

Secondary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report



October 2022

Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- RHS Cultural Responsiveness Committee(CRC): The CRC team is in full swing again this year and has worked alongside the Building Leadership Team to provide staff professional development training to staff members during our back to school meetings and during the September 14 Professional Learning Sessions. The group is currently focused on working with staff to implement inclusive practices in each classroom on a daily basis. On October 5 the staff will be participating in Giving Voice, a program related to culture inclusive practices developed by Missouri State University.
- RHS Flamingo Fridays: Every Friday the administrative team highlights one staff member who goes above and beyond to help students and make RHS a great place. With the help of students we select the teacher, make a quick all-school announcement about their work, and we also secretly decorate their room with yard flamingos. It has proven to be a fun way to recognize staff members. Plans are developing to begin similarly recognizing students. Previous recognition has gone to: Felecia Taylor, Lindsey Pulverinti (and student teacher Kionna Dickerson), Daniel Hedrick, Stephanie Krupa, Daniel Hedrick, and Patty Hutton.
- Personal Electronic Devices during class time: this year we have been more vigilant about enforcing our policy about no personal electronic device use during class time. In the last few years we had observed a stark increase in the use of these devices and the subsequent off-task behaviors and disruptions that occurred in class and throughout the building that were linked to device use. We put together a comprehensive parent communications prior to the start of the school year, we develop posters and signage which are posted throughout the building and in all classrooms, and we make hourly announcements reminding students of the expectation. We are excited to report that there has been a dramatic increase in classroom engagement and on-task time from students. We have also seen a sharp reduction in the number of student conflicts, which previously were often related to issues that developed via social media and device-to-device communication. We are proud of the hard work teachers have put into addressing this issue and the commitment students have made to meet the expectation and keep focused on learning.
- Core Instructional Practices: Teachers have been working hard through professional development opportunities and in-class implementation with improving their Core Instructional Practice skills. These are a part of our School Professional Learning Plan for staff and focus on improving lesson objectives, direct instruction, modeling, guided practice, checking for understanding, and lesson closure.
- Classroom & Student Behavior Management: Teachers have had opportunity to participate in 2 professional development sessions focused on working with students who are displaying anxiety related defensive behaviors that can often escalate when unaddressed. Dr. Northcutt, Dr. Bruton, and Mrs. Hensley led these sessions where staff members learned both the rationale and theory behind effectively managing these types of behaviors and they also had the opportunity to practice desired responses and interventions.

Parent/Community Focus

- RHS Camerata participated in the UMKC Cantate Choral Festival at the Kauffman Center of the Performing Arts on Thursday, September 29th. The choir sang with nearly

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500 other singers from around the Kansas City area and performed a concert that evening at the Kauffman Center.

- RHS Theatre performed their fall play Women a few weeks ago and has now begun rehearsals for the fall musical, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels which will perform Nov 17-19. We also recently attended a student matinee performance of KC Rep's Twelfth Night by Shakespeare and did a talk back with members of the cast.
- RHS Boys Soccer: JV and Varsity Boys' teams defeated Grandview High School last Wednesday. JV kept its second consecutive clean sheet and won 2-0 for its first win of the season. Varsity won 4-2 with four goals from senior Mazigh Hamchaoui.
- RHS Cross Country: The boys squad placed 1st in the Raytown South Twilight meet with 6 runners in the top 10. The girls team had 3 runners in the top 10 of the Raytown South Twilight Meet. Additionally the Boys JV squad placed 2nd as a team to Rockhurst at the Grandview meet. The team recently took a trip to Columbia to compete in the Gans Creek Invitational. The team is starting to gear up for their Conference and District meets that will be in October.
- RHS Girls golf is wrapping up the end of their season with conference Monday, October 4th. Senior Aniyah Fletcher took 7th place at the Drumm Farm tournament on 9/27. JV is currently undefeated.
- RHS Softball Finished 4th in the Bronze Bracket of the GKC softball tournament over the summer. Eva Schultz , junior, drove in four on three hits to lead Raytown Bluejays Varsity past Raytown South 15-5 on Tuesday. Schultz drove in runs on a double in the first, a single in the third, and a groundout in the fourth. Schultz got the start for Raytown Bluejays Varsity. The pitcher allowed two hits and five runs over five innings, striking out seven. Raytown Bluejays Varsity totaled nine hits. Schultz, Sophomore Caitlynn Lupo, and Senior Kayla Hernandez each had multiple hits for Raytown Bluejays Varsity. Schultz led Raytown Bluejays Varsity with three hits in four at bats.
- RHS Volleyball had a big win this Monday against Winnetonka! Leading up to this weekend, the lady jays have been training hard and preparing themselves for a tough week ahead. Saturday Both JV and V will compete in Grandview's Tournament.
- RHS Girls Tennis is in their second season. 24 girls participated this season. Current record is: V: 3-9 and JV: 3-8. This is a big improvement from our first year. The team hosted the first lady Jay Invitational on Sept 2nd and finished 3rd out of 7 teams. District play is this Friday and next Monday.
- RHS Football is currently 3-2. The team defeated Ray-South for the 5th consecutive year. They play away at Platte County this Friday.
- RHS Boys Swimming and Diving is having another top notch season. They just finished 5th out of 15 teams at the Eubank Invitational. Ben Gippner (12)--200 free--1st place. and Backstroke 2nd place. Luke Markley (12)--100 free & 50 free--1st place. Luke Markley, Ben Gippner, Winston Peters (10), Charlie Farrand (10) placed 1st in the 200 free-relay, and they placed 3rd in the 200 Medley Relay. The team placed 15th at the CoMo invitational out of 40 schools from across Missouri. The team is currently ranked in the top 20 in the 50 free, 100 free, and 200 free in the state of Missouri.
- RHS March Band is gearing up for another great performance season. The band will be performing Saturday, October 1 at the Smith Cotton HS Marching Festival and on Saturday, October 22 at the Harrisonville Marching Festival.

