



Kent City Community Schools

Kent City Community Schools provides a nurturing, learning environment and educates all students to be lifelong learners.

May 2013

EAGLE REPORT



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2013!



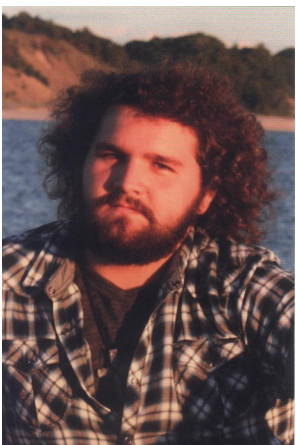
Kyle Busse—VALEDICTORIAN

Parents: Greg and Karen Busse

Activities and Awards: Basketball, Baseball, Cross Country, Track & Field, Bailey Christian Church Youth Group and Youth Band, National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, High School Choir, All-Conference/All-Conference Honorable Mention Cross Country, Academic-All State Baseball

Plans After Graduation: Next fall, I will be attending Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana. While I am still undecided about a possible major, I have chosen to pursue both Spanish and music as minors.

**WAY TO GO
YOU DID IT!**



Weston Bernath—SALUTATORIAN

Parents: Yvonne and Michael Bernath

Activities and awards: Band, Choir, Jazz Band, Quiz Bowl, Drama Club, Golf Team, National Honors Society, Class Council, Auditorium Technician, 2010 Veterans Day Essay Contest - Second Place, 2011 Veterans Day Essay Contest - Third Place, 2012

Veterans Day Essay Contest - First Place, Sportsmanship Award - 2010

Plans after graduation: I plan to attend Grand Valley State University to study music education, music composition, sound design/audio engineering and Spanish. After GVSU, I will study to earn a master's degree and doctorate degree in music composition or theory.

Graduation Ceremony

June 2, 2013 at 6:00 pm



High School

Highest Honors Continued



Name: Ryan Busse
Parents: Greg and Karen Busse
Activities and awards: Activities–Basketball, Baseball, Cross Country, Track and Field, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honors Society, Bailey Christian Church Youth Group. Awards– Basketball Sportsmanship Award, Baseball Sportsmanship Award, Baseball

Academic All-State, Cross Country All-Conference (twice)

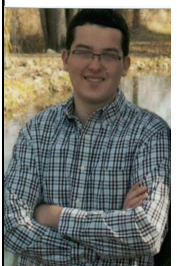
Plans after graduation: I am going to be attending Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana and will be majoring in Christian ministries in hopes of becoming a pastor.



Name: Justin Phillips
Parents: Bruce and Laurie Phillips
Activities and awards: Football – Captain, All-Conference Honorable Mention, Coaches Award, Sportsmanship Award, Scott Johnson Dedication Award, and Four-Year Dedication Award. Basketball – was

part of the All-State Team in 2012. Baseball – Academic All-State, Academic All-Region, Academic All-District, Academic All-Conference & Sportsmanship Award. National Honor Society

Plans after graduation: I am going to Hope College to study exercise science and play football.



Name: Eric Wagenheim
Parents: Matt and Kelly Wagenheim
Activities and awards: I'm the low brass section leader in the KC Marching Band, and I also sit first chair in the baritone section. I'm on the Varsity Quiz Bowl team, and we've been to State and National competitions multiple times. Also,

I've received the Founder's Scholarship from Ferris State University.

Plans after graduation: I plan on attending Ferris State University, majoring in computer networks and systems.



Name: Zachary Westphal
Parents: Jeff and Cathy Westphal
Activities and awards: Football, Basketball, Track and Field, Academic All-State in Football, Football Team Captain, Track Team Captain, National Honor Society, Student Government, Nick Louck Most Spirited Award, and Four Year Dedication Award.

Plans after graduation: I plan to attend Michigan Technological University and majoring in pre-med with plans to go into anesthesiology. I may even run track for MTU!



