

# DRAFT

**Lansingburgh Central School District  
Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Monday, January 22, 2024  
Turnpike Elementary School - Cafeteria**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Andrea Fairhurst at 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board of Education Members, Michael Cusack, Andrea Fairhurst, Jillian Manupella, Daniella Richards, Jason Shover, James Spear, Jessica Vartigian, and Thomas Zakrzewski were present. Talia Pallozzi was absent from the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Others present include Bob Schongar, Angela Mauriello (on behalf of the LTA), Matthew Van Dervoort, Carrie Phelan, Melissa Santarcangelo, Kelly Cataldo, Linda Klime, Rebecca McGrouty, Dr. Antonio Abitabile and Christina Williams. There were no others present.

Ms. Fairhurst read the District’s Mission Statement:

**MISSION**

*Our mission at the Lansingburgh Central School District is to create for all students a productive, challenging and safe educational environment. Our students will acquire civic values and learning skills and strategies through a dynamic partnership between the schools and community. These experiences will inspire a lifetime of learning and self-sufficiency.*

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #1-01/22/2024  
Approve Meeting  
Agenda**

RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the revised meeting agenda for January 22, 2024.

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Curriculum Committee Update by Mr. Cusack:

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

- We discussed the Governor’s Back to the Basics initiative. We have the components to make our students and staff successful.

Audit Committee Update by Mr. Shover:

- We reviewed the EdData account that is used to procure the materials and supplies our schools need on a cooperative basis. This year we saw

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savings of \$64,000. We have had savings of \$457,000 over the past 5 years.

- We are right on track with the 2023-2024 budget. We had a large transfer for in-service training provided by BOCES; our expenses are in alignment; and we have more aid coming in February.
- The tax warrant that will be approved tonight has just over \$1 million in uncollected school tax. This is very typical. The county will now work to recoup the outstanding balance.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the Treasurer’s Report, Budget Transfers and Monthly Financial Report submitted by the Audit Committee.

**RESO #2-01/22/2024  
Approve Financial Reports**

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Vartigian:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 18, 2023.

**RESO #3-01/22/2024  
Approve Minutes**

Second: Mr. Spear

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

## PERSONNEL – CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the following resignations:

**RESO #4-01/22/2024  
Accept Resignations**

Name	Position	Building	Action	Effective Date
Kristy Jarosz	Science Teacher	KMS	Resignation	January 17, 2024
Madison Teta	TA	LHS	Resignation	December 22, 2023
Robert Dorn	TA	LHS	Resignation for Retirement	January 2, 2024



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**PERSONNEL –  
NON-  
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #8-01/22/2024  
Appoint Non-  
Instructional Staff**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints the following non-instructional staff:

Name	Position	Building	Appointment Type	Term	Salary/Step	Effective Date
Madison Teta	Substitute TA	District Wide	Annual	2023-2024 School Year		January 2, 2024
Keith Hull	Building Maintenance Supervisor	District Wide	Provisional	-	\$75,000 / Management Confidential	January 22, 2024
Ikena Amobi	21st Century Student Worker	KMS	Annual	2023-2024 School Year	\$15.00/hr	January 2, 2024
Levi DeSalvatore	21st Century Student Worker	KMS	Annual	2023-2024 School Year	\$15.00/hr	January 2, 2024

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #9-01/22/2024  
Approve Agreement**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves an Agreement for employee #2027, effective January 10, 2024.

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #10-01/22/2024  
Approve Additional  
Assignments**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following additional assignments for the 2023-2024 school year:

Name	Position / Purpose	Building	Appointment Type	Compensation
Bianca Covello	Joyful ABC Activities- Promoting Positive Identity Development	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Lindsey Gibson	Time Hack: Supercharge Your Classroom with AI-	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour

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	powered Tools and Tricks			
Chris Huttner	Interactive Reading	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Maggie Higgins	Book Bonanza 2024 Part 1	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Annette Hopkins	Mystery Science	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Caitlin Garrity	Mystery Science	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Elizabeth Jamison	What's the NEWS - Using the Newsbank Database in the Classroom	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Christine Martinelli	What's the NEWS - Using the Newsbank Database in the Classroom	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Elizabeth Jamison	Exploring Nature - Science Educational Resource	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Christine Martinelli	Exploring Nature - Science Educational Resource	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Jodi McNutt	Book Study: Behavior - The Lost Modules	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Elizabeth Jamison	Reading on the Go - Digital Books for Wherever You Are	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 2 hours @ \$30/hour
Christine Martinelli	Reading on the Go - Digital Books for Wherever You Are	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 2 hours @ \$30/hour
Elizabeth Jamison	Look it Up - Digital Research Options for the Classroom	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 2 hours @ \$30/hour
Christine Martinelli	Look it Up - Digital Research Options for the Classroom	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 2 hours @ \$30/hour
Mary Haydock	Shifting the Balance 3-5	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Tiffany Ainsworth	Special Education Workshop K-5 Special Education Teachers	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour
Jodi McNutt	Special Education Workshop K-5 Special Education Teachers	N/A	Lansingburgh Academy	up to 5 hours @ \$30/hour

