

## KALAMAZOO AREA MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE CENTER

*Keeping KAMSC Families Informed*

### From the Director, Dr. Michael Tanoff

With apologies to Rod Stewart for the paraphrasing, “The coldest winter, in almost fourteen years, could never, never change the minds of KAMSC students and teachers from collaborating on making up time lost to snow days.” Indeed, it has been an incredibly trying winter. At the time of publication of this issue of *KAMSC Linkages*, KAMSC has lost six instructional days due to inclement weather. But through the convenience of technology, many KAMSC teachers and students have remained in close contact in an effort to keep their classes active as we move into the start of the second semester. I am proud to be a part of this collaboration in learning that KAMSC means to its students and teachers.

With first semester final exams behind them, KAMSC students may focus on new experiences for the second semester. Ninth and tenth graders will be able to enjoy new classmates and make new friends in their geometry, technology, biology, algebra II, computer science, and chemistry classes; research projects are heating up in KAMSC classes, as students look forward to their culmination on Project Day in May; many of our eleventh and twelfth graders have moved into new elective classes; and members of the KAMSC Research Team have their sites on the Southwest Michigan Science and Engineering Fair at Western Michigan University toward the end of March.

Of course, this is a busy time for the KAMSC administration as we recruit for our class of 2018! Approximately three hundred forty area eighth graders sat for the KAMSC entrance exam in January, and applications to join the class of 2018 will flow into the KAMSC office through the middle of February. KAMSC owes HUGE debts of gratitude to the KAMSC Parent Organization — and volunteer coordinator Sue Bourget Coles — and the KAMSC Student Senate for providing us with registration coordinators, proctors, and chaperones for our eighth graders. Also, Ms. Champion and Mrs. Ingles in the KAMSC office provided their invaluable leadership in helping coordinate the many activities associated with the administration of the KAMSC entrance exam.

On a brief personal note, I have been appointed to the board of directors of the Michigan STEM Partnership, as the liaison from the Lake Michigan Hub of the Partnership. This role will have me traveling to Lansing for a half day each month, to help guide the planning of activities for enhancing P-20 STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education throughout the state.

As you’ll see, this issue of *KAMSC Linkages* presents a wealth of information for KAMSC students and their families, covering recent events, describing recent honors earned by KAMSC students, presenting important information on forthcoming events and activities of which KAMSC students will be a part, and providing tips for academic success. I’m sure that you will both enjoy and benefit from its content. I look forward to the warmer weather that will accompany the next time I have the pleasure of contributing to an issue of *KAMSC Linkages*!

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## 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition

In October, KAMSC had over 200 participants for Part 1 of the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition, sponsored by the Michigan section of the Mathematical Association of America. The top 10% of students statewide are invited to take Part 2 in December. The following KAMSC students qualified for Part 2, by earning a score of 17 or higher, out of 40:

Aheer Alvi, Isaac Bertman, Grace Beverage, Brandon Born, Carter Chamberlain, Ian Chu, Benjamin Dunham, Jack Eichman, Nicholas Gaunt, Abhay Goel, Claire Holley, Otto Kailing, Anthony Kayany, Matthew Krinock, Lily Krone, Audrey Lyons, Alexandra Malek, Praneeth Medapalli, Ziyang Mo, Jacob Naranjo, Michael Orwin, Kayla Park, Jesse Pollens-Voigt, Jason Taft, Ethan To, and Alexa Vanderhoff.



## American Mathematics Competitions

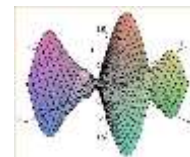
The American Math Competitions (AMC), sponsored by the Mathematical Association of Michigan, will take place the morning of February 4<sup>th</sup>. The mission of the AMC 10/12 is to increase interest in mathematics and to develop problem solving skills through a fun competition. Seniors and sophomores have the chance to be challenged with interesting mathematical questions that are aligned with the Content Standards and give a chance to exercise the Practice Standards at all levels of difficulty. Students gain the opportunity to learn and achieve through competition with students in their school and from around the world. Please see Mr. Alshehri for more information.



