

# TIPS AND TIDBITS



**Chaney Cowboys**

## Coming Up

**4/25, Rayen Early  
College New Student  
Informational  
Open House, 6 p.m.**

**4/27, McGuffey Fifth-  
grade science fair for  
parents, 2 p.m.**

**4/27, Parent Title I  
Conference, 6 p.m.,  
Stambaugh  
Auditorium Ballroom**

## Changing the narrative

YOUNGSTOWN -- The Youngstown City School District and its Family Engagement Department want to shatter the myth that parents aren't involved in their children's education and that parents and teachers don't work well together.

"Changing the Narrative" is the theme of Friday's (April 27) YCSD Parent Conference in the Stambaugh Auditorium Ballroom.

"Contrary to widespread opinion, YCSD parents are involved and invested in their children's education and our teachers are dedicated, caring professionals who are always willing to help," said Linda Hoey, the school district's chief of family engagement. "

This mark's the 12th year the district has honored parents, but there are major changes this year. It's an evening affair, beginning at 6 p.m. Previously, conferences convened in the morning.

"We want to give parents a night out," Hoey said. "We'll have the red carpet leading into the conference, like we've had for the last several years, so parents can stop and get their pictures taken."

She said about 300 attended the gathering last year with more expected this year. In another twist, not only did teachers nominate parents who are doing a good job for recognition, but parents nominated teachers for their hard work as well.

"Education is a partnership," said Krish Mohip, district CEO. "Students need parents and teachers working together to reach their full potential. It's important that we honor and recognize both parents and teachers who are dedicated to helping to make that happen."

Author and educator Dr. Chike Akua will be the featured speaker for the conference. A master teacher, Dr. Akua has been a speaker and trainer at colleges, school systems and conferences across the country.

"With a culturally relevant approach toward closing the achievement gap, he is known for his dynamic, interactive presentations to teachers, parents and students," the biography on Dr. Akua's website says.

The evening program also includes dinner and music for the invited guests with each honoree receiving a trophy.

## A father: His little girl's first love



Derrick Stredrick and his daughter, Sanaa, at father-daughter dance.

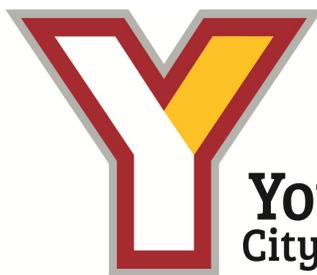
About 200 enjoyed an evening of food, photos and family at last week's Kirkmere Elementary School PTO's Father-Daughter Dance at Mr. Anthony's Banquet Center.

"I thought it was important to include the dads," said Lawrence Saulsberry, PTO president. "The dads are kind of like the unsung heroes. Some dads are in the home some dads are not. Some dads are working and I just thought this would be a great opportunity for the fathers and daughters to get together and just enjoy themselves."

Little girls dressed in their finest gowns for their dates with daddy. Saulsberry said several area businesses donated services and supplies to help make the dance happen.

He believes the bond between fathers and daughters is a strong one.

"We're our daughters' first love," the PTO president said.



**Youngstown  
City School District**

*'Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future'*



# Athletics Arena

## YCSD kicks around soccer idea

Youngstown City School District middle school students faced off with teams from other schools last week at the Fifth Annual Kevin Jackson Memorial Tournament at Chaney High School. The event is sponsored by the Youngstown City Schools Athletics and the JJC Judge Dellick Sports Program

*Photos by Traci L. Cain Photography*

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