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EXCELSIOR

August 2023 · Volume 26, Issue 7

Breaking Ground at Jeter Fields

(STORY AND PHOTOS ON PAGES 8-9)

CONGRATS

Kalamazoo
Central's Rex
Hafer receives
national honor

pg. 6



WELCOME

New Board
of Education
Trustee
Maricela Alcala

pg. 10



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Let's Talk About the Power of Accountability

LET'S HOLD each other accountable. It's that simple. Let's be honest about what our students need, what our goals are, and the work that we need to do to meet our goals and to help our students achieve theirs.

My goal as your new Kalamazoo Public Schools superintendent is to improve outcomes for all students. That means:

- Improving outcomes for all schools.
- Improving student achievement for all students and subgroups.
- Improving culture and climate outcomes.
- Improving graduation rates.

- Improving the perception of the school district among our stakeholders.
- Decreasing dropout rates.
- Providing appropriate social and emotional supports for students.

• Maintaining clean schools and facilities. Kalamazoo Public Schools is a great district with a dedicated staff that strives to meet the needs of our community. But no matter how good a district is or how hard-working a staff is, there is always room for improvement. That is true here.

I've reviewed the district achievement data, and there have certainly been improvements, but reading and math data has been flat for a number of years. Daily attendance has declined — as is the case across the country, especially in the wake of the pandemic. You can't succeed if you're not in school. In terms of graduation rates, we've seen overall gains for some subgroups, but for others the numbers remain too low — especially among our students of color.

My belief is that we are here for one reason: to give our students the tools necessary to succeed. For that to happen, student achievement must always be improving or we are not doing our job. Success will be measured not just

by gains for a few students or a few schools, but by improvements for all students at every school.

When I began as your new superintendent on July 1, I launched a 90-day plan to begin working on these goals.

The plan includes:

- Meeting with school and district stakeholders.
- Creating and building relationships.
- Identifying the needs of the district.
- Planning for the opening of school in the fall.
- Beginning to address the needs of the district.
- Focusing on areas related to student achievement and school climate and safety.

Meeting with staff and families to discuss the school district, to hear their praise and their concerns is key to building a successful school district. People need to know who their leader is and hear their superintendent's vision and plan. You need to know my goals for the district and how I plan to get there,

because that is how you build accountability within the system.

I am a big believer in accountability at all levels. You will hear me talk about accountability over and over again. Accountability begins at the top. I am passionate about the goals that I mentioned above, but passion is not enough. I expect the KPS Board of Education will hold me accountable for meeting those goals just as I hold others accountable for their words, actions and work.

We want this to be the best school district in the state. I have heard that from parents and staff. I have talked to students and they believe we are one of the best. I believe it too.

We must keep our focus on the goal of improving outcomes for all students. The key to that is accountability. That's a bad word in some organizations; it is a word that may cause some people to feel uncomfortable. But, I believe it can lead to success — for our students, for our district, for our community.

A Message from the Superintendent



Dr. Darrin Slade

END OF SUMMER PARTY

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Saturday, August 26 | 1–3 pm | Central Library
Celebrate the great summer we had with crafts, snacks and activities. Pick up your Summer Reading Challenge prizes!

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Kalamazoo Central Student Wins Third Place in National History Day Contest

ALIAH MOHMAND, a senior at Kalamazoo Central High School, won third place at the National History Day Contest held in June in Maryland.

This year's theme was "Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas." Mohmand created an individual exhibit project titled "Afghan Mujahideen: Catalyst for Collapse; Changing the Communist Frontier."

More than 500,000 students competed globally in one of five categories in the contest: documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Mohmand was sponsored by Kalamazoo Central history teacher Bradley Ihrcke.

The contest runs at local and regional levels. Top students from all 50 states; Washington D.C.; U.S. territories; and international schools are invited to compete in the national contest.

"These students spent months researching primary and secondary sources, analyzing their topic's significance in history, and communicating their ideas in creative formats, and they were guided by gifted history teachers. The academic success of these students is the answer to the dismal results of the National Assessment of Education Progress

report on history and civics that was released in May," said NHD Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn.

More than 400 historians and education professionals served as judges for the students' work.

Scholarships worth \$150,000 were awarded at the national awards ceremony and more than 100 students took home cash prizes between \$250 and \$1,000 for superior work in each category of judging.