## Michigan Math League Contests

During the school year, students have an opportunity to participate in the Michigan Math League Contests. There are six contests during the school year, which take place after school. The contest consists of six questions, which may require algebra, geometry or trigonometry knowledge. The school receives a school score based on the top five student scores, but there are also prizes for individual students. There are two remaining contests, which will be given after school on February 11 and March 11. Please see Mrs. Kalnins if you have any questions.

## Calculus League Contest



The Calculus League Competition is open to all students who are either enrolled in or have completed a calculus course. It consists of a series of four timed tests that take place during the school year, and parallels the development of concepts and skills in differentiation and integration. Please see Mr. Milka for more information.



## Engineers Week Dinner

The Southwestern Michigan Engineering Societies 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Engineers Week Dinner will take place Tuesday, February 18, 2014. The dinner will be held at the Fetzer Center on the campus of Western Michigan University. Featured speaker, Bob Carlton, President of Desert Aerospace, LLC, will be the featured speaker. Mr. Carlton's presentation is titled "*Adventures in Light Jet Aircraft Development*". Interested KAMSC students need to contact Mr. Alshehri to register for this event.



## KAMSC Research

KAMSC Biology, Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics, Genetics, AM Calculus and Biomedical Science are activity engaged in designing the research projects. The KAMSC Research Team has been working on their research projects since the beginning of the school year. Some of these research topics include:

- *Defining, exploring and applying The Reflection Function*
- *Using molecular tools to construct a surface display system in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae**
- *Using different types of molecules to affect the facilitation of cycling amino acids*
- *The use of gas chromatography to analyze the lasting effects of fuel spills*
- *The role of N-catherin on blood vessel formation*
- *The effectiveness of using ECG waveforms as a new biometric for identification*

Come see these fascinating student research projects at the annual **Southwest Michigan Science & Engineering Fair** to be held at Western Michigan Universities College of Engineering and Applied Science on March 21, 2014. For more information contact Dr. John Goudie at 337-0004.



## Searching for Health



The 22<sup>nd</sup> annual health conference for high school students, **Searching for Health**, will be held at the Western Michigan University College of Health & Human Science on **May 2, 2014**. Health plays a significant role in all our lives. It is the key to essential functioning of our bodies and minds. The *Searching for Health Conference* is a venue for students to interact with community experts in the fields of health and science.



## **KAMSC Teachers Present at Yearly State Science Teachers Conference!**

The first weekend of March will be a busy one for several of the members of the KAMSC science faculty. It marks the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Professional Conference of the Michigan Science Teachers Association.

When Cheryl Hach was newly hired as a KAMSC teacher (many, many years ago....) our former director, Jon Thompson, stressed to her that one very important aspect of her position was to be involved in professional activities that would link KAMSC to other teachers, not only in Kalamazoo county, but the entire state. It was a charge that Ms. Hach took seriously then and strives to maintain even now.

When Ms. Hach was recently asked where she received the best ideas and collaboration that she brings to her teaching practice, she has no hesitation. "It is what I learn from other teachers and the network of colleagues at this annual conference that I've cultivated over many years of attendance. I get a huge "recharge" from the conference and am delighted to be presenting again," reveals Ms. Hach.

KAMSC is well represented among those headlining sessions:

Mr. Sinclair will be presenting a workshop on Saturday morning called "Physics is Phun!" He will share activities that demonstrate concepts taught in physics using toys and common items found around the home: projectile motion with Nerf guns, damped harmonic motion observing the movement of racquetballs and work and energy using mousetraps.

Mr. Chopp and Ms. Hach are slated to do a workshop titled, "Whiz Bang Jump Start," designed to share labs, activities, and strategies employed by the Summer Science Inquiry Program. This enrichment class, which some of our students may have attended, is designed to jump-start students' understanding about science process skills and introduce them to the kinds of thinking we want to encourage in our first-year students.

