





### June 2022

# The **BRIGHT SIDE**







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**Diane Allen** Pamela Anthony Orlando Balcarcel Joyce Barker Jeanette Barron Mary Belz Deidre Bennett Tracey Best Alesia Betz Lucinda Block Lori Brace **Robert Clegg** Nancy Cotter James Davis Mary Dershem Tammy Dionise

Karen Eisele Steven Ellenwood Linda Eschbach Willetta Ewing Linda Garza Scott Goodman Anne Goudie Juana Guerrero Rial Terri Hamoud Phyllis Herrguth Jill Johnson Jordan Johnson Lillie Johnson Ann M. Jones Sondra Kearney Brenda Kopf

Chiharu Lance Carolyn Lehr Marsu Mcadoo **Kevin Morrison** Elizabeth Mullins Brian Murley Terri Perron **Kimberly Petroff** Michael Rambo Michael Richter Chad Sanders Annette Sipes Mary Snay **Kimberly Tabor Deborah Vorce** John Zielinski

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A heartfelt thank you is in order for the forty-eight Lansing School District staff who retired this year. Dedicated staff, like you, are what makes all of this possible. We hope that your retirement is as good to you as you have been to our district over the years. Congratulations - you've earned it!

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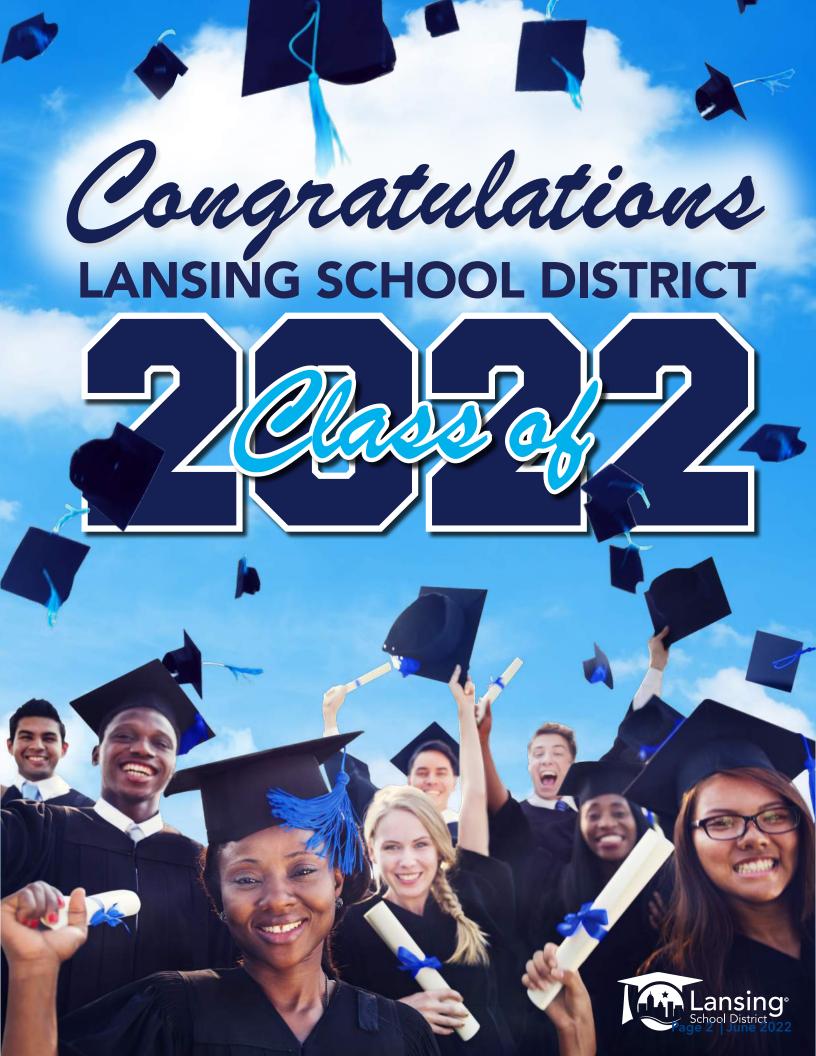


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## **EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2022**

