



khps.org

KNIGHTLY

News

VALUE. SUPPORT. EMPOWER. | FALL 2023

Kenowa Hills Administration
2325 Four Mile NW
Grand Rapids
616-784-2511

Kenowa Hills High School
3825 Hendershot NW
Grand Rapids
616-784-2400

Pathways High School
3950 Hendershot NW
Grand Rapids
616-785-3225

Kenowa Hills Middle School
3950 Hendershot NW
Grand Rapids
616-785-3225

Kenowa Hills Alpine Elementary
4730 Baumhoff NW
Comstock Park
616-784-0884

Kenowa Hills Central Elementary
4252 3 Mile Rd NW
Grand Rapids
616-453-6351

Kenowa Hills Zinser Elementary
3949 Leonard NW
Grand Rapids
616-453-2461

Kenowa Hills Early Childhood Center
3971 Richmond Ct. NW
Grand Rapids
616-647-0910



KNIGHT ATHLETICS

KNIGHT ATHLETICS COMMUNITY UPDATE

Fall is just around the corner, and with it comes a wave of exciting improvements to our Knight athletic facilities. We are thrilled to announce a series of enhancements that will elevate the athletic experience for our students, athletes, and fans alike. The transformations taking place over the next few months are sure to ignite an outpouring of Knight Pride in our community!

Stadium Turf: First and foremost, we are replacing the worn and difficult-to-maintain grass field in the Knight Stadium with turf! The new turf will provide a safer and more reliable playing surface for our athletes and band students, ensuring optimal performance and reducing the risk of injuries. Whether it's band, football, soccer, or lacrosse, our students will now have a top-notch field to showcase their skills and ignite the spirit of our community.

State-of-the-Art Track: As we strive to provide our runners with the best facilities possible, we are excited to announce the installation of a brand-new track. This modern track will not only enhance the training and competition experience but also meet the highest standards in the sport. Our track athletes will have the perfect stage to break records and achieve their personal bests.



Strength & Performance and Weight Room Upgrades: A Strength & Performance Coach was added in 2022-2023 to provide long-term athletic development with a year-round, unified, and comprehensive Strength and Performance Training Program for our athletes, athletic teams, and students. The results of this addition are already recognized. Lifting maximums and speed have increased significantly. Our students will continue to get stronger and faster with our Strength and Performance Coach, especially with the addition of new weight room equipment at our high school. The purchase of this equipment was a shared cost between the Athletic Boosters and District.

Continued on page 3

CHEER ON YOUR KNIGHTS

Get a **season pass** to the sport of your choice and cheer on your favorite Knights!

One Season Pass - Family	\$80
One Season Pass - Adult	\$45

Are you a Knights super-fan? Don't miss a game with our **annual pass**, good for all home sporting events!

Annual Family Pass	\$160
Annual Adult Pass	\$80

Online payment options available through e-Funds, via **khps.org**.

STUDENT ADMISSION

During the 2023-24 school year, all Kenowa Hills students can attend any home athletic contest at no cost if wearing Kenowa Hills logo wear. PreK-8th grade students must be accompanied by a paid adult.

GOLDEN PASS

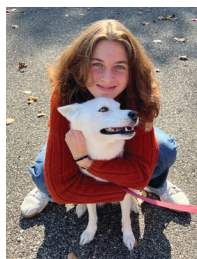
Any resident age 60+ can pick up a Golden Pass at the District Office with picture ID. A Golden Pass grants you free admittance to any athletic contest at participating schools, including Kenowa Hills.

HAVE A STUDENT-ATHLETE?

For information on participation fees and physical form requirements, visit **khps.org/athletics**.

KNIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

KHHS 2023 TOP TEN



ELLA EITNREAR, VALEDICTORIAN

I will be attending Saint Mary's College in the spring to study Secondary Education and History, with a possible minor in Spanish, Theology, or Art. In my time at Kenowa, I have run

four years of cross country, played four years of basketball, and 3 years of tennis. I was active in my church community at Orchard Hill, and enjoyed volunteering there. I am grateful for the teachers that have mentored me and exemplified what having a passion for education looks like, and I hope to do the same someday.



