Dear Royal Oak Community,

More than 300 students are part of this year’s Class of 2019, and with the following pages we celebrate them!

Throughout May, families, friends and Royal Oak Schools staff honored Churchill Community High School, Continuing Education and Royal Oak High School graduates. During commencement ceremonies, scholarship breakfasts & lunches, athletic celebrations and much more, these students have been recognized for their accomplishments and hard work. The entire Royal Oak Schools community enjoys seeing the pride our students demonstrate as they pursue their education and the activities that motivate them.

Over the summer, our community will see several changes to our buildings, specifically Keller, Oak Ridge and Royal Oak High School, thanks to your support of the 2017 bond proposal. We appreciate your patience as we improve the educational spaces and upgrade building safety features for our students. Please be sure to check our website and social media pages for updates throughout the summer.

We also want to recognize the dedication of our staff and faculty, and the overall support of the many members of the Royal Oak organizations who support our students all year. With the commitment of our entire community, our students are able to seek and meet the goals they have set for themselves, and we are able to continue to offer exceptional programs and opportunities.

Congratulations, again, to the graduates, and to the students who will be attending our schools for the first time, or moving on to Royal Oak Middle School or ROHS. We wish you all the best and can’t wait to see how you impact our community and beyond.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Fitzpatrick, Superintendent
Royal Oak High School
Class of 2019 Top Graduating Seniors

Spencer Barrer
GPA: 4.16
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Planning to major in electrical engineering, college and university decision pending
Activities: Royal Oak Model United Nations, Student Advisory Council, National Honor Society, Varsity Tennis, General Motors You Make A Difference Program, Piano & Graphic Design

Daniel Bem
GPA: 4.08
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Oakland University majoring in chemistry
Activities: Football, Euchre Club, church, Wind Ensemble

Daniel Bercasio
GPA: 4.06
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: College TBD
Activities: Volunteering & music-related activities

Brooke Blackwell
GPA: 3.98
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan, Rochester University or Syracuse University
Activities: Interact, Senior Class Officer, Student Council, Model United Nations, National Honor Society, Varsity Volleyball & Varsity Tennis

Walter Braun
GPA: 3.95
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan majoring in archaeology
Activities: Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band, Jazz Combo

Jacques Finch
GPA: 4.24
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan
Activities: Job

Andrew Hendren
GPA: 4.0
College Plans: Michigan State University, Evans Scholar
Activities: National Honor Society, Student Council, Track, Cross Country, Relief Trip, Ski

Noah Johnson
GPA: 4.00
Summa Cum Laude
Plans for next year: Pilot
Activities: Soccer, National Honor Society

Drew Meinecke
GPA: 4.18
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan
Activities: Cross Country Track, Drama Club, Choir, Royal Oak Historical Society, Student Advisory Council, National Honor Society

Bennett Meissner
GPA: 3.97
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan or Michigan State University, majoring in mechanical or electrical engineering

Aleksander Milosevic
GPA: 3.95
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Michigan Technical University
Activities: Ping Pong Club, National Honor Society

Maria Pacifico
GPA: 4.15
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan
Activities: Flute Choir, Model United Nations, Tennis, National Honor Society

Daniel Romito
GPA: 4.20
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan or Notre Dame University
Activities: Tennis, Baseball, Basketball, Band, National Honor Society, Ping Pong Club

Kolton Sarate
GPA: 4.03
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: University of Michigan majoring in engineering
Activities: Marching Band, Jazz Band, Jazz Combo, Pit Orchestra, Piano for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Civic Youth Jazz Orchestra

Paul Sesi
GPA: 3.99
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Wayne State University
Activities: National Honor Society

Abigail VanHaitsma
GPA: 4.05
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Loyola University Chicago majoring in social work
Activities: Drama Club, Interact, Model United Nations, National Honor Society

Sophie Webster
GPA: 4.08
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Hope College
Activities: Dance

Elliot Widd
GPA: 4.15
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Wayne State University majoring in bioengineering
Activities: Political Activism, Reading, Playing Basketball at the Y

Katherine Woznicki
GPA: 4.10
Summa Cum Laude
College Plans: Grand Valley State University
Activities: Swim, Tennis, National Honor Society
Royal Oak High School Class of 2019
Graduates’ Achievements

The following is a summary of the academic achievements of the Royal Oak High School Class of 2019:

