



KINGSLEY CONNECTION

"A COMMUNITY OF TRADITION AND EXCELLENCE" September 2022 kingsleyschools.org

KINGSLEY TRAVEL CLUB VISITS ITALY, GREECE IN FIRST ANNUAL SUMMER TRIP



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Kingsley Middle School Travel Club takes its first ever summer trip to Italy and Greece! Cover story continued on page. 2.

"Traveling like this has challenges, and I think it brings about a lot of growth in the kids. It raises their level of independence and confidence because as we look back on this trip, we're like, 'wow, we just did that,'" said KMS World History teacher, Andrew Sias.

This summer, Kingsley Middle School's Travel Club ventured on an Adriatic Odyssey to Italy and Greece to see history come to life!

Mr. Sias founded the club and took five students and four parents on the trip in June. Art teacher Elizabeth Lakin helped chaperone the trip.

Their ten-day adventure included guided tours of Vatican City, the Colosseum, multiple historic sites in Florence, Delphi, the Temple of Apollo, the Acropolis, and more. Their group traveled on a tour bus with an expert local guide who offered valuable insight and history about each location. (Keep reading on page 2).

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Meet the New KHS Principal, Chris Rapes!

Learn about his goals for the school year on page 3.



Kingsley Students Compete at Northwestern Michigan Fair Pictures, prizes, and more on page 5.



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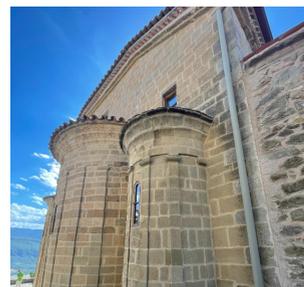
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Middle School Travel Club Visits Italy, Greece in First Annual Summer Trip

The trip was booked through EF Tours, a travel company specializing in experiential learning through cultural exchange.

"Do you like your temples well-preserved like the Pantheon or crumbling like the Parthenon?" reads the tour's description on the EF tour site.

"Italy and Greece practically own the early history of Western civilization, which becomes vividly clear as you walk through the ruins of the Roman Forum and the Acropolis in Athens. In Vatican City, crane your neck in awe inside St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. In Delphi, look deep into Greece's mythical past."

In addition to their guided tours in each city, the Kingsley Travel Club and their families had free time to explore on their own and sample the local cuisine. Mr. Sias says students learned just as much during free time as they did during the tour stops.



A map of the Kingsley Travel Club's journey! map provided by EF Tours

Rome, Italy

"In Rome, we talked about the death of Julius Caesar and saw the place where he was assassinated. We were at the Colosseum. We talked about Christianity, and that there was a period of time in Roman history where Christians were persecuted. We went to the Vatican Museum and we saw the sculptures of the time when Christianity became the Roman Empire's official religion," said Mr. Sias.



Florence, Italy

"Florence was absolutely my favorite because it's the birthplace of the Renaissance. It's where all these artists and writers were from, it's where DaVinci painted the Mona Lisa. If you want to use pop culture terms, you will see all four Ninja Turtles - Michelangelo, Leonardo [DaVinci] Donatello, and Raphael," said chaperone and KMS art teacher Elizabeth Lakin.



Greece

"When we were in Greece, we went to the Meteora monasteries. I think for most people, that was probably one of the highlights that we didn't expect to be a highlight, because it was just so breathtakingly beautiful. The rock formations were unlike anything I've ever seen in the world, and on top of these rock formations, there were several monasteries. The one that we went into was incredible. There were paintings covering the walls on the inside of the church there, and we learned the artist is still alive and he started working on the paintings 50 years ago!" said Mr. Sias.

"They were up on these high, high cliffs, and you're like, 'how the heck did they even build this?!'" said Mrs. Lakin. "I think the students were really taken by the sculptures. It was fun, because for many of them, it was their first time out of the country."

Summer 2023: Paris and London!

