

Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report January, 2022

Blue Ridge Elementary



Celebrations

- **LivingWell Recipient:** Ms. Christy Curran, admin intern, was selected for December's wellness CHAMP! The following was mentioned about Ms. Curran, "Curran is upbeat and willing to help put in any way she can. She is always ready with suggestions for better classroom climate, atmosphere, or instruction. She makes the admin assistant job look like fun."
- **PBIS:** 250 students who worked hard showing school wide expectations had the opportunity to participate in our Q2 Grow Incentive; Winter Wonder-STEM. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities. Students in each classroom who exhibit these core values will receive recognition over the intercom and a certificate January 14th.
- **12 Days of Grinchmas:** Staff enjoyed 12 days of finding the Grinch hiding around the building. This resulted in staff working with one another, coming in early, and brought a competitive yet positive feel to the building as we led up to the Winter break. Staff received prizes from the staff prize box for finding the Grinch!

Academic Focus

- **Battle of the Brains:** A total of 7 of our 4th and 5th grade Challenge students were named as Top 20 Finalists in the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains. These students had the opportunity to receive the news together while watching a LIVE presentation by Burns and McDonnell themselves via Zoom.
- **Benchmark Testing:** Students participated in the STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, and the Universal Math screener K-5. We are looking forward to analyzing the data and seeing the growth made by students.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Community Partners:** Graceway church and Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church provided a staff morale booster by providing Sonic drinks and holiday treats to the staff.
- **Donation:** A former teacher of Blue Ridge Elementary donated games to the focus room so students could interact with adults and peers during breaks and calming activities.
- **Classroom Parties:** Tuesday, December 21 classroom celebrated their classroom parties with the generous donations and support of our very own Blue Ridge families. We were grateful for their snack and craft donations. Staff and students also showed Winter/Holiday Spirit by dressing up for the 12 days leading up to break.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 14** End of Quarter 2
- **January 17/18** Martin Luther King Day/Teacher Professional Work Day

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Eastwood Hills Elementary



Celebrations

- **12 Days of Spirit & Snowperson Hunt** As countdown to our holiday break, Eastwood staff and students celebrated the 12 Days of Spirit. We Decked the Halls and wore twinkly lights, and even our vacation attire. It is always fun to do things together as a community! Additionally, courtesy of our PTA, staff participated in a Snowperson Hunt. Teachers searched the building for snow people then redeemed their snowmen for prizes. Teachers are VERY competitive!
- **PBS Celebrations** The second week of December, our students with positive behavior for the month of November celebrated together by playing games and snacking on popcorn. At Eastwood, it is important to celebrate our successes as much as possible, so we are intentional about celebrating the good behavior choices our students make every month!

Academic Focus

- **Math Masters** Our Multiplication Masters competition has begun and a Third Grade class has been the front runner the entire competition!!! It has been so much fun to watch our students get excited about learning their multiplication facts!! Classrooms and grade levels are supporting one another in this challenge to memorize their multiplication facts. We know our students need this foundational skill in the upper grades so that they can develop more advanced mathematical skills and concepts. The final competition is coming in January. Who will reign supreme?
- **Reading Achievers** Every week, 30-40 students are recognized over the announcements on Fridays for advancing along the reading continuum. This has become such a special celebration. Huge thank you to Dr. Moore and our Community Partners who are helping to supply the books that are given out to receiving students each week!!

Parent/Community Focus

- **Family Fun Night** Eastwood hosted its second Family Fun Night on December 16th. During this virtual event, Dr. Markley read a story to the students and we sang holiday songs together. Students and staff drank hot chocolate while we listened to the story and sang along. It was a very well attended event!!
- **Traditional Hat/Glove/Book Gifting** As is Eastwood tradition, every student received a hat, pair of gloves, and a book on the last day of school before Winter Break. We are so thankful for our Community Partners ABMay, the KC Credit Union, and Dialectic Engineering for their donations. We couldn't do this without them!