JAINYN BOYD, SALUTATORIAN

I started out at Zinser Elementary for my first year of preschool and have been a Kenowa Hills Knight ever since. I have enjoyed participating in Student Council, Varsity Cheerleading,

and the Theater and Performing Arts Program. I will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to study International Relations, Spanish, and Linguistics. I am so grateful for the support system of friends and teachers at Kenowa Hills. They have helped me learn and grow as a person. Go Knights!



MOLLY JASPER

I began attending Kenowa Hills my freshman year. During my time at the high school, I played on both the basketball team and golf team. During my senior year, I served as the National Honor Society President and

as a Kenowa Hills Kent ISD representative for the student community. I have been an active part of our STEM program and have presented twice at the Student Technology Showcase at the state capitol in Lansing. Next fall I plan on attending Michigan State University to study Mechanical Engineering. I

am very thankful for the opportunities Kenowa Hills has provided me with and am excited to see what the future holds!

ALLISON POSTEMA

Kenowa Hills has been



my whole life, starting at Marne Elementary for preschool. I am going to Grand Valley State University in the fall and plan to study Speech Pathology and minor in Psychology. During my high school career, I have participated in many different sports such as cross country, gymnastics, track, indoor track, and tennis. My goal is to participate in club sports in college to meet new people and stay in shape. I am beyond grateful for all of the amazing lifelong friendships I have made and teachers I have had here at Kenowa Hills, I could not be where I am today without all of you!



PAGE YANCEY

Starting my schooling at Central Elementary, I have attended Kenowa Hills since kindergarten. Throughout my high school career, I have participated in the Kenowa Hills Marching Band, Student Council,

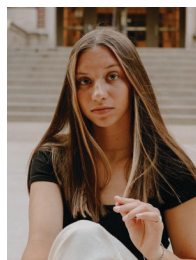
dance, hockey, National Honor Society and performed in our school's musicals and plays. I plan to study Social Work and Anatomy and Physiology at Grand Valley this fall. I am so grateful to have such amazing teachers, friends and family supporting me through my educational journey. GO KNIGHTS!



HANNAH HAINES

I began my education at Zinser Elementary and have attended Kenowa Hills my entire life. I've participated in many extracurriculars such as Student Council, National Honor Society, Pride Alliance and my all-time

favorite, KHHS Theater. I've been in seven shows and will never forget my experiences with the parts I've played and the people I've gotten to hang with. Thank you to all the amazing teachers and staff members who have helped me in my journey to this point, you are truly the backbone of our society. I am committed to Kalamazoo College for English with a focus in Creative Writing and super excited to go this fall!



ERIKA POSTHUMUS

Starting at Central Elementary, I've been attending Kenowa Hills since kindergarten. Throughout the years, I've participated in cross country, track and field, indoor track and gymnastics. These teams

have become my closest friends, and I will always look back on those memories and appreciate the time I had with them. Along with sports, I

was involved in the National Honor Society and spent time volunteering with sports events and our school's blood drive. I'm super thankful for the help and support I've received from both my teachers and coaches over the years, the amount of time they put in shouldn't go unnoticed. After graduation, I will be attending Grand Valley State University to study Biomedical Sciences and minor in Computer Science.



CAITLYN CHUPP

Starting at Central Elementary, I have attended Kenowa Hills ever since I began school. Throughout my high school career, I have gotten multiple academic letters and have also been a part of the National

Honor Society. I have danced competitively for Body Language Dance Company, where I also volunteered to teach young kids how to dance for the past four years. I will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall to study Psychology with the hopes of becoming a Forensic Psychologist. I am incredibly grateful for all of the friends I have made and the teachers at Kenowa Hills who have prepared me for life after high school!



NOLAN THAYER

I have attended Kenowa Hills since preschool and went to Central Elementary. In my 4 years at the high school, I have participated in football, basketball, baseball, National Honor Society, Peer to Peer program,

and helped with various youth programs and Special Olympics. I will be going to the University of Michigan in the fall to study Kinesiology and other related fields. It's always a great day to be a Knight!



ABIGAIL CHAPMAN

I've been attending Kenowa Hills since my Young Fives year at Marne Elementary. Next year, I will be attending Olivet College to study Chemistry, Biology, and Forensic Science, and I will also be playing

volleyball for the Comets. I've been the Vice President of the National Honor Society, Class Secretary, and a four year member of Student Council. I've also played four years of Varsity volleyball and volunteered as an assistant 6th grade volleyball coach at Kenowa Hills Middle School. I'm incredibly thankful for teachers and coaches who have supported me and helped me grow into leadership.