Kowsar Mahamud Abdi Mohamed Yasser Aguirre-Haddad Hamadi Abdullahi Ali Makala Julia Lynn Alston Andrew Arhim Uriah James Armendarez Nehemiah Aclilu Asghedom Pamela Ashimwe Trevon Ayotte Raeona Marie Bean Rolando DeEusebio Bell Jada Marie Benson D'Moya Berger Jaedyn Amerie Danae Bishop Lyshawn Roqavion Blackman Alejandro Miguel Botello Jr Calvina Betia Boyenneh Mayanna Cynthia Pricilla Bramlett Mariah Shanice Brown Stephen Eddie Burleson Alyjah Burton Tyrique Marquel Carter Angelica Maria Claudio Tatiana Claudio-Deleon Armonie Latorria Crusoe Tenavr Devone Crusoe Thawng Hlei Cung Willie Beasley Curtis Jr. Mary Ellen Defrees Evelyn Marie Delaney Diana Sarahi Delgado Haley Gale Fedric Cheyenne Angel Fidler Gracie-Lou Belle Fisher Alejandro Rey Flores Jr. Darianna Fulkerson Jovanna Crystal Gallegos Meleen Garcia Phillisianna Kimberly Garcia Raymundo Manuel Garcia Samantha Irene Gillespie Alaina Michelle Goggin Anastasia Gonzalez

Estevan Gonzalez Victoria Magarita Gonzalez Audrey Michelle Gordon Domingo Greer Angel Griffin Cruz Guajardo Aniyah Hailey Hassani Salat Haji Tra'vontay Hall Alexander Tahjai Harrell Tyron Deron-Patrick Harris Jr. Gabriel Hernandez Kialee Kay Hill Za'Kahryon Maurice Danell Hobby Trayshawn lidriese Holbrook Damarieona Horne Tre'Vyon Lamar Hudson Macabeo Timoteo Hudy-Velasco Rajuan Sincere Tyre Hursey Nicholas James Hutchinson Kalib Nigel Jackson Rokaia Mohammed Jasem Zahrud Jilani Kailey Ann Johnson Elisha Jones Kirabo Chi Kanvama Jalen Bruce King Rykardo Komolmis "Ďiana Danial Salih G Kowta" Alishah Kurban Gavin Scott LaViolette Areyona Lemm Shaine Lilly Rhionnon Mackenzie Lucas Storay Ludin Wagma Ludin Damani William Mack **Raul Mares** Silvie Mariam Marianna Alexea Martinez Jisela Macias Mata Eliana Grace McDonald

Omariana McKnight Kay Meh Eloisa Mendoza Lydia Celine Michael Ahjanae' Mills Mkumbukwa Sidi Mkumbukwa Dorrian Moore Liliana Cecelia Morales Tamara Jay Morrell Mlondani Msambya Fatuma Mukambilwa Mohammed Abukar Muridi Zahquareon Murray Justin Ndizihiwe Marilyn Kim Nguyen Randy Nguyen Frank Niyonzima Loren Oliver Ronnie Lawrence Oliver Sabrien Abdi Omar Solmon Mohamed Osman Anna Lynn Oudsema Wilton Manson Parsons IV Be'Unka Da'Nae Pearce **Richard Devon Perry** Deric Francisco Pesino Eric Truman Pesino Joshua David Pettit Anthony Da'Shawn Phifer Dylan James Phillips Gabriella Mercedez D. Pizana Mecanyne Nicole Porter Na'kira Adrianna Pope Maria Fernanda Quintero Changwa Abdalla Ramazan Mariah Christine Ray Moore Anthony Charles Reed Pray Reh Emmanuel Richardson Savannah Richardson-Lopez Nevaeh Rivas Andrea Irene Rivera Arius Rodriguez

Maribella Lisal Magdalena Romero Senaja Trenae Ross Anthony Thomas Ruddick Jose Enrique Ruiz-Garcia Halime Sadia Isabel Marie Sanders Selena Irene Scott **Carlitos Valentin Serna** Janan Shamszai Delmar Sharp De'Andre Leo Shepard Kam'ron Aaron Smith Elysia Shantae Sobleskey Collin Ralph Sparks Ashley Steele Ty St. John Ioannis Tassopoulos QuanTerra Shalise Tatum Josephine Ella-Rose Taylor Kira Ann Tessman Birungi Tibasaga Yazmine Trevino Zenaida Tristan-Perez Theophille Twizere Anthony Martin Tyler Lilliana Lopez Villasenor Brett Ger Vue Jacari Tyree Walker Kalim Jaylen Cobain Walter DeMario Antwan Washington II Tivonna Lorraine Wesson Alexis Faith West **Deyvion Marquice White** Derrick James Wicks Darius Eneal Williams Jr Mariah Williams De'jah Winston Aveon Wisniewski Jaydyn Woodson Eliyahan Joseph Yahsha-Cornelius Jailia Juli Yang Zilong Zhuang

