



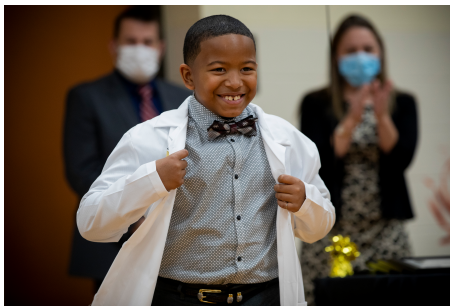
District Newsletter

Week of December 6, 2021

YCS New STEM Program - Grizzly Scholars



YCS is excited to announce our new STEM program, Grizzly Scholars. On Thursday, November 11, 2021, a White Coat Ceremony was held to induct our brilliant scholars. At the ceremony, the students received a white lab coat and a certificate that was printed and recently flown in from space! This night was very special for the students. Family, friends, teachers, principals, YCS board members, and the Superintendent were all in attendance.



This year's theme is "patriots in space." Students will also have the chance to obtain their passports for international travel.

This is a pilot program for the first two years. After that, there will be twenty 4th graders added each year. Students will be in this program until they graduate from Ypsilanti Community Schools and then will become mentors to the younger students that join this program.

YCS would like to thank the Germany Ballintyn Education Foundation, the U of M Center for Engineering Diversity & Outreach, and the U of M College of Engineering for their partnership!

Students were chosen based on their interest in STEM subjects. There are twenty 4th grade students in this program—five from each of our elementary schools, Ypsilanti International, Erickson, Estabrook, and Holmes. Students will meet once a month after school from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Ypsilanti International to participate in STEM activities.





Local Rapper Kid Jay Visits Erickson Elementary

Before Thanksgiving break, YCS alumni and Ypsilanti native rapper Kid Jay visited to see his former principal, Ms. Mickel, perform and inspire the students at Erickson Elementary.



Kid Jay built his skills freestyle rapping with friends while they played basketball at Ypsilanti Community High School, where he graduated in 2017. Jay's lyrics are a breath of fresh air to the hip-hop community.

In an interview with MLive, Jay explained, "profanity doesn't have to sell your tracks. I have music kids can listen to in the car with their parents." He crafts his songs by sprinkling in experiences from his own life growing up in Ypsilanti.

Kid Jay has opened for various artists, including Twista, T.I., and Jermaine Dupri, at the SoSoSummer 17 Tour, a teen music festival focusing on the youth, community, and teen culture at large.



Micheal Vick and BCIC Holds Conversation with YCHS and ACCE About Credit

On Thursday December 2, 2021, YCHS and ACCE student-athletes had the chance to meet Micheal Vick and learn about credit. Partnering with the Ypsilanti-based Bad Credit Is Childish Academy, Vick spoke with student-athletes to stress the importance of establishing good credit.

In an interview with Woodward Sports Network, Vick explains how he wished he had someone to teach him about credit while exiting college and preparing for the NFL.

"We didn't have this when we came out 20 years ago. We didn't have people who wanted to help us understand what credit is all about," said Vick. "You know, we don't get that in the inner cities. We don't get that in the communities that some of us come from, unfortunately. [And that's] whether you grow up with [both] parents in the household or not. We don't get educated."

During the assembly, Vick spoke about his personal experiences with credit and money. BCIC founder Lynwood Powell, a graduate of Ypsilanti High School, also spoke to the students about his story with credit. Giving the students personal examples showed how vital building and having good credit is.

BCIC is preparing to launch the academy (officially) sometime this month. To find out more information about BCIC, please click this link <https://bcicacademy.com/>.





Virtual Career Fair

Ypsilanti Community Schools will be hosting a virtual career fair Thursday, December 16, 2021, from 12:00 - 2:00 pm. This fair is aimed to bring qualified teachers and classroom paraprofessionals to the district. Candidates have the opportunity to schedule a 30-minute interview through Zoom. The last day to schedule an interview is December 15, 2021.

Please click <https://linktr.ee/ycschools> to schedule your interview.



Careerfair@ycschools.us | www.ycschools.us

Upcoming Dates and Events to Remember

- December 16 & 17 - Half Days
- December 20 through 31 - No School Winter Break
- January 3 - School Resumes
- January 17 - No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Please click the link below to view the letter from the Washtenaw Superintendents' Association regarding resources and safety tips in light of the Oxford High School shooting.

[Resources and Safety Tips](#)

Reminder: Please remember to stay home if you feel sick, get tested, and continue using the mitigation strategies that have been working for us thus far.

