

# FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE



Newsletter for the Van Dyke Public Schools District Community



### POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Tuesday, September 6 – First Student Day
- Wednesday, September 14 – McKinley Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 15 – Lincoln Middle School Open House, 6 pm
- Monday, September 19 – Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm – Michael Dyke Administrative Services Center
- Wednesday, September 21 – PLC Day, Early Dismissal
- Carlson Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 22 – Lincoln Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Tuesday, September 27 – Thompson Community Center Open House, 6 pm
- Wednesday, September 28 – Lincoln High School Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 29 – Kennedy Elementary Open House, 6 pm

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## Lincoln High School Honors Class of 2011 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

**Dina Kosho** is the LHS Class of 2011 Valedictorian. She graduated with a 3.9 grade point average. Dina is the daughter of Issa and Fahima Kosho. Dina has attended the Van Dyke Public School district since Kindergarten, beginning at Kennedy Elementary and ending at Warren Lincoln High school.

During her tenure at LHS, Dina was also involved in several clubs and sports. Business Professions of America, Principals Club, National Honor Society and Dimensional's were all clubs that she took pride in. Basketball, volleyball, and softball were Dina's favorite sports to play as well as being involved in clubs. Outside of school she enjoys singing, drawing, and going to the movies. At the end of her senior year Dina won many awards and scholarships including the 3 year Science Art award, 5 year math award, and the Barbra Chartier Scholarship. Since graduating, Dina has been spending her time with family and friends. Since graduating, Dina has been spending her time with family and friends.

Dina plans to attend University of Detroit in the fall to apply to their dental program, and then plans to attend Wayne State University to pursue a career in forensic dentistry.

**Kelsey Ginther** is the LHS Class of 2011 Salutatorian. She graduated with a 3.7 grade point average. Kelsey is the daughter of Kelly Ginther and Linda Harris. Kelsey has attended the Van Dyke Public School district since Kindergarten, beginning at Kennedy Elementary and ending at Warren Lincoln High school.

During her tenure at LHS, Kelsey was involved and held leadership roles in several after school activities including: Captain of the Girls Varsity Basketball team, a member of National Honors Society, Manager of the Girls Varsity Volleyball team, a member of Peer Mediation, and the Technological editor of Yearbook committee. Outside of school, tutoring other students in math and playing basketball were two of her favorite hobbies. At the end of her senior year Kelsey was rewarded with many scholarships and awards. They included The Daughters of America scholarship, The Bates Community Service Scholarship, The Nila Carter Scholarship, the Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete award, and the Scholar Athlete award.

Kelsey plans to attend Saginaw Valley State University in the fall to study broadcasting and communications in order to pursue a career as a Sports Analyst on network television.

## BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

CLASSES BEGIN ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2011 (K-12 STUDENTS ATTEND 1/2 DAY)

LOOK FOR BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE BUS SCHEDULE AND SCHOOL TIMES, IN THIS ISSUE OF THE FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE.



## Superintendent's Comments



Joseph Pius

On behalf of the Board of Education and myself, I want to welcome everyone to the start of the 2011 – 2012 school year. As you browse through this first edition of the Focus, please note the items required by law to be printed as well as other changes to the district.

September 6th is a day full of emotion and excitement as students and staff return for the start of school. Whether your

child is a kindergartner or senior, or somewhere in between, a new school year brings energy, optimism and apprehension as they face new challenges. That same excitement exists within each staff member as they work towards a common goal of providing the best educational setting possible.

As the students return to the buildings, they will see many new changes as the Bond 2008 projects continue. The new Vocational Technology building is nearing completion and will be opened in October. The renovation at Lincoln High School continues in the counselor and administration offices while at Lincoln Middle School new technology, lockers, and upgraded science labs await the students. The renovations at Carlson Elementary are well under way but are not slated for completion until August of 2012. However, when you drive by you can see the new wing of classrooms, library and gymnasium taking shape. The McKinley project is in the early stages of planning with groundbreaking scheduled for next spring. All of these projects will help to create an educational setting that will meet the needs of our students in the future.

While at the same time that I'm excited about the new school year and the changes to our district, I'm troubled by the continued drop in assessment scores announced by the Michigan Department of Education. Our focus this year must be on making significant improvement in all areas assessed. In order for this to happen we need our students to attend school on a daily basis and be actively engaged in the instruction and learning. Parents, this is where I need your help and assistance. I recognize that the start times in each building are early but please emphasize to your children the importance of being on time, present every day, and fully engaged in the learning that is taking place. In the evenings ask them what they learned and accomplished that day and with the younger students read to them and create the atmosphere that education is important. If we are ever going to meet the "career and college readiness" expectations placed on us by the State of Michigan we must all (parents, students, teachers, administrators and community members) join hands in an effort to improve our school system and increase the student achievement at all levels. Together I know that we can, and will, make this happen.