Upcoming School Events

- **January 7** Kingdom United Book Kick-Off; Theme~Racial Diversity
- **January 10** December Positive Behavior Party week
- **January 14** Cupcakin' Truck @ EWH for perfect 2nd Quarter recipients
- **January 21** 2nd Quarter Positive Behavior Party & PBS Assembly
- **January 23** Great Kindness Challenge Week

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Fletridge Elementary



Celebrations

- **Battle of the Brains:** Several FR 4th and 5th grade Challenge students were named as a Top 20 Finalist to the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains. Congratulations!
- **12 Days of Christmas:** In recognition for all the staff do each and every day for our school community, FR administration recognized all staff with a variety of treats/activities for the 12 days before winter break. Thank you FR team!
- **FR Door Decorating Contest:** December was an opportunity to engage staff and students in a friendly competition. This year there was one grand prize winner along with six honorable mentions in several categories. There was much fun had by all.
- **Principal's Breakfast/Perfect Attendance:** Each month students are recognized for exhibiting monthly character. December's character trait was Self Control. Also K-5 students who have perfect attendance are recognized for being in school every minute, every hour and every day school was in session.

Academic Focus

- **Benchmark Testing:** Students participated in the STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, and the Universal Math screener K-5. We are looking forward to analyzing the data and seeing student academic growth.
- **PLC Collaboration:** All K-5 teachers were given release time per our CPL plan to review data, review instructional resources and collaboratively plan for students academic growth in reading and math.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Holiday Helpers:** FR counselor Mrs. Greeson coordinated efforts with staff, families and community members to support those in need this holiday season. To date we supported 25 FR families in need.
- **Holiday Mart/Schoolwide Sing A Long:** PTA sponsored a Holiday Mart for our students to purchase holiday gifts for their families and on the last day of school all students participated in a school wide Sing A Long with a special visit from our very own Grinch. Much fun was had by all! These events were a success.
- **Quarterly PBS Incentive:** All students were invited to our quarterly PBS incentive. Students worked extremely hard to earn starbucks to purchase treats for their Movie Day. Great job FR Stars!

Upcoming School Events

- **January 26** Principal's Breakfast

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Laurel Hills Elementary



Celebrations

- Congratulations to our evening custodian Gracie Carrasquillo for being selected as December's LH Wellness Champ! The theme was "Unstoppable Spirit". Her nominator said, "Gracie is ALWAYS happy and smiling. She definitely has an amazing spirit about her. She always brightens my day when she gets here." Way to go, Gracie! Thank you for sharing your unstoppable spirit with Laurel Hills!
- On Wednesdays, two lucky students are selected for our game called "Are You Here?". When their name is called, students may come to the office for a prize if they are currently present at school. We have been on a streak over the past few weeks of having lots of Leopards present at school and eligible for their prize!

Academic Focus

- Students in K-5 took Early Literacy and/or Reading STAR assessments and the math universal assessments in the month of December. We were excited to see the academic growth of our Leopards!
- On November 30, teachers had their second "data wall day" where we updated progress in small group reading. We saw large gains in all grade levels and continue to be proud of the reading progress we're making.

Parent/Community Focus

- Laurel Hills welcomed families for "Rock & Bowl" during Fridays in December. Parents, grandparents, and guardians were able to join their student(s) for a fun, family-filled event!
- Our families and our PTA donated supplies for classroom Winter Parties. Students will enjoy their classroom parties on Wednesday, December 22.
- This year we were able to support 53 students for the holidays. This was thanks to the generous work of our Caring for Kids Community Partners, the Raytown South High School Holiday Party, and the office of Family Support Services.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 14** End of Q2
- **January 20** Score 1 for Health Screenings
- **January 27** LH ELA & Math Night

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Little Blue Elementary



Celebrations

- **PBIS Party:** Students spent the entire 2nd quarter earning their way to the Second Quarter PBIS party! The students got to create a winter themed craft, play a game in the gym and have a treat with some hot chocolate.
- **Terrific Kids Virtual Assembly:** Students were recognized by their classroom teacher for demonstrating being responsible, the character trait for the Month of December, and received a certificate and a shirt to honor their accomplishment.

