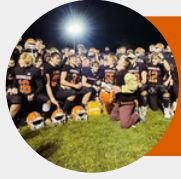




KINGSLEY CONNECTION

"A COMMUNITY OF TRADITION AND EXCELLENCE" December 2023 kingsleyschools.org

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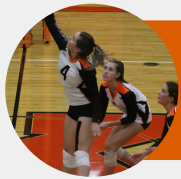
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STATE CHAMPS! STAGS WIN DIVISION 6 TITLE IN 38-24 GAME VERSUS ALMONT



For the second time in school history, the Kingsley Stags are State Champions in football after a thrilling win against Almont at Ford Field. "A record-tying performance from [senior running back] Eli Graves helped secure a victory...he accounted for three touchdowns in the first half alone, also tying the state finals record by being responsible for 30 points," reported Kameron Goodwill for *The Detroit News*. Chase Bott also added a 35-yard touchdown thanks to a pass from QB Gavyn Merchant.

To players and coaching staff, this game was about more than just bringing home the hardware. Graves told reporters he dedicated his game to his brother Owen, whose senior season was cut short by the pandemic. In post-game interviews, Coach Tim Woer mentioned former captain Justin Hansen, a Marine killed in combat in Afghanistan, and Trina Schueller, a longtime football mom who died from COVID in 2021. "There comes a time where your players teach you about life, and Justin Hansen did that for sure, and so did Connor Schueller. Tonight we had a chance to share [their] story," he said to *The Detroit News*. [Continued on page 6](#)

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Kingsley Elementary Teacher Recognized on Local Radio Station



Pop radio station Z93 has named Kingsley Elementary's John Schnepf as their November Teacher of the Month, telling the station that "it's very rewarding working with the kids and seeing the lightbulb turn on while teaching."

He won a \$500 prize package.

Congratulations, Mr. Schnepf!

Mrs. King Hosts Fall Festival in PE Class



Students were asked to bring treats to share and to know how many calories were in each serving. After eating all the treats, students then tried to burn those calories by playing basketball, soccer, jumping rope, running, and dancing.

Mrs. King's follow-up discussion for the lesson included how many calories active students should be eating and how poor food choices can affect how we feel. Varsity soccer players Liam Mitchell, Jacob Crouse, Emilee Robinson, and Bailey Charter also spent the day teaching and playing Soccer with her classes.

WHAT'S ON THE WALL?

Here's what's on display in Mrs. Sue Graham's Kingsley High School Art Department!



"These are part of our observational drawing unit. We started on their choice of a bright color and every day for about a week, we started class by looking closely at our own hands to capture them in a position- while focusing on shapes and lines to determine how to draw the hands. We then outlined them with sharpie, cut them out and glued them on a different, contrasting color background. After that, we moved onto our shoe projects." - Sue Graham, KHS Art Teacher

Retired teacher Missy Newell moderates author talk with Senior Kaylee Weber



Retired KHS teacher Missy Newell moderated an author chat with senior and writer Kaylee Weber, who just published her first book "Goodbye Justice."

Kaylee read excerpts, spoke about her motivation for writing the book, and hinted at what's to come next in the series.

Fourth Graders Learn to Play Keyboard



Kingsley Elementary Music teacher Vicky Pack is teaching her fourth graders how to play the piano. During class, students are put in pairs to practice and play on the brand-new keyboards that were purchased for this unit and have replaced lessons on the recorder. Way to go, musicians!

Help the Elementary Check Everything off their Wishlists!



'Tis the season where giving is better than receiving. The elementary Christmas tree in the front hallway has dozens of wishlist requests from teachers hung on paper ornaments. The community is invited to pull one or a few off to fulfill their holiday needs. Thank you for your generosity and consideration!

KHS Choirs Perform at Traverse City Country Club for Eagles for Children Fundraiser



On November 8, Choir Director Andy Evans took the Kingsley High School Concert Choir and Choral Fusion to perform at the Eagles for Children donation ceremony at the Traverse City Country Club.

Concert Choir performed *Gatumba*, Traditional Andalusiana Villancico arr. by Ruth Morris Gray, and *The Journey*, words by Laura Knight Cobb, music by Jeffrey Cobb. Choral Fusion performed *Down to the River to Pray*, arr. by Andy Evans and Mouse Madrigal, arr. Steven Porter.

