Thank you!

Dear Neighbors,

On your behalf, this past month I have had the privilege of congratulating the young men and women who have earned their high school diplomas from Royal Oak High School, Churchill Community High School, and Royal Oak Continuing Education. It has been my great joy to see the pride on each graduate’s face, feel the pride of those who surround and support them as friends and family, and know that as I congratulate each graduate, I do so representing our Royal Oak community.

Royal Oak Schools are your schools. They serve the children and young adults in your neighborhood. They are funded with your support. Your neighbors and friends – the volunteer school board whom you elect – provide governance. They are the schools you support through your volunteer work. They are the schools whose success drives the value of your real estate investment.

Royal Oak Schools are your schools. The students celebrated on the pages that follow are your graduates. As I shook their hands at commencement exercises, I could not stop smiling. I hope you have the same experience as you review the pages that follow this letter.

I am proud of your students and I am proud of your schools. Royal Oak High School has again been recognized as one of the top public high schools in our nation (see page 5). At every level, academic achievement results in your schools are strong and improving.

Thank you Royal Oak for your support of your schools and your students: Enjoy celebrating their success!

Sincerely,

Shawn Lewis-Lakin, Superintendent of Schools

P.S. Enrollment information is on page 6. If your child is not currently enrolled in Royal Oak Schools, NOW is the time to complete the enrollment process for the 2017-2018 school year.
Royal Oak High School Class of 2017 Top Graduating Seniors

Shelby Alston
GPA: 4.20
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society
Scholarships & Awards: University of Michigan LSA Scholarship, University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship, Oakland University Presidential Scholarship, Math Achievement Award, Science Distinction Award, MSBOA Scholar Musician Award
College: University of Michigan, Double Major in Statistics & English

Layne Bader
GPA: 4.09
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society
Scholarships & Awards: Academic Excellence in Science, Math Achievement Award, Distinguished Service to Legacy, Outstanding Achievement & Dedication to German
College: Undecided

Mackenzie Blackwell
GPA: 4.117
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society, Public Relations Officer
Scholarships & Awards: Royal Oak Women's Club Scholarship, Royal Oak PTA Council Donald M. Currie Memorial Scholarship, Ohio University Signature Scholarship, Chuck Jones Athletic Award, ELA Departmental Award, Social Studies Departmental Award, Science Academic Distinction Award, Interact Presidential Service Award – Gold, Distinguished Service to Acorn Newsmagazine
College: Franklin and Marshall College, Majoring in Political Science

Christian Borski
GPA: 4.024
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society, Senior
Scholarships & Awards: National Merit Commendation, ELA Departmental Award, Science Distinction Award, Math Achievement Award, German Award of Excellence, Distinguished Service Award to Legacy, Clarence M. Kimball Athletic Award
College: Michigan State University

Isabella Buzynski
GPA: 4.10
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society
Scholarships & Awards: U of M LSA Scholarship, ELA Departmental Award, Math Achievement Award, Social Studies Departmental Award
College: University of Michigan, Majoring in Art History

Grace Cutler
GPA: 4.09
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society Public Relations Officer
Scholarships & Awards: Academic Excellence Award: ELA, World History, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction, Dedication to French, Outstanding Editorial Commitment to Legacy
College: University of Michigan

Tess De Wilde Kohler
GPA: 4.01
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society
Scholarships & Awards: Oakland University Distinguished Scholar Award, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction
College: University of Leuven in Belgium, Studying Business Administration

Mallory Dubay
GPA: 3.96
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society
Scholarships & Awards: Oakland University Distinguished Scholar Award, Hofstra Presidential Scholarship, Central Michigan University Award, College of Saint Rose Award
College: Undecided

Patrick Fegan
GPA: 4.24
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society, Student Council
Scholarships & Awards: National Merit Commendation, Royal Oak Rotary Club Scholarship, William S. Broomfield Scholarship, Academic Excellence Award: ELA, Science, Social Studies, German Department Outstanding Achievement Award, James C. Covert Athletic Award
College: Loyola University Chicago, Double Major in Biology & History

