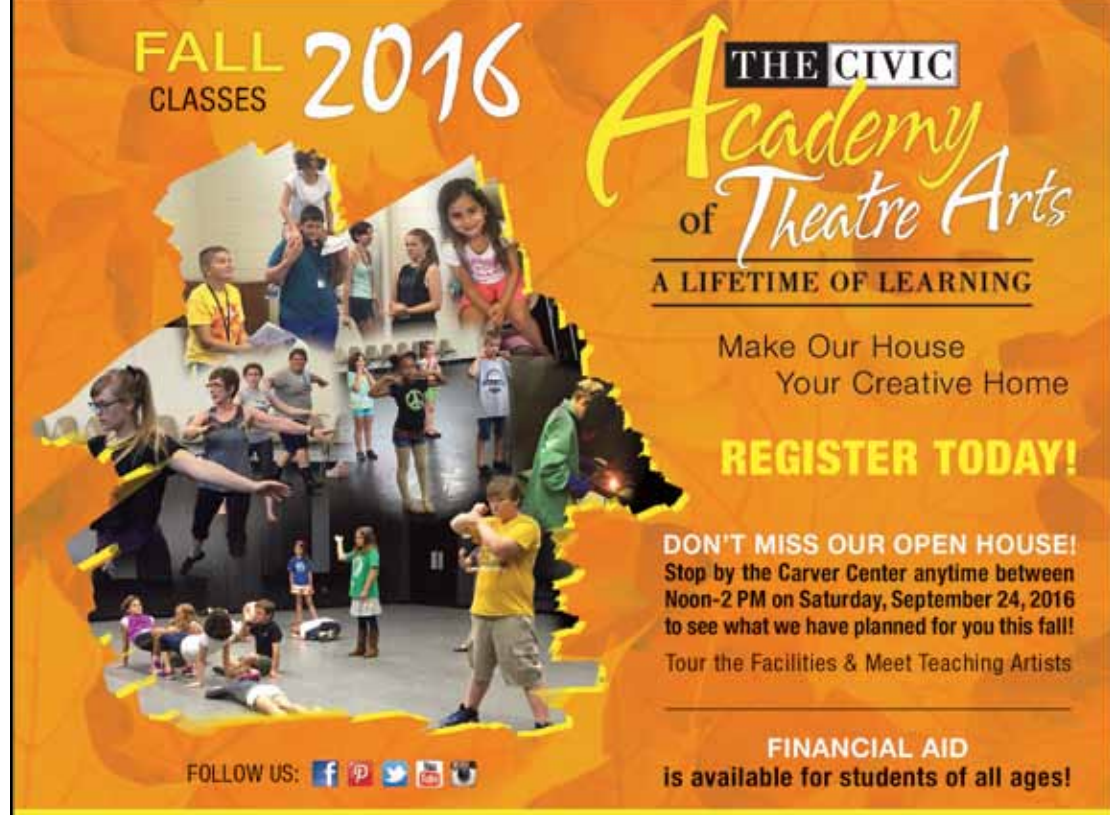
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2016-2017 Free & Reduced Lunch Application Now Available

Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free and reduced price meals.

Scale for 2016-2017 Reduced Price Meals

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$21,978	\$1,832	\$916	\$846	\$423
2	\$29,637	\$2,470	\$1,235	\$1,140	\$570
3	\$37,296	\$3,108	\$1,554	\$1,435	\$718
4	\$44,955	\$3,747	\$1,874	\$1,730	\$865
5	\$52,614	\$4,385	\$2,193	\$2,024	\$1,012
6	\$60,273	\$5,023	\$2,512	\$2,319	\$1,160
7	\$67,932	\$5,663	\$2,832	\$2,614	\$1,307
8	\$75,591	\$6,304	\$3,152	\$2,910	\$1,455

Each additional household member add: Annual \$7,696 Monthly \$642* Twice per Month \$321* Every Two Weeks \$296* Weekly \$148*

Application forms are being sent to all homes with a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households should fill out the form and return it to the school. Additional copies of the application form are available at the office in each school. Households should answer all questions on the form and sign the form. One application is for the entire family.

You may apply online at www.lunchapp.com

The information provided by the household is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility, verifying data, or qualifying children for other federal and state programs, as authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture. The school or other officials may verify applications at any time during the school year.

Households may apply for benefits at any time during the school year. If a household is not currently eligible but has a decrease in household income, increase in household size or if a household member becomes unemployed, the household should fill out an application at that time.