KNIGHT ATHLETICS

Continued from page 1

Branding in Indoor Facilities: We believe in showcasing our school spirit and community Knight Pride throughout our facilities. As part of the ongoing efforts to create a vibrant and cohesive athletic environment, we will be implementing branding in and around the high school fieldhouse. These exciting visual elements will immerse athletes and fans in the proud traditions and accomplishments of Kenowa Hills Knights' sports programs.

Fresh Paint and Revitalized Spaces: To further enhance the aesthetic appeal of our high school athletic halls and locker rooms, we are embarking on a fresh paint project. The newly painted walls will breathe life into these spaces, creating an atmosphere that inspires our athletes and promotes a sense of pride. Additionally, our locker rooms will be getting a well-deserved facelift, though this aspect of the project may extend into the winter due to the comprehensive nature of the renovations.

We couldn't be more thrilled about the upcoming improvements to our Knight Athletic facilities. These enhancements will provide our students with the resources they need to excel and create lasting memories in their sports endeavors. We sincerely thank the Kenowa Hills community for their support and patience during this transformative period.

Stay tuned for more updates as we progress through these exciting changes. Together, we are building a Knight Community culture that fosters athletic growth, teamwork, and a love for the game! 

11th Annual

Knight Golf Classic


Presented by KHAB

Saturday, August 12
Gracewil Country Club

Scramble format. Lunch, raffles, and prize giveaways to follow. For details, scan the QR code or visit kenowahillsathleticboosters.com.



YOUTH SPORTS INFORMATION

Scan the QR code for fall registration information and more! Or visit kenowahillsyouthsports.org 

FIND YOUR OWN PATH

NON-TRADITIONAL PATHWAYS

We've all heard the term "Alternative" high school and you may think you know what that looks like, but in our post-pandemic and Zoom-friendly world, the "Alternative" high school isn't what it used to be, and its popularity is growing.

Kenowa Hills Pathways High School is a free, flexible, and personalized education experience that students may seek out if they struggle in the traditional high school setting. Pathways is currently housed in a separate wing of Kenowa Hills Middle School, complete with a separate entrance and facilities. Curriculum content is delivered using an online platform (Edgenuity) with in-person instruction and support from dedicated KHPS teachers. Pathways students are provided free meals daily, may utilize KHPS transportation, and may participate in any KHPS athletics or extracurriculars available to students.

Students enrolled in Pathways are required to fulfill the same Michigan Merit Curriculum as traditional students, plus one credit

in employability skills. At Pathways, a tiered approach to attendance is used; as students achieve progress in their classes and are on pace to graduate, they may be awarded more flexibility to work independently. In addition, Pathways offers college and trade school visit opportunities, professional development, internships, and career experiences, as well as social experiences like group field trips. Pathways High School has a 93% Graduation Rate and State-Mandated Test Participation rate.

Principal Jared Herron attributes the success of Pathways to the small class size, personal attention, and family atmosphere, stating that, "Pathways fosters a supportive and inclusive environment that is appealing to a growing number of students who may not feel comfortable in the traditional classroom." Herron also believes that the focus on life skills and practical knowledge provides students with an education that prepares them for life after high school, whatever that looks like.

Learn more at khps.org/pathways-high-school.

BOND UPDATE

CONTINUED COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENTS — SUMMER 2023

We are thrilled about the exciting renovations in progress at the Middle School, made possible by the \$67 million bond passed by the district in 2020.

Phase 2 is complete, which includes the renovation of

- Four classrooms
- Two science rooms
- Media center
- Auditorium, which has been repurposed into a flexible learning space that can be configured into 1-3 rooms
- New lockers



MEDIA CENTER



SCIENCE ROOM



NEW LOCKERS

Demo and construction on Phase 3 have begun, which includes the renovation of

- Five existing classrooms
- Two science rooms
- The addition of a music wing that will include a new band room and new orchestra room

Phase 3 is scheduled to be completed by January 2024 at which point Phase 4 renovations will begin.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

FOOD SERVICE

As we head into the 2023-24 school year, we are hopeful that once again both breakfast and lunch will be provided to our students at no cost by the State of Michigan. This decision will be finalized soon and signed by the Governor at which time we will provide more information and the appropriate meal application forms on our website at khps.org/food-services. Questions regarding food service can be directed to Shanna Williams, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, at (616) 965-4290.

