

# GRIZZLY GAZETTE

The purpose of YCS is to develop mindful, engaged students with the skill set, work ethic, and attitude to contribute to a community that honors diversity, equity and justice.



## FEBRUARY IS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

Career and Technical Education Month®, or CTE Month®, is a public awareness campaign that takes place each February to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievements and accomplishments of CTE programs across the country.

Did you know...

- 94.9% of high school students enrolled in a CTE program graduated last year. That's compared to Michigan's graduation rate of 80.5%.
- CTE offers students hands-on training that can be applied to real-world, in-demand education, training, and career pathways.
- CTE prepares students for high-wage, high-demand careers in fields like health care, IT, advanced manufacturing, hospitality, management & more!

## RCTC CULINARY ARTS AND BAKERY SCIENCE

RCTC Culinary Arts and Bakery Science students will participate in the Statewide Michigan ProStart Competition on March 5 & 6. The competition brings together ProStart students and schools from across the state for two days of showcasing their talents in the hospitality industry! Competition categories include:

- Culinary
- Management
- Nutrition
- Knife Cuts
- ServSafe Quiz Bowl
- Tabletop Design
- Cake Decorating



First Place winners of the Culinary and Management competitions secure their spot at the National ProStart Invitational in Washington D.C. Let's all wish them GOOD LUCK!

# Congratulations

Ypsilanti Community Schools would like to congratulate RCTC Bakery and Culinary Sciences and thank CCC Intelligent Solutions for their generous donation to purchase computer equipment for the RCTC. These computers will be used to advance our students' education and give them practice using technology in a real-life environment.



## A LEGACY IN THE MAKING



### JUST A KID FROM YPSI

On Tuesday, February 14, the district showcased eight shining stars from the Ypsilanti and Willow Run area on Just A Kid From Ypsi!

The Third Annual YCS Black History Month Speaker Series event highlighted the positive contributions of graduates from Ypsilanti High School, Willow Run High School, and Ypsilanti Community High School or who grew up in 48197 or 48198. Viewers learned about the career paths the speakers have taken and the impact Ypsi had on their lives! The event viewers were engaged in the compelling individual stories.

### YOU DON'T KNOW MY STORY: CONNECTED AND ENGAGED



On Wednesday, February 15, and Thursday, February 16, the 2nd Annual You Don't Know My Story retreat took place. This year, 25 young men and 25 young women attended the all-day event at the YCS Administration Building. The focus of the 2-day event was on staying connected and engaged. The day was filled with guest speakers, networking activities, and more as we continue to show the young people of Ypsilanti greatness without boundaries.

**BLACK**  
*History*  
**MATTERS**

# STATE & FEDERAL PROGRAMS



**KACEY CORBIN**  
DIRECTOR OF STATE AND FEDERAL  
PROGRAMS

## SECTION 31A – AT-RISK

Section 31a of the State School Aid Act provides funding to eligible districts for focus on the following student outcomes: attending school regularly, reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade, being proficient in mathematics by the end of 8th grade, and being career and college ready by high school graduation.

Funds afforded through Section 31a At-risk are limited to instructional services and direct non-instructional services to pupils. They may not be used for administration or other related costs. An “at-risk pupil” is a pupil that means any of the listed criteria as identified in Section 31a.

- Economically disadvantaged
- English learner
- Chronically absent as defined and reported to CEPI
- Victims of child abuse or neglect
- Pregnant teenager or teenage parent
- Family history of school failure, incarceration, or substance abuse
- Immigrant
- Did not complete high school in four years and is still in school
- Did not achieve proficiency in ELA, mathematics, science, or social studies state summative assessment
- At-risk of not meeting the LEA's core academic curricular objectives in ELA or mathematics based on local assessments

## BUS TRACKING APP

Do you have a scholar who rides the school bus? Do you want to be able to keep track of the bus? We encourage you to download the Versatrans MyStop App. The Versatrans MyStop is an app that is available on any iOS (Apple) or Android (Google) smartphone. The program is designed to help you keep track of your student's bus location and the estimated arrival time of the bus. You can find the directions using this [link](#).



# CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE



Meet Jerilyn Lynn. She is the Ypsilanti Community Schools Technology Resource Specialist.

How long have you worked for the district?

I have worked for the district for 36 years. I have worked for eight superintendents.

What brought you to YCS?

I finished my degree at CMU, and to become certified I needed three years of teaching experience. The district where I lived and worked as a library clerk did not have the funds to hire me as a media specialist, so I began applying for positions in other areas. I found the position in Ypsilanti and submitted a resume, but not an application. At the time, I was not sure if I wanted to be so far away from home. Ypsi is three hours away from where I grew up. After my interview, the Principal followed me to my car and asked if she could take me to dinner. The principal told me I was the only one who smiled during the interview, so she was interested in learning more about me. After the dinner, the principal asked me to apply in the next few days.

Was the decision to accept the offer an easy one?

I had to talk about it with my family. We decided it would be a good thing to do for the year, so I drove three hours to drop off the application, and two days later I received a job offer. I began as a Media Specialist.

How quickly did things progress after you accepted?

I accepted the position a few days before school began. My family managed to pull everything together in just three days, and I moved to the area and lived with a family member. I commuted home every weekend. Each Monday morning I would drive to Ypsilanti, then I returned home each Friday after school, during my first year working for YPS. I rented an apartment in year two, and my son eventually moved here to attend Eastern Michigan University.

Why YCS? What would you tell someone looking for a position in the District?

After the three years were up, I decided to remain in Ypsilanti, because I liked the kids and enjoyed my work. I liked the Superintendent and the principal I worked for. To me, this has always been a good place. If you're looking for support, and assistance this is the place to be.

Thirty-six years is a long time. How many buildings have you worked in?

I moved around to several schools. The first move was with the principal that hired me. She worked at Chapelle and she took me with her as we moved to Fletcher. When Fletcher closed due to low enrollment in the district, my next building was Adams Elementary which is currently YIES.

# CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

**So, you were working for YPS during the merger. Can you share that experience?**

Demographics changed. I noticed families moving out of Ypsilanti once factories began closing. When I started working in Ypsilanti Public Schools there were six elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school.

Discussions about merging began in 2012. There were lots of schools of choice students leaving Willow Run to attend YPS and vice versa, so the WISD collaborated to join the two districts.

**Have you ever considered leaving the district?**

No, I have never applied to work anywhere else, even though I was offered a position at my former place of employment which is closer to my family.

**What would you say to a person new to the district?**

There are a lot of things that you can not put a dollar amount on. Materials are important. PD for staff inside and outside of the district is important. There is a lot of support here.

**What makes us great?**

The atmosphere created in the schools where kids feel welcome is what the district does well. Caring adults make kids feel like they have support.

**What do you consider an opportunity for us to improve?**

Telling our story, because it is a good place to be, but people do not know. We have a good staff.

**What is the key to your joy at work?**

Ypsilanti Community Schools (Ypsilanti Public Schools) is where I found something that I didn't know I needed.

**What do you want people to say about you?**

I am easygoing, always willing to help, and committed.

**A little-known fact about Jerilyn Lynn.**

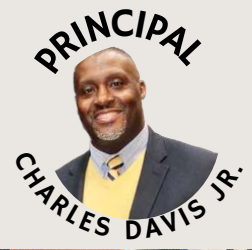
Forbidden Fruit Love: Stories of the Underground Railroad by Detroiters Betty DeRamus has a chapter dedicated to Mrs. Lynn's ancestors. "Hound Dogs Hate Red Pepper" details the story of Isaac Berry's travels as he escaped enslavement and traveled to Michigan in search of his love, Lucy Millard. The two married in Canada and later moved to Mecosta County, Michigan. The author uses anecdotes from descendants, census records, and old articles to weave a story about a young man's pursuit of love in a time of severely limited opportunities.

