



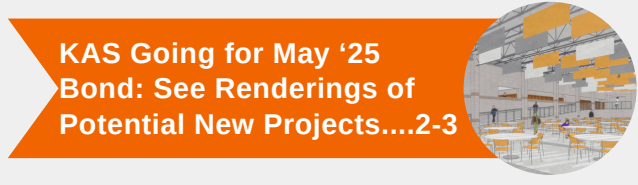
KINGSLEY CONNECTION

"A COMMUNITY OF TRADITION AND EXCELLENCE" February 2025 kingsleyschools.org

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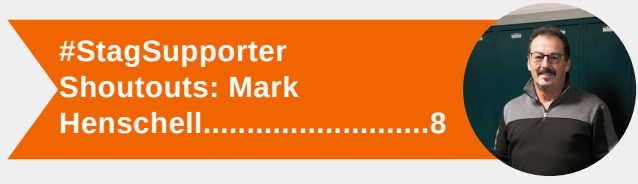
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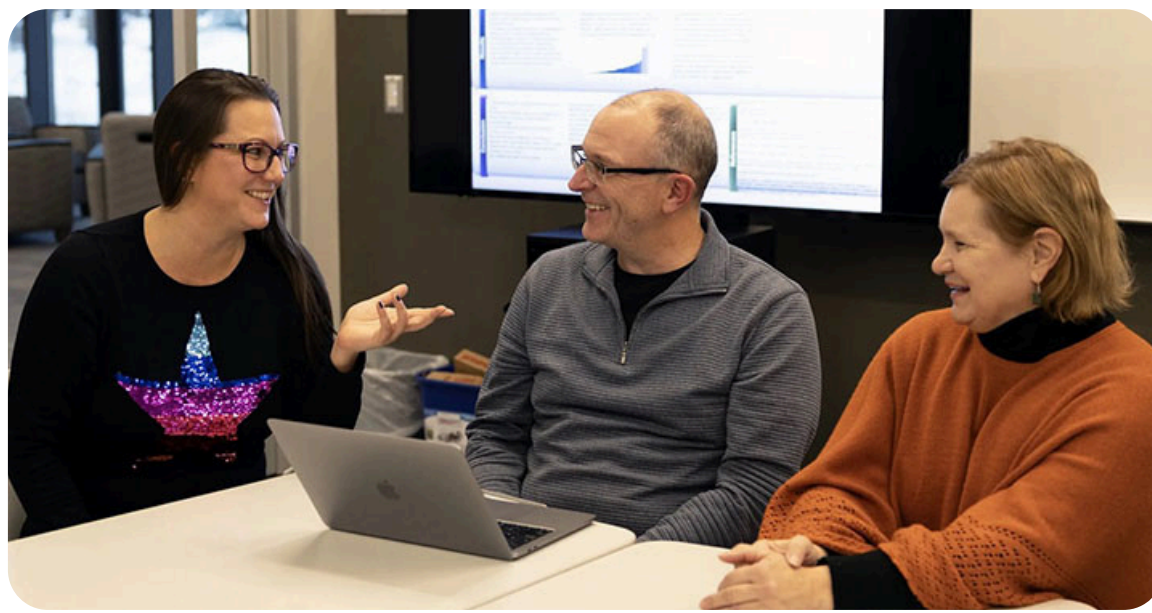


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KAS BOND 2025

LEARN MORE INSIDE
KINGSLEYSCHOOLS.ORG/2025BOND



HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH NMC TO HELP STUDENTS EARN CREDIT FOR RESEARCH

In Kingsley High School science teacher Nancy Olenchek's research class, she asks her students to ask, and answer, questions of their choosing.

Now, Ms. Olenchek is pioneering a new program with Northwestern Michigan College to help students earn college credit for their efforts.

"They're doing college level research, no doubt. It's only fair for these students, if they're doing this work, to have it transcribed (as credit)," -Nick Roster, NMC instructor

The program will provide new dual-enrollment opportunities at Kingsley High School. Ms. Olenchek will teach their students about research methodology and NMC will provide oversight and support.

"It's a huge benefit to them," Olenchek said. "It validates their research, number one. Two, it gives them some elective

credit that they don't have to pay for."