TRANSPORTATION

New this year will be an app for parents/guardians where all your student's route information will be at your fingertips. This includes bus number, bus pick up and drop off times, and estimated arrival time. The app will also allow parents/guardians to communicate directly with



the transportation staff and make any needed bus changes through the app. Download the app using the QR code.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/MCKINNEY VENTO HOMELESS SERVICES

If you find your family in transitional housing due to economic reasons (living in a shelter, hotel/motel, or doubled up with another family), your children may qualify for assistance with their educational needs including school supplies, transportation, and food service (free lunch and breakfast).

Please contact your building secretary if you believe you may qualify for services. You may also contact our district Homeless Liaison, Cindy Ruscett, at 616-784-2511 Ext. 2252 if you are unable to reach your building secretary.

TITLE I INFORMATION

Kenowa Hills Public Schools receives federal funds under Title I. This requires us to notify all parents that you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher, including:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the level(s) and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether your child is provided services by Title I paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Those requesting information may do so by contacting Mr. Bill Dinkelmann, Assistant Superintendent, Kenowa Hills Public Schools, 2325 Four Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544. 616-784-2511 ext 8202.

ANNUAL NOTICES

Please visit our web site at khps.org/annual-notices for information on required annual notices. These notices include important information about:

- Asbestos Management Plan
- Environmental Safety
- Integrated Pest Management Program
- US Department of Agriculture
- Water Quality

If you do not have internet access or would like a printed copy of any or all of these notices, please contact Kenowa Hills Public Schools at 616-784-2511.

CAPTURING KIDS' HEARTS

KENOWA HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EARN NATIONAL AWARDS

Jason Snyder, Alpine Elementary Principal; Dr. Cherie Horner, Central Elementary Principal; Ross Willick, Zinser Elementary Principal

All three KHPS elementary schools have been recognized as a National Showcase School for the implementation of the Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH) program from the Flippen Group. This is Central and Alpine's first year with this distinction and Zinser's third consecutive year receiving the award.

This rigorous award process is informed by building visits from Flippen Group consultants, evidence of program implementation, and survey data collected from students, parents, staff, and building principals. In each case, the award honors the hard work of the staff and administrators in all three buildings to make positive, caring relationships with students a top priority.

ALPINE ELEMENTARY



At the heart of Alpine Elementary's CKH implementation and success story lives a group of caring adults who make building connections with students a priority. This is evident by the way staff greets students each day, take time to build relationships and provide students with one on one attention. The efforts made by Alpine staff to establish a positive classroom culture that reinforces our code of conduct, Alpine "LEADS," encourages student interaction and is intentional about recognizing students for their daily efforts has positively impacted students this past year. Alpine has relied upon their "Process Champions" team to support teacher efforts and keep focused on building goals from year-to-year. The Process Champions team provides monthly ideas and tips for team members about essential CKH practices like morning meetings, launches, celebrations, utilizing the social contract and the program's four questions to manage student behavior. All of this work makes an impact on Alpine students' capacity to learning while promoting a positive staff culture.

CENTRAL ELEMENTARY



Central Elementary's CKH program paves the way for a successful day. Staff members greet students outside daily. As a group, Central students start morning meetings by shouting out our Code of Cooperation - Central S.H.I.N.E.S. Teachers lead a review of the SEL4Success behavior skill for the month. Staff and administrators

recognize students SHINE-ing with birthday celebrations. Students know they belong from their first steps on the playground. Throughout the school, staff members "catch" students following Central SHINES and those students receive a SHINE slip. Next year, Central hopes to "catch" even more students following Central SHINES, and start publicly recognizing students in assemblies and other activities.

ZINSER ELEMENTARY



Zinser Elementary continues to grow its CKH program by using student agency, or ownership, within the expectations. Students are able to lead Good Things, rate the use of the classroom social contract, or welcome other students into the classroom. This upcoming school year staff plan to focus on the four questions within discipline to help build student ownership of their own behavior. Zinser has a long-standing motto of being Kids Who Care. When Zinser welcomed their newest high school graduates to walk the halls one final time, many were excited to hear that Zinser's motto was still - Kids Who Care. From Care Cards (catching students doing good things), the Kids Who Care Courtyard, and the Vine Care Club, staff use CARE as a theme throughout the building. CARE currently stands for Choosing an Attitude of Respect and Empathy, but we're looking at adjusting some of these words next school year. CARE aligns very well to our Capturing Kids' Hearts expectations and how staff and administrators want students to feel loved and supported at Zinser Elementary.