## **EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2022**

Jimmy Metias Abdelrahman Shangawa Abdikadir Charfadin Oumar Al-Hadje Aida Bibi Binti Ali Abu Taĥir Faris Rafi Aljazi Huda Basim Aljazi Destiny Jahnya Lennae Allen Jamison Robert Allen Richard Lee Allen III Elijah Michael Alvarez O'Asianay Nicole Amos Ta'Shawn Malachi Andrews-Burtley JaNya LaShay Anthony Monaysia Elise Arnold Malik DaVonn Arthur Ariana Sharay Ashe Zhane LaNaya Ashford-Ellis Kezia Irish Marie Bailey Anthony Jason Banda-Gonzalez Ya Balu Blessing Bangura Riziki Banvunyaki Van Khamh Bawi Kassandra Tatum Beck Jo'Nyla Akuel Biliu Fedarain O'Shay Bills

Breannyn Grace Black Tlalith Gabriela Blancas Romero T'mija Trinae Blocker-George Bridget Ann Bolte Assamaou Bouba Samara Dyshawn Brown Lamar Andre Brown Jr. David Scott Brunette Israel Armand Brunette Vincent James Brunette Ajaney Destiny-Nicole Burgess Alyssa Marie Bush Kimora Akayla Cain Reyna Surena Cantu Jasmine Marie Capoccia Mark Andrew Carpenter Jr. Jayce Cory-Alexander Carr Devin Danve' Carter Jaquai Malik Lowell Carter Aiden Juan Miguel Caspers Michael Jesus Castellanos Aliah Rose Castillo Karicia America Ceballos-Vasquez Daniel DeAndre Chandler-Robins Wendolin Cifran Barreira

Mya Renee Clark Jamariah Jonta'e Samir Collins Adolph Bushiri Costa Kyra Lee Cox Donald Victor Crenshaw Dishwar Dado Mason Wesley Davies Sthefany de la Caridad Delgado Garcia Zoe Jane Denton Austin Robert DePeal Anne Jean Dewey Ja'Vier Dazaun Diaz Samantha Rae Diehl Amarion Jalil Dilworth Natalia Mihaela Dima Omar Nureini Dinki Kylen Joseph Douglass Damorian Ra-Shawn Draper Bivakumana Edmund Gabriella Raquel Elizalde Teriaunah JaTwana Ellis Mohammed Khaled Eshkuntana Erica Esquivel Jessica Esquivel Vanessa Esquivel

Nathalie Genesis-Marthe Fernandez Aubrey Emiliah May Ferris Isaac Jacob Fickies Sentell Kailon Fields **Ekillion Lamont Fire** Max Mitchell Sabastian Foster Darius Wayne Frazer Elijah Edward Fundunburks Tasha Noelle Gaines Elijah Josiah Gallardo Terrion Lamar Devon Galmore Rayna Victoria Garza Onelicia Arionna Gelista Datese Nicorelle DaLinda Glenn Alyson Mae Godel Abril Gomez-Mendoza Randy Ryan Gonzales Jr. Malia Renae Gonzalez **Ricky Gonzalez** Keyli Gonzalez Anido Tyrell Jeremiah LaTray Green Madelyn Jo Greenburg Morgan Catherine Gross Victor Casper Gumbonzvanda Angelina Crystal Gutierrez

Yousif Sameer Habeeb DeAsia Janae Hall Oliver Bertrand Hamilton Abraham Jasen Hands Jr. Stephen Emrys Hartley Fadoul Mahamat Hassan Mohammed Falah Hassan Ayderus Abdukadir Hassen Kylie Alexis Hauser Zae'da Monet Hayes Tamara Victoria Henson Ingrid Evelyn Hernandez-Perez Tara Beth Highley Tyler Allen Mikel Hoffman Jeremiah Isaiah Hogan Erick Horta Isaiah Howard Hasan Abdullahi Husein Yeredi Irakoze Abdul Rahman Asaad Ismaeel Narriel Nicole Sharmane Jackson Zamariah Marie Jackson Kataze James Jenkins Lela Ann Jinnah Hayden Cameron Lee Johnson Amya Michelle Jones My'onna Monay Jones McKenna Caroline Karn Tresor Kashindi Melissa Fern Kelley Lazza Khapangi Jada Janae Lackey Qulasha Nevaeh Leek Aurora Sofia Lemieux-McKissic Sophia Robinson Lettau Siylais Ramman Lewis

