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ROYAL OAK, MI

Your Schools
School District of the City of Royal Oak
1123 Lexington Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073



School Closings

Stations that broadcast
School Closings:
CLKW-AM 800
WDIV/TV 4
WJBK/Fox 2
WJR-AM 760
WKQI-FM 95.5
WWJ-AM 950
WXYZ/Channel 7
WXYT-AM 1270

www.royaloakschools.com

Your Schools is the official publication of the Royal Oak Neighborhood School District. It is published periodically and mailed to residents of the Royal Oak School District as a public service. Article ideas are always welcome and response is encouraged.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

Anne Redmond
1123 Lexington Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(248) 435-8400, Ext. 209

School Hours:

High Schools 7:25 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.
Middle Schools 8:00 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.
Elementary Schools

Bussed Schools: Oakland, Oak Ridge, & Upton
8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Non-Bussed Schools:

Longfellow, Northwood, Starr, Twain 8:35 a.m. – 3:35 p.m.
Whittier 8:25 a.m. – 3:35 p.m.

2006-2007 Board of Education

Gary Briggs, *President*
Christine Hartwig, *Vice-President*
Kevin McLogan, *Secretary*
Michael Hartman, *Treasurer*
Deborah Anderson, *Trustee*
Lisa Bradford, *Trustee*
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Thomas L. Moline, Ph.D., *Superintendent*

Regular School Board Meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the Board of Education Office, 1123 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak.



YOUR *schools*

Welcome to the start of the 2006-2007 school year.

As the Royal Oak School District commences the new school year, the first major changes in our school buildings start to appear. The building program now in progress is the result of the passage of our building bond in November of 2005.

Major renovations started this summer at Royal Oak High School and continue over the next two school years. Work at the coming Royal Oak Middle School (former Dondero site) is now well under way and will continue over the next year on a tight timetable with intention to take occupancy in a beautifully restored building one year from now. Site preparation is now in progress for the creation of a new Northwood Elementary School; the first new school building to be built in Royal Oak in approximately fifty years. Construction of the new Northwood will take place over the next 18 months. Improvements have also started in elementary schools that will remain in service in the years to come. Improvements in elementary schools will continue over the next two school years.

Adding to all of the building activity this year is implementation of the District's 2003 Consolidation Plan. The new Royal Oak High School begins formal operation this fall, followed by Royal Oak Middle School a year from now. If all goes as planned, the District also moves from eight to six elementary schools in the 2007-2008 school year.

The Royal Oak community has decided to build up our school system at a challenging time of declining enrollment. Our school district remains one of the most vibrant in our state by the preservation of student programs and services. Student opportunity remains strong in Royal Oak through the wise choice of facility consolidation. The current investment in the school buildings that continue in service in the years ahead will be most conducive to optimal learning conditions.

Many things are happening within and about Royal Oak Schools this coming school year. Patience and understanding are needed from all concerned for some inconvenience will be experienced. But in the end, we will have a revitalized school system that will serve our community well into the future.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Moline
Superintendent

2006 Back to School Issue

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Royal Oak High School Upcoming Events

ALL SCHOOL PICNIC: Come and join the Royal Oak High School All School Picnic on Friday, September 8, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

HOMECOMING GAME:

Relive football memories, watch the Royal Oak High School Ravens battle to victory! Admire the floats! Join us on Friday, October 6.

For more details call Royal Oak High School (248) 435-8500

Opening of School

All students in grades K-12 should report for a full day of school on the morning of Tuesday, September 5, 2006. Kindergarten students should report for school at their scheduled time on September 5, 2006.

If you have not received specific information from your school principal, or you are new to the District, please call your school building (phone number listed on page 3) or Student Services at (248) 435-8400, Ext. 232.





OLHSA Royal Oak Head Start

Head Start is a federally funded comprehensive preschool program designed to provide services for three- and four-year-old children and their families. The program is free of charge to families meeting the federal income guidelines.

