NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP MONTH

November is National Scholarship Month. Sponsored by National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA), this observance offers an important opportunity to share information about the many resources that are available to help students pay for learning after high school.

Whether your aim is a four-year degree or a shorter certificate program, scholarships can help defray the rising cost of advanced education. Be sure to talk to your guidance counselor about the many opportunities that are available—we’ll help you identify resources and keep dreaming big!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Gardner Floor Hockey: Students from Gardner International Magnet School played in a recent Special Olympics tournament, demonstrating impressive sportsmanship, athleticism, and teamwork. Go, Guardians!

November 12
- Internal Candidate Search for New Superintendent - Community Input Session 6:30 p.m.

November 13
- Late Start Wednesday

November 20
- Late Start Wednesday
- CLAC Informational Meeting 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (dinner provided) @ Everett H.S.

November 21
- Regular Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
Lansing students got a world-class lesson in civics this week when U.S. Representative Elissa Slotkin made a stop at the Eastern High School Health Center as part of her current “Cost of Care” event series.

In addition to touring Eastern’s new school-based health center, Rep. Slotkin met with students and constituents and was joined by local health professionals and advocates from the Lansing School District for a round table discussion about the rising cost of health care. The Lansing Board of Education was invited to take part in the discussion.

“Access to affordable care is a concern for everyone these days, including the students and families that make up the Lansing Schools community,” said acting superintendent Dr. Mark Coscarella. “It was wonderful that our students had the chance to meet and interact with their congressperson and hear firsthand about the efforts being made at the national level to rein in costs and expand access to access to care.”

The visit comes on the heels of the U.S. House of Representatives passing a bill introduced by Rep. Slotkin to help lower out-of-pocket costs for prescriptions drugs by providing patients and physicians with real-time updates on the cost of prescription drugs. “This is the all-American competition we need when it comes to our prescription drugs,” said Slotkin.

The discussion ended with Slotkin taking question and comments from those in attendance.

“Back-and-forth conversations like this between constituents and their lawmakers is the bedrock of our democracy,” Coscarella said. “I’m so excited that some our students were able to participate in that kind of discussion with Rep. Slotkin today. I think the experience is going to stick with them for a long time.”
Unfortunately, the world is far from perfect. Bad things happen, and even worse, innocent children are often there to witness it. The good news is the Lansing School District is more committed than ever to providing the kind of care and support these children need when trauma and violence strike.

To better respond in these circumstances, Lansing has adopted the Handle with Care program—a new initiative providing teachers and administrators with a heads up when a child has been identified at the scene of a traumatic event. In those instances, police at the scene of an incident are instructed to identify any children present and where they go to school. A confidential communication is then sent to the school containing only the student’s name and the message “handle with care.”

From there, it’s up to the teachers and staff to follow through with the kind of support and care those children need to go on to heal and thrive.

Cordelia Black, Lansing’s executive director of school culture, couldn’t be more excited to now have that critical protocol in place in Lansing Schools. “We’re taking this new initiative very seriously,” said Black. “For many students that find themselves in these kinds of situations, the classroom might be the only place that can provide the kind of care and support they need to recover from that experience. We need to be that safety net for these students.” And there’s plenty of evidence to support that sentiment.

Research suggests that prolonged exposure to violence and trauma can seriously undermine children’s ability to focus, behave appropriately, and learn, which can in turn lead to truancy, suspension, dropping out, or involvement in the juvenile justice system.

And the number of children that find themselves in these kinds of circumstances is staggering. According to a recent survey measuring the incidence and prevalence of children’s exposure to violence and trauma, 60 percent of American children have been exposed to violence, crime or abuse, with 40 percent being direct victims of two or more violent acts.

In addition to being made aware of the situation, teachers and support staff are encouraged to regularly check in with students and remind them they are there provide any help and support they may need.

“At the end of the day, our goal at Lansing Schools is to see our students go on to succeed in school and in life,” Black said. “Victims of traumatic experiences may need a little more support to get there, and the Handle with Care program is helping to provide that.”
Lansing Students Attend Construction Career Expo at Eastern Michigan University

On Tuesday, October 22nd, 120 students from Eastern, Everett, and Sexton attended the Just Build It! Construction Career Expo at Eastern Michigan University.