Awards

Summa Cum Laude ................................................. 19
Magna Cum Laude ................................................. 12
Cum Laude .......................................................... 13
Graduated with Distinction ................................. 37
National Honor Society ....................................... 35
American Legion Guy M. Wilson Scholarship ........... 1
Jack C. Shader Memorial Scholarship ...................... 1
Oak Ridge Elementary Alumni Scholarship .............. 2
Realtor Scholarship .............................................. 1
Robotics Ford Scholarship .................................... 1
Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce Scholarship ........ 5
Royal Oak Education Association Scholarship ........ 3
Royal Oak Education Foundation Scholarship ........ 3
Susan Abraham Memorial/Royal Oak Staff Scholarship 5
Royal Oak PTA Donald M. Curie Scholarship .......... 8
Royal Oak Rotary Club Scholarship ....................... 4
Royal Oak Women’s Club Scholarship ................... 1
William S. Broomfield Citizenship Scholarship ........ 2

2019 ROHS Top Grads

Summa Cum Laude 3.95-4+
Spencer Barrer  Noah Johnson  Paul Sesi
Daniel Bem  Drew Meinecke  Abigail VanHaitsma
Daniel Bercasio  Bennett Meissner  Sophie Webster
Brooke Blackwell  Aleksander Milosevic  Elliot Widd
Walter Braun  Maria Pacifico  Katherine Woznicki
Jacques Finch  Daniel Romito  Kolton Sarate
Andrew Hendren

Magna Cum Laude 3.85-3.94
Austin Ingalls  Thomas McEwen  Nicolas Sesi
Olivia Karsama  Isabel Mowry  Abigail Tyner
Heather Loosle  Alexandra Padfield  Malina Wojtylo
Lucas Manther  Emily Renew  Johnathan Zalewski

Cum Laude 3.75-3.84
Timofij Blysniuk  Abhigya Khanal  Maxwell Summers
Vayden Brady  Joseph Kish  Sean Toggweiler
Hannah DeVries  Keith Nemecek  Eli Yarmy
Keri Geis  Meredith Parks
Hannah Kessler  Rebecca Schulte
Royal Oak High School receives ‘Best High School’ status

Each year the U.S. News and World Report names the ‘Best High Schools,’ and for the fifth year in a row, Royal Oak High School was on the list.

“This award is an affirmation of all the hard work and the talents of our kids and teachers,” Principal Mike Giromini, said. “It’s also a reflection of all the impressive things happening across Royal Oak Schools and the commitment of our elementary school, middle school and high school teams.”

According to U.S. News and World Report, “a great high school educates all students from different social and economic backgrounds, exposing them to challenging coursework on the path to graduation. The highest ranked U.S. public schools in U.S. News & World Report’s 2019 Best High Schools rankings are those whose attendees demonstrated outstanding outcomes above expectations in math and reading state assessments, passed a diverse array of college-level exams and graduated in high proportions.”

To produce the ‘2019 Best High School’ ranking, U.S. News worked with RTI International, a global non-profit social research firm. Schools were ranked based on six weighted indicators: college readiness (30%), college curriculum breadth (10%), math and reading proficiency (20%), math and reading performance (20%), underserved student performance (10%) and graduation rate (10%). In past years, schools received a bronze, silver or gold medals, however the organization did not use those designations this year.
**Pre-K – 12 Enrollment Requirements/Procedures**

**District Central Enrollment Office**  
800 Devillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073  
**Enrollment Office Hours:** Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Phone:** (248) 435-8400, Ext. 1260    **Fax:** (248) 280-2591

Royal Oak Schools processes new student enrollments online at www.royaloakschools.org. Click on the Enrollment tab and pre-enrollment link to begin this process. A computer is available for use on-site if needed. Once you have completed the online enrollment, you will need to bring all required documentation to the Central Enrollment Office to complete the process.

**Required Documentation:**

- Original birth certificate with seal  
  (demonstrating parentage of custodial parent)
- Valid driver’s license (or state ID showing photo identification of parent/guardian name and current address)
- Immunization records
- Vision screening (Kindergarten only)
- Transcript of final grades (students in grades 9-12)
- Special education documents – current IEP
  (for students receiving special education services)
- Residency documentation and verification

**Residency Requirements:**

A qualifying residence is defined as a residential dwelling that is either a single family principle residence as recorded with the Michigan Treasury, or a legal single family rental unit that meets the Michigan Treasury and local community requirements for a rental.

**To establish a qualifying residence, the district requires:**

**Homeowner** (provide two proofs):

- The deed to the property or current mortgage statement in the name of the person seeking to enroll the student(s) must be provided.
- A current property tax statement in the name of the person seeking to enroll the student(s). To qualify as a homeowner, the property must be declared as a principle residence in accordance with state law and guidelines.
- Current utility bills within the last 30 days addressed to the person enrolling the student(s).