In most cases, FOSTER CHILDREN are eligible for these benefits regardless of household's income. If a household has foster children living with them and they

wish to apply for free or reduced-price meals for them, the household should contact the school for more information.

Under the provisions of the policy, Donna Anderson, 1220 Howard St., Kalamazoo, MI 49008 (269) 337-0120, will review applications to determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. The household also has the right to a fair hearing. This can be done by calling or writing the following official: Gary Start, 1220 Howard St., Kalamazoo, MI 49008, (269) 337-0115

You will be informed of application approval or denial.

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In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

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sible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information is available in languages other than English.

To file a complaint alleging discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), AD-3027, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

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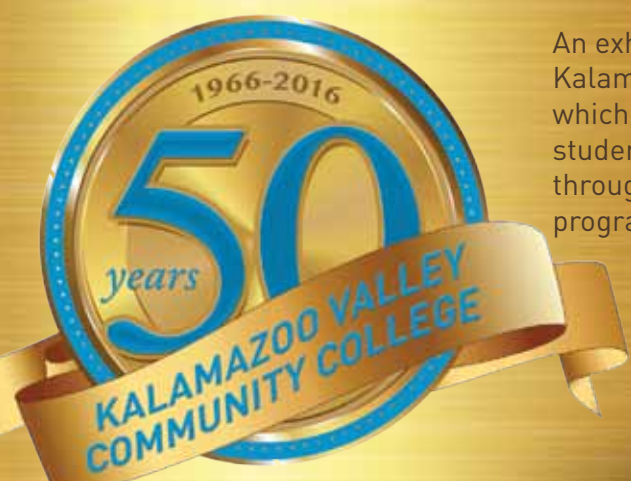
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(202) 690-7442; or

Email:

program.intake@usda.gov

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- Adequate state funding
- Alternative education paths

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- Board member of local League of Women Voters
- Chair of LWV Voter Education Project
- Past PTO Co-president of Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School and Loy Norrix High School.

— VOTE NOVEMBER 8TH —

Paid for by Jennie Hill for KPS, 2330 Midvale Terrace, Kalamazoo MI. 49008.
Find me on Facebook or email jahill1231@yahoo.com. Treasurer, Tracy Steffler.

NOTICE

Kalamazoo Public Schools welcomes all students and staff of any religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability.

The District will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability in any of its activities, hiring practices, programs or services.

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

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0177
District Directory at :
www.kalamazoopublicschools.com

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Enrollment Open for Loy Norrix Child Care for 2016-2017

Registration for the 2016-2017 school year has begun at the Loy Norrix Child Care Center (LNCCC). LNCCC is a five-star-rated Kalamazoo County Ready 4s program that provides a great start for your preschooler. Great learning and care are happening daily 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

The center offers reasonable full-time, part-

time and daily rates.

Openings for the current school year for 3- and 4-year-olds are still available. There is no school district residency required for the program, which is open to the public. For enrollment information and tuition costs, call (269) 337-0264 or email hentschlearlym@kalamazoopublicschools.net.



Loy Norrix High School teacher, Claudia Witt, second from left, does a science experiment with Loy Norrix Preschool students, from left, Giovanni Morales, Sydney Hess, and Ian Lane.

KC-LN Class of 1961 Will Hold Joint 55th Reunion Sept. 23-24

The Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix Class of 1961 will hold a joint 55th Class Reunion Sept. 23-24. The reunion opens Friday, Sept. 23, with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m., both at the Four Points by Sheraton Kalamazoo, 3600 E. Cork St. Court. The celebration continues at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, with a mixer at Shakespeare's Pub, 241 E. Kalamazoo Ave. Admission is free, with food and drinks for purchase. For more information, visit www.giant-knight61.com or search for the group's Facebook page "Kalamazoo Central-Loy Norrix Class of 61."

ADVISORY TO ALL PARENTS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Kalamazoo Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program. Inherent with this are the District's efforts to reduce the use of chemical pesticide(s) as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, they will only be used as a last resort.

You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school buildings and grounds. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you can be provided notice following any such application. To receive notification, please complete the following information and submit to your child's school.

Should you have any questions or concerns about pest management within your child's school, please feel free to contact Al Tyler, Executive Supervisor/Facilities Management, at (269) 337-0400. Thank you for helping us with this matter.