Academic Focus

- **Battle of the Brains:** A group of challenge students in 4th and 5th grade were named as a Top 20 Finalist to the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains.
- **Assessments:** Students in K-5 took Early Literacy and/or Reading STAR assessments and the math universal assessments in the month of December. We were excited to see the academic growth with our Mustangs.

Parent Community Focus

- **Mustang Market:** Students have been earning Mustang Merits and spending their merits in our Mustang Market. Students earn Mustang Merits by being safe, respectful, and responsible.
- **Holiday Cheer!:** Little Blue Elementary adopted 20 families this holiday season. Individual staff members purchased items for students and families to make sure their holiday is merry and bright.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 14** End of Q2
- **January 17-18** No School (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / Teacher Work Day)

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Norfleet Elementary



Celebrations

- **LivingWell Honoree:** Congratulations to our December honoree, who has an unstoppable spirit... Administrator Intern Brandy Burke is a giver who spreads joy and enthusiasm wherever she goes.
- **Doll Drawing Winner:** A retired Norfleet employee graciously donated a new American Girl doll to the school so we could give it to a student who would enjoy it. Kindergarten student Giselle Cardenas Jimenez was the lucky winner!
- **2nd Quarter PBS Party:** Norfleet celebrated students' good behavior choices with our second quarter incentive party on December 21st. Students enjoyed a snack and made a winter craft.

Academic Focus

- **Winter Benchmark Testing:** Kindergarten through fifth grade students participated in STAR Early Literacy or Reading testing. All students also participated in the Universal Screener for math. We are busy analyzing results and celebrating student progress.
- **Professional Learning:** Norfleet Teachers participated in a learning session with the ELD Teachers. It was a great refresher session on how we can best support our ELD students.
- **Battle of the Brains:** Several of our 4th and 5th grade Challenge students were named as a Top 20 Finalists in the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Winter Parties:** Norfleet teachers hosted annual winter parties in their classrooms on December 22nd. Our PTA provided popcorn and juice boxes for every student to enjoy during a quick winter movie on the half day of school. Norfleet appreciates the support of our PTA!
- **Caring for Kids:** One of Norfleet's partners provided hand knitted hats and gloves for every student as a winter gift. Another partner provided the drinks for our quarter two PBS incentive party, also held in December. We appreciate the time and generosity of our CFK partners!

Upcoming School Events

- **January 11, 10:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.** PTA Panda Express Day
- **January 17** No School - Dr. MLK, Jr. Day
- **January 18** No School - Teacher Professional Work Day

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Robinson Elementary



Celebrations

- Staff were treated to the “12 days before break...” Staff looked forward to the rhyme and subsequent treat leading up to winter break.
- We celebrated our December students of the month with breakfast. Students were recognized for being excellent examples of “Responsibility”. Each of our winners also receives a special shirt each month.
- So far this year our Robinson Post Office has delivered 1,277 letters to students and staff. At Robinson we love how this enhances our school climate.

Academic Focus

- **Winter Benchmark Testing:** Kindergarten through fifth grade students participated in STAR Early Literacy or Reading testing. All students also participated in the Universal Screener for math. After winter break we plan to analyze the results, update our data wall and make instructional decisions based on this new data.
- **Battle of the Brains:** Several of our 4th and 5th grade Challenge students were named as a Top 20 Finalists in the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains.

Parent/Community Focus

- Our PTA and Caring for Kids partnerships made donations for our student winter party. Caring for Kids took care of the juice and our Robinson PTA purchased Ridgewood Donuts for each student and staff that were uniquely decorated and fun! Students in K-4 made a wood inspired holiday piece while our 5th graders had a blast making their own gnomes.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 20** School pictures-Personality and Class Pictures
- **January 20, 6:00-7:00 p.m.** Robinson PTA Board Meeting
- **January 28** Health Kids

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Southwood Elementary



Celebrations

- Several teachers were recognized as Sutherland Superstars.
- Several Perfect attendance winners received a lunch certificate to Panda Express.
- April Sutherland received the (Kansas City Elementary Principals Association) KCEPA award winner