**Renter** (provide two proofs):

- An original, signed complete lease in the name of the person seeking to enroll the student(s).
- Current utility bills within the last 30 days addressed to the person enrolling the student(s).

**Shared Housing** (provide two proofs):  
If living in someone else’s home or apartment, a notarized Shared Housing Form is required. It must be signed by the homeowner/lease holder and applicant in the presence of a notary public. This document must be accompanied by:

- Proof of residency, see above requirements.
- A copy of both parties driver’s licenses.

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**Young Oaks Before & After School Child Care Program**

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 to enhance the child’s physical, social and academic growth.

**Churchill Community High School**

Daytime Alternative High School program for students under the age of 20 as of September 1st of the current school year.  
**Days:** Monday through Friday  
**School Calendar:** A student can take a varying course load to earn 2.5-3.0 credits per trimester.  
Potential new students, please 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 3:15-9:15 p.m.  
**School Calendar:** Two 15-week semesters are offered between September and May. Classes begin September 9, 2019.

**Registration Fee:** $25.00

**Churchill Community Education Center**  
707 Girard, Royal Oak (between 12 & 13 Mile Roads, between Rochester & Campbell Roads)  
**Registration begins August 19, 2019**  
**Registration Fee:** $25.00

**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 9. 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 19, 2019**  
**Registration Fee:** $25.00

**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 begin September 9. For further information, call (248) 588-5050, Ext. 1520.

**Registration Begins August 19, 2019**  
**Registration Fee:** $25

**For more details, please see**  
www.royaloakschools.org/churchill-center/esl/
Literature and volunteer work don’t necessarily seem to go hand-in-hand, but seniors at Royal Oak High School make the connection each year.

The annual English Language Arts 12 service project begins with inspiration from a novel. Students choose to investigate a problem and then plan a project that will work towards solving that problem. They then execute the project and complete it by reflecting on what they’ve learned.

“I love seeing the creativity students bring to these projects,” Leah Barnett, ELA 12 teacher said. “They find issues that matter to them and use their passion to design very interesting and unique projects that make a difference for others. I also enjoy seeing the usage of so many different skills, both literacy-related and much more.”

This year, the classes raised $33,829.81 and donated 3,907 items to charitable causes. Barnett said that several students hosted interesting fundraising events, from a Gatorball tournament to a student concert at the high school to a water polo tournament. They also set a new record, volunteering 1,208 hours combined.

“I was thrilled with the increase in volunteerism this year,” Barnett said. “Having a chance to change the world is a hope all teachers have for their students. It is a joy to watch them use their power in authentic ways.”

Congratulations to the students for the completion of their projects, their generous spirit and their successes in achieving their goals. The seniors worked for the benefit of more than 100 community organizations, including:

- Teen Clean Closet
- Breast Cancer Research Foundation
- American Red Cross
- Royal Oak Animal Shelter
- Detroit Swims
- Help Iraq
- Michigan Abolitionist Project
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Wounded Warriors Family Support
- ROHS Football
- America’s VetDogs
- Judson Center
- Jorden & Ashley Siegel Fund/Royal Oak
- Jed Foundation
- New Beginnings Cat Shelter

Royal Oak Schools to make building improvements for the 2019-20 school year

During summer 2019, Keller Elementary, Oak Ridge Elementary and Royal Oak High School (ROHS) are the three schools receiving the most visible improvements.

The projects are part of the bond work approved by Royal Oak voters in 2017. Between 2018 and 2022, all Royal Oak Schools buildings will have received improvements related to instruction, technology and infrastructure.

Community members will see several exterior improvements from now until the beginning of the school year, but there will be more updates than can be seen from the outside. Besides a new entrance and parking lot at Keller, a new parking lot at Oak Ridge and additions at ROHS to accommodate arts and kitchen renovations, the schools will be undergoing interior changes.

On the inside, Keller will receive new flooring, doors, bathrooms, SMART boards, teacher workstations and the EPIC (Education Paging & Intercom Communications) sound system. Former locker rooms will be remodeled to kindergarten classrooms and the main office will be relocated to the new main entrance. The former main office will be remodeled to be special education and support, like occupational and physical therapy classrooms.

“Keller used to be a middle school, so it was not designed for an elementary school student,” said Principal Marcie Dryden. “It still has a middle school feel to it, and these renovations will make the school elementary sized and standard.”

Oak Ridge will also have new SMART boards, the EPIC sound system and a renovated, modern learning commons for the beginning of the 2019 school year. Classrooms will have all new flexible furniture, and there will be new spaces for occupational and physical therapy.

“The parking lot will open up a new point of access for our parents and our students,” said Principal Jason Parrott. “It will also provide us a walking path to the parking, and it will make our east playground more aesthetically pleasing. It will improve drop off and pickup, alleviate congestion in the front parking lot and provide safer environment for our families.”

