

Secondary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report



April 2022

Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- RHS National Honors Society: NHS president, Judy Batts received the \$3200 NHS Scholarship for college. She was one of 600 seniors chosen worldwide for her academic achievement and commitment to community service.
- RHS Ceramics: On Saturday March 5th, 9 RHS ceramics students participated in the Clay it Up Ceramics Competition at Nixa High School. The following students placed in the following events: 1st place in Team Handbuilding: Brooklynn Jenkins (12) & Mikeiya Wright (11), 2nd place in Team Throwing: Victoria Escobar (12) & Jada Shields (12), 2nd Place in Individual Functional Handbuilding: Brooklynn Jenkins (12), 1st Place in Collaborative Throwing: Layton Dickerson (12) & Victoria Escobar (12), 1st Place in Collaborative Handbuilding: Lillian Dickerson (10). The ceramics classes are taught by Katie Green.

Parent/Community Focus

- RHS Speech & Debate: District Competition results—Tochi Ihekona (11) and Shawn Hulen (11) placed 4th in public Forum Debate 1st alternate to Nationals. Worlds Debate Team including Judy Batts (12), Dallas Frazier (12), Awah Asangwe (12), and Nya Vargas (11) qualified to Nationals, Dallas Frazier (12) placed 6th in Informative Speaking, Judy Batts (12) placed 8th in United States Extemp and Qualified to State by placing 3rd in Lincoln Douglas Debate.
- RHS Vocal Music students participated in district solo and small ensemble festival on Friday, April 1st. Receiving an Exemplary (1) rating on their vocal solos and advancing the state music festival are Ben Baker (12), Halie Boardman (10) Clara Bryant (12), Parker Cobden (11), Reiko Groves (9), and Cynne Soria (12). Receiving an Exemplary (1) on their small ensembles and advancing to state were the Miscellaneous Vocal Ensemble of Marques Alsup (11), Clara Bryant (12), Parker Cobden (11), Naomi Gonterman (12), Jodi Hoffman (12), Izzie Lawrence (11), Lucas Mayo (11), and Cynne Soria (12), and the Miscellaneous Vocal Ensemble of Halie Boardman (10), Clara Bryant (12), Hannah Cartner (10), Tehya Cauthon (9), Reiko Groves (9), Josie McCoy (11), Aniqua Nelson (10), and Victoria Olson (10).
- RHS Band: At the MSHSAA State Large Group Festival Symphonic Band received an Exemplary rating (1 Rating) and Concert Band received an Outstanding rating (2 Rating).
- RHS Orchestra: Symphony Orchestra received an Exemplary Gold rating at the State music large ensemble festival on March 8th. The Concert Orchestra received an Outstanding Silver rating.
- RHS Boys Basketball won conference. 4th time this senior class has won conference in a row. Post season honors: De'Waun Norton (12) 1st Team All-Conference & 1st Team All-District, Jason Parson (12) 1st Team All-Conference, Ramelo Smith (9) 1st Team All-District & 2nd Team All-Conference. Jason Parson & De'Waun Norton have been selected to play in the City vs. County All-Star Game. Coach Buford was also selected conference coach of the year for the 4th time in a row & 7th time out of his 9 years of coaching at RHS.
- RHS Girls Basketball won conference. Post season honors: Stevi Yancy (12) 1st Team All-District and 1st team All-Conference. Summer Yancy (10), 1st Team All-District, 1st Team All-Conference, and All-State. Amani Henry (11) 1st Team All-District and 2nd

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Team All-Conference. Stevi Yancy will represent Raytown High School in the 2022 DiRenna Missouri versus Kansas All-Star Game in April. Coach Dunn received Conference Coach of the Year honors.

- RHS Scholars Bowl placed 3rd in Conference this year! That is the highest place they have earned in over 5 years! They are now gearing up for Districts on April 9th.
- RHS Spring Sports are underway and we have a large turnout for all activities.

Upcoming School Events

- Apr. 7-9: RHS Spring Play: She Kills Monsters—RHS Performing Arts Center, 7pm
- Apr. 13: RHS LIFE University/CBI Open House—Transition House, 5:30-7pm
- Apr. 23: Prom—The Gallery at Power and Light, 8pm
- Apr. 26: Athletic Signing Night—RHS Gymnasium, 7pm
- May 3: Senior Awards Night—RHS Performing Arts Center, 6:30 pm
- May 6: JayFest Art Show—RHS Performing Arts Center Lobby, 5:00 pm
- May 6: Pops Concert—RHS Performing Arts Center, 7pm
- May 13: Senior Last Day of Attendance
- May 20: Graduation Rehearsal and Senior Breakfast, 8 am
- May 23: Graduation—Cable Dahmer Arena, 10am
- Check out the RHS Activities Website/Calendar for additional dates/information