I encourage you to find a way to get connected with the Van Dyke Public Schools. Whether you can volunteer once or on a regular basis, your involvement is critical in the success of your child's education. Please take the time to enjoy a sporting event, concert / drama production, or a school program at your child's elementary school. The students enjoy seeing you there and your presence is felt by everyone as we work together to make Van Dyke Schools a great place to live and learn.

With Van Dyke Pride,

Joseph Pius

## New Administration

The face of Van Dyke Public Schools is changing quite a bit this year. Teachers are moving amongst buildings and classrooms, and buildings are being built and upgraded. Seniors have graduated and new smiling kindergarten faces will come through our doors in September. We also have several new administrators who have made a commitment to helping our students achieve and become lifelong learners.

**Carol Anthony** and **Piper Bognar** have joined the Office of Curriculum and Instruction in the new positions of Secondary and Elementary Turnaround Directors, respectively.

Carol Anthony comes to this position

after fifteen years in the Van Dyke Public Schools. She began as a math teacher and joined the NCA school improvement team in her first year. She served as the math department chair for 2 years before taking on the position of School Improvement Facilitator/Assistant Principal. During this time, Carol facilitated a partnership with United Way and the Institute for Research and reform in Education to begin the Turnaround process for Lincoln High School. Additionally, in the 2010-2011 school year she assisted LHS in securing the State of Michigan School Improvement Grant to assist in the high school's transformation efforts. After serving in those administrative roles for 3 years,

Carol is very excited to be taking on the role of Secondary Turnaround director. Mrs. Anthony has a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Michigan University, a MA from Wayne State University and an Ed Specialist in Administrative Leadership from Oakland University and has participated in the Galileo Leadership Consortium. Carol also enjoys spending time with her husband Steve and her niece Kayden.

Piper Bognar joined the Van Dyke community last school year as principal at McKinley Elementary. Before coming to Van Dyke, Piper worked for the Taylor Public School District. She began her career as an elementary classroom teacher, went on to become a certified Reading Recovery

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# Congratulations Lincoln High School 2011 Graduates

Key: \* Phi Beta Kappa + National Honor Society

Adams, Amanda-Mae	Evans, Simya	Leclair, Dean	Steenberg, Corey
Akers, Alex	Fiddler, Raymond	Lee, Thai	Stremmel, Bryan
Anderson, Jasmine	Flaga, Michael	Lemanski, William	Strucienski, Spencer
Antwine, Desmond	Foster, Talisia	Lewis, De'jion +	Suminski, Daniel
Arevalo, Alexander	Gillum, Megan +	Lowe, Ryan	Szczepkowski, James
Banks, Janisha	Ginther, Kelsey +	Mar, Theeda	Tarrant, Diallo
Beccerra, Jessica	Glenn, Amber	Mays, Rebecca	Tate, Myricia
Becker, Darci	Godina, Dyan	McKnight, Lavell	Taylor, James
Bennett, Germaine +	Gornyeczc, Amanda	McLarnon, Nicole	Taylor, Lachonte'
Bentley, Frances	Griffin, Shavonte	Melton, John	Taylor, Marcel
Blackshear, Alexis +	Groce, Ellisea +	Miller, Rayshawn	Touma, Marcelino
Bluford, Kelsie	Groce, Elisha	Moore, Kendall	Tran, Quy
Bonsecour, Nancy	Hale, Antoinette	Morreale, Michael	Tucker, Menio
Borowicz, Sara	Hall, Brandy	Napthen, Evan	Tyner, Brittany
Brewington, Adam	Hall, Desiree	Noetzold, Branden	Uselman, Ronald
Butler, Kenya +	Hang, James	Olsen, Sara	Wallace, Jonai
Carrabia, Anthony	Haro, Laila +	Pariseau, Tiffany	Ward, Terrence
Carter, Terrence	Harris, Letia	Parker, Michael	Washington, Wilshawna
Christian, Courtney	Haskins, Maria +	Peterson, Jessica	Watkins, Tony
Cleveland, Ranea	Hatchett, Carlton	Pierce, Alexis +	Webb, Clarinda
Cohens, Quante	Hempel, Stephanie +	Pitts-Hubert, Alexia	Welch, Cori
Combella, Ivan	Her, Vang	Plotts, Mark	Wilcox, Jeremiah +
Cordry, Christina	Her, Yer +	Pollard, Brittany	Williams, De'Mario
Cowan, Jazmine	Hicks, Kathryn +	Porter, Christopher	Williams, Jeurasia
Cox, Cathleen	Hobbs, Ciara	Rawski, Samantha	Williams, Tekiyus
Cycone, Terrance	Hogan, Zane	Robinson, Katelyn	Wilson, Lela
Dale, Nicholas	Hooper, Michael	Rodriguez, Brandon	Wimbush, Ashley
Daly, Shannon	House, Brenda +	Rowe, Alexis	Yacheson, Anthony
Dang, Sang	Howard, Gabriel	Russell, Jazmond	Yang, Bryan
Dean, Kistevesha	Hurry, Cheyanne	Sauer, Marie Louise	Yarbrough, Kyle
Dean, Porshia	Jackson, Ashley	Sebastian, Troy	
Decoste, Bradley	Johnson-El, Kevin	Sherley, Chantell	
Deel, L'oran	Keffer, Joseph	Shurter, Christa	
Dixon-Cox, Brooke-Ashley +	Kind, Keri	Slaughter, Daja	
Do, An +	Knight, Marlon	Smith, Alexandria	
Duncil, Jon	Kosho, Dina * +	Smith, Anthony	
Esters-Bey, Elohim	Lasalle, Damian	Spivey, Jarvis	

