



VARSITY WRESTLING TEAM TAKES ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO THE MAT



Middle Schoolers learn about career opportunities in Skilled Trades Explorers Program
page 2

Kingsley Selects New Superintendent page 3



Teacher Feature: Meet Kingsley Middle School's 5th Grade Team page 7

High Schoolers Inspire at Science Symposium page 5



Kingsley third graders learned wrestling from three Varsity wrestlers and coach Jason Grahn on December 14.

Wrestling is for everyone! This December, the Kingsley Varsity Wrestling team took over the middle school gym to teach students from kindergarten through eighth grade the basics of the sport.

"This is my sixth year of coming to the middle school," said coach Jason Grahn. "We come in for two days and teach them a sequence, a simple standup and take down. We're trying to spark their interest in the sport, and just have a whole bunch of fun, and show them there is an opportunity for them to do this in the future."

Between the Kingsley Youth Wrestling Club and the middle school, there are opportunities for boys and girls in K-8th grade to compete. (Continued on page 2).

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Lunchroom updates..... | 3 |
| Athletic Department News..... | 4 |
| Band Notes..... | 4 |
| Stag Snapshots..... | 8 |



K-5 Elementary Wrestling

There will be a camp for novice wrestlers in February, more information will be released at a later date.

Contact Troy Sherman with any questions about this program at troysherman@icloud.com or follow the Kingsley Youth Wrestling Facebook page for more details.

Middle School Wrestling

Kingsley offers wrestling for grades 6-8. There is no participation fee.

Transportation is also provided. Practice starts January 3 in the KMS small gym from 3:30-5PM. Competition will start in February and run through March. All levels of experience are welcome!

Contact Jason Grahn for questions about the program.

K-8 Travel Club

Two years of experience is recommended, as this is an advanced program. The season is already underway, learn more at kingsleystags.com.

Coach Grahn says what he loves about the sport is that it's fair, in that everyone, at every size, competes against someone of equal stature, and everyone has a chance to help the team.

"Wrestling is a very unique sport where the individual competes for individual goals but they also wrestle as a team to score as team points as well," said Grahn.

Kingsley recently hired its first women's wrestling head coach.

Currently, there are six wrestlers on the high school team and seven competing at the middle school level.

"In years past, Michigan didn't participate in girls wrestling, but girls could participate as coed sport. Now, the MHSAA has opened up a girl's division, and last year they competed for the first time in their state finals alongside the boys at Ford Field.

By Chloe McCarthy



Watts Up? Middle Schoolers Learn about Electric Work at Skilled Trades Explorers Program

"The [trades] have the potential to take you farther and pay you more than the corporate ladder ever could. There has been a common misperception that a career in the skilled trades is not always the first choice. We're here to change that narrative." - Traverse Connect

There's never been a better time to enter the trades. As the demand for skilled laborers grows in Northwest Michigan and throughout the country, Kingsley Middle School is hosting a new series to introduce students to different career paths in the trades.

The Skilled Trades Explorers after-school program from Traverse Connect is an eight-week series featuring guests and professionals working in construction, carpentry, HVAC, electric, and more.

On December 6, students learned about electric work from NMC electrical instructor Jeff Morse and Windemuller Electric design-build project manager Jessica Novack.



Mr. Morse shows students his Van de Graaff generator which produces high voltage direct current electricity, creating a spark between the globes.

"I signed up for this program because it sounded fun and interesting and I wanted to learn and help my dad out, who works in the trades," said Lyla, a seventh grader. "My favorite thing so far has been electric work or welding!"

Electrical instructor Jeff Morse says what he loves about his career is working with his hands to solve problems.

"The first day I wired something up, I was like 'wow, this is cool' and I could see what I was doing," he said.

"You can drive through town and say 'I worked on this building. I did the lights on that building.' It's one of the most rewarding parts of the job."



"Any type of construction is all about solving problems. Some days its real simple problems, other days you've got to come up with a solution," he said.

But the industry known for solving problems is facing a big challenge of its own: too many electricians are aging out of the profession and not enough young professionals are entering the field. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a need for 85,000 new electricians through 2024.

The shortage of skilled labor creates a lucrative opportunity for anyone aspiring to enter the trades.