The Travel Club's inaugural trip started a tradition Mr. Sias hopes to continue for many summers. Next year, he is planning to take students and chaperones to London and Paris on a guided trip with the EF Tours.

There are limited spots left on the tour bus. Interested students or parents who wish to attend should contact Mr. Sias at asias@kingsleyschools.org.

By Chloe Kiple

"The value of travel is seeing the history of places that we learned about in world history and art class, and experiencing the local cultures." -KMS world history teacher Andrew Sias



MEET KINGSLEY HIGH SCHOOL'S NEW PRINCIPAL, CHRIS RAPES!



"What attracted me to Kingsley is its high academic standards. The staff is getting kids ready to compete. I am a firm believer that when you set high standards kids will come up and reach it. I can't speak enough to that because I believe nothing should be average."



Kingsley Schools is excited to welcome Chris Rapes as the new principal of Kingsley High School. Principal Rapes says he's excited to introduce himself to the community.

"The biggest elephant in the room is my last name. Having always wanted to be in education, it's not the greatest last name," he said.

Rapes is pronounced *ray-press*.

Principal Rapes comes to the district with 11 years in education. He spent the past four years as the high school dean of students and middle school athletic director at Shelby Schools, and has also coached girls basketball and taught high school science and physical education.

He says he loves the tight-knit feel of the Kingsley community, and hopes to foster that feeling through meaningful relationships with families, students, and staff by being enthusiastically available for conversations big and small.

"There's a lot to be said about loyalty. I want to be here for the kids not just academically, but also socially and emotionally. They need someone to be there and be willing to carry that torch."

Get to Know Principal Rapes!

Hobbies: Snowmobiling, skiing, hiking. "It's nice to be able to just slow down and enjoy things, everything is so fast."

Favorite food: Breakfast

Education: Grand Valley State University Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and Biology, Cornerstone University Master's degree in Educational Leadership and Administration

Fun Facts: He played trumpet in high school. Currently, he's working on his private pilot's license!

Pets: One horse, one dog, plus a few bears that visit his property!





USDA Free School Meals Program Has Expired; Kingsley Dining Director Asks Families to Apply for Meal Benefits

The USDA's authority to extend free meals to all students expired at the end of the school year 2021-22.

For the 2022-23 year we anticipate students will be charged for meals unless families qualify individually for meal benefits.

We are asking that all families complete the applications even if you don't believe you will qualify.

The information helps to obtain grant monies to support learning in the district.

All applications submitted prior to August 14th will be entered into a drawing put on by the Food Service Department for several different prizes.

Only one application needs to be submitted per family per year unless there are household changes.

To enter please go to kingsley.familyportal.cloud to complete the benefits application.

Thank you,

Kristy Donner
Director of Dining Service
231-263-5262 ext 4055
kdonner@kingsleyschools.org

Congratulations, head football coach Tim Woer, for being inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches' Association Hall of Fame!



Sign Up for 5th Grade Band!

"Everyone is born with musical ability. Band is a family, and every student is important and nobody rides the bench." - Band Director Lance Dubay

Registration is now open for the 5th grade band program!

The Kingsley Area Schools have a long tradition of musical excellence, particularly in the band program. We would like your child to become part of this 40-year tradition! Kingsley has been recognized as one of the top band programs in the state of Michigan, receiving top honors at District and State festivals for four decades.

5th grade is the perfect time to start the program and try it out.

The band program offers opportunities for students to travel for festival performances, local gigs, and other destinations.

Sign-up is open through the first week of school, and instrument fittings occur once school starts. Kingsley bands partner with Marshall music, which has a fantastic rent-to-own program for instruments. This program is great and covers accidental damage and repairs as part of the rental cost. You will receive more information regarding rentals and instrument selection once the fitting process is complete.

To sign up, contact band director Lance Dubay or the Kingsley Middle School Office to get your student's schedule changed to include 5th grade band.