Alexandru Niculescu
GPA: 3.9
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa Secretary, Model UN Ambassador Emeritus
Scholarships & Awards: Northern Michigan University Hardin Scholarship
College: Northern Michigan University, Simultaneously Training for the Military

Emily McNorton
GPA: 4.19
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society President
Scholarships & Awards: Loyola College Ignatian Scholarship, Tulane University Presidential Scholarship, George Washington University Presidential Scholarship, Wayne State University Scholarship, Academic Excellence Award: ELA, Mathematics, ELA Department Award, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction, Outstanding Editorial Commitment to Legacy
College: Loyola University Chicago, Double Major in Biology & History

Kevin Philips
GPA: 4.08
School Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, Model UN Ambassador Emeritus
Scholarships & Awards: Oakland University Presidential Scholarship, University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship, Science Academic Distinction, Social Studies Departmental Award, Outstanding Dedication to German
College: Undecided
Royal Oak High School Class of 2017 Graduates’ Achievements

The following is a summary of the academic achievements of the Royal Oak High School Class of 2017.

**Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cum Laude</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduated with Distinction</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Honor Society</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phi Beta Kappa</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chartwells Community College Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Ridge Elementary Alumni Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Arts Council Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce Scholarship</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Education Association Scholarship</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak High School Staff Recognition Scholarship</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak PTA Donald M. Curie Scholarship</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Rotary Club Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak Women’s Club Scholarship</td>
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**2017 ROHS Top Grads**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Scholarship/Recognition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelby Cobra Alston</td>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Layne Marie Bader</td>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
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<td>Mackenzie Rae Blackwell</td>
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<td>Christian Matthew Borski</td>
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<td>Isabella M.H. Buzynski</td>
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<td>Grace Louise Cutler</td>
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<td>Mallory Jean Dubay</td>
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<td>Tess DeWilde Kohler</td>
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<td>Patrick Fitzgerald Fegan</td>
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<td>Luke Christopher Jorgensen</td>
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<td>Emma Josephine McNorton</td>
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<td>Alexandru T. Niculescu</td>
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<td>Kevin Philips</td>
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<td>Sarah Pyykkonen</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Stehney</td>
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<td>Samuel David Summers</td>
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<td>Jenna Rose Swastek</td>
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<td>Amanda Teschner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Cecilia VanHaitsma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrie Michelle Veit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrie Veit</td>
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</table>

**Scholarships & Awards:**

- **Royal Oak PTA Council Donald M. Currie Memorial Scholarship, ELA Departmental Award, Outstanding Distinction**
- **Dedication to French, Departmental Award, Science Academic Distinction Award, Social Studies Departmental Award, Outstanding Editorial Commitment to Legacy**
- **Academic Excellence in French, Science Academic Distinction**
- **National Honor Society**
- **Phi Beta Kappa**
- **Summa Cum Laude**
- **Magna Cum Laude**
- **Cum Laude**
- **Graduated with Distinction**
- **National Honor Society**
- **Phi Beta Kappa**
- **Summa Cum Laude**
- **Magna Cum Laude**
- **Cum Laude**
- **Graduated with Distinction**
- **National Honor Society**
- **Phi Beta Kappa**

**School Activities:**

- **Drama Club**
- **Student Council**
- **Chairman of Student Council**
- **Multiple School Activities**
- **Multiple Honors Societies**
- **Multiple Leadership Positions**
- **Multiple Service Activities**
- **Multiple Awards**

**College:**

- **University of Michigan**
- **Oakland University**
- **Loyola University, Pre-Dental**
- **Loyola University, Majoring in Human Services & Social Work**
- **Michigan State University, Pre-Dental**
- **Royal Oak High School Class of 2017..**
- **Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce Scholarship**
- **Royal Oak Rotary Club Scholarship**
- **Royal Oak Women’s Club Scholarship**

