

Connections

Volume XXXVI, No. 1

Back to School 2018



Flexible spaces support learning; demands of modern workforce

For today's social studies lesson, Moraine Elementary School fifth graders gather at the carpet near their classroom's smart board for a mini-lesson from teacher Beth Solensky before dispersing across the classroom to work on their assignment. Small groups pull wheeled tables together to collaborate. Partners pair up at standing tables, and individuals find a cozy spot in which to work. All the while, Ms. Solensky moves around the classroom with ease, conferring with groups and individuals, asking and answering questions, and stopping to get the attention of the entire class to reinforce a skill or clarify a point.

Welcome to the flexible classroom—tables on wheels, adjustable chairs, collaborative learning spaces and easy access to the latest technology—where modern learning communities and collaborative work spaces encourage critical thinking, creative problem solving, curiosity, and adaptability.

"The flexible classroom lends itself beautifully to the modern learning envi-

ronment," said Ms. Solensky, who participated in the district's 2016-17 flexible classroom pilot. "In a flexible classroom, students aren't sitting at a desk all day. Rather, they have the freedom to move around and interact with their peers and their teacher." Newly appointed Principal at Ridge Wood Elementary School, (see related story on page 7) Ms. Solensky says as a building leader she sees student engagement increasing at the classroom level as teachers become more comfortable and confident maneuvering in a flexible classroom.

With the passage of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency enhancement millage in November 2016, the district purchased nearly \$1 million in classroom furniture and equipment to transform kindergarten through second grade classrooms across the district into modern learning environments. And with the community's support of the \$104.85 million bond in November 2017, similar learning environment

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The new Early Childhood playground at Old Village School.

Break out the hard hats! Northville Public Schools is under construction

With the opening of the new school year, final touches are being put on the first project in the \$104.85 million, multi-year Bond 2017 construction and program initiative – the renovation and restoration of Old Village School, at 405 West Main Street in Northville.

The first two floors of the 101-year-old historic building are being specially designed to accommodate the district's nationally accredited Early Childhood Program, with the district's Central Office staff on the third floor.

"This work is being done in a way that preserves the history of Old Village School, while also creating learning environments specially designed for our youngest learners – along with

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Main Street Property Sale

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Northville Educational Foundation
Full STEAM ahead

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Morning consolidated bus routes
in place for NHS students



Taking it to the next level!

Class of 2018 graduates from Northville High School and the Cooke School special education center program celebrated their learning experiences and took the next steps in their life's journey during graduation programs this past spring. See page 6 for more graduation coverage.



• Four candidates vie for three open seats on
the Northville Board of Education

• Candidates Forum:

Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 7 p.m., Hillside Middle School

VOTE
on Tuesday,

November 6, 2018!



The new windows at Old Village School are in keeping with the building's historic nature.

Under Construction

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supporting collaboration and efficiency,” said Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher. “In planning for Old Village School, we have worked together with the City of Northville Historic District Commission to ensure the integrity and historic significance of the building. We are pleased with the wide support across the community for renovating one of our community’s most historic assets.”

Currently housed in the district-owned Main Street School facility (501 West Main Street) adjacent to Old Village School, the preschool classrooms and Central Office function are slated to move to Old Village School in October. Stay tuned for the date and time later in the fall for a Community Open House, including historic tours of the renovated school building.

Generously support by voters in the November 2017 election, Bond 2017 is a comprehensive facilities upgrade and construction program that touches every building through learning environment improvements to meet modern learning and teaching practices; safety and security upgrades that build on current practices; critical infrastructure upgrades at all buildings; and energy and operational initiatives to improve environmental quality and reduce operational costs. The bond also provides for a major addition and renovation of Hillside Middle School, with a portion of the existing building be-

ing demolished after the construction of new academic wings. Program upgrades at Northville High School will support current and future enrollment by expanding common, physical education / fitness, and co-curricular areas.

Over the past several months, Bond User Groups have been meeting at NHS, Hillside and Amerman Elementary School—comprised of building administrators, teachers, support staff, students and design and construction experts—to plan for bond projects at individual schools, which should get underway in earnest in spring 2019. Over the summer months, work at Hillside focused on preparing for the major renovation and construction planned for the school. This included widening of the driveway at Center Street and Eight Mile Road, construction of an additional parking area on the north side of Eight Mile Road to serve as temporary Hillside parking during construction and long-term parking for the Tom Holzer Ford Field stadium area, Cooke School, and overflow parking for Hillside.

In addition, new flexible furniture will be in place for third, fourth and fifth grade classrooms and learning areas across the district for the start of the 2018-19 school year.

Regular Bond 2017 Construction Program Progress Updates are available on the district website at www.NorthvilleSchools.org and clicking on “Bond 2017 Construction Updates” on the main page.

Single-family homes planned for Main Street property

The Northville Public Schools Board of Education at its August 14, 2018 meeting passed a resolution authorizing school district administrators to enter into negotiations with Old Village LLC for the purchase of the Main Street School property at 501 West Main Street, Northville.

The decision was made following consultation with the district’s real estate experts and legal counsel; several opportunities for public comment for neighbors and community members; and Board discussion at its June and July meetings.