To receive notification, please fill out the following form and return it to your child's school.
PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION REQUEST - 2016/2017 School Year

Name of School: _____

Student's (Child's) Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Please Check One:

- ☐ I wish to be notified prior to scheduled pesticide treatment inside of the building.
- ☐ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment on the outside grounds of the school.
- ☐ Both of the above.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Please report any change of schools or address to Al Tyler at (269) 337-0400

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Loy Norrix *Knight Life* Wins 20 MI Interscholastic Press Association Awards

By Ruby Hensley

Loy Norrix High School's student newspaper took home 20 awards at the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association's 2016 Spring Awards for excellence in student journalism, including a bronze rating for its website and a silver rating for the school's newspaper. The MIPA received more than 4,300 entries from high school and middle school newspapers and websites, as well as school yearbooks.

"I believe that overall [*Knight Life's*] teamwork has been outstanding," said Audra Penny, *Knight Life's* editor-in-chief. "I know there's no award for that, but it means a lot for me as an editor to see everyone work together and get along together with almost minimal problems."

Magdalena Lager, who is now a rising senior, joined *Knight Life* last year and received her first award in journalism at the 2016

MIPA Awards. Even though, she will be unable to participate in the newspaper this coming year, Lager believes that she gained some important experiences from being on the newspaper.

"*Knight Life* really helps me to be able to work in a group," Lager said. "It's not as much of a class as it is a group responsibility. I know that the newspaper will

continue to do well."

Students develop writing, photography, design and editing skills through *Knight Life*.

Here are the *Knight Life* 2016 MIPA winners and the awards they received:

Cindy Bravo — Second Place in Front Page/Newspaper Style

Clayton Barker — Third Place in Online Breaking News and

Honorable Mention in News/Feature Photo

Carsten Strand — Third Place in Online Breaking News; Third Place in Action Photo; Third Place in Sports Action Photo; and First Place in Photo Story

Ruby Hensley — Honorable Mention in Online Breaking News and Honorable Mention in News/Feature Photo

Maxwell Offerman — Honorable Mention in News Analysis

Benjamin Miller — Honorable Mention in Editorial

Christian Baker — Honorable Mention in Feature Photo and Honorable Mention in Sports Feature Photo

Magdalena Lager — Honorable Mention in Multiplatform Media

Taylor Krupianik — Honorable Mention in Comic Strip

Jordan Brown — Honorable Mention in Photo Story

Jaidyn Kynaston — Second Place in Diversity Coverage News

Knight Life Staff — First Place for Front Page in Student Choice Awards

Here are the winners MIPA Spring 2016 Awards for online writing:

Zachary Mason — Third Place in News Writing

Jacob Heasley and Carsten Strand — Honorable Mention in Editorial Writing



Class of 2016 students, from left, Jordan Brown and Cindy Bravo and senior Nora Hilgart-Griff celebrate *Knight Life's* Student Choice Award. *Knight Life* won first place in the Front Page category of the Student Choice Awards.



Carsten Strand, Class of 2016, shows his certificate for first place in the News Photo Story category. Strand received three other awards, as well as an honorable mention in the on-site writing contest in news writing.



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K-Central's Lisa Boulding Wins MI Lottery's Excellence in Education Award

Kalamazoo Central High School family and consumer science teacher Lisa Boulding was recently honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.

Boulding launched a chapter of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) at K-Central and serves as the chapter's adviser. FCCLA is a national student organization that helps teens become leaders and address important personal, family, work and societal issues with the help of family and consumer science education.

The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education award program in 2014 to recognize outstanding public school educators for excellence, dedication, inspiration, leadership and effectiveness.

Winners of the weekly award receive a plaque, a \$500 cash prize and a \$500 grant to their classroom, school or school district. One of the weekly winners will be selected as the Educator of the Year and will receive a \$10,000 cash prize.



Kalamazoo Central teacher Lisa Boulding received an Excellence in Education honor from the Michigan Lottery this spring

Boulding said one of her favorite parts of being an educator is "seeing the 'spark' in students during the learning process and witnessing the growth of each student." She said she was attracted to a career in education by the opportunity to work with children and is motivated to do her best each day because "I know that it only takes one person to make a difference in a life."

Boulding was nominated for the Excellence in Education award by a student, who said, "She believes every student has

the potential to be a leader and really believes our district motto, which is 'every child, every opportunity, every time.' She helps us understand that leadership is not a gene or an inheritance, it is a recognizable set of skills and abilities that are available to all of us!"