Name: Justin Jasman
Parents: Robert and Ronda Jasman
Activities and awards: Band: Section Leader for two years, Division 1 ratings at Solo and Ensemble, chosen to play at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. Quiz Bowl: Varsity all four years, All State nominee two years, attended NAQT national championship 3 years, Captain senior year, and NHS.

Plans after graduation: I plan on attending Michigan Technological University and majoring in mechanical engineering.



Name: Kenzie Tyink
Parents: Amy and Shane Sullivan
Activities and awards: Vice-president of Student Council (4 yrs.), Secretary of National Honor Society, Member of the Student Government (senior year), Bowling and Softball (senior year), Track and Field (3 yrs.), Volleyball and Basketball (1 year), Honorable Mention in Rosa Parks Essay Contest, 1st place in Distracted Driving

Awareness Competition (Kent County Sheriff Department).

Plans after graduation: I am going to attend Michigan State University for pre-med. I am hoping to become a forensic pathologist. Also, this summer I am going to Italy to study abroad for three weeks through MSU.



Name: Brooke VeltKamp
Parents: Bradley and Ronda VeltKamp
Activities and awards: National Honor Society, Student Government, Quiz Bowl, Track & Field, Drum Line Captain
Plans after graduation: I plan on attending GVSU. My major has not been decided at this time.

HIGHEST HONORS

Class of 2013

Highest Honors Continued



Name: Sarah Marie Yates
Parents: Mark and Kimberly Yates
Activities and awards: Softball, Archery, Drama Club, NHS, Marching Band, Choir, Church Youth Group, Veteran's Day Essay Contest – 2nd place, Church Choir, and Volunteer in Children's Ministry.

Plans after graduation: I plan to attend West Coast Baptist College for one year of bible. After that I plan on attending Baker Community College for three years for nursing. I plan to serve the Lord in the medical field. Someday, I plan to get married and raise a family.



Name: Katelin Toporski
Parents: Todd and Marcy Toporski
Activities and awards: Soccer (4 years) - Captain (2 years), Volleyball (4 years), Mamrelund Lutheran Youth Group, Class President, 2012 Homecoming Queen, Academy of Dance Arts Student, NHS, Promotions Team at Fifth Third Ball Park, Drum Major of the Kent City

Marching Eagles

Plans after graduation: In the fall, I will be attending the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor to pursue a degree in communications with a minor in business. Someday, I hope to hold a position with ESPN or ABC.



Name: Kaylee Austin
Parents: Jim and Cindy Austin
Activities and awards: Soccer: 4 Years, Captain, Cross Country: 4 years, Captain and NHS

Plans after graduation: Attend MCC for nursing. Then transfer to GVSU or Ferris to continue my education.



Name: Austin Thompson
Parents: Mark and Nancy Thompson
Activities and awards: 3 year NHS Member, Basketball 4 years - 3 years Varsity, All Conference Honors, Captain, Baseball 4 years - 3 years Varsity, All Conference Honors, Class Rep. 2 years, Youth Basketball Assistant

Plans after graduation: My future plans are to go to Grand Rapids Community College for 2 years then transfer to Central Michigan University to study physical therapy.



The high school World History classes have just finished a whirlwind study of World War I and World War II. The students created chronologies of each war and used data-based questions (DBQs) to explore the causes and the effects of each war. We are now exploring the causes and events of the Cold War. Mrs. Bublitz is excited to finally be discussing events that she has lived through,



and the students are excited to finally be closing in on the 21st century!



Biology students have been working on their Groundswell service learning project. Eighty plus students have worked for two hours outside on the school property removing invasive plant species and picking up trash. Some of the species were dug up while others had herbicide applied after cutting them down. Kent City shared some equipment--saws and dauber bottles--with Sparta schools. Autumn olive, honeysuckle, spotted knapweed and multiflora rose were some of the species students have learned to identify so that they can be removed. Hopefully native species will return to fill those spots.



