



Eagle Insider

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

March 2023—Edition 1

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

Thank you for supporting our district's millage renewal in November of 2019! Since the millage renewal was passed, our campus has been busy with construction projects. Because of your support of Kent City Community Schools we have been able to update all of the areas listed below. I would like to personally thank former Superintendent Mike Weiler for his guidance throughout this entire bond process. Although we are not completely done with all projects, we are excited to share this with you!

Bill Crane, Superintendent



HS AUDITORIUM & BAND ROOM

A renovated high school auditorium with a redesigned layout, all new seating, stage, sound, lighting, and video. All new band room in the HS with new technology, acoustic tiles, and storage lockers.



ELEMENTARY MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

The multipurpose room was added to provide additional space for student and staff activities/meetings.



HS COMPUTER LAB & PHOTO/VIDEO STUDIO

A completely renovated computer lab with new technology, furniture, and computers. Includes a renovated photography and video room and storage room.



ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND

All new playground equipment at the elementary.



HS ART ROOM & SCIENCE LABS

A beautiful high school art room with all new cabinetry, seating, sinks, and storage. Two completely new science labs with storage and office area.



SPORT FIELD UPDATES

A new artificial turf football/soccer field, nine lane track, expanded press box, walkways, and landscaping. As well as a new baseball field and updated softball field.

Additional KCCS Bond Projects

- New Security Vestibule at the High School & Elementary
- New Security Entrance at the Middle School
- Expand Science Classroom at the High School
- Renovate Restrooms at the High School & Elementary
- Renovate Auditorium, Replace Boilers and System Pumps (HVAC)
- Replace Roof Top HVAC units at the High School
- Replace Pool Roof Membrane (Pool Roof)
- Replace Rooftop Unit Above Kitchen Hood
- Replace Floor Mount Unit Ventilators at the High School
- Renovate Existing Dressing Rooms by High School Auditorium
- Replace Exterior Doors at the High School & Elementary
- Upgrade High School, Middle School & Elementary HVAC Control Systems
- Replace Bladder Tanks at the High School, Middle School & Elementary
- Replace Water Softener System at the High School, Middle School & Elementary
- Install High School Parking New East Parking for 200 cars
- Replace High School & Middle School Parking West Lot, North Lot, Southeast Lot & Bus Parking Lot
- Purchase of new band instruments for the Middle School and High School
- Purchase of new technology at the High School, Middle School & Elementary
- Replace In-Wall Cafeteria Tables at the Middle School
- Elementary School Windows Install
- Elementary School HVAC New Unit Ventilators w/Cooling
- Replace Elementary School HVAC Boiler
- Renovate Gymnasium at the Elementary: New Ceiling, lighting, stage curtain, projection screen, scoreboard, floor, and paint
- Replace Old Exhaust Fans at the Elementary
- Replace cafeteria tables at the Elementary
- Replace Elementary School Parking Southeast Lots, Northeast Lot & North Lot
- Purchase of new school buses

Thank you again for supporting Kent City students!

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ KCCS has 2 School Resource Offices? Deputy Jon LaSotta has been with the district for 3 years & Deputy Chad Wells started January 3rd.
- ◆ KCCS has a School Nurse? Kristy Vogel has been with the District since August 2020.
- ◆ KCCS covers nearly 70 square miles within the district boundaries.
- ◆ KCE implemented the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineers and Mathematics) program during the 2019-20 school year.
- ◆ Student athletes won 3 conference titles in the fall of 2022 in the sports of Football (silver), Soccer and Volleyball. Total CSAA Wins = 24/26 (team sports), Had 30 student athletes earn All-Conference, 24 student athletes earn 1st team & 6 student athletes earn honorable mention.
- ◆ KC Summer Migrant Education Program provided services to 50 families in the summer of 2022.
- ◆ KCCS has no schools that are identified as Targeted Support and Improvement, Additional Targeted Support, or Comprehensive Support and Improvement schools according to the Annual Education Report. Visit our website to learn more.

