Happy New Year!

Yes, I know, it is August, and not January. But, for educators, the start of a new school year brings with it the excitement and promise of a New Year.

The vision of Royal Oak Schools is to be a “Community of Excellence.” The standard we set for our work is excellence. “Better than last year” is good, but not good enough. “Better than neighboring school districts” is nice, but it is not the standard to which we hold ourselves. Rather, the standard we set for our work is excellence. In the achievement of our students, in how we treat one another, in how we greet guests at our schools and school events, we strive for excellence.

Community is the context for all that we do. Whether you are a student, the family member of a student, or a community member who does not currently have a member of your household attending Royal Oak Schools, you are a valuable part of the Royal Oak Schools community. The strength of our schools and the strength of the Royal Oak community are inextricably linked. As a Royal Oak resident and homeowner, I know how critical strong schools are to strong property values.

We are almost ready for the new school year. Finishing touches are underway on capital improvement projects. Staffing is being completed. Your schools are just about ready for the new school year. Are you? If there are school-age children in your household who are who are not yet enrolled in our schools, now is the time to visit our enrollment office to get them enrolled for the new school year.

As I work with school employees and contractors to prepare for September 8, 2015, the first official day of the new school year, I do so with great pride in what our schools have accomplished and great excitement about what the future holds. I am confident that the 2015-2016 school year will be the best year yet for our Royal Oak Schools and the Royal Oak community!

Sincerely,

Shawn Lewis-Lakin, Superintendent of Schools

2015-2016 School Year Begins Tuesday, September 8, 2015

All students in grades K-12 should report for a full day of school on the morning of Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

If you have not received specific information from your school principal, or you are new to the District, please call your school building (phone numbers listed on page 12) or Student Services at (248) 435-8400, Ext. 1260.

School Hours 2015-2016 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Late Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Elementary Schools</td>
<td>8:25 a.m.</td>
<td>9:25 a.m.</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Middle School</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>2:50 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak High School</td>
<td>7:55 a.m.</td>
<td>8:55 a.m.</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churchill Community High School</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Enrollment

#### Back-to-School Packet Information


For those who do not have internet access, print copies will be available at the Board of Education/District Office, 800 DeVillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

#### Annual Registration

The completion of Back-to-School paperwork – something that occurs for all students each August – is now on-line. The MISTAR Parent Portal is the point of access for families use to complete this process. This increases the importance of making sure that you know how to log in and use the MISTAR Parent Portal. Please contact your child’s school office for assistance.

#### Changing Residence and School Enrollment

If your family has or will be moving before the start of the school year, you must notify our Central Enrollment Office. All address changes must be made in person with the Central Enrollment Office, 800 DeVillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073. If your move will take you out of the Royal Oak School District, you will need to enroll your children to attend school in your new school district. Making school enrollment changes now will help the new school your child attends obtain the information they need to best plan for your child’s learning.

### Family Information Updates

Changing your e-mail address? New telephone number? Parents can edit their contact information or change their password to something easily remembered at the MISTAR Parent Portal. Address changes, however, cannot be updated using Parent Portal. All address changes must be made with the District Central Enrollment Office, which is located at 800 DeVillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

### Kindergarten Vision Screening


Vision screening done by a health department technician, a physician or an eye doctor fulfills this requirement.

The Oakland County Health Division offers free vision screening for Oakland County residents. Call (248) 424-7070 to schedule an appointment.

### Early Childhood Center Offers Preschool Programs for Three/Four/Five-Year-Olds

Preschool programs for three/four/five-year-olds are being offered at Addams Early Childhood Center for the 2015-2016 school year.

#### Programs for four/five-year-olds:

Three-day morning (9:00-11:30 a.m.) or afternoon (1:00-3:30 p.m.) programs will be offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

#### Programs for three-year-olds:

The three-year-old program meets two days per week on Tuesday and Thursday. The morning program meets from 9:00-11:30 a.m. and the afternoon program meets from 1:00-3:30 p.m.

The programs are fully licensed by the State of Michigan. All classrooms are staffed with certified early childhood teachers, and paraprofessionals, providing a student-to-teacher ratio of 18:2 for four- and five-year-olds and 14:2 for three-year-olds.

Curriculum includes developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) that include gross motor skills, small group activities, songs, stories, creative arts, computer skills, and social interaction, all in a “can-do” atmosphere. Parent participation is encouraged.

The Preschool Program runs from September through May with holidays in accordance with the district calendar. For registration information and/or questions on these fee-based programs, please call Nancy Soik (248) 288-3220, Ext. 3561.

## Enrollment Procedures

Parents may enroll students at our centralized location. Pre-enrollment paperwork may be completed online.

**District Central Enrollment Office**
800 DeVillen, Royal Oak

**District Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Enrollment Office Hours:**
Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Enrollments need to be started by 4:00 p.m. to allow time for the completion of enrollment process by 4:30 p.m. when the office closes.

