



ROSEVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

District Newsletter
Winter 2022

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM INTRODUCED TO ELEMENTARIES

Roseville Community Schools has partnered with Wayne State University to introduce a new healthy schools initiative to students this year, through both in-school learning, as well as an after-school club. Building Healthy Communities is a school-based program focused on addressing the social determinants of health that have contributed to wide disparities in many communities across Michigan. The program offers the resources necessary to facilitate a healthier environment, prevent chronic disease, and improve the mental health of children.

Roseville Community Schools Assistant Superintendent Dave Rice said that the district was contacted by Wayne State as a potential district that would be able to use the program. "After having the principals review the literature and a discussion, we made the commitment. This gives our students a focus on health and wellness inside and outside of the school." Rice added that they will also benefit during physical education classes with the new equipment donated to the schools. "Everything is paid for by WSU, including a stipend for the program supervisors and the gym equipment that is coming to each building."

The program assists schools in five key areas:

- Educating students through classroom lessons and physical education curriculum.
- Creating a healthy, supportive environment that makes the healthy choice the easy choice.
- Increasing access to physical activity opportunities.
- Increase access to healthy foods and beverages.
- Encouraging students to incorporate healthy lifestyles learned to their lives outside school.

Jen Warack, one of the district's physical education teachers and sponsor of the after-school clubs at Kaiser Elementary and Fountain Elementary, said that students are provided with daily healthy announcements and a monthly nutrition unit that is done in class. "The students really enjoy listening to the daily announcements and then taking what they

learn out to the playground or cafeteria." She added that the kids have really been enjoying the FoodCorps program, where a volunteer from AmeriCorps Community Services comes into the classroom and takes students through a food activity. "They get to taste test and try new things. Last month they learned how to make homemade applesauce." The schools also send out monthly resources that provide families with nutrition information, at-home physical activities, and healthy recipes.

Warack said that the clubs kicked off their meetings in late October for fourth and fifth graders, with younger grades being added after the new year. "We meet once a week for an hour after school. We go through a variety of activities, including a walk/run, and games to keep their body moving." She added that they start each meeting with a healthy snack. "I usually try to introduce the students to something they may have never had before. We have done taste tests of different vegetables, rice cakes, cottage cheese, and multigrain chips."

She said that the goal for the after-school program is to help students make healthy choices. "We help them to get a total of 60 minutes of physical activity each day and provide them with a healthy snack that will hopefully encourage them to make healthy choices outside of school."

The Building Healthy Communities program is a collaborative partnership between Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, the Michigan Fitness Foundation, the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, and Wayne State University's Center for Health and Community Impact.



Fountain students creating healthy snowman snacks at their December meeting

■ IN THIS ISSUE ■

PG. 3: RHS BAND STUDENTS RECEIVE ACCOLADES
PG. 3: 2003 ALUM HIKES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES
PG. 4: RHS REST TEAM PRESENTS AT STATE CAPITOL
PG. 5: GET TO KNOW OUR TEACHERS
PG. 10: COMMUNITY GIVES DURING THE HOLIDAYS



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Happy New Year! Each new year often brings a list of resolutions to follow. January 1 gives us a sense of a new beginning, a restart, a perfect time to set goals. This January was the start of my 31st year in education and 30.5 years in this district. Each new year gives me motivation to get better and this year is no different.

As I reflect on the upcoming year, I think about my second home: Roseville Community Schools. Our district uses the term “community” in its name, but what does that really mean? To me, it is all the people connected to our district. These include current students, staff, parents, board members, residents, city officials, businesses, and their employees. Let’s not forget about our alumni. Our students build connections and instill the sense of community through their relationships with fellow students, staff, clubs, athletic teams, and more. Each newsletter highlights an alumnus just like Larry Ripari in this edition. I enjoyed following his adventures and hearing his stories along his Pacific Trail and Continental Divide treks through social media. We never offered a “hiking” class, yet skills and knowledge he learned here at RCS transcended to his goals and life experiences on the trail.

Another example is how our band students and their families come together to create a family within our larger

community, just like our athletes supporting each other in their goals as a team and as individuals, or our REST Team or Quiz Bowl students putting their minds together to succeed.

