



NEWSLETTER

June 2017

Hope is the lens through which we see the world and perhaps the greatest possession we can have. It is a survival mechanism, an emotion, and a state of mind. Hope is looking to the future for the best possible outcome. It can carry us in times of adversity and through challenges. High levels of hope is an indicator for success.

Hope is actually better than ice cream, more desired than pizza and more contagious than chicken pox!

Cultivate hope and share it with others.

~Beverlee Wenzel, ROCK Executive Director

End of School

JEFFERSON AFTER SCHOOL
The last day of The ROCK after school program at JMS will be Tuesday June 13. Rides to The Greater Midland Community Center will be available on Wednesday, June 14 and Thursday, June 15. If your student needs a ride for any of the above dates please contact Lacey at 989-835-2542 or lacey@therock4yd.org

NORTHEAST AFTER SCHOOL
The last day of The ROCK after school program will be Wednesday June 14. The bus to The Greater Midland Community Center will be available on Thursday June 15.

THE ROCK UNDERGROUND AT GMCC
The last day of The ROCK Underground will be Thursday June 15.

Get Involved
Volunteers are critical to The ROCK. We welcome volunteers with a wide range of skills and interests and we have opportunities for both adult volunteers and youth volunteers. If you want to volunteer your time and talent where you can make a difference in the community, visit our website under "Give" and fill out an application, or email kylie@therock4yd.org.

The ROCK's 1st Annual Golf Outing Is a Huge Success!

Over \$9500 raised for Midland area youth

On May 15, The ROCK Center for Youth Development held their first annual golf outing at the Midland Country Club, raising over \$9,500 in support of programs for Midland area teens! The day was a success due to beautiful weather, 17 foursomes, and our golf committee members and volunteers.

We'd like to extend a special thank you to our HOLE IN ONE SPONSOR: McArdle Buick GMC Cadillac; BRONZE SPONSOR: J.E. Johnson; TEE SPONSORS: Snow Machines Inc.; Brenda & James Rajewski; leuter Insurance Group, Auto Owners; Patrick Carey Allstate Ins.; Gavin & Associates LLC; Griggs Building & Design Group; Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Business Consultants; McKay Press; Garber Chevrolet; The Lokar Rajewski Wealth Management Group of Raymond James; Wilson Law Office P.C.; and Dan Dan the Mattress Man; our lunch sponsor, The H Hotel, and the Midland Country Club for providing dinner, the venue, and a spectacular day of golf!

Thank you also to Auto Perfection; Eastman Party Store; Eric Blackhurst; Mid Michigan Golf Center, Dr. Dale & Lisa Davis Orthodontics; The H Hotel; leuter Insurance Group and The Midland Country Club for donating to the silent auction that was held at the golf outing.



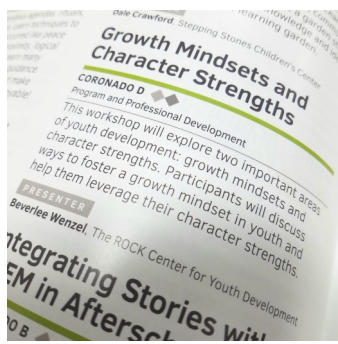
Congratulations to our winning foursome: Steve Poole, Bob Wellman, Peter Baiardi, and Blaine Anderson

Afterschool Conference

The National Afterschool alliance held their annual conference in Dallas and The ROCK was there!

Afterschool is a powerful place in the lives of youth. It's where we foster youth development, provide a safe space, and make learning fun and engaging. We reinforce what's taught in school, but dig deeper into real-world applications. Bev & Lacey came together with two thousand other afterschool professionals March 19 – 22 for NAA's Annual Convention in Dallas—and what an experience!

Bev was a presenter; she shared with a group of individuals about Growth Mindsets and Character Strengths. Lacey was able to go to break out sessions that would help benefit all of The ROCK staff and students. They heard from amazing presenters like Brad Meltzer a #1 New York Times bestselling author, and Matthew Emerzian who inspired them to keep making a difference in the teens that we serve. We are all looking forward to what changes will come from what they both have learned from this convention to improve what we do here at The ROCK.



STAFF CONNECTIONS

Team leads have their phones on them at all times during the program and check emails frequently. Feel free to contact them with any questions or concerns, or just to let them know you are on your way.



LACEY WRIGHT
PROGRAM DIRECTOR & THE UNDERGROUND TEAM LEAD
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JEFFERSON TEAM LEAD
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The ROCK's mission is to build hope and resilience in youth based on a foundation of acceptance, support, and respect that results in positive life choices.

Our vision is that all youth have the opportunity to live their potential.