Finally, Ms. Hach will be co-presenting with Robby Cramer, the MSTA Executive Director, at a half-day pre-conference workshop designed to help teachers develop classrooms that engage in high levels of student discourse. Some of the most important determiners of student achievement, as Michigan prepares to adopt the national Next Generation Science Standards, involve the ability of learners to communicate like scientists: engaging in argumentation about evidence, drawing conclusions and articulating their reasoning and communicating their findings both verbally and in writing.

"I look forward to attending many sessions as well. I always return energized and full of new ideas to try out in my classrooms. I look forward to sharing more with you at a later date," Ms. Hach declares.



## Cell Biology

KAMSC's newest science elective, Cell Biology, had a great first semester. We took a more in-depth look at the inner workings of cells. The attached picture was sent to thank Syzygy Biotech in Grand Rapids and Cornell University for supporting some of the labs we performed this semester. We extracted DNA from *Tetrahymena* (a unicellular protist) we performed PCR on the DNA and used computer software BLAST to analyze how this *Tetrahymena* was related to other known species of *Tetrahymena*.



Left to right: Jake Spitsbergen, Rachael Noteboom, Ryan Brozovich, Humza Mirza, Alex Oswald, Emily Barnum, Tyler Leverton, Cara Knasel, Carley Gordon, Clayton Meldrum, Bethel Mwenze, Abhay Goel, Seth Eldridge, Naveena Thota, Jorge Ochoa, Michael Steinman, Mr. Chopp, and Alex Brown



*Tetrahymena* are free-living ciliate protozoa that can also switch from commensalistic to pathogenic modes of survival. They are common in freshwater ponds.

## **Twelve Years and Counting: the KAMSC Science Fiction Film Festival Returns.**

Once again, the Annual KAMSC Science Fiction Film Festival will once again be held from 7:00 PM, Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>, until approximately 5:00 PM, Saturday March 15, 2014. As we have done for the past eleven years, and this year hitting our twelfth year of cinematic “excellence”, we will again show a series of classic (classically bad, that is) science fiction movies along with a few outstanding scifi films. All KAMSC graduates, students, parents, and faculty at the Math & Science Center are cordially invited to attend, and the KAMSC Student Senate may or may not offer beverages and snacks as part of their fundraising efforts this year (you’ll have to attend to find out if they’ve got anything for sale). As per our past practice, this will be a “sleepover” event and students will have the edifying opportunity to gag their way through some of the worst science fiction films ever inflicted on humanity. And as usual, expert commentary will be provided by any and all members of the audience (a la *Mystery Science Theater 3000*) throughout each screening. Of course, we always need parent chaperones to help out during this unique +18-hour marathon of movie madness. For more information or to volunteer to help out during the festival, please contact Mike Sinclair at 337-0004 or email [msinclair@kamsc.k12.mi.us](mailto:msinclair@kamsc.k12.mi.us). See you at the movies!

### **Student Senate Update**

Student Senate president, Sam Peters reports: Winter is upon us, and that means several things are happening in the upcoming months. The KAMSC Semi-Formal Dance will be held on February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 to 11:00 P.M. The theme will be decided via a poll that was emailed to all KAMSC students during the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>. The decision will be communicated Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Dress-up days for the KAMSC Spirit Week (February 17<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>) will be as follows:

- Monday - Pajama Day
- Tuesday - Star Wars vs. Star Trek Day
- Wednesday - Stereotype Day
- Thursday - Teacher Look-a-Like Day
- Friday - Math and Science/KAMSC Spirit Day

The annual food drive was held in January and roughly two and a half barrels of food were collected and donated to Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes.

Considerations are being made regarding the KAMSC Student Lounge renovation. Dr. Tanoff, Rodney Pruitt (Parent Organization Supervisor), Mr. Sinclair (Student Senate Advisor), Tom Sandell (VP) and I are meeting soon to discuss the purchasing of items for the lounge. Have a safe winter!

## Technology Highlights



### The IEEE Sixth International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems 2013

Michigan State University professor, Dr. Xiaoming Liu, reported to Mr. Houtrouw that KAMSC senior, Kyle Milka, “made substantial contributions to our demo system of typing based biometrics.” The demo system *Continuous User Authentication via Typing Behavior* received the Best Demo Award from The IEEE Sixth International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems.