Barbara Sparks, Enrollment Coordinator
(248) 435-8400, Ext. 1260
Fax: (248) 280-2591

To register a child for school, parents should bring the following with them to the Enrollment Office:

**Enrollment/Registration Required Documents**

- **2 Proofs of Residency**
  - Lease Agreement (plus page with landlord and tenant signatures)
  - Mortgage Statement (within last month)
  - City Assessor’s Tax Statement (current year)
  - Current Utility Bill or Cable Bill (within last month)
  - Notarized Affidavit of Residence if living in someone else’s home/apartment
  - This person’s driver’s license and two proofs of his/her residency
  - **Driver’s License** (of parent or guardian)
  - **Birth Certificate** (original or certified copy with raised seal)
  - **Immunization Records**
  - **Vision Screening Required for Kindergarteners**
  - Court documents, if applicable (guardianship, foster care, etc.)
  - **High School requires transcript at time of enrollment**
  - **Enrollment packet paperwork must be completely filled out.** It can be downloaded at www.royaloakschools.org, click “Enrollment”, or it is available at the district Enrollment Office or any school building.
  - **Please bring:** Emergency contact names/phone numbers, physician’s name/phone number, and previous school name/address/phone and fax numbers

## Packet Information

Back to school packet paperwork needs to be completed by 4:00 p.m. to allow time for the completion of enrollment process by 4:30 p.m. when the office closes.

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Young Oaks Before and After School Child Care

Royal Oak Schools offers fee-based before and after school child care for school-aged children at each of the six elementary schools. The Young Oaks Latchkey Program emphasizes a comfortable, supervised atmosphere that includes activities that will enhance the child’s physical, social, and academic growth. The program is fully licensed by the State of Michigan and follows all of its guidelines. The staff is fully trained in CPR and first aid and receives additional appropriate in-service training throughout the year. We offer care before and after school, as well as on most vacation days. In addition, summer camp is available during the summer break. For a nominal additional fee, parents can purchase “inclement weather” coverage in the event that schools are closed for an unpredictable reason. For more information regarding the fee structure of the Young Oaks Program, call Nancy Soik at (248) 288-3220, Ext. 3561.

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) offered at Addams Early Childhood Center is designed to get your four-year-old ready for Kindergarten. The program runs from mid-September to mid-May each year following the district holiday and break schedules. Classes are held Monday through Thursday. This program is fully licensed through the State of Michigan. The classroom is staffed with a certified K-8 teacher with ZA endorsement (early childhood emphasis) and an associate teacher. The student to teacher ratio is 8:1.

GSRP is a state program that is funded through a grant from the State of Michigan Department of Education. For qualifying families, there is no cost to participate. GSRP is not solely based on financial need. In order to qualify, your child must meet two of eight factors that place them into the “at risk” category (as defined by the grant provided through the State of Michigan). Please contact the GSRP teacher at (248) 288-3220, Ext. 3569 or 3549 for further information.

Child Care Program Full or Part-Time for 2 1/2- to 5-Year Olds

Royal Oak Schools offers a Child Care Program at the Addams Early Childhood Center for children ages two-and-one-half to five years. This program is open year round, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and offers full or part time availability. The program is closed on major holidays.

The Child Care Program is fully licensed by the State of Michigan; staff are certified in CPR and first aid, and participate in continuing education annually. The Child Care Program provides a pre-school component daily. Contact Addams Early Childhood Center at (248) 288-3220, Ext. 3561 for more information.

When You Have a Question or Concern...

1. **Take your question or concern to the person closest to the problem.**
   Whether in the classroom, in the cafeteria, or on the playground or practice field, the quickest and easiest solution is usually found with the person most directly involved. Talk with that person first. In order to find a time that is satisfactory to both you and the individual involved, you may need to make an appointment. When you make an appointment, please state the general nature of your question or concern, so the staff member can save both of you time by researching the issue and gathering the necessary information in advance of meeting with you.

   It is a good practice to establish and maintain open communication with school staff. Please contact them not only when you have a question or concern, but also when things are going well.

2. **If your question or concern is not resolved, go to the next level.**
   The School Principals, Special Education Director, Athletic Director, Community Education Director, and Food Services Director are all individuals who are willing to work with you to help answer questions or resolve concerns. These persons, too, may need to find a time that is appropriate for both of you to meet. When you make contact with them, to arrange a time to talk or meet, it is helpful for them to know the basic nature of your concern and the person with whom you first talked in working to resolve the concern.

3. **If your concern is still not resolved, go to the Superintendent of Schools.**
   There are times when you may not receive satisfaction at the first two levels and need to contact the Superintendent’s Office. When you do contact the Superintendent’s Office, either the Superintendent or one of the Executive Directors who work closely with the Superintendent will respond to you. Please keep in mind that the Superintendent and Executive Directors are often expected to attend meetings both inside and outside of the school district, which means a meeting may require advance planning. When you make contact with the Superintendent’s Office to arrange a time to talk or meet, it is helpful for them to know the basic nature of your concern, and the persons with whom you have talked at the building or department levels to resolve the concern.

4. **If your concern is still not resolved, contact a member of the School Board.**
   School Board members are elected to represent the interests of all parents and district residents. They do not, however, have direct authority in day-to-day operations of the school. The authority of the Board of Education is the result of official actions decided on by a majority of Board members at meetings open to the public. The Board’s primary responsibility is to make policies that guide the school district.

   Contact with the Board of Education is appropriate after you have attempted to resolve a question or concern at all prior levels, when a policy is being enforced but you believe it results in bad consequences, or when you believe that at the Superintendent level a policy isn’t being followed or is not being followed fairly for all.

