

October 2022



RISING STARS

ACADEMY

A few Words from the Superintendent

Wow! September certainly flew by! While the month went by quickly, our students used every minute to be productive and learn. We spent the first three weeks hitting social/emotional learning hard, and the outcome was amazing. Many new positive friendships were formed. Our new internal jobsites were a huge hit with our students and now that we are in October, our external jobsites will be beginning as well. All students do not attend these opportunities every day. It is on a rotating basis, but all students will get these opportunities presented to them while in each classroom.

October brought fall (rather quickly), and a new theme of Community Engagement. Our students will spend time learning how they should be engaging in their communities to promote a healthy lifestyle. Students will be experiencing things like:

What is Community?

What communities do we belong to (Rising Stars, our classrooms, cities, churches)

How to navigate important parts of our community (fire, police, library, voting)

What can we do to help our community (volunteering, helping neighbors, joining organizations).

A large part of our students' social/emotional connections come from within all these different types of communities. This month is going to hopefully help them become more comfortable with these different groups and get them more involved.

A good way to demonstrate community involvement with your students is to attend our Fall Showcase on October 6, 2022. Students will be working in their classrooms showing off what they have been working on so far this year under a theme of "Harvest". Check out the event on our website. Our students love to show others what they can do and are very proud of all their accomplishments.

Please remember that there are two days in October that we do not have school: Friday, October 7, 2022 and Monday, October 31, 2022. If you have any questions you can email msalome@rsaonline.org – or your student's case load teacher.

5 Core Values

INTEGRITY
RESPECT
COMMUNITY
POSITIVITY
INGENUITY

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.**



DISCOUNTED RATE ON HOME INTERNET

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, VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.INTERNETFORALLNOW.ORG/APPLYTODAY](https://www.internetforallnow.org/applytoday) OR VISIT [FCC.GOV/ACP](https://www.fcc.gov/acp) TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION AS WELL AS TO APPLY.

SMART TRANSPORTATION

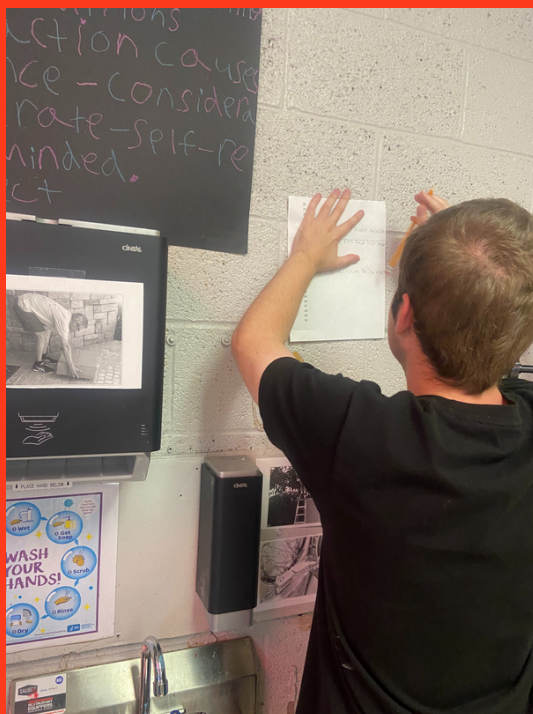
RSA STUDENTS CAN BECOME ADA CERTIFIED THROUGH SMART. PLEASE VISIT: [HTTPS://WWW.SMARTBUS.ORG/SERVICES/ADA-SERVICE/ELIGIBILITY-APPLICATION](https://www.smartbus.org/services/ada-service/eligibility-application) OR CONTACT SMART AT 1-866-962-5515. RSA ALSO HAS APPLICATIONS IN THE MAIN OFFICE. APPROVAL 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](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!

Safety

Over the past three weeks all classes have been learning about safety. They have learned about Internet safety, household safety, and safety within the community. Students in Ms. Emily's and Ms. Maria's classes went on a scavenger hunt where they had to identify and record what the danger was in each photo. They did a great job applying what they learned!



DIY PROJECTS

In Ms. Emily's class students have been working on DIY projects. They were learning carpentry skills like measuring and cutting wood already, then taking them back to the classroom to paint and glue. Stay tuned to see what the final product is!



PARENT INFORMATION

Macomb ISD Inter-Agency Transition Council Presents:

“Turning 18: 101” - Planning for the Future **Seminar for Parents**

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

Please join **Jennifer Vandermark B.S.W, J.D.**, as she discusses the important challenges of Future Planning!