There were lots of hands-on activities that mirrored real-world working conditions. The students walked away having connected with welders, electricians, architects, engineers, and other skilled trades professionals. Many of the students commented that this was one of the best career exploration opportunities they’d ever enjoyed.

Students were graciously sponsored (and given water bottles and backpacks!) by James Jackson and his colleagues at MDOT.
The Dr. Eva L. Evans Welcome Center was the location of the first Literacy Night for Adult Education ESL students and their families.

The families circulated through movie night-themed sessions which included puppet making, a sight word game, and unique candy mash-ups.

During the closing session, students chose a book to take home donated by the Reading is Fundamental (R.I.F) program.

Students from Everett’s National Honor Society, volunteers, and staff and faculty of the Welcome Center busily assisted 16 adults and 33 children through the evening.

Literacy Night gave participants ideas to experience reading together as a fun family experience. It also inspired imagination and curiosity in the hearts of young and old.
CLAC Informational Meeting Hosts Local Families

On Wednesday October 30th, the Latino Advisory Committee held a welcoming meeting to Latino families at Gardner International Magnet Academy.

Over 75 students and families were present to enjoy an evening in which Mr. John Castillo, board trustee Guillermo Lopez, board vice president Dr. Nino Rodriguez, and Mr. Sein Paul Benavides shared their stories on how they became members of the Chicano Latino Advisory Committee.

The evening continued with a dialogue on the issues that are impacting the life and future of our community today and opportunities to strengthen it.

The committee invited all the event’s participants to join the committee to:

- Join the next CLAC meeting to continue this conversation,
- Help us restructure our meetings to meet new needs and cultivate new leadership,
- Help identify new project areas for action and develop a strategic plan,
- Represent the CLAC at district and community events,
- Serve in leadership roles,
- Assist in planning the Chicano Latino Achievement Ceremony, and
- Ensure there is unity in the CLAC while also respecting diversity of thought and experience.

The elders of the community expressed their gratitude to the new families for participating in this event and invited support in figuring out how this work passes on to the next generation with new ideas, energy, experiences and leadership!

As Dolores Huerta once said “Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.”

Delicious food put a wonderful end to a special evening.

For more information please contact:

John Castillo
jcastillo19450@yahoo.com
Sein Paul Benavides
seinpaul65@gmail.com

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, November 12
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Dr. Evans Welcome Center
2400 Pattengill Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910
Please join us!
District Earns Federal School Climate Transformation Grant

All students deserve the best learning environment possible. That’s more than a statement for the Lansing School District—it’s a commitment. And in keeping with that promise, Lansing is excited to announce it has received a $749,008 School Climate Transformation Grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grant will be used to introduce and expand upon existing multi-tiered systems of support with a proven track record for improving behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for Lansing students.

“This grant is a game-changer for our schools and our students”, said Cordelia Black, Lansing’s executive director of school culture. “It all starts with creating an environment that’s safe and conducive to learning. Getting that piece right is critical in our efforts to set our students up for success.”

By relying upon and expanding evidence-based systems of support, the grant will make a real difference in efforts to prevent and reduce incidences of bullying, violence, and substance abuse in schools through the district.

Black believes the grant will help build upon an already strong culture of support that exists in the school district.

“The evidence is pretty clear here,” said Black. Students who learn in safe, positive environments are more likely to improve academically, gain the confidence to participate more fully in the classroom, and ultimately, go on to develop the knowledge and skills that will help them be successful in school and in life. This grant is going to help us strengthen that environment here in the district, and I couldn’t be more excited for the good it will bring our students.”
Cumberland first graders recently attended a program called Hello Hospital at the St. Lawrence Campus of Sparrow Hospital.

The purpose of this field trip was to give children awareness of hospital procedures and service workers.