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Upcoming School Events

- Professional Learning Day–October 5–RHS–All-day
- RHS Homecoming Game–October 7 (vs. Wm. Chrisman)--Chitwood Stadium @ 7pm
- RHS Homecoming Dance–October 7–RHS Gymnasium @ 7 pm
- RHS Choir Concert–October 10–RHS Performing Arts Center @ 7 pm
- RHS Orchestra Concert–October 18–RHS Performing Arts Center @ 7 pm
- RHS Repertory Teacher Show–October 20–RHS Performing Arts Center @ 7 pm
- Superintendent Student Forum–October 26–RHS Library @ 10:15 am
- Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences–October 26 & 27
- Hall of Fame Student Forum–November 5–RHS Library @ 8:00 am

Raytown South High School

Academic Focus

- ELA has given their Unit A Common Formative Assessment and will be analyzing the data while DRT and ELA have administered the district NWEA Reading Assessment. They will use both data points during DRT over the semester.
- Practical Arts is focused on creating pretests and collecting data in the different content areas of Business, FACS, PE, Wellness and PLTW
- Math have focused on readiness check (Pre-Test) data and will be administering first unit assessments
- Library welcomed all the Freshmen into the library with a Scavenger Hunt through the stacks. WE have circulated 588 books so far.
- SpEd is focused on updating IEP's and transitioning students to South High and our transfers to South High
- Counselors are reviewing schedules for students to ensure they are in the appropriate classes and learning a new 504 platform
- Science department is focusing on SEP's (Science and Engineering Practices) developing and using models and planning and conducting investigations
- Social Studies Department during DRT has been focusing on pacing and creating new lessons, being sure to incorporate district provided resources

Parent/Community Focus

- Homecoming week is Sept. 19-23. Students and Staff were encouraged to participate each day in the festivities, football game and dance on Saturday.
- During our Homecoming Assembly, we will acknowledge all students who were inducted into NHS this spring and all active members of NHS.
- We will also acknowledge all Honor Roll and Principal Honor Roll students from the previous school year
- Unity Wall in our Cafe is also a StuCo focus and is well underway and hopefully completed soon
- Our student body is communicating with our Student Council to discuss changes they would like to see at our building
- NHS are completing ceiling Tiles with positive messages to be placed in areas around the school

Upcoming School Events

- Raytown South Softball Tournament October 6th and 8th

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- Volleyball vs. Smithville Oct. 11th Freshman, JV and Varsity
- Choir Concert Oct. 11th at 7pm location- Auditorium
- Varsity Football vs. Excelsior Springs Oct. 14th at 7pm
- Soccer Oct. 17th JV- 5:30 Varsity- 7pm

Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus

- Things are happening in the ELA Department at RMS! We are proud to welcome students back to a safe and academically rich environment through the use of district initiatives and curriculum.
- In sixth grade, students are using a new technological program called Amplify. Students are able to follow lessons online and on paper. Initial lessons include focusing on a single moment using precise, descriptive details. Students are also learning to *show* versus *tell* in their writing through narratives. "Spotlights" are regularly built-in to the lessons in order to showcase target skills. Best of all, Amplify allows teachers to differentiate instruction to meet students where they are at and move forward.
- "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton remains a classic staple in seventh grade curriculum. Students are analyzing the text for plot sequence, and running themes that apply to daily lives. This book is always a favorite among students and one they remember for years to come. Along with the novel, grammar and writing skills are covered through practice and technological programs such as IXL, Achieve 3000, and Nearpod to increase skills. Informal and formal writing, along with Sustained Silent Reading, allow students to increase their time on task in these areas.
- Eighth grade ELA students are reading a variety of short stories in order to master literary elements such as inferences, theme, main idea, and figurative language. After studying the craft of well-known writers, students will put their knowledge of story structure on display as they pen their own pieces of flash fiction to share with their classmates.
- The ELA department encourages students and families to spend time reading together for at least 30 minutes per day to increase fluency and comprehension of the written word. Students have access to a multitude of books in the library and through our library website.