Raytown South High School

Academic Focus

- The SHS Science Department works together as a team to build strong relationships with our students and to develop learning experiences that will help our students be successful in school and in life. To teach our students effectively, it's crucial to get to know them and earn their trust and respect. The past few years have been a challenge and while we are back in the building, so is the trauma of what's been unfolding in the world around us. Our students have shown tremendous resilience. They come back and try again on a daily basis while dealing with masks, quarantines, social distancing, and the demanding pace of traditional schooling.
- Our science teachers work to create concrete experiences to help build a better foundational understanding of concepts in an engaging way. Taking an authentic approach to learning helps students make connections to their own lives and the relevance helps to keep them interested and engaged. Students are able to apply critical thinking skills in authentic ways when participating in activities or issues-based learning. Many of the hands-on experiences and/or real world applications help to bring joy into the classroom, as well.
- Technology has been incredibly helpful to support our students whether they are in person or virtual. Teachers rely on Google Classroom, Gizmos, Actively Learn, Nearpod, and Edulastic to make learning accessible to all students. Technology is also an area where our students have grown tremendously as a result of the pandemic. Students are all very high functioning on their devices, which was a struggle prior to virtual learning.

Parent/Community Focus

- Girls Varsity Basketball made it to the State Quarterfinals.

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- We have partnered with Dynasty Youth Football to host games and practices this season; we also hosted their teams, parents, and coaches at a high school football game. Our volleyball program hosted a "Future Cardinal Night" in which the Raytown South Middle Volleyball Team came to a game and received a tour of the school from our varsity volleyball players. Our future planning is focused on increased engagement with the middle schools, as well as completing community service projects as a department.
- MetroSportsKC Girls player of the week candidate Jiyani Thompson.
- HyVee Girls Basketball Team of the week candidate KCTV5 Lady Cardinals.
- Congratulations to Senior Shawn'Dale Ross and Tyrese Cannon on being named to All-District Team Class 5 District 7! Congratulations to SR Shawn'Dale Ross for being named 1st Team All Suburban Blue Conference. Congratulations to Senior Tyrese Cannon on 2nd Team All Suburban Blue Conference
- Congratulations Girls Varsity All District team Amrri Thompson, Ja'Cole Johnson, and Jiyani.
- Reward Effort
- The activities department celebrated National Coaches Day on October 6th which included a catered lunch for all of our coaches. We are also celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Title IX (June 23rd, 2022) by honoring current female coaches & South Alumni on the 23rd of each month. Our department has also begun an "Athlete of the Month" initiative which highlights athletes from each in season sports team.
- Coaching Education
- All coaches received training in first aid, CPR/AED, mental health, and concussions. Coaches also join their state coaching associations and are encouraged to attend one professional development event before their season begins.

Upcoming School Events

- For current updates and news follow us on the Twitter @RQSSouthHigh.
- Check out Sonic Locker Room for sports, clubs, theatre, and music interviews of students, teachers, and coaches.

Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus

- Spanish I students recently completed a project titled "Una Nueva Escuela" which means "A New School". The vocabulary for this unit was all about classroom objects, places in the school building, and locations. Students were able to create a brand new school for the Raytown district. Other than following the basic requirements needed in certain rooms within their school, students had full creativity to add whatever they would want in this new school! After students completed creating their building, they also had to answer questions in Spanish about the locations of each room which helped them practice their location vocabulary. It was so exciting to see the creative buildings students made and their ideas on what kinds of rooms they would add to a new school if given the opportunity!

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- This month, FACS students spent time learning about foodborne illnesses. Students discussed the symptoms and causes of food poisoning, and sources of contamination in the food supply. Students investigated a foodborne illness outbreak. Using various scenarios, students determined the contaminated food and the pathogen responsible. To conclude the lesson, students created informational posters to spread awareness of foodborne illness.
- Staff Professional Development: The World Café'
RMS teachers participated in a World Café Conversations. The café provided an opportunity for teachers to use collaborative dialogue around questions that matter in service to real work to RMS. Our Café specific goal was Strengthening Community. Three questions posed were 1. What value do you want for “building community” at RMS? 2. What goals/standards do you have for “building community” with students at RMS? 3. List one barrier that you struggle with. What can you do to seek help to move past this barrier? World Café conversations are based on the seven design principles and format developed by the World Café, a global movement to support conversations that matter in community settings around the world. Teachers enjoyed having the opportunity to discuss pertinent issues of interest to them and to share their collective discoveries.