As each elementary building looks ahead to the 2023-24 school year, staff and administrators are looking forward to building on the acknowledged success of their award-winning CKH programs. Their focus on developing a safe, respectful, and caring learning environment is just one way that KHPS continues to value, support, and empower all learners to achieve their full potential.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GUS MACKER GR

SEPTEMBER 16-17

Register by August 28 at
www.macker.com/local/grand-rapids-mi

HOMECOMING

SEPTEMBER 22

Cheer your Knights to victory on the KHHS football field!

COMMUNITY KNIGHT

OCTOBER 13

Food, fun, games, and prizes – and the third-annual school spirit contest! This event is free for all Kenowa Hills families.

FALL SENIOR KNIGHT

OCTOBER 20

Celebrate Senior Fall Athletes.

ONCE A KNIGHT, ALWAYS A KNIGHT.

CONGRATULATIONS RETIREES!

The following Knights finished strong through another challenging year. They have all served the Kenowa Hills community with great pride and dedication and will be missed. Congratulations to all our retirees. We wish you a long and happy retirement!

Lori Bach

Annette Bell

Cherie Clark

Heidi Hartman

Mary Hurt

Jillaine LeCompte

Lisa Monroe

Rob Stehouwer

Karen Tarasiewicz

Carie Wojtas

KNIGHTHOOD AWAITS

THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER

Kenowa Hills Public Schools is accepting students for the 2023-24 school year. To begin the process of enrollment, please visit khps.org/registration.

HAVE QUESTIONS, WANT A SCHOOL TOUR, WANT TO CHAT WITH A PRINCIPAL?

We understand choosing the best school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. The registration team at Kenowa Hills is available to set up school tours, meetings, or phone calls with principals, and answer any questions you might have about Kenowa Hills Public Schools.

Visit khps.org/school-tours or call 784-2511 option 2 to set up a tour or for registration information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kenowa Hills offers the **third most athletic offerings** in the entire OK Conference. (Of the 49 schools that participate in athletics.)

KHPS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board

Tracey Hart, President
Erin LaBotz, Vice President
Jeff Gustinis, Treasurer
Danielle Roberts, Secretary

Trustees

Melissa Courtade
Mark Robinson
Corey Turner

Meetings

August 14 – Administration Building
(Committee of the Whole Workshop)

August 28 – Administration Building

September 11 – Administration Building
(Committee of the Whole Workshop)

September 25 – Zinser Elementary

October 9 – Administration Building
(Committee of the Whole Workshop)

October 23 – Pathways High School

November 13 – Administration Building
(Committee of the Whole Workshop)

November 27 – High School

December 18 – Middle School

Community members are welcome to join in the Board dialogue regarding agenda items. Board of Education meetings are meetings of the Board held in public, not public meetings. For more information, visit khps.org/board-of-education.

2023-2024 PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER AT KENOWA HILLS

Community Education Preschool | Child Care and Learning Center | Great Start Readiness Program

3 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL	4 YEAR OLD PRESCHOOL	CHILD CARE
3 DAYS PER WEEK Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM 2 DAYS PER WEEK Tuesday/Thursday 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	4 DAYS PER WEEK Monday–Thursday 8:45 AM – 11:30 AM Monday–Thursday 12:30 PM – 3:15 PM	CHILD CARE Ages 6 wks. to 5 th grade 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM. <i>Care available before and after school, half days, and during school breaks. Enrollment not limited to Kenowa Hills residents.</i>

Kenowa Hills Learning Center has a wait list for all day child care and before and after school care. To be placed on the wait list or for more information please contact KHLC at 616-647-0910 or visit [khps.org/child-care](https://www.khps.org/child-care).

To enroll or learn more about preschool programming, contact the Registrar at 784-2511 option 2 or visit [khps.org/preschool-programs](https://www.khps.org/preschool-programs).