Arts students at ROHS will see many updates this fall, as a new addition will allow for improvements in their instructional spaces, new green rooms and remodeled band, choir and orchestra spaces. Science classrooms will also be completely remodeled.

Principal Michael Giromini said that many of the updates, including new turf on the football field, are because of advances in researching and technology.

“It’s been some time since those spaces were updated and we know more about teaching and learning than we did back then,” Giromini said. “We tried to design the spaces to be as flexible as possible and to provide more comprehensive programs. Outside, the turf is going to have a new shock absorption system that’s intended to be safer for athletes and it should extend the life of the turf.”

The EPIC sound system will also be installed at ROHS and Royal Oak Middle School before the start of next school year.

Last summer, an athletic plaza was constructed at ROHS, including a new concession area, track, tennis courts and team buildings. New playground equipment was also installed at Oakland, Addams, Northwood and Upton elementary schools.

All projects impacting student learning will begin immediately following the last day of school and are expected to be finished by the start of the 2019-20 school year.

ROHS: Construction on arts and kitchen additions to the high school has begun and is expected to be completed at the end of summer 2019.

Keller: Keller’s main entrance will be changed from the front (picted) to the back of the building to allow for easier and safer access from parking lots.

Oak Ridge: A new parking lot on the east side of Oak Ridge (picted) will improve pick-up and drop-off congestion for families at the school.
Summer Sports Camps

Royal Oak Schools offers a number of sports camps this summer, which will run from now through August 7 according to the following schedule. For further information, contact the athletic department at 248-435-8500, Ext. 1148.

Pistons Academy Summer Camp*
June 24-June 27, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Ages 4-14 – Cost $240

The Pistons, in conjunction with Royal Oak Schools, is pleased to offer an exciting camp opportunity this summer. This camp is loaded with instruction, games, fun and an element of Pistons entertainment that no other camp can match! Our format is designed to satisfy a wide range of skill levels. Whether your camper is a confident superstar, a shy beginner or somewhere in between, our coaches will provide the appropriate level of instruction. Directors Geo Thomas and Royal Oak Basketball Head Coach Aaron Smith have combined 46 years experience directing sports camps and are prepared to bring a fun and fast-paced agenda to the Royal Oak community. Along with fundamentals and the importance of teamwork, Pistons Academy Camps offer amenities that no other camps can match: Pistons Mascot Hooper, live updates on our website and social media, appearances by Pistons players, both past and present (based on availability), the Flight Crew and so much more!

*Registration for this camp must be through the Pistons. Please do not return registration form to Royal Oak Schools for this camp. Location: Royal Oak Middle School Gym and second location to be determined.

Track & Field/Cross Country Youth Camp
June 24-27, 9:30-11:00 a.m., Ages 7-13 – Cost $75

Campers will be exposed to the combined technical development and fundamental techniques with safety and a major focus on fun! Using special equipment, our exercises, running games and drills will prepare the camper for a future in cross country, track and field events and distance running. This camp will inspire a love for running and being active. The fundamentals of body positioning, stride, proper stretching and cool-down techniques are all covered in this unique program. Camp Coordinator: Dela Jackson and Don Jackson, Royal Oak High School Cross Country and Track Coaches. Location: Royal Oak Middle High School Track

Softball Camp
June 24-June 26, 9:00-11:30 a.m., Ages 8-14 – Cost $60

This camp will focus on individual and group instruction with drills designed to improve fundamental softball skills and help each player gain confidence in abilities and knowledge of the game. Offensive drills (hitting, bunting, base running, pitch selection), defensive skills (infield, outfield, footwork), and softball situations will be taught. All campers will be grouped based upon age and skill level. Camp Coordinator: Erica Hayworth, Royal Oak High School Varsity Softball Coach. Location: Royal Oak High School Softball Field

Tee Ball Camp
June 24-28 (2 sessions), 9:00-9:40 a.m. or 10:00-10:40 a.m., Ages 4-6 – Cost $30
July 15-July 19, 9:00-9:40 a.m., Ages 4-6 – Cost $30
July 29-August 2, 9:00 a.m.-9:40 a.m., Ages 4-6 – Cost $30

A fun and exciting introduction to baseball and the use of a batting tee. Throwing, ground ball and fly ball techniques will be introduced, as well as base running and hitting off a tee. Class is limited to 16 players per session. All players will receive daily prizes. Camp Coordinator: Greg Porter, Royal Oak High School Varsity Baseball Coach. Location: Royal Oak High School Baseball Field