Mickaia Nicole Lightfoot Amrit Limbu Deseree Nicole-Springs Lindner Constance Marie Lopez Cameron Michael Lower Alexandra Leylanise Loza Diya Magar Tara Magar Jessica Kaylee Marie Magyar Mickala Latrese Alberta Martin Olivia Myra Martin Madison Louise McClain Kadence Lee McEvers Sahnya Jaydin McKinley-Stigler Shayla Rena' McKinney Jamie Cheyenne-Symone McPike Luis Manuel Mendiola Xander Gerald Menezes Aleah Theresia Metters Alexis Nicole Metters Tara Ann Mingus Alexandre Lee Mireles Nasib Abdi Mohamed Mohamed Murtada Mohamed Ali Juan Carlos Montalvo II Lexington Micheal Moore Anastasie Mugorewindekwe Basheer Abdulhameed Muhi Ehsan Yasser Nagwan Manessah Belle'Ange Naval Wenndy Ha Ngo Sang Nguyen Walter Nunez-Vieito Matthew Wayne Olmstead Mitchell Phillip Olmstead Amino Mohamed Omar

Win Latt Ohmar Oo Jada Imani Otis Ella Claire Otten Yassir Moussa Oumar Zion Savion Owens Micaella Lynn Patlan Mariana Perez-Tello Aaleya Shontell Perez-Wardlaw Ta'Anna Annique Phifer Aridsa Charlenshana Pierre Poet' Unique Portee Landon Warren Scott Pothoff Aleena Qurban Ali Arek Kenneth Redmond No Reh Say Reh Ethan Russell David Ridenour Messiah Rios Solea Amari Roberts Shanna Kathleen Robertson Isabelle Cleo Robinson Christopher James Robinson Jr. Maria Magdalena Rodriguez Leon Juleyn Christian Rogers Makaylah Raquell Ruiz Shateeda Carmela Russell Crystal Rose Rutherford Rosette Rwiyaza Khalid Salarzai Ryan David Schor Joanna Seife Varela Martez Alfonso Simmons Khen Pian Sing Mia Bella Sinicropi Amani Dezirae Sipe-Williams Desirae Nicole Skaggs

Maxwell Porter Smedlev Barrington Albert Anthony Smith Miquel Lopez Solis Jazmine Monique Standish Priscilla Sudiyantoro Cameron Ian Sullivan Javeon Alonzo Sylvester Nae'Taja Sincere Sylvester Mariah Nicole Tagger Youssef Meso Eldaow Meso Teya Aya Othman Theeban Dasia Marie Thrush Anthony Torres Bayani Watson Torres Nancy Tran Tina Tran Mariah Yasmine-Schooler Treadwell Grace Frin Truss Divine Uwamahoro Marissa Marie Velasquez Jaiden Vimolsathit Juliana Renee Virola Paw Wa Damari James Ware **Emonie Watson** Zander Keegan Weiss Alleyn LeMarr White Noah Steven White Amaya Ann Shaque Williams DeAndre Latrell Marshall Williams Kongmeng King Yang Jada Lavonne Yarbrough Kyleigh Kaye Yerke Lawn Zual

### **SEXTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2022**

Daniah Muhsen Ahmed Noor Majid Al-Rabiah Noah Alfonso Alvarez Jacob Ryan Anderson John Arinaitwe Kissa Amaya Bardell Jordan Thomas Barnhart Lamarana Barry Jonathan Leewan Beene Talecia Imonie Berry Sierra Mychel Bouyer India Elizabeth Brooks Kierra Janae Brown Alaj'a La'Tres Cain Marla Esther Camacho-Abreu Jaeveyn De'Ronn Carswell Anthonie James Castle Matthew Paul Chalupka II Brandon Alexander Collins Jr. Mi'Shawn Camarey Daffin Michael Ray Daniels Zerrick Damond Daniels II Hanad Abdulkadir Dhagane Amonte' Dacari Douglas Shar Du Mugisha Eric Grace Ann-Marie Fitzgerald Lindsey Louise Geiger Milad George Charissa Hope Gibson Kylah Marie Goins Devon Mekhi Goldman Aaliyah Madison Green Bernard Dauwayne Greer III Alberta Elizabeth Gregory Anakin Joaquin Hall