Lance Dubay
Director of Bands
Kingsley Area Schools
ldubay@kingsleyschools.org
(231)-263-5262 ext. 4001

Why Join Band?

Participation in band has proven to be a tremendous incentive for maintaining a good academic record. Additionally, college admissions officers look for students who have participated in their school band programs as an indicator of commitment and success. Getting involved in music provides the participant with an enriching cultural, social, and educational experience. A great deal of self-discipline is also developed by mastery of a musical instrument. I would be happy to answer any other questions that you may have. Please feel free to call or email me anytime.

Do I have to buy an instrument for my child?

Most parents choose to rent an instrument for their student through Marshall Music Co in TC. More information regarding rentals will be sent home after students are fitted for instruments. (The rental is a rent to own option from Marshalls. This includes the cost of repairs while under contract. Marshalls has a dedicated service rep visit our school each week. Should a student decide at the end of the year they are no longer interested in band, parents are able to return the instrument to Marshalls and the contract can be terminated. Again, rental information will come home once students have been fitted.

When will my child need the instrument?

Parents will need to have rental orders placed with Marshall no later than Friday September 16, 2022.

Can I purchase a used instrument?

Many fine used instruments are available from former band students and local music companies. Should you choose to purchase a used instrument for your student, please DO NOT make a purchase until you have the instrument evaluated by the director. Just as there are many quality instruments available there are also many poor instruments. (Purchasing a used instrument is very similar to purchasing a used car.)

Are instruments available from the school?

The school has a limited supply of instruments available for students if a family experiences a financial hardship. These instruments are available on a first come first serve basis. ALL SUPPLIES to maintain instruments may be purchased from the director or through the local music stores. The director will accept cash; small bills only please!

*Students playing reed instruments will need to provide their own reeds. (2 at a time should be kept in student case and rotated)

*Brass students will need to provide their own valve oil and slide grease.

How important is practicing at home?

In order to have the best chance to succeed in learning to play their instrument, students will need to practice at home and REGULARLY. It is important to have a quiet place to practice and to establish a regular practice schedule. The amount of time necessary for practice may vary from student to student however, each student is responsible for submitting a practice sheet each with 100 minutes of practice time logged. I also highly recommend that you purchase a wire music stand for home use. It is very important for parents to encourage practice and to praise the results. Parent support, especially in the early stages, is crucial for your child's long-term success!

Can my child participate in sports while in band?

The administration, director, and coaches make every effort to avoid conflicts in scheduling so that students who wish to participate in both activities may do so.

Is there a music company available from which to buy instruments or supplies?

In our immediate area Marshall Music has a retail store which is properly equipped to deal with band instruments. The school purchases many supplies from Marshall regularly. Instruments and additional supplies, musical gifts or accessories are available from many online retailers. If you have additional questions regarding this matter please feel free to contact me via telephone, or email.

If I wanted to buy a new instrument for my child how much will it cost?

The actual cost of a new instrument varies by instrument as well as dealer. I can tell you the tuba, perhaps the most expensive instrument is around \$5000 and up. A snare drum for a percussionist is the least expensive at around \$500-700. Please remember that these are approximate figures, and prices do go up every year.



KINGSLEY STUDENTS ATTEND NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN FAIR



"Brody Wolf earned reserve Champion Showman at the NW MI Fair." - Stephanie Mae



"We showed our horse in open shows and at the fair with another Kingsley family." - Kassiey Kelly



"Kingsley kids take on the Fair! Reagan Wilson, Kylie Wassner, Lyta Hansen, Reese Wilson, Reed Wilson, Aislyn McKinley, Aubin McKinley, Baya Wolf, Brody Wolf, Lilly Wagner, Hunter Wagner, Brayden Sherman, Colten Sherman, Ariyah McKinley, Morgan Wagner." - Kate Wilson