Autumn Olive



Spotted Knapweed

Kent City High School Tablet-Case-Charger Turn-In Dates



Freshmen: May 20th during 1st and 3rd hour English classes

Sophomores: May 21st during 4th, 5th, 6th hour English classes

Juniors: May 23rd during 1st, 3rd and 5th hour English classes

Make-up Day: May 24 for those who were absent!

Please have your tablet cleared of all passwords and fully charged.

Information

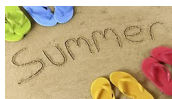


Students in Algebra 2 have been studying periodic functions including rules that model circular motion. Angular velocity and linear velocity were calculated and compared as well as the motion of Ferris wheels, pendulums, daylight hours, and tidal depths. They have now begun their unit on Inverse Functions and coding schemes. Pre-Calculus students were busy learning about probability and counting situations. Examples of this are, how many ways can three items from the Boston Chicken menu of 16 side orders be selected or what is the probability of actually winning the Powerball. They are now learning fundamentals of calculus including instantaneous rates of change for things from tidal depths to fruit fly populations. Algebra 2A students have been busy learning about normal and binomial distributions including applications of finding percentiles for people's heights or test scores. They are answering question like, if 60% of American children age 3-5 are read to every night and 50 children's homes were selected at random, what is the probability that at least 42 of them have been read to. Students have also been busy scheduling for next year and we are happy to announce that MTH-133 Calculus 1 at GRCC will again be offered first semester for seniors that have completed Pre-Calculus or will take it concurrently. Mr. Thompson will be the adjunct professor for this class so students can earn college credit without leaving our building once



On April 25th, choir and drama students attended a matinee of "Wicked" at the Miller Auditorium in Kalamazoo. This award-winning musical tells the back-story of Glinda, the Good Witch of Oz, and Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West, when they became roommates at college. Themes of courage, judgement, and justice are woven through the brilliant music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. The students were so excited to get this special opportunity to see this show!

**LAST DAY OF THE 2012-13
SCHOOL YEAR IS
JUNE 6!**



The English department has been focusing on research recently. English 11 students have been conducting research for their editorial writing unit. The sophomores are finishing up a fully MLA documented research paper on health related topics. They will also be presenting their findings to their classmates. The English 9 students will begin researching several famous court cases involving stereotypes, racism, and the media. These cases include the Emmitt Till case, the Trayvon Martin case, and the Duke Lacrosse Rape case. They will also be presenting their findings to the peers.



On Wednesday, April 24th, a group of Kent City High School students attended the annual Calvin College Writers' Workshop. Chaperoning the event was vice-principal Jason Vogel. In the morning, the students listened to nationally renowned journalist Christine Brennen, who has had an active career following and covering various sports - in particular numerous Olympic games. Later, the students attended workshops aimed at developing their writing skills. The workshops were personally selected by the students, a couple of the more popular ones being Haiku poetry and character development. Some of the students were even able to enter the Workshop sponsored writing contest. A good time was had by all - with a number of students already expressing interest in next year's event. Way to go K.C. Writers!

Upcoming Dates.....

May 21 - Sr. Trip

May 28 - Band Awards 7pm

May 31 - Graduation Rehearsal 9 am

Curtain Call at KC Baptist Church 7pm

June 2 - Graduation 6 pm



Bill Crane, Principal

Jason Vogel, Dean of Students

Bill Ashcroft, Athletic Director

Jeff Wilson, Director of Student Services

Phone 616-678-4210

Fax 616-678-4371

Web kentcityschools.org



Nutritional Services

Summer time should not be hungry time for kids. Kent City Community Schools is pleased to offer FREE meals to ALL children age 18 and under.

Please Plan to Join us!

