

Kalamazoo Public Schools

EXCELSIOR

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September 2024 • Volume 27, Issue 8



Welcome to a New School Year!

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KPS Food Service working to develop a menu of choices in school meals
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Bagels and Books guests help students celebrate the joy of reading
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Setting Our Sights on the Gold

A Message from the Superintendent

Dr. Darrin Slade



DID YOU see the Olympics? The international sports competition recently finished in Paris. Every day brought new feats to marvel at, amazing athletic achievements, and stunning prowess that inspired one (however briefly) to try to find your own inner athlete.

We will long remember Simone Biles, who radiated confidence every time she took to the gymnastics arena. We'll marvel at the way Torre Huske and Katie Ledecky knifed through the water in the pool. We will celebrate how Noah Lyles overcame Covid and asthma to win bronze. We will smile when we remember how Stephen Nedoroscik had one job to do and he performed it to perfection to win two bronze medals

and the nickname "Pommel Horse Guy."

My question for students, parents and staff is: What are we dreaming of for this year? Do we want to have a good school year? Do we want to have a better school year than last year? Do we want to do a good job or do we want to do a great job? Are we going to go for the gold?

What do we aspire to accomplish? Who do we want to be as a school district?

In 2023, the W.E. Upjohn Institute issued a report called, "Behind the Numbers: Comparing College-Going Outcomes of Kalamazoo Public Schools to Those of Similar Urban School Districts in Michigan."

The key takeaway from the report is that college enrollment had fallen in Kalamazoo in recent years — as it had across the country and the state. But, when compared to similar districts across the state, KPS consistently outperformed its peer districts.

The report states, "Overall, Kalamazoo Public Schools have generally outper-

formed similar urban districts in college enrollment and completion rates. ... Every year for the past five years, KPS rates of college enrollment have been at least 10 percentage points higher than comparison districts."

Here is where I'd like to stop to ask a very serious question. What do you think about that comparison? Do you think, "KPS really does well compared to similar school districts."

Or do you think we can do better, that people should think of Kalamazoo Public Schools as simply one of the best districts in the state.

When I was in Washington, D.C., we had 26 high schools. When I was charged with turning around one of the lowest-performing high schools, the mindset for some was that our data was terrible, but it was better than some of the other schools'. My mindset was we cannot compare ourselves to poor performing schools — or even similar school dis-

tricts. If we do not aspire for greatness then we settle for mediocrity.

Kalamazoo Public Schools has tremendous resources. We have amazing teachers and principals and district leaders. We have students of promise, who have The Promise. This district has more community support than any other school district I have had the privilege to work in.

What are we going to do with those gifts? KPS has the talent. We have the crowds of parents and community members cheering on our students and our teachers, hoping that this year is our best ever — and that next year will be better than this one.

All that remains is the work. And, I know there is a lot of work to be done and that our training schedule is grueling and it is long. It will be a team effort to achieve the greatness we know our district holds within it. I promise that I will be right here working alongside you, reaching for the gold.



Eastwood Fall Festival

Family

Saturday, September 21 | 11 am–1 pm | Eastwood

Fun for the whole family! Balloon artists, Fresh Food Fairy, pumpkin painting, games and more!



Exploration Zone

with

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Thursdays, September 12 & 26 | 5:30 pm | Central

Join our Dungeons & Dragons league and be prepared to save the worlds! All skill levels welcome.

Learn more at [kpl.gov](https://www.kpl.gov)



Kalamazoo Public Library
[kpl.gov](https://www.kpl.gov)

ARTISTS' CORNER

Pictured below; Maci Gast, Eliot Pavlik, and Charlie Doerschler

LAST SCHOOL YEAR, Loy Norrix High School art teacher Luna Zuniga asked her painting students to create pieces inspired by art history. Students were directed to research recognizable elements in famous art movements and create acrylic painting on canvas using those elements. The subject matter was left up to the students.

Freshman Angela Arce created a realistic image using the distinct brushstrokes found in Impressionism. Sophomore Maci

Gast created a modern and airy painting drawing inspiration from Futurism and Primitivism. Eliot Pavlik used the minimalist aspects of Precisionism as well as sketchy dream-like qualities of Surrealism to create his final high school art work. Junior Charlie Doerschler took elements of Abstract Expressionism and Contemporary art to create a stylized piece that fits his personal style. Senior Benji Rodriguez worked on a parody painting of the Mona Lisa, turning it into a self portrait.