Boulding has been an educator for 10 years. She earned an associate's degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College and a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Western Michigan University.

Fresh Excitement, Renewed Focus in A New School Year

(continued from page 2)

pleased that community partners will be working with us on this issue this year.

In addition, we will be starting an additional alternative education program this year. Two years ago, we restructured Phoenix High School, and last year had our largest graduating class — 102 students — in the school's history. In spite of this significant success, we wanted to provide another option for our children to graduate, one we have named the Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program (KILP). KILP will open this fall.

• **Attendance.** You have to be in it to win it, and across the state

and country, school districts have been challenged with too many students missing too many days. This year, we will redouble our efforts at the school level, in partnership with parents and partner community organizations, to improve our attendance throughout the district.

• **Capital Projects.** Milwood Elementary, at the intersection of Cork, Lovers Lane, and Portage, reopens this fall with a new look. With the support of residents, we have built a new structure in place of the original 1923 building. The southern portion of the building, which was added to the school in

the 1950s, has been substantially renovated.

In addition to the Milwood Elementary project, building and/or technology projects took place in 13 other district schools this summer. Upgraded facilities and technology help improve learning and teaching environments for our students and staff.

Given the above and much more, it's easy to understand the mounting excitement in anticipation of the new year, the 11th full school year in the Kalamazoo Promise era!

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**KCCU eChecking Account requires: active use of direct deposit (with a minimum direct deposit of \$500 per month); minimum twenty monthly debit card transactions; minimum of four monthly online banking logins; and actively enrolled in bill pay and eStatements. Must have a credit score of 620 or higher to qualify. No free checks offered with this account. Interest is calculated on an average daily balance for the month. Fees or other conditions may reduce earnings on this account. Federally insured by the NCUA.

Students Shine at 1st Math-a-lon

It was standing room only in the packed Van Deusen Room at the Kalamazoo Public Library earlier this year as students from Milwood Elementary, Spring Valley, Woods Lake, Washington, Edison and Lincoln elementary schools competed in the first district Math-a-lon.

"We wanted to support math instruction in the after-school programs," said Matt Johnson, coordinator for math and science at Kalamazoo Public Schools. "We wanted to create excitement about learning math facts."

The partnership between the math and science department at Kalamazoo Public Schools and the 21st Century Learning Centers led by Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo (CISK) brought a positive competitive spirit to the multi-level math competition for the third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade mathletes.

"The kids were very excited and appreciated the opportunity to be part of this ground-breaking idea," said Stacy Salters, CISK after-school coordinator.

Lincoln International Studies School took home the first-place trophy, while Edison Environmental Science Academy came in second and Spring Valley Center for Exploration took third place.



The winning team from Lincoln International Studies School included: front row (L to R) Natasha Vega, Alexia Vega, Ciara Smith, David Marlowe; second row: Anaesia Foster, Victoria Williams, Aniya Foster, Naliyah Hayes; back row: Mrs. Patricia Atkins, Mrs. Bonnie Terrentine, Ardasha Dodd, Ms. Kendra Kasinger.

Parkwood-Upjohn Takes 1st Place in 2016 Global Reading Challenge

Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School's S.T.A.R. team took first place in the 2016 Global Reading Challenge in April. Parkwood-Upjohn was sponsored by Kalamazoo Public Library's Central Library.

Second place was a tie between the Oshtemo Branch's King-Westwood Bad Bookworm Brainiacs and Eastwood's El Sol Word Surfers. Third place went to the Powell Branch's Champions Ignited and Washington Square's Edison Storm Readers captured fourth place.

Teams read 10 books and competed in a series of contests to answer questions about the books. Contestants have 30 seconds to answer

questions and to give the written answers to a panel of judges. They competed for a possible 120 points, with Parkwood-Upjohn earning a total of 110 points.

The winning team received the "traveling" Global Reading Challenge trophy to have at their school for the year. All teams received a plaque for their school and a Global Reading Challenge T-shirt.

The Global Reading Challenge is a Battle of the Books program sponsored by the Kalamazoo Public Library. The challenge promotes the reading of fiction and nonfiction that celebrate the world's diverse community.



2016 Global Reading Challenge winners from Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School were (clockwise from the top): Mara Vander Beek, Zack Eldred, Kelcey Briggs, Mariah Calvert, Olyvia Ward, and Clara Moss.