Fall 2015 3
Project Find
Project Find needs your assistance to help children with special needs. Special Education Services are available for eligible children ages birth to 26 who have trouble seeing, hearing, talking, or learning.
Call about available free services for eligible children through your local Royal Oak Schools.
Jane Flarity-Gram
Special Education Director
(248) 435-8400, Ext. 1269

Residents Invited to Apply For Board of Education Committees
Applications are now being accepted for the Royal Oak Schools 2015-16 Board of Education Committees. Committees include:
• Arts & Preservation
• Communications
• Wellness
• Finance & Facilities
• District School Improvement
• Readmission
Additional information regarding these opportunities may be obtained by contacting the Office of the Superintendent at (248) 435-8400, Ext. 1128. Applications are available on the district website www.royaloakschools.org, Board of Education page under the “District” tab. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, September 11, 2015.

Activity Gold Card Available for Seniors
The Royal Oak School District presents its Senior Activity Gold Card, a complimentary pass for Royal Oak residents ages 60 and over. This complimentary pass will be renewable every three years.
Benefits
The Gold Card includes free admission to:
• Athletic Events (except state sponsored tournaments)
• Drama Programs & Dance Shows
• Vocal & Instrumental Music Concerts
• Evening Recreational Swim at Royal Oak Middle School
Applications are available at the Churchill Community Education Center, 707 Girard, Royal Oak. For additional information, please call (248) 588-5050.

Churchill Community High School
Daytime Alternative High School program for students ages 16-19.
Days: Monday through Friday
School Calendar: A student can take a varying course load to earn 2.5-3.5 credits per trimester. Trimesters are offered between September and June. Classes began September 8.
New students must call (248) 588-5050, Ext. 1502 to schedule an interview for admission.

Adult Education/Afternoon and Evening High School
Program for adults and high school age students age 16 and older who wish to complete the requirements for a high school diploma.
Class Times:
Monday - Thursday, 3:15-5:00 p.m.
School Calendar:
Two 15-week semesters are offered between September and May. Classes begin September 16.
Registration begins August 31
Registration Fee: $25.00
Mon. & Tues., 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2 p.m.
Wed. & Thurs., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
For more details, please see www.royaloakschools.org/churchillcenter/adult-education.

English as a Second Language
For foreign born adults who are learning the English language. This class provides basic English vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, speaking, listening and culture through various media. Daytime classes are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. Evening classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classes will begin September 16. For further information, call (248) 588-5050, Ext. 1506. Or come in person to:
Churchill Community Education Center
707 Girard, Royal Oak
(between 12 & 13 Mile Roads, East of Rochester Road)
Registration begins August 24
Registration Fee: $25.00
Mon. & Tues., 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2 p.m.
Wed. & Thurs., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m.

G.E.D. Preparation – English & Math
These courses are designed to prepare students for the G.E.D. test. The focus of the classes will be on writing skills, the essay, and math. Test taking skills will also be taught. You can earn one unit of credit while you prepare for the G.E.D. test. Classes are free and begin September 16. For further information, call (248) 588-5050, Ext. 1505.
Registration begins August 31
Registration Fee: $25.00
Mon. & Tues., 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2 p.m.
Wed. & Thurs., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
For more details, please see www.royaloakschools.org/churchillcenter/adult-education.
ROHS and ROMS Named IB World Schools

Royal Oak Schools recently received notification from the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, officially authorizing Royal Oak Middle School and Royal Oak High School to offer the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP). As a result, both schools are now officially recognized as IB World Schools.

Royal Oak was authorized with commendations for students’ awareness and use of the IB Learner Profile, for inclusivity of students with special needs, and for students’ ability to take responsibility for their learning. As a program for students 11-16 years old, MYP provides an instructional framework for grades 6-10, affording continuity for students in the transition from Royal Oak Middle School to Royal Oak High School.

According to Royal Oak’s IB MYP Coordinator, Mia Gutierrez, “Authorization as IB World Schools is an outstanding accomplishment for ROMS and ROHS. Each school has hard-working, caring, and dedicated staff and administrations. Of course the real benefit of the program is for our students, who are becoming even more knowledgeable, caring, and globally-engaged citizens because of the MYP Programme.”

“Our progress from MYP candidacy to full authorization as an IB World School is the result of the hard work of our thinkers, the tireless dedication of our faculty and staff, and the strong support of our community’s families. I am so proud to be taking part in this journey of excellence,” said Todd Noonan, Principal of Royal Oak Middle School.

The International Baccalaureate framework focuses on developing the social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs of every child in every classroom. This is done through the delivery of instructional units developed to incorporate the framework’s five essential elements: Knowledge, Concepts, Skills, Attitudes and Action.

The MYP mission is to develop, “inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.” The Middle Years Programme is implemented by 1,117 schools in 95 countries, including 27 schools in Michigan.

Schools wishing to adopt the Programme undergo a rigorous multi-year authorization process that includes extensive teacher training, putting the Programme in place at the school, and hosting both a consultation visit and an authorization visit from IB trained evaluators.

Royal Oak High School Leads Area High Schools in Test Score Gains

Royal Oak High School (ROHS) led area high schools in test score gains as measured by the American College Test (ACT) from 2009 to 2014.