"The eight-course sequence will allow students to pursue an idea or question through the entire research cycle. The top students at the April NMC Science Symposium will go on to the Flint Science and Engineering Fair, the stepping stone to the International Science and Engineering Fair. Prizes and scholarships are available to the winners at these higher levels."
- NMC, per a news release

Ms. Olenchek told NMC she hopes this new program will help encourage students to continue pursuing opportunities at NMC post high school graduation.

To read more success stories like this, scan the QR code below with your phone!



Kingsley Area Schools Blog

KINGSLEY SCHOOLS
402 FENTON STREET
KINGSLEY, MI 49649

PRSTD US POSTAGE PAID
CADILLAC, MI PERMIT #147

BOX HOLDER
KINGSLEY MI 49649



May 6, 2025 Bond Proposal Information

Safety. Community. Opportunity.

Our community will have the opportunity to vote on a Kingsley Area Schools bond proposal on the May 6, 2025 election ballot. If approved, it would provide \$39,200,000 for **building & site improvements to address identified and ongoing facility needs based on completed assessments and community input.** If approved by voters, the 2025 bond millage is expected to result in a net increase of 4.90 mills from the current rate.

Why a Bond Proposal Now?

If approved by voters, the 2025 bond proposal would address the currently identified issues such as **lack of classroom space, and build new spaces for academics, athletics, and the arts.** Upgraded facilities would provide for student and **community access** to new, state-of-the-art facilities like gymnasiums and fitness centers. This bond proposal would also **improve security** infrastructure, including **modern security measures**, such as secure vestibules and updated access systems.

How much will this bond cost?

Kingsley Area Schools currently levies 0 mills. If the 2025 bond proposal is approved by voters, the net debt tax rate is expected to increase by 4.90 mills from current levels with an average millage rate of 4.07 throughout the life of the bond. The debt payoff for this bond is expected to be less than 30 years.

HOME MARKET VALUE	HOME (SEV) TAXABLE VALUE	YEARLY COST	MONTHLY COST	DAILY COST
\$200,000	\$100,000	\$490	\$40.83	\$1.34
\$300,000	\$150,000	\$735	\$61.25	\$2.01
\$400,000	\$200,000	\$980	\$81.67	\$2.68

NOTE: Households that pay homestead property taxes greater than 3.2% of their annual income may be eligible for Michigan's Homestead Property Tax Credit, therefore, the "net" tax rate could be less than shown above. Contact your accountant or tax preparer for more information.

Voting Information

Election Day: May 6, 2025

Absentee ballots to be mailed 40 days prior to Election Day

Are you registered to vote?

You may register online, by mail, or in-person. Learn more at michigan.gov/vote

Upcoming Events

Info Session: February 4 | 6:00PM
Kingsley High School Library

Coffee Chat: February 20
8:30AM at Kingsley Library

Coffee Chat: March 20
8:30AM at Kingsley Library

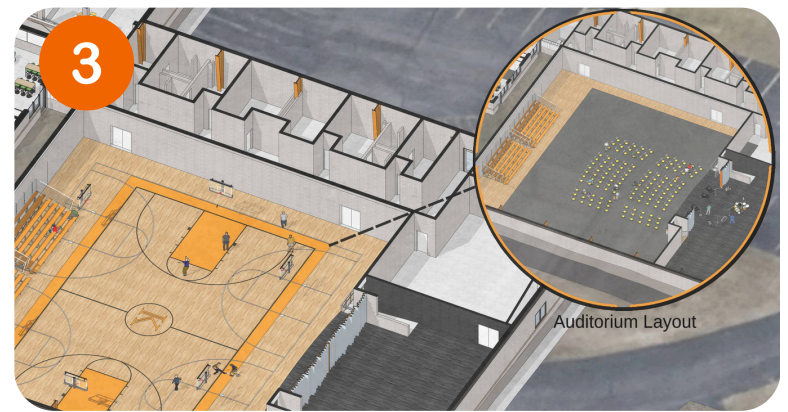
Learn More



Visit our website to learn more about the bond proposal at kingsleyschools.org/2025bond or scan this code.

What projects are included in this bond proposal?

If the bond proposal is approved by voters, the existing Elementary School will become the new Lower Elementary for grades Pre-K-2. In addition, the existing Middle School will become the new Upper Elementary for grades 3-5. A new Middle School addition will be added to the High School, creating one unified campus.



