



## It's Time for Summer School

We have reached the end of the regular school year. During this time of the year, it's important that parents remember that children lose some of their academic skills during the summer. It's important for students to enjoy a break, but let's not forget the long-term goal. That goal is to continue to educate your child. Many schools this summer will be open doing just that! We want to make sure students come back in the fall ready and on grade level.

We have already sent out the summer school applications for this summer. Some students are mandated to come to summer school and others are asked to come. Whether your child is mandated or asked, remember the goal is keep our students educated throughout the year. I am hoping that this summer we will have many of our students in attendance. Summer school is very important, and students who are invited should attend. Summer school starts June 30 and goes until July 24, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day. We will have bus services for students who need transportation. In addition to the free bus service, we will provide breakfast and lunch. We are looking forward to seeing our students this summer!

## Summer Loss

As students end the year and begin their summer vacation away from education, parents have to stop and reevaluate. Students are nowhere near books or educational materials. During the summer, students lose some of the academic knowledge they acquired during school. It's important that your child stay academically fit during the summer. If not, when they return back to school, they have to make up for lost information.

In order to prevent this type of loss, it's important to visit the library each week. Let your child find a book that is on his or her reading level. Get them involved in some activities in the library or some tutoring. Try programs at local colleges or summer camps that encourage students to keep fit academically throughout the summer. If all else fails, of course, Starr Detroit Academy is always accepting students for the summer school program. The program is designed to help with summer loss and keep students academically fit.

Once the program is over, it's important to keep students reading, playing math games such as Sudoku, or computer games that are based on academics. Any preparation will help students stay academically fit and ready for the new school year.

## Newsletter

Vol. 2, Issue 12: June 2014

*Starr Detroit Academy is dedicated to the mission of preparing kids for academic mastery, college, work and life.*

## Upcoming Events

**June 30 - July 24:**

Summer school  
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



"Like" us on Facebook at Starr Detroit Academy

Starr Detroit Academy  
19360 Harper Ave.  
Harper Woods, MI 48225  
313.649.2200  
www.starracademy.org



## Staff Profile: Vanessa Kuczera



Vanessa Kuczera has a vested interest in Starr Detroit Academy and its students. As a third-grade teacher, she wants her students to succeed and have opportunities, but she also calls the area around the school home.

She grew up in Grosse Pointe, just a few blocks from Starr Detroit Academy. Her passion for education is present each day, as she hopes to advance the education of students in

and around the city of Detroit.

"I love working with my third-grade students every day," Kuczera said. "Seeing my students master what they are learning is the most rewarding experience. They are all so excited to learn and have become master problem solvers throughout the year. The entire staff here is excited to help all of our students grow and achieve their goals, no matter what those goals are."

Kuczera, who is in her fourth year teaching and first at Starr Detroit Academy, attended Michigan State University and received a bachelor's degree. She is currently enrolled in the sports administration master's degree program at Wayne State University. She enjoys the challenges of working in education, especially at a startup school.

"I love working at Starr Detroit Academy," Kuczera said. "I feel like I am able to give input and it is received well by the administration. Some things may not always run smoothly, but I think the staff and students here work their hardest so that it can. I love that we as a staff all work together on a daily basis to ensure that our students are successful in all aspects of their lives."

It takes hard work to engage students and help them enjoy learning as much as she loves teaching, but Kuczera looks forward to coming to school each day.

"When I pull up to the school in the morning, I feel a sense of excitement for what learning will be accomplished that day. That's what makes being an educator so rewarding. It's our job to get students excited about learning, and to do that we as teachers have to continue our own educational journey as lifelong learners. I learn as much from the students as they do from me."