Great job, Choirs!

Robotics Volunteers Wanted!



We are looking forward to hosting teams at Kingsley for this year's Over Under robotics competition. To make this happen we are looking for as many volunteers as we can find.

There are a wide range of jobs. Some need no experience like checking in teams, resetting the playing field (great for kids), or tending the concession stand (thanks Kingsley Athletic Boosters!). There are also some more involved with the games like inspecting robots and scoring matches (very easy to learn). For those who have a way with words, we are also looking for an emcee to help talk to the crowd about what's going on.



**Want to help out?
Sign up using the
QR code!**

Season of giving

DONATE BLOOD TODAY!

**FRIDAY
December**

8

8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

JOIN US TO SAVE LIVES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON @ KINGSLEY HIGH SCHOOL

7475 Kingsley Rd. - Look for the Blood Bus!
Appointments Preferred and Walk-ins Welcome

To Sign Up:
Visit www.Versiti.org/Mi
Call 1-866-Mi-Blood
Or, Scan the QR Code Here



Donors 16+ welcome!
Age 16: bring a permission form
Ages 17+ no permission form needed!

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



Spring Testing at Kingsley High School

Please avoid scheduling appointments during these times.

SAT/PSAT Testing
(Freshman-Juniors)
Tuesday, April 9

AP Lit & Comp. Exam
Wednesday, May 8 | 8:00AM

MSTEP: Juniors Only
Wednesday, April 10

AP Calculus Exam
Monday, May 13 | 8:00AM

Workstep: Juniors Only
Thursday, April 11



FYI: Parents of Juniors and Seniors

Join us for FREE college planning sessions at KHS in December. More info below:

FAFSA

- Sunday, December 3
3:30-4:30PM
- Parents must fill out FAFSA ID form and bring 2 printed copies to the session

Writing the Personal Essay and Finding Scholarships

- Sunday, December 10
3:00-4:30PM



Submit your photos to the yearbook! Download the Yearbook Snap App and use code STAGS

Notice of Kingsley Board of Education Vacancy

Kingsley Area Schools is currently seeking applicants to fill a school board vacancy.

Those interested are asked to submit a letter of intent explaining their interest in becoming a member of the Kingsley Area Schools' Board of Education.

Applications to join the seven member board are due by 3 p.m. Friday, December 29, 2023, and can be emailed to jrothwell@kingsleyschools.org, delivered to central office, or mailed to:

Kingsley Area Schools
c/o Joshua Rothwell, Superintendent
402 Fenton Street
Kingsley, MI 49649

Strategic Planning Update

In October, the Kingsley Area Schools Board of Education and the Administration launched a new initiative to guide them through a three- to five-year Strategic Plan.

The process included community and staff input events, data collection, and other efforts to create a shared vision and goals for the future of the district and strategies to achieve them, all while using scarce public education resources in the most effective and efficient way.

Focus groups with stakeholders have now concluded and the online community survey has now closed.

On December 9, the Board of Education will host a workshop with the Michigan Association of School Boards from 8:00AM-4:00PM at the KHS Library.

The board and the MASB expect to begin implementing some of the new strategic plans in January 2024.

For more information or to learn more, visit the KAS website at www.kingsleyschools.org.

Connect with Kingsley Area Schools



FOLLOW US ON **FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM** for important district updates, campus photos, and stories.

 Kingsley Area Schools

 @kingsleyareaschools



Board of Education

Our Board of Education meets monthly for regularly scheduled meetings at 6:00PM in the High School library. The public is welcome to attend.

If you need any special accommodations to attend a meeting please contact the Superintendent's office. Board minutes are available online or at the Superintendent's office located at 402 Fenton St., Kingsley, MI.

[Upcoming meetings:](#)

Regular Meeting | 12/11 6:00PM

To find the full board schedule or to read agendas, board policies, and meeting minutes, visit www.kingsleyschools.org.

You may email the board at schoolboard@kingsleyschools.org.

STUDENT ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

→ Sarah Wooser



Sarah is a sophomore setter on the varsity volleyball team. Sarah had an outstanding week for the Stags compiling six kills and 82 assists and serving 24 of 26 in two big wins versus Petoskey and Leland. Sara also excels at basketball and track at Kingsley while carrying a 4.0 grade point average.