Located three blocks west of downtown Northville, the district’s Main Street facility (formerly Main Street Elementary School) is adjacent to Old Village School. The district is currently renovating the previously moth-balled Old Village facility to house Early Childhood classrooms and the district’s Central Office functions currently at the Main Street facility. Renovation and restoration of the historic Old Village School is part of a \$104.85 million, multi-year bond approved by voters in November 2017 that will allow the district to update aging facilities, enhance security, and provide modern learning facilities across the district. (See related story on page 1.) In its planning for Old Village School, the district has worked together with the Historic District Commission and the City of Northville to ensure the integrity and historic significance of the 101-year-old Old Village School.

In August, the Board of Education approved a resolution to negotiate a purchase agreement with Old Village LLC for four single-family homes to be built on five lots, and the additional donation by the developer of a green space “buffer” between Old Village School and the property line for a small pocket park on school district property.

“The decision reached by the Board represents a win-win outcome for the school district and the community, given the level of support by the community for the single-family homes at the site,” said Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher.

Modern Learning

Continued from page 1

improvements will be in place for third through fifth grade learners across district as they begin the new school year, to be followed by middle and high school learning spaces over the next several years of bond implementation. (See related story on page 1.) In the meantime, Northville High School and the district's two middle schools are participating in an Active Learning Pilot Classroom with Steelcase/NBS Commercial Interiors to redesign six traditional classrooms (two at each school) and three flex spaces (one at each school). The pilots will allow middle and high school teachers and students to try out flexible and adaptive learning environments before the redesign, at a greatly reduced cost.

Today's students have so much coming at them. They need an educational environment that helps them sort through that information and develop intellectual and practical skills to allow them to succeed in school, work, life and citizenship in the 21st century. Collaborative work spaces and flexible learning environments allow students to learn effectively in groups by encouraging students to ask questions of one another, explain and justify their opinions, articulate their reasoning and reflect on their knowledge. In this setting, the teacher acts as a facilitator helping students with their research and guiding them through the learning process.

"Flexible classrooms provide just that, flexibility in how students and teachers use the space to meet various student needs," said Hillside Middle School Principal William Jones. "Most middle school students find it difficult to re-



Technology infused workspaces, such as the Meads Mill Middle School media center, provide an educational environment that helps students develop intellectual and practical skills to succeed in school, work and life.

main stationary for an hour at a stretch. So having the option to sit, stand, kneel, crouch, bounce or lean helps keep them focused and supports closer collaboration and communication with their fellow students."

Flexible classrooms and modern learning communities also allow students to get closer to one another, which supports closer collaboration and communications, building trust and encouraging students and teachers to take risks, learn from their mistakes and persevere. How students learn is increasingly just as important as what they learn.

Enter the growth mindset approach to learning that looks at challenge and change as a motivator to increase effort and learning. The concept of a growth (versus a fixed mindset) was developed by psychologist Carol Dweck, who highlighted the importance of believing that you can get smarter with hard work (effort) and good strategies rather than seeing intelligence as fixed.

"Building student confidence in their ability to succeed gives them a chance to demonstrate the traits we look for in our students and that employers look for

in their employees—risk-taking, creativity and perseverance," Jones added. "At Hillside, we work diligently to make success clear for students, so they fully understand what it looks like at each level and know where to target their growth. Most importantly, we give them the chance to demonstrate that growth by shifting away from one-and-done testing and embracing ongoing assessment that shows growth over time."

Flexible classrooms and a growth mindset approach to learning support the key tenets of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program at the district's two middle schools and Northville High School, as well as *The Leader in Me* framework at the district's elementary schools.

"The aim of modern learning communities is to provide students with life and career skills, harness information, media and technology skills, and, finally to foster learning and innovation skills that emphasize critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity," said Northville Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Aaron Baughman.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Northville Public Schools Board of Education and the school district not to unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, handicap or disability. The district reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination including, but not limited to, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC SS2000d et seq, and 42 USC SS2000e et seq.; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC SS1681 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC S794; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC SS12101 et seq.; Michigan's Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.1101 et seq.; and, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL SS37.2101 et seq.

Any questions concerning Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, should be directed to:

Title VI: Mr. Aaron Baughman, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services

Title IX: Mr. David Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and/or Ms. Nadine Harris, Director for Special Services

Inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to: Ms. Nadine Harris, Director for Special Services. For additional information regarding Discrimination and Harassment Procedures, which include definitions of discrimination and harassment, and the procedure for any person, teacher, student, administrator or non-employee to file alleged discrimination/harassment complaints with the district, go to the district's website at www.NorthvilleSchools.org and click on "Annual Notifications."

Four candidates vie for three open school board seats

Four candidates will vie for three seats on the Northville Board of Education in the November 6, 2018 election. Following five years of dedicated service, current Board member Ann Kalass—first appointed in January 2014 and elected to a four-year term in January 2015—is stepping down from the Board when her term ends in December. Candidates seeking the four open seats are current Board members Roland Hwang and James Mazurek, as well as Angela Jaafar and Suzanne Lynn. Profiles of the candidates are as follows:

Roland Hwang



Mr. Hwang, current Vice President for the Northville Public Schools Board of Education, is seeking his second term on the Board. During his first four-

year term, Mr. Hwang also served twice as Board Secretary and was on the Policy Subcommittee. He is currently Board Liaison to the district's PTAs. He also served as a representative on the District Curriculum Committee, and is currently the Board Liaison to the committee.

