

Secondary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report



June 2021

Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- RHS celebrated 5 retirees, representing 89 years of service at RHS and over 100 years of service in the district. Becky Gum (21 years at RHS), Nancy Young (21 years at RHS), Ronda Miles (7 years at RHS), Nancy White (18 years at RHS), and Terri Friebohle (22 years at RHS).
- RHS Graduation was a huge success. With just over 320 graduates participating in the event. The event was highlighted by top notch performances by the RHS Band and Choir. Special honors were awarded to the top 11 students after 8 academic semesters: Madisen Berry, Rianna Ellis, Riley Harris, Sierra Jackson, Madison Puhl, Daysha Siphon, Ashley Spears, Emma Taylor, Tamia Trotter, Katie Valdovinos, and Katelyn White
- RHS students and staff successfully completed our 8th year of focusing on developing student argumentative writing skills. This school-wide effort involves having every student in every class write short argumentative essays 5 times a year. Teachers develop lessons based on student skill gaps and work to provide meaningful learning opportunities that connect the individual course content to the skills of argumentative writing. Teachers collaboratively score student work and engage in professional discussions about student progress, areas of need growth, and future instructional planning.

Parent/Community Focus

- RHS Choir received an Exemplary (1) rating at the MSHSAA State Music Festival for Large Ensembles. The choir also received an Exemplary (1) rating at the UCM Virtual Festival of Choirs.
- RHS Girls' Soccer: the following players were named to the All-District Soccer Team: Ashlyn Ledgerwood (12) and Brigid Hughes (12). Ashlyn Ledgerwood (12) was also named to the All-Conference team.
- RHS Tennis: will return as a MSHSAA sport this next school year. The first tennis camp will be June 21st-24th at Colman park. 8am-10:30 for boys and 11:30-2:00 for girls.

Upcoming School Events

- Review the RHS website for information regarding summer athletic camps and activities.
- RHS Open House/9th Grade Parent Orientation, August 17 @ RHS Gym and Performing Arts Center--6pm
- RHS 9th Grade Orientation Day, August 20--8:30 to 11:30 am.

Raytown South High School

Academic Focus

- CPL revisions for next year are in progress.
- Counselors and teachers continue to work on summer school.
- Matt Christensen received the Amy Tittle Scholarship for Professional Development.
- Sarah Apple received an REF grant.
- Gretchen Kemp received an REF grant.
- Band Summary:
 - Eidur Hanson Trombone Silver
 - Taygan Summers, Cecily Wells, & Charles Wolfe, Horn Trio Silver
 - Cecily Wells Horn Silver

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- Charles Wolfe Horn Silver & Piano Gold
- Philip Wolfe Euphonium Gold & Piano Gold
- Congratulations to the Symphonic Band on receiving an Exemplary rating (the highest possible rating) for their large ensemble festival performance.

Parent/Community Focus

- SHS Track Summary:
 - Congratulations to Zaya Akins on being named HyVee and Spectrum Sports Athlete of the week. She is undefeated and conference Champion in the 100m, 200m, and 4x100m, and 400m in her last 20 races. Zaya Akins' time of 54.29 in the 400m Dash is a new school record. The previous record was 55.53 by Aisha Mitchell (brother of Maurice who ran in the Olympics) set in 2003. Zaya broke the record by over 1 second, which in track is unheard of. This time ranks Zaya in the top 20 of the US run this year. Zaya Akins earned three state championship titles including the 100m Dash, 200m Dash and 400m Dash. Throughout the course of the season, Akins set new school records in the 100m Dash, 200m Dash and 400m Dash. Additionally, her times of 11.56 in the 100m Dash, 23.95 in the 200m Dash, and 54.29 400m Dash were the best in Missouri in all classes. Zaya's 400m Dash is ranked #20 in the nation out of all high school athletes and #1 nationally out of the 2023 graduating class.
 - Quinton Rowell earned sixth place in the 400m Dash.
 - Ja'Nyiah Davis earned fifth place in the high jump.
- George Hanson signed his college letter of intent to play soccer at Johnson County Community College.
- Wrestling Summary:
 - Marcus Nicholas, Class of 2020, has made it to the NJCAA Wrestling Nationals.
 - Wrestling Honors: Seniors Markayla Lottie: 1st Team All-Conference, 2nd Team All-District and Jasmine Alcantara: All-State Team, 1st Team All-Conference, 1st Team All-District
- Raytown South Senior Golfer Kobe Shahib was recognized as Channel 41 and Hy-Vee Athlete of the Week.
- Congrats to Raytown South High alum Jabril Cox who was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in the 4th round of the NFL Draft.

Upcoming School Events

- Band camp TBA
- Sports camps TBA
- Cheer and Dance camps TBA
- Basketball tournament summer games TBA
- Weekly and monthly broadcasts Sonic Locker Room for sports, clubs, theatre, and music interviews of students, teachers, and coaches.
- Weekly updates of all activities are listed in the twitter RQSSouthHigh.

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Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus

- MAP assessment has been the focus to compete all tests, both in person and virtually. Each department planned their instruction by assisting students with test-taking strategies aligned with standards based activities. Students gave their best effort as they worked through the various levels and contents of the test. Teachers encouraged students to do their best and provided incentives for completion. Virtual students tested on Wednesday and it was exciting to see all students in the building. Virtual students expressed some hesitancy to return in-person, but were happy they came.