The Head Start Program is also designed to service children with certified disabilities or those with a special situation. For more information about the program, call (248) 548-5046.

Project Find

Project Find needs your assistance to help our children with special needs. Special Education Services are available for children ages birth through 25 who have trouble seeing, hearing, talking, or learning.

Call about available free services through your local Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools (248) 547-2298.

Student Immunizations

State law requires that any students enrolling in a Michigan school for the first time must show proof of immunization against the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, measles, pertussis, poliomyelitis, rubella, and mumps, or provide a statement signed by the parent or guardian to the effect that there is a religious or other objection to the immunization. New enrollees, including kindergartners, will not be allowed to attend without the required immunization or waiver.

Preschool Program

The Royal Oak Schools Preschool Program offered at the Lincoln Early Childhood Center is available to three and four-year olds.

This program is fully licensed by the State of Michigan. We have certified early childhood teachers and also paraprofessionals, giving a student to teacher ratio of no more than 16:2. Individual student assessments are done at the beginning and end of each year. Parent conferences are also held. At these conferences, the parent(s) and teacher work together to develop goals for each child. At the end of the school year, the teachers interface with the Kindergarten teachers to make the transition go smoothly.

Curriculum includes developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) that include gross motor skills, small group activities, songs, stories, creative arts, computer skills, and social interaction, all in a "can-do" atmosphere. Parent participation is encouraged.

The preschool program runs from Labor Day through Memorial Day with holidays in accordance with the District calendar. Each class session runs for two-and-one-half hours. Three-year-olds meet two days a week and four-year-olds meet three days each week. For registration information and/or questions, please call (248) 546-4336.

Young Oaks Program

Royal Oak Schools will continue to offer before and after school care at each of the eight elementary schools. The Young Oaks Program emphasizes a comfortable, supervised atmosphere that includes activities that will enhance the child's physical, social, and academic growth.

This program is fully licensed by the State of Michigan and follows all of its guidelines. The District has made a pledge to the community and parents that we will staff at a 1:15 ratio, that is lower than the state requirement of 1:20. The staff is fully trained in CPR and First Aid and receives additional appropriate in-service training throughout the year.

We offer care before and after school, as well as on most vacation days. In addition, there is a summer camp available during the entire summer break. For a nominal additional fee, parents can purchase "snow day" coverage in the event that schools are closed because of a snowstorm. For Young Oaks Program registration, information and/or questions, call (248) 546-4336.

Acorn Program

The Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools will continue to offer a full-day opportunity for Kindergarten students. The half-day is in addition to their regular program and is a combination of enrichment and childcare. For additional information on this fee-based program, call the Lincoln Early Childhood Center at (248) 546-4336.



Announce High School Transportation Services

Last Spring the Board of Education authorized the School District of the City of Royal Oak to add transportation services for Royal Oak High School students who reside more than one and one-half miles from the school. Buses will pick up students at eleven Royal Oak City parks. Buses will depart at 6:45 a.m. and arrive at Royal Oak High School at 7:10 a.m. After school, buses will depart Royal Oak High School at 2:30 p.m. and arrive at the appointed park at 2:45 p.m.

Using a computerized mapping system, transportation eligibility for current 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grade students was determined. In June, the households of these students received letters notifying them of eligibility and requesting them to return a form indicating their interest in this new service. Upon receipt, this information was entered into the computerized routing system and verified.

Notification will be sent to students who have indicated interest, identifying the bus stop, pickup and drop off times and bus numbers. For additional information or questions, call (248) 545-0709, Ext. 248.

Release of Directory Information

The following information is regarded as directory information and may be made public: student's name, phone number, address, picture, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance awards received, most recent previous school attended, and other similar information. If parents, or students 18 years or older object to publication of any of the above kinds of information, they are requested to notify the school office of the student's attendance in writing by October 6, 2006.

Royal Oak School Media Release

Recording, by way of photography, audio, and video equipment of various school and classroom activities is done in Royal Oak Schools throughout the school year. The recording might circulate to other students' classrooms, families, be used in District publications, be used on the World Wide Web, or be shown on community access cable (Channels 52 and 54).