Kalamazoo Central history teacher Bradley Ihrcke, KC Principal Valerie Boggan, Interim Superintendent Cindy Green, Kalamazoo Central senior Aliah Mohmand, and KPS Board President Ti'Anna Harrison smile as Mohmand is recognized by the KPS Board of Education for her third place win in the National History Day contest.

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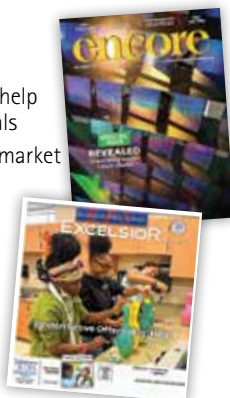
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Kalamazoo Public Schools welcomes all students and staff of any religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, and disability.

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 for
Instruction and Student Services**

Kalamazoo Public Schools

1220 Howard St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

(269) 337-0161

All other inquiries should be directed to:

**Assistant Superintendent of
Human Resources**

Kalamazoo Public Schools

1220 Howard St.

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

(269) 337-0177

District Directory at:

www.kalamazoopublicschools.com**Recipe****from the KPS Food Service, Chartwells****Kirsten Strong, registered dietician****Samuel Dunn, executive chef****Roasted Carrot and Ginger Hummus**

IN THE spring, KPS Food Service did a taste testing event at Indian Prairie Elementary School with this roasted carrot and ginger hummus recipe. Indian Prairie students curiously tried the samples and were delighted with the uniquely colorful dip. The vibrant orange color comes from the beta-carotene phytonutrient in carrots, which gets converted into vitamin A in our bodies. This light and healthy snack is also packed with protein, making it a balanced snacking choice. It is perfect to keep at home for a quick bite to tide you over until your next meal. Enjoy it with crackers, pretzels, veggies, or chips!

**INGREDIENTS**

½ pound carrots
1 tablespoon canola oil
¼ teaspoon kosher salt
¼ teaspoon ground cardamom
1 ounce cold water
½ tablespoon ginger root, minced
22 ounces traditional, prepared hummus

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350° F. Wash carrots thoroughly. Leave skins on, remove tops.

Drizzle carrots with the oil and sprinkle with salt. Roast on a baking sheet for 20-25 minutes until softened and evenly browned.

Add carrots to a blender with water, cardamom, and fresh ginger root. Puree until completely smooth.

Chill thoroughly then blend chilled roasted carrot puree with hummus until well mixed.

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KC's Rex Hafer Named Teacher of the Year by the American Lawyers Alliance

KALAMAZOO Central High School government teacher Rex Hafer was named this year's American Lawyers Alliance's Lillian B. Jarvis Teacher of the Year.

Hafer, who has taught social studies at Kalamazoo Central for 18 years, is an AP comparative government and politics and constitutional law teacher. He is a 13-time recipient of the KRESA "Significant Educator Award." He is also the National Honor Society adviser at the school and co-coach of the cross country team.

"I believe that not all lessons on the law are overt with court cases to our students," Hafer said in his application for the award. "Oftentimes it is getting kids to see the failure of the system and to offer them an opportunity to correct that wrong and raise awareness. Legal changes are slow to develop over time. In the meantime, it is important to see that one has an avenue to impact our society as we fight to win the slow and deliberate legal battles that are so important."

The Jarvis Award honors teachers of law-related programs in Title I schools. The American Lawyers Alliance is a nonprofit affiliate of the American Bar Association, whose mission is to promote understanding and appreciation of the law and the American legal system. Hafer will be honored at the ALA annual meeting in Denver on Aug. 4.

Hafer was selected by a panel of judges for his challenging and educational law and government programs. "He has developed interesting and original ways to engage his students in the law. He challenges them by exposing them to real Supreme Court cases, research projects through Human Rights Watch, and community awareness," said an Alliance press release.

KC Principal Valerie Boggan said, "Rex, or 'Hafer' as he is commonly referred to, is a quiet force. His leadership doesn't require him to be in front, but he equips his students to lead and make a difference in the school. His method of teaching has allowed his students to excel in some very challenging Advanced Placement courses. Rex is an asset to Kalamazoo Central and students benefit from his passion to teach."