Kalamazoo Public Schools is Seeking SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

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Kalamazoo, MI 49008
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Herron will work for you:

1. Build Early Childhood Education and Literacy
2. Continue To Improve Graduation Rates and Retention
3. Develop Pathways for Success for Students and their Families
4. Advance All Students Towards Post Secondary Education

Jesse Herron has lived in the Kalamazoo area for over 30 years; he is a community leader that has served with the Northside Ministerial Alliance for the last 14 years.

- * Parent Engagement Director - Communities In Schools - Kalamazoo
- * Kalamazoo Promise - Current Appeal Board Member - 5 years
- * School Improvement Team Member - Washington Writers Academy KPS
- * Host site for Lift Up-Through-Literacy KPS - 4 years
- * BBA Degree Western Michigan University - Management
- * MA Educational Leadership - Western Michigan University
- * Married with four children that graduated from Kalamazoo Public Schools

For Kalamazoo Public School
Board of Education

Paid for by committee to Elect Jesse T. Herron

2016 November 8th

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While supplies last.
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Avocado Salad With Tomatoes and Lime

Welcome back for another school year. With fall on the horizon, please take advantage of some local produce for the freshest ingredients. This salad can be topped with your favorite protein. Please enjoy with family and friends. Best regards, Chef Shaun.



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

Ingredients

Dressing

- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon cumin seeds, lightly toasted in skillet
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- Salt
- Freshly ground pepper

Salad

- 4 large ripe tomatoes, cut into 1-inch chunks; or 20 cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 large Hass avocados, peeled, cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 large red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 cups arugula leaves
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Directions

1. For the vinaigrette: whisk together the lime juice, vinegar, honey, cumin seeds and cilantro in a medium bowl. Gradually whisk in the oils until emulsified. (Do not use a blender for this.) Season with salt and pepper to taste. Set aside.
2. For the salad: Gently mix the tomatoes, avocados, onion, arugula and half of the vinaigrette in a large bowl. Check for seasoning and add more dressing, if needed. Sprinkle the ground cumin and chopped cilantro over the top and serve immediately.

Yields: 4 servings

Orange You Glad I'm On Your Plate?

The red and orange vegetable group includes carrots, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, squash and red peppers and is full of vitamins A, C & K, phytonutrients, and antioxidants. The antioxidant beta-carotene is responsible for the orange hue, while red vegetables get their color from the antioxidant lycopene. These nutrients aid in eye health, reduce the risk of certain cancers, promote healthy joints, and help build healthy skin.



Register for GED Preparation Classes and Tests Through Adult Education

Changes made earlier this year to the GED high-school equivalency test scoring helped some students retroactively pass the test this spring.

A new GED was instituted in 2014. The test dropped its pencil-and-paper test and moved to an online test, created to help demonstrate college readiness. The test also required more essay writing and raised the passing score to 150.

The shift created a more difficult test, which some students struggled to pass. As word got around that the new test was more difficult, interest in taking the GED and the prep courses for the test dropped, said Kim Bell, with Kalamazoo Public Schools Adult Education. Adult education classes around the country saw attendance in GED classes, test taking, and test passage fall — changes that were reflected in Kalamazoo, she said.

In response, the GED Test Service reviewed the test and announced earlier this year that it was lowering the passing score from 150 to 145. It made the new

scoring retroactive to January 2014.

Several Kalamazoo students, who had previously taken the test and failed, were informed that they had passed under the new grading structure, Bell said.

Students who have hesitated to take the test because they were worried about difficulty and scoring should visit Adult Education to talk about their options, Bell said. And those who previously failed the test may want to consider retesting to see if they can pass under the revised scoring guidelines.

The GED is a series of tests in four subject areas: math, science, social studies and reasoning through language arts. The tests compare test takers' skills against current high school graduation requirements. Adults 18 and older, who do not have a high school diploma may take the GED test. Adults 20 and older can sign up for test preparation classes through Adult Education. The free classes are held at the Community Education Center, 714 S. Westnedge Ave., and are starting again Sept. 12.

Bell said the classes are being restructured to include success orientation, goal-setting, and expectation review for success in the program. Staff mentors will help students identify barriers that could impede their success and will help develop solutions to those situations. Finally, the new classes will include career pathways selection and college preparation to help students move forward after completing their academic goals.

For more information and to register for orientation before the Sept. 12 classes begin, call Adult Education at the CEC at (269) 337-0422.

Bell said with the move to online testing, students must schedule an appointment to take a test at www.gedcomputer.com or by calling (877) 392-6433. Tests are \$30 per subject area.