MEALS SERVED: July 1st - August 13

Breakfast: 7:30 - 9:15 am

Lunch: 10:45 - 12:30 pm

Snack: 2:00 - 3:00 pm



**Healthy food to fuel
your summer. Free!**

Served at:

Kent City Middle School

Contact:

Beth Ohman FSS

678 - 4214 xt 2105

beth.ohman@kentcityschools.org

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint alleging discrimination, write USDA, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-6692 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Community Ed

Summer Pool Schedule

June 1 to August 2013

OPEN FITNESS

(Laps, water walking/or water fitness)

Monday-Friday: 5:30-7:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 5:00-6:00 p.m.

OPEN SWIM

Tuesday: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 3:00-5:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Thursday: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

WATER FITNESS

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:00-6:45 p.m.

MORNING SWIM CLASSES

Monday-Thursday

Session I: June 17-20 and June 24-27

Session II: July 8-11 and July 15-18

Session III: July 22-25 and July 29-August 1

Session IV: August 5-8 and August 12-15

Basic: 10:00 -10:45 a.m.

Aqua Tots & Preschool: 11:00-11:30 a.m.

Intermediates & Advanced: 11:00-11:45 a.m.

MONDAY NIGHTS SWIM CLASSES

Session I: June 3-July 8

Session II: July 15-August 19

Basic: 6:00-6:45 p.m.

Aqua Tots & Preschool: 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Intermediates & Advanced: 7:00-7:45 p.m.

For More information call 616-678-4210

KENT CITY ROCKET/FLAG FOOTBALL 2013 SIGNUPS

Rocket Football Ages 8-14
Flag Football Ages 4-7 Girls and Boys

Thursday June 6th – 6:30-8:30 pm

Tuesday June 11th – 6:30-8:30 pm

Monday July 29th – 6:00-8:00 pm

**Note: Absolute last day to signup is
August 5th.**

Location: Varsity Football Locker Room &
Football Field

Cost: Rocket Football \$45.00

Flag Football \$20.00

**(Late fee for all players that signed up after
July 29th: Rocket Football \$60.00)**

Important – All Rocket Players must provide the
KCRF a copy of the player's birth certificate at
sign-ups. Please bring copy when signing up, we
cannot just view the original.

Questions you can contact Derek Larson at 616-
437-3580 or Jen Lucht at 616-893-3959.

2013 Sports Physicals

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Location: HS Gym

Cost: \$20.00 Cash Only

Student-athlete must have a physical on file
dated on or after April 15, 2013 to participate in
any sports for the 2013-2014 school year. You
may pick up a physical form in the middle school
or high school offices.

SWIM FEES:

Student: \$2.50 Adult: \$3.00

Swim Classes: \$40.00 per student

Water Fitness: \$5.00 per visit

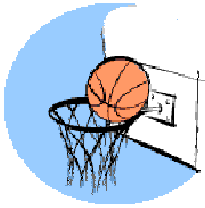
Unlimited Yearly Passes:

Family: \$120.00 Single: \$100.00

Senior & Single Student: \$85.00

Athletics

2013 Summer Camps



BOYS SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP

Fun and Instructional with fundamentals and competitions at the Kent City High School Gymnasium. Run by Coach Mark Thompson and High School Players.

**Monday, June 10 through Thursday, June 13
For Grades (going into next year) 2-8th grade.
2nd-5th grade 9-10:30 a.m.
6th-8th grade 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Times subject to change if we have an overwhelming number.
Cost: \$20.00 includes T-shirt . Checks to KCHS Boys Basketball.

Please call Coach Thompson at 231-834-8352 to pre-register.
Payment made the first day of camp.



VOLLEYBALL CAMP

At the HS Gym

**June 24-26 for
3rd-8th Graders**

6th-8th Grade: 3-5 p.m.
3rd-5th Grade: 5:15-7:15 p.m.

July 8-10 for 9th-12th Grade

Time: 3-6 p.m.