If you do not wish to have your child recorded, please fill in the Media Release Denial form below and return it to your child's school or to the District Office of Community Relations, 1123 Lexington, Royal Oak, MI 48073, no later than October 6, 2006, for the 2006-07 school year. Additional forms are available at each school and at the District offices.

Media Release Denial 2006-2007 School Year Royal Oak Schools

Child's Name _____

School _____

Grade _____ Date _____

Signature (Parent or Guardian) _____

School Directory

Elementary Schools

<i>Longfellow</i>	541-7938
<i>Northwood</i>	541-0229
<i>Oakland</i>	542-4406
<i>Oak Ridge</i>	588-8353
<i>Starr</i>	549-0540
<i>Twain</i>	588-1565
<i>Upton</i>	549-4968
<i>Whittier</i>	541-1552

Middle Schools

<i>Addams</i>	288-3100
<i>Keller</i>	542-6500

High Schools

<i>Royal Oak</i>	435-8500
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Lincoln Early Childhood Center **546-4336**

Churchill Community Education Center **588-5050**

School Lunch Prices

Lunch prices for the 2006-07 school year will remain the same - \$2.25 at the elementary and \$2.50 at the secondary level. The District is committed to operating the food service program on a break-even basis.



Job Hotline
(248) 435-8400
Option 7

Apply On-Line
www.royaloakschools.com/employment

Open Enrollment Acceptance Procedures – Assignment within District

Although students normally attend the schools serving the attendance area in which they reside, students are permitted enrollment in another district school provided there are spaces available in the receiving school. Approval is contingent upon the parent's willingness to provide any necessary transportation. Requests should be made in writing to the school in which you choose to enroll your child by February 16, 2007 (3rd Friday in February) for the following year.

Changing Residence and School Enrollment

Before moving to a new address, parents of school-aged children should inquire about the school their student(s) will attend. The policy followed in Royal Oak states that families leaving the School District may have their children complete the current semester. If there is a second semester of the school year, the student(s) may finish the school year in Royal Oak with a signed waiver form from the new residence school district.

Responsibility for Personal Property

From time to time, the District is requested to reimburse students or parents for personal property that is reported damaged, lost, misplaced, or otherwise disappears from school buildings or grounds. Students and parents should be aware that the School District is not responsible for personal property brought to school premises (nor does the District maintain insurance for such purposes).

Student Accident Insurance Explained

Parents/guardians should be aware that Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools does not insure students for accidental injuries during the school year. The personal insurance of the parent/guardian is assumed to cover any and all medical treatments for such injuries.

The School District offers reasonably priced student accident insurance plans ranging from approximately \$23 to \$140 per year. Senior high tackle football accident insurance is also available at costs ranging from \$120 to \$240 per year. Please note that senior high tackle football insurance is separate from "regular" student accident insurance and is for football only.

Information brochures, which contain application forms, are available in school offices or at the Board of Education building. Application forms for senior high tackle football accident insurance are available from the athletic directors/coaches beginning in August. Completed forms, along with payment, can be turned into your child's school office.

The due date for turning in student insurance applications is Friday, September 15, 2006 for regular insurance and August 24, 2006 for athletic insurance. This insurance can be purchased at any time during the year; however, the insurance only becomes effective on the date the application (with payment) is received by the insurance company and will not cover injuries prior to the purchase date.

Our objective is not to sell insurance, but to inform parents and guardians that there are alternatives for those who have no medical coverage. For more information, call (248) 435-8400, Ext. 214.



Continuing Education Classes

Registration begins August 21, 2006 for classes offered through the Royal Oak Continuing Education Department. A brochure will be sent to all area residents listing courses, programs, and activities scheduled for the fall semester, which begins September 11, 2006.

Residents will be offered a wide variety of programs in Enrichment classes, GED Preparation and Testing, High School Completion courses, and technical training. In addition to the many activities and classes offered for adults, Continuing Education also offers after-school enrichment activities for elementary school age children. More information will be made available to parents during the school year.