### Master the Mainframe 2013

Kyle Milka won an honorable mention in Master the Mainframe, a national computer competition sponsored by IBM. Kyle reached Part 3 of the contest, and out of 5,601 contestants from more than 400 schools across North America, he finished in the top 1 percent. Congratulations!



Kyle Milka

### Fall MSU Engineering Design Day

In early December, thirty five KAMSC pre-engineers enjoyed a trio of problem solving activities, an awards ceremony, and a free lunch courtesy of the Engineering & Computer Science Department at Michigan State University. The sophomore quartet of Ben Behrens, Alex Cannizzaro, Michael Tarn and Ali Thomas won the robotic car programming and racing activity. Other activities included a bridge building contest as well as judging some of the MSU engineering design projects.

The students boarded a bus Friday, December 6 with faculty advisor Shannon Houtrouw and left MSU shortly after lunch. The attending seniors were Ansh Chaudhary, Humza Khan, Jacob Naranjo, Dhara Patel, Sam Peters, Tom Sandell, and Katherine Wu; juniors: Kaylie Butt, Kathleen D’Souza, Colby Hanley, Kimberly Kwon, Ellie Reid, Abby Shirey, Betsy Strehl, and sophomores: Sami Ahmad, Connor Bach, Benjamin Beach, Ben Behrens, Maggie Benjamin, Grace Beverage, Emily Brady, Alex Cannizzaro, Chelsie Eiden, Jori Gelbaugh, Tristan Greathouse, Chris Hybels, Ziyang Mo, Paige O’Connor, Boemin Park, Jessica Poling, Lexi Roberts, Drew Schaefer, Simran Singh, Michael Tarn, and Ali Thomas.





## **National Center for Women & Information Technology National Award Winner for Aspirations in Computing**

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) has selected 35 national winners from among more than 2,300 applicants, representing all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and overseas military bases. Each National Award Winner will receive \$500 cash, a laptop computer, and an engraved plaque for both for her and her school. The young women will be honored at a Bank of America Technology Stars of the Future Showcase & Awards Ceremony on March 15, 2014, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The KAMSC staff is proud to congratulate senior Genevieve Sertic for being chosen a 2014 national winner! In an email to Genevieve from the Aspirations in Computing team, they wrote, “you are being recognized for your computing-related aspirations and for your demonstrated, outstanding aptitude and interest in information technology/computing; solid leadership ability; academic history; and plans for post-secondary education. You should be honored to receive this distinction.”

The national runners-up from KAMSC are Kitu Komya, Dhara Patel, Rachel Polus, Katherine Rothe, Maria Stull, Kathleen D’Souza, Carolyn Hamman, and Cydney Martell.

Seven other KAMSC students are being honored by the Michigan affiliate of the NCWIT. They are Rachel Chang, Emily Fletcher, Hanna Rumora, Amber Salome, Katherin Wu, Kaylie Butt, and Colby Hanley. KAMSC had seven runners-up for state honors: Grace Reid, Meredith Stutz, Eleanor Epskamp-Hunt, Kimberly Kwon, Abigail Shirey, Betsy Strehl, and Jamila McKenzie.



Genevieve Sertic



Kitu Komya



### **NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Short Essay Contest**

Congratulations to senior Kitu Komya for her short essay which was selected as one of the 7<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> place entries out of a total of 120 in the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Short Essay Contest. Kitu was awarded a Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 tablet for her inspiring essay.





## Eastern Michigan University Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning

Computer programmers from the Kalamazoo Area Math Science Center and their parent chaperones braved the cold weather and attended the 5th annual Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) High School Programming Contest at Eastern Michigan University. As the contest has grown, the number of students participating from KAMSC has also gone up. Sixty-six KAMSC students competed in twenty-two 3-person teams, each using a single computer to try and solve as many challenge problems in a 3-hour period as possible, using computer-programming languages such as C++, Java, and Python. The team with the most problems solved wins and ties are broken based on how quickly they were correctly submitted. KAMSC continued to meet with the same success it has achieved since the MACUL contest began four years ago. For the 5th straight year KAMSC coders have placed at least three teams in the top four overall, and five in the top ten. Nearly 180 students from Michigan high schools were in attendance.

