

Counseling Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

Upcoming Dates

October 1: Western Michigan University
Hope College

October 6: Central Michigan University
GVSU

October 8: Kalamazoo College

October 13: Cornerstone University
Grace Christian University

October 15: Eastern Michigan University

October 21: Financial Aid Presentation Night
at 6pm

October 22: Grand Canyon University
Wayne State University

*Common App Help Flex
Kettering University

October 27: Aquinas College

October 29: Davenport University

Financial Aid Night

BCHS offers a financial aid presentation every fall with a guest speaker from a local college financial aid office. This year it will be Grand Valley State University from **6-7 pm on Wednesday, October 21st in the Van Singel Fine Arts Center**. The presentation will last approximately 30-45 minutes and then open up for questions.

We hope you can make it!

KCTC Virtual Tours

Sophomores and Juniors,

This year KCTC invites you to an all new virtual tour! If you are interested in attending KCTC your Junior or Senior year, you must **complete the following steps**.

Step 1: Fill out this [interest survey](#), to see which pathway(s) you are most interested in.

Step 2: Visit the [virtual tour](#). Explore! We want you to take time, and watch these videos.

Step 3: Fill out the [completion survey](#).

***This must be submitted in order for this to count as a visit. Remember that a visit is required in order to enroll.**

Starting in January, KCTC will open their doors for tours of specific pathways. This opportunity to visit there will only be available to those who have completed the virtual tour and [survey](#) by November, 20. If you are wanting an in person pathway visit, please complete this [form](#).

Also, KCTC will host open houses on February 3 & 4, from 5:00-7:00pm. This serves as another opportunity for a visit, and one that parents can attend too.

If you have any questions, please stop down to see Mrs. Van Dam in the counseling office.

From the Kent ISD:

Career Chats: The Kent ISD offers a weekly series of 30-minute live, virtual career conversations that will highlight professions in a variety of career pathways, giving students the opportunity to learn more about a career of interest, or to explore new options. Professionals will share their own career path, along with valuable industry insights. Students can ask their own questions!

All Career Chats are virtual from 3:30-4:00pm

See the full schedule and register [here](#).

Workforce Development Calendar: In addition to Career Chats, the ISD also has a variety of workforce development opportunities. [This](#) website is always updated with the current and upcoming events!

2027-2028 FAFSA

The 2027-28 FAFSA Form is Available!

Did you hear? The 2027-28 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form is available now at fafsa.gov. Most students can complete the form and see their results in 15 minutes or less.

Additionally, the following resources are available to assist in completing the FAFSA:

- [How to Create a StudentAid.gov Account Guide](#): This step-by-step guide is easy to print and share.
- [2027-28 Preview Presentation](#): This guide to completing the new online FAFSA form will familiarize you with what's new and common user scenarios. The presentation can be used as provided at a FAFSA completion event or modified as needed.

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](#)



PROGRESSIVE
COMPANIES



FALL JOB SHADOW EVENT

Thursday, October 15, 2026

10:00AM - 1:45PM

1811 4 Mile Rd NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Discover What It's Like to Design the World Around You!

Join us for an exciting day inside Progressive Companies, where you'll get a firsthand look at how creative ideas become real projects that shape our communities.

What's Included ▶▶

- Welcome & Info Session – Learn about careers in the industry and projects at our multi-disciplinary firm.
- Interactive Group Activity – Work in teams through a LEGO design challenge.
- Breakout Sessions – Meet the experts and discover where your interests can take you.
- Lunch Provided – Please specify dietary needs on your registration.

Who Should Attend ▶▶

High school students in grades 9-12 who are curious about architecture, engineering, design, or construction careers.



SIGN UP BY OCTOBER 9 – SPOTS ARE LIMITED!

Scan the QR code or visit [this link](#) to register.

Mary Free Bed[®] Rehabilitation

Interested in a Career in Health Care?

This is a great opportunity to learn more about health careers offered at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

WHEN

Tuesday Sept. 22nd, 2026 5:00 - 6:30pm

Thursday Nov. 19th, 2026 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Wednesday Feb. 24th, 2027 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Tuesday May 18th, 2027 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

WHERE

Mary Free Bed Professional Building
Meijer Conference Center
350 Lafayette Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

TOPICS MAY INCLUDE:

- Speech Language Pathology
- Physical Therapy
- Orthotics and Prosthetics
- Recreational Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Nursing

A representative from different disciplines will present for 15 minutes on education, salary, field outlook, typical day in the life and more. Bring your questions!

To register, email Volunteer Services at volunteer@maryfreebed.com with your name, school currently attending and the vocation you are most interested in.

You must be 16 years or older to attend.

maryfreebed.com/careers/volunteer





Grand Rapids Area COLLEGE FAIR

2026

MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN MICHIGAN AND OTHER STATES. LEARN ABOUT PROGRAMS AND FINANCIAL AID.

MORE INFORMATION

***Prince Conference Center
at Calvin University***

1800 E Beltline Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Monday, October 5
6:00-7:30 PM

**OVER
65
COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES**

Free entry! Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.



SIGN UP



michigancollegefairs.org/studentresources

**Organizations registered for the Grand Rapids Area College & Transfer Fair,
October 5, 2026, at the Prince Conference Center**

(As of 9/28/26–late registrations are accepted until the day of the fair)

Adrian College	Oakland University
Albion College	Ohio Northern University
Alma College	Ohio Wesleyan University
Andrews University	Saginaw Valley State University
Aquinas College	Spring Arbor University
Art Academy of Cincinnati	The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss)
Baker College	The University of Olivet
Butler University	The University of Toledo
Calvin University	Trine University
Central Michigan University	United States Naval Academy
College for Creative Studies	University of Dayton
Cornerstone University	University of Detroit Mercy
Davenport University	University of Michigan
DePaul University	University of Michigan – Flint
DePauw University	University of Michigan – Stephen M. Ross
Douglas J Institute	School of Business
Eastern Michigan University	University of Michigan - Dearborn
Ferris State University	Valparaiso University
Ferris State University College of Pharmacy	Wayne State University
Freed-Hardeman University	Western Michigan University
Grand Canyon University	Western Michigan University – College of
Grand Rapids Community College	Engineering & Applied Sciences
Grand Valley State University	Western Michigan University – Army ROTC
Great Lakes Army Recruiting Battalion –	Wittenberg University
	Xavier University
Michigan	
Hillsdale College	
Holy Cross College	
Hope College	
Indiana Tech	
Indiana University – Indianapolis	
Kalamazoo College	
Kalamazoo Valley Community College	
Kettering University	
Kuyper College	
Lawrence Technological University	
Marine Trades Institute	
MI Student Aid – Region 2	
Michigan State Police	
Michigan State University	
Michigan Technological University	
Montcalm Community College	
Motion Picture Institute	
Northern Michigan University	