Parent/Community Focus

- Concert season - The month of May continues to present a unique display of music excellence, both virtual and in-person. Each class is represented during spring concert season performing a medley of the year's classic songs. Vocal and Instrumental departments represented RMS with talent, pride and dignity, led by Tyler Balk, Mike Doney and Tyler Rick. Although the vocal and band concerts were presented virtually, our orchestra students performed an in-person concert. It was exciting to see our students perform together for the first time in over a year. All concerts can be seen on the RMS YouTube site.
- Virtual Student Recognition Night 2021 - The annual Student Recognition Night was held on Tuesday May 20, 2021 to formally recognize students earning an exemplary GPA of 3.5 or higher, while also successfully contributing to the RMS community by their achievements and activity involvement. Recognitions include presidential awards, academic honors, activity and sportsmanship awards, attendance and most improved performance awards. It was a proud moment to recognize Andersen Howard receiving the Principals Academic Scholars Award. This award was presented for outstanding achievement throughout three years at RMS maintaining the highest GPA percentage. Additionally, Josiah Pilkinton and Alyssa Cornelison-Masoner earned MSHSAA outstanding male and female student athlete awards for exceptional athletic talent and sportsmanship. Although the event was virtual, it was a very special evening for our students and family and the community.
- Track season

Upcoming School Events

- Summer School June 2-29

Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- Our PLCs have already begun the work of revising norms, creating SMART goals, and making personal commitment statements with regard to collaboration. We need to hit the ground running in the fall and strong collaborative structures will play a critical role in accelerating what we are able to give to students.
- I have asked our building leadership team to sponsor one of four new committees South Middle will create next year to address some of the gaps in our learning committee. These committees are as follows: New Student Transition Team, New Teacher Support Team, Cultural Illumination and Recognition Team, and the Professional Learning and Development Team. These are areas in South Middle's learning community that need to

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grow and expand and doing so will make us a better learning community for our students.

- Currently, we are revising our CPL plan for the 21-22 school year. We condensed our focus last year to ensure teachers could direct all of their energy to virtual and hybrid instruction. Next year, we will return to our learning cadres. These cadres are teacher-selected groups in one the following areas: Critical Thinking, Social and Emotional Learning, Culturally Responsive Pedagogy, Literacy and a new group for the 21-22 school year which will be, The Dynamics of Middle Level Teaching & Learning. Teachers will work with their groups to direct their professional learning and share and present with the larger community twice per year.

Parent/Community Focus

- South Middle had our second virtual assembly to celebrate our past year and recognize students who made the Honor Roll and Principal's Honor Roll. Ms. Romero and the jazz band helped provide the entertainment along with several teacher and student contests - what a great way to close out our year!

Upcoming School Events

- Summer School - June 2 - June 29th.

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- We finished out the most unique year of our careers this month! I have to say that I have never been more proud of my students and staff as I have been this school year! To see them persevere, learn and implement new learning platforms, and engage students in ways we have never done before was tremendous. We have much to be proud of this school year.
- Students and teachers ended strong with MAP testing and finals through most of May. I was very impressed to see a good percentage of our students taking their assessments so seriously.

Parent/Community Focus

- We celebrated our 8th grade students for all of their academic achievements this year with an in-person celebration on May 13th!

Upcoming School Events

- Have a great summer!

Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- We finished out the year with 13 graduating seniors.
- The Building Level Team (BLT) developed the CPL plan for the 2021- 2022 school year.
- Students and Teachers finished strong with MAP and EOC testing.

Parent/Community Focus

- We celebrated our seniors with a reception to congratulate them on achieving their goal of graduating.

Upcoming School Events

- Have a great summer!

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Northwood

Academic Focus

- We celebrated the end of the year with graduation at RHS on May 5. Thank you to Dr. Markley and the Assistant Superintendents that attended. Thank you to BOE member Mrs. Saulsberry for reaching out and acknowledging graduation.
- Completed MAP, MAP-A and EOC testing.

Parent/Community Focus

- A HUGE thank you to the district for supporting NW staff through a difficult last 2 weeks of school. The loss of a student is never easy and we appreciate the care, compassion and thoughtfulness of all who reached out.

Upcoming School Events

- Summer school is being held at Northwood for RSA and Northwood students.

Herndon Career Center & Southland CAPS

Academic Focus

- During the 2020-21 school year, Herndon Career Center & Southland CAPS students earned the following (students only counted once, so no duplication in numbers):
 - 159 Industry Recognized Credentials
 - 120 Technical Skills Attainment
 - 11 Double Stackable Credentials (Equates to IRC)
 - 72 Internships Completed
- Several students were offered jobs as a result of their internship experiences or certifications earned.
- We had 172 students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. The criteria for acceptance requires a combination of cumulative GPA, attendance, discipline, and Herndon or CAPS program success.

Parent/Community Focus

- Our Awards Ceremony for the 2020-21 school year can be found at: <https://youtu.be/xcSylUdQNbE>
- Our Signing Day presentation can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yv3-3cml7o4>
- Our National Technical Honor Society induction can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2t8QTm6D_A

Upcoming School Events

- August 23: First Day of School