Therapy Dog, Macie

KCE is excited to introduce you to Macie, our newest staff member at KCE! Macie is a black, hypoallergenic 7.5lb Havanese, who is a Certified Therapy Dog through Alliance of Therapy Dogs. She has been in training for just over a year with her owner, 3rd grade teacher Morgan Everingham, and is very excited to become an integral part of our school community.

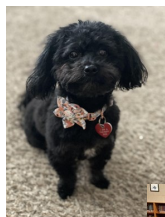
Therapy dogs are **dogs that are trained to give affection to people other than their owners.**

Therapy dogs go with their owners to volunteer/work in settings, such as schools, hospitals, and nursing homes.

Benefits of Therapy Dogs in schools

- **Social benefits.** A visiting therapy dog promotes greater self-esteem and focused interaction with other students and teachers.
- **Cognitive benefits.** It has been empirically proven that therapy dogs stimulate memory and problem-solving skills.
- **Emotional and mental health benefits.** A therapy dog can lift moods in the classroom, often provoking laughter. The therapy dog is also there to offer friendship and a shoulder to lean on for students.

Research has shown that there is a gap in social and emotional skills with students due to COVID. Macie is part of a pilot program to determine if her presence will help improve these skills in students (and bring smiles and joy to staff members as well). Students are given learning goals and guidelines with Macie, as well as do's and don'ts. We have already noticed the positive impact Macie has had on Mrs. Everingham's students such as increased focus, staying on task, and reduced anxiety, and we are excited to begin visits to other classrooms soon.



Playground Updates

In many cases when students are asked what their favorite part of the day is, it's recess! And we are so excited to have two brand new playgrounds for the students to enjoy! The lower woodchip playground was remodeled in the summer of 2021. This was one of the construction projects made possible by our supportive community of voters who passed our school millage in the Fall of 2019.

In the Fall of 2021, KCE was awarded a grant from the State of Michigan which helped fund our newest playground on the College Street side. The installation was completed in October 2022 and has been a huge hit with our students ever since!

The new equipment has been a wonderful addition to our campus and we are grateful for the upgrades to both of our recess areas. The smile on our students' faces says it all!



KENT CITY ELEMENTARY Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up

4-Year-Old Preschool

Thursday, March 9 at 6pm
preschool.kentisd.org/Apply

Kindergarten & Young 5's

Thursday, March 16 at 6pm
kentcityschools.org/district/enrollment/

Come see why KCE is the place to be!

Learn more about our Preschool and Kindergarten programs and receive details regarding the enrollment process.

Completion of the Pre-Registration form for incoming Kindergarten is encouraged before attending round-up.



The Round-Up events will be for PARENTS ONLY. Thank you

Groundswell Grant

Kent City MS/HS have applied for and have been awarded a grant from the Groundswell Stewardship Initiative through Grand Valley State University. Money from the grant will be used to develop our outdoor learning space that is available to students.

KCHS CSAA Activities

Kent City students are able to participate in both athletics and activities in the CSAA conference. The list of activities available to students are:

- Forensics
- Quiz Bowl
- Talent Revue
- Language Arts
- Visual Arts

This winter, the Kent City Language Arts team took first place in the conference!



HS Job Shadow Trips

Kent City High School students are required to have two job shadow experiences before they can graduate. This year, our students have had the opportunity to visit the following places of employment.

- GLC Live at 20 Monroe
- Rockford Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding
- Steelcase Corporation
- Cascade Die Engineering
- GreenMark Equipment

Students can also join Career Chats provided by the Kent ISD by visiting [this website](#).



KCMS Light the Night Fundraiser

Kent City Middle School will once again work with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society on the "Light the Night" fundraising event during the month of March. This fundraiser was previously known as "Pennies for Patients" and is a great way for students to raise money for a great cause while participating in a class competition for the amount of money donated.

