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We Lead Learning

Community newsletter from **Kent ISD** 

Welcome to the first issue of *We Lead Learning*, a new newsletter for partners, supporters and interested community members of Kent ISD.

With this newsletter, you can expect to hear from us every other month as we share many ways our team leads learning and serves students, educators, and you, our community members. Each issue, we will spotlight our outstanding student programs, highlight a story from School News Network, share how educators are helping student dreams come true, and more.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and involvement in public education.

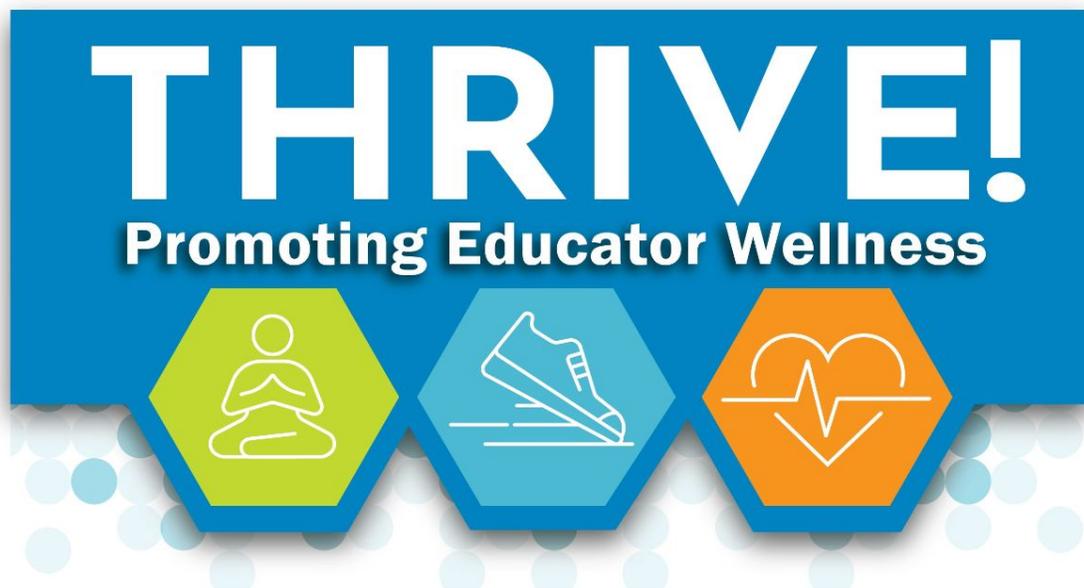


February is Career and Technical Education Month

Career and Technical Education (CTE) helps prepare students for high-wage, high-demand careers in areas like IT, manufacturing, health care, hospitality and more.

GED students age 18 and older in Automotive Maintenance & Servicing, Construction, IT Fundamentals, Pharmacy Tech, Phlebotomy, and Welding. Along with earning important certifications in these industries, students gain valuable skills to enter the job market and embark on new or better paying careers.

Know an adult without a high school diploma looking to build a brighter future? Tell them to visit [Kent ISD Adult Ed](#) to see all the options!



THRIVE! Supporting Educator Wellness and 5K

Did you know there are nearly 120,000 students throughout Kent ISD? They rely on thousands of educators to teach, support and help them reach their full potential. School staff work tirelessly on behalf of their students every day and *they* rely on Kent ISD for support, training, resources and so much more - which is why we created our THRIVE! initiative.

[THRIVE! Promoting Educator Wellness](#) provides an array of mental and physical wellness opportunities for school staff throughout the year - because when teachers thrive, students thrive! Show your support for educators by joining the upcoming 5k run/walk on April 22. This family-friendly event is open to the entire community. Register to attend today and join our celebration of wellness!

[5K Registration](#)



Your Dream is Our Dream

Bishop Cobbs has big dreams of becoming a professional athlete, but after taking a coding class, he's adding video game designer to his ambitions. Bishop, a fifth grader at Kraft Intermediate School in Caledonia, and his Kent ISD Summer Brain Gain coding teacher Jackie Frens were featured in an episode of Kent ISD's Your Dream is Our Dream podcast which is produced in partnership with WGVU. You can [Listen to the podcast on Kent ISD's and WGVU's websites](#), or find it on Spotify or Apple Podcasts. This initiative celebrates student success at all levels of education, one dream at a time.