**Scholarships & Awards:**

- **Oakland University Academic Achievement Award, MSBOA Scholar Musician**
- **Royal Oak PTA Council Donald M. Currie Memorial Scholarship, ELA Departmental Award**
- **Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors Scholarship, Academic Excellence in ELA, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction Award, Social Studies Departmental Award, Outstanding Editorial Commitment to Legacy**
- **Academic Excellence in French, Academic Excellence in Mathematics, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction, Social Studies Departmental Award, Dedication to French, Interact Presidential Service Award - Silver**
- **Royal Oak Rotary Club Austin Miller Scholarship, National Honor Society Top Contribution of Service Hours, Academic Excellence in French, Academic Excellence in Mathematics, Mathematics Achievement Award, Science Academic Distinction, Social Studies Departmental Award, Dedication to French, Interact Presidential Service Award - Silver**
- **European Honor Society Activities**
- **Multiple Honors Societies**
- **Multiple Leadership Positions**
- **Multiple Service Activities**
- **Multiple Awards**

**College:**

- **University of Michigan**
- **Oakland University**
- **Loyola University, Pre-Dental**
- **Loyola University, Majoring in Human Services & Social Work**
- **Michigan State University, Pre-Dental**

**Scholarships & Awards:**

- **Royal Oak PTA Council Donald M. Currie Memorial Scholarship, ELA Departmental Award, Outstanding Distinction**
- **Dedication to French, Departmental Award, Science Academic Distinction Award, Social Studies Departmental Award, Outstanding Editorial Commitment to Legacy**
- **Academic Excellence in French, Science Academic Distinction**
- **National Honor Society**
- **Phi Beta Kappa**
- **Summa Cum Laude**
- **Magna Cum Laude**
- **Cum Laude**
- **Graduated with Distinction**
- **National Honor Society**
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- **Drama Club**
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- **Multiple School Activities**
- **Multiple Honors Societies**
- **Multiple Leadership Positions**
- **Multiple Service Activities**
- **Multiple Awards**

**College:**

- **University of Michigan**
- **Oakland University**
- **Loyola University, Pre-Dental**
- **Loyola University, Majoring in Human Services & Social Work**
- **Michigan State University, Pre-Dental**
The things that come naturally to Royal Oak High School - the realness of people, the beauty of pure learning and doing, supreme friendships - these are the things that will be remembered with true fondness, when the idea of high school is brought to mind.*

We know that four years ago, we came to high school with some ideas. I knew nobody going in, aside from my older sister. But I was able to learn much. I was able to experience amazing things. I was able to make the greatest friends that anyone could ever ask for.*

Thanks to Royal Oak High School, we all have learned that doing our best might mean doing something over again. We've learned to do the right thing, even if it is difficult. We've learned to treat others as we would like to be treated. We've learned that teachers are friends, and that you are the one who ultimately decides how your day goes. I am always astonished at how friendly and helpful we have learned to be, when someone is in need.*

– Henry Thomas Eising

*Class of 2017 Commencement Meditations

– Henry Thomas Eising
We must of course bear in mind that we do not know everything. We are young. Above the busiest place in Royal Oak High School, the intersection bordering the glass hallway and the 100 wing, is written a simple enough quote from a stoic Roman philosopher, Seneca The Younger. It reads, “As long as you live, keep learning how to live.” Class of 2017, let us keep these words with us, always.*

2017 Churchill Community High School Graduates

Amber May Ather
Andrew M. Buchan
Sean J. Campbell
Sarah Charles
Christopher Erik Jacob Coker
Alexander Davenport
Garrett DiCarlo
Joseph Dykezel
Jake Anthony Ferrin
Carrington Kamiau Grant
Matthew D. Guzynski

2017 Adult Education Graduates

Monica Bugbee-Kenner
Mark K. Gushrowski
Glenn Ketos
Jade Allison Rasch
Ryan Anthony Schmit
Erricka Mason
Brittany Lynn Paul
Erica Nicole Parker

Royal Oak High School (ROHS) is one of the best public high schools in the State of Michigan according to the ‘2017 Best High School’ ranking by U.S. News and World Report. Of the 850 public high schools in Michigan, ROHS was one of only 79 schools awarded a silver medal. Six schools received gold medals and 160 received bronze medals. This is the third year in a row that Royal Oak High School has been awarded a silver medal designation.

“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.”