Mr. Hwang and his wife, Tina, have lived in Northville for 30 years and are the proud parents of two Northville High School graduates, Kevin, a University of Michigan graduate, and Aimee, currently a student at the University of Chicago.

Mr. Hwang brings his experience as an educator, attorney, and engineer to the Board. He has a Juris Doctor and Master of Laws from the Wayne State University Law School, as well as a Bachelor in Engineering and a Master of Business Administration from U of M. He was a Michigan Assistant Attorney General for 27 years, and before that, an attorney and engineer at Ford Motor Company. He is currently an adjunct lecturer at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in the Department of American Culture, teaching history for 23 years.

As a civic leader, Mr. Hwang is a Northville Art Commission member; Secretary and Past-President of the Maple Hill Homeowners Association; and a past Commissioner of the State Bar of Michigan. He is a member of the K-12 Social Studies Asian American working group; and the State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

“Our community flourishes because our district is top-rated,” Mr. Hwang said. “To maintain high quality and achievement requires thoughtful stewardship. I offer stewardship to manage our budget and bond funding to maximize our children’s classroom experience.”

“The global economy demands focus on curriculum areas including STEM education; expanding the breadth of our language programs; exploring more vocational education; and adding a string music curriculum to complement our already robust music program,” Mr. Hwang added. “As a parent, lawyer, and educator, I bring to the Board a diverse professional and community experience. I will concentrate on smart fiscal management that enhances the learning experience. My commitment is to seek fiscal discipline, innovation in teaching and learning, and to ensure each student receives the best opportunity for a successful, enriched life.”

Angela Jaafar



A resident of the Northville school district for 14 years, Ms. Jaafar is seeking her first term on the Northville Board of Education. She and her husband,

Mike, have five children attending Northville Public Schools. This includes Jenna a senior, and Julia a junior at Northville High School; Jad in sixth grade at Hillside Middle School; and Ryan, fifth grade and Zayn in kindergarten at Silver Springs Elementary School. Ms. Jaafar is an active PTA and parent volunteer at her children’s schools, including supporting the Kids with Compassion Club at Northville High School founded by her daughter, Jenna, and dedicated to helping those in need in the community. Ms.

Jaafar is also a supporter and sponsor of the Northville Educational Foundation; a member of the Northville Chamber of Commerce; a sponsor and parent volunteer for the Northville Youth Football Program; and Treasurer of the Northville Rush Soccer Team. Previously, she was a long-time member of a local Girl Scout Troop.

Ms. Jaafar is a realtor and entrepreneur. As a realtor and owner of her real estate firm, she specializes in the Northville real estate market. Ms. Jaafar understands the positive impact Northville Public Schools have on property values in the community, as well as the vested interest owners have in the district’s performance. Consumers are well versed when choosing where to live and raise their children. The success of the community’s school system and education is a top priority. Ms. Jaafar also has 16 years of experience as a Liaison for Global Marketing at Ford Motor Company, managing operating and fixed budgets for approximately 80 auto shows and special events across North America. In this role, she established a rigorous program for training and development of the national auto show teams. This included new product launches, technology, experiential marketing and logistics. Ms. Jaafar’s husband (Chief Jaafar) is the Chief of Operations for the Wayne County Sheriff’s Office.

“If elected as a Northville school board member, I would bring the insight as a parent of five children attending our schools,” Ms. Jaafar said. “This has allowed me to engage with other parents, students, teachers and administrators at every level.”

“In addition, I bring a diverse professional experience in real estate, as a community business owner and corporate liaison,” Ms. Jaafar added. “I believe that understanding the upcoming growth of residential development in the district is going to be key to addressing our faculty needs, classroom sizes and infrastructure,

while maintaining the district's budgets. We are a very affluent community and can also develop means to fund any deficits and create opportunities to generate revenue for our schools. This would be key to maintaining our standard of excellence for every student at every level. Last and certainly not least, as the wife of a law enforcement executive, I would advocate school safety in our district, from awareness to cyber specific to today's challenges."

Suzanne Lynn



A native of Virginia, Ms. Lynn attended public schools there from kindergarten through her graduation from the University of Virginia. She began her career

as a public school teacher in rural North Carolina, teaching in one of the highest-poverty counties in the state. It was these experiences that cemented for her how critical public education is in this country and why she has dedicated her career to working on behalf of students and communities across the country as a senior executive in both educational and non-profit organizations. Over the course of her career, Ms. Lynn has served as the executive director of three different youth-serving non-profit organizations; a vice president in a large, national non-profit education organization; the Deputy Superintendent of Talent in Detroit Public Schools; and she currently leads SGL Consulting, a consulting firm whose mission is to provide effective and customized solutions that help mission-driven leaders and organizations reach their highest potential. Ms. Lynn has a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership and Ethics.

Ms. Lynn is seeking her first term on the Northville Public Schools Board of Education. A Northville school district resident for eight years, she and Jeff Russell live in the Bealtown neighborhood. During her time in Northville, Ms. Lynn has become deeply ensconced in the

community. She is an appointed Commissioner on Northville Youth Assistance and the Secretary on the Northville Educational Foundation Board of Directors. Additionally, she co-chaired both the Northville Public Schools' Facility Review/Bond Study Committee and the Bond Advocacy Committee that led to the successful passage of the \$104.85 million bond that is being used to upgrade and enhance school buildings and facilities across Northville, while also improving safety, security, and learning environments for students.