Cost: \$30.00 includes T-shirt

Deadline: June 19, 2013

Any questions call

Coach Vandy Krueger at 616-675-7115

Top Shooters Camp with Barry Brodzinski

High School Players: June 7th from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and
June 8th from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Middle School Players: June 9th from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cost: \$65.00

Location: MS Gym



Mr. Brodzinski, one of the nations top shooting instructors. You can find out more about him at www.shootingcamps.com

ROCKET FOOTBALL CAMP



Monday, July 29 and
Tuesday, July 30

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: HS Football Practice Field

Cost: \$20.00 includes T-shirt

GO EAGLES

GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

June 10-13 For 2nd-8th grade

2nd-4th grade:12:30-2p.m. 5th-8th grade: 2-3:30 p.m.

Cost \$40.00 includes ball and camp shirt.

Location: MS Gym

MS players can also attend both top shooters camp and basketball camp for a total of \$85.00 and save \$20.00.



HS GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

Dates: June 10-14 and June 17-20

Location: MS Gym

9th-10th grade: 8-10 a.m. Cost is \$60.00 (or only \$95.00 if attending Top Shooters camp) and includes camp, Davenport Shootout, Oakridge League plus possible scrimmages.

11th-12th grade: 10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Cost is \$60.00 (or only \$95.00 if attending Top Shooters camp) and includes camp, Davenport Shootout, scrimmages and Big North Shootout.

Upcoming Events

5/15 - Wednesday
Preschool Graduation
6:30 p.m., HS Gym

5/20-5/24
BOGO Book Fair
KCE Library

5/22 - Wednesday
Bright Beginnings Playgroup
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

5/23 - Thursday
Elementary Art Show
3:00-8:00 p.m., EL Cafeteria

5th Grade Concert
7:00 p.m., EL Cafeteria

5/27 - Monday
NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

6/4 - Tuesday
Kindergarten Graduation
10:00 a.m., HS Gym

6/6 - Thursday
Last day of school for students

6/13 - Thursday
Report Cards Mailed
to Parents/Guardians



Are you someone who likes to plan ahead?
Please add the following dates to your calendar.

8/20 - Tuesday
Kindergarten Orientation
6:00 p.m.

8/27 - Tuesday
1st-5th Grade Open House

9/3 - Tuesday
First Day of School

Elementary

How Are We Doing?

Feedback is a vital component of our continuous effort to improve here at Kent City Elementary. We value your opinion and ask that you take time to complete a Parent Perception Survey. There are three ways to access this survey...

- In order to complete the survey, please go to:
<http://www.advanc-ed.org/survey/public/2491759>
- Click on a link to the survey found on the Kent City Elementary website.
- Complete a hard copy found at the parent information center in the elementary atrium return it to the office.

Please be assured that your responses to this survey will be anonymous. Your honest opinion is appreciated. Thank you for your time and valuable feedback.

iPads are the Buzz Around Kent City Elementary



Title I students are excited to be piloting new iPads during reading and math intervention. They practice reading using interactive e-books and hone their skills in core subject areas with educational apps. New apps are being researched and added to the iPads. Students are "buzzing" with enthusiasm over this wonderful opportunity to learn with the most innovative technology.

We Love KIDS HOPE!

We would like to take a moment to thank our Kids Hope USA mentors.

The time you've given to KCE students has made a significant difference and is very much appreciated by all!



DON'T PANIC!!

Elementary report cards will NOT be sent home with students on the last day of school, June 6th. They will be mailed to parents/guardians on Thursday, June 13th.

Ready for GREAT Summer Fun?

Kent City's Summer Fun Camp will be held at Kent City Middle School this summer for students entering grades K through 5.

For just \$35 per person per week, your child can explore, create, experiment and have fun during one or more session. Session dates are June 17-20, July 8-11 and August 5-8. Camp will run from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday featuring an exciting theme. Lunch and snack will be provided in July and August.