Angela Arce



Benji Rodriguez



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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:

**Director of School Improvement,
Title I and Assessments**

Kalamazoo Public Schools
1220 Howard St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(269) 337-0180

All other inquiries should be directed to:

**Director 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 nutritionist****Samuel Dunn, executive chef****Cilantro Verde**

THIS ZIPPY VERDE packs a citrusy punch. Yes, you can use it as a dip for tortilla chips, but don't stop there. It is a lovely addition to a large variety of foods. Think of it as a one-sauce-fits-all condiment. Use it to top your eggs or breakfast sandwich; drizzle it on grilled fish, pork, chicken, or beef; add it to rice; use it as a topping for a quesadilla or tacos; add it to a sub sandwich; or mix it with mayo for a unique twist! Its vibrant green color adds beauty to any plate. As always, do not be afraid to make it your own. Change up the spices or add a variety of herbs for a different spin.

**INGREDIENTS**

5 tomatillos
2 poblano peppers
1 small onion
½–1 bunch of cilantro
⅓ cup olive oil
Juice of 1 lime
Juice of half a lemon
2–3 cloves garlic
1 tablespoon cumin
1 tablespoon coriander
1 tablespoon salt, plus more to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove the husks from the tomatillos.
2. Wash tomatillos and poblanos.
3. Roughly chop the tomatillos, poblanos, onion, and garlic.
4. Add all ingredients to a blender and blend until smooth.
5. Add salt to taste.

For those who are cilantro nay-sayers, simply substitute flat leaf parsley for the cilantro to create a delicious cilantro-free version of this sauce!

Makes about 3 cups

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View all of the award categories and make your nomination on the Community Arts Awards page on our website.

The Awards Ceremony will take place on
Tuesday, December 10th at the Gull Lake
Center for the Fine Arts.

KalamazooArts.org/2024CAA

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Bagels and Books Guests Help Students Celebrate the Joy of Reading

READING is essential to school success. Reading is an important life skill.

But no lesson is more important for students to learn than reading is fun.

Summer school students celebrated that fact with the annual Bagels and Books event during the

last week of the summer learning program.

Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo coordinated the effort by inviting guest readers to stop by King-Westwood, Milwood, and Greenwood elementary schools to meet the summer program principals and to enjoy coffee and bagels, before they

headed to the classrooms to read to the students.

Guest readers shared what reading meant to them and read from specially selected books for each grade level. Students received copies of the books to take home to continue their summer reading on their own.



Artrella Cohn, senior director of community engagement for CIS, shares a “Pete the Cat” book.



James Devers, executive director of CIS, asked students about science as he read.



Jessica Rosecrans, principal at Parkwood-Upjohn, interacts with students during Bagels and Books.



Jim Cupper, Rotary Is for Reading coordinator, shares a nonfiction book with students.

Proprio Language Services Help Families Join the KPS Community

KALAMAZOO Public Schools launched Proprio One Language Services last year to provide real-time access to interpreters for families who require translation assistance. The service connects school employees and families to on-demand phone and video interpreters in more than 350 languages, including American Sign Language.

Dionna Roberts, principal of Lincoln International Studies School, said the program was a boon for her school, which serves as one of the district’s newcomer sites.

“Proprio One Language Services is the essential communication link between our Lincoln staff, parents, and, in some cases, newcomer students when translation is crucial for effective communication,” Roberts said.

Last year, Lincoln served 131 multilingual learners, of which 121 were considered newcomers.

“Over the past year, we confidently learned how to utilize Proprio to relay important information to families while empowering them to ask questions and share their concerns in their home languages,” she said.

There is still a learning curve for the district, Roberts said. All staff members need to be thoroughly trained, and staff need to know how to ascertain a family’s preferred language. Then, staff need to remember to practice good, basic communication skills such as maintaining positive eye contact and using clear, concise language to allow for easier translation.

Still, the service has helped build stronger connections between the district and families to help support student achievement, she said. While staff are proactive in providing written documents sent home in multiple translations, educators recognize that this may still present a barrier for some individuals.