KAMSC had two teams recognized for placing 2nd overall in the advanced level division, with other teams placing 3rd, 7th and 8th.

- Second place—Abhay Goel, Kyle Milka, Tom Sandell
- Second place—Jacob Naranjo, Jenner Wile, Katherine Wu
- Third place—Rachel Chang, Edward Escandon, Angus Gibbs
- Seventh place—Michael Orwin, Subhodh Kotekal, Motoska Waltz
- Eighth place—Ansh Chaudhary, Humza Khan, Sam Peters



**Seniors:** Carter Chamberlain, Rachel Chang, Ansh Chaudhary, Aaron Claussen, Ben Dunham, Edward Escandon, Jake Fenton, Emily Fletcher, Nick Gaunt, Angus Gibbs, Abhay Goel, Humza Khan, Tate Mazer, Kyle Milka, Humza Mirza, Jacob Naranjo, Dhara Patel, Sam Peters, Rachel Polus, Katherine Rothe, Hanna Rumora, Thomas Rupp, Amber Salome, Tom Sandell, Genevieve Sertic, Maria Stull, Ethan To, Jenner Wile, Taryn Withers, Katherine Wu **Juniors:** Bill Baldwin, Evan Batsell, Isaac Bertman, Kaylie Butt, Ian Chu, Kathleen D'Souza, Ed Fenwick, Carolyn Hamman, Colby Hanley, Subhodh Kotekal, Kimberly Kwon, Binh Le, Ben Maddux, Cydney Martell, Chloe Mendez, Zach Mills, Ugo Nwagbo, Kayla Park, Ellie Reid, Skylar Rizzolo, Parker Russcher, Abby Shirey, Matoska Waltz, Kevin Werme, Tristan Woodsmith **Sophomores:** Sami Ahmad, Connor Bach, Nell Barlow, Ben Beach, Brandon Born, Savannah Crooks, Matthew Krinock, Paige O'Connor, Michael Orwin, Michael Tarn, and Emily Veenhuis.

## College Planning News from Ms. Joyce

### Free FAFSA Help

Families of seniors can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on Feb.9 2-4 pm at WMU's Schneider Hall. For more information visit <http://www.micollegegoal.org/>

**College Admissions Workshop Wednesday, March 26 6:15-7:30** in the KAMSC presentation center. Get a preview of the college admissions process with Ms. Joyce. Juniors, this is your chance to get a head start thinking about your resume and application essays (no, it's not too early). This workshop could also be helpful to ninth and tenth graders and their parents who want to look ahead.

**The Kalamazoo Foundation Scholarship Guide** at [kalfound.org](http://kalfound.org) has local scholarship information. **Fast Web** is a free scholarship search available at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). Beware of sites that ask you to pay a fee for information.

## Academic Success News

### KAMSC Peer Tutors Ready to Help

Want someone to help you review for the next chemistry test? Want to work math problems with someone at your side to answer questions? KAMSC Peer Tutors can work with you for a one time session or weekly. To take advantage of this resource, contact Ms. Joyce.

**Secret Study Strategies of Skillful Students on December 11:** Thank you to the students who participated in this workshop. Here is one of the suggestions we discussed.

Make a distraction-free work area for yourself. I recommend no television, computer, phone or siblings nearby. Most of your work does not require internet access, so having the whole world at your fingertips could slow you down more than help. Some students say they work best with music or other distractions... the proof is in the pudding. In other words, what works for you? Are you getting the results you want? Or do you feel like you always have work in front of you and never finish? Try focusing for a set 50-90 minute period and then take a true break.

**Opportunities for you:** Be sure to check the bulletin board outside Ms. Joyce's room for information on everything from summer camps to scholarships to poetry contests.