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Brittany Bodmar	Ski Club Advisor	KMS	Annual	Per LTA Agreement
Cassidy Hayes	Tutoring	TES	Temporary	up to 5 hours per week for medically fragile student
Erika Wittmann	Book Club	RPES	Annual	\$30/hr ARP
Kristen Pasinella	Book Club	RPES	Annual	\$30/hr ARP
Samantha Craven	Athletic Event Staff Ticket Taker / Chaperone / Announcer / Time Keeper / Clock Operator	District Wide	Annual	Per Athletics Event Payment Schedule
Maryanne Denault				
Mark Duncan				
Anthony Emanuel				
Nicholas Foglia				
Amy Gamache				
Kelli Genthner				
Kyly Horton				
Sarah Huls				
Patricia Hurley Dyer				
Courtney Hynes				
Alaina Lange				
Linda Lynch				
Angela Mauriello				
Seth Reynolds				
James Swab				
Nicole Vancott				
Christine Wilcox				
Suzette Wood				
Victor Begin				
Kristen Pasinella				
Kelly Borden				
Adam Gregorie				

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Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #11-01/22/2024**  
**Approve Leave of**  
**Absence**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following leave of absence:

Name	Position	Building	Term	Note
Skyler Teta	TA	KMS	February 3, 2024 - March 17, 2024	Unpaid Parenting Leave

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

## ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Vartigian:

**RESO #12-01/22/2024**  
**Accept Donations**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the following donations:

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Cornerstone Church	\$ 112.50	Dress a Knight
LHS Football Club	500.00	Anything is Possible Scholarship
Warren Fane	550.00	Dress a Knight
Kevin Huerter Foundation	1,000.00	Ski Club
Callanan Industries	2,000.00	Backpack Program

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion by Mr. Shover:

**RESO #13-01/22/2023**  
**Approve Pay**  
**Schedule for Athletic**  
**Event Staff**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following payment schedule for athletic event staff for the 2023-2024 school year:

Athletics Event Staff Payment Schedule		
	Single Event	Double Header
Time Keeper	\$40	\$65
Clock Operator	\$40	\$65
Announcer	\$40	\$65





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Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #18-01/22/2024**  
**Approve**  
**Transportation**  
**Contract**  
**Amendments**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following transportation contract amendments with First Student, Inc. for the period of September 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027; and further authorize the Board of Education President to sign the amendments:

Contract #	Original Amount	Amended Amount	Purpose
C577780	\$171,997	\$176,362	Field Trips and Sports Trips
C577779	\$1,581,867	\$1,961,995	Home to School SpEd
C577778	\$3,098,779	\$2,686,624	Home to School
C577777	\$59,136	\$46,414	Summer Home to School
C577776	\$170,856	\$246,071	Summer Home to School SpEd

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Spear

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #19-01/22/2024**  
**Authorize Building**  
**Maintenance**  
**Supervisor Position**  
**and Job Description**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education authorizes creating the position of Building Maintenance Supervisor; and further accepts the job description that has been approved by the Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Vartigian:

**RESO #20-01/22/2024**  
**Accept Federal Funds**  
**Single Audit Report**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby accepts the Federal Funds Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8      Nays – 0

Motion by Ms. Richards:

**RESO #21-01/22/2024**  
**Accept First Reading**  
**of Policies**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the first reading of the following policies:

- 2325 - Videoconferencing of Board Meetings
- 4327 - Homebound Instruction
- 6630.3 Meals and Refreshments





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Questar III's School Improvement Team and SUNY New Paltz, educators (teachers, administrators, and teacher assistants) in our BOCES region can participate for a total cost of \$50 per participant. The District will cover the cost.

By Dr. Abitabile:

## Superintendent Report

2024-2025 School Calendar:

- We have a draft and will be sharing it with the union heads after the February break.
- The calendar will be on the March board agenda for approval.

Building Project:

- The brick veneer is complete.
- No more work will be happening on the playground until the spring.
- KMS had no heat on January 2<sup>nd</sup> because of a problem with the new boiler. If it had not been a school recess day, we would have had to close KMS for the day. The repairs were made, and the boiler was up and running before school reopened on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Budget Update:

- We did fairly well on the first runs of State Aid for 2024-2025.
- There are still many variables, but the allowable Tax Cap increase is approximately 0.91% (\$150,000).
- We are early in the process of our own internal audit of the IT Department. There may be some shifts in the department for the coming school year that will not be budget neutral.
- Polling hours for the School Budget Vote and Board Member Election will be changed to 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Polling locations remain at LHS and TES.