→ Brandon Stock & Jenna Middleton



Brandon is a senior runner on the Kingsley varsity cross country team. Brandon ran an 18-minute 5K at the D3 Regionals at Chip Hills finishing 14th and qualifying for the MHSAA State finals. Brandon also runs track and has all A's for the current marking period.

Freshman Jenna Middleton had an outstanding week in the MHSAA Volleyball Districts with 66 Kills and 34 digs. She has a 4.0 grade point average.

→ Isaiah Cosgrove



Isaiah is a sophomore on the varsity football team. Isaiah has had a solid year for Kingsley with 255 yards rushing on 24 carries and 4 touchdowns on offense, and 14 tackles on defense. Isaiah also wrestles and plays baseball while carrying a 3.81 grade point average.

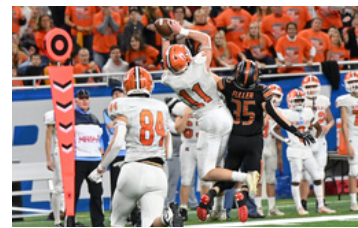
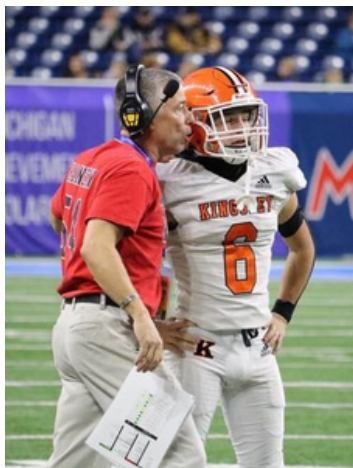
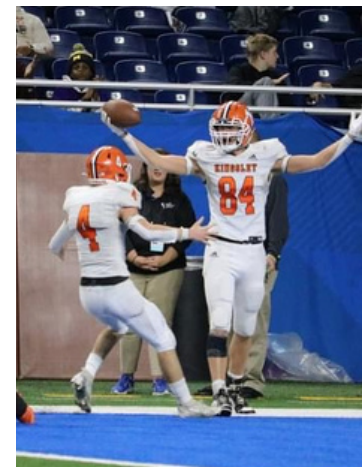
→ Gavyn Merchant



Gavyn is a senior quarterback on the Kingsley varsity football team. Gavyn was selected as an all Northern Michigan Football Conference quarterback completing nearly 70% of his passes, with over 1,200 yards and 17 touchdowns in leading the Stags to the Division 6 State Championship game at Ford Field on Saturday, November 25. Gavyn also wrestles and plays baseball while carrying a 3.4 grade point average.



For Kingsley Athletics scores, schedules, and more visit our website, kingsleystags.com



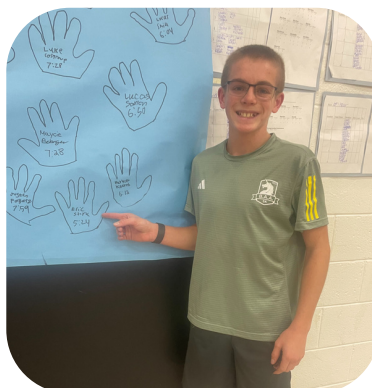
State Champs. *Continued from cover.* The win and excitement were shared by the entire community. When the team arrived home from the game in Detroit around 1:00AM on Sunday, November 26, they were greeted by a packed gym full of fans with signs and applause. Before their game, they experienced a district-wide assembly send-off, which included a paraded escort by local first responders and streets lined with village fans. "The last couple of years have been rough but this is a new era for us," said Superintendent Rothwell to the *Record-Eagle*. "Community is everything in northern Michigan, especially for small towns like ours. This coming together is really a celebration of life — a testament to who we really are. Our kids will never forget it." *Photos by Kristin Goethals*



Kingsley Marching Stags play under the lights at Ford Field. Kingsley's band took the field for the State Championship game versus Almont in Detroit on November 25. In other music news, congratulations to Mara Van Wagner (trumpet) Levi Sterk (trumpet first chair), Morgan DeVries (percussion first chair), Mary Bauer (trumpet), Carolyn Wolf (trumpet), and Natalie Crawford (baritone), who made the Regional Honors Band!