Registration forms are available in the parent information center located in the atrium or on our website. All forms must be completely filled out and turned into the office before your child can attend.

Payment is required before the first day of camp. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer scholarships this year. Refunds will only be given if we do not meet the minimum attendance numbers.

Any questions, please call 678-4181 or check out our website at:

www.summerfuncamp2013.weebly.com

Reading Rocks!

We will be inviting elementary students to participate in a summer reading opportunity. Intense reading intervention is the focus of our "Reading Rocks!" summer program.

Grant monies make it possible for us to offer Reading Rocks! at no cost to parents. If your child qualifies for this program you will be notified in the next couple of weeks.

Qualified students will attend three sessions throughout the summer. Session dates will be June 17-20, July 8-11 and August 5-8. They will attend from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

The program is designed to be an extension of our intervention program in the hope that students will not lose the reading skills that they have learned during the school year. Our goal is to make sure that when school resumes in September, these students will still be on track with their reading progress.

Information



First graders visit John Ball Park Zoo to learn about animals and life cycles!

Cut to the Core

KCE continues to transition to the Common Core State Standards in Math and Language Arts. Upper elementary students participated in a Smarter Balanced practice test and experienced how learning will be assessed in the spring of 2015 when some of the MEAP test will be replaced by similar online assessments.

Third and fifth grade students took math assessments while the fourth graders completed the English Language Arts test. Our participation gave teachers and students a sneak peek at the future of online assessment and provided data that will be used to refine and prepare future versions of the test to be used in 21 states.

KCE OM Teams Soar at Regional Competition

Congratulations to our KCE Odyssey of the Mind teams who had an awesome season this year. The Division 1, Problem 2 team earned 3rd place medals for their performance. Thank you Mrs. Snyder and Ms. Wright for giving your time to coach our teams.



A Celebrity Among Us...

Mrs. Mary Clare Christiansen, one of our 4th grade educators, is also a published illustrator. As a professional artist and teacher her entire adult life, she has now embarked on a new artistic adventure illustrating books. Her original artwork graces the cover of the book "Travelers...The Destined Wasteland" by author Miles Carter.



Several upper elementary students have purchased this book and Mrs. Christiansen has been reading the book along with her new fan club.

Girls on the Run is so Much Fun!



Girls on the Run is a 10 week, county wide program for girls in grades 3 through 5. Each week, girls run together and share lessons that focus on building self-esteem, self acceptance, fitness habits and positive body image. Currently, 32 KCE girls are participating. Several staff members have volunteered their time to serve as coaches and mentors for the team. Our girls will join more than 2000 others from across the county in a 5k run on May 18th at East Kentwood High School. Good luck girls we are so proud of you!

Preschool Openings

Available - ENROLL NOW!

Do you have a child ages 3 through 5? If so, we would love to talk to you about our preschool program. We have many slots available as well as opportunities for low cost or no cost preschool for those families that qualify. Call us at 616-678-4181 and let us help you. If you know someone who has a child that is preschool age, please share our number with them. Together we can grow great minds!



Providing Help Early On®

If that little voice inside your head is telling you that something isn't "quite right" with your baby or toddler, don't wait to reach out for help.

Early On® is a network of services for children birth to 36 months of age who are developmentally delayed, or at risk of developing delays because of an established condition, or who have a disability.

Early On® provides in-home evaluations, as well as home visits for children that qualify for services. (There is no charge to families for the in-home evaluation, Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP) development or service coordination.)

Early On® is just a phone call away. If you have concerns about a young child's development, take the first step by calling 616.365.2310 (within Kent County)

Middle School

Odyssey of the Mind

Kent City Middle School participated in our first Odyssey of the Mind competition in March. Three teams competed on three different problems. Each team had the challenge of creating and performing skits with specific criteria. The Problem 3 team created a skit using Peter Pan to show how an "odd" behavior in one place may be the norm in another. The Problem 4 team created an infomercial to sell a balsa wood structure, which they built, that rolled and held weight. Finally, the Problem 5 team created a skit that included artwork, famous architecture, and a journey through a rain forest. All OM teams are student led and are allowed no outside assistance.