Boys & Girls Tennis Camp
July 8-11 (rain date July 12), 8:30-11:30 a.m., Ages 8-14 – Cost $85

This camp will focus on group instruction and drills that are designed to introduce and improve tennis skills in a supportive and fun environment. Campers will learn forehand, backhand, serves, volleys and court movement. There will be team games and double matches with fun awards and prizes. Campers should wear tennis shoes, shorts and t-shirts and should bring their own racquet. Camps and visors are also suggested. Campers will have two 15 minute breaks and should bring a snack; water will be provided for bottle refills. Camp Coordinator: Kevin Friese, Royal Oak High School Varsity Tennis Coach and Royal Oak Elementary Physical Education Teacher. Location: Royal Oak High School Tennis Courts

Cheerleading Camp
July 9-12, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Ages 6-13 – Cost $36

Come learn and have fun with the Royal Oak High School Varsity Cheer team and Coach Jessica Tolonen. This camp is for those who want to perfect their cheer technique or try cheerleading for the first time. There will be group and individual instruction covering the fundamentals of cheerleading. Included techniques: proper movements/placement, jumps, basic/intermediate tumbling, stunting safety and basic/intermediate stunt sequence. We will also teach favorite Raven sideline chants and cover sideline etiquette. Each camper should wear shorts, shirt and gym shoes and bring a water bottle. Camp Coordinator: Jessica Tolonen, Royal Oak High School Varsity Sideline and Competitive Cheer Coach. Location: Royal Oak Middle School Gym

Volleyball Camp
July 15-18, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Ages 9-11 – Cost $60
July 15-18, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Ages 12-14 – Cost $72

Start your volleyball career off in the right direction! This camp will focus on the basic fundamentals of volleyball including: passing, setting, hitting and serving, as well as strategy to improve one’s overall game. Your child will have a positive experience at our camp, regardless of skill level. Camp Coordinators: Kaitlyn Miller & Clara Schultz, Royal Oak High School Volleyball Coaches. Location: Royal Oak Middle School Gym

Baseball Camp
July 15-17, Advanced Camp, 9:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Ages 7-12 – Cost $58
July 15-19, 9:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Ages 7-12 – Cost $95
July 29-August 2, 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Ages 7-12 – Cost $95

Participants will be instructed in all areas of the game of baseball. Fundamentals will be emphasized through the use of station work and a variety of baseball drills. Players are placed based upon ability and age appropriateness. Areas of development include but are not limited to: individual skills of infield, outfield, pitching, catching, hitting, bunting, and base running. Team skills include: cut-offs/relays, bunt defense, double plays, team offense and team defense. Camp Coordinator: Greg Porter, Royal Oak High School Varsity Baseball Coach. Location: Royal Oak High School Baseball Field

Ravens Youth Football Camp
July 22-25, 12:30-3:30 p.m., Ages 8-13 – Cost $100

The Royal Oak Ravens Youth Football Camp is an elite camp that will focus on player and skill development while also implementing the basics of the Royal Oak offensive and defensive philosophy. This camp will be instructed by the Royal Oak Football coaching staff and varsity players. Campers will participate in individual drills, team concepts and game action. Players will also take part in speed training and team building activities. Each day we will end with Flag Football games and competitions for the players to showcase what they have learned. Campers will be matched up by their age group. Campers should bring water, cleats (no metal spikes), and a good pair of running shoes. Those attending Basketball Camp in the morning, bring a bag lunch and join us all day! Camp Coordinator: Ray McMann, Girls Varsity Football Coach. Location: Royal Oak Middle School Gym

Summer Recreational Swim Program
Schedule: Monday - Thursday
June 17 thru August 8, 2019 (Closed July 1-5)
Royal Oak Middle School, 709 N. Washington (between 11 Mile and Catalpa)
Monday-Thursday 12:15-1:15 p.m. Children & Adults
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7:15-8:30 p.m. Children & Adults
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30-9:45 p.m. Adults Only

Admission Fees: $5 for everyone (five years of age and under free), Senior Citizens: Free with School District Senior Citizen Gold Card available to City residents (minimum age 60 and retired). Senior Citizen Gold Cards are available at the Churchill Continuing Education Center, 707 Girard (north of 12 Mile Rd., between Campbell and Rochester Road).

Discount cards are available for purchase at open swim times for a cost of $40 for ten visits.

Equipment needed: bathing suit, towel and lock to secure clothing or valuables. School District is not responsible for lost or stolen property. No flotation devices are allowed in the pool, including life jackets. Children under the age of 12 must have adult family supervision in the pool during recreational swim hours. The School District requests that parent-drivers return to school for their children before the end of the session.