Parent/Community Focus

- With input from our RMS staff, students and families, our Guiding Coalition (BLT) were able to revise our mission, vision and collective statements for the 2022-23 school year.
- Raytown Middle School kicked-off the school year with the 501st Star Wars Legion. Darth Vader, Storm Troopers, Hans Solo and others greeted parents and students on the first day of classes.
- Fall sports have started. We have 15 students in cross country. 73 in football and 30 in volleyball. All sports programs have been well attended by our RMS Families.
- RMS is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with music, informational facts, a scavenger hunts and prizes.
- Three RMS students hosted a poetry and art event titled, "Remembering Hattie on Saturday, September 24th at the Westport Historical Society.
- RMS Fall Spirit Week was held the week of September 19-23, 2022.

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- Students at Raytown Middle School participated in College Colors & Careers Day. This was an opportunity for students to learn about college, trade schools, and life after high school. Students completed an activity throughout the day where they created a college pennant and winners were chosen based on creativity and workmanship. College Colors & Careers Day is a nation-wide celebration that provides an opportunity for people to celebrate college pride & the trades. The first place winners won Chipotle for lunch with the counselors and the second place winners won chips, a drink, and a college shirt.
- RMS has started a creative writing club. This club is a space to support students on their writing journey. Students will improve their poems, fiction, or nonfiction. We will talk about our writing projects and share them with each other, and also have space to work on our writing. Students will be able to "workshop" their writing and improve it using feedback from each other. Potential activities later in the year include having readings of our poems, fiction or nonfiction and submitting writing to contests.
- The most circulated books at RMS are Naruto and The Loud House. Students checked out 1,143 books during the month of September.

Upcoming School Events

- Our 1st Trister After-School Dance was held on September 30th.
- RMS will be holding a ThinkFirst Assembly on October 13, 2022. This organization works to help students learn the importance of protecting themselves, as they are increasingly faced with decision-making challenges involving their safety.
- Pumpkin Guessing Contest in the Library from October 15-31.
- RMS Chocolate Fundraiser will start Monday, October 31, 2022.
- The RMS Spelling Bee is coming. The spelling bee will take place on Thursday, November 17th.
- The Annual RMS Community Pancake Breakfast and Holiday Mart will be held on December 10, 2022 from 8:00-11:00 am.
- For updates and highlights, follow us on RMS Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/Raytown-Middle-School-106165480742984>

Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- During the first month of school, South Middle staff members engaged in Trauma Smart Training, completing the first three training modules with the purpose of becoming more trauma informed. Staff member participants included both classified and certified staff members, and the sessions have already begun to shape our thinking and practices to better support one another in the important work of doing what's best for kids.
- September in classrooms has been full of rich learning experiences for students, as teachers continue to find creative ways to make the content come to life!
- Sixth Grade Science teachers explored parts of both Animal and Plant cells, including the Golgi apparatus, cell membrane, and other organelles. Students spent time comparing animal and plant cells, completing a Cell Job Application, and constructing a 3-D model of a cell. Student projects include a range of options and materials, from cakes to clay! A gallery walk with teacher and peer feedback allowed students to learn and see other creations of cell parts.

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- Seventh Grade English Language Arts teachers used the classic literature, *Outsiders*, to work on skills related to narratives. Students were able to infer and analyze narratives, citing textual evidence to support their thinking about the characters, theme, and setting. Book discussions revealed a significant number of text-to-world and text-to-self connections for the readers.
- Eighth Grade Health classes did a deep dive into simple and complex carbs, with real-world connections to the nutritional components found in various foods. Students used non-fiction resources to draft the development of a nutritious diet. Classes worked in groups to investigate nutritional values and learn more about fat soluble vitamins and where they are found in everyday foods.

Parent/Community Focus

- The South Middle Counseling Department has kicked off Career Cafe! This is a time for community members to visit our school and present career information to students. For September, our Career Cafe parents and community members engaged kids with impressive presentations in the following fields:
 - Catie Combs, Entertainment Industry/Lighting & Stage Designer
 - Alonzo Burton, School Board President
 - Raytown Fire Department, (3) Firefighters & Fire Truck
- Attendance Awareness Week was celebrated the week of September 12th-September 16th, with several student recognitions, drawings and prizes for those who were able to accomplish 90% attendance.
- Staff Health & Wellness - To encourage and support our staff's mental and physical well-being, Ms. Reed led the staff in a September Weekly Wednesday Workout of Piloxing that several staff members participated in after school each week.
- Trister 1 Student Recognition with Certificates and Ice Cream Sandwiches will be provided to students on October 7th for a job well done for Being Responsible and getting to classes on time.

