



Eagle Insider

We will provide a nurturing learning environment and educate ALL students to be lifelong learners.

November 2024

Administration
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Kent City, MI 49330
(616) 678-7714

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Kent City, MI 49330
(616) 678-4181

Middle School
285 N Main St
Kent City, MI 49330
(616) 678-4214

High School
351 N Main St
Kent City, MI 49330
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KCHS Marching Eagles

This year the Kent City High School Marching Band presented their marching show based on the 1950's sitcom "I Love Lucy". This show not only used the iconic I Love Lucy Theme but it used other music to help remember some of the most famous moments from the show.

Ricky, Lucy, and Ethel are portrayed by Yael Jaramillo, Elizabeth Afton and Addison Korcal. Soloists in the show are Alto Sax - Rosamaria Hernandez, Flute - Alisah Koetje, and Vocal Solo - Yael Jaramillo.

Led by drum majors Alisah Koetje and Aaron Schnicke, the band has had a great season. They kicked off their season winning Grand Champion at the Kent City Invitational. Next up for the band was a hard fought second place at the Sparta Invitational. The band had one other regular season contest scheduled but it was rained out.

The band competed at State Championships Prelims in Okemos on October 26 and earned the 4th place nod moving into State Championships at Ford Field on November 2 where they took 4th place. The competition was tight this year as the top four bands are all outstanding groups. The band has had great success in the past several seasons. They were silver medalists last season and were State Champions the previous three years.



Superintendent Message

The safety and well-being of your children, our students, is our top priority, and we are committed to creating a safe and secure environment where we can truly live out the mission of Kent City Community Schools: We will provide a nurturing learning environment and educate ALL students to be lifelong learners.

Here are some of the steps we are taking to maintain a safe school environment:

- **School Security Measures:** We have implemented a variety of security measures, including controlled access to school buildings, visitor check-in procedures, and adding a second School Resource Officer on campus.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Our school conducts regular drills to prepare students and staff for potential emergencies, including fire drills, lockdowns, and evacuation procedures. By understanding what to do if an emergency occurs we can act efficiently to keep everyone safe.
- **Mental Health and Well-being:** We recognize that school safety also means supporting the emotional and mental health of our students. A safe school is one where students feel valued and supported.
- **Communication:** In the event of an emergency or safety concern, clear and timely communication with parents is paramount. Please make sure that your contact information is up to date in our system so that we can reach you quickly if necessary.

We also ask for your help with keeping our school safe. Here are some ways you can assist us:

- **Talk to your child:** Encourage open conversations with your child about safety. Reinforce the importance of following school safety procedures and being aware of their surroundings.
- **Report concerns:** If your child shares any concerns with you about safety, or if you observe something that seems unusual, please don't hesitate to contact the school. We take all concerns seriously and will address them right away.
- **Update emergency contact information:** Ensure that the school has your current phone number, email address, and emergency contact details so that we can reach you if needed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and secure school for all.

It is a GREAT day to be an Eagle!

Bill Crane, Superintendent



PowerSchool Parent Portal

In order to keep our information for your student as up-to-date as possible, we need your assistance. Please take a few minutes to update your students **Re-Enrollment Packet** that can be found in the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

If you do not have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account created, please create one by visiting:

<https://ps.kentcityschools.org/public/>. If you need assistance accessing your Parent Portal account, please contact your child's building office.



KCHS will again be using Xello, a college and career tool which allows students to explore various pathways beyond high school. Every student has access to their account via their Chromebook. Here, students can take interest inventories, explore pathways, research educational institutions and scholarship resources. There are also activities students can use like a resume builder and a portfolio builder. This year, all juniors created a resume in English 11 using Xello. Additional career related activities and lessons will be created by the counseling department and incorporated into Xello throughout the school year.



Eagle Coins

Students and staff at Kent City High School are using an online program called CritterCoin to provide currency ("Eagle Coins") to students when they display positive behaviors in the school building. Students are then able to use their Eagles Coins to make purchases from the school store that is open on selected Fridays. The system has proven to be a very effective way of acknowledging when students are meeting the expectations that are set in multiple settings throughout the building.



These efforts are all part of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) system being implemented district wide. The acronym being used in K-12 as a reminder of what is expected from students is "G.R.E.A.T." and the graphic shown above outlines what each of the letters stands for.