She cautioned test takers to sign up for the tests only through that site or phone number. She noted that since the online test launched, email and internet scams have popped up offering students unauthorized versions of the test.



Taking You Places Seven Days a Week!

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 Saturday 6:15 a.m. - 10:15 p.m.
NEW! Sunday 8:15 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
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Annual Notifications

Notification Regarding Staff Qualifications

Under the No Child Left Behind Act, parents have the right to request information on the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers and the qualifications of any paraprofessionals who provide services to their children. Parents may request and receive information about: (a) whether the teacher is state-certified, (b) whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status, and (c) the baccalaureate major of the teacher and any other graduate degree or certification. Parents may request information on the level of achievement of their child in each of the State academic assessments.

If a student attending a school that receives any Title I, Part A funds is assigned to, or taught, for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified, the school must provide timely notice to the student's parents.

Inquiries to:
Human Resources
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

• Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons, such as great

distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools must honor your request to review your child's education records within forty-five (45) days of receiving the request. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible students of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

• Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of his or her right to

a formal hearing regarding the request for amendment. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.

• Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions:

- School officials with legitimate educational interest; contractors, consultants or volunteers to whom the district has outsourced institutional services or functions; for example, the district shares data with educational institutions that have a vested interest in helping district students, such as Communities In Schools and Loaves and Fishes.
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- Organizations conducting

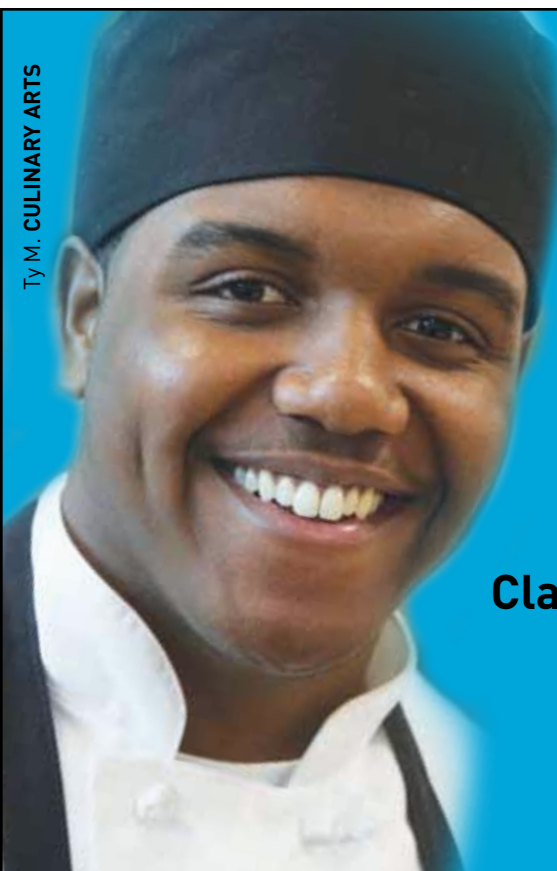
certain studies for or on behalf of the school;

- Accrediting organizations;
 - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
 - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
 - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law.
- Information the district has designated as "directory information".

Disclosure of Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that the Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS), with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, KPS may disclose appropriate designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow KPS to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include but are not limited to the

(continued on page 11)



Ty M. CULINARY ARTS

REGISTER NOW for FALL SEMESTER

Classes start September 6
www.kvcc.edu/worthit

Kalamazoo**VALLEY**[™]
community college

Kalamazoo Public Schools Needs Substitute Teachers

EDUStaff who provides substitutes to KPS is hiring qualified candidates.

Interested or want more information?

Go to www.EDUStaff.org/post

Questions: Call (877) 974-6338

An assistant will direct former and new substitute teachers through the application process.

EDUStaff training dates can be found online at their website.

Annual Notifications (continued from page 10)

following: a playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production; the annual yearbook; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs; or sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which includes student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized school activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance and previous school(s) attended, is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. The District may disclose personally identifiable information from education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student to other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the District has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the District has outsourced institutional services or functions.

In addition, two federal laws require us to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories — names, addresses and telephone listings — unless parents have advised KPS that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want KPS to disclose information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District by writing to:

Kalamazoo Public Schools
Information and

Technology Services
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Or faxing (269) 337-0195 on or before Friday, September 18, 2015.

For further information, please call Information and Technology Services at (269) 337-0146.