# Lincoln High School Alumni News & Events

## 67TH ANNUAL ALUMNI HOMECOMING DINNER/DANCE

The Lincoln High School Alumni Association is hosting the **67th Annual Alumni Homecoming Dinner/Dance on Saturday, October 15, at DeCarlo's Banquet & Convention Center**, 6015 E. Ten Mile (E. of Mound) in Warren. **Social hour begins at 6 pm, followed by dinner at 7 pm.**

**The cost is \$45 per person** and includes a cheese/fruit table, buffet dinner, open bar and dancing. Music is provided by the Mike Wolverton Orchestra. **The deadline for reservations is Monday, October 3.**

The class of 1961 will celebrate its 50th class reunion. If you want to include your graduating class reunion at the Alumni Dinner/Dance, contact Eleanor Bates at (586) 757-8339. For more information on the 67th Annual Homecoming Dinner/Dance, please contact: Evelyn Welch '53 at (586) 751-0918, Wilda Dukes '50 at (586) 979-5236, Eleanor Bates '46 at (586) 757-8339, or Nancy (Haley) Thompson '61 at (586) 530-7529.

Make checks payable to: Lincoln High School Alumni Association, designate your class year if you are an alumni and mail to: Jerry Lou Colzani, 36622 Gregory Drive, Sterling Hts, MI 48312 (Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope).

## PAUL ALBRECHT NAMED LHS 2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Lincoln High School was proud to honor **Mr. Paul Albrecht** as the alumni guest speaker at the 2011 graduation ceremony. Mr. Albrecht was a member of the 1976 graduating class at Lincoln High School. Our guest speaker earned his Bachelor Degree from Baker College and is the Quality Manager at the Warren Chrysler Stamping Plant. He was honored to earn a U.S. patent. Paul and his wife, Kathy, have raised six lovely children who in turn have given them 14 grandchildren. Mr. Paul Albrecht resides with his wife in Clinton Township.

Mr. Albrecht stressed in his speech that "Knowledge is Power" and the importance of surrounding yourself with positive people. He stated his knowledge has equipped him with the skills that are marketable even during economic downturns and corporate turmoil. He felt fortunate to be spared the unemployment line while others less skilled were not as lucky. Mr. Albrecht advised the graduates to choose their friends wisely and to be surrounded by people who are motivated and supportive. Our guest speaker stressed that perseverance and hard work do pay off.

Paul Albrecht mentioned that the voters of the district made the decision to surround the students with excellent staff and facilities. He noted how the Van Dyke Public School system has progressed through the years. He has observed the recent changes to the Lincoln High School Media Center, gymnasium, and addition of the CTE building. Mr. Albrecht stressed that the level of commitment from the parents in the Van Dyke Public Schools has been an inspiration to him throughout the years.

# Van Dyke Public Schools Back to School Information

## 2011-2012 SCHOOL TIMES

Building	Start Time	Dismissal Time
Lincoln High School	7:10 am	2:57 pm
Lincoln Middle School (6-8 grades)	7:25 am	2:50 pm
Carlson Elementary	8:55 am	3:51 pm
Kennedy Elementary	8:30 am	3:26 pm
Lincoln Elementary	8:43 am	3:47 pm
McKinley Elementary	8:30 am	3:51 pm

### Half Days

Lincoln High School	7:10	11:03
Lincoln Middle School	7:25	11:07
Carlson Elementary	8:55	12:23
Kennedy Elementary	8:30	11:58
Lincoln Elementary	8:55	12:23
McKinley Elementary	8:30	11:58

### PLC Days – Early Dismissal

Lincoln High School	7:10	1:27
Lincoln Middle School	7:25	1:20
Carlson Elementary	8:55	2:21
Kennedy Elementary	8:30	1:56
Lincoln Elementary	8:55	2:21
McKinley Elementary	8:30	1:56