"Kingsley kids hanging out in the pig barn at the fair." - Sarah Olds-Sherman



"Darlene Wilcoxon and her horse 'Dressed Hot Batt Man' took Grand Champion High Point for her age division." - Randi Jo Wilcoxon



"Maddy Johns, senior - took home reserve grand champion market goat and grand champion open showman at the fair, all whilst representing the fair as a queen finalist." - Melissa Kay Zenner



"Claire and Jacob Yost, 1st place in their Swine Showmanship Divisions at the fair." - Jen Yost



"Adam Wilcoxon and his horse 'Just A Good Lady' took Grand Champion High Point for his age division at the NWMI fair" - Randi Jo Wilcoxon



"Baya Wolf earned Grand Champion Market Goat at the NW MI Fair." - Stephanie Mae



"Raised a calf and took it to fair." - Jenazie Grace



"Brayden Sherman 1st place showmanship class, grade 7." - Sarah Olds-Sherman



"Showed in the peewee class at fair." - Paige Carpenter



"Cole Drees earned Grand Champion Showman at the Northwestern Michigan Fair." - Jaime Walton



"Haleigh Bedrick showed Cherokee at the Anna Bays Horse Show." - Andrea Bedrick



"Sophie Wallace spent a week at the Northwestern Michigan Fair placing 2nd in Showmanship and 1st in the Lamb Costume contest (pictured with her Lamb Oreo)." - Jeff Wallace



Back to School!

Our first-ever 5th grade orientation night was a success! Around 100 students and their parents attended and rotated through stations like schedules & schedule changes, technology, lockers, and an "intro to middle school" presentation. We can't wait to welcome them to the building this fall!



From top left, clockwise: Ms. Wiltjer & Mrs. Sterk help students navigate their schedules & change their electives. The elective teachers were available to talk to students about their elective programs. Mrs. Bell helped a student access his locker and learn how to use a combination lock. Mrs. Crockett helping parents sign up for Class Dojo & PowerSchool. Mrs. Alger explains the ins and outs of middle school. Our back-to-school selfie station.

Kingsley Welcomes New Staff Members

Karen Goethals
Assistant Pre-School Teacher



Stephanie Winowecki
Fourth Grade Teacher



Jason Blyth
First Grade Teacher



Harlie McPherson
Elementary Special Education Teacher



Michaela Weber
Great Start Readiness Assistant Teacher



Melissa Austin
Great Start Readiness Teacher



Nicole Nix
Preschool Staff

Kalee Lown
Paraprofessional

Rachel Brand
Lead GSRP Teacher

Tonya Roelofs
Special Education Teacher

Lauren Birt
Special Education Teacher

Heather Miller
KMS Principal

Piotr Buniewicz
Middle School Teacher

Chris Rapes
KHS Principal

Jim Moen
Facilities Director

Steven Klinge
High School Teacher

Work for Kingsley Schools!

We're hiring for multiple positions! Head to the link below for more details and to apply.

On Thursday, August 25, the School Board approved a \$2.00 per hour raise for support staff, with positions starting at \$14.03 per hour.

*Apply today!
Scan code here*



Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates, Stag Spotlight blogs, fun classroom photos, Snow Day alerts, and more!