"Mr. Hafer is an exceptional civics educator who strives each day to bring the outside world of government, law, and politics in-



Kalamazoo Central social studies teacher Rex Hafer was named winner of the American Lawyers Alliance Teacher of the Year award.

side the classroom in ways that excite students to become engaged citizens," said Heather Reid, president of the Kalamazoo Education Association.

In his application for the award, Hafer describes his three-pronged approach to teaching his AP government and law classes. For his AP U.S. Government class, the primary focus has been on the expansion of civil liberties and rights through the conflictual process of litigation versus legislation. "The only requirement I have of my students is that every argument in every debate or assignment is tied back directly to the United States Constitution," he said.

"One of the first law-based lessons I use every year is a Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist debate over

(continued on page 7)

"Legal changes are slow to develop over time. In the meantime, it is important to see that one has an avenue to impact our society as we fight to win the slow and deliberate legal battles that are so important."

— Rex Hafer



Rex Hafer *(continued from page 6)*

the articles of the Constitution. Students are divided into two groups and either have to defend the Constitution or raise the criticisms of it based on their role,” he said. “They present their research as a debate in front of a panel of social studies teachers acting as citizens in the 1780s trying to decide whether or not to vote in favor of the ratification of the Constitution.”

His class also incorporates a legal study of the regulatory policies of the bureaucracy — bureaucratic law that is created, implemented, and regulated by the federal bureaucracy.

“Students are assigned random independent regulatory agencies to see their focus and the autonomy they have to draft and enforce legislation that impacts American citizens every day,” he said. “They have to look at the legal challenges to the bureaucratic implementation and regulation as well as the defense of these policies.”

Students also must write constitutional issue historiography papers. Each student randomly draws a constitutional issue ranging from freedom of the press to students’ rights in schools. Each issue has a minimum of three Supreme Court cases affiliated with it, including a major case studied in class or that has dramatically impacted American life.

“Students must write a research paper on the evolution of the Supreme Court’s rulings on the issue as well as the impact their changing or evolving rulings have had on society,” he said.

In AP United States Government, the class delves into the civil liberties and civil rights that the courts have protected, examined, challenged — or neglected. Hafer brings in police officers, lawyers, politicians, and community activists to address constitutional issues or principles and explain how they interpret them.

Hafer said he enjoys his AP Comparative Government and Politics class, because it presents an “amazing opportunity to teach (about) law around the world” to students who rarely get this opportunity. Only 17,000 students worldwide take the class annually. “It is actually a course that gets the students to ask about law and the implementation of it around the world.”

The class studies six different countries, and the students do a research project through Human Rights Watch reports to see what legal and social issues are at play in each country and how they are being ad-

ressed by the political and judicial systems.

As the National Honor Society adviser at Kalamazoo Central for 17 years, Hafer has helped his students learn about civic engagement. In 2018, five of his students created Kalamazoo Students for Gun

Legislation in the wake of the Parkland shooting. And, he works with students to organize KC Feeds KZOO, the second largest food drive in the community, which annually raises over \$16,000 in donations every holiday season.

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Kalamazoo Public Schools

Work Begins on \$5 million Baseball, Softball Field Renovations Thanks to Derek Jeter, Turn 2 Foundation

DEREK JETER'S Turn 2 Foundation and Kalamazoo Public Schools marked the groundbreaking in the renovation of the baseball and softball fields at Kalamazoo Central High School on June 21.

The project — valued at \$5 million and slated to be completed in 2024 — will provide completely renovated and reoriented fields outfitted with new seating, new dugouts, and synthetic turf to increase player access.

Turn 2 Foundation President Sharlee Jeter and Dr. Charles Jeter, vice president of the Turn 2 Foundation Board, joined Kalamazoo Public Schools representatives to commemorate the milestone in the renovation.

"This is an exciting moment in a project that is very close to our hearts. The Turn 2 Foundation is rooted in motivating young people to lead healthy lifestyles

and achieve their greatest potential, and these newly renovated fields will provide a welcoming space for youth to excel," said Sharlee Jeter. "We are proud to collaborate with Kalamazoo Public Schools on this initiative, and we look forward to celebrating its completion with the community next year."

"Baseball and softball fields are where many young people recognize their passions and discover their ability to overcome challenges and succeed," said Baseball Hall of Fame member Derek Jeter. "Our hope is that when these young athletes step onto the new fields next year they feel empowered to accomplish anything they set their minds to, and I am excited to work with the community to bring our vision to life."