Michael Giromini, ROHS principal, added “This acknowledgement serves to highlight our outstanding students and the commitment of our teachers to improving outcomes for kids. We are fortunate at ROHS to build upon the strong foundation of our elementary and middle schools.” ROHS, along with Royal Oak Middle School, is an International Baccalaureate World School offering the Middle Years Programme.

To produce the ‘2017 Best High School’ ranking, U.S. News worked with RTI International, a global non-profit research firm. A four-step process determined the Best High Schools. The first three steps ensured that the schools serve all of their students well, using their performance on the math and reading parts of their state proficiency tests and their graduation rates as the benchmarks. For those schools that made it past the first three steps, a fourth step assessed the degree to which schools prepare students for college-level work.
Royal Oak Schools is accepting Schools of Choice applications for students who will be in kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade beginning in September 2017. Applications for these grades will be accepted now through August 11, 2017. The district will accept limited Schools of Choice applications for grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Applications will be accepted for these grades June 5-June 30. Eligible students must reside in Oakland County.

Schools of Choice applications are available on the district website, www.royaloakschools.org, and at the District Enrollment Office, 800 DeVillen, Royal Oak, 48073. The Enrollment Office is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The assignment of students to schools and classrooms will be on a space available basis. Once students are enrolled as Schools of Choice students in the district they may continue to attend through high school graduation, provided their enrollment is continuous.

For all Schools of Choice enrollments, the district reserves the right to refuse to enroll any non-resident applicant if that applicant is or has been suspended from another district within the preceding two years or if the applicant has ever been expelled from another district.

For additional information, call Gina Harwood, Enrollment Coordinator (248) 435-8400, Ext. 1260.

Kindergarten Vision Screening

Michigan law requires a vision screening for kindergarten entrance. A vision screening done by a health department technician, physician, or 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.
Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Royal Oak Schools Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) currently 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. The classroom is staffed with a certified K-8 teacher with AZ endorsement (early childhood emphasis) and an associate teacher. The student-to-teacher ratio is 8:1. Classes are held Monday through Thursday. This program is fully licensed through the State of Michigan.

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 for further information.

Young Oaks Before & After School Child Care Program

Royal Oak Schools offers a fee-based before and after school child care for school-aged children at each of the six elementary schools.

The Young Oaks 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 Evelyn Maurer at (248) 288-3220, Ext. 3561.

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 3:15-9:15 p.m.

School Calendar: Two 15-week semesters are offered between September and May. Classes begin September 11, 2017.

Registration Begins August 28, 2017
Registration Fee: $25.00
Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays and Thursdays 2:00-6:00 p.m.

For more details, please see www.royaloakschools.org/churchillcenter/adult-education.

Tuition: Non-high school graduates who do not attend school during the day can take classes free of charge. Students who attend school during the day must pay a tuition fee for evening classes and bring a signed permission slip from their high school counselor that includes approved courses for the student to take.

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, including the online program Burlington English. Daytime classes are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. Evening classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 6:15 to 9:15 p.m. Classes will begin September 11. 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, between Rochester & Campbell Roads)

Registration begins August 21, 2017
Registration Fee: $25.00
Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays and Thursdays 2:00-6:00 p.m.

For more details, please see www.royaloakschools.org/churchillcenter/esl/

G.E.D.

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 English skills, writing and math. There will also be a personalized online skill-builder used, and test-taking skills will be taught. You can earn one unit of credit while you prepare for the G.E.D. test. Classes are free and begin September 11. For further information, call (248) 588-5050, Ext. 1520.

Registration Begins August 28, 2017
Registration Fee: $25
Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays and Thursdays 2:00-6:00 p.m.

For more details, please see www.royaloakschools.org/churchillcenter/ged-prep/

Royal Oak Schools Go Green

Three Achieve Highest Michigan “Evergreen” Designation

Three Royal Oak schools (Addams, Oakland and Oak Ridge Elementary) achieved the highest “Evergreen” school status in the State of Michigan Green Schools Program. Northwood Elementary received an “Emerald” designation and Royal Oak High School and Upton were named “Green” schools. Addams, Northwood and Oak Ridge also received 10 year awards for their continued participation in the program.