"A lot of the field electricians and foremen make over six figures. These young kids are coming into the trades and buying brand-new trucks and houses, and they have money to spend because they don't have college debt," said Ms. Novack.

"This could be something I could maybe see myself doing after high school. The salary is pretty ok, that's pretty cool!" said Jayden, an eighth grader.

Although many of these jobs don't require a college degree, there are plenty of prerequisites to entering the field of electric work and other trades.

In the final session of the program, students will learn about the training, apprenticeships, certificates, and on-the-job learning required to enter the trades workforce.

To learn more about the program, email faculty lead Bob Shoaff at bshoaff@kingsleyschools.org



Mr. Shoaff stands in the woodshop at Kingsley Middle School.

By Chloe McCarthy



KINGSLEY SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION SELECTS NEW SUPERINTENDENT

The Kingsley Schools Board of Education has selected Brad Reyburn as the new superintendent. The board voted 7-0 to appoint him during a special meeting on Wednesday, December 14.

Most recently, Reyburn served as principal of Newaygo High School. He has 11 years of administrative leadership experience and has worked as an elementary and middle school principal.

Kingsley board president Beth Lajko says she is excited for the district's next chapter.

"We are taking a big step in moving the district forward. Brad brings a lot of enthusiasm, compassion, and experience in leadership," she said.

Kingsley Schools has been assisted in the search by John Scholten from the Michigan Leadership Institute (MLI). The MLI will help Kingsley Schools through the end of the school year to assist in the leadership transition.

"I'm proud of the board for sticking through the process. There is work ahead on governance and the roles of the superintendent and the board, and the MLI will provide workshops and guidance along the way. I encourage the board and the incoming superintendent to work together and grow," he said.

Jason Stowe served as the interim superintendent following the resignation of former superintendent Dr. Keith Smith. The Board of Education is currently negotiating terms with Brad Reyburn.

Lunchroom Updates



by Kristy Donner
Dining Services Director
kdonner@kingsleyschools.org

Free Breakfast

Free breakfast to all students ended on December 31, 2022.

Kingsley Area Schools will continue paying all reduced meal prices, for the school year 2022-2023.

To apply for Free or Reduced meals log onto [Kingsley.familyportal.cloud](https://kingsley.familyportal.cloud). You only need to apply one time per household per year. You can submit a new application at any time there is an income change.

Meal Charging

Students are allowed to charge \$13.00 on their accounts. After \$13.00, students may receive an alternative lunch, and their account will still be charged for the school lunch. Students are not permitted to charge "extras." Extras would be items outside of reimbursable meal such as an individual milk, extra entrée, or ala carte items. **For further information please see the districts website under foodservice charging and bad debt**

Menus

To view menus online go to <https://kingsley.nutrislice.com> or download the Nutrislice app on your phone.

Now hiring for multiple positions! Want to work with kids, and enjoy weekends and holidays off? Chartwell School Dining is currently hiring for multiple positions! Scan the QR code to [learn more/apply.](#)



CORRECTION TO LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

Last month, Kingsley Schools published an article about the new inductees to the National Honor Society and one student's name was accidentally left out.

Congratulations to Morgan Faunce for being selected into the NHS based on character and academic achievement.

WINTER SPORTS AND
MUSIC SCHEDULE

Varsity and JV Boy's Basketball

Wed 1/4 Elk Rapids 5:30, 7
Fri 1/6 Glen Lake** 5:30, 7
Wed 1/11 Suttons Bay** 5:30, 7
Fri 1/13 @ Leland** 5:30, 7
Fri 1/20 @ Onekama** 5:30, 7
Wed 1/25 Benzie Central** 5:30, 7
Fri 1/27 Buckley** 5:30, 7

Varsity and JV Girl's Basketball

Wed 1/4 @ Grayling 5:30, 7
Fri 1/6 @ Glen Lake** 5:30, 7
Tues 1/10 @ Suttons Bay** 7:00
Fri 1/13 Leland** 5:30, 7
Fri 1/20 Onekama** 5:30, 7
Tues 1/24 @ Benzie Central** 5:30, 7
Thurs 1/26 @ Buckley** 5:30, 7
Tues 1/31 @ Frankfort** 5:30, 7