If there was one thing I could ask from our community, it would be to support each other. Local businesses hire our students and help them learn what it takes to be a success in the work place. Parents, challenge your children to work hard and find ways to solve problems, such as a low grade in a subject or getting to class on time. Allow them the space to try things and sometimes fail. Yet, support them by talking with them about what they learned and what they are going to do next to be better. We need the alumni to stay connected and share their positive experiences with family and friends. We need our current students to give their best effort in all they do whether it is academics, athletics, or visual and performing arts. Also, be kind to your fellow students and your community. Show the world that students are a positive influence on society.

This year, let’s all focus on doing a better job working together to make our community the best it can be.

Sincerely, Mark Blaszkowski

Congratulations to Roseville High School band students Katelynn Miller and Daniel Duhaylonsod who were accepted to the 2023 Michigan All-State Orchestra and All-State Band. The pair performed at the All-State Band and Orchestra at the Annual Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids on Saturday, January 21. They were selected from over 2,300 Michigan Band and Orchestra students that auditioned in the fall, performing a solo etude, memorizing scales, and sight reading a never-before-seen excerpt for their audition. A committee of music educators from the MSBOA (Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association) listened to hundreds of audition recordings of students and selected the most outstanding musicians from all over the state. Several other students were named to honors band, including Nathan Donaldson, Leilani Duhaylonsod, Kaylee Nagorny, Vaughn Rottiers, Matthew Skoczylas, and Alexis Wolgast.



ALUMNI CORNER

Larry Ripari has spent the last several years experiencing the United States by foot, but it was right here in Roseville where he started his journey. He attended preschool at Lincoln Elementary, elementary school at Dort Elementary, RJHS for junior high, and Roseville High School, graduating in 2003. He was very active while in school, playing junior high basketball, and running for both the track and cross country teams. He also enjoyed participating in the arts that RHS had to offer. “My favorite memories from high school were from all the miles I ran with my team, producing videos for the video production class, and being a part of the Grease musical, in which I played Kenickie.” He added that a few of his favorite teachers were Mr. Mattison, Ms. Snelling (Drouin), and Mr. Toll. After graduating from RHS, Ripari attended Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts and Baker College, focusing on digital media production. Now he puts his schooling to use working as part of a start-up company named Ristretto Electric, which builds e-bikes. “I have the opportunity to use my hands building the bikes, as well as my skills and creativity with a camera to photograph them.” Over the last few years, Ripari has walked over 5600 miles across the U.S. “I walked along the Pacific Crest Trail in 2020 from southern



California through Oregon and Washington. Two years later, I walked along the Continental Divide from southern New Mexico through Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana.” He added that his first hike was to see if he had the endurance to walk such a great distance through very rugged terrain, and his second hike was to test everything he had learned about the outdoors and long-distance hiking. “I have walked through harsh deserts, over the highest mountains, and met some of the most incredible people in the most remote areas of the connected 48 states.” He added that in the hiking community there is an achievement called the Triple Crown, which someone can achieve by hiking the Pacific Crest Trail, Continental Divide Trail, and the Appalachian Trail. “I intend to walk the Appalachian Trail to achieve the Triple Crown and perhaps one day if the opportunity presents itself, I’ll walk the American Discovery Trail which connects the east and west coasts across the country.” Ripari enjoys adventuring with girlfriend, Colleen, riding motorcycles, hiking, running, cycling, and photography. He added that he believes Roseville Community Schools taught him the importance of community. “If one can rely on the goodness of their community and return to it that same goodness, everyone that is part of it can thrive.”

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT



FEBRUARY 23, 2023 5:30-7:00 P.M.
ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

PLEASE BRING: PICTURE ID, ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE, THREE PROOFS OF RESIDENCY, VISION & HEARING SCREENING, AND IMMUNIZATION RECORD

DORT ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5750
16225 Dort

FOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5765
16850 Wellington

GREEN ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5780
18530 Marquette

KAISER ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5785
16700 Wildwood

KMENT ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5756
20033 Washington

PATTON ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5795
18851 McKinnon

STEENLAND ELEMENTARY
(586) 445-5745
16335 Chestnut

Do you know of a former Roseville student who’s doing great things? Let us know!

productions@roseville.k12.mi.us

ROSEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL REST TEAM PRESENTS AT STATE CAPITOL

Students from Roseville High School headed to the Michigan State Capitol on December 7, 2022 to participate in the 21st annual AT&T/MACUL Student Technology Showcase, highlighting the increasable and state-recognized work they are doing with technology in their classroom. Roseville High School REST (Roseville Engineering, Science, and Technology) Team members Paige Armbrister, Sumner Hull, Luis Gomez-Veloz, and Colton Masterson attended the Showcase, which was held at the State Capitol Building in Lansing.