The Green Schools Program encourages schools to participate in environmentally friendly and energy savings activities. If a school participates in 20 activities, it may be designated a Michigan Evergreen School. Those participating in 15 activities may be named a Michigan Emerald School. A school achieving 10 of the 20 listed activities may apply to be a Michigan Green School. In the letter of congratulations, Michigan Green Schools said, “it is obvious from the applications that you have captured the intent of the program and engaged your students and faculty to think and act green!”

The four categories of activities for official green school qualification are:

1. Reduce/Reuse/Recycle
2. Energy
3. Environmental Protection
4. Miscellaneous.
1. What is on the November 7, 2017 ballot?
On November 7, 2017, voters in Royal Oak Schools will be asked to consider a bond proposal to improve our school facilities, improve site and traffic flow of students and staff, and provide up-to-date instructional technology and equipment to support the District’s goal that our students remain globally competitive. The 2017 Bond will focus on five key areas:

- Site
- Facility
- Technology
- Equipment
- Athletics

In 2016, our debt millage rate was 3.75 mills. This was reduced to 3.25 mills in June 2017. It is projected that if the voters approve the bond proposal the reduced millage rate of 3.25 mills would remain the same. The District has structured the bond issue to avoid any increase in the millage rate if voters approve the bond proposal. The bond proposal authorizes the issuance of $59.9 million of bonds in multiple series.

2. What are the major features of this bond proposal?

- **Site Upgrades**
  Improving and developing sites, including traffic flow, sidewalks, fencing, parking areas, play surfaces and play equipment.

- **Facility Upgrades**
  We are seeking to make improvements to the learning environments students experience daily. Improvements include additions to and remodeling of existing school buildings. Depending on each building, such improvements may include creating new academic spaces, multipurpose rooms, updated science classrooms, updated band, orchestra and art classrooms, modern computer labs, food service and cafeteria spaces. Building components such as HVAC, electrical panel boards and switchboards and other systems beyond their useful life will be improved or replaced.

- **Technology Upgrades**
  To prepare our students to interact and compete in a global environment, the district believes it is critical for them to have up-to-date instructional technology tools to facilitate learning. Technology equipment upgrades throughout our facilities will support modern teaching and learning and help our students learn skills that are expected by colleges and employers.

- **Instructional Equipment**
  Providing curriculum appropriate equipment in our classrooms will support our goal to create an engaging and active learning environment. The proposed bond program will allow us to replace outdated furniture and provide needed science, music, art, athletic and core classroom instructional equipment to meet the requirements of the ROS curriculum.

- **Athletic Upgrades**
  Athletic facilities are often the first experience a resident has of ROHS; we want them to be welcoming and convey our commitment to excellence. Current ticket and concessions facilities lack capacity for large attendance events. For track, soccer, lacrosse, football, there are currently no team rooms or restrooms accessible to teams. Our current tennis courts are beyond their useful life and require complete reconstruction to continue our program at the high school; resurfacing them is no longer an option. As we replace the track and tennis courts, we want to do so in a way that improves both venues so that they are suitable for hosting regional events. The updating of our current athletic field and facilities will help us remain competitive in student recruitment and retention.

3. How do Royal Oak Schools’ taxes compare to surrounding Districts?
Compare millage rates in the “Locally Determined Taxes to Support Schools” chart at right.

4. What is the impact of the bond proposal to our current debt millage rate?
In 2016, our debt millage rate was 3.75 mills. This was reduced to 3.25 mills in June 2017. It is projected that if the voters approve the bond proposal the reduced millage rate of 3.25 mills would remain the same. The District has structured the bond issue to avoid any increase in the millage rate if voters approve the bond proposal. As currently projected, the debt millage would begin to decline again in 2021. Under this projection, all of the District’s existing bonds and the bonds sold as a part of this proposal would be paid off by 2028 at which time the debt millage would go to zero assuming the voters have not authorized any additional bonds. See chart at right.
5. What are the benefits of the bond proposal for residents who don’t have students in the District?