ROHS students increased their ACT composite scores by 1.4 points from 2009 to 2014. The average increase of scores for 12 public high schools surrounding Royal Oak was .4 during the same time period.

The ACT was administered to all high school juniors in March of every year. ROHS has been engaging in enhancements to all aspects of its curriculum and assessment program and was recently authorized by the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization as an IB Middle Years Programme.

For further details and additional results, please go to www.mischooldata.org.

ROHS One of Top Michigan Schools

Royal Oak High School (ROHS) is one of the best public high schools in the State of Michigan according to the “2015 Best High School” ranking by U.S. News and World Report. Of the 849 public high schools in Michigan, ROHS was one of 68 schools awarded a silver medal. Ten schools received gold medals and 167 received bronze medals.

Other Oakland County communities with high schools in the top 50 included Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Troy, Rochester, Farmington and Novi.

“This ranking affirms Royal Oak High School’s position as a top tier high school in our county and in the state,” said Shawn Lewis-Lakin, Superintendent of Schools. “We have seen consistent growth in the performance of our high school students, and this recognition reaffirms the tremendous teaching and learning that are occurring at ROHS.”

To produce the “2015 Best High School” ranking, U.S. News worked with RTI International, a global non-profit social research firm. The key principles upon which the rankings are based included: a great high school must serve all students well, not just those who are college bound, and it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show it is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

“That this recognition is based upon actual student achievement data makes it all the more significant,” said Sarah Olson, Executive Director of Instruction for Royal Oak Schools. “ROHS is producing outstanding student learning results.”

Mike Van Camp, ROHS principal, added “We are proud of the academic achievement demonstrated by our students. Our school believes strongly in maintaining a challenging, rigorous learning environment combined with constant reflection geared toward continuous improvement. This recognition provides motivation to continue our work on behalf of our students and the entire school community.”
Royal Oak High School Journalist Earns Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship

Royal Oak High School senior Matthew Harmon has earned the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship for his efforts as a student journalist. Matthew is the sixth Royal Oak Acorn Newsmagazine student to earn this national award.

One student from each state is chosen to receive the award and receives a $1,000 scholarship. Matthew joined other student journalists representing each state and the District of Columbia for the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Journalism Conference in Washington, D.C. He was one of two students nominated by his fellow Free Spirit representatives to speak at the conference.

“Matthew demonstrates a remarkable level of passion to better our world through his efforts as a journalist,” said Acorn Newsmagazine Adviser Ann Maudlin. “He is incredibly goal-oriented, understands the value of experiential learning and is possessed with both an inquisitive spirit and a desire for truth. He is a leader we are proud of, and I’m so happy his peers from around the country recognized and honored that by choosing him to speak at the conference.”

The Free Spirit program began in 1999 and is funded by the Freedom Forum to honor Al Neuharth, the founder of USA TODAY. The conference is designed to assist students in pursuit of a journalism career and to inspire them through conference sessions with prominent media professionals.

Royal Oak Interact International Service Trip to Costa Rica

Interact of Royal Oak, the Royal Oak High School (ROHS) youth Rotary service club, returned from its second international service trip in June. This year, six students from the club worked in the remote Orosi Valley of Costa Rica. There they spent several days restoring a local orphanage: clearing dangerous debris from an accident, rebuilding a chicken coop and hydroponics garden, and repairing toys, pathways, and gardens.

After that, the students also worked on the Gulf coast in sea turtle conservation and beach clean-up while also visiting the local indigenous population of the BriBri.

“It’s really a powerful experience,” says Steve Chisnell, the club’s advisor. “It’s not simply about the work done, which was enormous for the people there, but for the cultural connections, the stepping outside of comfort, the simple building of human connections despite differences.”

For Tess Youmans (Class of 2017), the epiphanies were grounding. In the group’s recent blog on the trip, she writes: “The passion I saw in the eyes of the BriBri today was not a lone occurrence, it was the same passion the sisters had at Hogar de Ninos and the same passion of those who taught us how to scout the beaches for endangered turtles. This was the look one can only get when they have done what they were meant to do. Whether acting as a guardian, a caretaker of culture, or something in between, if nothing else I hope to return from Costa Rica with a spark of passion in my own eyes.”

The students raised money for the trip throughout the year, mostly doing local service projects for donations and being supported by their parent organization, Royal Oak Rotary. The international experience is only one of dozens of projects, mostly local and regional, that the club is involved in.

The group will be looking for more ways to give back what the Tico people have given them when school starts in the fall.