Je'Quavion Marwan DeWayne Handsome Van Biak Hmung Kii'sa Merie Holland Amya Denea Holt Olivia Celeste Hunter Dalal Nadir Hussein Amariona Marie James Iradukunda Jerome Natalia Nikei Johnson Darshay Daleen Johnson My'asia Johnson Alshoun Benson Jones Caleb Jami Jones Jaden Rondell Jones La'Darius Ny'Quan Jones Jakya Shanell Jones David Maurice Jones Jr. Commodore Joy Ndayikengurukiye Joyce DeAndre Izahah Kelly Jonathan William Kempf Aggie Ruth Koutz Jason Lamont Lee Day'jian Anthony Lenoir Nicola Delecia Lewis Qwa'nina Renae Lewis Aleah Dalarie Lewis Darlene Priscilla Lyles Kameron Rashad Pierre Lyles Jennifer Mandabrandja Hamida Mansour Jesse Daniel Martin Karen Leniah Massey Ciin S Mawi Xa'Vier Akil Maxwell

Dynasha Aaliyah McCan Jose Luis Eliceo Medina Kynicka Elizabeth Miller Nautalia Johnese Mitchell Jazmine Daylitae Chasity Morgan Jemaria Regina Ida Morgan Jackline Muhawe Kahlil Asaad Muhmmad-Andrews Fredie Yadi Murillo Jr. Jobeen Saed Mustafa Sahand Saed Mustafa Aaliyah Mo'Ney Naval Layla Elizabeth Nevins A'mya Verie Newcombe BreÁnna l'mari Nixon Noel Nzabimana Kimoni Marquis Paige Biak Nun Par Aryanna Mona Petway Darrijan Christine Pointer Anthony Edward Powell Elijah Nehemiah Pringle Justyn Jay Prowdley Lawrence Darnell Pryor III River Marc Rahall Steven Ray Reed Nga Reh Willie Albert Rembert III Kobe Michael Rochester Charleston Marquaveous Rogers Kenny David Rogers Za'Mani Mone' Roper Jaylen Mylik Sallee Hunter Schmid Arieanna Monae-Nooni Simmons Harry Jerome Smith

Darrell Lavinne Smith II Eternal Lee Stevenson Timiya Janice Strong Lauren Rose Taylor Dayveon Lee Thomas Gracie Mae Thompson Freedom Reigns Tompkins Jubilee Sky Tompkins Jesus Torres Adin Scott Trotter Luz Elena Vera Thu H Vo Aniyah Monee Walker Asaria Estelle Walls Marah Karinne Waterbury Synia Anetta-Joyce Wheeler Angela Louise Élizabeth White Marcus Whitmore Marcel Williams Sadaya Geneane Withers Dontal Donaven Wright Jason Jenue Yang Melanie Yang Fueche Yang Scott YengKong Yang Daribel Esther Zamora Rodriguez

## **2022 LATINO GRADUATES ALL SCHOOLS**

Noah Alfonso Alvarez Ta'Shawn Malachi Andrews-Burtley Uriah Armendarez Rolando DeEusebio Bell Jaedyn Amerie Danae Bishop Tlalith Gabriela Blancas Romero Miguel Alejandro Botello David Scott Brunette Israel Armand Brunette Alaj'a Cain Marla Esther Camacho-Abreu Mark Andrew Carpenter Tyrique Marquel Ċarter Aiden Juan Miguel Caspers Michael Jesus Castellanos Aliah Rose Castillo Ayanessa Emilia Castro Karicia America Ceballos-Vasquez Wendolin Cifran Barreira Angelica Maria Claudio Tatiana Ac Claudio Deleon Michael Ray Daniels Evelyn Marie Delaney Diana Sarahi Delgado Sthefany de la Caridad Delgado-Garcia Ja'Vier Dazaun Diaz Erica Esquivel Jessica Esquivel Vanessa Esquivel

Cheyenne Angel Fidler Alejandro Rey Flores Cynthia Liann French Jovanna Crystal Gallegos Phillisianna Kimberly Garcia Raymundo Manuel Garcia Meleen Elena Garcia Rayna Victoria Garza Onelicia Arionna Gelista Abril Gomez-Mendoza Randy Ryan Gonzales Jr. Victoria Margarita Gonzales Anastasia Guadalupe Gonzalez Estevan Gonzalez Antonio Gonzalez Malia Renae Gonzalez Ricky Gonzalez Keyli Gonzales Anido Bernard Duawayne Greer Cruz Guajardo Angelina Crystal Gutierrez Anakin Joaquin Hall Abraham Jasen Hands Jr. Tyron Deron-Patrick Harris Gabriel Omari Lee Hernandez Jesus Hernandez Ingrid Evelyn Hernandez-Perez Erick Horta