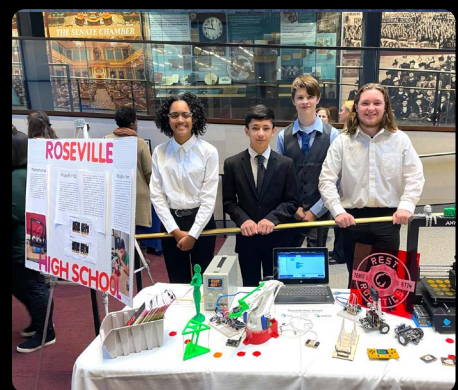
During the Showcase, REST students demonstrated 3D printing technology and vision sensing in robotic vehicles to a variety of interested parties. They were also recognized on the floor of the House as special guests by Representative Richard Steenland. During the showcase, the students presented their project, Additive Manufacturing and Vision Processing in Vehicles to state lawmakers, including Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II. It highlighted how additive manufacturing techniques, 3D printing and design, and the use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) cameras can help modern vehicles navigate in their surroundings. Sophomore Gomez-Veloz said that he enjoyed the experience. "We had a small car that tracked a tennis ball on a stick, which used AI and vision processing. We also had a fully 3D-printed robotic arm that we used to demonstrate picking up small objects. I love robotics, so presenting something I love was very cool."

Robert Smitka, REST Team sponsor and RHS STEM teacher said that incorporating technology into how students learn has been a game-changer that has opened up their

minds to new opportunities as they learn. "Events like this allow students to not only share their talent and learning with a wider audience, but it also allows them to improve their knowledge of STEM-related fields. By presenting at the Capitol, in front of legislators and congresspeople, this event hopefully helped influence decisions in STEM education by our policymakers."

Smitka said that RHS applied for inclusion in the showcase back in the fall. "It was a competitive selection process and I am thrilled that our application was chosen." Presented by the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), and underwritten by AT&T, the 2022 Student Technology Showcase featured demonstrations from students representing nearly 25 schools across Michigan. The Lansing showcase gave Michigan students opportunities to demonstrate and display technology projects they have created for state lawmakers, elected officials and other visitors

Said David Lewis, president of AT&T Michigan: "Michigan youth are the leaders of tomorrow and watching them use technology to expand their learning continues to amaze us every year. AT&T is proud to continue sponsoring this event and teaching us about the amazing things technology is helping them learn at school." "Every year, the projects students bring to the Capitol for the Student Technology Showcase exceed our expectations," said Mark Smith, MACUL executive director.



GET TO KNOW OUR TEACHERS



NATHAN BENOIT - KAISER ELEMENTARY

Nathan Benoit is in his ninth year as part of Roseville Community Schools. He spent his first three years at Kment Elementary where he served as an interventionist. He then moved over to Kaiser Elementary where he has spent the last six years as a teacher, currently teaching first grade. Benoit said that he enjoys the atmosphere at Kaiser. "I love my colleagues and feel very fortunate to work with such fantastic people. I also love having conversations with my students. It's fun to see how their minds work." He said he likes incorporating music into his daily lessons where he can. "Our daily calendar time has a lot of songs that the students enjoy." Benoit attended Oakland University where he earned his degree in Elementary Education. Outside of school, he enjoys spending time with his mom, dad, and sister. He also loves animals. "While I don't have any of my own pets right now, I borrow my family's pets occasionally and like to pet sit for my friends." Benoit also enjoys trying new foods, playing musical instruments, and playing board and card games. Benoit played trumpet during his middle and high school years, but has been expanding his instrument repertoire over the years. "I mostly play hand percussion like congas, bongos, and other international drums, but I also play ukulele, harmonica, and a little melodica and mandolin. I'm still learning." He also enjoys watching movies and reading, and spends time as a participant in a medieval combat reenactment group. "Mr. Clem and I like to have a reenactment as part of summer school when we can."