Varsity Wrestling

Wed 1/4 @ Forest Area 6:00
Sat 1/7 @ Allendale Invite 9:00
Tues 1/10 Benzie, Frankfort 6:00
Sat 1/14 @ Alma Duals 9:00
Tues 1/17 @ Mancelona 6:00
Sat 1/21 @ Hudson Super 16 9:00
Wed 1/25 @ Houghton Lake 6:00
Sat 1/28 @ Gaylord NMCs 9:00
Tues 1/31 Forest Area, Ogemaw Hts 6:00

JV Wrestling

Wed 1/4 @ Forest Area 6:00
Sat 1/7 @ Allendale 9:00
Tues 1/10 Benzie Frankfort 6:00
Sat 1/14 @ Lakeview Indy Invite 9:00
Tues 1/17 @ Mancelona 6:00
Fri 1/20 @ Reed City 5:30
Wed 1/25 @ Houghton Lake 6:00
Fri 1/27 @ Gaylord 5:00
Tues 1/31 Forest Area, Ogemaw Hts 6:00

Kingsley Choir

Sat 1/7 7-12th grade Solo and Ensemble
@Traverse City West

Weds 3/1 District Choral Festival
See Mr. Evans for more details

Kingsley Band

Sat 2/4 HS Solo & Ensemble All Day
Kingsley Schools

Tues 3/7 MS All Star Band
@ Kalkaska Schools

Bolded events are in Kingsley

STUDENT ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



⬅️ **Nate Fasel**
11/21: Nate is a senior lineman on the varsity Stags football team. This fall, he had an outstanding season, earning 1st Team All Northern Michigan Football Conference Honors in the Legends division at defensive line. Nate also excels in powerlifting and carries a 3.41 grade point average.



⬅️ **Hannah Grahn**
12/5: Hannah is a senior forward on the varsity Stags girls' basketball team and opened the season with 15 points and 9 rebounds in a win over Manton. Hannah also excels in cross country and softball at Kingsley while carrying a 3.0 grade point average.



⬅️ **Emilee Robinson**
12/12: Emilee is a freshman forward on the junior varsity Lady Stags basketball team. Recently, she lead all scorers with 22 points vs. McBain and 22 points versus Buckley. Emilee also excels in soccer at Kingsley and earned all A's for the first marking period this fall.



⬅️ **Winston Pelloski**
11/28: Winston is a senior runner on the varsity Stags cross country team. He earned 2nd Team All Northwest Conference honors. Winston also competes in track at Kingsley and has a 3.93 grade point average.

KINGSLEY SCHOOLS MUSIC NEWS

It's been a busy season for Kingsley music students and staff!

In December, the Kingsley High School and Middle School bands and choirs performed at their holiday concerts.

On December 8, the KHS band, jazz band, and choir teamed up for a concert that featured Christmas favorites like the Grinch, plus a jazzy number that

band director Lance Dubay described as "Billie Jean meets Sugar Plum Fairy."

Kingsley Elementary students also performed a Christmas concert.

Music teacher Mrs. Vicky Pack led Kindergarten and first-grade students through choreographed dances and holiday songs that included props like jingle bells, glow sticks, and more.



Elementary music teacher Mrs. Vicky Pack sits with her students, including her daughter who is kindergarten this year.



Mrs. Vicky Pack leads first graders in a song featuring glow sticks!



Two kindergarten students perform a partner routine in the opening dance sequence of their Christmas concert.



Left: The Kingsley Jazz Band performs at the December Christmas Concert. Right: Choir Director Andy Evans leads the Kingsley High School Choir.

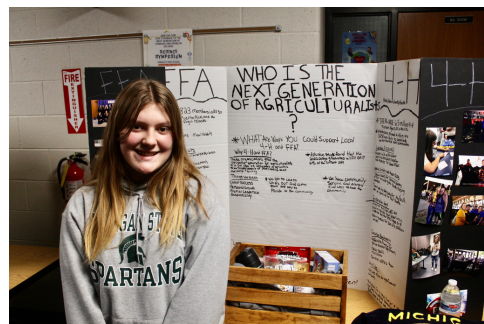
KINGSLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INSPIRE AT ANNUAL SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

BY CHLOE MCCARTHY

Do you know any farmers? How old are they?