Nathalie Genesis-Marthe Fernandez Macabeo Timoteo Hudy-Velasco Rykardo Siripong Cha Komolmis Alishah Kurban Jada Janae Lackey Constance Marie Lopez Alexandra Leylanise Loza Adolfo Benito Luis Raul Valentin Mares Jisela Macias Mata Jose Luis Eliceo Medina Luis Manuel Mendiola Eloisa Marie Mendoza Aleah Theresia Metters Alexis Nicole Metters Alexandre Lee Mireles Juan Carlos Montalvo Juan Carlos Montalvo II Liliana Morales Mason Morales Fredie Yadi Murillo Walter Nunez-Vieito Jada Imani Otis Wilton Manson Parsons Micaella Lynn Patlan Jenifer Leigh Perez Isiah Alberto Perez Mariana Perez-Tello Aaleya Shontell Perez-Wardlaw Gabriella Mercedez D. Pizana

Maria Fernanda Quintero Anthony Charles Reed Savannah Nicole Isabella **Richardson-Lopez** Ethan Russel David Ridenour Nevaeh Nicole Rivas Andrea Irene Rivera Christopher James Robinson Arianna Arius Rodriguez Maria Magdalena Rodriguez Leon Kenny David Rogers Maribella Lisal Magdalena Romero Makaylah Raquell Ruiz Jose Enrique Ruiz-Garcia Jacquelyn Ruiz-Posadas Joanna Seife Varela Carlitos Valentin Serna Miguel Lopez Solis Jesus Torres Anthony Torres Mariah Yasmine-Schooler Treadwell Yazmine Trevino Marisa Marie Velasquez Luz Elena Vera Lilliana Lopez Villasenor Juliana Renee Virola Noah Steven White Daribel Esther Zamora Rodriguez

\*Graduation is contingent upon successful completion of all credits.

## **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES! FELICITACIONES GRADUADOS!**

On behalf of the Lansing School District, we honor the many achievements of our graduates, and wish you continued success as you pursue your dreams. Whatever life holds for you in the years to come, we know you are well prepared. You've challenged yourselves with dynamic academic opportunities, been enriched with amazing extracurricular activities, and identified the career pathways that fit your unique ambitions.

As you think about what comes next, keep in mind that the Lansing School District is not done offering you the chance to dream big. As a graduate, you are one step closer to receiving a FREE Lansing **Promise Scholarship to pursue college and/or career training opportunities**. To apply and check your eligibility, go to www.lansingpromise.org. Remember to always and forever DREAM BIG. At the Lansing School District, we are happy to be part of your educational journey and look forward to seeing your future success.





**College-Bound Student Athletes!** 

### **Eastern High School**

Uriah Armendarez Lansing Community College Cross Country and Track, Full Scholarship Kaleb Jackson Alma College

Football, Full Scholarship

### **Everett High School**

**Jaquai Carter Luther College** Football, Full Scholarship

Damorian Draper Olivet College Wrestling, Scholarship

#### **Tyrell Green**

Tyler Community College Football, Scholarship

Alexandre Mireles Olivet Nazarene College Football, Scholarship

#### **Martez Simmons**

Garden City Community College Football, Scholarship Daniel Chandler Lansing Community College Basketball, Scholarship

> Alyson Godel Olivet College

Soccer, Scholarship

#### **Kataze Jenkins**

San Mateo College Football, Scholarship

#### **Christopher Robinson**

Lansing Community College Basketball, Scholarship

#### **Deandre Williams**

Lansing Community College Basketball, Scholarship

### **Sexton High School**

#### **Jaeveyn Carswell**

Calumet College of St. Joseph Football, Full Scholarship

### **Kimoni Paige**

Calumet College of St. Joseph Football, Full Scholarship

#### **Jose Medina**

**Davenport University** Wrestling, Full Scholarship

### **Dontal Wright**

**Calumet College of St. Joseph** Football and Track, Full Scholarship

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## **Junior Board Tackles Student Mental Health**

The Junior Board of Education started in Lansing over 25 years ago with the mission to support the educational goals of the Lansing School District. Modeled by the Board of Education, the Junior Board allows student members to represent their peers and offer a student perspective to the Board of Education.