Topics Jennifer will discuss include:

- Supported Decision Making (Guardianship/Power of Attorney)
- Income
- Medicaid
- Macomb County Community Mental Health (CMH)
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

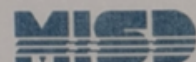
Place: Macomb Intermediate School District
44001 Garfield Road
Clinton Township, 48038
Room – Central Training Rooms

FREE TO ATTEND

Registration is mandatory – This session will only be open to the first 100 people who register (due to limited spacing and social distancing)

To Register Online: events.misd.net

- Select COURSE OFFERINGS tab on top
- Select COMPLETE LIST OF COURSES/EVENTS on left
- Login or Create New Account top of screen on right
- Click SPECIAL NEEDS from gray box on the left
- Select TRANSITION from dropdown
- Find course



ASK THE ADVOCATE

2022-2023 SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS



Ask The Advocate is a training series to help families and caregivers to prepare for the future of their loved ones who have disabilities. The topics covered will help you better navigate through the Special Education and Community Mental Health systems, help you to prepare financially while preserving government benefits, and give you the information you'll need to plan for your loved ones future goals.

Sep 13th	Supported Decision Making	Topics covered include person-centered planning, Power of Attorney, Patient Advocates, and Guardianship
Oct 11th	Community Employment Services	Learn about options for skill building, employment options, and ways to preserve benefits while working
Nov 8th	Special Education Services	Topics covered will include Dispute Resolution
Jan 10th	Navigating Medicaid Supports	Topics covered include how to apply for Medicaid and other benefits through Department of Health and Human Services, what Medicaid covers and how to access those services.
Feb 7th	Social Security Benefits	Topics covered include SSDI and SSI Benefits, qualification for benefits, and what is needed to apply
Mar 14th	Estate Planning	Learn creative ways to plan for your future including, wills and Letters of intent
Apr 11th	Special Needs Trusts	Learn how Special Needs Trusts differ from typical trusts, but can be an excellent addition to your Estate Plan. A Special Needs Trust can help to prepare for your loved one's future while ensuring they are eligible for government benefits.
May 9th	Creative Housing Options	Learn about the variety of ways to support individuals to lead a healthy life in a home of their choosing.

*Registration is mandatory, minimum of five registrants needed to hold all sessions

For more information:
www.arcservices.org/asktheadvocate
lauren.christilaw@arcservices.org
 586-469-1600 x120

All sessions will be held at The Arc of Macomb
 44050 North Gratiot Ave
 Clinton Township MI, 48036

The Arc is dedicated to securing for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to choose where and how they learn, live, and work throughout their lifetimes in the community we share.

PLEASE PUT THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022 ON YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US FOR THIS EVENT. IT IS OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!

THERE ARE TWO EVENTS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE THAT EVENING:

1: FALL SHOWCASE IS FOR STUDENTS TO DEMONSTRATE AND SHARE THINGS THEY HAVE BEEN DOING SINCE SCHOOL OPENED. THIS IS A STROLLING APPETIZER EVENT THAT COSTS \$20.00 AT THE DOOR. THERE WILL BE APPETIZERS, RAFFLE BASKETS, AND A 50/50 DRAWING HELD. IT IS FROM 4 P.M. TO 6 P.M. CLASSROOMS WILL BE PUTTING TOGETHER THEMED RAFFLE BASKETS. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE SEND IN AN ITEM FOR THE BASKETS. YOUR DONATION WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

CLASSROOM BASKET THEMES:

MS. EMILY: HALLOWEEN

MS. JENNI: INSTANT LOTTERY

MS. KEYA: SPA/SELF CARE

MS. SARAH: FALL

MS. MARIA: GAME NIGHT

2: THE SECOND EVENT WILL BE OUR DINNER FOR 100 IN THE HOOP HOUSE IN OUR GARDEN. THIS MEAL WILL GIVE FOCUS TO FOOD FROM 10 OF OUR AREA'S BEST CHEFS FROM:

CHEF ANTHONY LOMBARDO, SHEWOLF PASTIFICIO & BAR

CHEF JOHN VERMIGLIO, GREY GHOST DETROIT

CHEF NYLES, BAR PIGALLE

CHEF OMAR, SAFFRON DE TWAH

CHEF LESS MOLNAR, GREEN DOT STABLES

CHEF AMBER POUPORE, CACAO TREE

CHEF BRANDON ZARB, DETROIT ATHLETIC CLUB

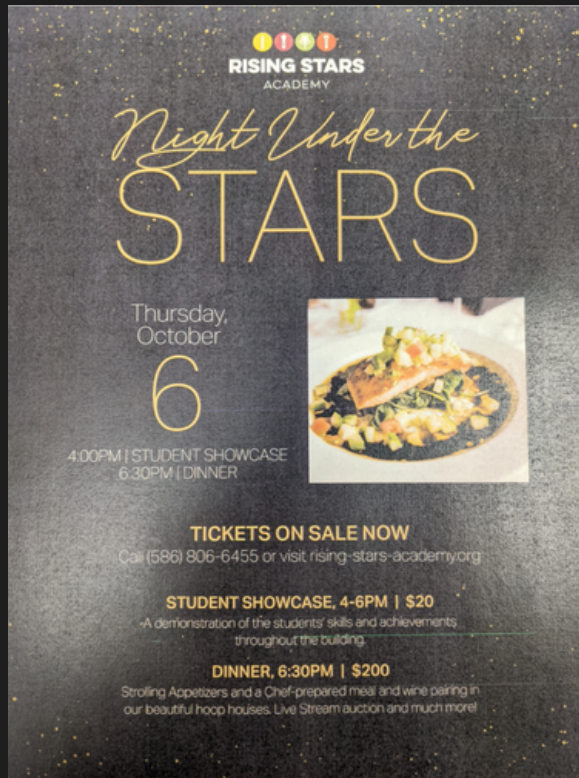
CHEF HASSAN MUSSELMANI OF DRUNKIN ROOSTER AND HELL'S KITCHEN

CHEF JARED BOBKIN, HELL'S KITCHEN

CHEF RYAN PRENTISS, FORMERLY FROM PRIME AND PROPER

THIS EVENT IS HELD FROM 6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. COST OF ONE TICKET IS \$200.00. THERE ARE ALSO SPONSOR LEVELS AVAILABLE. IF YOU KNOW OF A CORPORATION THAT WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR AN AWESOME SCHOOL LIKE RISING STARTS ACADEMY, PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH THEM AND/OR GIVE THEM CHEF MARK'S PHONE NUMBER: 586-202-9466.

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED IN/THROUGH THE FOUR CIRCLES STORE & CAFE'. FEEL FREE TO CALL (586) 806-6455 AND ASK FOR THE SCHOOL STORE OR VISIT THE STORE BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 1 P.M. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY.



You can also purchase tickets to the Student Showcase, Harvest Dinner, or bid on an auction item through the links below:

[Tickets to Student Showcase and Harvest Dinner](https://www.betterunite.com/RisingStarsAcademy-2022studentshowcaseandharvestdinner)
<https://www.betterunite.com/RisingStarsAcademy-2022studentshowcaseandharvestdinner>

[Auction Item Preview](https://www.betterunite.com/RisingStarsAcademy-2022studentshowcaseandharvestdinner/auction)
<https://www.betterunite.com/RisingStarsAcademy-2022studentshowcaseandharvestdinner/auction>



Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Representative Wanted/Needed!

Rising Stars is seeking a parent to represent RSA at Macomb Intermediate School District's (MISD) monthly/semi-monthly PAC meetings. These meetings take place at the MISD in the evening. The PAC representative attends meetings, shares information with RSA, supports other parents of students who have special needs, and helps develop and update the mandatory plan for special education. Please contact Deborah Prentiss at dprentiss@rsaonline.org or 586-806-6455 if interested.

More info can be found here:

<https://www.misd.net/separents/index.html>

IMPORTANT DATES:

OCTOBER 7 – NO SCHOOL

OCTOBER 31 – NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 23–25 – NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER 22, 2022–JANUARY 2, 2023 – WINTER BREAK

RETURN TO SCHOOL TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023



STUDENT ABSENCES:

IF YOUR STUDENT IS GOING TO BE ABSENT, PLEASE CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE. IF THE OFFICE IS CLOSED, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE OR SEND AN EMAIL. MANY STUDENTS ATTEND JOB SITES. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE KNOW IF YOUR STUDENT WILL BE IN SCHOOL OR NOT. IF YOUR STUDENT IS GOING TO BE ABSENT, WE CAN GIVE ANOTHER STUDENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND A JOB SITE.

SUGGESTED DONATION LIST:

- **TISSUES**
- **SANITIZER WIPES**
- **GLUE (STICKS AND LIQUID)**
- **PENCILS**
- **HIGHLIGHTERS (ANY COLORS)**
- **MARKERS (ANY SIZE/COLORS)**
- **WHITE BOARD MARKERS (ANY SIZE/COLORS)**
- **WIDE RULED LOOSELEAF PAPER**
- **BLUE/BLACK INK PENS**
- **WIDE RULES NOTEBOOKS**

T H A N K Y O U ! !

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATE THEIR TIME, SUPPLIES, AND/OR HAVE CONTRIBUTED MONETARILY. ALL SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED AND VITAL TO OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS!

REMININD 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.

Resource Page



RISING STARS FOUNDATION

23855 LAWRENCE ST. CENTER LINE, MI 48015

PHONE: 586-806-6455

FAX: 586-806-6967

FB: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/RISINGSTARSACADEMYMI/](https://www.facebook.com/risingstarsacademyMI/)

INSTAGRAM: #RISINGSTARACADEMY

Think Big

MI ALLIANCE FOR FAMILIES

1819 South Wagner Road
PO Box 1406
Ann Arbor, MI 49106
1-800-552-4821
www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

www.ssa.gov
Toll Free: 1-800-772-1314

MACOMB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

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

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)
Mark Bashaw (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
Ms. Elizabeth Foradori
Social Security Specialist