1. Rendering of new middle school addition on high school campus
2. Stage area for music, drama use, to go inside new middle school addition
3. Events space in the middle school addition will have courts, bleachers, stage, and high-tech acoustic technology to adapt space for athletic and artistic uses
4. Aerial view of Kingsley High School and proposed middle school addition
5. Brand new middle school commons space

To learn more and to see additional renderings, visit kingsleyschools.org/2025bond

Pre-Registration for Preschool at Kingsley: 2025-2026

Four Year Olds will Apply for GSRP: Free State Funded Preschool

To apply for a GSRP slot parents will need to email Kristin Goethals at kgoethals@kingsleyschools.org or go to NMCAA.net to set up an appointment and indicate Kingsley Preschool Program as their first choice of schools. The appointments are done in collaboration with NMCAA for Kingsley GSRP and Hannah Headstart slots. The GSRP slots are for students who are four years old by September 1st 2025. GSRP slots will first be offered to qualifying at risk families based on a series of risk factors including low family income and then to other families. Families qualifying for GSRP after their appointment will be asked to designate a first choice and second choice of program locations. Students may also be offered a Hannah Headstart slot if they qualify. The state qualifies students through June and acceptance letters are mailed at that time. Hours of operation are 8:30-3:15 Monday through Thursday. ALL students who will be 4 need to complete this application due to the state language around universal preschool.

Three Year Olds will Apply for Tuition Preschool

The tuition-based program is open to any family whose child is 30 months of age up to school age, and is potty trained, and will first be filled with three-year-olds. There are no income qualifiers to be accepted into the program, and the cost is \$36 per day (for the 2025-26 year, **subject to change**). The \$36 per day includes lunch, a morning snack, and an afternoon snack. Program options include Tuesday/Thursday, Monday/Wednesday/Friday, or Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday. Space is limited. If three-year-olds don't fill all the spaces we will fill in with four-year-olds. Filling out a preregistration form does **NOT** guarantee enrollment. Letters will be mailed in May verifying acceptance. Hours of operation are 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Return form to:

Kingsley Elementary School Attn: Kristin Goethals
311 Clark St.
Kingsley, MI 49649

First Name _____ Middle Name _____ Last Name _____

Child's Birth Date _____

Parent's Names _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Cell Phone # _____ Email Address: _____

*Tuition Paperwork mailed in April. *GSRP: NMCAA.net, Early Childhood Tab, Application, Pre-Application

Please note your preferred preschool method.

____ 3-year-old Tuition Schedule: _____ (days of week)

____ 4-year-old GSRP (State Funded Free Preschool) Circle One: **M-F (limited)** or **Mon- Thurs.**

Seeking Handy Helpers!

If you can use a hammer, the Kingsley Drama Club could use your help to build sets for their upcoming show! Please email Jena VanWagner at jena_van@yahoo.com if you'd like to help out.



Kingsley will host the high school Solo & Ensemble competition on February 8. District Band Festival will be February 21-22 at Elk Rapids.



District Choir Festival is February 24 at Gaylord High Schools. Times TBA.



NOW HIRING

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

- \$1500 Bonus after 3 months
- Paid Training & Endorsements
- \$23 per hour



Apply now! Hiring Immediately.

Scan QR code or visit applitrack.com/kingsley/onlineapp

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Date January 24, 2025

Pay To The Order Of Kingsley Area Schools
one hundred dollars exact

|: 000000000 |: 0000000000000||-

NEW FOR 2025:
Please make ALL school-related checks out to "Kingsley Area Schools" **ONLY**. This applies lunch accounts, athletics, fines, preschool, field trips, extended day program, and more.



Showing our Lions Pride

At Mrs. Kendra Bell's brilliant suggestion, KAS declared Friday, January 17 a Detroit Lions spirit day! Staff and students dressed up in their gear and Honolulu blue to cheer on the team ahead of their game against the Washington Commanders.

Munson Provides Ski Helmets, Fittings

Thank you to Munson Healthcare's Chill Out for Winter Safety Program for providing free helmets and fittings to more than 47 Kingsley Ski Club members! Founder Tammie Budrow and her team also made a safety presentation to families. Tammie is passionate about winter snow sport safety after losing her own 8-year-old daughter, Carly, in a tragic sledding accident. Thank you for protecting our winter athletes!