"If given the privilege to serve you as a member of the Northville Board of Education, I will bring my experiences and expertise as an educator, a senior executive, a business owner, and a committed community member to every discussion and decision made on behalf of Northville Public Schools and its students," Ms. Lynn said. "My various professional experiences have given me a deep understanding of talent and human resources, finances and budgets, and innovative learning environments, all while keeping what's best for children at the forefront of every decision."

James Mazurek



A resident in the Northville school district for more than 25 years, Mr. Mazurek is seeking his third term on the Northville Board of Education. Currently Vice President of Automotive Sales for Neusoft America, Mr. Mazurek and his wife, Suzanne, have a son, Jordon, 25, a proudly employed engineering graduate from University of Michigan; and a daughter, Rachel, 15, who is a sophomore at Northville High School. Mr. Mazurek has been an active parent, volunteering at his children's schools and extra-curricular activities. He also served as a trustee for more than five years on the Beckenham Home Owners Association Board; is a member of St. James Catholic Church in Novi; and is a delegate for the 19th Precinct.

Mr. Mazurek regularly attended Northville Board of Education meetings beginning in August 2009 and was elected to his first four-year term in 2010. Over the past eight years, he has held multiple positions on the Board including Trustee (twice), Secretary (twice), Vice President (twice), and is currently President (for the second time). During this time he also has served on several Board Subcommittees; been a district representative to the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency; the Claude N. Ely Memorial Fund Committee; the Senior Advisory Commission; and currently is a member of the Northville Parks and Recreation Commission. He also served on the district's Facility Review/Bond Study Committee of 2017 and the Services Outsourcing Committee in 2013, as well as on Board subcommittees including Policy, Human Resources and Finance. Mr. Mazurek and his family have been contributing PTA members at their children's schools including Thornton Creek Elementary School, Hillside Middle School and currently Northville High School. Mr. Mazurek received his Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Michigan — Dearborn and his Master of Science in Engineering from the U of M Rackham Graduate School. He also has a Master of Business Administration through the Michigan State University Executive Management Program.

"I have eight years of experience on the Northville Board of Education, starting in 2010," Mr. Mazurek said. "I have stepped up to leadership positions for six of those eight years. I worked through the tough times when we were at risk of insolvency and have helped make the tough decisions to make us one of the strongest districts in the state from both a financial and academic perspective. My goals are to 1) make sure we remain one of the top districts in the state; 2) manage the Bond funds entrusted to the district in a financially responsible way; and 3) continue to communicate and listen to our community to deliver on our promises to bring 21st century learning and facilities to our district."

Board of Education Candidate Forum for November 6, 2018 General Election

Northville PTA Advocacy representatives from across the school district are partnering to host a **Northville Board of Education Candidate Forum** for interested voters in the upcoming November 6, 2018 General Election.

During the forum – slated for **Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 7:00-8:00 p.m., at Hillside Middle School, 775 North Center Street, Northville** – voters will hear from the four candidates vying for the three open seats on the Northville Public Schools Board of Education. The candidates include **Roland Hwang**, current Board Vice President seeking his second term; **Angela Jafaar**, who is seeking her first term; **Suzanne Lynn**, running for her first term; and **Jim Mazurek**, current Board President seeking his third term. (See candidate profiles on pages 4 and 5.)

The format for the forum will allow for each candidate to give short opening and

closing statements, with the opportunity for audience members to submit questions for the candidates through the forum moderator.

“All school district voters are encouraged to attend the October 16th forum and hear directly from these candidates on their views and goals regarding the issues and challenges surrounding education in the State of Michigan and Northville Public Schools,” said Carin Meyer, Northville PTA Advocacy Co-Chair. “PTA advocacy representatives are hosting the forum so voters can make informed choices on issues impacting our children and our community. Most importantly, we encourage everyone to vote on Tuesday, November 6th.”

Also a reminder – **the last day to register to vote** in the Tuesday, November 6, 2018 Election is Tuesday, **October 9, 2018.**



Celebrating at the Cooke School Graduation.

Class of 2018 — they are the future

This past June, Class of 2018 graduates from both Northville High School and the Cooke School special education center program celebrated their learning experience and took the next step in their life journey. Five-hundred-and-eighty-five members of the Northville High School Class of 2018 received diplomas during the June 3, 2018 Graduation Ceremony at the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth. The class included a record 58 National Merit Scholar honorees, the third class of International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Candidates, 185 Phi Beta Kappa recipients, and more than \$16 million in scholarship offers, including a prestigious appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy. From National Honor Society members, to Scholar Athletes, Eagle Scouts and Gold Award Girl Scouts to those contributing thousands of hours of community service, the Class of 2018 has left its mark on Northville Public Schools and the entire Northville community.

On June 13, 2018, Cooke School Class of 2018 graduates took the stage in a moving ceremony for each student that gave his or her family, caregivers, teachers, and staff the opportunity to reflect on each student’s growth, as well as the powerful lessons learned from these students and their families, who are challenged every day.



Voting Information: November 6, 2018 Election

If you are not registered to vote in the community, you must do so by **Tuesday, October 9, 2018**, to participate in the **November 6th General Election**. You can register at your city or township offices or any Michigan Secretary of State Office, as well as online or via mail. Local clerks encourage citizens to register in person to avoid the “Must Vote in Person” requirement if they are voting in their first election.