Project Aware Grant:

- 90% of our staff need to participate in training by mid-November to meet the requirements of the grant. This includes a 2-hour prep and a 6-hour in-person training. We are working on scheduling the staff training. There is a possibility it may happen at the May 21<sup>st</sup> Superintendent's Conference Day.

World Read Aloud Day is February 7, 2024. I will be reading at Turnpike and Rensselaer Park.

The School Attorneys will be providing Special Education training for our non-SpEd administrators at the next administrators meeting.

February Workshop:

- Assemblymember John McDonald will be visiting to discuss the State Budget.

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- Ben Seymour, HR Director will be presenting on the topic the Board chose: rescue fund positions; substitute pay rates; and exit interviews.

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #23-01/22/2024  
Executive Session**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

**RESO #24-01/22/2024  
Adjourn**

Be it resolved this meeting of the Board of Education hereby adjourns at 8:21 p.m.

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams  
Clerk to the Board of Education

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## Turnpike Elementary School Update

Turnpike Attendance						
Grade	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	January	2023-2024
UPK	95%	91%	86%	88%	87%	89%
K	92%	88%	89%	85%	87%	89%
1	92%	88%	87%	86%	86%	88%
2	94%	91%	92%	87%	88%	91%
TES	93%	89%	89%	86%	87%	89%

District Goal	
SEL & TSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PBIS - Bee Hives</li> </ul>
Family & Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1/17 PTA meeting</li> <li>1/25 RPES &amp; TES FAC meeting</li> <li>2/2 Guptill's Skate "Knight"</li> </ul>
Data Collection and Implementation to Drive Curriculum and Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom Teachers, Reading Teachers and TOSA continue to meet weekly to analyze data and make instructional decisions to best meet students needs.</li> <li>Kim Inglee, Questar III, provided 1st grade teachers with instructional strategies and resources to improve our reading practices to align with the SoR.</li> <li>Jessica Decker, Questar III, provided 2nd grade teachers with embedded coaching to assist implementation with the new Eureka2 math program.</li> <li>Jessica Decker also presented the CRA model to all K-2 teachers at our monthly grade level meeting.</li> </ul>

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## Rensselaer Park Elementary School Update

Area of Focus	Action/Initiatives
<p><b>Chronic Absenteeism</b></p>	<p>3rd - 90% 4th - 91% 5th - 89% Overall - 90%</p>
<p><b>Data Collection Curriculum &amp; Implementation to Drive Curriculum &amp; Instruction</b></p>	<p><b>Math</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified common resources for enrichment &amp; remediation</li> <li>• Individualized professional development using student data</li> <li>• Identified Eureka2 resources to support instruction</li> <li>• Identified common language and strategies across grade levels</li> <li>• Interventions for Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 were identified based on student data.</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Updates have been made to the pacing calendar to identify standards that must be taught before the NYS Assessment</li> </ul> <p><b>ELA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with Kalynn Reynolds to analyze NYS Data</li> <li>• Identify Ss who received full credit for short responses and pull strategy group during intervention block</li> <li>• Shifting the Balance- The science of reading book study</li> <li>• TOSA shared last year’s NYS test data with teachers</li> <li>• TOSA worked with teachers to answer reading specific questions related to our Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) process. Interventions for Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 were identified based on student data.</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Karen Kohler presented on the State Wide Literacy Symposium and the Back to Basics Plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social and Emotional Learning and Trauma Sensitive Practices</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Day Faculty Meeting &gt; 10 mins on Compassion Fatigue &gt; Determined staff interest in Wind Down events</li> <li>• 10/12/23 Compassion Fatigue activity at Faculty meeting (You’re in my boat if...)</li> <li>• 10/18/23 Wind Down Wednesday event after school</li> <li>• 11/13/23 Compassion Fatigue activity at Faculty meeting (setting boundaries &amp; gratitude journals)</li> <li>• 11/17/23 Wind Down Friday event for staff</li> <li>• 12/6/23 Compassion Fatigue video at Faculty meeting (finding the humor)</li> <li>• 12/15/23 Wind Down Friday event for staff</li> </ul>

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	<p><b>New:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1/11/24 Compassion Fatigue activity at Faculty Meeting (recognizing small wins)</li><li>○ 1/12/24 Wind Down Friday event for staff</li></ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Family &amp; Community Engagement</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We had many community partners join us for Open House this year &gt; Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Lansingburgh Connects, Troy Public Library</li><li>• Our new Student Assistance Counselor, Allie Farley, started at RPES on 10/19/23</li><li>• Our Student Assistance Counselor as well as our Family Assistance Counselor have been joining weekly Student Support Team meetings</li><li>• Met with Mr. Hickling and RCDOH to discuss having them come into the building to provide lessons to all grade levels about healthy eating, exercise, and hygiene</li></ul> <p><b>New:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FAC Meeting 1/25/24</li></ul>