“With Proprio, we can facilitate clear verbal two-way communication, thus eliminating this obstacle,” she said. “Proprio’s video capabilities are particularly valuable during parent-teacher conferences, when families are in the main office and need to register their children for school, or if parents need to connect with community or school resources such as transportation or Communities In Schools.”

Mitch Hawkins, principal of Milwood Magnet School, agreed on Proprio’s effectiveness in building connections with families. “This significantly enhanced communication and engagement between the school and families, ensuring that everyone was informed about key information such as conferences, school events and student progress.”

The system is simple to use. Parents or guardians (or anyone whose primary language is something other than English) can point to the language they prefer on a sign. The staff can then connect to a Proprio translator who provides real-time language translation.

KPS serves families who speak more than 60 different languages including Spanish, Arabic, Swahili,

French, and Kenyarwanda. Each year the district educates more than 1,000 students whose home language is something other than English.

When the program launched, Wessam Abdelaziz, the coordinator of Multilingual Learner Services and World Languages, said he hoped the service, which is offered free of charge to families, would help ensure

that all parents were able to fully engage in their children’s education, extracurricular activities, and all of the resources KPS has to offer.

“We hope that it helps everyone feel more welcome in our schools and helps build stronger relationships between the schools, our multilingual learners and their families,” Abdelaziz said.

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CAROL MCGLINN for Kalamazoo Public School Board

With **10+** years of school board experience and an extensive background in literacy, **Carol McGlinn** has a proven track record of supporting KPS students, parents, and staff. She is currently serving as Vice President of the Board and has a strong commitment to the success of the district.

I WILL WORK FOR:

☒ Early Childhood Literacy and strong reading curriculum

☒ Community collaboration for support outside the classroom

☒ Alternative learning strategies for students below grade level

☒ Advocacy for school funding at the State and Federal level

Vote Carol McGlinn Tuesday November 5

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KPS Food Service Working to Develop a Menu of Choices in School Meals

KALAMAZOO Public Schools Food Service Department serves approximately 320,000 meals a month across the district. That includes breakfast, lunch, dinner to KPS schools and programs, but also to several community programs such as Head Start and the Youth Advancement Academy — totaling almost 2.5 million meals each school year.

During the summer, the food service staff of about 140 people serve another 2,700 meals a day through the Meet Up & Eat Up program to students in summer school and at sites throughout the community.

Kirsten Strong, the district's resident dietitian through Chartwells, is proud of the food the district is able to provide children to ensure they have the fuel they need to get through their school day, but she's equally proud of the expanded efforts within the program to provide students with healthy options and opportunities to try new foods.

"This is an area that I am most passionate about," said Strong, who joined KPS as a dietetics intern during Covid. "This past year as part of the Team Nutrition Grant, we did 10 tasting events, five at Woods Lake and five at Loy Norrix. This specific grant was only granted to these two schools. Each event highlighted a vegetable that was grown by my assigned

Right: Dor-lynn Brown, Starletta Love and Tijuana "Tia" Edwards celebrate School Lunch Hero Day with style at Lincoln International Studies School.



Above: Kimberly Morey, food service manager, and Matt Kusmack, marketing specialist for KPS food service, man a station at Loy Norrix, where students chose their favorite between two sandwiches — a Nashville hot chicken or a Carolina BBQ. The hot chicken was the favorite, and will make its way into the dining services menu rotation.





local farm, Sunlight Gardens, in Battle Creek.”

The goal of these events was four-fold:

- To introduce students to a larger variety of vegetables,
- To use the vegetable in a recipe that students like and are willing to sample,
- To initiate conversations with students around local food, and
- To create a relationship with a local farm or farmer.

“I found that students are more willing to try something unfamiliar if you pair it with something more familiar,” she said. “For example, I did a collard green french onion dip at Loy Norrix and collard green mac and cheese with smoked turkey cubes at Woods Lake. With kale, I made a honey mustard

apple and sunflower seed salad at Woods Lake, and a kale caesar salad with bacon bits at Loy Norrix.”

The feedback was very positive from the student taste testers, and Strong hopes to add the more popular recipes to the school menus.

“I love creating a positive experience for students around trying new foods,” Strong said. “To me, it’s kind of the most important part of my job. My overall goal is for students to self-select the vegetables they were introduced to by their school lunch program when they are not at school or after they graduate.”