Academic Focus

- **STAR Assessments**-Students in K-5 took Early Literacy and/or Reading STAR assessments in the and math universal assessments in the month of December.
- **Courageous Conversations:** Staff members continue to participate in a Book Study. This study allows staff to discuss conversations related to bias and race. This is to bring awareness of self and differences.
- **Model Classrooms:** All General Education teachers taught in the model classrooms at Southwood. These classrooms hold samples of the furniture in which the district is anticipating on buying for the elementary buildings.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Beep Beep Cart**-Teachers were able to check out the SW Roadrunner Beep Beep Cart for students. Students have been earning beep beep bucks for being respectful, responsible and safe. They are able to purchase items from the cart with those bucks. Every Friday afternoon there is a student raffle.
- **Penguin Patch:** Our PTA sponsored the holiday Shop through Penguin Patch. Students were able to shop and purchase gifts for their family.
- **Winter Parties**- On December 21st, our students had their winter parties. This was hosted by SW PTA. The winter party fun bags included a craft, snack and drink. .
- **Spirit Days/Holiday**-Students and staff participated in [spirit days](#). Staff had a [holiday outing](#) on Friday December 17 at The Courthouse Exchange in Independence, Missouri.
- **5th Grade Field Trip** : Students visit the planetarium, at Union Station on December 13, 2021.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 6** BIST Day
- **January 10, 6:30 p.m.** PTA Board Meeting
- **January 11** PTA Unit Mtg.

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Spring Valley Elementary



Celebrations

- **Snowman Hunt for Staff:** 12.5 day countdown to winter break. Snowmen were hidden around the building for staff to locate and redeem for a “Some People Are Worth Melting For” Coupon with various self care bags, snack bags, free lunch from Jason’s Deli, Sonic or QT drinks, self care break while admin read to class and leave 30 minutes early while admin covers your class. Staff enjoyed hunting for the snowmen and redeeming their coupons for a special treat.
- **PBIS:** Over 200 students enjoyed our 2nd Quarter Catch Me If You Can Incentive. These students displayed school wide expectations of being safe, respectful and responsible. Students entered our Gingerbread House of fun to create their own gingerbread ornaments, gingerbread cookies and received an activity book full of gingerbread winter bliss.
- **Cooperation Admin Chew & Chat:** For the month of December, students were selected for demonstrating cooperation to peers, their teachers and other adults at SV. Students enjoyed Dunkin’ Donuts provided by our Caring for Kids Partner, Smiles Doctors, while Admin presented them with a certificate and pencil. Students enjoyed hearing why they were chosen by their teacher or peers.

Academic Focus

- **Battle of the Brains:** A total of 7 of our 4th and 5th grade Challenge students were named as Top 20 Finalists in the Burns and McDonnell Battle of the Brains. These students had the opportunity to receive the news together while watching a LIVE presentation by Burns and McDonnell themselves via Zoom.
- **Benchmark Testing:** Students participated in STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading and the Math Universal Screener. We are excited to see growth in Math and Reading by our students once all results are completed.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Winter Parties:** Friday, December 17th, classrooms celebrated by creating pinecone gnomes, reindeer antlers or snowmen ornaments. Students also participated in winter games and enjoyed a treat that was provided by our wonderful PTA.
- **Community Partners:** Smile Doctors, Lane Avenue Baptist Church and SOW Wild Natives donated food items and gloves/hats for our students and families for the holiday.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 14** End of Quarter 2
- **January 17/18** Martin Luther King Day/Teacher Professional Work Day
- **January 20, 4:00-8:00 p.m.** SV McDonald’s Night

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Westridge Elementary

Celebrations

- **Unstoppable WR Spirit-** This month, we had multiple staff members nominated for the Wellness Spirit Award
 - Matt Wick- Counselor
 - Katie Cavin- Library Clerk
 - Karen Payne- Music
 - Carole Garth- 4th Grade Teacher
 - Alejandro Schlagel- 1st Grade Teacher