One of the key elements of the new fields will be a reorientation of their layouts so the batters face the pitching mound in the northeast. This orientation will minimize the impact of low afternoon and evening sun angles on players' vision. The baseball field will also have a synthetic turf field with new sub-base and drainage system, while the softball field will have a new clay infield and synthetic turf outfield with sub-base and drainage system.

Sharlee Jeter, president of the Turn 2 Foundation and Derek Jeter's sister, attended the Kalamazoo Central groundbreaking with her son Jalen Jeter-Martin and her father Dr. Charles Jeter.



Participating in the groundbreaking at Jeter Fields at Kalamazoo Central are (l to r):

Cindy Green, interim superintendent
Shawn Parshall, Tower Pinkster
Jermaine Jackson, KPS board vice president
TiAnna Harrison, KPS board president
Valerie Boggan, K Central principal
Dr. Charles Jeter, vice president, Turn 2 board
Sharlee Jeter, president of Turn 2 Foundation
Jalen Jeter-Martin, son of Sharlee Jeter
Franli Guzman, Turn 2 Foundation vice president
Karen Jackson, executive supervisor KPS facilities
Jim Feltch, Elite Companies, construction management
Greg Kerbow, FIELDS representative





“Kalamazoo Public Schools is excited to launch work on the new baseball and softball fields, which would not have been possible without the generous donation of time and money from Kalamazoo Central High School alums Derek and Sharlee Jeter,” said then-Kalamazoo Public Schools Interim Superintendent Cindy Green.

“We appreciate their continued commitment to expanding growth and leadership opportunities for Kalamazoo youth through the work of the Turn 2 Foundation,” Green said. “This gift to the students of Kalamazoo Central and the community is a wonderful sign of renewal as we emerge from the pandemic, and we hope it inspires our athletes to new levels of excellence.”

Both fields will include:

- New elevated aluminum grandstand bleachers.
- New pre-cast concrete dugouts.
- New galvanized fencing, backstop and foul poles.
- New press boxes.

The project costs also cover a new clay infield and natural grass practice field, accessible restrooms and accessible parking.

Derek Jeter established The Turn 2 Foundation during his rookie year with the New York Yankees in 1996. Since its launch, Turn 2 has worked to help young people reach their full potential by creating and supporting initiatives that promote leadership

development, academic achievement, positive behavior, healthy lifestyles and social change.

As part of its programming, Turn 2 serves local students from Kalamazoo Central High School through its Jeter’s Leaders initiative, a four-year leadership development program for high school students in West Michigan and New York City. During its 27-year history, Turn 2 has given back more than \$34 million, funding its signature programs as well as organizations that support its mission.

ON THE FRONT COVER:

Kalamazoo Central baseball player Devin Webster, principal Valerie Boggan, softball player London Rabb, and Sharlee Jeter, president of the Turn 2 Foundation, share a smile before the groundbreaking.

Gryphon Place CEO Maricela Alcala Selected to Fill Board Vacancy

THE KALAMAZOO Public Schools Board of Education unanimously selected Maricela Alcala to fill its trustee vacancy at a special board meeting on June 28.

Alcala, who is CEO of Gryphon Place, a nonprofit that provides suicide prevention and crisis intervention services in Kalamazoo, will serve the remainder of the term of Tandy Moore, who resigned from the board on June 8. Moore was elected in 2018 to a six-year term.

The board reviewed 25 applications for the position on June 21, selecting six candidates to interview. Originally slated to select the new trustee at its July 6 meeting, the board announced at a special meeting on Monday, June 26, that it would make the selection sooner, so incoming Superintendent Dr. Darrin Slade could start his tenure with a fully seated board.