Registration for fall classes begins on Monday, August 21, 2006 at the Continuing Education Office located at the Churchill Community Education Center, 707 Girard, Royal Oak. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Residents may also register by telephone (248) 588-5050 or fax (248) 588-2881, using Mastercard or Visa. All class fees are payable at the time of registration. For additional information, please call (248) 588-5050.

The Senior Gold Card

The Senior Gold Card, a complimentary activity pass from the Royal Oak School District for Royal Oak senior citizens age 60 and over, includes free admission to:

- All athletic events (except state sponsored tournaments)
- All school drama programs and dance shows
- All vocal and instrumental music concerts
- Evening recreational swim at Royal Oak High School

Applications are available at:

Churchill Community Education Center

707 Girard Royal Oak, MI 48073 (248) 588-5050

Board of Education Officers for 2006-2007

At the July 11 Organizational Meeting, the Board of Education elected its new slate of officers:

President - Gary Briggs

Vice-President – Christine Hartwig

Secretary – Kevin McLogan

Treasurer – Michael Hartman

Deborah Anderson was elected to her first four-year term and Michael Hartman was re-elected to his second four-year term of office.

Royal Oak Community Coalition presents:

Family Table

Monday, September 25
Take time to reconnect with your family at the dinner table. Local grocery stores will offer discounts. Watch local newspapers for details.

Guy's In Training

Saturday, November 4th
An all day event for middle school boys. Teen Weight Training, Karate, Power Tools and more. Register by contacting the ROCC (248) 588-5050. Ext. 231

Family Fun Night

Tuesday, November 14
A special night for parents and their kids, grades 3 – 6th. Interactive family activities and refreshments. To learn more, contact the ROCC at (248) 588-5050. Ext. 231

Great American Smoke Out

Thursday, November 16th
Take your family to one of Royal Oak's participating restaurants to enjoy a smoke free atmosphere for dinner. Many restaurants are offering special discounts. Check your local newspaper for details.



Notice of Non-Discrimination in School-to-Career Opportunities

All School-to-Career education courses/programs follow the District policies of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in all activities and in employment. Additional arrangements can be made to ensure that lack of English language skill is not a barrier to admission or preparation.

For general information about these School-to-Career programs, contact:

Patrick Wolynski

*Director of Vocational and Continuing Education
(248) 588-5050, Ext. 201*

Inquiries concerning equal opportunity for the handicapped should contact:

Carol Hansen

*Executive Director Student Services
(248) 435-8400, Ext. 232*

Inquires concerning equal opportunity on the basis of gender should be directed to:

John Schwartz

*Executive Director Business Services & Personnel
(248) 435-8400, Ext. 209*

Mailing address:

*Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools
Board of Education Office
1123 Lexington Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073*

Non-Discrimination Policy

The School District of the City of Royal Oak, consistent with Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. The coordinators of non-discrimination efforts are:

Title IX (discrimination based on gender), Title VI & VII and Michigan Law (discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, age, height, weight, gender* and disability* or martial status):

John Schwartz, Executive Director, Business Services & Personnel - Age Discrimination Coordinator and Title VI Coordinator (248) 435-8400, Ext. 209.

Title II and Section 504 (discrimination based on handicaps): Carol Hanson, Executive Director, Student Services, Title II and Section 504 Coordinator. For additional information, call the Board Office at (248) 435-8400. School District of the City of Royal Oak Grievance Procedure for Discrimination: Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act.