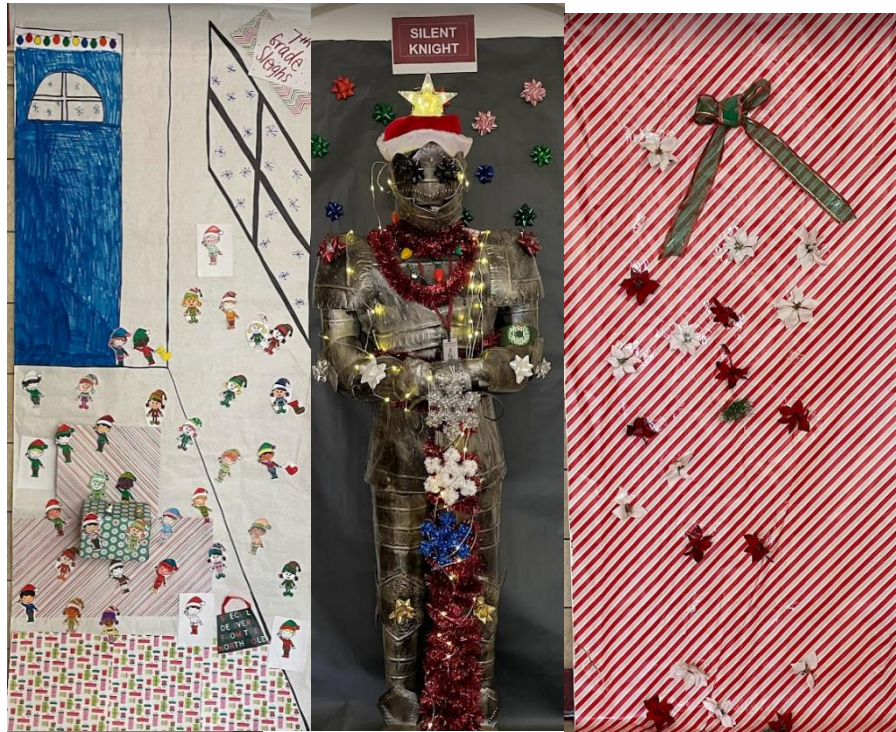
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## Knickerbacker Middle School Update

Area of Focus	Action/Initiatives
ELA	Continued PD to update maps and align assessments
Science	Math and Science completed the CBT simulation to prepare for the NYS assessments
Math	Midterms were similar to the NYS assessments, teachers will begin to analyze data to target skills to review in upcoming units.
SEL/School Climate	<p>KMS School Climate ended the month of December by creating a daily morning show with KMS media club. Students really enjoyed the daily videos and activities. It all ended with a faculty created song of "The 12 Days of KMS". The committee also had their first annual team 'door' decorating contest. Doors were displayed in the cafeteria for all students to view. (Pictures below). 14 students were selected to receive the Knight Way Award for Quarter 2. In order to receive this award students must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Quarter overall average must be 80% or higher.</li><li>2. No more than 2 absences for the quarter.</li><li>3. No disciplinary referrals for the quarter.</li><li>4. Student is kind, never gives up, shows integrity, is gracious, honest and a team player.</li></ol> <p>Students will be celebrated on February 2 and will receive a certificate as well as a "goodie bag" with an assortment of prizes.</p>



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Student council launched their annual sock drive starting January 3rd. There is a dance coming up this Friday that students are excited about. Ticket sales begin today.

The TSS Committee members met with Mr. Otter to view the holistic assessment results and discuss ways we can incorporate interventions to address student challenges (empathy, learning interest)

This month, Ms. Sacco has been pushing in for SEL Lessons with 8th graders to discuss healthy vs unhealthy relationships and friendships and characteristics of what a healthy relationship looks like

Attendance

Sept 2023 -Nov 2023

Grade	%
6	90.60%
7	91.60%
8	87.76%

Overall 89.86%

Parent Engagement

The second KMS FAC Meeting of the school year was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024. Topics included midterms/assessments, moving up ceremony, resources available (Charlie Health, Lansingburgh Connects)

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	<p>KMS Parent Teacher Conferences will be held both in person and virtually on Friday, January 26th in the afternoon.</p>
21st Century Program	<p>The 21st Century Program has added a few new clubs- Dance Club (KMS and LHS), Culture and Heritage Club (LHS) and an ELA SAT Prep Club (LHS). We continue to add more students each week and are working students improving their grades and completing their daily homework assignments. The Troy Savings Bank Music Hall will be starting a guitar club and an African Drumming and Dance workshop for the middle school program.</p>