Strong grew up in New Boston, a rural community in Southeastern Michigan, where her family had a huge backyard and garden that she would help plant in the summers.

“The enchantment of eating fruit from a plant



Nancy Wyman shows off a tray of roasted potatoes provided by local growers.

thrilled me to my core,” she said. “I was fortunate to have parents who saw the value of nutrition and this remained constant throughout my childhood. To this day, I have sustained the intrigue I knew as a child. I’ve developed my knowledge of food through education, personal exploration, and a variety of experiences that define my character within the sphere of nutrition, sustainability and culinary applications.”

She wants to provide students with some replication of that experience by exposing them to as many kinds of produce as possible. “The larger the variety of fruits and vegetables and types of whole foods you eat, the larger the variety of nutrients you will take in. This helps our bodies to be more resilient.”

Last year’s partnership with Sunlight Gardens was so positive, Strong said, that the district hopes to create even more tasting tables at more schools this coming school year. She’s also using the 10 Cents a Meal grant to partner with the Kalamazoo Valley Community College ValleyHUB, which is part of the KVCC Food Innovation Center, to support activities such as farmers markets at schools, hot breakfast, and a halal menu program.

Strong is a graduate of the KVCC Arts and Sustainable Food Systems program as well as Western

(continued on page 10)

KPS Food Service *(continued from page 9)*

Michigan University. She sees tremendous opportunities for collaboration with the KVCC Food Innovation Center.



Belinda Woods prepares pizzas.

She is working with KVCC to try to develop specific vegetable blends that can be used in food service recipes, thus increasing locally produced foods



Claxton Johnson is ready to distribute milk to students.

in the program’s menus. For example, the district would like a Southwest blend of corn, peppers, and onions for its Mexican-themed station in secondary schools.

“KVCC basically asked me what I need or want, and then they go to work trying to create it. They have already done this successfully with the diced potatoes that are on our menu regularly,” she said.

Strong said that not only can the partnership result in new food opportunities for students, but she is hoping to build bridges to expand opportunities for food services workers.

She is working with the ValleyHUB to create an accredited educational program for school food programs. She’d love to see more culinary professionals working in school food service, a move that would improve the quality of the food served in school food programs.

“The goals of this program are to shed light on the career opportunities in school food as a culinary professional, as well as, how to break down barriers that prevent getting more local and scratch-made food into the school system,” Strong said.

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2024-2025 School Calendar

The final calendar is subject to further collective bargaining negotiations.

Kalamazoo Public Schools

August 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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September 2024

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December 2024

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January 2025

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February 2025

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March 2025

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April 2025

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May 2025

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June 2025

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July 2025

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

Aug. 26

K-12 & K-ECSE students; half day

Aug. 27

K-12 full day; county programs begin

Aug. 30

K-12 no school; schools open for enrollment

Sept. 2

Labor Day; all buildings closed

Sept. 3

PreK ECSE first day

Sept. 9

PEEP first day

Oct. 4

K-8 half day; records day

Oct. 9

9-12 half day; p.m. conferences

Oct. 10

K-8 half day

Oct. 11

K-5 half day

Oct. 21

K-12 half day

Nov. 1

PK-12 no school; no county programs

Nov. 13 & 14

9-12 half day; exam days

Nov. 15

PK-12 no students; records day

Nov. 26

K-12 half day

Nov. 27

PK-12 no school; no county programs

Nov. 28-29

Thanksgiving Break; all buildings closed

Dec. 11

K-12 half day

Dec. 23-Jan. 3

Winter Break

Jan. 15

K-12 half day

Jan. 17

6-8 half day

Jan. 22

High school conferences, 4-7 p.m.

