



Eagle Insider

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

May 2025

Administration
200 N Clover St
Kent City, MI 49330
(616) 678-7714

Elementary School
29 College St
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
(616) 678-7714

As the school year draws to a close, it's a perfect time to celebrate the growth, achievements, and resilience of our students and staff. This year has been filled with meaningful learning, exciting opportunities, and strong partnerships that have helped our students thrive. Whether in classrooms, on the stage, on the field, or out in the community, our students have continued to grow, achieve, and make us proud. Their hard work, curiosity, and determination have truly been inspiring to watch.

None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our community. From our dedicated staff and engaged families to local organizations and volunteers, your commitment to our schools makes a lasting difference. Thank you for investing your time, energy, and heart into our students' success. It's because of your continued belief in the power of public education that we're able to create such a strong foundation for every child's future. As we wrap up the year and look ahead to what's next, I'm grateful for all we've shared—and even more excited for what's to come.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our first EAGLE Family Night! It was a meaningful evening centered on building community and deepening our collective understanding of the challenges our children face in today's digital world.

We are especially grateful to our dedicated food service team for providing a warm and welcoming dining experience for all who attended. Throughout the evening, families had the opportunity to engage with a variety of local organizations, including the Kent District Library, Arbor Circle, Kent City Summer Migrant Program, and the Kent City PTCO. It was truly inspiring to witness so many valuable connections being made.

The evening concluded with a powerful presentation by Deputy Jon Lasotta, who shared important insights on internet safety and the complexities of social media that our students must navigate. Feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing appreciation for the practical and eye-opening information provided.

We are excited about the momentum created by this event and look forward to offering more EAGLE Family Nights in the future. As we plan for next school year, we remain committed to strengthening our partnerships with families and community members in support of our students' success.

Bill Crane, Superintendent





KENT CITY

High School Graduation Ceremony

Thursday, May 22, 2025

7:00 pm

Open to anyone, no tickets required
 Ward Memorial Field (weather permitting)
 HS Gym (in case of inclement weather)

Emily Abma *
 Brady Afton *
 Max Afton
 Jessica Badalamenti *
 Bailey Bartosiewicz *
 Dylan Bass ***
 Andrew Bauer
 Alexander Beemer
 Anika Brandow
 Tanner Carlson *
 Dayanira Castillo
 Abigail Cegelis
 Lorne Christie
 Zachary Deringer
 Maverick DeVos
 Fernando Diaz-Guzman
 William Dixon
 Victoria Drent
 Riley Dummer
 Kimberly Duran
 Alisha Esquivel *
 Aryanna Farber
 Zachary Flegel
 Yoselyn Flores *
 Shirleen Flores-Lemus
 Brooklyn Fuller *
 Adrian Garcia-Carbajal
 Jaaden Garza
 Erik Gomez-Yanez *
 Riley Gummo-Hill
 Deakon Gustafson
 Paeten Gustinis

Cameron Haan
 Cailynn Hartzell **
 RosaMaria Hernandez
 Cooper Houtman *
 Kayden Kamanu
 Hailey Kamphuis *
 Andrew Klotz
 Morgan Kruithoff
 Hatcher Linsley *
 Cheyenne Maloley
 Joandy Matias Martinez *
 Travis McCuaig
 Rachel Morales-Ceballos
 Brenna Mortensen
 Tyler Norkus *
 Talan Oppenhuizen *
 Brody Overholt
 Mason Patterson
 Evelyn Perez Medrano
 Kaden Perkins *
 Abbeigh Piechocki
 Grayson Preston
 Maribel Quintana-Puente *
 Addisyn Robinson
 Ava Robinson *
 Derek Rodenburg
 Yesenia Romero
 Ashlee Schuler
 Ian Senkowski
 Amy Sytsma *
 Abigail TenHove
 Wyatt Thiebout

Lily Van *
 Tyson VanderLind
 Chloe VanKampen *
 Landon VanKoevering *
 Lily VanKoevering
 Allison Vargas *
 Brianna Vargas
 Alana Vazquez
 Zuriel Vega
 Carl John Villegas
 Lila Volkers *
 Nathan Wegener
 Connor West *
 Avery Wolter
 Wyatt Wolter **

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

*Highest Honors

**Valedictorian

***Salutatorian



Host an Exchange Student!