Parent/Community Focus

- In early March, the RMS band received a #1 rating at the KC Metro Large Ensemble Festival. Seventh and eighth grade students were combined as they played two pieces for a panel of judges. Excelsior and Asian Folk Rhapsody were the two pieces performed. There were a total of 23 bands that performed at the festival. Well done RMS!
- RMS students participated in the first grade level activity night for the year. Students earning no tardies for the month of March with acceptable behavior were able to attend the event. Activities included basketball, games and music for dancing. It was nice to see students look forward to this activity. Attending students had a great time.

Upcoming School Events

- School Play: Musical Performance Frozen Junior April 28 @ 7 pm
- For current updates and highlights, follow us on RMS Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/Raytown-Middle-School-106165480742984>

Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- This past month, our staff reviewed and discussed an article entitled, ***Building Racial Equity Through Trauma-Responsive Discipline***. The article was timely and provided us as a staff a vehicle to reflect and have conversations about the continued need for self-care in our profession. Our staff discussed the main ideas of the article, which include:
 - From a Historical context, we have transitioned students back to school successfully after large scale traumatic events.
 - The cognitive and emotional dysregulation some students experience may manifest as externalized negative behaviors.

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- Students who have had a history of frequent engagement with unsupportive environments outside of school often have a history of defeating experiences inside the school.
- More importantly, the article brings forward two fundamental tenets of trauma responsive practices, which include, emotional neutrality and co-regulation. Our staff engaged in conversations about the need to be intentional with self-care to ensure educators have the requisite energy and capacity to meet difficult students with emotional neutrality and co-regulation. I appreciate the staff at South Middle is always willing to reflect and grow in the name of serving our students.

Parent/Community Focus

- We opened our track season with a successful meet. Our athletes received lots of compliments and we are very proud of them. We look forward to all they will accomplish this season.
- Congratulations to:
 - Girls Relays 4x1 & 4x2, finished in 1st place
 - Kennedy Union finished in 1st place in the open 100
 - Cae'lun Gardner & Jayla McClinton finished in 1st place in shot and discuss

Upcoming School Events

- April 19th, 5th Grade Parent Night -6-8 p.m.
- South Middle Live, Friday, May 6th @ 7 p.m.

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- We started Trister 5 with a focus on Instructional Success Stories! This began with reminders of Hattie's work around effect size and collective teacher efficacy. We believe we can grow together as a PLC and positively impact student learning.
- Teachers were given the opportunity to highlight the instructional prowess of their colleagues if they had observed someone else's class and/or share an engaging and successful instructional activity they'd recently done in the classroom. There were several Instructional Success Stories shared!
- Ms. Iseminger's FACS 2 students were able to apply advanced skills from FACS 1 to create a patchwork pillow from several pieces of fabric.
- Mr. Spake's Physical Science students constructed paper roller coasters during their energy unit.

Parent/Community Focus

- Ms. Guinn, CMS Social Worker, is promoting and supporting with a Food Distribution for families on April 16th at RSECC from 10-11:30am.
- Yearbook Club students and Sponsor, Ms. Johnson, celebrated completion and submission of the yearbook for this year.
- Track Season is underway and student-athletes, along with Coach Rusboldt, are looking forward to a home meet on April 6th at 5:30pm.

Upcoming School Events

- Stuco Spring Dance, Thursday, April 14th (6th Gr) 5:00-6:30pm & (7th/8th Gr) 7:00-8:30pm

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Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- We are working on tight transitions, solid use of objectives to guide instruction
- Focus on learning and grades should reflect learning

Parent/Community Focus

- Family Fun Night/ Cultural Joy Night

Upcoming School Events

- Family fun night in April

Northwood

Academic Focus

- Individualized Education Plan Goals
- Communication
- Social Emotional Learning

Parent/Community Focus

- Begin Kindergarten IEP meetings
- LIFE Program students filling Easter Eggs for the Raytown Main Street Association
Easter Egg hunt

Upcoming School Events

- Northwood Graduation: May 12, 2022 at 6 PM at RHS Auditorium

Herndon Career Center & Southland CAPS

Academic Focus

- Foundations of Nursing students completed their clinical rotations and are now preparing for their CNA theory and practical tests leading to their CNA certification.
- Our Southland CAPS students are continuing their internships at various locations based on student interest. Students are sharing back their experiences one time a week and reflecting on how to continually improve.

Parent/Community Focus

- We will host Meet the Teacher Nights to help ensure students who applied and were accepted are prepared knowing the expectations for the year ahead.
- We will celebrate one student and one industry partner for each program at awards night.

Upcoming School Events

- April 21: Meet the Teacher
- April 28: Awards Night
- May 4: Meet the Teacher