That was the first question Kingsley senior Elli Mackenzie asked visitors to her Science Symposium station, "Who is the Next Generation of Agriculturalists?"

She found that many people say that all the farmers that come to mind first are old. Elli wants to change that. Her research and project focused on what it will take to mobilize the next generation of young agriculture professionals.



Elli stands in front of her presentation.

At the annual Science Symposium on December 8, Elliana, and students from biology, chemistry, environmental science, and robotics teamed up with community mentors to create projects aimed at solving tomorrow's biggest problems.

"I'm so passionate about agriculture because if we don't have a strong group of leaders in the new upcoming generation, we won't have a strong food source, and we won't have anyone to teach us new ways to strive in this industry," said Elli.

Students at the symposium were asked to solve a community need. Teachers and community members evaluated students using a special matrix that relied on answering a few key questions:

- Did the project meet a community need?
- How did the project relate to science?
- What did the students learn?
- How does the project relate to "life skills?"



Serafina Boonstra concocted all-natural cleaning products.

"These cleaners are safe for kids and pets. Toxic chemicals are very popular in store-bought cleaners, especially aerosols. If you have babies or pets in your home, you want them to walk over carpets and floors that have been cleaned and won't harm their feet, or paws."



Ashton Harter, left, harvested chaga to create a healing tincture.

Chaga is purported to have a myriad of health benefits including fighting certain diseases and inflammation. Ashton decided to craft a custom tincture using the foraged ingredient.

"When I was a kid, I kind of grew up in the woods. My aunt always kind of liked Chaga mushrooms. When I got an opportunity to make this project, I really thought about that and decided to make a Chaga tincture. I really wanted to tackle homemade medicine in place of more pharmaceutical methods, just because I think it's more sustainable and more green."



Alina Wood broke out the sewing machine for her project. With a few simple stitches and some zippers, she created a solution to reducing waste on her farm.

"I have four horses, a cow, two pigs, seven cats, five dogs, and a lot of chickens too. I just saw so many feed bags going to waste each time that we fed our animals and I just thought it would be good to you know, give back instead of just throwing things away. I'm not filling the landfill so much!"



Bryson Neugent, 11th grade, grew a mushroom that fights anxiety and dementia.

"I've always really liked fungi and I love foraging. I love growing mushrooms but I don't enjoy eating them that much. This particular mushroom, Lion's Mane, helps fight off anxiety, depression, dementia, and it even helps regrow your brain cells. I was so blown away by it that I decided I just had to you know grow it, Mr. Scharp [environmental science and wilderness teacher] helped me do that."



Trivia Night

02.04.2023

5 pm

Join us for the 5th
Annual Kingsley
Athletic Boosters
Trivia Night
Fundraiser at
Stoneridge Barn
in Buckley!

Contact us at
kingsleyathleticboosters@
gmail.com

Registration

- Make Checks payable to KAB
- Send payment to Kingsley Athletic Boosters
P.O. Box 664
Kingsley MI 49649
- We only accept full team registration for payment.
- If you don't have a full team contact us. We may be able to connect you with a team

Teams

Team Name

Captain & Contact Info

Player Names

Details

- Adults 21 and over are invited to form groups of 8 to play 8 rounds of trivia.
- Prizes for 1st place, most spirited team and last place
- Cost is \$30 per person or \$240 per team.
- Beer, wine, cider, soft drinks will be available
- Pizza and subs available for order.
- Table decorations and snacks are welcome.

Snacks and Support

___ Large Pizza \$10
_____ Pepperoni
_____ Sausage
_____ Cheese

___ Sub Platter \$40
Feeds 8 people

Team Captain will be
contacted for sub order

Trivia Night Total

Pizza/Sub Total:

\$ _____

+\$240 Registration

Grand Total:

\$ _____

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TEACHER FEATURE: MEET KINGSLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL'S FIFTH GRADE TEAM

Fifth grade is a big year in Kingsley Schools! It's the beginning of middle school which means a lot of changes for students: for the first time in their schooling career, students are tasked with switching classes every hour, remembering their schedule, and using a locker.



Mrs. Kendra Bell has been an educator for 37 years, many of them spent in Kingsley Schools. She taught elementary grade levels before transitioning to middle school to teach fifth graders. She's been working with fifth graders for the past seven years and has been their science teacher for the past two years.