Preschool Enrollment Opens March 1

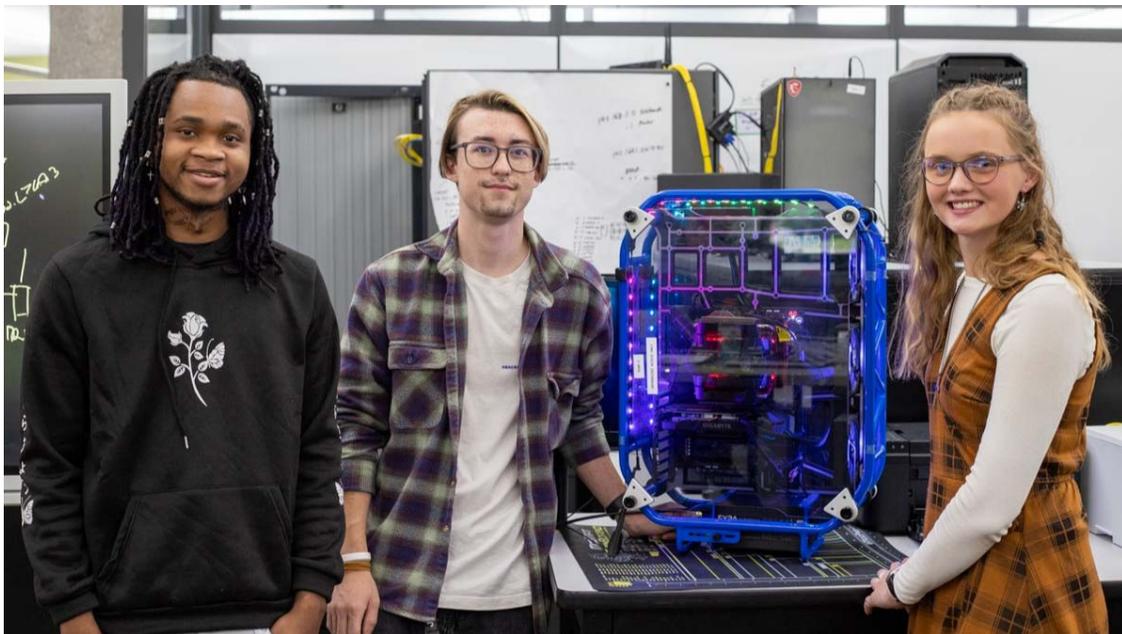
[Great Start Readiness Program](#) provides free preschool for four-year-olds of families who qualify. Research shows that children who take part in high-quality preschool are more likely to be successful in kindergarten, learn to read and do math at recommended grade

development. GSRP classrooms are found throughout Kent ISD and are open to children who turn four by September 1.

[Registration for the 2023-24 school year opens March 1.](#)

Kent ISD In the Media

- MLive: [Career training opportunities expand with program merger](#)
- WOODTV8: [Maranda explores Health Careers at Kent Career Tech Center](#)
- WZZM13: [Leading School Safety expert Jaclyn Schildkraut presents at Kent ISD](#)
- WZZM13: [Special Education teacher Jessie Rodgers surprised with Teacher of the Week award](#)



Program Spotlight: Kent Career Tech Center

[Kent Career Tech Center](#) by the numbers:

- 31 hands-on, career-focused programs, including new options for fall 2023
- 2,000+ students on campus every day
- 95% of students return to the Tech Center for a second year
- \$0 - cost to students to attend

Kent Career Tech Center offers high school students hands-on, career focused programs where they gain valuable skills, explore careers, make business connections, and have options to earn free high school and college credit, plus industry certifications. It's a true

is underway now! Interested 10th and 11th grade students should speak with their guidance counselor to enroll.



School News Network: Isaac Newton never imagined this

Cedar Springs — As the leaf blower roared to life, Nikko Munoz clapped one hand over her mouth to stifle a small yelp of surprise and laughter. Within seconds, the contraption she was sitting on lifted off the ground and propelled Nikko across the tiled floor of the Cedar Springs High School lunchroom.

Her classmates clapped as she narrowly missed a stack of chairs and coasted to a stop near the other end of the room.

“It feels like a roller coaster,” Nikko exclaimed as she took a seat. “It felt super weird — that’s all I can describe it as. Just drifting across the entire room on a piece of wood and with a leaf blower next to you. So weird!”

[Visit School News Network to read the full article and sign up to receive headlines each week.](#)

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