The ROCK C4YD Featured at Loons Game

"Ks for Kids" Fundraiser benefits The ROCK. Deloitte and the Loons will hold a season-long "Ks for Kids" fundraiser that will contribute \$5 for every strikeout by a Loons pitcher to five local agencies working with area children and The ROCK C4YD is one of them! Please join The ROCK at the Loons game on Friday, June 9 at 7:05pm. The ROCK will be featured that evening. One of The ROCK's own students will throw out the first pitch, Tyler (ROCK Program Manager) will be on the radio and there will be a ROCK table on the 3rd base side of the main concourse where you can visit ROCK Staff and enter a drawing to win a ROCK Baseball Cap and a gift card. The ROCK has FREE lawn seat tickets available on a first come, first serve basis. If interested, please contact The ROCK at rockon@therockc4yd.org or 989-835-2542. (Limit 4 per family)

THE ROCK
EXPOSURE • GROUNDED • UNPLUGGED

6th Annual
Online
AUCTION

Is coming again

July 13-23

www.biddingforgood.com/RC4YD

**WE NEED YOUR
HELP!**

**DONATE
NOW**

To help The ROCK Center for Youth Development build hope and resilience in youth based on a foundation of acceptance, support, and respect that results in positive life choices.

Auction items can include:

- Service gift certificates
- Jewelry
- Classes
- Tickets to social, cultural or athletic events
- Exclusive & unique items
- Edible treats
- Retail & restaurant gift certificates
- Golf packages
- Unique experiences
- Original artwork
- Local celebrity experiences and more!

For questions or to donate
Call 989-835-2542 or
Email:
rockon@therockc4yd.org

Where does the military
general keep his armies?

In his sleeves.



In the summer of 2016, an after-school STEM program at The ROCK was an unsolidified concept. The trending buzzword, often accompanied by details about its impact on youth, was increasingly being seen and heard in newspaper articles, blogs, and casual conversation. The ROCK has the target age group and an influential audience, no doubt about that. Many students even form their *STEM identity*, like many other careers, before they reach high school age. The picture to be painted, involved giving (all) students at The ROCK an opportunity to be exposed to different STEM concepts through fun & engaging hands-on experiences. "ROCKit" did just that.

Since ROCKit's inception in December, 2016, there have been over 300 student hours and 230 unique participants across 2 coding clubs, 1 science club, 6 organization-led demonstrations, and 12 unique projects. ROCKit enables students to continue earning, while having fun, after the school day ends. The collage included with this article can speak clearly about the variety of opportunities this newly developed program has contributed to The ROCK's after-school environment.



We ended the school year with our 2nd highest attended project ("slime" being the 1st) led by a fabulous group of volunteers from the *American Foundry Society (AFS) – Saginaw Valley Chapter*. After being briefed on the topic of metal casting, students selected a pre-made design, created a mold in a sand mixture, and turned it over to one of the AFS volunteers to fill the mold with melted (450° F) tin. Students were able to take their creations home with them as a souvenir.

We look forward to extending ROCKit into the (2017) summer with two 4-day camps – **Mad Scientist Week & Space Week**. Also, stay tuned to The ROCK's Facebook page for new ROCKit projects and opportunities being added next school year!

Sign up now for ROCK Summer Adventures!

June 19-22 Zombie Camp—THE ZOMBIES ARE BACK!!! We need help to save Midland from the outbreak. This week teens will learn many different skills to take on zombies. We will work together as a team to protect not only the people of our town but learn how to take care of the land. Archery lessons, nerf battles and MORE!

June 26-29 Pokémon Camp—It's time to hunt Pokémon. We will create our own Pokémon characters, make pokéballs and challenge teens in Pokémon trivia. Get ready for all the challenges that you'll encounter.

July 10-13 Cooking Camp—Are you ready to be a Teen Chef? We will be in the kitchen learning to create some fantastic dishes. Guest chefs will come and share with us plus we will visit a few chefs in their own kitchens in Midland. We will create a cookbook for teens to take home to share with family and friends!

July 17-20 Mad Scientist Camp—Are you mad about science? This week we will be put on our lab coats as we try different hands on experiments. You will be exposed to radioactive fun!

July 25-27 (Camp starts on Tuesday this week) Around the world Camp (\$50)—Have you ever wanted to travel the world? This week we will try food and play games from different countries. Guest speakers will come and share about their home country. Let's check out Google Earth and travel this big planet.

July 31-August 3 Treasure Seekers (Bring a bike and helmet)—This week we will head out on bikes and do some geocaching, spend time on the rail trail, learn about navigational techniques and search for treasures that are hidden all over Midland.

August 7-10 Space Camp—This week will be out of this world as we train to be astronauts and travel to outer space. We'll explore space science, launch rockets, and learn about the planets in our galaxy.