Children worked in small groups with a hospital volunteer who provided them hands-on experiences with x-rays, blood tests, microscopes, patient rooms, and surgery.

Attending this program also helped children manage fears associated with going to the hospital.
Mt Hope STEAM students in the fifth grade have been working hard on Native America-inspired art such as authentic “dream catchers”, weaving and regional dwellings of the United States. The dwelling projects were very STEAMy, and included many 21st century skills such as engineering, research, teamwork, design, writing, and more. School leaders plan to display the student projects during the month of November.
Have you been to the Community Learning Center in the Dr. Eva Evan’s Welcome Center? If not, you are missing out on several of the benefits available to you.

The Community Learning Center welcomes the following:

- Lansing School District instructional and support staff
- Families and caregivers of children enrolled in the district
- Lansing School District volunteers and organizations
- Childcare providers within the Lansing School District

Kristen Rayner, Community Learning Center Coordinator, has designed a pleasant and inviting atmosphere for a supportive, hands-on experience. Upon walking into the center, Kristen will greet you and is available to help with various classroom needs including poster board, construction paper, Ellison Die Cuts and more.

With tables and space to complete school assigned projects, posters, and classroom presentations, you can feel free to spread out and unwind. And be sure to bring your items for laminating so your hard work holds up!

Do you have an exceptional student who would benefit from expanded learning on a subject? Or perhaps a student who is struggling and would benefit from some additional help outside of the classroom? The CLC provides supplemental academic materials from Early Childhood (counting, colors, and shapes) through High School (Algebra, Geometry, writing prompts and more). Kristen will help you find what you need!

The Community Learning Center also welcomes parents and caregivers to stop in and wait for children between school release times. You’ll find tables for homework, games, and comfortable reading chairs. With Kristen’s long-term relationships with many agencies in the community, she is available to answer questions, listen to concerns, and help coordinate resources if necessary. Food pantries, homelessness, financial counseling, health issues, or community events, Kristen is a fantastic resource for parents, teachers and students alike!

Kristen hopes to always keep the center evolving and changing to meet the needs of the community. Feel free to make a suggestion, stop in just to say “hi”, or let her make your day a little easier (and she always does). She can be reached by phone at (517) 755-4110 or email kristen.rayner@lansingschools.net.

**COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER HOURS**

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2400 Pattengill Ave. Lansing, MI 48910
CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think! Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.
The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.

It’s about fair representation.
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

It’s in the Constitution.
The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.

It means $675 billion.
Census data determine how more than $675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community’s vital programs.

It’s about redistricting.
After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.
Completing the census is required: it’s a way to participate in our democracy and say “I COUNT!”
Census data are being used all around you.

Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.

Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.

Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.

Your data are confidential.

Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

By law we cannot share your information with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.

You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.

FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS
### PATHWAY PROMISE BOND AND SINKING FUND PROJECT TIMELINE

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VISIT US ONLINE AT LANSINGSCHOOLS.NET!
### Planning Phase
- FFE Group 3 (partial Everett, Sexton and Attwood)
- FFE Group 4 (remaining Everett, Sexton, North and Wexford)

### Construction Phase

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**VISIT US ONLINE AT LANSINGSCHOOLS.NET!**
Dear Teacher,

We’re tired of being in the classroom! Everyone is always telling us to get outside and get some fresh air. Well, we decided we want to have school outside. We heard about the Ebersole Environmental Center in Wayland, Mich. They have programs that reinforce what you teach us and more. We got this stuff for you so you could know more about Ebersole. Not only will we get fresh air and exercise, but we’ll learn stuff, too! We think you’re a great teacher and we know you’ll do everything you can to help us learn. The Ebersole center can help you teach us. At Ebersole they embrace nature and engage minds. We think it sounds great!

Your Students
Kindergarteners at Gardner International Magnet School spent time reading with fifth graders recently. What a great partnership, highlighting the instructional leadership of the school's older students!

Students across the Lansing School District celebrated Halloween with costumes, parades, special treats, and performances. Many teachers and staff members also got in on the action, dressing up and offering an extra little bit of fun to mark the holiday.