Jan. 23

6-8 half day

Jan. 24

No county programs

Feb. 19

K-12 half day

Feb. 26

PK-5 Literacy Night

Feb. 27

6-8 Literacy Night

March 5

PEEP/Kindergarten Orientation

March 5 & 6

9-12 half day; exam days

March 7

PK-12 no school; records day

March 12

K-12 half day

March 27

K-5 half day

March 28

PK-12 no school; no county programs

March 31 - April 4

Spring Break

April 23 & 24

High school conferences

April 25

6-8 half day

May 1

6-8 half day

May 23

Last day PEEP and graduating seniors

May 26

Memorial Day; all buildings closed

May 27

KAMSC senior recognition

May 28

Loy Norrix graduation

May 29

Kalamazoo Central graduation

May 30

Phoenix graduation

May 30

PreK ECSE last day of instruction

June 4

KILP graduation

June 5

K-11 half day; hs exam days

June 6

K-11 last day; half day; hs exam days

June 9

Adult Education graduation

No school

Half day (check grade levels)

First and last day of school

2024-25 Trimesters

Trimester 1: Aug. 26 - Nov. 15

Trimester 2: Nov. 18 - March 7

Trimester 3: March 10 - June 6

Special dates: Phoenix High School

Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-7 PM

Sept. 26, Nov. 7, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, April 17 and May 15

Full days: Nov. 13 & March 5

Half-days: Oct. 4, Nov. 14, Jan. 17 Mar. 6, April 25 and June 6

Special dates: PEEP

First day Sept. 9*; last day May 23

Special dates PreK ECSE

First day Sept. 3; last day May 30

No school on elementary half days

sc: rev. 8/15/24* PEEP start date 9/9

Visit kalamazoopublicschools.com for a complete calendar

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KPS Grievance Procedure Explained

ABOUT a year ago Kalamazoo Public Schools adopted a new grievance procedure for students and their families who request or are provided services under Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act. The Office of Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education has requested that the School District publicize its Section 504 Grievance Procedure to all students, families, and school staff members. To accomplish that objective, the District is including a complete copy of the Section 504 Grievance procedure below:

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A person who believes a student has been discriminated against by the District on the basis of the student's disability or who believes the District otherwise violated Section 504 also has the right to file a complaint through the District's grievance procedure. A person who wishes to file a complaint should contact:

Kalamazoo Public Schools
Barry Smith — District 504 Officer
1220 Howard Street Kalamamazoo, MI. 49008
269-337-0161

A person may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) if he/she does not wish to use the District's grievance procedure. A person who wishes to

file a complaint with OCR should contact:
Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
600 Superior Avenue East, Suite 750
Cleveland, OH 44114-2611
FAX: (216) 522-2573; TDD: (877) 521-2172
Telephone: (216) 522-4970
E-mail: OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov

A discrimination complaint may be filed with OCR at any time. Additionally, if a person is dissatisfied with the District's resolution of a complaint, that complaint may be filed with OCR at the address above within 60 days of the District's resolution.

NOTICE OF SECTION 504 PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

The following is a brief summary description of the rights provided by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to students with disabilities, or suspected disabilities, and some related rights provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed about decisions concerning your child and to inform you of your rights in the event you disagree with any decisions concerning your child. You have the right to:

1. have the District advise you of your rights under federal law;
2. receive notice with respect to Section 504 identification, evaluation, and/or placement of your child;
3. have an evaluation and placement decision for your child based upon information from a variety of sources and which is made by a team of persons knowledgeable about the student, the meaning of evaluation data, and placement options;
4. have your child receive a free appropriate public education, which is the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet individual educational needs of your child as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met, if the child is Section 504 eligible;
5. have your child be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate, if the child is Section 504 eligible;
6. have your child take part in and receive benefits from the District without discrimination on the basis of disability;
7. have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided to non-disabled students;
8. examine all relevant records of your child, including those relating to decisions about your child's Section 504 identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement; and obtain copies of those records at a reasonable cost, unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
9. receive information in your native language and primary mode of communication;
10. have a periodic re-evaluation of your child, including an evaluation before any significant change of placement;
11. have your child given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the District;
12. request and participate in an impartial due process hearing regarding the identification, evaluation, or placement of your child, including a right to be represented by counsel in that process and to appeal an adverse decision;
13. file a complaint in accordance with the District's grievance procedures or with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

SECTION 504 — GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Kalamazoo Public Schools has provided the following Grievance Procedure for addressing complaints of discrimination under Section 504. A person is not required to use this procedure and may instead file a
(continued on page 13)

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Grievance Procedure (continued from page 12)

complaint directly with the U.S Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue East, Suite 750, Cleveland, OH 44114-2611:

STEP 1:
A person who believes that he/she has been discriminated against by Kalamazoo Public Schools is encouraged, but is not required, to discuss the matter informally with the appropriate building principal, in the case of a student, or his/her immediate supervisor, in the case of an employee.