KAS Partners with Trauma & Outreach Non-Profit

This January, a whole U-Haul full of brand new shoes and clothing arrived at Kingsley Middle School. The gym class helped unload boxes of donations that will be distributed to local families in need, thanks to the generosity of the St. Clair Butterfly Foundation and their sponsor, Vans. The foundation posted, "Witnessing the teamwork and energy from these students was inspiring—it's clear this community is all about coming together to make a difference!" The St. Clair Butterfly foundation specializes in trauma-informed training for educators and expressive arts programming for students impacted by trauma. KAS is excited and grateful for the new partnership!

KMS Enjoys Quarterly Celebration

Good behavior = awesome rewards! Every quarter, middle schoolers have the chance to earn Stag Tags for showing good behavior at school. Stag Tags can be redeemed for prizes in counselor Olivia Bradford's "store," and qualifying students are also rewarded with a celebration day at the end of the marking period. They can choose to play board games, watch a movie, or go sledding. Way to go, students!



Snow Much Fun!

Pictured: Elementary schoolers play Gagaball and enjoy the snow at recess; middle schoolers go sledding for their Quarterly Celebration for students with good behavior.



ARTS & ATHLETICS

Coach Morrow Hosts Speed Training



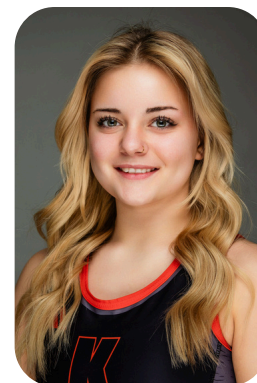
Speed training is open to all Kingsley High School athletes. The conditioning takes place in the high school gym immediately after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact Coach Jason Morrow for more information.

➔ Emilee Robinson



Emilee is a junior on the Varsity girls basketball team and is off to a tremendous start to the season, averaging 19 points per game. Emilee led scorers with 18 points in Kingsley's 57-21 win over Charlevoix. Emilee also excels in Soccer and Track at Kingsley while carrying a 3.99 GPA.

➔ Aubury Tulppo



Aubury is a first-year wrestler for Kingsley and has recorded seven pins on the season. Aubury also excels in soccer while carrying a 3.68 grade point average. Congratulations, Aubury!

Musicians Play at YES! Showcase



On January 19, the Kingsley Jazz Band performed at the Bay Community Theatre's YES (Youth Entertainment Showcase) event in Suttons Bay. YES! is a celebration of our young people's talent, work and dedication, and is also a recognition of the dedication and support of their parents, mentors, and directors. We'd like to give a special shoutout to the Class of 2025 musicians, Tyler Kanakis, Natalie Sterk, and Mara VanWagner!

➔ Kole Osborn



Kole is a senior center on the varsity basketball team and has shown great leadership and effort this season, leading the Stags in rebounds. Kole was also an All NMFC Legends Division offensive lineman and excels in track and field while carrying a 3.83 grade point average.

🍊 Kingsley High School Drama Club Presents "The Internet is Distract-- OH LOOK A KITTEN!"

Join the Drama Club for a "high-octane comedy that explores the rabbit hole of distraction we all go down every time we go online."



Friday, March 7 | 7:00PM
Saturday, March 8 | 2:00 & 7:00PM
Kingsley Middle School



Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults
Tickets are available at the door.



➔ Tucker Dreves



Tucker is a junior point guard for the varsity boys basketball team and had an outstanding game versus Cheboygan with 16 points, five rebounds, four assists and two steals. Tucker also excels in football while carrying a 3.67 grade point average.

For sports schedules, rosters, and more information, visit kingsleyschools.org/athletics

Stag Spotlight: Meet Kingsley High School Principal Chris Rapes



Worth The Drive

Every morning, KHS principal Chris Rapes loads up his all-wheel drive Ford Escape and buckles in for his hour-twenty commute from his home in Walkerville to Kingsley High School.

Most days, he loves the drive and the chance to clear his head. Over his past three school years, there have been some bumps in the road.

"I smoked a deer, totaled my car, and bought another one. I'm now on my third car. It's sometimes snowy. But hey, that's Michigan!" said Principal Rapes. "This place, this school, is so awesome. The drive's never bothered me."

Working in Kingsley Area Schools has been a longtime dream of his, and he says working here now is worth the drive.

"I love this community. I think a lot of schools want to say they have

community pride. Here, I don't think you can say Kingsley without talking about the schools. They're intertwined,"

Over the past three years, Principal Rapes has seen a lot of things to be proud of; championship-winning athletics, award-winning music programs, the inauguration of the school's NJROTC program, and boosts in academics.