All Camps are for 6-12th grade students * Monday—Thursdays 8am-6pm (Except Around the World Camp)
Cost is \$65 per week (Unless otherwise indicated) * Breakfast, lunch and snacks are included * Registration required (form online at www.therockc4yd.org)

SUMMER EXCURSIONS

July 28 Binder Park Zoo Overnight Adventure (\$100)—Have you ever wanted to go on an African safari? Join us as we spend the night in Wild Africa at Binder Park Zoo. Not only will it be an excellent nocturnal adventure, we will get to visit the animals again the next day! (Food provided, bring extra \$\$ for snacks and souvenirs)

August 14-16 Camping Trip (\$130)—LET'S GO CAMPING!!!! We will go to Lazy Turtle Ranch in Sanford for 3 days and 2 nights. We will fish, kayak, swim, practice archery, build shelters, enjoy campfires and much... much... more! (Food provided)

For more info on camps or excursions contact Lacey at 989-835-2542 or lacey@therockc4yd.org

SENSATIONAL SUMMER OF SUN AND SUCCESS

June 23—ZOMBIES!—Enjoy a fun-filled day of zombie-themed teambuilding games and activities! Develop skills in communication, conflict resolution, and more!

July 14—MID MICHIGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE VISIT!—We're going to Mid Michigan Community College in Mt. Pleasant—Learn about opportunities there, take a tour and have lunch; we'll also be offering a fun leadership mini training! *8:00am-1:00pm *8th grade and up only

July 21—MAD SCIENCE!—Experience mad-scientist themed games and activities that will inspire skills such as leadership, problem solving, and more!

August 4—TREASURE!—Take part in this mysterious experience while gaining new skills such as critical thinking! This event also includes an ESCAPE ROOM!

Your student will: gain valuable skills, make friends, and have a blast! * Programs are for 6-12th grade students * Friday mornings 8am-12:30pm

Programs are FREE and include breakfast and lunch * Registration required (form online at www.therockc4yd.org)

For more info on these programs call our office or email Kylie at kylie@therockc4yd.org or Tyler at Tyler@therockc4yd.org

CMU Interns ROCK!

Thank you Tony & Jared!

This school year we began a great relationship with Central Michigan University and their students through an internship program. In the second semester, we had two interns from CMU, Tony Morrow and Jared Wiseley.

Tony logged over 300 hours working with ROCK students—he was instrumental in the success of our PASS (Positive Alternatives to School Suspension) pilot and our Northeast afterschool site.

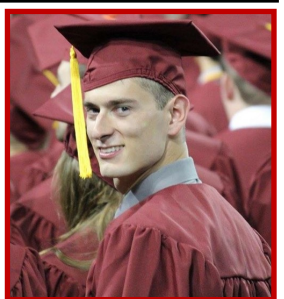
Tony also helped out with a number of other events and projects, including data-entry and our lock-in. The kids especially enjoyed trying out new active activities with Tony, such as track or frisbee games.

Jared logged nearly 200 hours working with ROCK students—he quickly became a favorite for the kids at The Underground afterschool site. The students appreciated his listening and understanding ear as well as his artistic abilities.

A big CONGRATS to both of them for graduating from CMU. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!



Jared Wiseley



Tony Morrow



ROCK'S EDGE Summer Program

WHO: 6-12 grade students
WHERE: The ROCK (GMCC Location)
2205 Jefferson Ave., Midland
WHEN: This Summer!
Check out our website at www.therockc4yd.org or the article above in this newsletter for more information.



SENSATIONAL SUMMER OF SUN & SUCCESS Summer Program

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POOL PARTIES THIS SUMMER!

WHO: 6-12 grade students
WHERE: Plymouth Park Pool
1508 E. Wheeler Street, Midland
WHEN: Wednesdays
July 12, 19, 26 & Aug. 2
TIME: 8-10pm
COST: FREE!
Join us for food, games, prizes,
and lots of FUN!



OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE AT BINDER PARK ZOO

WHO: 6-12 grade students
WHERE: Binder Park Zoo
7400 Division Dr, Battle Creek, MI
WHEN: Leave Fri. July 28, 3:30pm
Return Sat., July 29, 3:30pm
PRICE: \$100
(Must register and pay in advance)
Email lacey@therockc4yd.org
for more information & to register.



CAMPING TRIP

Put down the electronics and enjoy some quality outdoor time!
WHO: 6-12 grade students
WHERE: Lazy Turtle Ranch
1098 Baker Rd., Sanford
WHEN:
Drop-off: Mon., Aug. 14, 8:30am
Pick-up: Wed., Aug. 16, 1:00pm
PRICE: \$130
(Must register and pay in advance)
Email lacey@therockc4yd.org
for more information & to register.