LET’S ALL GIVE THANKS

Even if your family does not celebrate Thanksgiving, it’s always a good idea—on any day—to take a moment and remember all the things that make us feel grateful.

Here in the Lansing School District, we are thankful for the many students and families who choose to be part of our family. For the extraordinary educators, administrators and staff who share their talents with us every single day. For board members who care enough to share a good deal of time and expertise. And for the community that has blessed us with its support.

THANK YOU!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Poppies for Remembrance: In honor of Veterans Day, artists at Reo School created layered poppy collages.

November 27-29
• Thanksgiving Break – No School

December 3
• PCAC Meeting (Parent Community Advisory Council) 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Post Oak

December 4
• Late Start Wednesday

December 5
• Regular Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

We like you—Like us back!!
Lansing’s Future Promise Scholars Visit Michigan State University

The message was clear at this year’s, Joe’s Kids MSU football event: It’s not where you start in life, but where you finish.

In November, seventh and eighth grade Future Promise Scholars from Gardner, Post Oak, North and Woodcreek were privileged to hear from current MSU athletes.

The event’s keynote speaker was MSU football player and alumni Herb Haygood. Haygood shared his story of being a student and player at MSU, turning pro, and eventually becoming a football coach himself.

Afterward, Future Promise scholars heard from current athletes, including a past HOPE Scholarship awardee, who shared their journeys to MSU. Many were first- and second-generation college students.

No matter the circumstance, the messages were consistent: MSU is a big family where you can succeed no matter where you are in life. It’s also one of the most amazing universities on earth.

“It was great to see the seventh and eighth graders have the opportunity to ask questions of each athlete,“ said Gardner teacher and Pathfinder Jessica Kruger. “They were particularly interested in the transition when transferring from Lansing Community College to MSU. In my opinion, it is important for younger students to hear from the athletes, whose perspectives are relatable. I think it was eye-opening and shed light on a realistic college path for our students.”

Thanks to the Joe D. Pentecost Foundation, students and chaperones experienced MSU life firsthand with a dining experience at Case Hall and the opportunity to root for MSU in a nail-biting game against Illinois.

(photos continued on next)
Thanksgiving dinner was shared with more than 500 local families on November 24, thanks to a generous partnership between the Lansing School District, Dean Transportation, SodexoMAGIC, Lansing Schools Education Association, and the Michigan Education Special Services Association.

The school district invited families in need to visit Everett High School on Sunday to pick up a turkey and fixings. Dozens of volunteers were on hand to distribute food and friendship.

Nearly 700 mittens and hats collected by district staff also were distributed during the event, now in its fifth year.
The Lansing School District has released a new television advertisement to promote the Eastern Flex program, with the tagline, “You do you.”

Built to ensure maximum flexibility for students whose life circumstances require it, Eastern Flex allows 11th and 12th graders to have a flexible schedule that better allow them to reach their own goals—dual enrollment in various college programs, work, family commitments, and so forth.

The program is open to all area 11th and 12th graders.

The ad features students Balthazar Tristan-Perez, Taylor Buford, Jerome Tiel, and Egan Witt.

To enroll in Eastern Flex, please visit http://www.lansingschools.net/downloads/magnet_schools/e-flex_application_packet.pdf

Photos courtesy of the Lansing State Journal
Attwood One World Food Drive Is a Huge Success

Attwood New Tech collected 619 items to take to the food bank on Friday, November 22.

The One World Lunch Club was elated to be able to give to those in need, and offers its thanks to all the families and students that took part in the food drive.
Each year Unified Champion Schools (UCS) and Special Olympics Michigan-Area 8 offer multiple opportunities for students to participate in athletic opportunities in the community.

This school year kicked off with secondary students from Sexton, Everett, Gardner, Dwight Rich, Wexford, and Beekman attending the Leadership Launch, a conference hosted by Central Michigan University at the Lansing Center.

These high school students (both with and without intellectual disabilities) united to learn how to be more inclusive leaders in their schools. They met peers from across the state, participated in activities focusing on inclusion, and discussed ways to prevent bullying and promote friendship in their unique school settings.

Throughout October, teachers took students bowling at Royal Scot. Many students practiced in adapted physical education classes for weeks leading up to their athletic outing, learning about spares, strikes, and bowling etiquette.

On November 1, many students from the district were able to show off their poly (floor) hockey skills at MSU IM West. Students had the opportunity to exhibit their skills through stationary activities such as shooting for accuracy or stick-handling through cones. Other students spent weeks learning the rules of the game and practicing as teams. Gardner International Magnet School and the Beekman Center played two games each against others from across the state.