Absentee ballot applications for those unable to get to the polls on November 6th are available through your city or township clerk’s office and website. Voters who have requested to be on a permanent absentee list will automatically receive an application to request an absentee ballot.

Once you have voted, place your completed ballot in the envelope provided by your clerk’s office. Absentee ballots can be hand-delivered to your clerk’s office or mailed (First Class postage is required). Your completed ballot must be delivered by U.S. Mail to your clerk’s office by Election Day, Tuesday, November 6th, or hand-delivered to your clerk’s office before 8 p.m. on November 6th.

Voting precincts and locations for Election Day are available on your city or township website or by calling your city or township clerk’s office.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2018



Welcome to the district leadership team

Northville Public Schools is welcoming key individuals to the district leadership team for the 2018-19 school year including two elementary principals, a director of personnel development and quality assurance, a manager of Food Service; and a literacy coach.



Beth Solensky is taking the helm as **Principal for Ridge Wood Elementary School** for the 2018-19 school year after serving as interim principal from January through June 2018. A highly regarded member of the Northville Public Schools community, Ms. Solensky taught fifth grade at Moraine Elementary School prior to her interim role at Ridge Wood. Before joining Northville

2015, Ms. Solensky taught second through fourth grades in Troy, Michigan, and in Eden Prairie and Hugo, Minnesota. She was also selected as a Fulbright Scholar in 2000-01, and taught English as a foreign language in Korea. She received her Michigan Elementary and Secondary Administrative Certification from Michigan State University in 2015 and holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Pennsylvania State University, and a Master of Arts in Reading and Language Arts from Oakland University. She served as an Administrative Intern at Moraine Elementary School in 2014-15, prior to being hired as a teacher, and completed the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Aspiring Administrator Academy in 2016-17.



A strong educational leader with diverse experience working with teachers, students and families, **Deagon M. Jewett** is the **new Principal** at Northville Public Schools **Thornton Creek Elementary School**. Mr. Jewett comes to Northville Public Schools from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools where he served the past two years in the newly created position of Student Support Coordinator at Eriksson Elementary School,

which serves students from preschool through fifth grade. In this role, he provided well-balanced and academically sound educational experiences, as well as created a friendly and welcoming environment, while addressing a wide range of social, emotional and developmental needs of students.

Prior to his role as student support coordinator, Mr. Jewett was a classroom teacher at Plymouth-Canton's Eriksson and Isbister elementary schools for nine years teaching first through third grades. During that time he also chaired the School Improvement, Building Equity Leadership, and Culturally Proficient Instruction Teams, including working with colleagues and administration to realign curriculum to the Common Core Standards and modify instruction to best prepare students to be college, career and culture ready. In addition, from 2013-15 he served as site coordinator for Plymouth-Canton's elementary and middle school summer program.

Mr. Jewett has his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Michigan State University (MSU); his Master in the

Art of Teaching from Wayne State University; and most recently completed his School Administrator's Certificate at MSU. Mr. Jewett lives in Northville with his wife, Adrienne, and their two daughters, Lucille, fourth grade and Rose, first grade, at Moraine Elementary School.



Rebecca Pek is joining Northville Public Schools as **Director of Personnel Development and Quality Assurance**. This new Central Office position, reporting to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, will support a wide variety of functions across departments, with an emphasis on supporting and growing staff. Most recently, Ms. Pek

has served as Assistant Superintendent of Professional Learning and Accountability, and before that as Director of Human Resources at Wayne-Westland Community Schools. Prior to joining Wayne-Westland, Ms. Pek worked at Romulus Community Schools in a variety of roles including teacher, high school principal and Director of Human Resources. Before joining the education profession, Ms. Pek worked in the private sector with a software company. She has her Bachelor of Science in English and communications from Western Michigan University, and a Master in Educational Leadership from Madonna University.



With more than 17 years of experience in food service and child nutrition, **Carolyn Morfino** is joining Northville Public Schools as **Manager of Food Service**. Ms. Morfino has a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics from Eastern Michigan University. Since 2000, she has provided food service management through a third-party provider to a number of school districts in Southeast Michigan, most recently on assignment at Fraser Public Schools. In this work, she has been responsible for the daily operation of food service departments, providing leadership to food service employees. Ms. Morfino has experience in budgeting; inventory control; ordering, payroll; meeting federal, state and local guidelines; marketing and promotion; the Free and Reduced Meal application process and management; and nutrition education.



Julie Rutherford is also joining Northville Public Schools in the newly created educator position of **Literacy and Learning Facilitator** for the school district. In this role, Ms. Rutherford will support learning consultants across the district and provide instructional coaching to teachers in a more cost effective manner that will provide more contact time. Prior to joining Northville Public

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Northville Educational Foundation – Full STEAM ahead for 2018-19

The Northville Educational Foundation supports enrichment programs that help celebrate the legacy of excellence that is Northville Public Schools, while also enhancing the many ways in which our schools and our teachers are opening a *World of Possibilities* for all students. These programs, supported by the Foundation, advance a culture of learning and leadership in our schools; help reimagine curriculum and instruction inside and outside the classroom; and further excellence in athletics and the arts.