It is widely believed that strong schools build strong communities. Realtors and city officials regularly report that the number one reason people choose to live in Royal Oak is the strength of our school system. Preserving our facilities and continuing our efforts to provide an exemplary school district help maintain every resident’s property values. Additionally, the District’s school facilities and sites are regularly used by the community for recreational/athletic opportunities and events, meetings, performances, and senior citizen activities. Taking care of these facilities helps preserve and protect the community’s investment in our schools.
Summer Sports Camps

The Royal Oak 2017 Summer Sports Camp programs run from June 26 to August 9 according to the following schedule:

**Pistons Academy Summer Camp**
- June 26-June 30, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Ages 8-14 Cost $230

**Track & Field/Cross Country Youth Camp**
- June 26-30, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Ages 7-13 Cost $75

**Boys & Girls Soccer Camp**
- June 26-30, 10:00 a.m.-Noon, Ages 6-7 Cost $60
- July 10-14, 10:00 a.m.-Noon, Ages 8-10 Cost $75

**Cheerleading Camp**
- June 27-30, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Ages 6-13 Cost $72

**Volleyball**
- July 10-13, 2:00-3:45 p.m., Ages 9-11 Cost $60
- July 10-13, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Ages 12-14 Cost $72

**Boys & Girls Tennis**
- July 10-13, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Ages 8-16 Cost $82

**Boys Basketball Fundamental Camp**
- July 17-20, 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Ages 7-14 Cost $91

**Baseball**
- June 19-22, 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Ages 5-11 Cost $91
- July 31-August 4, 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Ages 5-11 Cost $91
- August 1-3, 12:30-3:30 p.m., Ages 12-16 Cost $91

**Dance Camp**
- August 9, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Ages 5-13 Cost $40

For further information, contact the Athletic Department at (248) 435-8500, Ext. 1148 or visit www.royaloakschools.org.

**Recreational Swim Program**

**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday**
- Monday, June 19-Thursday, August 10

**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Evenings:**
- 7:15-8:30 p.m. Children & Adults
- 8:30-9:45 p.m. Adults Only
- Royal Oak Middle School 709 N. Washington, between 11 Mile and Catalpa

**Monday-Thursday Afternoon:**
- 12:15-1:15 p.m. Children & Adults
- Royal Oak High School 1500 Lexington

**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 times for a cost of $40 for 10 visits.

**Addams Elementary Mosaic Unveiled**

Students, teachers, parents and members of the community worked for nearly a year to create a special mosaic for Addams Elementary School. The mosaic was unveiled to staff, students, and volunteers on Wednesday, May 31.

Former Addams student Elizabeth Murray created the logo for the Addams Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports system. In October, fifth graders Sarah Barnett and Kate Crosby designed the surrounding area of the logo consisting of overlapping hands to show the connection between all students in each grade level. First grade is red, second grade is yellow, third grade is blue, and fourth grade is green. Kindergartners are represented by grey circle tiles in the background because “the kindergartners are what bring us together,” said Sarah and Kate. A soaring eagle was created by the fifth graders to represent the group as they ‘soar’ on to the next chapter of their academic journey.

Every Addams student designed a piece of the mosaic. The colors selected are Addams colors. Blue represents Safety First, yellow represents Kindness Counts, green represents Always Respectful, and red represents Outstanding Learners. “We wanted to show those behaviors because it is what we follow and do. The students and teachers make sure that Addams is a friendly and safe environment,” explained Sarah and Kate.

In December, all students made tiles for the mosaic. They rolled out slabs of clay, cut shaped tiles, textured the tiles with a variety of tools and drew into the clay. In February and March, all students and many teachers glazed the tiles. During the March Elementary Open House, parents glued tiles down to the seven foot mosaic frame. Three retired teachers and a former parent of Addams volunteered to assist students, teachers, and parents during the process.

**Addams Elementary Principal Joe Youanes, Superintendent Shawn Lewis-Lakin and Addams Art Teacher Alicia Cergnul at the unveiling of the seven-foot student inspired Addams mosaic.**

In May, students mixed the grout and helped fill spaces on the cement board. The students were assisted by teachers, retired teachers Vikki Forester and Kim Glushyn, staff, volunteers, and Royal Oak mosaic artist Laurie Eisenhower.