MILISA SANTIAGO - ROSEVILLE/EASTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Milisa Santiago is in her second year in Roseville teaching Spanish, splitting her time between Roseville Middle School and Eastland Middle School. She spent her first year teaching in Miami and her second year in St. Thomas, one of the United States Virgin Islands. Santiago said that she enjoys teaching middle school because teachers are able to guide students through their most formative years. "I enjoy getting to know my students, connecting with them, and building relationships. Middle school students also have the best sense of humor!" She added that her favorite projects in class are placing students in groups to practice having a conversation in Spanish and seeing how confident they become over time. Santiago is originally from Puerto Rico and a native Spanish speaker. She graduated from Carlos Albizu University in Miami, earning a bachelor's and master's degree in psychology. "An amazing career opportunity for my husband brought us to Michigan; he is the Director of Facilities for the Detroit Athletic Club. We have a 14-year-old daughter who loves to travel and dreams of becoming an architect one day." She added that she also loves to travel. "One of my favorite cities is London, and my family is currently planning a very exciting trip to Germany."



JODI TEUTSCH - ROSEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Jodi Teutsch is now in her 15th year of teaching, the last eight here in Roseville teaching math at Roseville High School. She has taught a variety of classes at RHS over her tenure, but currently teaches Geometry and Advanced Geometry. She also serves as one of the district's instructional coaches this year. "As an instructional coach, I get to partner with fellow teachers to improve student learning. That can mean going through student data together, co-planning, co-teaching, modeling lessons, helping teachers find resources, and any other ways in which a teacher may need us." Teutsch said that her favorite thing about teaching is the students. "I love their different personalities, their stories, and the insight they have on things." She said that her favorite things to teach are statistics and geometry, particularly the unit on right triangle trigonometry and SOH CAH TOA. "I like it because students seem to catch on to it quickly, so they enjoy it, and the acronym is something that many adults still remember." Teutsch earned a bachelor's degree in math and psychology from the University of Michigan, and a master's degree in adult education and training from University of Phoenix. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys spending time with husband, Aaron, and 7-year-old daughter, Sophia. She has two cats, Daisy and Mumford, and enjoys camping and kayaking. "My daughter and I also love going to musicals and look forward to when the high school productions come around." She added that their favorites are *Chicago*, *Six*, and *Hamilton*. A fun fact is that she was participant in an improv show. "I was interviewed by Zach Woods, who played Gabe on *The Office*, and he performed the entire show about my life!"



A LOOK INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS...



Steenland second graders visited the Detroit Institute of Arts in late November



Green students working on their Martin Luther King Day "peace" banner in January



Patton students having fun molding air dry clay in art class



Kment 2nd graders sang at the Superintendent's Discussion Group meeting



RMS students enjoyed Great Skate night in late November



Mrs. Drake works with a student during math class at Eastland Middle School



Mr. Leuenberger's students at Eastland Middle made egg parachutes in early December



RMS band students working on their holiday songs in mid-November



Kaiser students hard at work on their ongoing "1,000 Thank You's" project



Fountain's "Tree Topper Day" (aka Hat Day) brought festive fun in December!



Auto Tech teacher Mr. Filipiak working on a car with students at RHS



Students and staff had a blast at Dort's Family Game Night in early November

NEXT LEVEL PANTHERS

Several Panther seniors signed their letters of intent to play sports at the collegiate level this fall. RHS Senior Amare Snowden chose the University of Wisconsin to continue his football career, Paige Guinn will be playing softball at Schoolcraft College, Dezzmon Meriweather will be attending Davenport University to play football and wrestle, and Elijah Baker will be attending Grand Valley State University to play football.



The RHS Varsity Football team finished the regular season with a 7-2 record, the most wins in school history. They notched a 49-7 playoff win over Cousino before losing in the district championship game. In addition to many players earning All-Region, All-County and All-League recognition, Amare Snowden, Dezzmon Meriweather and Huston Eubank earned MHSFCA All-State first team honors.



In November, Ms. Lorentzen won a grant for Kaiser Elementary to have a giant waterproof communication core board installed on the playground. The communication core board will assist children, who may have difficulty communicating verbally, communicate their wants and needs on the playground.