"Teaching science energizes me. I wasn't ready to retire but I needed a change, and my interests now are science and math," she said.

Recently, her students learned about the Earth and the planets. In December, they studied meteorology and made weather instruments.

"My favorite part about fifth graders is that they're becoming independent but yet they still want to please you, they still want to do well. It's a good age."



Mrs. Amy Alger teaches fifth grade math but spent 20 years working in the elementary. One of her current students, Luke Miller, said "she's very fun and I love her. I like learning about math because she's the math teacher and she's just awesome."

She says she loves the personalities of her students.

"They're just funny and goofy, but also sweet and kind," she says. "The most rewarding part, and, I guess, the most cliché part, is when you see the light bulb go on and they get it. Like, 'oh, I understand now,' you know? That's pretty cool."

Mrs. Alger says she's noticed that some of her students are below the necessary reading at math levels because of COVID interruptions. She strongly recommends that parents have their children read 20 minutes per night and regularly practice math facts.



This school year has been extra special for **Mrs. Kim Crockett** because she now has her daughter as a student.

"It's fun. I wasn't sure at first, but it's fine. She likes it, sometimes! She gets annoyed that I'm 'embarrassing,' but that's okay. When she's in my class, she can't get away with anything!" she said.

Mrs. Crockett says fifth grade is a pivotal year because her students are taking on new responsibilities.

"5th grade is a huge adjustment, huge! It's definitely a transition age because they're going from a self-contained classroom to changing classes every hour, which, for a lot of kids, is difficult, and then throw in lockers too! A lot of times that transition can be painful, but it's easier with parents' support."



Mrs. Tonya Roelofs is new to the fifth-grade team this year.

"This is my first year in fifth grade. I love the fact that if you tell a joke, most of them can usually get the joke, which is very different from elementary where they just kind of stare blankly," she said. "They're a fun age because they're going through so many changes, and just kind of watching them find themselves and what they're good at is really cool."

She says it's exciting to be part of a teaching team that is mutually supportive and pushes its students to reach their full potential.

"It's so nice to be part of a team where everybody has high expectations for students. I think that's unusual; I took a few years off from Kingsley Schools and spent some time in some other districts, and overall, I would say Kingsley in general has high expectations for kids and they have to rise to the occasion. When you set high expectations, they will rise."



Mrs. Lesli Taylor is filling in as the long-term substitute for **Mrs. Linnea Steverlynck** while she is on leave.

"My favorite thing about teaching is that I know that I am helping shape the way kids learn and their love of learning. It really makes me happy when I see a kid get excited when they get a good grade and when something clicks and they understand it."

STAG SNAPSHOTS



FIFTH GRADERS BUILD WEATHER INSTRUMENTS

Students in Mrs. Kendra Bell's 5th grade science class are learning about weather! They made barometers, anemometers, wind vanes, and thermometers to help them measure weather variables like wind speed and direction, temperature, atmospheric pressure, Pictured: students craft barometers.



LIFE SKILLS CLASS DONATES SUPPLIES TO CHERRYLAND HUMANE SOCIETY

Every Friday, Kingsley Middle School's Life Skills class is open for business: Mrs. DeMoulied and her students go classroom to classroom selling hot drinks via their "Coffee Cart." This December, they used their Coffee Cart earnings to buy pet supplies to donate to Traverse City's Cherryland Humane Society. Students took a field trip to the facility to drop off their donation and get a tour, where they met lots of new furry friends!



KINDERGARTENERS LEARN ABOUT TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

This December, Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Jill Tallman took her students on an adventure around the world! Her class "packed their bags" to several countries including Mexico, Sweden, India, and Israel, to learn about their cultures. Students learned about Hannakuh, Diwali, and the different ways people celebrate Christmas. A Swedish gnome even paid her classroom a visit and left behind sweet treats!



HIGH SCHOOL ART STUDENTS CREATE BEAUTIFUL WORKS FEATURING ANIMALS AND CANDY

Take a walk through the halls of Kingsley High School and you might feel like you're strolling through an art gallery! Art students have been cranking out impressive works lately; in December, they created intricate black and white line drawings of animals and bold, photorealistic candy still-lifes featuring prominent shadow-work.