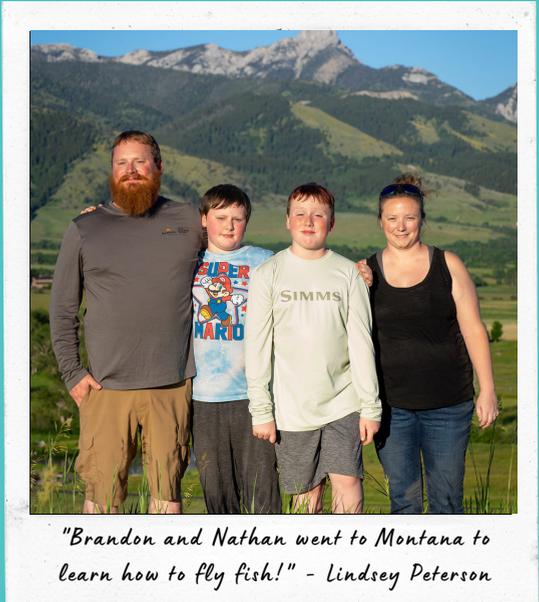
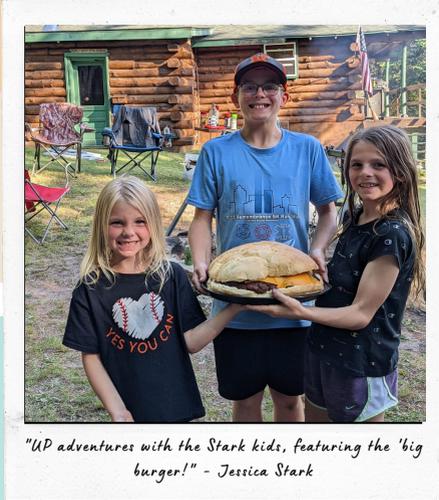
@Kingsley Schools



Find staff directories, district information, our Stag Spotlight blog, and more at kingsleyschools.org



We asked, you answered!
**What did you do
 this summer?**





"Carson Porter, freshman, (along with a couple other Kingsley kids) - traveled to Omaha, Nebraska to play in a baseball tournament. While there, he got to attend a college World Series game with his team." - Melissa Kay Zenner



"Mammoth Cave, Kentucky! :)"
- Michelle Acre



"Honor and Addy enjoyed the Roscommon Zoo." - Taletha Peuler



"Keira Ullom and her sister Teagan Ullom walking the Bartlett Shell path after Keira's final summer performance at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Keira was in SSA Choir and was chosen for Chamber Choir. A lot of singing and practicing for 7th/8th grade choir this school year." - Kimberly Ullom



"Softball, a lot of ." Pictured: Morgan Wagner.



"Music." - Susan Marie



"Visited Rocky Mountain National Park"
Alyson Swinehart



"Hunter went to the fair, also enjoyed time out on the boat and lake this summer." - Sara Bowman



"Landon and Natalie Kaleita did lots of swimming!" - Tracey Kaleita



"Grayson Oakley went for a ride in a hot air balloon." - Gina Clous



"Staycation! Went to the Cherry Bowl Drive-In and watched Top Gun. Caylen Selkirk, Collin and Clayton McCoy." - Melanie Joy



"Isaiah Yost enjoyed a watermelon taco at the fair." - Jen Yost



"Lots of boating. Chain of Lakes. Sawyer and Silvia Thomas." - Alaina Thomas



"Travel baseball" - Cynthia Ockert



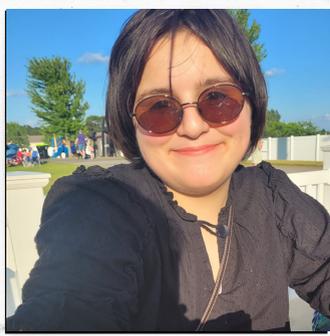
Photo submitted by Kari Draper



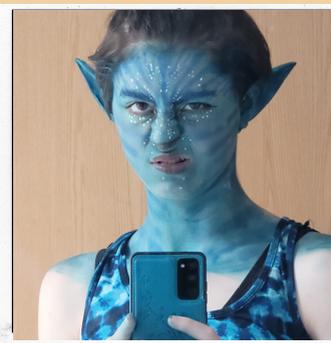
"Beachin' it up at Lake Missaukee Annaleigh, Brooklyn Bunker and Matthew." - Alison Bunker



"Lots of camping and swimming! Sophia and Grayson Drevet." - Lauren Drevet



"Mikayla decided she really does not enjoy baseball at the UP North Cork Dork game." - Taletha Peuler



"Talia transformed into a Na'vi." - Taletha Peuler