To describe the journey, DeRamus wrote "and they remember Isaac and Lucy Berry, one black, one white, one walking, one riding, and their search for a green hideaway, their own personal Palmyra, where love could glow and grow under the free skies."





# ACCE NAAPID 2023



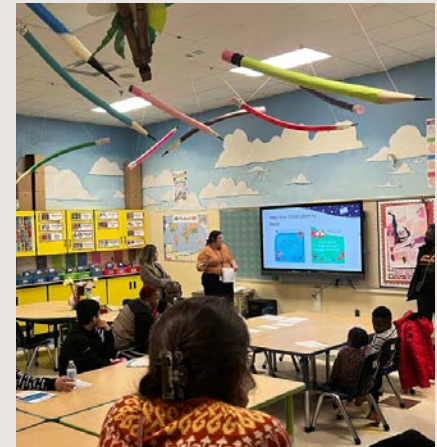
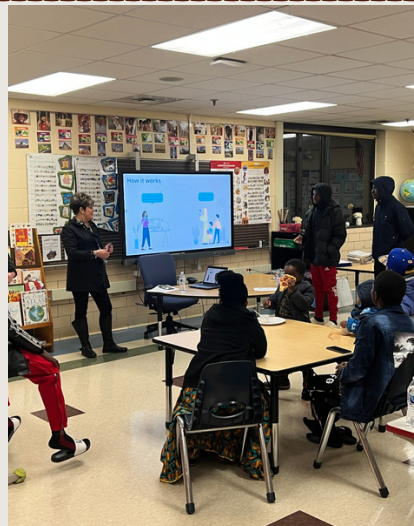


