

Students learn in person at the iCode school in Troy.

make for a strong, all-encompassing educational environment and a thriving talent pool for local businesses.

It starts with the highly regarded Troy School District, with more than 12,000 students, and its strong ties to the business community. For starters, district Superintendent Dr. Richard Machesky is a longtime member of the Troy Chamber of Commerce board of directors. Those ties also include student internships, handson training opportunities, districtsponsored CEO meetings where executives discuss initiatives designed to ensure that students will have the skills they'll need for future jobs, and classroom visits by business experts.

"It's an ongoing effort on many fronts," says Troy Chamber board member Kerry Birmingham, the school district's director of communications and strategic initiatives, "and we are thrilled that our business community has seen the value in sharing their knowledge with us as we provide the opportunity to

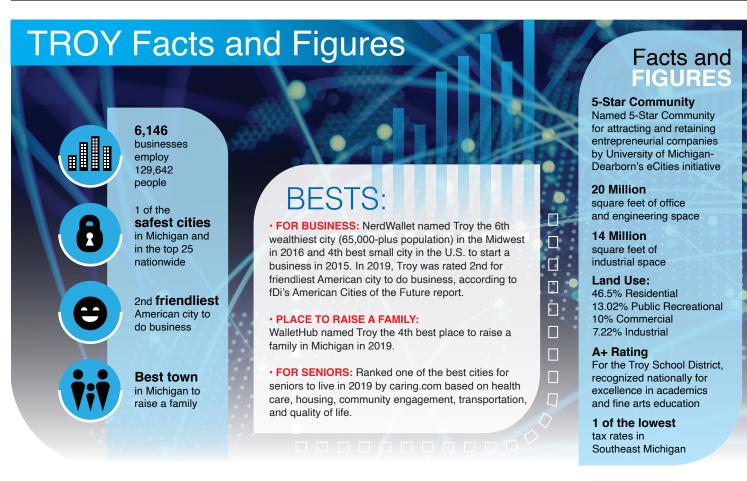
12,000+STUDEŃTS ATTEND THE HIGHLY **REGARDED TROY SCHOOL** DISTRICT.

expose their industry to the innovators and employees of tomorrow."

At the postsecondary level, Troy is home to the business-focused Walsh College, whose faculty bring real-world corporate experience into the classroom, as well as a satellite branch of Central Michigan University.

Formal education extends beyond the schoolhouse as well. For example, iCode Troy, which offers classes in computer science, coding, and robotics to children and young adults, opened in July 2021 and is one of just two iCode locations in Michigan.

"Education being such a big component of this community, we thought it would be a nice fit," says Laura Van Almen, the franchise director.





WalshCollegecampus,Troy.

MORE THAN 00 CHILDREN **PARTICIPATED IN ICODE TROY'S SUMMER CAMPS**

More than 100 children participated in iCode Troy's summer camps from July through the first week of September 2021, Van Almen says. The site has four classrooms, or "hubs." Classes are kept at 10 students or fewer.

From kindergarten through the college and university level, a Troy education means a skilled and well-rounded employee base that can continue to live, work, and play in Troy.