The Junior Board was able to join the Lansing Board of Education, in-person, at their end-of-May meeting. They discussed how the Junior Board operates and what they have worked to achieve throughout the year. Each year, the Junior Board participates in a district-wide initiative to raise awareness of a worthy cause. After discussing the issue of school safety, the Junior Board selected mental health as their two-year theme. "We dove into what we believed was making schools unsafe, and decided mental health was a factor we could take on in schools," said Lila Tuell, Secretary and 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Post Oak Academy. "The Junior Board helped set up projects and discuss strategies on how we can end the stigma as a community."

In addition to meetings, Junior Board members participated in other events this spring. They toured the Capitol and met State Representative Sarah Anthony. They also hosted Lansing's 3.5 Honors Banquet. "I like that we actually have a voice at our schools," said Naomi Johnson, Vice-President, and Junior at Everett High School. "The Junior Board students have input that matters."



## District Hosts MET Celebration College Tuition Giveaway Announced

The Michigan Education Trust (MET) helps families save for higher education and helps to pay college tuition of Michigan students. MET is celebrating its 35th anniversary with a big financial giveaway that was announced at an event hosted by the Lansing School District and Superintendent Ben Shuldiner.

On May 26th, Governor Gretchen Whitmer and former Governor Jim Blanchard came to Riddle Elementary to announce the beginning of a \$1.5 million giveaway to support higher education tuition. Children ages 0-5 are eligible to be entered for the chance to win \$15,000 in prepaid college tuition.

"This life-changing giveaway is an awesome way to celebrate 35 years of helping Michigan families save for higher education," Gov. Whitmer said. "I would encourage any family thinking about saving for college and a higher education to look into MET."

Former Gov. Blanchard created the MET plan in 1986. Since then, MET has provided opportunities for higher education for tens of thousands of Michigan college and university students. "A lot has changed over the past 35 years, but one thing still holds true today - a family's desire to help put their child on the path to a bright and successful future," said Gov. Blanchard.

MET is operated by the Michigan Department of Treasury and was the first prepaid college tuition program in the country. Since its creation in 1986, over 96% of high school MET participants have gone on to attend college.

"We are excited to shine a \$1.5 million spotlight on MET and show parents, grandparents and others how it's a safe, secure and flexible way to make sure their loved ones meet their future education and career goals," said State of Michigan Treasurer Rachael Banks.

"Pursuing higher education can be financially unattainable for many students," Shuldiner said. "MET is a great resource to help families save for future higher education."

Entries will be accepted through August. Winners will be announced beginning September 12th. To enter, visit www.METgiveaway.com.



## Woodcreek Project Days Focus on First Responders

A portion of Woodcreek students recently got to interact with area first responders through a series of Project Days held by the school. The events were coordinated in an effort to enlighten, enhance and promote good values in our growing youth. Special guests included the Lansing Fire Department, and the MSU Police and Public Safety Office.

The first day was an opportunity for our students to connect with not only Lansing's Firemen but one of the Chief Community Officers who oversee several different area projects. The firemen introduced basic safety items that should be in place in your home and provided tips on what to do if a fire occurs.

Students learned how much time firefighters have to respond when the department receives a call, including an overview and brief demonstration of the gear they utilize for the call. They also learned about the role and number of female firefighters in the Lansing Fire Department.

On a separate day, Lt. Dan Mumford of the MSU Police and Public Safety Office visited Woodcreek to educate and enlighten students about the world of the thin blue line. Lt. Mumford talked to students about the choices they make and the opportunities awaiting them as they become adults. Of course, the brief tour of the patrol car was the highlight for students.

Students were able to ask any questions they had after each presentation. Questions like what to do in the event of a fire were a given, but many students were curious to learn more about programs offered through the Lansing School District's CTE program that allow them to receive EMT/Paramedic or Firefighting training while going to high school.

This was a great opportunity for Woodcreek students to connect with and build trust in those who serve on the front lines in our community. Students were also presented with gift bags with additional helpful information to share with their parents.

Thank you to the Lansing Fire Department and MSU Police and Public Safety Office for both the enlightening presentations as well as your continued service on the front lines.