Find the group’s Tweets about the trip at #rohs_interact or the club’s larger work at @rohs_interact. Their blogs about their experience are in The Oakland Press and can be found by searching “Costa Rica Chronicles.”
Royal Oak Schools
Recognizes Retiring Employees
The Royal Oak Board of Education recognized 16 employees who retired at the end of the 2014-2015 school year. Collectively, these individuals represent 416 years of experience working in the Royal Oak School:

Diane Alberts, Northwood Elementary, Kindergarten Teacher, 23 Years
Donna Brewer, Royal Oak High School, Business Education Teacher, 38 Years
Gail Conn, Keller Elementary, 4th Grade Teacher, 26 Years
Patricia Cooley, Royal Oak High School, Secretary, 23 Years
Susan Cox, Royal Oak Middle School, Social Studies Teacher, 28 Years
Michelle Crysler, Addams Elementary, 2nd Grade Teacher, 29 Years
Betty Ann Garlak, Northwood Elementary, 1st Grade Teacher, 30 Years
Elaine Kaufman, Keller Elementary, Special Education Teacher, 29 Years
Lisa Murray, Keller Elementary, Secretary, 25 Years
Debra Natke, Royal Oak High School, Language Arts Teacher, 32 Years
Betty Ong, Royal Oak High School, Media Specialist, 38 Years
Frank Przybylo, Royal Oak Middle School, Counselor, 35 Years
Kristin Ryan, Oakland Elementary, 5th Grade Teacher, 25 Years
Deborah L. Smith, Royal Oak Middle School, Special Education Teacher, 8 Years
Donna Stajniak, Addams Elementary, Media Tech, 4 Years
Michelle Villerot, Northwood Elementary, 2nd Grade Teacher, 23 Years

Superintendent of Schools Shawn Lewis-Lakin thanked the retirees, saying “you have made a difference for students and our community. On behalf of the entire district, I say thank you and wish you all the best for a happy and fulfilling future.”

Royal Oak Schools Announces Business Partnership with Primos Pizza
Primos Pizza (Hamlin Corner), a Royal Oak-based independent pizza restaurant, is partnering with Royal Oak Schools. When you order a pizza from Primos and identify yourself as being associated with Royal Oak Schools, ten percent of your order will be donated to Royal Oak Schools. Funds raised through this partnership will be deposited into a restricted account to be used for student spirit wear. The PTA at each of our schools promotes school spirit by selling spirit wear (shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, etc.) at cost to students and their families. To be sure that all students have access to spirit wear, Primos Pizza is working with our schools to create a special fund so that students who might not otherwise be able to purchase such items may obtain them. Buy great pizza and help all students show their school spirit – a winning combination!

Thank You to Royal Oak Foundation Golf Outing Sponsors

Major Sponsors
Holiday Market, Michigan Educational Credit Union

Gold Sponsors
Deb & Jay Anderson, Sherry & Tom Toggweiler, Barton Malow, Dave Butler, Dave Nelson, Neil Nelson & Norm Nordstrom, Clark Hill, Detroit Sheet Metal Partnership of Local Union 80 and SMACNA Contractors, DiClemente Siegel Design, OUR Credit Union, Robertson Brothers

Silver Sponsors

Benefactors/Patrons/Donors
Camelot Cleaners, Chartwell’s, Roofing Technologies Associates, Shawn and Barbara Lewis-Lakin

Hole-in-One Sponsor
Hour Magazine

Photo Sponsor
Prestige/Lifetouch

Printing Sponsors
The Print Stop
Reading and Language Arts Centers

Prize Donors
BlackFinn, Boodles, Buffalo Wild Wings, Clawson Steak House, Famous Dave’s, Lily’s Seafood, Lockhart’s, Mongolian Barbeque, Pasquale’s, Royal Oak Brewery, Vinsetta Grille

Golf Balls Provided by Michigan Educational Credit Union and OUR Credit Union
2015-2016 Food Service Information

New applications for free and reduced price meals will be mailed in late August. Please only use the new version as previous versions cannot be accepted.

The new application is also available at www.royaloakschools.org, at each school, and at the Board of Education/Administration building. Note that the application is a “Family” application requiring only one application per family. This application must be filled out accurately and completely to be processed. Incomplete applications will delay the application process.

Students who were eligible for free or reduced price meals at the end of 2014-2015 school year will retain their eligibility for the first 30 schools days of the 2015-2016 school year. Please submit the new application by October 12, 2015 to avoid a lapse in meal benefits. Families are responsible for paying for meals between the 30 day grace period and the time a new application is processed.

There will be no change in school lunch or breakfast prices for 2015-2016! Elementary School lunch $2.45, Middle and High School lunch $2.70, breakfast at all schools $1.25.

High school and middle school students need to use their ID badge or enter their student number on a key pad to receive a lunch, pay for a lunch, pay for a la carte items, or use money in their food service account. Elementary students do not carry ID cards but are identified by the classroom teacher, the lunch monitor, and the food service cashier.

Elementary school lunches must be pre-ordered a day in advance in the classroom at the beginning of the day. Your child’s teacher will handle the ordering of school lunch and pass along the order to Food Service. The first day of school and the first day after winter break are exceptions to this rule and although pre-orders will be taken, they are not required.

You can add money to a Food Service account; online through Parent Connect, check or cash at any cash register or in a clearly marked envelope with your child's first and last name (for elementary students).

The district has a no-charge policy for school meals (lunch and breakfast). A USDA approved alternate meal consisting of a fruit, a vegetable, a milk and a cheese sandwich on whole grain bread will be offered for lunch to students who have a negative balance on their account. A USDA approved alternate meal consisting of Cheerios, white milk, and fruit will be offered for breakfast. No a la carte purchases will be allowed until the balance is positive. Students will be charged for the alternate meals. (Elementary school students will be allowed to charge one meal before an alternate meal is given.)