“It has always been an aspiration of mine to bring Addams together through art. The objective of this project was to engage, inspire, and to create an authentic attachment to one’s community,” said Addams Art Teacher Alicia Cergnul. “The Addams community created this art piece. It owns this art piece and it will serve for generations to come, as a testament to what can be accomplished through cooperation.”

**Danielle Wherry Named Royal Oak Schools Support Person of the Year**

Danielle Wherry was named Royal Oak Schools Support Person of the Year. Ms. Wherry is the main office secretary at the Churchill Community Education Center serving Churchill Community High School, TRAILS transition program for adults ages 19-24, Royal Oak Continuing Education (ROCE) programs including GED preparation, high school completion, adult basic education, adult secondary education and English as a Second Language.

According to Melissa Hutchinson, Supervisor of Adult and Alternative Education, “Danielle is absolutely amazing when dealing with our teenagers – she is mothering when they are in need of an adult to care; she is tough when they need someone to support them. She also works...”
with many of the adults who enroll in the varied ROCE programs. She is always pleasant, helpful, and goes above and beyond to meet the needs of the person in question. I am so very appreciative of how much she cares about everyone here and am honored to nominate her for this award."

Three staff members wrote letters of recommendation for Ms. Wherry:

■ Patricia Huber-Burns, Instructor – “Danielle has a very nice, kind, and caring disposition. She is always interested in the well-being of both students and staff members. She continually ensures that the work environment is run efficiently and effectively. Danielle is a total asset to our educational community.”

■ Ann Nordlof, Instructor – “She is the first person anyone sees when they come into the building and represents us all very well.”

■ Robert Dietiker, Transition Coordinator – “Her authentic connection with all people, combined with her ability to navigate through many tasks seemingly at once, raises this school to a higher level of achieving our goal: ‘Helping students graduate from high school and lead successful and productive lives.’”

**PBS NewsHour Names ROHS Junior 2017 Student Reporting Labs Fellow**

Royal Oak High School junior Rebecca Messner was named to the PBS NewsHour’s third annual Student Reporting Labs Academy in Washington, D.C. She is one of 20 youth storytellers from throughout the country who were selected. The students will work alongside public media mentors to produce original digital content and sharpen their journalism and production skills. The fellows will also help program leaders develop strategies to engage young people with the news and current affairs, and ensure that diverse youth voices are active in the conversations about critical issues facing the nation.

“The partnership with ROHS and The Student Reporting Labs give students like Becca the opportunity to learn directly from broadcast professionals and experience, first hand, what it is like to work in broadcast journalism,” said Video/TV/Production Skills Fellow ROHS Junior Rebecca Messner.

Media Instructor Michael Conrad. “I could not be more proud of the work Becca has submitted this year and this recognition only solidifies the quality of her craft.”

For her six-word memoir, Rebecca wrote “Create and find stories – tell them!” Rebecca explains her interest in storytelling, “Whether you look for them or they approach, the world is FULL of stories. I got involved with storytelling because it makes me so incredibly happy to share ideas and shed light onto things that matter.”

When asked what she thinks a newsroom will look like 50 years from now, she said “Fifty years from now, I think a newsroom will be full of paper-thin televisions and touchscreen monitors. I think everything will be automated and there won’t be a need for people.”

During the 2016-17 school year, these young journalists contributed to the NewsHour’s broadcast and digital platforms with Letters to the Next President, stories of New Americans, 13 Reasons Why and two upcoming series on overcoming disabilities and America’s National Parks.

Student Reporting Labs is supported by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting’s American Graduate: Let’s make it happen initiative, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health Science Education Partnership Award.

**Two Addams Elementary Students Score in Michigan Art Education Association Art Competition**

The Michigan Art Education Association (MAEA) recently recognized two talented Addams Elementary students – fifth grader Charlotte Murray and first grader Evelyn Copeland-Norton.