LEARN A NEW CULTURE!

Do you have an interest in learning another culture while sharing America with an excited teen whose dream it is to study abroad? Do you have an extra bedroom or a room a student can share with your teen? If so, becoming an Educatus host family might be a great role for you!

PARTNERSHIP

Educatus, the world's largest organization helping international high school students across the world study abroad for 20+ years, is partnering with Kent City High School, and we are qualifying families now to serve in this role for next school year – 2025-2026!

PROGRAM DETAILS

Click [here](#) to learn how you can expand your family by saying YES and “unlock your world” by hosting an international student!

Families who host through Educatus receive a monthly stipend to offset costs, training and local support throughout the year, and students come with their own spending money and health insurance and pay tuition to our school partners, bringing cultural diversity and financial support into the communities they call home (*less than a year commitment that will create memories for a lifetime*).

SIGN UP NOW!

If you are interested in learning more about our program or signing up to become a host family, please contact *Regional Manager, Ashley Riley, at (616) 570-3141 or ashley.riley@educatus.org*.

Scan barcode or click on link to learn more!

UNLOCK OPPORTUNITY
Host an International Student attending one of our School Partners!

We're seeking Host Families!
Monthly Stipends for Host Families | \$200 Host Family Referrals

HOST FAMILY REQUIREMENTS
Meals * Transportation * Shared or Private Bedroom

*Help students from around the world live out their American dream and learn another culture yourself!
Host families receive monthly stipends; schools receive tuition, bringing cultural diversity and financial support into our local school communities!*

Ashley Riley, Regional Manager
(616) 570-3141 | ashley.riley@educatus.org

March is Reading Month

At KCMS, March is all about celebrating the joy of reading!

Throughout the month, students were given time to read for at least 20 minutes each day to build strong reading habits and explore new stories. To keep things exciting, the school hosted dress-up days, a creative door decorating contest based on the book-to-movie theme, and offering candy and gift card prizes for reading at home. The month wrapped up with a high-energy grade-level competition during the end-of-month assembly, where students get to show off their reading spirit and teamwork. It's a month full of fun, imagination, and a shared love for books!



Spring Field Trips

6th Grade - Mr. Harding took his students to Legends Ranch in Bitely to learn about conservation and ecosystems.

7th Grade - Mrs. Lafferty will be taking 7th grade students to John Ball Zoo to learn about the ecosystem and sustainable farming/agriculture. They will also learn about both positive and negative human impact on the world. We go to John Ball Zoo to learn about the local, national and international conservation initiatives that JBZ is working on. Students are able to get hands-on experience and observations as to what is happening right here in West Michigan!

8th Grade - Mrs. Lafferty took 8th graders on a trip to learn about Space and Physics. We traveled to the Grand Rapids Public Museum where they got to see the Planetarium which shows them all of the topics they learn about with our space unit. Students also got to partake in an engineering/robotics class in which they got to build a working robot. This hands-on experience helps to bring science to life and enhances their knowledgeable connections as they continue to learn and explore the world around them.

May 30th - End of the Year Trips

6th graders will be heading to Camp Pinewood to explore outdoors, work through team-building activities, and have fun together!

7th graders are taking a trip to Chicago. They will be spending time at the Museum of Science and Industry and the Lincoln Park Zoo.

8th graders will be ferrying to Mackinac Island where they'll experience the island through a carriage ride and get to explore downtown.

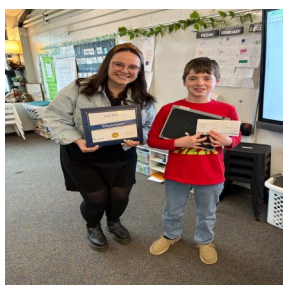
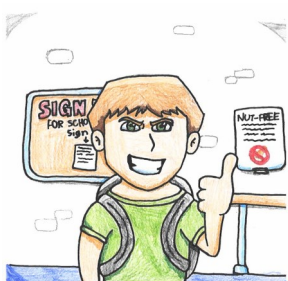
High School Helpers: Fostering Fun, Friendship, and Fair Play at Recess!