### The Facts...

*Our kids... our future*

**on the Macomb County Special Education Ballot Proposal**

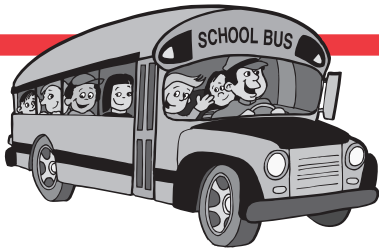
- 1 in 7 Macomb County students receive special education services
- Last year, Macomb County schools lost over \$103 million in funding
- Home values have decreased by an average of 34 percent, resulting in lower special education funding
- Proposed increase will cost the average household \$.20 cents per day
- Proposed funding will positively impact all Macomb County students



Please

**VOTE**

Nov. 8th



# 2011-2012 Van Dyke Public Schools Bus Schedule

Students are to be at stops 5 minutes prior to times listed

## LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL 7:10 am start

- Bus #1**  
 Marie/Sarsfield . . . . . 6:30 a.m.  
 Waltham/Vernon . . . . . 6:35 a.m.  
 Waltham/Coleen . . . . . 6:40 a.m.
- Bus #3**  
 Kaltz/Campbell . . . . . 6:30 a.m.  
 Hesse/Young . . . . . 6:35 a.m.  
 Wagner/Louisiana . . . . . 6:40 a.m.
- Bus #4**  
 Hoover/Warren Plaza Apts . . 6:30 a.m.  
 Engleman/Rubin . . . . . 6:35 a.m.
- Bus #5**  
 Roan/Afton . . . . . 6:25 a.m.  
 Frazho/Behind Carlson . . . 6:28 a.m.  
 Frazho/Cloie . . . . . 6:31 a.m.  
 Schoenherr/Brainbridge . . . 6:33 a.m.  
 Ten Mile/Constitution . . . 6:36 a.m.
- Bus #8**  
 Sharrow/Cowliier . . . . . 6:33 a.m.  
 Schoenherr/Georgiana . . . . 6:36 a.m.
- Bus #10**  
 Waltham/Cowliier . . . . . 6:30 a.m.  
 Waltham/Prospect . . . . . 6:35 a.m.
- Bus #13**  
 Hoover/Avondale . . . . . 6:30 a.m.  
 Wagner/Belmont . . . . . 6:33 a.m.  
 Wagner/Timken . . . . . 6:36 a.m.  
 Wagner/Republic . . . . . 6:39 a.m.  
 Nine Mile/Nagel . . . . . 6:41 a.m.
- Bus #17**  
 Sharrow/Garson . . . . . 6:35 a.m.  
 Sharrow/St. Andrews . . . . . 6:38 a.m.

## LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL 7:25 am start

- Bus #1**  
 Marie/Sarsfield . . . . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Waltham/Vernon . . . . . 7:03 a.m.  
 Waltham/Coleen . . . . . 7:06 a.m.
- Bus #3**  
 Kaltz/Campbell . . . . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Hesse/Young . . . . . 7:03 a.m.  
 Wagner/Louisiana . . . . . 7:07 a.m.
- Bus #4**  
 Hoover/Warren Plaza Apts . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Rubin/Engleman . . . . . 7:03 a.m.

- Bus #5**  
 Roan/Afton . . . . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Frazho/Behind Carlson . . . 7:03 a.m.  
 Frazho/Cloie . . . . . 7:06 a.m.  
 Schoenherr/Brainbridge . . . 7:09 a.m.  
 Ten Mile/Constitution . . . 7:12 a.m.

- Bus #8**  
 Sharrow/Cowliier . . . . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Georgianna/Schoenherr . . . 7:03 a.m.  
 Alternative Ed. LMS to  
 Thompson . . . . . 7:20 a.m.

- Bus #10**  
 Waltham/Cowliier . . . . . 7:05 a.m.  
 Waltham/Prospect . . . . . 7:08 a.m.

- Bus #13**  
 Hoover/Avondale . . . . . 7:00 a.m.  
 Wagner/Belmont . . . . . 7:03 a.m.  
 Wagner/Timken . . . . . 7:06 a.m.  
 Wagner/Republic . . . . . 7:09 a.m.  
 Nine Mile/Nagel . . . . . 7:12 a.m.

- Bus #17**  
 Sharrow/Garson . . . . . 7:05 a.m.  
 Sharrow/St. Andrews . . . . . 7:08 a.m.

## CARLSON ELEMENTARY 8:55 am start

- Bus #3**  
 Wagner/Belmont . . . . . 8:25 a.m.  
 Wagner/Timken . . . . . 8:28 a.m.  
 Republic/Gibson . . . . . 8:31 a.m.  
 Hoover/Avondale . . . . . 8:34 a.m.  
 Wagner/State Park . . . . . 8:37 a.m.  
 Antoinette/Louisiana . . . 8:40 a.m.
- Bus #4**  
 Marmon/Republic . . . . . 8:25 a.m.  
 Campbell/Chapp . . . . . 8:30 a.m.