For the 2018-19 school year, the Foundation will continue to partner with the school district to focus on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Math) related initiatives. This includes \$20,000 to expand the innovative Project Lead the Way (PLTW) science and math offerings from kindergarten through high school. Through PLTW's hands-on, project-based STEAM curriculum, students learn to apply math and science to real-world situations, developing the problem-solving, critical-thinking, communication and teamwork skills that 21st century employers identify as critical.

This past school year, three students from the PLTW Civil Engineering and Architectural Design class at Northville High School had the opportunity to work with the district's Business Office and construction experts to prepare the actual bid documents for summer facility improvement projects, including flooring and paint work at Ridge Wood Elementary School and NHS.

With this success in mind, the Foundation is also stepping up its support for the successful collaboration between NHS students and staff and The Village Workshop maker space located in downtown Northville that will allow for the high school to nearly double the number of students taking part in these hands-on, real-world experience for the 2018-19 school year.

"Project Lead the Way is a great fit for our students and will make them more



Students use pedal power to mix shakes at the 2017 STEAM Fair.

competitive in college and in the future job market," said Northville Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Aaron Baughman. "It combines rigorous content with a highly collaborative approach that mirrors the real-world work of engineers, scientists, inventors and artists. We know that when students experience how the content they are learning in the classroom is applied in the real world, they are more likely to display the persistence that will lead them to a deeper, more meaningful understanding."

For the fifth straight year, the Foundation will also partner with the school district for the annual STEAM Fair slated for April 2019 which brings together students from elementary through high school to share inventions, innovations, and ideas.

Other initiatives being funded by the Foundation for the 2018-19 school year include:

- Innovative Teaching Grants (\$30,000 including \$10,000 to support Cooke School grants)
- Galileo Leadership Cohort
- Parent Camp
- Student Financial Assistance Grants
- Miscellaneous

None of this would be possible without the support of the Foundation's many donors including school families, staff, community members, and business and community leaders. Each year, the Foundation offers many opportunities for giving including the Cash for College Raffle, Night for Northville and

the NPS Staff Giving Campaign during the fall; Thank a Staff in the spring; the Play Fore Education Golf Classic in the summer; and the Annual Fund throughout the school year by visiting www.SupportNEF.org and clicking on the "Donate Now" button. Donors also are encouraged to check if their employer has a Corporate Matching Gift Program that will match their donation, sometimes doubling or tripling their contribution. You also can support the Northville

Educational Foundation when you designate NEF as your charity of choice for your **Busch's MyWay** and **Kroger Plus** rewards programs, or make purchases using your **AmazonSmile** account. See these business websites for details.

"Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to each and every donor – including businesses, individuals, families, staff members and community organizations – who contribute to the Northville Educational Foundation," said Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher. "Contributing is a great way to keep local dollars in Northville and to support an organization committed to enriching our schools and inspiring our future."

For more information, about the Northville Educational Foundation and how you can contribute and/or get involved, visit www.SupportNEF.org

District Leadership

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Schools, Ms. Rutherford was Director of Professional Learning for Wayne-Westland Community Schools where she was responsible for supporting intervention specialists and teachers through literacy coaching and professional development. An educator with 20 years of experience, Ms. Rutherford has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, a Master of Arts in Education with a Reading Specialist Endorsement, and Master of Science and Educational Leadership with a K-12 Administrator Endorsement. She also is a Galileo Leadership Consortium graduate in the 2009-11 cohort.

District Newsmakers

Northville High School senior **Dante J. Silva** had the opportunity to attend the **American Legion Boys Nation** program in Washington, D.C., in July. Silva was selected from more than 250 delegates from across the state who attended Michigan Boys State at Grand Valley State University in June. The program activity provides young men with the opportunity to learn firsthand about what it means to be engaged in their community and participate in a democratic process.

Northville High School freshman **Ved Muthusamy** finished an impressive third place taking home the **bronze medal** in the **International Geography Bee** in Berlin, Germany, in July. Ved qualified for the international competition by placing sixth in the national contest earlier in the spring as an eighth grader at Hillside Middle School. The International Geography Bee was founded in 2016 to give primary and secondary students around the world a chance to compete at the regional, national, and global levels in a new academic competition testing comprehensive knowledge of world geography.



Attention NPS Students, Alumni and Families

The school district is currently in the process of cataloguing and returning the many pieces of student artwork that have been on display at the Board of Education Office over many years that were part of an annual Board of Education Student Art Show. To make arrangements to pick up your or your students' artwork – or to check to see if you have a piece of artwork on display – please contact Meghan Irving at IrvingMe@northvilleschools.org

Bus Tracker offers sense of comfort for school parents

The Durham “Bus Tracker” mobile app provides Northville Public Schools’ parents and guardians with a sense of comfort and convenience. The secure system allows families to view their children’s bus location in real-time using a cell phone or other mobile device, including the bus’s current location and what time it will be arriving at your child’s bus stop. Use of the app is completely voluntary and is available at no cost to participating families or the district. For information on how to download the secure app, and access your student’s bus information, visit www.northvilleschools.org.



Detailed bus routes for the 2018-19 school year online;

Morning neighborhood pick up available for NHS students

Detailed bus routes that include the addition of morning pick-up for Northville High School students at consolidated bus stops in neighborhoods and subdivisions outside the 1.5 mile walk zone are in place for the 2018-19 school year. The new high school routes, along with any updates and changes to elementary and middle school routes for the coming school year, are now available on the district website at www.northvilleschools.org.