Upcoming Events

MAY

5/15 - Wednesday

LAU

5/17 - Friday

8th grade to Mackinac Island

5/20 - Monday

6-12 Band Collage Concert

5/23 - Thursday

6-12 Talent Show

5/27 - Monday

NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

5/31 - Friday

KC Curtain Call

JUNE

6/6 - Thursday

8th grade Celebration

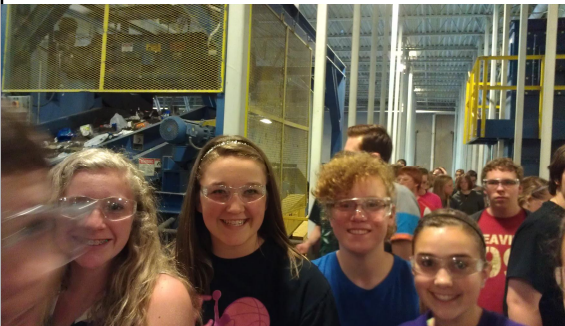
Semester 2 Ends

3rd Trimester Ends

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

8th Grade Earth Science

The 8th grade Earth Science students took a field trip recently to explore the path of our trash. The trip included the three main locations that manage trash in Kent County. We visited the South Kent Landfill where students were given a tour on top of the trash mountain and learned how the landfill manages the trash and harmful substances it creates. The stu-



Students also visited the Waste to Energy Facility where trash is burned to create electricity. Finally, the Recycling center takes all recycled items, groups them, and sells bales to companies that will reuse them. The importance of Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling was addressed at each stop. Students now have a better understanding of what really happens to the things they throw away. This trip was possible and organized through the Groundswell Program, which encourages environmental education for West Michigan schools. *Picture:* Students touring the Recycling Center in Grand Rapids



8th Grade Celebration

Thursday, June 6, 2013

Middle School Gym

12:30 p.m.

Information

6th Grade Science Camp

On Monday, April 29, seventy-seven Kent City sixth graders, along with nine parents and six teachers, headed off to YMCA Camp Pinewood near Muskegon for three exciting days of outdoor education. Rock climbing, team building skills, rope safety, and fishing were many of the activities they participated in.



On a night time nature walk, students heard the spring peepers and tried to call for owls. They also learned about night time vision in humans. During a daytime nature walk, students went through four habitats: upland forest, stream habitat, swamp habitat, and a vernal pond. Students learned about



and saw sassafras, the American beech, hemlock, white pine, and skunk cabbage in the swamp. Some of the animals encountered were the Northern ribbon snake, Midland painted turtles, and Canada geese. They looked for red back salamanders and blue spotted salamanders. Many of each species were found and identified. They also learned the call of the red winged black bird “conkoreeee-a”.

Students learned the essential materials needed for survival and the Rule of 3. In extreme situations, you cannot survive more than 3 minutes without air, 3 hours without shelter, 3 days without water, and 3 weeks without food. Students learned fire building skills and built debris shelters for survival.

Fantastic weather, an amazing camp staff, and great students made for an unforgettable camp experience!



Groundswell Grant

Kent City Middle School is part of a West Michigan program called Groundswell. Groundswell is run through Grand Valley State University and has a goal of supporting environmental education in West Michigan Schools. The 8th grade class was given a \$1,000 grant from Groundswell to complete their compost project. 8th graders decided too much waste was being created in our cafeterias and thought that much of what was being thrown away could be composted. They researched the composting process as well as what would be necessary to build a composting bin and are now in the process of implementing their project.



Kent City Community School 2012-2013 Calendar

May 27 (Monday)

No School - Memorial Day

June 6 (Thursday)

Full Day for All Students / Last Day of School