**Questions?** Visit my website for answers to frequently asked questions for students and parents: <http://kamscadvocate.weebly.com>

Would you like to talk about your academic goals, college questions or other issues? Email Ms. Joyce at [rjoyce@kamsc.k12.mi.us](mailto:rjoyce@kamsc.k12.mi.us) to set up an appointment.

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### Demographic Changes

If you move, change phone numbers, change high school, etc. please notify the KAMSC office with the new information. As a reminder, State Count Day is February 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Alumni Day

On December 20, approximately 110 KAMSC alumni came “home” to KAMSC for an opportunity to see one another and interact with our current students and faculty. In addition to the fun of seeing familiar faces, this event is an educational and networking event for current students. Many of the alumni, representing colleges from across the country, served on panels in the early afternoon. The panelists spoke of their college experiences and answered questions from current KAMSC juniors and seniors. Everyone had time to socialize, visit their teachers, and enjoy a delicious spread of snacks that were generously provided by KAMSC parents. Alumni Day is an annual event which benefits everyone and we are grateful to both the alumni and the parents for making it possible.



## Girls Investigating Science and Math Options

Each fall, the Girls Investigating Science and Math Options (GISMO) conference brings together 50-75 area girls to KAMSC for a day of hands-on activities with women professionals and interaction with KAMSC and college students in science-related fields. This year sixty 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders spent Saturday, November 2, with five presenters, representing computer science, medicine, lab science and engineering. They were assisted by a stellar group of student volunteers and community women.

It's never too early to start planning for GISMO 2014! We are seeking women working in math or science related fields who would like to share a career-related activity with groups of 10-15 middle school age girls. If needed, help is available to develop an activity, as well as classroom assistance. In addition, we would also like to hear from individuals or organizations interested in providing financial assistance to girls who would otherwise be unable to attend. Please email Susan Fisher at [sfisher@kamsc.k12.mi.us](mailto:sfisher@kamsc.k12.mi.us) for more information.

## Sizzlin' Summer



Brochures for the 2014 KAMSC Sizzlin' Summer Science and Math program will be available at the KRESA service area elementary and middle schools in March. They're also sent to some of the schools in the Van Buren, Allegan, and Delton-Kellogg districts. For greater convenience, Sizzlin' Summer brochures will be available on the KAMSC website ([www.kamsconline.com](http://www.kamsconline.com)), as well. Families with children who have taken summer classes in the past few years, appear on our mailing list and will receive their personal brochures, which will be mailed to their homes. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Susan Fisher.

**An Excellent Investment:** The KAMSC Sizzlin' Summer Science and Math program is always looking for businesses, organizations or individuals to help make the summer classes available to students whose families cannot afford tuition. Financial assistance is given to students who meet the school lunch need criteria; this investment can be supported in increments of \$35 or by specifying a seat in a specific class. If you or your organization would like to help out, please contact Susan Fisher at 337-0031 or email [sfisher@kamsc.k12.mi.us](mailto:sfisher@kamsc.k12.mi.us).

## A Note from the KAMSC Parent Organization



Thanks to all the KAMSC families who have sent in their activity fees, senior dues, and generous donations! **Class of 2014 Parents:** If you're not sure if you've completed your senior dues contributions, please contact Treasurer Karen Woodworth at [woodworthkaren@sbcglobal.net](mailto:woodworthkaren@sbcglobal.net) for your four-year total.

We ended the 2013 year with a very busy month. There was a big turnout of area 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their families for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Parents and students alike toured KAMSC from one classroom to the other asking questions about the KAMSC experience. There were lines of parents registering their children and get the ticket for the KAMSC Entrance Exam Day, which took place on January 11<sup>th</sup>. We had 38 parents helping to provide a great experience to all. Alumni Day was December 20<sup>th</sup> and there was a large turnout of KAMSC alumni. There were approximately 120 guests that day and lunch was provided for alumni, students and staff. Fifty four parents volunteered to either provide food donations, money donations or help at the event. Thank you to all of the volunteers for making these events successful and many thanks to Sue Bourget for coordinating.