Alcala is the mother of two KPS graduates and has experience volunteering in the schools as a classroom volunteer and Girls on the Run coach. In her application for the trustee position, Alcala said she is a Spanish-speaking, Mexican-American



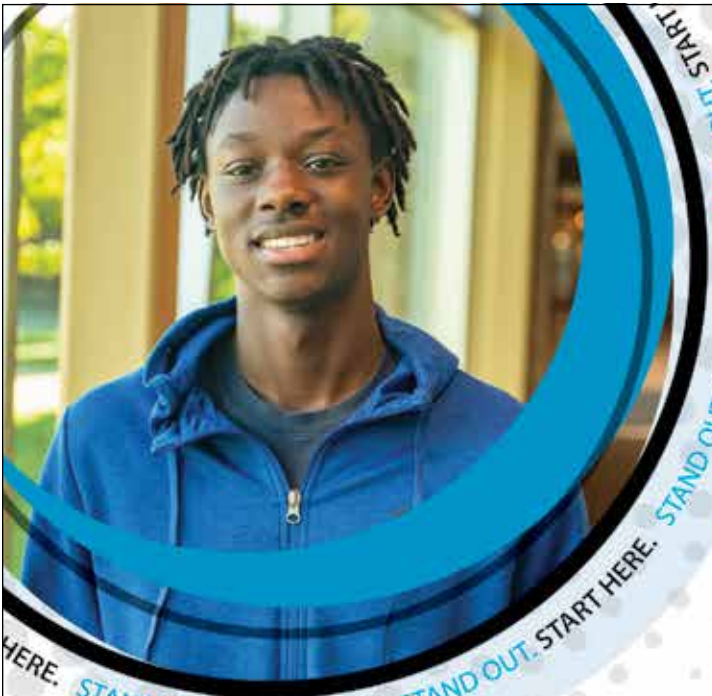
New board trustee Maricela Alcala, CEO of Gryphon Place

parent who comes from an immigrant family. “I have a great passion for elevating our Hispanic/Latino youth,” Alcala wrote. “I bring knowledge, experience, and passion for juvenile justice. I have strong connections to local community resources and bring a collaborative spirit to all the work I do.” She serves on the Michigan Juvenile Justice Commission and is part of local gun violence prevention efforts in Kalamazoo.

Board President Ti’Anna Harrison thanked everyone who applied for the position and expressed an interest in the school district’s mission to educate all children.

“We look forward to working with Maricela Alcala and using her deep community connections, knowledge of mental health resources, and management skills to further strengthen KPS to better serve our students,” Harrison said.

The board was required by Michigan election law to fill Moore’s position within 30 days of her resignation. Moore’s term was slated to run through December 2024.



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Five KPS Seniors to Further STEM Education with Heyl Scholarship

FIVE Kalamazoo Public Schools students have been awarded the Heyl Scholarship, which provides high-achieving high school science students with full-tuition scholarships for undergraduate studies in science, technology, engineering, or math at Kalamazoo College or nursing at Western Michigan University's Bronson School of Nursing.

This year's winners who will be attending Kalamazoo College are:

- Pauline Hawkes, Kalamazoo Central High School
- Ava Schwachter, Kalamazoo Central High School and KAMSC
- Benjamin Whitsett, Loy Norrix High School and KAMSC

The winners who will be attending the Western Michigan University Bronson School of Nursing are:

- Kelcey Briggs, Loy Norrix High School
- Riley Sackett, Loy Norrix High School

The scholarship is named after Dr. Frederick W. Heyl and his wife Elise Heyl. A native of New Haven, Conn., Dr. Heyl graduated from the Yale Sheffield Scientific School at the age of 19. He was hired as a research chemist at The Upjohn Co. in 1913.

When he retired in 1945 as vice president-research director of the company, he had contributed scientifically to almost 80 research papers and patents while also teaching chemistry at Kalamazoo College. In 1937, he was awarded a Doctor of Science degree by Kalamazoo College.

From 1923 until his retirement, he was the guiding light of the Upjohn Scholars Program at Kalamazoo College, which sent many K College graduates to do advanced work at Yale University and other schools.

The F. W. and Elsie L. Heyl Science Scholarship Fund was established through the will of the Heyls to promote the education of young scholars in the fields of science and nursing. The first Heyl Scholarships were awarded in 1971 and until 2009, were available only to graduates of Kalamazoo Central or Loy Norrix High Schools. In March 2009, eligibility was expanded to include graduates of other high schools or home school programs who hold certificates of completion from the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center.