The 2022 Roseville Community Schools holiday card was designed by Roseville High School student Joslyn Palowoda under the direction of teacher Fiona Rawson. Joslyn was honored at a board meeting in December.



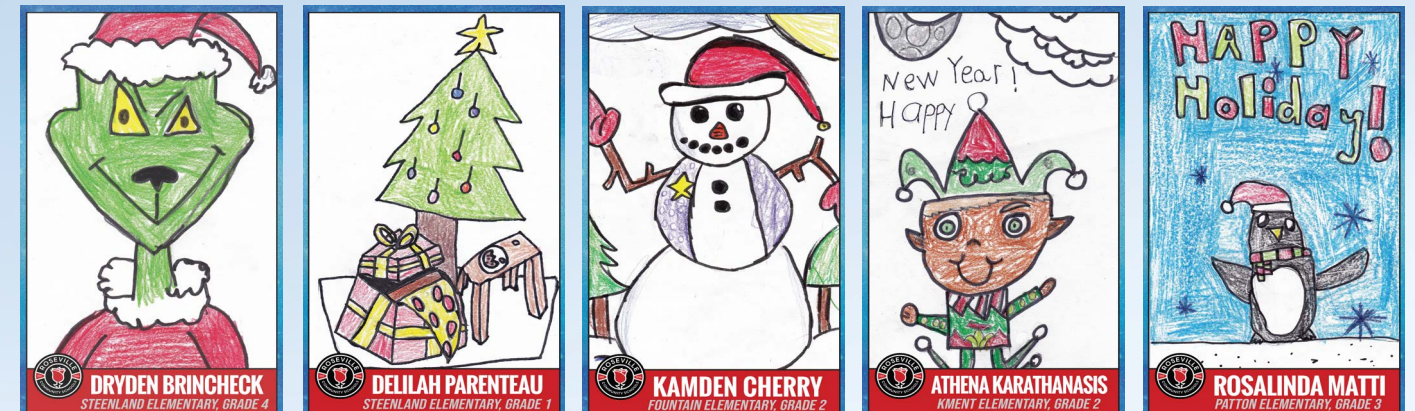
In December, the RHS choir performed at Macomb Mall, bringing holiday cheer to the shoppers. In January, choir students participated in the Solo and Ensemble Competition, with nine students qualifying for State Festival: Alana Allen, Kendall Cannon, Devin Newsom, Julian Ford, Oliver Loftis, Paige Tomala, Adrian Harris, Amelia Griffin, and Fred Duhaylonsod.



The Roseville Community Schools Transportation Department decorated a bus for the Third Annual Roseville Holiday Lights On Wheels parade in mid-December. The Grinch-themed bus also visited each of the elementary schools, bringing some holiday spirit to our students.



In late January, Dort Elementary held an assembly with Jason Kolbusz, who was a part of the Detroit Youth Choir that recently won the "Golden Buzzer" on America's Got Talent. Jason spoke about hard work, dedication, and how never giving up can help students achieve their goals.



Our talented elementary art students created banner designs that were displayed on Utica Road during the holidays. Congratulations to our ten chosen young artists!



UPCOMING DATES

February 17: K-12 Half Day
February 20-21: Mid-Winter Break
February 23: Kindergarten Information Night
February 25: RCSSF Winter Gala
March 7: No School (Professional Development)
March 9: All-City Choir
March 30: Band-O-Rama
April 3-7: Spring Recess
April 14: K-12 Half Day
May 6: RCSSF Joe Manfreda Dream Dash
May 9: No School (Professional Development)
May 29: No School
June 13-15: Half Days (End of Year)

THE SEASON OF GIVING

Several local groups and community members generously donated to our school community during the holiday season. The Knights of Columbus Council #14213 and Holy Innocents-St. Barnabas, spearheaded by Mark Baldes, Jerry Thomas, and Kim Rohlf, donated 65 coats of all sizes for our students in need. The Roseville Optimist Club donated \$400 worth of gift cards to our families. Culver's donated hundreds of dollars worth of free meal cards. Press Apostolic Ministries of Roseville on behalf of Pastors Fred and Dr. Cassandra Crittenden, RCS Student Assistant Specialist, donated socks to every student at several of our elementary schools. Board member Michelle Williams-Ward represented two organizations who generously provided clothing items for our schools: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Omega Xi Omega Chapter, donated a coat, 29 hats and 178 gloves/mittens, and Covenant Missionary Temple Church, led by Pastor Christopher Burns, donated 30 coats.



ROSEVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Winter Gala

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 25, 2023

VINTAGE HOUSE
31816 UTICA RD, FRASER

\$55
PER PERSON

**DINNER
DJ/DANCING
BASKET RAFFLE
PRIZES**

BASKET TICKETS
WILL ALSO BE
SOLD VIRTUALLY

TABLES OF 8 RESERVED BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
TICKET SALES WILL CLOSE ON FEBRUARY 23. NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR
LIMITED TO 300 TICKETS, RESERVE YOUR SPOT EARLY!



The Roseville Community Schools Scholarship Foundation began with a dream and a goal when it was established by the Roseville Kiwanis Club in 1963. The dream was to touch the lives of Roseville's young people; the goal was to raise funds to help them continue their education after high school.

In 1984, the Roseville Board of Education joined the ongoing project. Citizen volunteers, educators, business representatives and local leaders assist in the process of raising funds and allocating scholarships to deserving recipients. Funds for scholarships are raised through memorial and honorary donations, the annual Winter Gala, the Joe Manfreda Dream Dash 5k, and the annual golf outing.

In April 2022, the Foundation officially became a 501c3 organization. This allows additional opportunities to receive donations from individuals and companies wishing to donate to a charitable organization. If you own, work for, or know of a company looking for a charitable organization to donate to, we would greatly appreciate you sharing the Roseville Community Schools Scholarship Foundation name with them. RCSSF Tax ID No: 87-1665026



To contact the Board of Education, write:
 Roseville Board of Education
 18975 Church Street
 Roseville, MI 48066

Board of Education

Theresa Genest, President
 Kevin Switanowski, Vice President
 Joseph DeFelice, Secretary
 Matthew McCartney, Treasurer
 Gina Aiuto, Trustee
 Michael Anderson, Trustee
 Michelle Williams-Ward, Trustee

Roseville Board of Education
 18975 Church Street
 Roseville, MI 48066

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Roseville, Michigan
 PERMIT NO. 70

POSTAL PATRON
 Roseville Community Schools
 48066

School Directory

Dort Elementary	445-5750
Mike Zimmer, Principal	
Eastland Middle School	445-5700
Robert Beato, Principal	
Joe Jelsone, Dean of Students	
Fountain Elementary	445-5765
Brandon Komarowski, Principal	
Green Elementary	445-5780
Donna Ambrose, Principal	
Kaiser Elementary	445-5785
Kelly Grider, Principal	
Kment Elementary	445-5756
Donovan Stec, Principal	
Patton Elementary	445-5795
Jeanne Williams, Principal	
Roseville Middle School	445-5600
Chris LaFave, Principal	
Brenda Baker, Assistant Principal	
Eric Gauthier, Assistant Principal	
Roseville High School	445-5540
Jason Bettin, Principal	
Katherine Reith, Assistant Principal	
Kirk Duncan, Assistant Principal	
Keith Marzec, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal	
Steenland Elementary	445-5745
Charles Felker, Principal	
Early Childhood Programs	445-5724
School Aged Child Care	445-5724

Central Administration

Administration Building	(586) 445-5500
Superintendent	(586) 445-5505
Mark Blaszkowski, Superintendent	
Instruction & Curriculum	(586) 445-5508
Dave Rice, Assistant Superintendent	
Personnel	(586) 445-5513
Peter Hedemark, Assistant Superintendent	
Business	(586) 445-5519
Rayetta Ashbaugh, Exec. Director of Business & Finance	
Special Education	(586) 445-5675
Teresa Tomala, Director	
Buildings and Grounds	(586) 445-5697
Joe Smith, Director	
Transportation and Maintenance	(586) 445-5699
Scott Sikorski, Supervisor	
Food Service	(586) 445-5685
Andrea Dysard, Supervisor	
Technology	(586) 445-4380
Michael Antoine, Director	
State & Federal Programs	(586) 445-5688
Nicole Provo, Coordinator	
Marketing/Communications	(586) 445-5517
Joe Genest, Facilitator	