Nondiscrimination and Title IX Contact Information

Kalamazoo Public Schools welcomes all students and staff of any religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability. The District will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability in any of its activities, hiring practices, programs, or services. Further, in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), students, employees, and candidates for admission to any educational program and/or employment and all other persons are protected against all forms of sex discrimination and sexual harassment, including based on gender identity or stereotypical notions of gender identity.

The following person is designated as the Title IX coordinator with respect to any Title IX complaint of discrimination and/or harassment involving staff members:

Sheila Dorsey-Smith
Assistant Superintendent
of Human Resources
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0182

The following person is designated as the Title IX coordinator with respect to any complaint from students regarding discrimination, harassment and/or bullying from another student(s):

Nkenge Bergan
Interim Director of
Student Services
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0161

In addition, building level administrators are responsible for monitoring adherence to the District's nondiscrimination policy and for incorporating the District's policy statement in all printed promotional materials and newsletters.

Students should report concerns or complaints about discrimination, harassment, bullying, or cyberbullying by another student or students first to a teacher, and then if not satisfied, to the principal or assistant principal. Any concerns or complaints of discrimination,

Girls on the Run Begins Soon; Coaches Still Needed

Registration for Heart & Sole, a Girls on the Run program for girls in sixth through eighth grade, opened Aug. 22. The 10-week program begins the week of Sept. 26 and there will be teams at all KPS middle schools. Coaches are still needed. For more information, please visit www.girlsontherunkazoo.org, call (269) 532-1220, or email andrea@girlsontherunkazoo.org.

harassment, bullying, or cyberbullying not satisfied at the building level may be reported to an administrator in the Student Services Department. Concerns and/or complaints should be in writing, with the date, details of the concerns and signature of the person making the complaint.

Any complaints and concerns of discrimination, harassment, bullying, or cyberbullying that involve adults and/or staff members should be reported to the building principal. If the inquiry is not satisfied at this level, or if the building principal is the subject of the complaint, then the concern may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. All concerns should be in writing, with the

date, details of the concern and signature of the person making the complaint.

Complaints of any violation of the District's nondiscrimination policy will be promptly investigated and appropriate actions taken based on the results of the investigation. Individuals who report violations of the District's nondiscrimination policy will be granted confidentiality to the extent reasonably practicable. Any questions or assistance required in regard to the District's nondiscrimination policy, bullying policy, or Title IX protections should be addressed to the office of Student Services (269) 337-0161 for students and Human Resources (269) 337-0182 for staff.



BRONSON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
RUN & WALK 2016

**Sunday,
September 25, 2016**

Bronson Methodist Hospital
Downtown Kalamazoo
Corner of John and Lovell streets

- 11 a.m. Registration and children's activities
- 1 p.m. 5K Run & Walk (1 mile route also available)

Competitive runners, walkers, teams and families all welcome!

Register today at
bronsonhealth.com/runwalk

SEPTEMBER @ the library



FIRST SATURDAY

■ Saturday, September 3 / 2:00 pm / CEN / Enjoy stories, activities, special guests, and door prizes!

STORYTIMES

Adult caregiver must accompany babies and toddlers. Siblings attend as guests. Info: KPL.gov/storytimes.

■ **Preschool Storytime** / Tuesdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27 / 10:30 am / CEN / Ages 3-5 yrs.

■ **Baby Lapsit** / Mondays, September 12, 19, 26 / 10:15 am / OSH / Songs and rhymes for babies from birth to walking. Siblings welcome.

■ **Baby Steps** / Mondays, September 12, 19, 26 / 11:00 am / OSH / Rhymes and books for little ones walking-24 months. Siblings welcome.

■ **Toddler Talk** / Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28 / 10:15 am / OSH / Toddlers play while adults share the joys and challenges of parenting birth-3 year-olds. Carolyn Call, RN, Facilitator.

■ **Baby Talk** / Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28 / 1:30 pm / OSH / Share stories with other parents. Carolyn Call, RN, facilitator. Birth-1 yr.

■ **Family Storytime** / Stories, activities and special guests. Birth-5 and their families.

Thursdays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 / 10:30 am / OSH

Fridays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 / 10:30 am / CEN

■ **Musical Storytime** / Favorite songs, stories, and special guests.

Monday, September 12 / 6:30 pm / OSH

Monday, September 26 / 6:30 pm / CEN

■ **Cuentos y Canciones** / Thursday, September 29 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Celebrate Hispanic Heritage with bilingual stories, songs and special guests.