Breakfast is available at all schools every day school is in session including half days, exam days, and late start days. Breakfast normally starts one half hour before the start of the school day. Elementary school students do not need to pre-order breakfast. The price for breakfast at all schools is $1.25 for paid, $.30 for reduced and free for free eligible.

Chartwells continues to be ahead of the curve regarding healthy choices for students and will continue to offer whole grains, fresh fruits, and vegetables, skim flavored and 1% white milk daily.

If you have any questions, please contact the Food Service office at (248) 435-8500, Ext. 1122.

USDA Rules still in place for 2015-2016:

- Students are required to select at least one serving of fruit or vegetable at breakfast (100% juice counts as fruit).
- Smart Snacks in School, the USDA’s “All Foods Sold in Schools” Standards ensure kids are only offered tasty and nutritious foods during the school day.

Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools

Any food sold in schools must:

- Be a whole grain rich grain product; or
- Have as the first ingredient a fruit, vegetable, dairy product or protein food; or
- Be a combination food that contains at least ¼ cup of fruit and/or vegetable; or
- Contain 10% of the Daily Value of one of the nutrients (calcium, potassium, vitamin D, or dietary fiber)

Foods must also meet several nutrient requirements:

- Calorie limits: snacks - 200 calories; entrees - 350 calories
- Sodium limits: snacks - 230 mg; entrees - 480 mg
- Fat limits: total fat 35% of calories; saturated fat 10% of calories; trans fat zero grams
- Sugar limit: 35% of weight from total sugars in foods

*Note: These guidelines also pertain to fundraising programs.

New in 2015-2016:

Digital menus will be available via Nutrislice. Features will include: mobile and web application convenience, improved communication with parents, students and community, enhanced navigation for food allergies and dietary concerns, easy to access anytime and anywhere! Look for details coming soon.
Summer Capital Projects for Student Success

Nearly $3 million of building and site improvement projects are being completed this summer at our Royal Oak Schools. The District Facilities and Finance Committee, on which community members are invited to serve as members (see page 4), provides both short and long term direction for project planning. The Committee reviews assessments of district facilities and discusses facility improvements to support student learning. Recommendations from the Committee are then reviewed by the Board of Education, which has final approval on all projects.

Projects completed or underway in 2015 include: roof replacement work at Royal Oak Middle School (ROMS); replacement of soffits and fascia at Royal Oak High School (ROHS); locker replacement and painting at ROHS; mechanical projects (including the replacement of the ROMS pool unit, two units in the ROHS kitchen, and the Oak Ridge cafeteria air handler unit); replacement and upgrades to HVAC controls; the replacement of all exterior doors at Addams Elementary School; replacement of stage rigging in the Dondero Auditorium at ROMS; plus, miscellaneous parking lot, roof, and door repairs. A lot of work is being done! The district site and sinking fund, along with proceeds from property sales, is providing funding for the projects.

“We are incredibly grateful to the community for their strong support of our schools,” said Superintendent of Schools Shawn Lewis-Lakin. “Royal Oak recognizes that strong schools are essential for a strong community, and our community supports its schools not only financially, but in countless other ways.” According to Lewis-Lakin, projects across the district are undertaken to achieve one goal: providing safe and clean schools that afford all students the environment they need to be successful.

Instructional Swim Program
Registration:
Wednesday, September 9, 5:15-6:30 p.m. at Royal Oak High School Pool Entrance
If classes are not filled on this date, registration will continue at the pool prior to the start of the first lesson.

First Date of Fall Lessons:
Saturday, September 19, 2015
Royal Oak High School Pool

Classes:
Training Program for Competitive Swimmers, Ages 7-17 (9 lessons)
Class Time: 7:30-8:25 a.m.; Fee: $90
Boys & Girls, Ages 6-14 (9 lessons)
Sept.19-Nov. 14, 8:30-9:10 a.m. or 9:15-9:55 a.m.; Fee: $80 per child, $75 for each add’l child in same family
Tiny Tots, Ages 3-5 (w/o parent, 9 lessons)
Sept. 19-Nov. 14, 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Fee: $80 per child, $75 for each add’l child in same family
Tiny Tots, Ages 1-5 (w/ parent, 6 lessons)
Sept.19-Oct. 24, 11:00-11:30 a.m.
Fee: $40 per child, $35 for each add’l child in same family
Adaptive Swim, All Ages (6 lessons)
Sept.19-Oct. 24, 11:10-11:40 a.m.
Fee: $20 per half hour

Fall Open Swim Program
Schedule:
Mondays & Thursdays
September 10, 2015 - March 5, 2016
Royal Oak Middle School

Monday Evenings:
7:30-8:30 p.m. Children & Adults
8:30-9:45 p.m. Adults Only (Lap Lane)

Thursday Evenings:
8:45-10:00 p.m. Adults Only (Lap Lane)

Fee:
$5.00 for everyone over 5 years of age. Seniors are free with school district Senior Citizen Gold Card (available at Churchill Continuing Education Center). Discount Cards are available at Open Swim locations for $40 (10 visits).

Pools are closed during school breaks and whenever school is not in session due to inclement weather or other emergency.