The second half of the year is well on its way and we, the KAMSC Parent Organization, are here to do everything possible to support KAMSC and its students. Below is a list of KAMSC Parent Ambassadors and the Parent Organization officers.

School	Parent Ambassador	Email	Phone
Climax Scotts	<i>open</i>		
Comstock	Catherine Salome	<a href="mailto:Csalome@charter.net">Csalome@charter.net</a>	373-9868
Galesburg-Augusta	Richard Fletcher	<a href="mailto:fletch0124@sbcglobal.net">fletch0124@sbcglobal.net</a>	569-1362
Gull Lake	Jackie Martell	<a href="mailto:rimart4994@chartermi.net">rimart4994@chartermi.net</a>	716-0339
Hackett Catholic	Mickey Smith	<a href="mailto:ericandmickeysmith@gmail.com">ericandmickeysmith@gmail.com</a>	522-5598
Heritage	<i>open</i>		
Home School	Sheryl Freudenburg	<a href="mailto:skfreud@gmail.com">skfreud@gmail.com</a>	762-4523
Kalamazoo Central	Lezli Comes	<a href="mailto:lcomes@treystar.com">lcomes@treystar.com</a>	353-3265
Loy Norrix	Tammy Brozovich	<a href="mailto:tkbroz@charter.net">tkbroz@charter.net</a>	382-6686
Parchment	Shawn Hinga	<a href="mailto:hinga-waling@charter.net">hinga-waling@charter.net</a>	381-6068
Portage Central	Joanne Beverage	<a href="mailto:jabeverage@charter.net">jabeverage@charter.net</a>	324-0603
Portage Northern	Margot Poznanski	<a href="mailto:lucky-dog@sbcglobal.net">lucky-dog@sbcglobal.net</a>	344-5777
Schoolcraft	Marti Wile	<a href="mailto:mlwilepcu@aol.com">mlwilepcu@aol.com</a>	679-3333
Vicksburg	Julie Oswalt	<a href="mailto:julie@vicksburg-law.com">julie@vicksburg-law.com</a>	649-0306
Ambassador Coordinator	Amy Schaefer	<a href="mailto:schaeferamy@rcn.com">schaeferamy@rcn.com</a>	350-5404

### Parent Organization 2013-2014

President: Shaher Ahmad (PNHS)  
 Treasurer: Karen Woodworth (KCHS)  
 Parent Ambassador Coordinator: Amy Schaefer (PCHS)  
 Student Senate Advisor: Rodney Pruitt (KCHS)

Vice President: Shawn Hinga (PAHS)  
 Secretary: Justine McKenzie (PNHS)  
 Volunteer Coordinator: Sue Bourget-Coles (PCHS)  
 Senior Activities Coordinator: Char Crandell (GLHS)

Thank you,  
 Shaher Ahmad, President

Below is the P.O. meeting schedule for the remainder of the school year; we hope to see you there!

Feb. 19

Mar. 19

Apr. 16

May 14

## Attendance



If a student misses class or is absent from KAMSC, a parent/guardian must call or email the KAMSC office to excuse the absence. If a student needs to leave KAMSC early due to an appointment, athletic event, high school activity, etc., a parent/guardian must call, email or send a note to the office giving permission and confirming that they're aware their child is leaving school early. Students must sign in and/or out in the KAMSC office for these situations.



## Lost & Found Items

Each year several items are turned in to the lost & found, which is located in the KAMSC office. Please feel free to stop by to see if anything belongs to you. Items found include: hats, gloves, scarves, jackets, hoodies, binders, glasses, etc. Items not claimed will eventually be donated to Goodwill.

## Elevator Use



Students may use the elevator (with permission) for medical or physical reasons and only for a specified period of time. The KAMSC policy requires either a note from your doctor indicating your need or a parent phone call to the office. Students may have one other KAMSC student assist them with carrying their personal items (backpacks, books, etc.) on the elevator.