IMPORTANT DATES



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
August 22



LABOR DAY BREAK
September 1–4



FALL BREAK
October 6–10



THANKSGIVING BREAK
November 20–24



WINTER HOLIDAY BREAK
December 25–Jan. 5

REGISTRATION/OPEN HOUSES

	ALPINE	CENTRAL	ZINSER	KHMS (6-8)	KHHS (9-12)	
KINDERGARTEN & K-KNIGHTS TESTING	THURSDAY, AUG 8 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Call 616.784.0884 to make an appointment	WEDNESDAY, AUG 9 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Call 616.453.6351 to make an appointment	MONDAY, AUG 7 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Call 616.453.2461 to make an appointment	TUESDAY, AUG 8* – WEDNESDAY, AUG 9, & THURSDAY, AUG 10 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM *Tue., Aug. 8 held at KHHS	TUESDAY, AUG 8 – WEDNESDAY, AUG 9, & THURSDAY, AUG 10 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FALL REGISTRATION
OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION	WEDNESDAY, AUG 16 Kindergarten and K-Knights 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM 1 st –5 th 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	WEDNESDAY, AUG 16 Kindergarten and K-Knights 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM 1 st –5 th 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	MONDAY, AUG 21 Kindergarten and K-Knights 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM 1 st –5 th 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	MONDAY, AUG 21 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	MONDAY, AUG 21 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Open House and Scheduling MONDAY, AUG 21 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM (Pathways Classrooms)	PATHWAYS

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Preschool and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) will hold Smart Start meetings and parents will be notified directly.

LIMITED ATHLETIC OFFICE HOURS BEGINNING THE FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST.

Check website and social media for details.

Fall Sports begin August 7.

ATHLETICS



Kenowa Hills Public Schools

2325 Four Mile Road NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

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YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL HUB

For everything back-to-school, from the school calendar to supply lists, visit khaps.org/backtoschool

The Kenowa Hills Knightly News is published three times per year. KHPS is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination of all its programs in relation to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age, national origin, disability and genetic information.

SUPER NOTES



The Kenowa Hills Board of Education continues to be future focused. On May 22nd,

bonds in the amount of \$12,646,341 were sold under Series II of the bond proposal that was approved by our community on May 5, 2020. Funds from the sale of these bonds will finish the construction at the Middle School and to make technology and bus purchases following our replacement cycles. Although construction costs are higher than projected, the Board of Education remains committed to completing the work planned for the Middle School. We continue to look for ways to reduce costs

without compromising the scope of work that was planned.

On June 26th, the Board of Education approved its Strategic Plan. This four-year plan is the result of thousands of inputs that were collected from web-based community surveys, stakeholder focus groups, and family interviews. Each of these perspectives informed the development of the plan, which includes four (4) Strategic Goal Areas and 20 related Objectives. The Goal Areas are as follows:

1. Safety and Security
2. Student and Staff Wellness
3. Teaching and Learning
4. Community Engagement

Our schools and district-level departments will use the Strategic Plan to develop annual goals, strategies and reporting metrics. These goals, and the ways we will measure our progress in achieving them, will be shared with the greater school community to communicate how this work is designed to impact our students and community. The Strategic Plan is being prepped for publication and will be shared in the near future.

The Board of Education also approved a final budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2022-23 at its final meeting of the school year on June 26th. The District forecasts

adding \$265,235 to its fund balance, which is projected to be \$4,969,727 (11.81%). At the same meeting, the Board of Education approved the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24, projecting a fund balance of \$5,189,152 (11.83%). This budget supports the newly adopted Strategic Plan and the Board's priorities to keep class sizes low while increasing expenses toward instruction, curriculum and co-curricular programming.

Lastly, the Board of Education has directed administration to study our current athletic practice and competition fields to examine their condition, use and any projected needs. We are elated with the accelerated growth of our youth athletic programs, and the Board of Education wants to make sure all of our student athletes have access to safe and prepped fields where they can practice and compete. We are blessed to have acres of green space that can be utilized for this purpose.

The mission of Kenowa Hills Public Schools is to value, support, and empower all learners to achieve their full potential. The Kenowa Hills Board of Education has adopted a Strategic Plan and is committed to providing the resources to fulfill our mission. #KnightPride

Gerald Hopkins – Superintendent
[@khpsuper](https://twitter.com/khpsuper)