- Bus #13**  
 Campbell/Continental . . . . 8:25 a.m.  
 Campbell/Lozier . . . . . 8:28 a.m.  
 Campbell/Essex . . . . . 8:31 a.m.

## KENNEDY ELEMENTARY 8:30 am start

- Bus #3**  
 Peters/Maxwell . . . . . 7:45 a.m.  
 Peters/Paige . . . . . 7:48 a.m.  
 Peters/Republic . . . . . 7:51 a.m.  
 Peters/Lozier . . . . . 7:54 a.m.  
 Peters/Timken . . . . . 7:57 a.m.  
 Peters/Ready . . . . . 8:00 a.m.

- Bus #4**  
 Peters/Studebaker . . . . . 7:45 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Paige . . . . . 7:50 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Republic . . . . . 7:53 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Lozier . . . . . 7:58 a.m.

- Bus #5**  
 Peters/Cadillac . . . . . 7:40 a.m.  
 Thompson SACC . . . . . 7:45 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Timken . . . . . 7:50 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Essex . . . . . 7:53 a.m.  
 MacArthur/Jewett . . . . . 7:56 a.m.

- Bus #13**  
 Automobile/Continental . . . 7:45 a.m.  
 Automobile/Lozier . . . . . 7:48 a.m.  
 Automobile/Essex . . . . . 7:51 a.m.  
 Automobile/Chapp . . . . . 7:54 a.m.

## MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY 8:30 am start

- Bus #1**  
 Mullins/Sherman . . . . . 7:45 a.m.  
 Mullins/Fisher . . . . . 7:48 a.m.  
 Mullins/Jackson . . . . . 7:51 a.m.  
 Mullins/Rivard . . . . . 7:54 a.m.

- Bus #10**  
 Winfield/Rivard . . . . . 7:35 a.m.  
 Memphis/Rivard . . . . . 7:38 a.m.  
 Winfield/Jackson . . . . . 7:41 a.m.  
 Winfield/Fisher . . . . . 7:44 a.m.  
 Winfield/Yacht . . . . . 7:47 a.m.

- Bus #17**  
 Memphis/Westminster . . . . 7:33 a.m.  
 Peters/Prospect . . . . . 7:38 a.m.  
 Peters/Orchard . . . . . 7:41 a.m.  
 Peters/Toepfer . . . . . 7:44 a.m.

## LINCOLN ELEMENTARY 8:55 am start

- Bus #10**  
 Nine Mile/Nagel . . . . . 8:25 a.m.  
 Thompson Day Care . . . . . 8:30 a.m.

Transportation questions and concerns should be directed to:

**Mr. Ed Fuhs, Director**  
**Ms. Ralene Deville, Transportation Secretary**  
**Mrs. Teresa Upina, Bus Dispatch/Clerk**  
**Van Dyke Public Schools**  
**Transportation Department**  
**Service Building**  
**11387 East Nine Mile Road**  
**(586) 758-8371**

# Important Parent Information for 2011-12

## FERPA NOTIFICATION FOR PARENTS REGARDING DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Van Dyke Public Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain written parental consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Van Dyke Public Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Van Dyke Public Schools district to include this type of information from your child's education records to certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Graduation programs;
- Newsletters and district website;
- Sports activity sheets showing weight

and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without prior written consent.

**If you do not want Van Dyke Public Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must**

**notify the Office of Curriculum and Instruction in writing by September 13, 2011.** Van Dyke Public Schools has designated the following information as directory information: (Note: an LEA may, but does not have to, include all the information listed below.)

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Degree, honors and awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

## ANNUAL NOTICE OF PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS & ASBESTOS RELATED ACTIVITIES

### INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for controlling insects, rodents and weeds is used at Van Dyke Public Schools. The IPM approach focuses on making the school buildings and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, this reduces or eliminates available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. Schools will also be routinely monitored to detect pest problems and prevent the pests from becoming established. Some IPM techniques that are employed include: monitoring, increased sanitation, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest and modifying storage practices.

From time to time it may be necessary to use chemicals to control a pest problem. Chemicals will only be used when necessary and will not be routinely applied. When chemicals must be used, the school will try to use the least toxic products when possible. Access to treated areas will be secured against unauthorized access for the period specified on the pesticide label. Notices will be posted at application sites and will remain there until the posted safe re-entry time is met. A list of pesticides and material safety and data sheets (MSDS) that may be used in the schools this year is available for review. **The information may be obtained by contacting Ed Fuhs, Operations Director at (586) 759-9439.**

Parents/guardians may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the notification registry. The registrants

will be notified at least 72 hours before a pesticide is applied. If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided as soon as possible after the application. Exemptions to this notification include cleaners (disinfectants), pesticides formulated as baits or gels and any EPA exempt pesticide. **If you would like to be placed on the registry, please contact Ed Fuhs, Operations Director at (586) 759-9439.**

**For further information, please contact Ed Fuhs, Operations Director/IPM Coordinator or visit <http://schoolimp.ifas.ufl.edu> or <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm>.**

### Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (A.H.E.R.A.)