## Backpack Reminder

Students may leave backpacks in front of lockers and shelves only. Please do not block the hallway walking area, doorways, elevators, fire boxes, etc. The backpacks should be set upright and close to the lockers, walls, etc. so that others do not trip on them.



## Parking Stickers



Students who drive to and park at KAMSC are required to register their vehicles with the KAMSC office and be issued a free KAMSC parking sticker. Students with cars not displaying a KAMSC parking sticker may be towed. Students - please remember to park in the student parking area, which is the north end of the parking lot (north of Dutton Street and west of Pearl Street). If you have any questions, please contact the office at 337-0004.

## Open Lab Nights



Open lab occurs every Wednesday evenings (unless otherwise indicated on the calendar), from 6:00-7:30 PM. As a reminder, students should be picked up in a timely manner after open lab.



## School Closings

Severe weather often brings school closings and early dismissals. If Kalamazoo Public Schools close due to bad weather, KAMSC will be closed. Full-day closing procedures start with an announcement at approximately 6:00 am on local broadcasting stations and will be posted on the KAMSC website, [www.kamsconline.com](http://www.kamsconline.com). Students whose district school is closed for a snow day on a day that KAMSC is open are **strongly encouraged to consider safety first** when deciding whether or not to attend their KAMSC classes.

## KAMSC Public Calendar



Check the online KAMSC calendar for upcoming events! Go to the KAMSC website ([www.kamsconline.com](http://www.kamsconline.com)), click on 'links' and then choose KAMSC Public Calendar.

## Tentative Rolling Calendar – Semester 2

**Keep in mind that dates & times are subject to change.**

DATE	DAY	TIME	DESCRIPTION
1/20/2014	Monday		Semester 2 Begins
1/23/2014	Thursday		No Students
1/24/2014	Friday		No Students
2/4/2014	Tuesday		AMC 10/12
2/11-13/2014	Tues-Thurs		10th Grade Research – (C Block in PM)
2/12/2014	Wednesday		Count Day
2/28/2014	Friday		Midwinter Break – No School
3/18/2014	Tuesday		ACS/Research (PM)
3/21/2014	Friday		No Students
4/1/2014	Tuesday	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Parent/Teacher Conferences
4/2/2014	Wednesday	11:30 AM - 2:30 PM	Parent/Teacher Conferences
4/3/2014	Thursday	7:30 - 10:30 AM	Parent/Teacher Conferences
4/2/2014	Wednesday		No <b>PM</b> Students
4/3/2014	Thursday		No Students
4/4/2014	Friday		No School
4/7-11/2014	All Week		Spring Break- No School
4/22-24/2014	Tue-Thurs		C Block (PM)
4/25/2014	Friday	12:00 Noon	Senior Luncheon (No Juniors in PM)
4/29-5/1/2014	Tue-Thurs		8th Grade Visitation
5/TBD/2014	Friday		Searching for Health Conference
5/5/2014	Monday		Spring Check up
5/14/2014	Wednesday	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Project Drop Off
5/15/2014	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Day Awards Program
5/19-21/2014	Mon-Wed		Senior Exams Week
5/21/2014	Wednesday		No Open Lab
5/22/2014	Thursday		Seniors Last Day
5/23/2014	Friday		Project K – Juniors Only
5/26/2014	Monday		Memorial Day – No School
5/27/2014	Tuesday	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Senior Recognition in Chenery Auditorium
5/28/2014	Wednesday		No Open Lab
5/30/2014	Friday		Elective Exam (PM)
6/02/2014	Monday		Math Exam
6/03/2014	Tuesday		Science Exam
06/03/2014	Tuesday		Last Day of School for Students
6/12/2014	Thursday		Staff Last Day

**\*During the Spring Break (April 7 - 11), the KAMSC office may have irregular hours of operation.**

If you have any questions about events, please feel free to contact Ms. Champion or Mrs. Ingles at 337-0004 or visit the KAMSC website.

*Keeping KAMSC Families Informed*

Phone: (269) 337-0004 ● FAX: (269) 337-0049 ● Website: [www.kamsconline.com](http://www.kamsconline.com)