With the addition of consolidated neighborhood and subdivision stops, the high school morning satellite stops at the district’s six elementary schools, along with the Northville Township Police station on Six Mile Road, have been eliminated. (High school families should note that Silver Springs and Amerman elementary schools will serve as stops on two of the newly created consolidated routes.) **Afternoon satellite bus service will remain in place for high school students.**

“The decision to move to morning consolidated bus routes for high school students is the result of concerns raised by school families and community members,” said Cari Dupree, General Manager, Durham Transportation, the school district’s transportation service provider.

The school district first moved to satellite and consolidated transportation services for middle and high school students in 2010, as one of several cost-cutting measures implemented at the time by the district in response to severe cuts in state funding. Middle school morning transportation moved from satellite stops to consolidated routes in January 2017.

For questions or more information regarding bus routes or other transportation issues, contact Ms. Dupree at dupreeca@northvilleschools.org or go to **Transportation** on the district website. With the start of the new school year, parents and students also are encouraged to review bus safety protocols, available on the district website, including that all students should be out of vehicles and homes, waiting at the bus stop five minutes prior to the bus’s scheduled arrival. School families also are encouraged to sign up for the **Bus Tracker app** on their smart phones and other devices to track their student’s bus along the route in real time. (See box on this page for details.)



Photos by Stackwood Studios

NPS 2018 All Staff Opening Ceremony

Northville Public Schools' staff were informed and inspired as Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher welcomed everyone to the 2018-19 school year on August 28, 2018, to a packed Northville High School auditorium. School teams shared areas of focus, and introduced new staff members. Pictured from left are: Keynote speaker and Northville's own Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services **Aaron Baughman** shares his inspiring story of the impact that teachers and school staff can have on students in a compelling call to action; **Kennedy McKee** (former Silver Springs Elementary School Eagle and incoming Meads Mill Middle School sixth grader) brings down the house singing her original song, written in honor of her teachers and the staff who inspired her to be a leader; Thornton Creek fourth grader **Madeline Leneschmidt** introduces new principal **Deagon Jewett**; NPS staff are welcomed by enthusiastic students and families as they arrived to the beat of the fabulous NHS Drumline, and treated to a rousing performance by the entire award-winning NHS Marching Band as the morning concluded, inspiring a unified NPS team to continue the journey to open a *World of Possibilities* for each and every student.

2018/2019 Advisory to All Parents

Northville Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program. Inherent with this are the district's efforts to reduce pesticide use as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, this program does not rely on routine pesticide applications to resolve problems. We use various techniques such as habitat alteration, sanitation, mechanical means, exclusion, etc. to prevent pest from becoming a problem.

As required by Michigan law, parents will receive advance notice of non-emergency application of a pesticide (insecticide, fungicide, or herbicide), other than bait or gel formulation, which is made to the school, school grounds, or buildings. This advance notice of a pesticide application will be given 48 hours before the application by the following two methods:

- 1) Posting at the primary entrances to your child's school. The entrances that will be posted are the main entrance and those that have a sidewalk that leads directly to a parking lot.
 - 2) Posting in the common area located by the main office of the school.
- Please note that notification is not given for use of sanitizers, germicides,

disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be promptly notified following any such application, via the two posting methods identified above. Parents may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request by contacting Steve Banchero, Northville Public Schools Director of Operations at (248)344-3540 or bancherost@northvilleschools.org.

Parents or guardians of children attending the school are also entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least three days before the application, if they so request. If you would like to be notified by mail please contact the department in writing at NPS Operations, 501 West Main Street Northville, MI 48167. Please include, your name, your student's name(s), mailing address and what school(s) your student(s) attend and you will be put on the advance notification by US Mail list.

Learn Stormwater Management

Northville Public Schools is committed to the environment and strives to be a good steward of the land within its jurisdiction and to use appropriate Best Management Practices to contribute to the improvement of water quality within the Rouge River Watershed where the district is located.

Northville Public Schools encourages all students, faculty, staff, parents, and visitors to get involved through opportunities provided by the local water shed groups including Friends of the Rouge and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

Why worry about stormwater?

Many people may not realize that stormwater collected in drains located on the curbs of their streets does not flow to their local water treatment plant. Rather, this water remains untreated and is discharged directly into the waterways. During this journey to the waterways, stormwater collects and carries a broad range of pollutants. Stormwater is a non-point source of pollution thus making it extremely difficult to address and the single greatest threat to our water quality and watershed health. Non-point source pollution comes from many diffuse runoff sources such as rainfall, snowmelt, flowing over and through the ground, picking up pollutants as it goes. Some of these pollutants occur naturally, such as nutrients from sediments, manure, or pet wastes. Others pollutants such as fertilizers, automotive grease, and oil occur from our interaction with the environment. Stormwater acts as a carrier of non-point source pollution and therefore considered a major cause of water quality problems both in Michigan and nationwide.

Public Notice of Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)

To this end, the school district has developed and has implemented a "Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP)" to reduce the discharge of pollutants from their MS4 to the Maximum Extent Practicable and protect water quality in accordance with the appropriate water quality requirements of Michigan Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, Part 31, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the district National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (NPDES).

A copy of the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) is available for review on the district's website at <https://www.northvilleschools.org/apps/pages/stormwater>. Any questions or comments regarding the Stormwater Management Plan should be directed to the Operations Department at 248-344-8445.