If any person believes that the School District of the City of Royal Oak or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principals and/or regulations of Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act or is in some way discriminatory on the basis of gender, race, color, national origin, age, or disability, he/she may bring forward a complaint to the appropriate coordinator:

Carol Hanson, Executive Director, Student Services – Title II Coordinator Section 504 Coordinator (248) 435-8400, Ext. 232

John Schwartz, Executive Director, Business Services & Personnel – Title VI, Title IX, Age Discrimination Coordinator (248) 435-8400, Ext. 209

Informal Procedure: The person who believes he/she has a valid basis for complaint shall discuss the concern with the District's Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act Coordinator, who shall in return investigate the complaint and reply to the complainant in writing within five (5) business days. If this reply is not acceptable to the complainant, he/she may initiate formal procedures according to the steps listed below:

Step 1: A written statement of the grievance shall be prepared by the complainant and signed. This grievance shall be presented to the District's Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act Coordinator within five (5) business days of the receipt of the written reply to the informal complaint. The coordinator shall further investigate the matter of the grievance and reply in writing with five (5) business days by certified mail.

Step 2: If the complainant wishes to appeal the decision of the District's Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Act Coordinator, he/she may submit a signed statement of appeal to the Superintendent or designee within five (5) business days after the receipt of the District coordinator's response to the grievance. The Superintendent or designee shall meet with all parties involved, formulate a conclusion and respond in writing to the grievance within ten (10) business days by certified mail.

Step 3: If the complainant remains unsatisfied, he/she may appeal through signed, written statement to the Board of Education within five (5) business days of his/her receipt of the Superintendent's or designee's response in Step 2. In an attempt to resolve the grievance, the Board of Education shall meet with the concerned parties and their representative within fifteen (15) days or the next scheduled Board meeting from the receipt of such and appeal. A copy of the Board's disposition of the appeal shall be sent by the Board Secretary to each concerned party within ten (10) business days of this meeting, by certified mail.

Step 4: If at this point, the grievance has not been satisfactorily settled, further appeal may be made to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S.



Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that each year, District workers and building occupants receive notification about asbestos activities, such as response actions and inspections. The purpose of this communication is to meet those requirements and familiarize you with asbestos-related activities that have been conducted in the School District of the City of Royal Oak during the last year.

Management Plans: The School District of the City of Royal Oak contracted with Environmental Consultants, Inc. to conduct inspections for asbestos-containing material (ACM) within all District-owned buildings. This information was then compiled into Asbestos Management Plans by the School District's asbestos consulting firm. These Management Plans are located in the administrative office of each building and are available for review. A copy of each building Management Plan is also located in the Maintenance Department.

Surveillance Activities: The School District of the City of Royal Oak is in compliance with AHERA regulations which require the surveillance of the condition of ACM every six months. These surveillance activities are conducted by a contracted environmental consulting firm and, subsequent to completion, are included as part of the building's Management Plans.

Asbestos Abatement: The School District of the City of Royal Oak conducted various minor asbestos removal projects during the 2005-2006 school year within several of the District's buildings.

The removal projects were performed by Michigan Licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractors and managed by healthAIR.

All documentation regarding these projects is available for your review in each building file and at the Maintenance Department. Air tests were conducted throughout all phases of the asbestos removal at each building. The air samples were collected and analyzed in accordance with all regulator agency requirements. The results of the air tests at each of the projects were well within the limits established by the governing agencies.

Questions regarding asbestos removal projects or any asbestos-related issues can be addressed by Bill White, the asbestos designated person, at (248) 545-0064, Ext. 245.

Educational Records

The policy adopted by the School District of the City of Royal Oak regarding education records is available for public inspection in each school office and at the Royal Oak Board of Education Office, 1123 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48073.

Parents or students 18 years or older may review all official education records by making a written request to the building principal at the elementary level or to the guidance department at the secondary level. If it is believed that the information is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of a student, a request may be made to school officials for amendment.

Section 9528 of No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 "Opt-Out" Release

Section 9528 requires information to be released to military recruiters unless a written "opt-out" is submitted. The following form will fulfill the written requirement to opt-out of releasing a student's information to military recruiters.

As a parent, I am exercising the right to request that you do not turn over the name, address, telephone listing and school records to the Armed Services, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools of the following student

As a student of 18 years of age, I request my own name, address, telephone number and school records not be released to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools

Student Name: _____ Name of School: _____

Signature: _____