Academic Focus

- **Reading Vertical Team-** The reading vertical team is starting a book study of Strategies That Work to define and scaffold reading comprehension strategies as a building.
- **Reading Growth-** Between the months of October and November, the average percentage of students reaching the reading target increased by 20%.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Winter Store-** Westridge held its yearly Winter Store the week of the 13th. Students purchased gifts for themselves, family members and friends. It was a great success and created almost \$500 in profits for our activities fund.
- **Spirit Week-** From the 13th to the 22nd, Westridge has had theme dress up days. Click [here](#) for a few pics of our students participating in scarf day, flannel day, and red and green day.
- **Winter Carnival-** Friday, the 17th was our Winter Carnival. Students were able to celebrate their hard work before Winter Break with a cake walk, bounce house, tattoo station, craft station, and more. Thank you to our PTA and Caring for Kids partners!

Upcoming School Events

- **January 13, 6:30 p.m.** PTA Family Movie Night
- **January 14** Platinum Party

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New Trails Early Learning Center



Celebrations

- The building participated in the 12 days of December. Everyday was a themed spirit day.
- Dec. 16 NT hosted the bus drivers and aides for a brunch and tour of the building.
- NT staff adopted 4 families for Christmas.
- Students participated in Snowy Day activities with principal and SLP's while teachers and IA's had a gift of time.

Academic Focus

- Students followed a map using prepositions and finding shapes in their environment to catch the Gingerbread Man.
- Math- 3 year olds are working on sorting and attributes including opposites.
4 year olds are also working on sorting and describing attributes
- Four year olds have been working on investigating the world around them. In reading they are working on making predictions and inferencing.

Parent/Community Focus

- The Blue Ridge Mall Optimist brought goodie bags and Santa. The students sang and gave Santa a fist bump.
- Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church brought goodies for staff.
- Four Corners Church adopted and provided 66 students with holiday gifts.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 13, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Winter PAT Event

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Three Trails Preschool

Celebrations

- **Hugh** has done an amazing job adjusting to the new change, and has stepped up in my classroom to meet needs. **Laila** is full of love and joy. She is always the first one to help a friend in need, or runs to the aid when they are hurt. **Geron** has done so well following directions in class and being able to stay with his class at nap time! He has made huge improvements! **Ava** is a sweet girl that always follows instructions and does what is asked of her the first time. She helps her friends when needed and helps around the classroom. She follows 3T's hallway and bathroom expectations/procedures all the time. Ava is truly a star student in my eyes. **Evelyn** has been making progress with following directions, especially with laying still at naptime. **Jason** is helpful in the classroom with reminding his friends/peers of our routines. He will point out the routines around the room and show them what they should be doing. He also enjoys helping with classroom jobs such as washing the paint brushes or making sure everyone has made their commitment in the morning. **Murat** does a great job following directions the first time. **Saint** is always a great example to others, and a great role model! **Kylie** has been making great choices to be part of the school family. She has been working hard each day to follow classroom expectations and routines! I am so proud of her. **Roman** has been transitioning well. He has done a good job listening this week. **Niemiah** has made much improvement with following adult directions the first time. **Avion** is always smiling and always willing to play with new friends! **Jaylen** is a good friend to everyone in the classroom. He is helpful, kind and has a smile for everyone he meets. **Khari** is always quick to follow directions and plays well with all the other kids.

Academic Focus

- Celebration of Diversity: This month's focus was to dare to be Different. 3T Staff read books and learned about differences between those with special needs.
- Teachers have been meeting with students in small groups during centers focusing on phonemic awareness. Teachers completed STAR testing on students. Teachers will review STAR results when we return from winter break.

Parent/Community Focus

- Read-A-Thon: Students participated in our first read-a-thon at Three Trails. Students read over 4900 minute during the 2 weeks.
- Parent meeting/curriculum 12/1: Social worker Ebony Sims, hosted her 2nd parent training. Parents learned about using Trauma Smart and Conscious Discipline and how to use both strategies at home to support their child.

Upcoming School Events

- **January 24, 25, 27** Zoomobile
- **January 31** Healthy Kids