# Counseling Newsletter

#### FEBRUARY 2025

### <u>Upcoming:</u>

Junior Interviews begin this month! 2/5KCTC Open House 2/6Scheduling begins! Suicide Prevention Webinar KCTC Open House 2/12FAFSA Webinar 2/13 - 3/27Counselors will be available during Thursday Flexes to meet 1:1 with 9th & 10th graders to discuss scheduling. 2/25

FAFSA Webinar

#### **FAFSA Webinars:**

Students and families interested in learning about financial aid basics are encouraged to <u>register</u> for a virtual financial aid presentation provided by the MI Student Aid team.

There are multiple dates and times to choose from and all sessions are free of charge and open to the public. Register for one session only, as space is limited.

#### Suicide Awareness & Prevention Training

Thursday 2/6 from 4:30-6PM ET via Zoom

Youth are struggling with suicide and suicidal ideation at alarming and increasing rates. More than 20% of teens have seriously considered suicide, and among all young people, suicide is a leading cause of death. Suicide is preventable and suicide prevention is a shared and important responsibility among families and schools. Learn more at an upcoming presentation for

caregivers and communities. Discussion will include:

• Dispelling myths

• Risk factors and warning signs

• Safety in our homes

Starting the conversation

 Additional resources for support To register, click <u>here</u>. Additional information can be found on the attached flyer.

## KCTC Open House:

The Kent Career Tech Center has several program options for Junior and Senior students to consider. KCTC will be hosting two open house nights for students and families to attend to see the facilities and learn more about the programming. As a reminder for students, attending this open house or a site visit is a mandatory part of the application for KCTC.

The dates of the Open House Night are Wednesday, February 5th and Thursday, February 6th from 5-7pm.

Students attending the KCTC Open House MUST check in on the iPads provided (which will make them eligible to apply to KCTC).

#### Senior Scholarship Information:

Attention seniors! It is not too late to apply for scholarships for college and trade school. Please refer to <u>this spreadsheet</u> for more scholarship opportunities. This document includes local and national scholarships.

#### <u>Scheduling for the 2025-2026 School Year:</u>

The counseling team is preparing for the 2025-2026 scheduling cycle. On Thursday, February 6th all students will view a video during Flex with information on the process. Students will have until March 28th to submit their requests in PowerSchool for next year. Counselors will be available during Flex time on Thursdays in February and March to meet 1:1 with 9th and 10th grade students to answer scheduling questions. Juniors will have the opportunity to discuss scheduling questions during

their Junior interview.

### **Emergency Mental Health Resources:**

Suicide hotline: 9-8-8 (free, anonymous, available 24/7) Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386 (call, text or online chat) Network 180- (616) 336-3765 The Access Center remains open 24/7 Text "nice" to 741741

Mental Health Resource Guide

Suicide Awareness and Prevention for Caregivers and Communities **Thursday February 6** 4:30-6PM ET / 2:30-4pm MT

Presentation will take place via Zoom

Anyone can learn to help a student who is at risk of suicide.



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- Dispelling myths
- Risk factors and warning signs
- Safety in our homes
- Starting the conversation
- Additional resources for support

#### Facilitated by Natalie Burns, LMSW, MA

Natalie has expertise in the assessment and treatment of suicidal youth, psychosocial interventions with children and families, and suicide prevention in K-12 schools. She leads the crisis intervention work at **TRAILS**, a youth mental health program working to make effective mental health services accessible in all schools.

3 ways to register: <u>Click Here</u> access QR code to the right or enter https://bit.ly/TRAILS\_2-6\_training