A. If the building principal or the immediate supervisor is the subject of the complaint, or the grievant is not a student or employee, the grievant may, instead, contact the Kalamazoo Public Schools Section 504 Coordinator.

B. The person receiving the complaint shall verbally convey his/her findings to both the person who alleged the violation and the person who is the subject of the complaint within 10 business days.

STEP 2:
If the informal Step 1 process does not resolve the matter, or if the grievant does not wish to use the informal procedures set forth in Step 1, a written complaint may be submitted to the Kalamazoo Public Schools Section 504 Coordinator who will investigate the complaint.

A. If the Section 504 Coordinator is the subject of the complaint, the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools who will appoint another administrator to conduct the investigation.

B. The complaint shall be signed by the grievant and include the:
(1) grievant’s name and contact information;
(2) facts of the incident or action complained about;
(3) date of the incident or action giving rise to the complaint;
(4) type of discrimination alleged to have occurred; and
(5) specific relief sought.

(6) Note: Witness names and other evidence as deemed appropriate by the grievant may also be submitted.

C. An investigation of the complaint will be conducted within 10 business days following the submission of the written complaint. The investigation shall include an interview of the parties and witnesses, a review of relevant evidence, and any other steps necessary to ensure a prompt and thorough investigation of the complaint.

D. A written disposition of the complaint shall be issued within 10 business days of completion of the investigation, unless a specific written extension of time

is provided to the parties. Copies of the disposition will be given to both the grievant and the person who is the subject of the complaint.

STEP 3:
If the grievant wishes to appeal the decision in Step 2 above, he/she may submit a signed, written appeal to the Superintendent of Schools within 10 business days after receipt of the written disposition. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall respond to the complaint, in writing, within 10 business days of the date of the appeal. Copies of the response shall be provided to both the grievant and the person who is the subject of the complaint.

The Kalamazoo Public Schools provides assurance that it strictly prohibits any form of retaliation against persons who utilize this Grievance Procedure. Further, a grievant making a complaint is neither required to prosecute the matter nor confront the alleged discriminator or harasser when that would be inappropriate.

In addition, KPS will take steps to prevent the recurrence of discrimination or harassment if either has been found to have occurred and to correct its effects on the complainant and others, if appropriate.

If you have questions regarding these procedures or want to file a complaint, please contact the Kalamazoo Public Schools District 504 Coordinator, Barry Smith.

SECTION 504 COMPLAINT FORM

Name of Injured Party: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

If the injured party is a student, please also provide the following information:

School Building Attending: _____

Grade: _____ Birthdate: _____

Complainant’s Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Attach pages with the following:

- 1. Describe the alleged violation of Section 504. Please be specific and describe the specific incident(s), as well as identify the individuals involved, dates/times/locations, etc.
- 2. Describe your proposed resolution to address the alleged problem(s)/violation(s).

Date: _____ Complainant’s Signature: _____

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO:
Barry Smith — District 504 Coordinator
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI. 49008
269-337-0161

Lemonade Days Offer Sweet Returns

THE ANNUAL Lemonade Days and Future Me programs allow students to explore the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, as well as their strengths and interests and how they might inform future career choices. The Lemonade Day uses lemonade

stands to explore math and social-emotional learning in a project-based experience. Students at King-Westwood and Milwood elementary schools also created Future Me presentations in which they shared their strengths, interests and careers they want to pursue.

ON THE FRONT COVER:
Jameson Kutchinski, Dominique Burton, and Joel Habimana make a personable sales team.



Gabriela Brush shows off her "Future Me" display.



Who wouldn't want to buy from the Happy Lemmy sales team of Ja'Ziah Brown, Amos Lungenda, and Sama Ighilib.



Malaysia Crayton and A'liviah Atlas are satisfied lemonade customers.



Nevaeh Nichols-O'Neal and Za'Mya Jackson are using smiles to promote their lemonade.



Tavaria Jackson and Hunter Metheny are happy to share their vision of their future selves.