Kent City Drama Production

The fall production from the Kent City Drama Club is titled "Clue". Tickets can be purchased at www.kentcitydrama.ludus.com

Performance Dates:

- ◆ Thursday, November 21 - 7 pm
- ◆ Friday, November 22 - 7pm
- ◆ Saturday, November 23 - 7 pm



End of 1st Semester / Semester Exams

The first semester at KCHS will end on December 20. This is earlier than in past years when students would return after Christmas Break and still have a couple weeks remaining in the first semester. Another change for the 24 - 25 school year is that students will once again be taking Semester Exams. High School students will take an exam in each of their classes and the exam grade will count for 15% of their overall semester grade in each course.

End of year Field Trips

Middle School students will once again have the opportunity to attend our end of the year field trips. 6th graders will be attending camp for the day. 7th graders will travel to Chicago to visit the Lincoln Park Zoo and the Museum of Science and Industry. 8th graders will visit Mackinac Island. The cost for the 6th grade trip will be \$50 and the 7th & 8th grade trips will be \$100. More information will be sent home via email at a later date.

Boaters Safety

8th graders earned their boater's safety license in October during their Trimester Exploratory PE course. Kent County Sheriff's deputies taught the course that culminated with the boater's safety test. Each 8th grader will take this course throughout the year as they rotate through exploratory courses.

NWEA MAP Testing

All Middle School students started the year with the NWEA MAP test which tests the areas of Math and English Language Arts. This continues the data collection that began at the Elementary and now continues into High School. Teachers use this data to track students progress and will work through trends to inform curriculum planning.

Griffins Game

Each Middle School grade level that maintains at least a 90% attendance rate in the month of October will earn a ticket to the daytime Grand Rapids Griffins game on Wednesday, November 13. Lunch will be provided by KCCS Food Service and tickets will be purchased by the Kent City PTCO and Kent City Community Schools. Prior to the game, students will have the opportunity to interact with booths around the stadium focused on STEM and Health & Wellness. Before departing the Middle School, each class will work through Griffin's related lessons with real-life applications.

Celebrating Walk-a-Thon GREATness

The KCE Walkathon is one of the most highly anticipated events of the year, and what a perfect day we had for our 8th annual event! On the morning of September 25th, students of all grades enjoyed participating in a variety of activities that included walking, games, dancing, music, movement and most of all... PURE FUN!!

We are so excited to share that this year, we were able to raise over \$40,000 thanks to the generosity and support of our community sponsors and donations from students, staff, family, and friends.



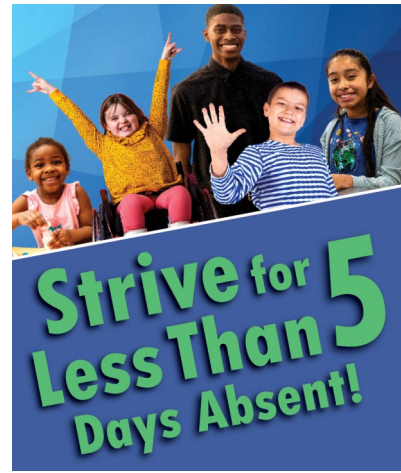
This year a portion of the proceeds will be used to help enhance and update the KCE Art Room. Additional proceeds will help fund academic and social experiences for our students and support our classrooms.

Visit <https://sites.google.com/kentcityschools.org/kent-city-walk-a-thon/home> for a funds update, list of sponsors, photos, and more!



In addition, we would like to congratulate Mrs. Wlochals class for earning the highest class total of \$3,111 and to our top earners Gabby Kats (1st place), Beau Dine (2nd place) & Hendrix Berles (3rd place), who will enjoy being Principal, Deputy, and Librarian for a day.

Words cannot express how much we appreciate your generosity and support. We look forward to continuing this tradition for years to come!



Every Day Counts!

We all know that better learning and better relationships occur when students are present at school. This year we have a renewed focus on increasing student attendance and we are off to a GREAT start with our Strive for Less Than 5 Days Absent initiative!

We have had lots of classrooms meet our 95% attendance goal each week which enters them into a drawing for a variety of special prizes! Drawings are held twice a month during our morning announcements. The winning classes have enjoyed special treats such as donuts and cookies and physical activity with our new Lü Interactive Projection System.

Every school day is a building block to the next. The absence of these building blocks creates holes in learning that may cause a student to fall behind and impact their readiness for the next grade level. Regular school attendance is so important to student success.