Kelcey Briggs, Loy Norrix



Pauline Hawkes, Kalamazoo Central



Riley Sackett, Loy Norrix



Ava Schwachter, Kalamazoo Central, KAMSC



Benjamin Whitsett, Loy Norrix, KAMSC



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Kalamazoo Public Schools Annual Notifications *(continued from page 12)*

ent or eligible student 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 that they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. They should write to the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record that 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 ed-

educational institutions that have a vested interest in helping district students such as:

- Communities In Schools;
- The Kalamazoo Promise;
- 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;
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law; and
- 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 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

(continued on page 14)



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Kalamazoo Public Schools Annual Notifications *(continued from page 13)*

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, such as Communities In Schools and The Kalamazoo Promise. 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:

Department of Instructional and Informational Technology
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0146
or by faxing to (269) 337-0195 on or before February 25.

NONDISCRIMINATION, TITLE IX, SECTION 504, TITLE VI, AND TITLE II 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. In addition, Kalamazoo Public Schools will not tolerate any retaliation against individuals who submit complaints and/or who participate in investigations relating to such complaints.

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, harassment, and/or retaliation involving staff members or third parties:

Sheila Dorsey-Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
DorseySR@kalamazoopublicschools.net
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
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, retaliation and/or bullying from another student(s):

Geoff Howe, Director of School Improvement, Title I and Assessments
Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
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, 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 regarding 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.

The district has modified its guidelines and a grievance procedure for complaints filed under Title IX, which prohibits discrimination based on sex in any district educational program, service, or activity. The district’s new Title IX Statement and Grievance Procedures are being updated on the KPS website at: www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/ExploreKPS/AnnualNotifications.aspx and will be included in the district’s student code of conduct.

WHAT'S NEW



Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS ARE BACK!

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo is collaborating with the cities of Parchment, Portage, Oshtemo Township, Richland Township, Vicksburg and Kalamazoo, as well as numerous venues, artists, and the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation to bring you the 2023 Summertime Live concert series. This year's series is bigger and better than ever, with:

13 VENUES & 115 FREE CONCERTS!

All types of musical genres are represented, so there's something for everyone. Best of all, each concert is FREE of charge so bring your family and friends to soak up some soul-soothing live music this summer!



SUMMERTIME Live 2023

For full schedule, visit: KalamazooArts.org/Summertime-Live/

Model Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

- Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student’s parent; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility,

- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or

screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and

3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.)

- Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Kalamazoo Public School’s (KPS) policy is to follow the requirements of the PPRA, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrange-

ments to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. KPS will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. KPS will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. KPS will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this direct notification requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution,
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.



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HOMER STRYKER M.D. SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE



EXHIBIT

NOW - OCT. 15, 2023 | FREE

Explore Your World!



Undertake a quest across land, sea and space to explore the role of mapping and navigation in everyday life in the exciting exhibit "Explore Your World!"

Created by Scitech in Perth, Australia, and Produced by Imagine Exhibitions.



EXHIBIT

NOW - JAN. 7, 2024 | FREE

SPLAT! The Buzz About Flyswatters

Celebrate summer, and the passion of collecting everyday objects, with this unique display from Iza van Riemsdijk's collection of over 3,300 flyswatters.

- **Movie at the Museum:** Experience the original "The Fly" movie from 1958
Saturday, Aug. 5 | 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Tickets are free and available at the museum's front desk the day of the show.
- **New Children's Landscape Theme: BUGS!**
Ages 0 - 5 Years | FREE

PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

AUGUST SHOWS | THURSDAYS & SUNDAYS | \$3

Dino SOARS! | 1 p.m. | 23 min. | Grades 3 & up

Join paleontologist Malkia to learn about the connections between the birds we see today and the dinosaurs that roamed the Earth millions of years ago.

The Sky Above Us | 2 p.m. | 40 min. | Grades 4 & up

Learn about some of the "celestial wonders" that can be seen overhead in Michigan.

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS | \$3

Magic Globe | 11 a.m. | 28 min. | Grade K & up

Go on a journey with a young girl, Mia, to learn about the importance of the changing seasons on Earth's delicate ecosystem.

Big Astronomy | 2 p.m. | 30 min. | Grade 3 & up

Nearly 70% of major astronomical telescopes are now located high in the mountaintops of Chile. Learn about the people who operate these facilities.



SATURDAYS | \$3

Pink Floyd's Wish You Were Here

3:30 p.m. | 50 min. | Grade 5 & up

This music light show features the music of Pink Floyd's album "Wish You Were Here" synchronized with video light effects.

HOURS: Tuesday - Friday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday | Noon - 4 p.m.

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

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

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



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