"We went from losing to the state average to beating the state national averages across the board," he said, as he spoke about new in-school interventions to help kids with college and SAT prep.

He is quick to credit his staff for their passion and hard work.

"They are outstanding. They keep me going and I am so thankful for them. I hope parents understand how much hard work they've done, especially in the past few years," said Principal Rapes.

"We now have kids talking about the future. They're talking about life out in front of them and what they're aspiring to. They are setting goals and reaching them, and I think that's the most rewarding thing, and it has nothing to do with me," said Principal Rapes.

"My role, as a principal is to put people in the best position to be the most successful. My job is to build and maintain trust. My job is to also make things easier. And I am constantly striving to get better at that."

Middle School Journalism Club

February Interviews

Nicole Wazny - Food Services

What are your interests and/or hobbies?
Cooking, country concerts, kayaking.

What do you love about Kingsley?
It's my home town. I was born and raised here and I love everything about Kingsley.

What's one fun fact about you?
I am a part of the community band.

What is a dream or goal you have?
Wake up on the ocean.

What is one thing you want the community to know about you?
I've worked here for 8 years and I love supporting the kids in singing, band, and the arts.

Student Ava Baker

What are your interests and/or hobbies?
Some of my interests are singing, doing sports and hanging outside.

What do you love about Kingsley?
I love how the community is all there for each other.

What's one fun fact about you?
I really like to sing karaoke and I sung karaoke in Florida and earned \$13.

What is a dream or goal you have?
A dream I have is when I get older I want to become a vet.

What is one thing you want the community to know about you?
I really like to play sports and I really am proud to represent Kingsley on the softball, soccer, and volleyball teams.



KHS Counseling Reminders

①

Sophomores to Visit Career Tech Center

Tenth graders will be visiting on February 6 to learn about all the interesting programming.

②

Mark your Calendar for Future Freshman Night

Parents of eighth graders are invited!
March 4 at 6:30PM
Kingsley High School

③

Check out the new Counseling Web Page!

Find resources, college prep materials, scholarships, and more at kingsleyschools.org/khs-counseling-resources

STAG SHOUTOUTS



Thank you, Deputy Roelofs!

January 9 was National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Kingsley Area Schools is very grateful for the service of our school resource officer, Jason Roelofs, who has been serving the district since 2023. Deputy Roelofs has been a longtime fixture in Kingsley, he's a parent to several Kingsley grads and has coached multiple athletic teams throughout the years. "I want the kids and parents to know that I have an open-door policy. If they have an issue or they want to talk, feel free to reach out to me any time." You can find Deputy Roelofs rotating between the three schools or you may email him at sro@kingsleyschools.org.

Mrs. Kearns Helps Students Succeed

This year, Kingsley Middle School created a brand new position: Student Success Specialist. The job is to help students earn better grades and make the school experience a little smoother. Longtime substitute teacher and math interventionist Jenn Kearns stepped up for the role. Every day, she looks for ways to help support the students who need it most. Sometimes, that means working with them one-on-one on homework or tests, other times, it's identifying kids with chronic tardiness and finding ways to help them get to class on time consistently. "I ask myself, 'what can I do to help them pass the class?'" said Mrs. Kearns. "Our main focus is kids. Anywhere we can have extra support for those who are struggling, I think that shows the district genuinely cares for and loves these students."



Meet #StagSupporter: Mark Henschell

Mark Henschell calls himself a "farm kid." He grew up in Kingsley and graduated from the high school in 1980. After college, he worked as a teacher before entering the field of law enforcement as a Michigan State trooper. He spent the majority of his career as an investigator, digging into dozens of crimes from Houghton Lake all the way up to the Bridge.

Mark has also been a longtime supporter of Kingsley Area Schools and its student-athletes. He has been involved with the Track and Field program since 2006, serving as head coach from 2008 to 2014. He has also been a guest lecturer at the high school since 2008. Every semester, he visits Kristen Bauer's Current Issues class during their Criminal Justice unit to talk about his career in law enforcement and making tough decisions on the job.

"When you're talking about the struggles of law enforcement, there's nothing black and white about the investigations, or the human experience. Ultimately, decisions have to be made. And I like to tell the stories about what happened leading up to those decisions," said Mr. Henschell. "I like telling stories. The kids haven't gotten too tired of me yet."

Thank you, Mark, for all that you do for KAS!