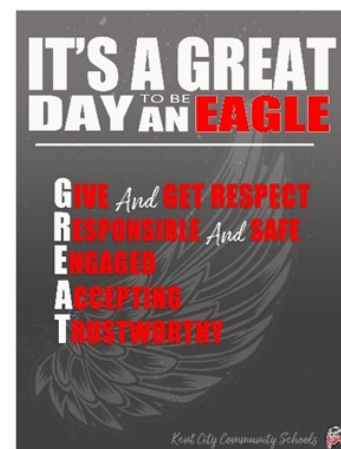


PBIS/TRAILS Curriculum

For the second year in a row our students are celebrating how G.R.E.A.T. it is to be a Kent City Eagle! Our school wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative reminds students to **G**ive and get respect, be **R**esponsible and safe, **E**ngage with the many activities the school day offers, be **A**ccepting of our peers, and **T**rustworthy in our actions throughout the year.

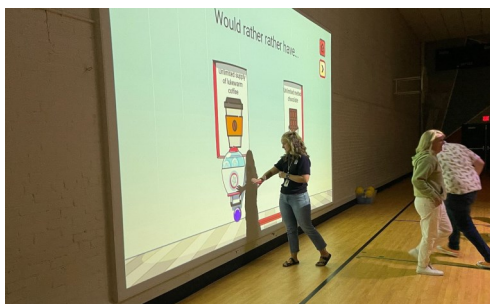
This year we are also implementing our school-wide curricular resource, TRAILS to Wellness. Trails involves teaching students a variety of ways to recognize and handle their internal thoughts and emotions, establish and maintain healthy relationships, and navigate problems and decisions. Just like superheroes have different powers, we all have different feelings! Teaching kids to recognize and handle their emotions helps them understand themselves better. Whether they're feeling happy, sad, or even a bit grumpy, they learn that it's okay to feel all kinds of ways! Our students learn tools to effectively communicate, problem solve, and resolve conflicts. We also share strategies on how to weigh their options and make choices that are not just good for them, but good for everyone around them! It's like giving them a crystal ball to see the best path forward!

Learning these skills will help prepare students to be more successful individually, socially and academically. So, let's celebrate these lessons together! We're giving our kids the tools they need to navigate the ups and downs of life, just like the amazing superheroes they are!



Introducing the Lü

KCE is pioneering a new way to enhance learning through movement with our new Lü Interactive Playground! Located in our gym, the Lü is an audiovisual system that uses different games and activities to allow students to engage in physical activity while making it fun and educational. With built-in timers and countdowns, lights, and sound effects, Lü gives kids instant, meaningful feedback on their performance and helps foster skills such as teamwork, communication, collaboration and socialization. There are activities for all subject areas which will help enhance what teachers are teaching in the classroom. Students and staff are truly enjoying all of the capabilities that the Lu has to offer. Bringing this innovative technology to KCE was made possible by our amazing community and your generous walk-a-thon donations...THANK YOU!



Honoring Miss Mel

We are delighted to share that our school has been gifted a \$500 Amazon Gift Card from Honor Credit Union and 5th grade teacher Allison O'Connell, who was selected for their annual teacher's award. This wonderful gift will be used for a memorial on our woodchip playground in honor of our beloved paraeducator Marilynn Ellison "Miss Mel" who suddenly passed away in August. Mel was a valuable and cherished part of our school both as a parent and employee. She established many close relationships and is dearly missed by students and staff alike. Those closest to her will help decide the most meaningful way to utilize the gift card to continue her legacy here at KCE.



Kent City Community Schools

200 N Clover St

Kent City, MI 49330

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CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK



Kent City Community Schools



Kent City Elementary



Kent City MS/HS



Kent City Athletics
School

School Calendar

November 22	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers
November 27-29	No School – Thanksgiving Vacation
December 2	School Resumes
December 20	**Early Release for Students - Records Day for All Teachers
	1st Semester Ends
Dec 21 - Jan 5	No School – Holiday Vacation
January 6	School Resumes
January 24	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers
February 6 & 11	Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences (PK-5)
February 14-17	No School - Mid-Winter Break
February 18	School Resumes
February 27	Secondary Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 28	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers

*****Please Note: Early Release Times***

***6-12 students release at 11:50 am/Elementary students release at 12:00 pm
Lunch is served on Early Release Days***