Senior Cross Country runner Brandon Stock qualified for the Division 3 State Finals and ran at the Michigan International Speedway on November 4. His teammates were on-site to cheer him in the 5,000m when he turned in a time of 17:15.6.



Middle Schooler beats 20-year-old school mile record. Eighth grader Eric Stark beat the previous record of 5:25 that was set in 2003 by Allan Hency and tied by Justin Prange and Anthony Ruggirello. "Hi did it all by himself, no one near him at all. Way to go Eric!" said PE teacher Jolie King.

STAG SNAPSHOTS

High Schoolers Take Industry Tours

KHS Counselor Brittany Feldhake continued her series of industry tours with students, most recently visiting Serra Automotive and Brickyard Towing.



Ms. Smith Hosts Cooking Competition

Kingsley Middle School teacher Ms. Tiffany Smith's Sustainable Science students put on their aprons for the annual cooking competition. Students formed teams and were tasked with planning, preparing, cooking, and presenting well-balanced, nutritious meals. Judges scored students on presentation, taste, skill, and nutrition. School board members Vivien Snyder and Kelly Saxton as well as principal Heather Miller, Counselor Olivia Bradford, and Communications Manager Chloe McCarthy were on hand to evaluate seven dishes. MSU Extension's Michelle Smith, RD, assisted students with cooking and also taught a lesson on nutrition ahead of this competition.



Kathleen and Ethan brown ground beef as they prepare sweet potato, tomato, and black bean chili.



"The King's Chefs" prepared rigatoni and homemade meatballs.



Ariyah, Kora, Natalie, Kielee, and Zoey prepared stir-fry using venison that Kora harvested herself!

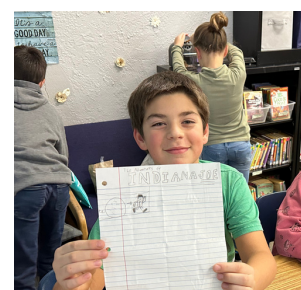


Logan prepares a roux for his team's dish of fettuccine alfredo with broccoli and chicken.



Spanish Students Practice Language on Field Trip

Mrs. Rowley's Spanish II and III students took their skills into the real world with a field trip to the TC Latino market and the Las Margaritas Grille. Students conversed with the Spanish-speaking staff and practiced ordering a meal at the restaurant. Muy bien, Stags!



Kingsley Middle School Rewards Good Behavior with Quarterly Celebration

On Friday, November 3, Kingsley Middle School hosted its first quarterly celebration to recognize student behavior.

During the first marking period, students had the chance to earn Stag Tags for good behavior. During the celebration, students could redeem their Stag Tags and choose a reward activity. Their options included a glow dance, watching a movie, cooking pancakes, reading, doing arts and crafts, playing board games, or going to the park.

The celebration started with an awards assembly. Teachers from each grade level chose students to earn awards in math, science, English, social studies and all of the electives. One student from each grade level earned a Positive Potato award and a Stag Leadership award.



6th Grade

Language arts: Clayton Ruby
 Math: Jace Porter
 Science: Taylor DeVries
 Social Studies: Luke Cosgrove
 Stag Leadership Award: Ta'Shaun Pryce
 Positive Potato: Izabell Greinke



8th Grade

Language arts: George Seeber
 Math: Brody Ferris
 Science: Carley Bancroft
 Social Studies: Maddison Robinson
 Stag Leadership Award: Catelyn Whitbeck



5th Grade

Language Arts: Cody Cook
 Math: Emerson Haines
 Science: Bristol Helmreich
 Social Studies: Whitney Arlt
 Positive Potato: Emily Soper



7th Grade

Language arts: Laura Johnson
 Math: Anna Hamlet
 Science: Landon Kaleita and Alex Nickerson
 Social Studies: Zoey Street
 Stag Leadership Award: Kennadie Bovee
 Positive Potato: Addison Dentz



Middle School Electives

Shop: Jaxson Hacker
 Read 180: Alexis Schlegel
 Spanish: Claire Morgan
 Art: Ellie Henschell
 Band: Lillian Fishman
 Choir: Mikayla Peuler
 Sustainable Science: Kathleen Hodges
 Board Games: Katelynn Leatherman
 6-8th PE: Cole Dreves
 5th PE: Sawyer Thomas
 Tech: Eva Gifford