EVENTS

■ **Play and Learn** / Children ages 1-5 and their caregivers come and play!

Mondays, September 12, 19, 26 / 5:30 pm / EAS

Thursdays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 / 10:30 am / EAS

■ **LEGO at the Library** / Build with LEGO families. Bricks provided from Duplo to expert builder.

Sat, September 3 / 10:30 am / OSH

Wed, September 14 / 6:30 pm / WSQ

Sat, September 17 / 10:30 am / CEN

Wed, September 28 / 4:00 pm / POW

Thurs, September 29 / 4:00 pm / EAS

■ **1-2-3 Play with Me** / Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28 / 10:30 am / CEN / One-month child development workshop with children 1-3 years and their caregivers. **R**

■ **Little Scientists** / Monday, September 12 / 10:30 am / CEN / Stories and science for preschoolers and their caregivers. **R**

■ **Bookworms** / In September, we'll read *No Talking* by Andrew Clements.

Tuesday, September 13 / 4:30 pm / OSH

Thursday, September 22 / 4:30 pm / CEN

■ **Maker Mondays** / September 19 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Tinker, create, explore. Ages 6-11 yrs.

■ **International Day of Peace** / Wednesday, September 21 / 1:00 pm / POW & EAS / Make and take crafts during open hours.

■ **Zumba for Kids** / Friday, September 23 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Zumba for ages 4-9 yrs.

■ **All about Owls** / Saturday, September 24 / 10:30 am & 11:30 am / OSH / Learn with live owls! FREE. **T**

■ **Eastwood STEM Festival** / Monday, September 26 / 4:00 pm / EAS / STEM activities presented by Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.

■ **Harry Potter Science by Chemical Kim** / Wednesday, September 28 / 6:30 pm / WSQ / Discover the science behind Harry Potter's magic, hands-on! Ages 5-11 yrs. **R**

TWEEN/TEEN EVENTS

■ **Open Letter Writing** / August 29-November 2 / All Locations / Drop in and write a letter to the next POTUS.

■ **KPL Teen Volunteer Team** / October / Apply for volunteer hours at www.kpl.gov/teen/volunteer.

■ **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** / Monday, September 12 / 4:30 pm / CEN & OSH / Play games, test out new services for teens. Register online. Gr. 6-12. **R**

■ **Disc Golf Club** / Monday, September 12, 26 / 4:30 pm / OSH / No experience necessary. Gr. 5-12. **R**

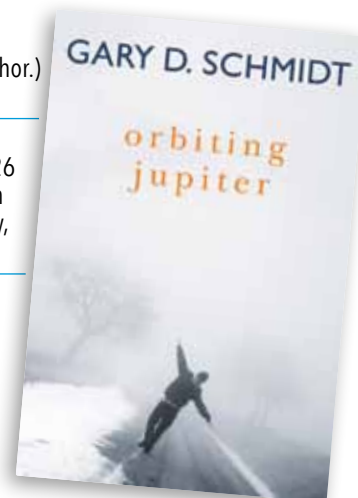
■ **Teen Book Club** / Tuesday, September 13 / 6:00 pm / POW / Pick up a book, read it, come back for discussion. Gr. 5-12.

■ **Speak It Forward Presents: Leading through Poetry** / Tuesdays, September 13, 27 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Youth poetry workshop. No expertise necessary. Registration encouraged. Gr. 5-12.

■ **J-Pop Club** / Monday, September 19 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Anime, Manga, and food. Teens Only.

■ **Pizza & Pages** / Saturday, September 24 / 12:00 pm / CEN / *Orbiting Jupiter* by Gary Schmidt (October's visiting author.) Gr. 6-12. **R**

■ **Maker Mondays** / Monday, September 26 / 4:30 pm / CEN / Teen Area / Tinker, make, try, create. Gr. 5-12.



■ Baby / Kid ■ Tween / Teen ■ Family ■ All Ages
T Ticket Required **R** Registration Required

kpl.gov/calendar

Central Library (CEN)
315 S. Rose St.
553-7800

Eastwood (EAS)
1112 Gayle Ave.
553-7810

Oshtemo (OSH)
7265 W. Main St.
553-7980

Alma Powell (POW)
1000 W. Paterson St.
553-7960

Washington Square (WSQ)
1244 Portage St.
553-7970



Kalamazoo
Public Library