While poly hockey was occurring for students aged eight and up, students in early childhood special education, Great Start Readiness Programs, and young elementary classes participated in movement exploration activity stations in MSU's turf room, focusing on throwing, stacking cups, waving a parachute, and more.

Many thanks to the MSU students who volunteer to make these events possible at no cost to our students!

Future UCS events this school year include a bullying prevention rally for 7-12th grade students in March, basketball tournaments, winter sports, a swimming meet, bocce tournaments, and track and field events.
This month, students at North Elementary were serenaded by the Twin City String Band.

Wes Shuck, Aiden Schnell, and Caleb Kibby are from Michigan’s twin cities (St. Joseph and Benton Harbor) came to visit Mr. Mattson’s class and share their music.

The band is known for their modern and traditional bluegrass and folk influences. One of the band members is a former student of Mr. Mattson.

The students enjoyed learning about different instruments and listening to the live performance.
Gardner Students Attend Program at the Wharton Center

Second-grade students at Gardner International Magnet School were treated to a fantastic show at the Wharton Center in East Lansing on November 19. Students were treated to a viewing of “The Boy Who Would Be Captain Hook.”

The show stars David Harrell, who shares a story of his childhood. Harrell was born without his right hand and fitted with a prosthetic hook before he started school. He was kept on the sidelines of recess until the other kids started playing Peter Pan, with him as Captain Hook.

As Harrell became tired of playing the part and asks to be the hero, things changed dramatically. In his show, Harrell explores what happens when you decide not to be defined by your circumstances. Gardner students were captivated by the performance and used their best behavior throughout the show.
Lansing Mayor Andy Schor has announced a new partnership between Kroger Community Rewards, MSU Federal Credit Union’s the Desk Drawer Fund (DDF), Lansing School District and the City of Lansing to benefit Lansing SAVE students.

By teaming up with Kroger Community Rewards, Kroger shoppers who link their Kroger Rewards Card will automatically have at least 1% of their overall combined grocery spending deposited quarterly to DDF to then be distributed evenly among Lansing SAVE accounts.

The City of Lansing was also awarded a US Conference of Mayors DollarWise Innovation Grant, funded by Bank of America. The $10,000 will help support marketing efforts to promote this new partnership and encourage Kroger shoppers to link their cards.

To help students in Lansing prepare for post-secondary education, go to Kroger.com and log in to your account (or create one). Then, click on “Community Rewards” and search for the code RN620 (or search for Desk Drawer Fund). Click “enroll now.”
THANK YOU!

Lansing RIF extends our thanks to everyone who donated during the 2018-19 school year. Together, we raised over $62,000 toward the purchase of the 30,000 RIF books chosen, read, and loved by Lansing School District students in 2018-19.

Your gifts allow Lansing RIF do what we do best: helping children love to read!

GIFTS IN HONOR OF
Felicity Davis
Jasmin Hebert
Merrill Lippard
Becky Kennedy
Linda Leavelle
G. Manuel
Jeannie Marks
Young shoot

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Thank you for supporting reading, smiles and big dreams!

IN-KIND SUPPORT

CORPORATE DONORS AND ORGANIZATIONS

UNITED WAY

EDGWOOD UNITED CHURCH

JACKSON

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GRANTS

LANSING RIF DONORS

2018-2019

The mission of Lansing RIF is to motivate children to discover the joy of reading, which will then evolve into lifelong personal reading habits, developing readers who are educated and informed members of the community.
Lansing School District

Winter Solstice

FEAST

December 18 • 6-8:00 P.M.

Dr. Eva L. Evans Welcome Center
2400 Pattengill Ave.

REGISTER FOR GIVEAWAY
SIGN UP FOR DISH TO PASS

RSVP with Jamie Roy (517) 765-4980
or jamie.roy@lansingschools.net

DEC. 6
Get INSPIRED

New Tech Extravaganza
Tuesday, December 3rd | 6-8 pm at Everett High School
What is the best design to keep food warm or cool in case of a power outage? Many thanks to our friends at SodexoMAGIC for taking the time to judge Attwood 6th graders’ cooker and cooler prototypes and picking the top three!

Great Start Readiness Program preschoolers at Averill shone as mini Statues of Liberty during this year’s Veterans Day celebrations.
Congratulations to the Lansing Legacy Girls Varsity Swim Team for a great fall season of MHSAA swimming! Each one of the swimmers from the three high schools made tremendous improvements throughout the season, decreasing times at meets, learning new strokes, competing in new events, and fine-tuning techniques. The girls were led by new coaches from the district, Sara Franklin and Victoria Raithel. The team capped off their season at the CACC Red division meet on Friday, November 8th.