

TIPS AND TIDBITS

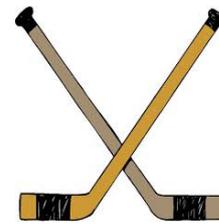
A NEWSLETTER OF
THE YOUNGSTOWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Members of the East High School JROTC Color Guard, from left, Cadet Aethena Patrick, Cadet Antowin Dabney, Cadet A'zuray Haynes and Cadet Rosezena Figueroa pose with CEO Krish Mohip, middle, last week at the Youngstown Phantoms hockey game at the Covelli Centre.



Hitting the Ice



About 1,200 YCSD high school students enjoyed a Youngstown Phantoms hockey game last week at the Covelli Centre. But the event, called "Get Schooled," was about more than just a good time. Students learned about career exploration, financial literacy and good nutrition. The game also began a partnership between YCSD and the Phantoms through which, YCSD students will learn about the business of sports and have the opportunity to participate in job shadowing.



We're Listening, Responding

The Youngstown City School District is offering a new way for parents and community members to communicate their concerns.

Callers can dial 330-744-8868 to report issues or complaints. A district representative will answer and input the information into Let's Talk, a customer service tool that enables CEO Krish Mohip to ensure parents' questions and concerns are being addressed.

"The Youngstown City School District is a public entity and it's important that we recognize that our families -- and community members in general -- are our customers," Mohip said. "We need to make sure we're being responsive to what concerns them."

Once in the system, the issue is assigned to the appropriate person. District personnel are to respond within three business days. The system tracks to ensure questions are answered and concerns addressed. District leaders are alerted if they are not.

Users may rate the response they receive, evaluating whether a problem was addressed adequately and in a timely manner.

A caller may get a voicemail message upon calling the hotline -- such as if it's after hours -- and may record their information.

People with questions or problems can also use the Let's Talk feature through the district website, www.yscd.org. It's at the bottom of the column at the left of the screen.

"The information may be left anonymously, but that won't let me track the process and hold the appropriate people accountable," the CEO said.



Dates to Remember

- **Youngstown City School District Academic Distress Commission meets at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 27, in the board meeting room.**
- **Afterschool is canceled for Tuesday, Oct. 31, only, to allow families to observe fall celebrations.**



A Swimming Success

Through a partnership with the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley and the Downtown YMCA, the Youngstown City School District is offering weekly swimming lessons to all city school second-graders at no charge to families.

Second-graders at Volney, Kirkmere, McGuffey, Paul C. Bunn, Taft and MLK began going to the YMCA this week. Beginning in January, second-graders at Harding, Wilson and Williamson will be taking the plunge.

“We believe that all children should have the opportunity to learn to swim,” said CEO Krish Mohip. “We’re grateful that the United Way and the YMCA are working with us to make that happen for our students.”

YCSD personnel demonstrate generosity

School district employees showed their generosity this week, digging into their own pockets and urging others to do the same to help victims of the hurricanes that ravaged Puerto Rico.

Jasbir Bhullar, a Teaching English as a Second Language teacher at McGuffey, Volney and Kirkmere elementary schools, was moved to donate \$500 to a family in Puerto Rico.

Members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local No. 1143, which represents YCSD’s classified employees, donated \$200 to the Puerto Rico hurricane relief effort, sending the contribution to the island territory through the Convoy of Hope.

Bhullar is the 2017 vice president of the American Sikh Council and persuaded all of the organization’s board members to collect donations for the hurricane victims. A \$3,000 check from the American Sikh Council, the Voice of Sikhs in America, was sent to a non-profit organization in San Juan, that helps people in need.

Athletics Arena

Lanay Merriweather, a senior at Youngstown Early College who plays on the East Golden Bears volleyball team, is featured in this week's All-American Conference Student-Athlete Spotlight of the Week. Lanay, who plans to go to college to become a math teacher, told the AAC that she loves volleyball because it's a team sport and it involves many talents coming together to work as one.



Coming Up This Week

- Friday, Oct. 27, East Golden Bears football vs. Hubbard, 7 p.m. at Rayen Stadium, the last game of the 2017 season.
- Saturday, Oct. 28, USA Rugby Youth Skills Camp for ages 5 to 14, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Chaney High School, 731 S. Hazelwood. Free for students.
- Wednesday, Nov. 15, YCSD Athletics Winter 2017 Parent and Player meeting, 6 p.m. at East High School, 474 Bennington Ave.