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (A.H.E.R.A.), Article 763.84, the Van Dyke Public Schools district is required to notify building occupants annually of asbestos related activities and planned activities.

The only planned activities in the next twelve (12) months are as follows: required periodic surveillance, normal operations, maintenance and possible floor tile removal.

If you would like to review the management plan, a copy is available in the principal's office of each building or at the VDPS Service Building. **If you have any questions regarding the A.H.E.R.A. program, contact Ed Fuhs, Operations Director at (586) 759-9439.**

**New Administration**

(Continued from page 2)

Teacher, and then was an Elementary Literacy Facilitator for the school district. After that, Piper became a District School Improvement Coordinator, working mainly on curriculum, school improvement, and staff development. She led the district through state and federal audits regarding compliance as well as working with staff in grades K-12 on curriculum and instruction. Mrs. Bognar has a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Michigan State University, a Reading Recovery Certificate from Western Michigan University, and her Masters of Arts in Education Administration from Wayne State

University. Piper is enthusiastic about this new position and being part of a great team. In her free time, Piper spends time with her husband Mike.

Van Dyke Public Schools is also proud to welcome four new elementary school principals this school year. All of our new principals join us with a fierce enthusiasm for helping our students achieve and building a strong community in their buildings.

**Mrs. Tricia Huey-Rocheleau** will be the new building principal at Carlson Elementary School. Mrs. Huey has worked with Van Dyke Public Schools for fourteen years. She has worked with

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**VAN DYKE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL**

Each year, the Van Dyke Public School District offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at Van Dyke Lincoln High School and at our Consortium schools. These programs are designed to prepare youth for a broad range of employment and training services. Certified teachers and externship coordinators staff the CTE programs.

**The following is a list of programs being offered at Van Dyke Lincoln High School:**

Program	Prerequisite
Foods/Hospitality	None
Foods/Hospitality/Marketing/ Business/Trade & Ind. Extern.	CTE Concentrator in Specific Program/Application
Merchandising/Marketing	None
Dental Assisting	None
Drafting	None
CAD/Drafting	Drafting I
Accounting	None
Store Management/Operations	Marketing I
Automotive Technology	None
Manufacturing Technology	None

**The following programs are available at Consortium high schools:**

Cosmetology - WWTHS	Law Enforcement - CLHS
Emergency Medical Services - CLHS	Medical Office Administrative Assistant - WWTHS
Externship Education - CLHS, FHS, WWTHS	Nursing - WWTHS
Family & Consumer Sciences - CLHS	Pharmacy Technician - FHS
Health Information Services - WWTHS	Physical Therapy Aide - FHS
	Visual Imaging/Graphic Communications - CLHS

Consortium Schools: CLHS - Center Line High School; FHS - Fitzgerald High School; WWTHS - Warren Woods Tower High School

**For general information about these programs please contact:**

Director, CTE/Career Development  
 Southwest Macomb Technical Education Consortium  
 Warren Woods Public Schools Education Center  
 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI 48089  
 (586) 439-4456

**NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Van Dyke Public School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender/sex, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment. For information, contact (586) 758-8337.

Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of disability should be directed to: Special Services Director, 23500 MacArthur Rd., Warren, MI 48089. (586) 758-8338.

Direct all other inquiries related to any other discrimination to: Ms. Edie Shelton, Personnel Director, 25300 MacArthur, Warren, MI 48089. (586) 758-8337.

**Arrangements can be made to ensure that the lack of English language skills is not a barrier to admission or participation.**

# Noteworthy News

## **EARLY RELEASE DAYS**

We are pleased to announce Early Release Days in our 2011 – 2012 school calendar. Many of our surrounding school districts have moved to early release days instead of half-days in order to meet the state requirements for professional development. Early release dates will begin in September. Please note the following dates:

September 21, October 26, November 2 and 16, December 7, January 11 and 18, February 1 and 15, March 7 and 21, April 18, May 2 and 16, and June 6.

## **MACOMB COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE**

On July 6, 2011 the Van Dyke Board of Education voted unanimously to support a 1.2 mill countywide Special Education Enhancement millage proposed by the Macomb County Public Schools Superintendents. This millage proposal, slated for the November 8, 2011 ballot, will benefit the 131,000 students in all Macomb County Districts.

One in seven Macomb County students, or about 19% of our Van Dyke pupils, currently receive special education services. In recent years there has been a significant increase of learners with autism, children born with low-birth weight, and other cognitive impairments and health-related issues that require additional services from the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD). Our current district special education services include general instruction, speech and language therapy, social work, evaluations and assessments.