Elementary students LOVE when high school students come to visit KCE, whether to read, volunteer, work or play. This spring, we have partnered with the high school to have 12 junior and senior student mentors assist with 4th grade recess! These students were given guidelines to help with social emotional learning, such as promoting good sportsmanship, serving as positive role models, and nurturing peer interactions—all while having fun! It's a win-win for both age groups by fostering leadership skills, building trust and relationships, and strengthening school culture. Currently, this program is focused on one grade level, but we are exploring opportunities to expand it and continue this initiative next year. We are grateful for our partnership with the high school to have these students here sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with our young learners!



Budding Artist Wins Contest

Congratulations to 5th grade student Xavier Beiter, whose artwork was selected as a winning piece in the Meemic Masterpieces Student Art Contest! The theme of the contest was to create a school-themed self-portrait, the Selfies@School Project. As a winning student artist, he received a Boogie Board Blackboard Smart Reusable Writing Tablet, a framed personalized certificate of appreciation, and \$500 to support classroom needs. Thank you to Xavier's teacher Allison O'Connell for submitting his artwork. We are so proud of Xavier for his accomplishments.



Growing Opportunities at KCE

Our after school clubs continue to grow! This spring, STEM teachers Nicole Andreas and Billie Freeland are hosting two fantastic learning opportunities! Back by popular demand is our KCE Coding & Robotics club for interested 3rd & 4th graders, where students will learn basic computer/programming and how to apply coding to various types of robotics. The second is a brand new drone class, where interested 5th grade students will learn about the parts of a drone, maintenance, safety, flying and potential career opportunities. Due to limited space, spots were filled on a first come, first served basis. We are so excited to provide these opportunities for students to explore, create and learn new skills outside of the regular school day.

Students Explore a Career in Teaching

Students are often asked what they want to be when they grow up, and one of their choices might be a teacher. But how will they know if this career is the right fit? Students at Kent City High School have a wonderful opportunity to explore this profession through the Teacher Academy program at Kent Career Technical Center (KCTC) which includes real-life hands-on training in classrooms right here at KCE.

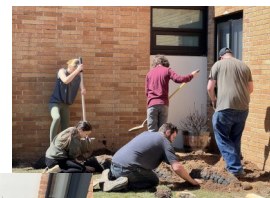
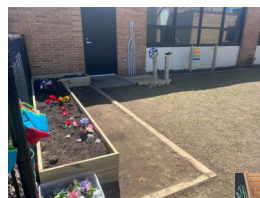
A large component of this 2-year program is pairing the 11th and 12th grade students with experienced mentor teachers. Students work alongside their mentors to learn about lesson planning, classroom management and different ways students learn. Students also have the opportunity to experience different grade levels, settings and subjects in hopes of helping them decide a direction they would like to go in the teaching field. In addition, students receive weekly performance reviews from their mentor teachers and are observed 2-3 times by their KCTC instructors to make sure they're fulfilling the competencies/guidelines set forth by the program.

Kindergarten teacher Heather Carlson stated, "What I've noticed between Year 1 and Year 2 students is a jump in confidence; Kimmy (Duran) is much more willing to do things on her own, try new things, etc."

This experience has been so valuable for these students and has provided an excellent foundation for their future endeavors. Senior Brenna Mortensen stated, "This has been the best decision I have made for myself. It has really helped shape what I want to do in the future."

Enriching Outdoor Experiences for Preschoolers

With the help of the Walk-A-Thon, the Kent City Elementary PTCO, and personal sponsors, the Great Start Readiness Program Preschool team is working to add nature-inspired learning opportunities to the early childhood playground space. Phase one of the playground project was completed over spring break, which includes a dig zone, chalkboard, activity boards, raised garden beds, balancing elements, and most of the landscape edging. Phase two will include adding a few more elements, finishing the edging and PLANTING! In addition, all plant sponsors will have a rock painted by our preschoolers with their family's name and placed in the garden! We are so excited to enrich the outdoor experiences for our smallest Eagles!