## **Everett Students Celebrate Hanami**

Hanami is a Japanese custom in which friends and families gather to enjoy the blooming cherry blossoms in the spring. Everett High School students celebrated their own Hanami event where they made origami, played traditional Japanese games and tasted Japanese food.

"I wanted to share the Japanese culture with my students in an immersive way," said Dawn Stark, World Language Department Chair and Japanese Teacher. "This event has always been positive and educational." Everett students also completed a survey and gave their own perspective on the event. "It's a way for us to feel connected to what we've been learning all year," one student said. Another student wrote, "It's good to have events like these to keep students' morale up. As a class, everyone came together and worked hard to make this event go as planned."

The Hanami event was an excellent opportunity for Everett students to get a hands-on learning experience of Japanese culture.





## Sexton Baseball Players Receive High Praise from Parent of Opposing Team

J.W. Sexton High School's varsity baseball team received rave reviews during their game against Portland High School. Read for an excerpt from a Portland parent who attended the game.

"I just wanted to say how impressed I was with the attitudes and demeanor of the Sexton varsity baseball team tonight in their game against Portland. Even when down by many runs, the kids played with a joy for the game that we rarely see... They never stopped trying and encouraging each other...I'm sure it doesn't happen without great coaches that care about the kids and getting them to want to play together."

"It's always great to hear about positive stories, teams, coaches, and programs that reflect the true meaning of athletics and sportsmanship," said district athletic director Chris Henderson. The team worked hard throughout the season and recognition from an opposing team is truly a testament to the spirit of Sexton.

## All Kids Bike Grant Awarded to District Kindergarten Students

Gardner Elementary and Forest View Elementary are proud recipients of the All Kids Bike Grant which will provide kindergarten classes with bikes so they can learn to ride. The students will each receive a Strider bike, pedal conversion kit, and helmet to learn in class. Instructors will also receive a full-sized bike for demonstration.

"We're glad that we are able to meet the needs of our students and teach them something they might not be able to learn at home," said Jennifer Busch-Dixner, Community Focus Teacher at Gardner who identified and applied for the grant. The bike donation is sponsored by Keen and Playmakers. To celebrate receiving the grant, Gardner students will attend Playmakers' KEENival event in June.

"Learning how to ride a bike now can help kids develop self-confidence, help them to be physically and mentally fit, boost academic performance and create memories," said Busch-Dixner.

Bikes will arrive this week - look for pictures on our <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u> pages.



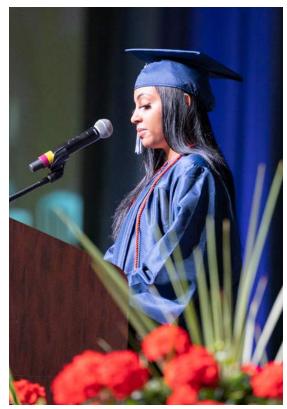
## Forest View Community Rallies Around its Natural Habitats

On May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, Forest View students, staff, and volunteers worked to improve the school's natural habitats. Projects included butterfly houses, sandboxes, and new raised planters. Not only did this improve the visual appeal of the school but it also offers learning opportunities regarding nature and grounds-keeping. "We want to develop all kinds of natural habits to support biodiversity and to help our students learn to be good stewards of nature, and it's a great chance for our community to pitch in and be part of our school." Said Principal Emily Brown.

Thanks to everyone who supported this effort!

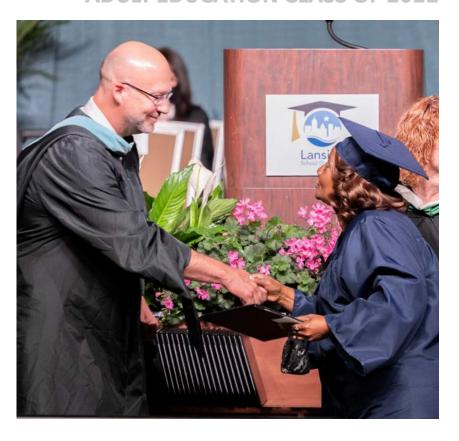












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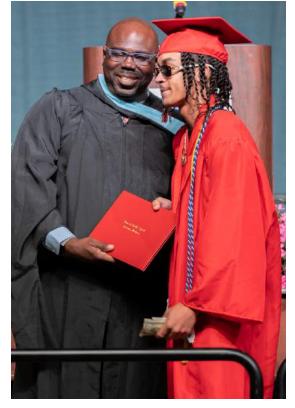




### ASS OF 2022















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