Macomb County's twenty-one school districts combined have lost \$103 million annually, or about \$785 per pupil, from cuts in per-pupil state funding, steep declines in local property taxes, and the elimination of other financial resources.

In the Van Dyke Public Schools, that equates to about \$2.3 million in lost revenue this year. If the enhancement millage is approved, the proposal would raise, countywide, about \$27 million in the first year. The MISD would oversee the distribution of the new funds. The projected new funding for the Van Dyke Schools is estimated to be \$626,000.

According to the county equalization department, the average home tax value is currently \$59, 630. This means the average tax bill for a 1.2 mill levy will increase \$72.56 or about 20 cents per day. The amount could drop significantly depending on federal and state deductions or credits. For example, for a senior citizen with a home market value of \$80,000 and a \$40,000 household income, the new tax cost will be zero.

Based on all of this information, we are hopeful that Macomb County citizens will support our students and the local districts as they have done in the past.

## **STATE OF THE SCHOOLS**

Regarding our school district's financial status I would like to share that this has been an extremely challenging time. The state has approved the largest education funding cut per pupil - \$470. This, coupled with a projected decrease in enrollment, has caused the district to lay off staff, decrease budgets and severely adjust spending. The goal of the district is to continue to find ways to protect classroom programming and to ensure our buildings are safe and secure. As we move through the school year, I will keep you updated on our financial status. ~ Joseph Pius

## **"GO GREEN TO GET GREEN"**

Lincoln High School added a "Green Engineering" small learning community theme to the campus this year based on

the interests of students and businesses. Employers continue to shift operations and focus on areas related to renewable and alternative energy. Our new classes will provide students with the skills and knowledge needed for college, a career and/or vocational program. Possible thematic electives include: Environmental Science, Alternative Fuels, Electronics, Basic CAD, Drafting, Advanced CAD, Environmental Planning and Green Engineering.

In October, our new career technical building will open and house many of our new classes. The building is a working model of green technology. Students began learning about new earth friendly techniques and materials last year when the foundation for the building was being poured. Local and national companies have begun to provide unique opportunities and experiences for our students in emerging fields that are an integral part of rebuilding Michigan. We believe this is a perfect way to connect our students with careers in this expanding market share.

## **LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2011 TOP ACADEMIC**

Congratulations to the top academic Lincoln High School senior students for the 2010-11 school year.

In order for a student to receive this top honor, they must maintain above a 3.5 grade point average throughout their school career.

The following students are this year's Lincoln High School Top Academic senior students: **Christina Cordry, Kelsey Ginther, Ellisea Groce, Laila Haro, Maria Haskins, Yer Her, Kathryn Hicks, Dina Kosho, Damian Lasalle, John Melton, Alexis Pierce and Marie Louise Sauer.**

## New Administration

(Continued from page 7)

students as a School Social Worker at Washington, Lincoln, and McKinley Elementary Schools. Trish has also served as an administrator in Special Services for the past year. Her education includes a Master's Degree in Social Work from Wayne State and an Ed Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Oakland University. Tricia also attended the Galileo Institute for Teacher Leadership. When she's not at work, Mrs. Huey enjoys spending time with her husband Mike, who is a teacher in Warren Consolidated Schools, and their adorable son Cooper. Mrs. Huey cannot wait to get back into the building to work with the students, staff, and families as principal this year!

**Mrs. Melissa Pluszczynski**, the new principal at Kennedy Elementary, has been with the district for ten years. She began her career here as a Resource Room teacher after graduating with her BA in Elementary Education from Oakland University. She continued her education at Oakland University, receiving her Master's Degree in Special Education in 2006. She also attended the Galileo Leadership Consortium as a Van Dyke teacher and worked as a curriculum coordinator for Lincoln Elementary School. Her husband, Brad, and their sons, Christian and Brendan, are thrilled that Mrs. Pluszczynski will be taking on this exciting challenge. Melissa says she's always just known that she wanted to be a part of educating children and working with teachers and parents, and she dedicates herself to her new position with excitement.

At Lincoln Elementary School, **Mr. Justin Cabe** will be the new face in the principal's office. Mr. Cabe comes to us from the Lakeview School District, where he taught 4th and 5th grades for nine years and served as the Interim Principal of Harmon Elementary School for part of last school year. He completed undergraduate work at Macomb Community College and Wayne State University before going on to receive his first MA Ed from Marygrove College and his second MA Ed in School Leadership from Olivet Nazarene University. In his spare time, Mr. Cabe enjoys spending time with his wife Amy, who is a Fraser Teacher, and his daughters, Lily and Emma. Justin looks forward to meeting all of the wonderful students and families at Lincoln Elementary.