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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 Karen Jackson, 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 • 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Name of School: _____

Student's (Child's) Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

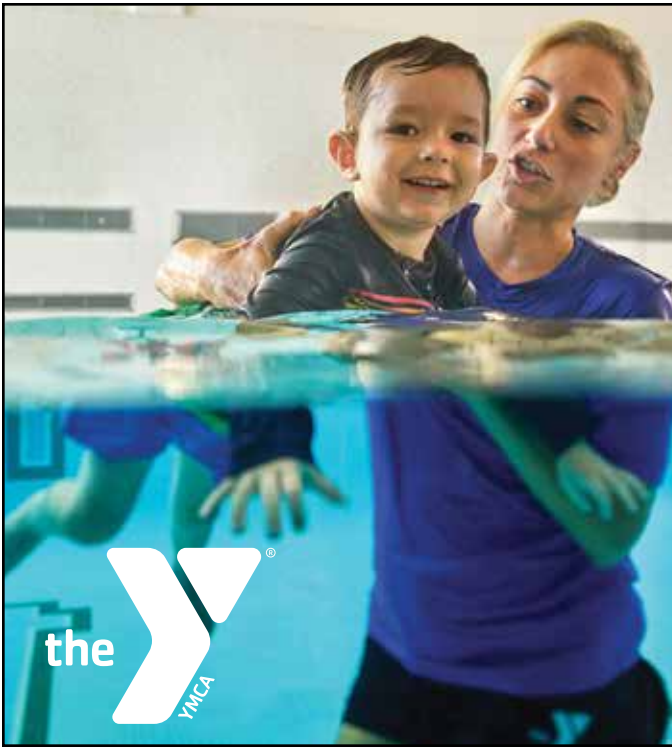
Please Check One:

- ☐ I wish to be notified prior to a 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 Karen Jackson at (269) 337-0400.



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Ignite your family's potential today at the YMCA of Greater Kalamazoo! With classes for all ages, there's something for everyone, in and out of the pool. **Financial Assistance available.**



Join today and save \$60!
No contracts.



Important AHERA Notice

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

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

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



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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE



NEW EXHIBIT SEPT. 5 - MARCH 2, 2025 | FREE

COLLECTING BLACK HISTORY: MURPHY DARDEN'S LEGACY

Mini exhibit featuring items collected by late Kalamazoo historian Murphy Darden, who indulged his passion for the parts of history that have long been ignored. In his pursuit of preserving this history for future generations, he collected artifacts, images and historic documents chronicling the achievements of African Americans. His commitment to this endeavor provides an invaluable resource to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, local students and the entire community.

- **Thursday, Sept. 5 | 2 p.m.** | Panel discussion with Black community leaders and friends of Murphy Darden
- **Thursday, Sept. 5 | 4:30 - 6 p.m.** | Reception to celebrate the life and collection of Murphy Darden
- **Friday, Sept. 6 | 7 p.m.** | Murphy Darden documentary film screening, produced by Public Media Network. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.



EVENT FREE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21 | 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.
ASYLUM LAKE PRESERVE POETRY

Friends of Poetry will present their work, written in response to Asylum Lake Preserve. Area writers pay tribute to the rich history of this natural space that our community shares.

EXHIBIT NOW - JAN. 19, 2025 | FREE

KALAMAZOO STATE HOSPITAL: 165 YEARS OF PSYCHIATRIC CARE

Learn about the history of the patients, employees and buildings on the campus of Michigan's longest-operating mental hospital.



EVENT SEPT. 19 | 10 A.M. | FREE

CHEST/BREASTFEEDING CAFE

Discuss chest/breastfeeding and pumping with professionals from the Kalamazoo County WIC program. Learn about resources and meet other new parents in an educational space designed for kids ages 0 - 5 years old.

PLANETARIUM EXPERIENCE

SEPTEMBER SHOWS | \$3 PER PERSON

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

Earth, Moon & Sun | 11 a.m. | 28 min. | Grades 3 & up

Coyote is confused about what he sees in the sky. Join this fast-paced and fun full-dome show that explores lunar phases, eclipses and more.

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 in this live, season-focused program.

SUNDAYS

Magic Tree House: Space Mission | 1 p.m. | 30 min. | Grades 3 & up

Travel with siblings Jack and Annie in their Magic Tree House as they discover a note that asks them to answer questions about space.

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 in this live, season-focused program.

HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday | 10 a.m. - 4 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