For more information, call (248) 435-8500, Ext. 1148.
2015-2016 School Year Attendance Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2015</td>
<td>First student attendance day: Full day for all students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 16, 23, 30</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7, 14, 21, 28</td>
<td>Half-day schedule (A.M. only) for all students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Records/Professional Learning Day: No students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>End of first quarter: Students and staff attendance day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 11, 18</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 25, 26, 27</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break: No school for staff or students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2, 9, 16</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 21, 2015 - January 1, 2016</td>
<td>Winter Holiday Break: No school for staff or students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18, 2016</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day: No school for staff or students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 28, 2016</td>
<td>End of second quarter; end of first semester: Students and staff attendance day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29, 2016</td>
<td>Records Day: No school for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3, 10, 24</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15, 16</td>
<td>Mid-Winter Break: No school for staff or students</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2, 9, 16</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Good Friday: No school for staff or students</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>End of third quarter: Students and staff attendance day</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Records Day: No school for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4 - 8</td>
<td>Spring Break: No school for staff or students</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13, 20, 27</td>
<td>Professional Learning Mornings: Early start for teachers &amp; late start for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 11, 18, 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day: No school for staff or students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Final student attendance day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>End of fourth quarter; end of second semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Learning Wednesdays

On our school calendar, we have 25 Wednesdays that are designated as Professional Learning Wednesdays. On these days teachers engage in professional learning and planning to enhance student achievement. To provide time for these activities, teachers arrive to school early and students begin their day one hour later than on other days. At every grade level, accommodations are in place so that families may maintain a consistent schedule on those days when teacher professional learning results in a later starting time for students.

**Question:** I utilize morning latchkey for my children. Will I need to pay an additional fee for the extra hour on the Wednesdays when school starts later?

**Answer:** For families who use a.m. latchkey services for elementary children, there is no additional charge on the Wednesdays when school starts later.

**Question:** I do not typically use a.m. latchkey services, but the late start days will create a challenge for my family. What options will be available for families with elementary aged children?

**Answer:** A “homework club” option is available at all elementary buildings from 8:25 - 9:25 a.m. on all late start Wednesdays. So that we can plan to properly supervise the children, there is a registration form and fee that each family who wants to use this service must complete. The fee is just $15 per family per semester; the fee is waived for families participating in the free and reduced lunch program.

**Question:** What options are available at the Middle School and High School?

**Answer:** At Royal Oak Middle School, the “breakfast club,” that normally provides a place for students between the hours of 7:15 a.m. and 7:55 a.m. each school day, is open from 7:15 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. on the late start days. At Royal Oak High School, students who need to arrive at 7:50 a.m. on late start days are invited to use the cafeteria as a before school study hall area before school begins at 8:55 a.m.

**Question:** How can I keep track of which Wednesdays have students starting later?

**Answer:** Professional Learning Wednesdays do not occur in January or June. Otherwise, they are scheduled for every week that is a five school day week.

Board of Education Meetings

The Royal Oak Schools Board of Education meets every second Thursday of the month, beginning with a 6:00 p.m. discussion meeting and a 7:00 p.m. regular meeting. Agendas, meeting materials, and minutes are posted for all board meetings. These are available on the district website, www.royaloakschools.org. Click on the “District” tab and then “Board of Education.” Board meeting dates for the 2015-2016 school year are: September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12, and June 9. Special meetings are scheduled as needed; information about all meetings is always posted on the website. All meetings are held in the Board of Education Meeting Room at the District Offices, located at 800 DeVillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073.

Annual Notices

Royal Oak Schools are required to annually provide notices to the community. The notices make community members aware of their rights in regards to directory information, educational records, pupil rights, bloodborne pathogens, privacy rights and nondiscrimination. The notices are posted in handbooks and on our website, www.royaloakschools.org. If you have questions about these notices, or would like to have hard copies of them provided to you please contact the Superintendent’s Office, at (248) 435-8400.
## 2015-2016 Events Calendar
### August-December 2015

#### August 2015
19. Oakland Kindergarten Welcome 5:00-7:00 p.m.
20. Upton Kindergarten Welcome 4:00-7:00 p.m.
24. Keller Kindergarten Welcome 2:00-7:00 p.m.
24. Northwood Kindergarten Welcome 3:00-6:30 p.m.
26. ROHS Senior Registration 8:00-10:30 am
27. ROHS Junior/Sophomore Registration - Juniors 8:00-10:30 a.m. / Sophomores 12:30-2:30 p.m.
27. Elementary Welcome/Registration - A-G, 1:00-2:00 p.m.; H-M, 2:00-3:00 p.m.; N-Z, 3:00-4:00 p.m.; All, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
27. Addams Kindergarten Registration 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
27. Oak Ridge Kindergarten Welcome 4:00-7:00 p.m.
28. ROHS Freshman Registration 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
31. ROHS Make-up Registration 8:30-10:00 a.m. / 1:00-2:30 p.m.
31. ROMS Grades 7 & 8 Registration - A-E, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; F-J, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; K-N, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; O-S, 1:00-2:00 p.m.; T-Z, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

#### September 2015
16, 23, 30. Professional Learning Mornings
1. ROMS Grade 6 Registration
   A-E, 8:00-9:00 a.m.; F-J, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; K-N, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; O-S, 12:00-1:00 p.m.; T-Z, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
3. Upton Kindergarten Welcome 4:00-5:00 p.m.
8. 1st day of School - Full Day
14. Elementary PTA Meetings 7:00 p.m.
14. ROHS Curriculum Night 6:00 -7:30 p.m.
17. Elementary Curriculum Night (Grades K-2, 6:30-7:15 p.m.; Grades 3-5, 7:30-8:15 p.m.)
21. ROMS PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
24. ROMS Curriculum Night 6:30-7:55 p.m.
28. ROHS PTSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.