Celebrating Our Learners

As another academic year draws to a close, we reflect on how much our students have grown and evolved since the beginning of the year. It also provides a time to celebrate all of their accomplishments! We would like to extend an invitation to join us for our upcoming ceremonies as we honor our young learners and cherish the milestones they've reached during another remarkable year at KCE!

May 13th - Preschool End of Year Ceremony/Garden Party (Lutz/Rench), 1:45pm, KCE

May 15th - Preschool End of Year Ceremony/Garden Party (Petruska/Serba), 2:00pm, KCE

At the end of the year, preschool students participate in a celebration of growth ceremony that highlights how far they have come in their learning. After receiving their certificates, students lead families back to the classroom for a special end of unit garden party.

May 20th - 5th Grade Celebration, 6:30pm, Kent City Baptist Church (400 W. Muskegon St.)

This is a special night where our 5th graders will be sharing Music, Dance, Artwork, PE & Stem Accomplishments, Video / Picture Memories, and celebrating their elementary years.

June 2nd - The Joy of Kindergarten Celebration, High School Performing Arts Center

Mrs. Laperna/Mrs. Siegel: 11:30am

Mrs. Carlson/Ms. Sabin: 1:00pm

This program commemorates the journey through Kindergarten and features music and a picture show highlighting special moments throughout the year.

June 6th - Flag Lowering Ceremony, 9:00am, KCE

Join our staff, students and local Veterans as we close out the year by lowering the flag. Plus, get ready for a special announcement regarding our theme for next year!



Schools Out, But Summer Meals are Served

Free summer meals, are available to kids and teens ages 18 and younger at Kent City Middle School.

Free Summer Meal Program Details:

- Meals are FREE to all children and teens ages 18 and younger who come to a summer meals site. You do not have to attend school in the district
- Food served is healthy and follows USDA nutrition guidelines
- No application or proof of income needed
- Meals will be served June 18-July 22 2025 Monday-Thursday
- Closed Monday July 7-Open Friday July 11
- At Kent City Middle School 285 N Main
- Breakfast 7:30-9:00 am, Lunch 11:00-12:30 pm, Snack 1:30-2:00 pm
- **All Meals must be consumed on site.**

The Summer Menu will be posted on the Kent City Food Service webpage and displayed on school doors. For more information go to kentcityschools.org or call Beth Ohman Food Service Director @ 678-4214 x 2105 for more info.

Summer Migrant Program

The Kent City Summer Migrant Program will be returning this June! Our in-school portion of the program will be taking place Monday-Thursday from 8 am-2:30 pm starting June 18th and finishing July 22nd. Please contact Claudia Gonzalez-Rivas @ (616) 799-9700 or Claudia.gonzalez@kentcityschools.org if interested.



KCHS Wins CSAA Overall Activities Championship!

Kent City High School has once again claimed the **CSAA Overall Activities Championship** for the 2024–2025 school year, showcasing the incredible talent, dedication, and hard work of our students beyond athletics. The Eagles earned a total of **28 points**, finishing **12 points ahead** of the second-place school—an impressive achievement that reflects the strength of our academic and competitive teams.

This winter, KCHS excelled in multiple CSAA events:

- ◆ Forensics – CSAA Champions!
- ◆ Language Arts – CSAA Champions!
- ◆ Quiz Bowl – 3rd place in regular season and White Division Tournament Champions!
- ◆ Chess – 3rd place finish in just the second season in school history

In addition to team accomplishments, several students were recognized for their outstanding individual performances with **CSAA All-Conference and Honorable Mention (HM) honors**:

Quiz Bowl

- Brandon McCullough & Weston Bair
- (HM) Ava Robinson & Amy Sytsma

Language Arts

- Ava Robinson & Yael Jaramillo

Forensics

- Addison Korcal, Amy Sytsma, Aaron Schnicke, Ava Robinson, Abigail Cegelis, Allisah Faith, Kaiya Imhoff, Reagan Simons & Yael Jaramillo
- (HM) Andreigh Trerice, Gavin Bass, Emma Goldner, Brenna Mortensen

Chess

- Caibron Browning
- (HM) Braeden DeRaad, Brandon McCullough, Tyler Norkus

Congratulations to all of our participants and honorees! Your efforts continue to make Kent City proud.