WIN Clubs

Every full-day Friday, KCMS and KCHS students spent approximately 30 minutes with the club that they signed up for during WIN Seminar time. Clubs were formed based on suggestions from students and each club is facilitated by a KCMS or KCHS staff member. Some of the clubs that students are involved with are listed below.

- Cooking
- Slime making
- Chess
- Lawn Games/Cornhole
- School Spirit

Visit KENTCITYATHLETICS.COM for athletic schedule information!

At Kent City Community Schools, we value and incorporate individual differences with a belief that every person is worthy of respect and appreciation. It is the right of every student to have equitable access to educational opportunities.

There are many programs, services, and activities that can provide support or enrichment for students and families:

- Title 1 & At-Risk supports including academic interventions
- English Language Learners, Migrant, & homeless supports
- Accommodations in the general education environment
- Behavioral Interventionists in each building
- Special Education:
 - Early Childhood Special Education
 - Resource Programming
 - Access to Regional and County Programs for specific needs
 - Speech and Language Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Physical Therapy
 - School Social Work
 - Psychological Services
 - Hearing and Vision Consultants



We know that strong partnerships with students, families, and teamwork is essential to achieving success for all students. Please access our website for additional information regarding support available to students and families.

<https://www.kentcityschools.org/student-services/>

School Nurse Provides Quality Care for Students

The role of a school nurse is more critical than ever to help keep kids healthy and ready to learn. Thankfully, with the funds provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, we were able to hire Kristy Vogel as a full-time nurse for the district. For the first two years on the job, Kristy spent 95% of her time navigating students, staff and families through COVID. Now that COVID has become more manageable, Nurse Vogel can focus on other health and wellness needs for our students while continuing to provide medical care and expertise throughout the district.

Nurse Vogel holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing through the University of Detroit Mercy/Aquinas College. She began her career as an RN in hospitals and inpatient care, working mostly in oncology and medical-surgical departments, and previously worked as a home health nurse.

In addition to the day-to-day medical assistance she provides, Nurse Vogel plays a critical role in developing care plans and assisting students with chronic health conditions and mental health needs. She recently became certified in MERT/CPR training and is coordinating building teams and training staff on the processes and procedures to respond to medical emergencies.



New School Resource Officer



KCCS welcomes Deputy Chad Wells! He will be the second full time School Resource Officer for the district alongside Deputy Jon LaSotta. Deputy Wells is a graduate of Ferris State University with over 12 years of experience

working in law enforcement. He will be stationed at the elementary school but will rotate locations periodically with Deputy LaSotta to keep in contact with all staff and students. Deputy Wells plans to focus on building relationships, along with responding to school safety issues and making sure schools are secure. "I look forward to getting to know the staff, students and their families. School safety is very important to me and I will be visible throughout the building during the school day," he said.

KCCS is one of four districts in Kent County to be awarded a grant that will help fund this position as well as enhance school safety, thereby preserving general fund dollars for the classroom.



Kent City Community Schools
200 N Clover St
Kent City, MI 49330

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Kent City Community Schools



Kent City Elementary



Kent City MS/HS



Kent City Athletics
School

22-23 School Calendar

March 10	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers 2nd Trimester Ends (Elementary/Middle School)
March 22 & 23	Secondary Parent-Teacher Conferences (6-12)
March 24	**Early Release for Students/6-12 Professional Development/K-5 Records Day
March 31-April 9	No School - Spring Break
April 10	School Resumes
April 21	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers
May 12	**Early Release for Students - Professional Development for All Teachers
May 29	No School - Memorial Day
June 1	Senior Graduation
June 8	Last Day of School - 1/2 Day for All Students (<i>lunch will not be served</i>) 6-12 students release at 10:50 AM/Elementary students release at 11:00 AM 2nd Semester Ends (Secondary)/ 3rd Trimester Ends (Elementary/MS) 1/2 Day for Records
June 9	Professional Development for All Teachers



****Please Note: Early Release Times**
6-12 students release at 11:50 a.m. / Elementary students release at 12:00 p.m.
Lunch is served on Early Release Days