CLIP AND SAVE

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018-19 K-12 Calendar

Teacher Professional Days & Teacher Work Day	August 28, 29 & 30	Tuesday-Thursday
Labor Day Recess – No School	August 31 & September 3	Friday & Monday
First Day of Classes – Full Day	September 4	Tuesday
Parent/Teacher Conferences – NHS	October 22 & 24	Monday & Wednesday
Parent/Teacher Conferences – Half-Day for Middle School Students Only on October 25	October 23 & 25	Tuesday & Thursday (1/2 Day)
End of Card Marking 1	November 2	Friday
Teacher Professional Day – No School	November 6	Tuesday
Parent/Teacher Conferences – Half Days for Elementary Students Only	November 15 & 16	Thursday & Friday
Thanksgiving Recess – No School	November 21 (A.M. Half-Day), November 22 & 23	Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
Winter Recess Begins – End of Day	December 21	Friday
Classes Resume	January 7	Monday
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School Teacher Work Day / Furlough Day	January 21	Monday
End of Semester / Card Marking 2 – A.M. Half-Day for Students	January 25	Friday
Mid-Winter Recess – A.M. Half-Day for Students / P.M. Teacher Professional Day	February 15	Friday
Mid-Winter Recess – No School	February 18	Monday
Teacher Professional Day - No School	February 19	Tuesday
Parent/Teacher Conferences – NHS	March 6	Wednesday
Parent-Teacher Conferences Half-Day for Middle School Students Only	March 7	Thursday
End of Semester/Card Marking 3 Spring Recess Begins – End of the Day	March 29	Friday
Classes Resume	April 8	Monday
SAT/PSAT Testing Grades 8-11	April 9	Tuesday
NHS Only: MME Testing/AM 11th Grade/Late Start 9th, 10th and 12th	April 10	Wednesday
NHS Only: MME Testing/AM 11th Grade/Late Start 9th, 10th and 12th	April 11	Thursday
Good Friday—No School	April 19	Friday
Parent/Teacher Conferences – Half Days for Elementary Students Only	April 25 & April 26	Thursday & Friday
Memorial Day Recess – No School	May 27	Monday
Last Day of Classes – Half-Day End of Semester/Card Marking 4	June 13	Thursday
Teacher Work Day / Furlough Day – No School	June 14	Friday

Students do not attend school on Teacher Professional Days or Teacher Work Days.

Northville Public Schools Board of Education

501 West Main Street • Northville, Michigan 48167

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TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENTS

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS CONTACT INFORMATION

(Clip and Save)

Central Office Administration 248-344-3500
Mary Kay Gallagher, Superintendent www.NorthvilleSchools.org

District-Wide Attendance Line 248-344-3999

HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Northville High School 248-344-3800
Tony Koski, Principal <http://nhs.northvilleschools.org>

Hillside Middle School 248-344-3600
William Jones, Principal <http://hillside.northvilleschools.org>

Meads Mill Middle School 248-344-3700
Brad O'Neill, Principal <http://meadsmill.northvilleschools.org>

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Amerman Elementary School 248-465-2100
Marco Marando, Principal <http://amerman.northvilleschools.org>

Moraine Elementary School 248-465-2150
Denise Bryan, Principal <http://moraine.northvilleschools.org>

Ridge Wood Elementary School 248-465-2200
Beth Solensky, Principal <http://ridgewood.northvilleschools.org>

Silver Springs Elementary School 248-465-2300
Katie Booth, Principal <http://silversprings.northvilleschools.org>

Thornton Creek Elementary School 248-465-2350
Deagon Jewett, Principal <http://thorntoncreek.northvilleschools.org>

Winchester Elementary School 248-465-2400
Kelly Lindsay, Principal <http://winchester.northvilleschools.org>

SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTER PROGRAM

Cooke School 248-344-3550
Jennifer Bugar, Supervisor <http://cooke.northvilleschools.org>

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM
Eileen Freeman, Coordinator 248-465-2550
<http://earlychildhood.northvilleschools.org>

TRANSPORTATION

Cari Dupree, General Manager 248-465-2070
Durham School Services
<http://www.northvilleschools.org/transportation>

FOOD SERVICE

Carrie Morfino, Manager 248-344-3690
<http://www.northvilleschools.org/foodservices>



Join Us on Facebook and Twitter

Northville Public Schools is now
on Facebook and Twitter.
Follow us for the latest news and events!

Do you have a student joining Northville Public Schools?

If you are a new family in the Northville community with school-age children who will be joining Northville Public Schools for the 2018-19 school year, you are strongly encouraged to visit the district website at www.NorthvilleSchools.org and click on "ENROLL" to complete the online Pre-Enrollment Process and schedule an enrollment appointment.

The online Pre-Enrollment Process includes the steps to enroll your child, along with many of the required registration forms that will need to be completed prior to your meeting with the district's Office of Student Data staff to finalize your child's enrollment. The Office of Student Data is located in the district's Board of Education Office at 501 West Main Street, Northville 48167.



Connections

is a publication of Northville Public Schools.

We would like to hear your comments
and suggestions.

Please feel free to e-mail Janet Naughton, Editor,
at naughtonja@northvilleschools.org
You also can find **Connections** on the
district's website at www.northvilleschools.org.