Well done and Go Eagles!

Summer Athletic Camps**JR CHEER CAMP**

July 30, 31 and August 1 @ Ward Field
Kdg-8th, 10am-12pm
Fee: \$30

BOYS BASKETBALL

Youth Camp, June 9-10 @ KCHS Auxiliary Gym
1st-3rd, 9-10:30am (36 spots available)
4th-6th, 10:45am-12:15pm (36 spots available)
Fee: \$30

FOOTBALL

JV/Varsity Team Camp, July 28-Aug 1, ALL DAY
Summer conditioning
Mon, Tues & Thurs 6-8pm @ MS Weight Room

Rocket Camp, July 28-30, 6-8pm @ Ward Field
Fee: \$20

SOCCER

Youth Camp, June 23-24 @ Ward Field
1st-5th, 6-7:30pm
Fee: \$30

TRACK & FIELD

Youth Camp, May 28 & 29 @ Ward Field
2nd-5th, 3:15-5pm
Fee: \$20

VOLLEYBALL

Summer Camp, July 7-9 @ KCMS
6th-8th, 1:30-3:30pm
9th-12th, 9:30am-1pm
Fee: \$90 HS; \$55 MS

Youth Camp, July 7, 21, 28 @ KCHS Gym & July 14 @ KCMS
3rd-5th, 5-6:30pm
Fee: \$40



Visit KENTCITYATHLETICS.COM for updates & more information!

Kent City Community Schools Calendar

2025-2026

AUGUST 2025

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	PD	PD	PD	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	LD	30
31						

SEPTEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	LD	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	ER	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	ER	11
12	13	14	15	16	FB	18
19	FB	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	ER	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	TV	TV	TV	29
30						

DECEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	ER	WB
WB	WB	WB	WB	WB	WB	WB
WB	WB	WB	WB			

JANUARY 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				WB	WB	WB
WB	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	ER	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	MW	14
15	MW	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	ER	28

MARCH 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	ER	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	SB	SB
SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB
SB	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	ER	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	ER	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	MD	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2026

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	

ER - EARLY RELEASE
 LD - LABOR DAY
 FB - FALL BREAK
 TV - THANKSGIVING
 WB - WINTER BREAK
 MW - MID-WINTER BREAK
 SB - SPRING BREAK
 MD - MEMORIAL DAY

Teacher Professional Development is Aug 19-21

Student first day is August 25th

Student last day is June 5th - 1/2 day





Kent City Community Schools

200 N Clover St

Kent City, MI 49330

It's a great day to be an Eagle!

CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK



Kent City Community Schools



Kent City Elementary



Kent City MS/HS



Kent City Athletics
School

We are currently accepting enrollment for the 2025-26 school year!

Thank you for choosing Kent City Community Schools! We look forward to educating your child.

New Student Registration - Kindergarten/ECSE/Y5 through 12th Grade

To begin the enrollment process, please verify your resident district at <https://www.oaisd.org/about-us/schools> - This link will assist in verifying what school district you reside in scroll to the bottom of the page to enter your address.

- ◇ If you reside within Kent City Community School district, please continue the enrollment process by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://www.kentcityschools.org/district/enrollment/>
- ◇ If you do not reside within the KCCS district, please complete the *Schools of Choice Application* at this link <https://forms.gle/bcgeePQCAcEH8Wdq9> - Upon approval, you will receive an email regarding your next steps in enrollment.



If you have questions or need assistance, please email enrollment@kentcityschools.org to schedule an appointment.

GSRP Preschool

Please visit <https://preschool.kentisd.org/Apply> to enroll your preschool-age student in our Great Start Readiness Program.