Charlotte’s artwork was selected for the 2017 MAEA Statewide Elementary Art Show which was displayed at Western Michigan University. The Statewide Art Show selected the top 83 entries in the state of Michigan. According to Charlotte, her colored marker and sharpie artwork, “The Sunrise of a Lifetime,” depicts “the image of two best friends having a good time together.”

“I was inspired by the pointillism project to reach out of my comfort zones,” said Charlotte.

“And the final project turned out to be well worth the risk.”

First Grader Evelyn Copeland-Norton

Evelyn Copeland-Norton’s artwork was selected for the 2017-2018 Michigan Department of Education Exhibit in Lansing. “Filled with Color” is the title of Evelyn’s marker and colored pencil artwork. “It took lots of time to get the details in,” said Evelyn. In describing her piece, she explained, “The left eye is the initial of my first name. I call it my first signature. The heart on her left cheek is a tattoo.”

Art Teacher Alicia Cergnul and Fifth Grader Charlotte Murray

Art Teacher Alicia Cergnul, commended both students, saying, “Charlotte and Evelyn’s artistic talents are supported by their dedication to learning new art skills. Their commitment to their artwork and fearless efforts to explore new art skills is a large contribution to this extraordinary accomplishment.”

“Filled with Color”

“The Sunrise of a Lifetime”
ROHS Junior’s Short Story Receives Holocaust Memorial Center Anne Frank Writing Competition Award

Royal Oak High School (ROHS) Junior Hannah Lefave received third place in the short story category of The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus first annual Kappy Family Anne Frank Art & Writing Competition. The competition was open to Oakland County students in grades eight through 12.

As part of the competition’s theme, “The Power of One,” which emphasized the impact that an individual can – and must – make in the world, students were invited to create a written or artistic response to the following quotation of Anne Frank’s: “How wonderful it is that no one need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

Hannah’s story is about a boy who grew up in Germany. He has many achievements, but it is revealed he is a Nazi. A profound event occurs in his life that changes him and his life forever. “I thought many people might write a story from the perspective of a victim of the Holocaust,” said Hannah. “I thought it might be compelling to try to take a different approach.”

ROHS Principal Michael Giromini congratulated Hannah saying, “We’re proud of Hannah for taking a risk and for publishing her creative work. She is a great student and, as evidenced by this recognition, a great person as well.”

C-SPAN Honors Four ROHS Students Who Took Top Honors in National StudentCam Documentary Competition

C-SPAN came to Royal Oak High School June 8, to recognize four students who took top honors in the national 2017 StudentCam documentary competition (Central Division). The students were asked to produce short documentaries answering the question “Your message to Washington: What is the most urgent issue for the new president and Congress to address in 2017?”

Royal Oak High School winners are:

- **First Prize**
  Jarod Clark, 12th Grade
  “Enough is Enough”

- **Second Prize**
  Mary Sier, 12th Grade
  “Incarceration Nation”

- **Third Prize**
  Rebecca Messner, 11th Grade
  “Gender Inequality”

- **Honorable Mention**
  Grace Novak, 12th Grade
  “Policing the Media”

“With the new president and Congress in office, we wanted to hear from students about public policy issues they would like addressed in 2017,” said Craig McAndrew, C-SPAN’s Manager of Education Relations. “Student Cam offers young people the opportunity to connect with lawmakers and experts and provides them with a platform to voice their opinions creatively.”

C-SPAN received 2,903 video submissions from over 5,600 students. Entries came from 46 states, as well as Washington D.C., England, Germany, Singapore and Taiwan.

ROHS C-SPAN honorees Mary Sier, Rebecca Messner and Jarod Clark with ROHS Video/TV/Media Instructor Mike Conrad (second from left)

ROHS Choir Italian Concert Tour

Twenty-seven members of the Royal Oak High School a cappella choir enjoyed a concert tour in Italy this spring. The students visited Pisa, Florence, Rome, Venice and Lucca.

In Lucca, the choir performed a Friendship Concert with the Lucca high school choir in their cathedral.

The ROHS choir is directed by Deborah Buffa. This trip was Ms. Buffa’s fourth student European concert tour.