



# RISING STARS

## ACADEMY

▶ 2021-22

### From the Superintendent

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Welcome 2022! It is great to see smiling faces enter the building this week! I hope everyone had a great holiday break and is looking forward to a new year.

We are continuing "masks optional" heading into the new year. We will also be following MDHHS guidelines regarding quarantining students. These requirements are different if a student is vaccinated vs. unvaccinated. If you have concerns, please visit the MDHHS website and scroll down to "News". There you will find the most up-to-date information when you click on the appropriate, relevant links.

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/>

<https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98158---,00.html>

Please continue operating under high caution if your student is feeling ill in any way. Do not send student(s) to school if there has been an exposure and/or if your student(s) are not feeling well. The omicron variant was rampant through the holidays. While it is not as severe as Covid, it is much more contagious. We are hoping to continue experiencing very few quarantines by following the same precautions we have had in place since the beginning of the school year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me at [dprentiss@rsaonline.org](mailto:dprentiss@rsaonline.org). Thank you.

Deb

#### OFF-CAMPUS JOB SITE: HENRY FORD HOSPITAL

Students have started to return to off-campus job sites. On November 30, 2021, Henry Ford Hospital welcomed back RSA students. Students are working diligently in the cafeteria preparing and assisting in food preparation. They are practicing, gaining, and utilizing skills such as social, following directions, and working independently as well as with peers.



## FOUR CIRCLES STORE & CAFE

Phone: 586-806-6455 X133 (Cafe)

Store Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cash, credit, and checks accepted

Bread can be purchased in the store.

Carry outs for lunch are also available.



**Home Internet**  
A must-have for your family

The Federal Communications Commission started a temporary program to help eligible families pay for Home Internet service during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) includes up to \$50 a month discount on Internet service.

**LIMITED TIME OFFER**  
Home Internet  
FREE - \$23/mo

**Step 1:**  
**Check if You Qualify for the Emergency Broadband Benefit**  
See if your household fits into any eligible categories below.

**Step 2:**  
**Apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit (see link below)**  
Choose how you want to apply and submit all necessary documents.

**Step 3:**  
**Find a Broadband Provider Near You**  
Use the search tool in the application to find a company that offers EBB discounts.

**Step 4:**  
**Make A Choice Before EBB Ends**  
Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) will notify you about 30 days before EBB ends. You must choose a plan or the ISP will disconnect your service at the end of the 30 days.

Eligibility for affordable Home Internet service if your home meets one of the following criteria:

- Participant in FCC Lifeline; Participant in an existing affordable Home Internet offer
- Child enrolled in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- CalFresh (food stamp) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medi-Cal or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Student with a Pell Grant

Note: The Internet Service Provider cannot require a waiting period before applying the EBB discount. You can keep the Lifeline benefit for a mobile phone and get EBB for a discount on Home Internet service.

[www.internetforallnow.org/applytoday](http://www.internetforallnow.org/applytoday) or  
call **866-696-8748** to apply today!

\*In addition, the following offers are available long-term. Go to [www.everyoneon.org/ceitf](http://www.everyoneon.org/ceitf) to find offers in your zip code.

<b>Spectrum</b> 844-525-1574 \$23/mo	<b>human+IT</b> 888-519-4724 \$15/mo	<b>access</b> 855-220-5211 \$10/mo	<b>Frontier</b> 855-970-1449 \$20/mo	<b>COMCAST</b> 855-846-8376 \$9.99/mo
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You may qualify for a discounted rate on your home internet service. The FCC has a temporary program to help eligible families. Please call 1-866-696-8748 or visit [www.internetforallnow.org](http://www.internetforallnow.org) to find out more information as well as to apply.

### Smart Transportation

RSA students can become ADA certified through Smart. Please visit:

<https://www.smartbus.org/Services/ADA-Service/Eligibility-Application> or contact Smart at 1-866-962-5515. RSA also has applications in the main office. Approval by Smart can take from two to four weeks so please plan ahead.

### AmazonSmile

RSA now participates with AmazonSmile. A percentage of your purchases will be donated back to RSA. Please utilize this link which is connected to RSA:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-0834143>

Once you enter through the above link, you continue to shop and checkout as you normally would. Your support is appreciated!

## 2021 Chase Plastics Giving Card Campaign Winners Announced



Chase Plastics, Clarkston, Michigan, recently has awarded donations totaling \$10,000 to four different charities as part of its annual Chase Plastics Giving Card Campaign. Winners were all nominated by customers of Chase Plastics and include **Rising Stars Academy**, a school for intellectually and developmentally disabled adults; Penrickton Center for Blind Children, Battin Farms Equine & Soldier Sanctuary, a nonprofit horse rescue and to utilize rescued horses and rehabilitate to provide equine therapy to veterans and active duty military; and See Me Home – A Senior Dog Sanctuary.