STRONGER TOGETHER



Antigen (Covid-19) Testing

Antigen/BinaxNow Testing is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at the YCS Administration Building at 1885 Packard Rd., Ypsilanti 48197. **No appointment is necessary.**

Are you interested in a PCR test? Michigan Medicine offers testing at the KMS Building, 700 KMS Place Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Appointments are required. To register, please visit: [PCR Testing](#)



The YCHS Pantry

The YCHS Pantry is open to students, staff, and Ypsilanti residents during school hours, 8:20 am - 3:00 pm.

There is fresh vegetables, non-perishable foods, dairy products, and toiletries.

For more information please contact Ms. Emerson, temerson6@yicschools.us



A Fun Activity For Students: **A Holiday Toy Word Search**

Please click the link below to download and print a holiday word search activity!

[Holiday Toy Word Search](#)

Toyland, Toyland

E	P	T	R	U	C	K	B	L
A	U	B	R	S	D	B	L	N
Z	Z	E	J	K	O	K	O	F
C	Z	A	G	A	L	Z	C	T
R	L	R	A	T	L	Z	K	R
O	E	H	M	E	J	X	S	A
B	D	W	E	S	C	A	R	I
O	W	P	U	P	P	E	T	N
T	B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L

- baseball
- bear
- blocks
- car
- doll
- game
- puppet
- puzzle
- robot
- skates
- train
- truck



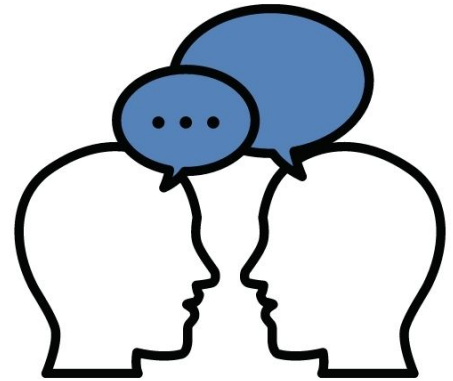


COMMUNITY EVENTS



Washtenaw County Investing in Equity Listening Sessions

- Washtenaw County Government currently has the opportunity to make meaningful change happen in our county.
- Come talk with elected officials and other government staff about how they can spend money to make our county better.
- Whether you can stay the whole time, or just drop in for 15 minutes, we want to listen to what you have to say!



Community Family Life Center

1375 S Harris Rd Ypsilanti Township

Tuesday | December 7th | 6pm - 8pm



TAG

FINALS STUDY SPACE

Saturday, December 11 | 1-3pm
YDL-Whittaker

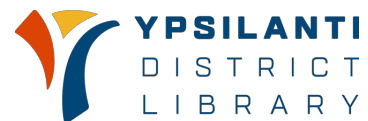
Can't make it to the library but need resources like homework help, essay feedback, college prep help, and more?

Visit <https://www.ypsilibrary.org/2021/12/finals-support-for-teens/> to find a educational supports compiled by our Teen Advisory Group!

Find a quiet space to study for finals, alone or with friends. Individually wrapped snacks provided to refuel your energy. Hosted by the library's Teen Advisory Group.

No Registration Needed!

734-482-4110 x1340
5577 Whittaker Road
www.ypsilibrary.org





IT and Cyber-TECH Bootcamp

Go to: wccnet.edu/cyber-bootcamp

TRAINING FOR A CAREER IN CYBERSECURITY

Starts December 6, 2021

- 100% tuition assistance for qualified candidates.
- 8 weeks of training.
- Earn four industry recognized credentials.
- Among the fastest growing careers.

A collaboration between:



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**WASHTENAW
HEALTH
INITIATIVE**



DO YOU NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?



**MARKETPLACE OPEN ENROLLMENT:
NOVEMBER 1, 2021 - JANUARY 15, 2022**

[Enroll online at healthcare.gov](https://healthcare.gov)

ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID/HEALTHY MICHIGAN PLAN?

[Enroll all year round at newmibridges.michigan.gov](https://newmibridges.michigan.gov)



LET US HELP YOU GET THE COVERAGE YOU NEED!

For free assistance with enrollment into Medicaid/Health Michigan Plan or the Insurance Marketplace, contact any of the organizations

Expanding Access to All

WHP

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HEALTH PLAN

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MICHIGAN MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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(734) 971-1073

SAINT
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HEALTH SYSTEM

(734) 712-2009

The WHI gives free presentations on health insurance to local groups/organizations. [Click here to learn more!](#)