Upcoming School Events

- October 3rd - Cross Country Home Meet
- October 3rd - Volleyball Home Game
- October 12th - Volleyball Home Game
- October 15th - Volleyball Tournament Host
- October 18th - Football Home Game
- October 27th-28th - P/T Conferences

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- We set a building goal that 75% of all students will pass all classes with 70% (Cs) or better. (Last year, 44% of all students passed all classes with 70% or better.)
- Administrators will be studying Tier 1 instruction to develop expectations and PD for staff (Developing administrators as instructional leaders)
- First NWEA was administered to provide us with base-line data for our growth goals.
- BLT (Building Leadership Team) led the development of our new Mission Statement and Vision Statement, and began work on our Collective Commitments
- Administrators will lead PL about the foundations of PLCs and the work of DRTs.

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- DRTs will identify the instructional unit beginning in Trister #3 as a focus for collaborative work. DRTs will identify a standard in that unit for discussion, planning, and assessment and will set growth goals for student progress on or mastery of that standard.

Parent/Community Focus

- We continue to communicate with parents about our building goal for passing all classes with C's or better.
- Attendance Awareness week - incentives for perfect attendance the week of Sept 12-16
- Community partners want to help us with our recognition rallies after each trister, including the REF and local store owners.
- Plans are being made for our parent-student conferences at the end of the month.
- Staff continues to participate in Trauma Smart PL
- Parent newsletter through parent link:
 - Sept. content: meet the administrators, school expectations and discipline system, school incentive program - monthly rewards, Trister recognition rallies, Attendance Awareness incentives
 - Oct. content: Parent-school conferences, food resources

Upcoming School Events

- Oct. 1 - Sat. - VB Tournament
- Oct. 4 - Kona Ice truck - reward for all students meeting the criteria of our monthly incentive: passing all classes with Cs or better by end of month, no ISS or OSS in the month, no more than 3 tardies in the month
- Oct. 4 - home FB game
- Oct. 5 - home VB game
- Oct. 6 - home VB game
- Oct. 7, end of day - Rally to recognize student achievement during Trister #1
- Oct. 11 - home FB game
- Oct. 26, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Oct 27, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - parent-teacher conferences

Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- Race Strategy for critical thinking
- Trauma smart training along with a continued use of PLC/DRT
- Attendance week in conjunction with college color day. Spirit week to celebrate students attending school.

Parent/Community Focus

- Family fun Night to discuss TS with Family's on Sept. 15th

Upcoming School Events

- Level celebrations, attendance celebrations
- Family fun night in November

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Northwood

Academic Focus

- Individualized Education Goals
- Self-Regulation and Communication
- Trauma Smart

Parent/Community Focus

- The LIFE program will begin Community Based Instruction (CBI) trips. October CBI will include work readiness skills at the Wellness Center and navigating the Mid-Continent Library.

Upcoming School Events

- Spirit Week October 10-14
- Parent-Teacher Conferences

Herndon Career Center & Southland CAPS

Academic Focus

- Advertising & Graphic Design students are seeing their first projects come from our new equipment purchased with enhancement grant funds. Students are producing t-shirts, stickers, and laser engraved projects.
- Auto Tech students attended a career fair at MCC-Longview. In preparation for their trip, students prepared their resumes and practiced interview techniques.
- Students in several classes are beginning their OSHA 10 training and certification classes.
- CAPS students are visiting community and industry partners to learn more about the opportunities within each of the career fields.
- CAPS Education Exploration students attended an event at Northwest Missouri State University targeted specifically at future educators. While at the event, our instructor reconnected with four alumni of the program continuing their teacher education program at Northwest.
- Students in Law Enforcement and Intro to Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine are eligible to earn dual credit for the first time this year. Our law enforcement students can earn credit through Missouri State while our Intro to PT & SM students can earn credit through UCM.

Parent/Community Focus

- Presentations at sending schools will begin in the next few weeks as we begin to prepare for next year's enrollment.
- Our programs will be hosting their advisory committee meetings during the month of October, so each program instructor has been reaching out to industry partners, community members, post-secondary institutions, parents, and students to schedule the meetings.

Upcoming School Events

- Cinder Restaurant Night, October 14
- Community Open House November 10 5:00 - 6:30 pm
- Cinder Restaurant Night, November 17