# ESTABROOK NAAPID 2023



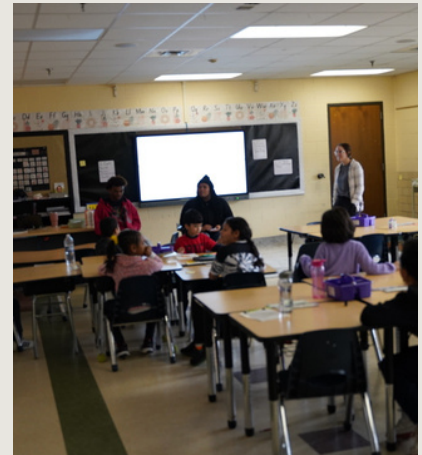


# ESTABROOK EL OUTREACH NIGHT

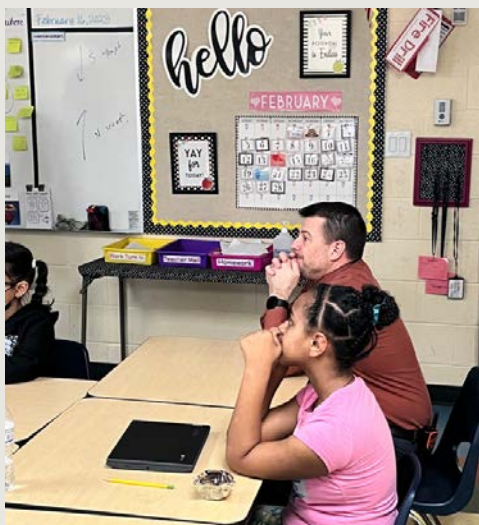




# ESTABROOK & YCHS SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT



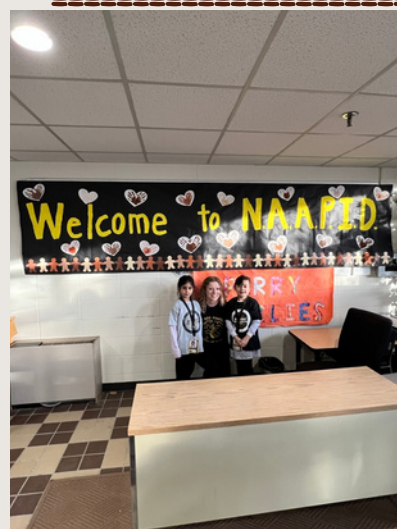
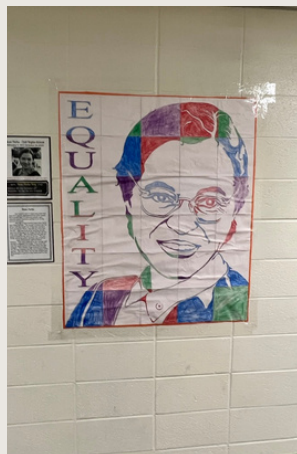
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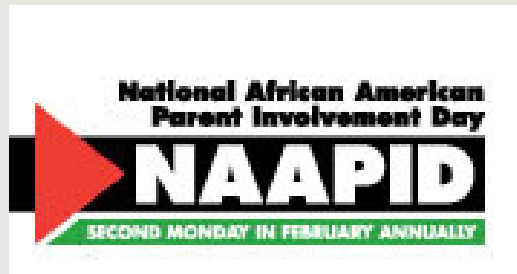
# PERRY NAAPID 2023







# YCMS NAAPID 2023



# IN THE DISTRICT THIS WEEK

## UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHOOL OF CHOICE PERIOD 2/9/23-10/4/23

BOARD MEETING 2/27/23

STEAM WEEK @WCC 2/28-3/2

### MONTHLONG CELEBRATIONS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

READING MONTH

YOUTH ART MONTH

MUSIC IN SCHOOLS MONTH



NWEA TESTING 1/9/23 - 2/10/23

## ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

HOME

AWAY

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

TUESDAY 2/28/23 @ DEXTER

THURSDAY 3/2/23 @ SOUTHFIELD JV & VARSITY

#### BOYS SWIMMING

FRIDAY 2/24/23 SEC WHITE INVITATIONAL @ JACKSON - 12PM

SATURDAY 2/25/23 SEC WHITE INVITATIONAL @ JACKSON - 12PM

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### MS GIRLS BASKETBALL

MONDAY 2/27/23 VS. CHELSEA - 4:15/5:30PM

## SPRING SPORTS

*Coming  
Soon*

PURCHASE TICKETS



[HTTPS://GOFAN.CO/APP  
/SCHOOL/M110130](https://gofan.co/app/school/m110130)



# YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## Board of Education

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**GILLIAN GAINSLEY, TREASURER**

**YVONNE FIELDS, TRUSTEE**

**M. JEANICE TOWNSEND, TRUSTEE**

**MEREDITH SCHINDLER, TRUSTEE**

## YCS Administration

**DR. ALENA ZACHERY-ROSS**

**SUPERINTENDENT**

**DR. CARLOS LOPEZ**

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**

**SUE McCARTY**

**DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

**DR. MARK COSCARELLA**

**SEEK GRANT PROJECT DIRECTOR**

## About Ypsilanti Community Schools

Ypsilanti Community Schools is a PreK-12 district that offers students and families access to a rigorous culturally responsive curriculum through individualized support that helps students advance their learning. We offer project-based learning, Small Learning Communities (SLCs), small class sizes, high dosage tutoring, a K-5 and 6-12 International Baccalaureate curriculum, a STEMM Middle College, Dual Enrollment, a comprehensive Fine Arts program, and a highly qualified teaching staff that cares about the relationships we have with our students and families.

We are committed to providing every student with an education that supports voice, choice, and student agency. We use restorative practices to create a culture of belonging where we do with and not to students and we are intentional to ensure that every student is seen, heard, understood, valued, respected, and cared for.

### OUR MISSION

The purpose of YCS is to develop mindful, engaged students with the skill set, work ethic, and attitude to contribute to a community that honors diversity, equity and justice.

### OUR VISION

YCS is — Academically strong and committed to transforming in ways that help students thrive.

YCS is — The choice for a trusted, reliable, and socially just district.

YCS is — A sense of connection for families and students in a district where each and everyone is valued and belongs.

YCS is — Your consistently well-managed and organized school district.