The Chase giving Campaign started in 2016 to highlight the charities that Chase Plastics' customers and suppliers were most passionate about. A total of \$37,000 has been donated to charities across the country through the campaign. Chase Plastics has made it an initiative to encourage volunteerism and increase awareness of charitable organizations by spotlighting various nominated charities on its Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn pages throughout the campaign. The Chase Plastics Giving Card received a record number of nominations in 2021.





## Free Mental Health Counseling

Macomb County will offer free mental health counseling and care throughout the county following recent events that have impacted our communities. Services are open to anyone and are available at no cost. All ages welcome.

Counseling and resources will be provided from 2pm-7pm at the following locations:

Tuesday, Jan. 11th  
MCCMH West  
6555 15 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Wednesday, Jan. 12th  
MCCMH North  
43740 Groesbeck Hwy., Clinton Twp., MI 48036

Thursday, Jan. 13th  
MCCMH East  
25401 Harper, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

**Additionally, the Crisis Center is available 24 hours to help Community Members in crisis.**

**Call 586-307-9100 to chat with a crisis counselor.**

**855-99-MCCMH**  
**www.mccmh.net**

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Feb. 9, 2022 - SPRING COUNT DAY

Feb. 14-16, 2022 - NO SCHOOL (Mid-Winter Break)

April 4-8, 2022 - NO SCHOOL (SPRING BREAK)

April 15, 2022 - NO SCHOOL (Good Friday)

**The All Star Cafe'**

**As of now, the All Star Cafe' will remain closed due to COVID and CDC Guidelines.**

**Thank you.**

**REMINDER - STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your student is going to be absent for any reason, please contact the main office to let us know. If the office is closed, please leave a message or send an email. Many students attend job sites and it is crucial that we know if they will be there or not. If your student is going to be absent, we can give another student the opportunity to attend a job site with proper notice.

**Thank you!!!**

Thank you to all who have donated their time, supplies, and/or have contributed monetarily. All support is appreciated and vital to our students' success!

## REMIND 101

RSA utilizes Remind 101 to keep parents informed. If there is an emergency school closure or an important message to be shared, you will receive notification through Remind. If you need to sign up, text 81010 and in the message line type @dd38c2a (send) then follow the prompts.

You do not need to sign up each year. Your information will roll over each school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Marsha in the main office at 586-806-6455. Thank you.

### Summer Camp Opportunity:

Tamarack Camps: Avodah Young Adult Program/Special Needs Inclusion Program

Please visit the link below or contact Danielle Tagai at [dtagai@tamarackcamps.com](mailto:dtagai@tamarackcamps.com)

<https://tamarackcamps.com/campers/special-needs-inclusion-program/>

# Resource Page



23855 Lawrence St.  
Center Line, MI 48015

Phone: 586-806-6455

Fax: 586-806-6967

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/RisingStarsAcademyMI/>

Instagram: #risingstaracademy

[www.rising-stars-academy.org](http://www.rising-stars-academy.org)



# Think Big

## Community Agencies/Resources

### THEARC - <https://arcmi.org>

44050 Gratiot Avenue  
Clinton Township MI 48036  
586-469-1600

Advocate organization for those with developmental disabilities.

### DISABILITY NETWORK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN (DNEM)

16645 15 Mile Road  
Clinton Township MI 48035  
586-268-4160

<http://www.dnom.org>  
Tracey Comber-Scarsella  
([tcomer@dnom.org](mailto:tcomer@dnom.org))  
Mark Bashaw ([mebashaw@dnom.org](mailto:mebashaw@dnom.org))  
Disability Network provides numerous services including Transition Services, Independent Living Skills Training, and Advocacy Services, among others.

### NEW HORIZONS REHABILITATION SERVICES, INC.

[www.newhorizonsrehab.org](http://www.newhorizonsrehab.org)  
Ms. Elizabeth Foradori  
Social Security Specialist

### MI ALLIANCE FOR FAMILIES

1819 South Wagner Road  
PO Box 1406  
Ann Arbor, MI 49106  
1-800-552-4821  
[www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org)

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)  
Toll Free: 1-800-772-1314

### MACOMB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

[www.mccmh.net](http://www.mccmh.net)  
586-948-0222 Access Center  
Offers a variety of supports and mental health services to meet needs of those with developmental disabilities, coordinated by a therapist or case manager.

### MI PROTECTION & ADVOCACY

4095 Legacy Parkway, Ste. 500  
Lansing, MI 48911-4263  
1-800-288-5923  
[www.mpas.org](http://www.mpas.org)

