Move from Ward is complete

The move of all Youngstown City School District administrative offices out of the Ward/Rayen Building is complete. Most offices including human resources, the CEO's office, Parent Pathways Institute, student services, the treasurer's and business offices and teaching and learning are at East High School, 474 Bennington Ave. The data and technology departments are housed at Choffin Career and Technical Center, 200 E. Wood St., and the records department moved to the former Mary Haddow School, Oak Street Extension, on the city’s East Side.

Telephone numbers remain the same.

The Ward building at 20 W. Wood St. will become the new, larger home of Youngstown Early College High School, beginning with the 2018-19 school year. YEC is now housed inside Fedor Hall at Youngstown State University, but that space doesn’t allow it to grow.

YEC houses about 240 students this school year and the larger building will allow for double that number.

“The move will allow even more students to take advantage of the opportunity that YEC offers: to earn an associate’s degree upon high school graduation,” said CEO Krish Mohip.

He added that moving administrators into school buildings will enable those adults to witness first hand and up close how their decisions affect students.

Ward/Rayen will be converted into classrooms with a full-service cafeteria in the basement. Murphy Contracting of Youngstown is the contractor for the roughly $2.5 million renovation project.

To visit one of the administrative offices now housed at East, residents should report to the school office where they will be directed accordingly. Photo identification, which will be scanned by a police officer, is required to enter all YCSD schools.
It’s a return to an old tradition in Youngstown City School District sports. The City Series, dormant since YCSD downsized to one traditional high school in 2011, is being revived in seventh and eighth grades through a partnership with several community organizations. “The City Series represents a lot of memories for many people in the Mahoning Valley,” said CEO Krish Mohip. “We think its resurgence will play a pivotal role in restoring our sports programs to their former stature.”

Rick Shepas, chief of physical development and athletics, said YCSD is partnering with the Volney Rogers Recreation League, which has operated youth sports in the city for several years, to bring back the city series beginning with seventh and eighth-grade basketball. The partnership also includes Youngstown City’s Parks and Recreation Department and the Mill Creek Park Association.

“We felt strongly that in order to make this work, it would take a lot of people from many different organizations working together,” Shepas said. “We all bring something to the table and by pooling our resources, we can build a really strong program.”

YCSD brings students. The Volney Rogers Recreation League brings an established association and the city’s parks and recreation department and the Mill Creek Park Association each bring facilities. The parks and rec department also pays officials who direct games.

Each of YCSD’s nine elementary schools as well as Rayen Early College Intermediate School has a team. REC’s is the Tigers, for example, the mascot of sports teams at The Rayen School, a former district North Side high school which was demolished in 2007.

Wilson Elementary School’s teams are the Redmen, recalling the Woodrow Wilson High School Redmen and Paul C. Bunn Elementary has the Warriors, a reference to the sports teams of the former South High School.

Other sports will be added and starting next year when Chaney High School will begin fielding teams.