McKinley Elementary School will be led by **Ms. Heather Brodi**. Heather received her undergraduate degree from Oakland University and her MA in Administration from Saginaw Valley State University. Ms. Brodi has been an assistant principal at South Lake Middle School for the last seven years, after teaching math and science there for six years. She enjoys spending time with her friends and family, especially with her children Mason and Rachel. Ms. Brodi is looking forward to a wonderful year with the McKinley Community!

## On the Van Dyke Bulletin Board:

**REGISTER FOR MAX THOMPSON COMMUNITY CENTER ALTERNATIVE AND ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMMING**  
Call 586.758.8363 to schedule a registration appointment.

### Alternative Education

Eligible Van Dyke School District students aged 14–19 can earn their diplomas at our alternative high school program (TCC) which provides smaller class sizes; caring, dedicated, highly qualified teachers; and courses that meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum standards. TCC also provides academic and personal support services, day care for students' children; extra-curricular activities; and student service teams. Contact us for information on student eligibility.

- **Registration** begins August 18. For a registration appointment, call 586.758.8363.
- Classes begin September 6.
- Late registrations accepted through September 14.

### Adult Education

Max Thompson Community Center has an expanded evening class schedule for adults 20 years old and up, and eligible 18 and 19 year olds. Classes are now offered Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. Core academic classes in Math, English, Science, and Social Studies are provided, as well as computer courses and employability skills offerings.

- **Registration** begins August 18. For a registration appointment, call 586.758.8300.
- **Classes** begin September 12.
- **Late registrations** accepted through October 5.

### INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Have you ever wanted to be an **International Exchange Student**?

Now is the time to start thinking about it for the 2012-2013 school year. Master a new language. Understand a new culture. Become a responsible world citizen. International Exchange Students make themselves more marketable for college and the global workforce.

Think you can't afford it? **Think again.** Learn how you and your family can actually save money by becoming an exchange student. Contact your Lincoln High School counselor for information about the many programs available to you.

Don't miss the opportunity of a lifetime to **change your life – FOREVER!**

Still not sure? Read *The Global Student* by Maya Frost. The book is available in your school library or your counselor's office.

**Van Dyke Public Schools  
 Board of Education  
 2011-2012**

- David Cowlbeck .....President  
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POSTAL CUSTOMER  
 VAN DYKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

It is the policy of the Van Dyke Public School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or employment. For information, contact the Superintendent of Van Dyke Public Schools at 23500 MacArthur, Warren, MI 48089, or call at (586) 758-8333.

***Van Dyke Calendar for September thru December***

**SEPTEMBER**

- Tuesday, September 6**  
 First Student Day
- Wednesday, September 14**  
 McKinley Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 15**  
 Lincoln Middle School Open House, 6 pm
- Monday, September 19**  
 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm –  
 Michael Dyke Administrative Services  
 Center
- Wednesday, September 21**  
 PLC Day, Early Dismissal  
 Carlson Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 22**  
 Lincoln Elementary Open House, 6 pm
- Tuesday, September 27**  
 Thompson Community Center Open  
 House, 6 pm

- Wednesday, September 28**  
 Lincoln High School Open House, 6 pm
- Thursday, September 29**  
 Kennedy Elementary Open House, 6 pm

**OCTOBER**

- Saturday, October 15**  
 LHS 67th Annual Alumni Dinner Dance
- Monday, October 17**  
 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm –  
 Michael Dyke Administrative Services  
 Center

- Wednesday, October 26**  
 PLC Day – Early Dismissal

**NOVEMBER**

- Wednesday, November 2**  
 PLC Day – Early Dismissal
- Wednesday, November 9**  
 Grades 9-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Wednesday, November 16**  
 PLC Day – Early Release

- Thursday, November 17**  
 LHS Musical, Auditorium
- Friday, November 18**  
 K-5 Records Day; No students in PM  
 LHS Musical, 7:30, Auditorium

- Saturday, November 19**  
 LHS Musical, 7:30 pm, Auditorium

- Monday, November 21**  
 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm –  
 Michael Dyke Administrative Services  
 Center

- Wednesday, November 23**  
 District-wide student 1/2 day

- Thursday, November 24**  
 Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL

- Friday, November 25**  
 NO SCHOOL

**DECEMBER**

- Tuesday, December 6**  
 LMS Band Concert, 7 pm

- Wednesday, December 7**  
 PLC Day – Early Dismissal

- Thursday, December 8**  
 K-5 Parent Teacher Conferences, K-5  
 1/2 day

- Tuesday, December 13**  
 LMS Choir Concert, 7 pm

- Monday, December 19**  
 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 pm –  
 Michael Dyke Administrative Services  
 Center

- Wednesday, December 21**  
 LHS Band/Choir Concert, 7:30 pm,  
 Auditorium

- Friday, December 23 – Tuesday  
 January 3, 2012**  
 NO SCHOOL - Holiday Recess

**JANUARY**

- Monday, January 4**  
 Students Return