#### October 2015
7, 14, 21, 28. Professional Learning Mornings
5. PTA Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
7. Count Day
12. Elementary PTA Meetings 7:00 p.m.
19. ROMS PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
21. ROMS Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
22. ROMS Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
26. ROHS PTSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
28. ROHS Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
29. ROHS Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
30. Half Day - Students AM Only

#### November 2015
11, 18. Professional Learning Mornings
2. PTA Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
3. Election Day - No School for Students
6. End of First Marking Period - All Grades
9. Elementary PTA Meetings 7:00 p.m.
16. ROMS PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
23. Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
23. ROHS PTSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
25-27. Thanksgiving Holiday - No School

#### December 2015
2, 9, 16. Professional Learning Mornings
1, 3. Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 p.m.
7. PTA Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
14. Elementary PTA Meetings 7:00 p.m.
21-1. Holiday Break - No School
# Royal Oak Schools Directory

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Administrator</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addams</td>
<td>2222 W. Webster 48073</td>
<td>Mr. Youanes</td>
<td>Ms. Nall</td>
<td>288-3100</td>
<td>288-3144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Keller</td>
<td>1505 N. Campbell 48067</td>
<td>Ms. Dryden</td>
<td>Ms. Kaiser</td>
<td>542-6500</td>
<td>541-1260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwood</td>
<td>926 W. 12 Mile Rd. 48073</td>
<td>Ms. Ashburn</td>
<td>Ms. Judd</td>
<td>541-0229</td>
<td>541-4709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>2415 Brockton 48067</td>
<td>Mr. Lynch</td>
<td>Ms. Kucyk</td>
<td>542-4406</td>
<td>542-9289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Ridge</td>
<td>506 E. 13 Mile Rd. 48073</td>
<td>Dr. Parrott</td>
<td>Ms. Kaczkowski</td>
<td>588-8353</td>
<td>588-0750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upton</td>
<td>4400 Mandalay Ave. 48073</td>
<td>Mr. Grzywack</td>
<td>Ms. Affeld</td>
<td>549-4968</td>
<td>549-0013</td>
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## ROYAL OAK MIDDLE SCHOOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>709 N. Washington 48067</td>
<td>541-7100</td>
<td>541-0408</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrator</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Noonan, Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Beardsley</td>
<td>Ext. 2039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jones, Asst. Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Maurer</td>
<td>Ext. 2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Duncan, Asst. Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Barber</td>
<td>Ext. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Scott</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ext. 2073</td>
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## ROYAL OAK HIGH SCHOOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1500 Lexington Blvd. 48073</td>
<td>435-8500</td>
<td>288-8733</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrator</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Van Camp, Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Staszak</td>
<td>Ext. 1078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Krynak, Asst. Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Ruffles</td>
<td>Ext. 1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Powell, Asst. Principal</td>
<td>Ms. Stremlen</td>
<td>Ext. 1133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Cole, Asst. Principal/Athletic Director</td>
<td>Ms. Moore</td>
<td>Ext. 1148</td>
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## OTHER FACILITIES

<table>
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<th>Facility</th>
<th>Address/Administrator</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District Offices</td>
<td>800 Devillen 48073</td>
<td>435-8400</td>
<td>435-6170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Lewis-Lakin, Superintendent</td>
<td>Ms. Sutterfield, Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Ext. 1228</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Olson, Exec. Dir., Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
<td>Ms. Gray, Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Ext. 1232</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Flarity-Gram, Director of Special Ed.</td>
<td>Ms. Stein, SE Secretary</td>
<td>Ext. 1269</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Wolynski, Exec. Dir., Staff &amp; Student Services</td>
<td>Ms. Laird, Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Ext. 1210</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Abela, Finance Director</td>
<td>Ms. Carlisle, AP Assistant</td>
<td>288-8700</td>
<td>Ext. 1223</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board of Education</th>
<th>Gary Briggs, President</th>
<th>435-8400</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Anderson, Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Brinker, Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marty Cardamone, Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrie Beerer, Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Bradford, Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Sykes, Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Sutterfield, Administrative Assistant</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Churchill Community Education Center Continuing Education</th>
<th>707 Girard 48073</th>
<th>588-5050</th>
<th>588-2881</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Hutchinson, Supervisor Secretary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ext. 1502</td>
<td>577-5639</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Sutton, Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<th>Adult Education Community High School</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Addams Early Childhood Center</th>
<th>2222 W. Webster 48073</th>
<th>288-3220</th>
<th>288-3047</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Andersen, Supervisor</td>
<td>Ms. Soik, Secretary</td>
<td>Ext. 3561</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintenance / Transportation Center</th>
<th>1601 N. Campbell Road 48067</th>
<th>545-0064</th>
<th>545-0885</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Murphy, Operations Manager</td>
<td>Ms. Newsome, Secretary</td>
<td>Ext. 3245</td>
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