

Secondary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report



September 2018

Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- RHS staff are currently preparing for our 6th year of critical thinking and argumentative writing. This year the staff will expand argumentative writing tasks to ALL classes at ALL grade levels. Additionally, the Data Review Team cycles have been revamped by the Building Leadership Team to allow teachers to more specifically target component skills of argumentative writing and thereby provide deeper direct content specific instruction. The initial writing task window will be during weeks 3- 6 of the first trimester.
- RHS Band has seen a steady increase in participation over the last 5 years. Currently there are approximately 140 students participating in band, which is more than double the number of students participating 5 years ago. This is largely a result of the hard work of Joe Hill (band director) and Mike Doney (asst. director). The rigor and quality of this program is exceptional.

Parent/Community Focus

- RHS Speech & Debate: Neftali Ruiz (12th) placed 8th in Big Question Debate at the National Speech and Debate Tournament.
- RHS Football is off to a great start with a win over Blue Springs South in week 1. Joe Campbell (11th)—quarterback is the HyVee Athlete of the Week.
- RHS Boys' Soccer numbers have increased and this year we will be adding a “C” team to allow more boys an opportunity to play.
- RHS Jaywalkers received several awards at camp including: Technical Excellence Award for Camp Routine, Heart of Gold Award, The Spirit Stick and several individual spirit ribbons for technique, showmanship, and spirit. Shiloh Enyard (12th) received the Pin it Forward Award from fellow camp members based on leadership, character and technique. All-American Nominations: Molly Pieratt (9th), Jessica Johnson (9th), Shiloh Enyard, and Kamryn Etter (9th).
- RHS Cheer received the following team awards at Cheer Camp: Herkie Award, Top Team Chant, Most Improved Performance Team, 3rd Place in Performance Competition The following students were selected for the All-American Team: Taylor Iverson (11th), Jack McClung (12th), Madisen Berry (10th). Kya Berry (9th) and Madisen Berry won 1st place in Top Gun Dance and Taylor Iverson won 1st place in Top Gun Jumps.

Upcoming School Events

- RHS Softball/Baseball Stadium Ribbon Cutting: Sept. 4 @ RHS—4:15pm
- RHS Softball 1st Ever Home Opener: Sept. 4 @ RHS—5:00pm
- Hall of Fame Student Meet and Greet: Sept. 7 @ RHS—8:30 am
- Raytown/Raytown South Football game: Sept. 7 @ RSHS—7:00pm
- RHS College Fair: Sept. 12 @ RHS—6:30-8:00 pm
- RHS Homecoming Boys' Soccer (vs. North KC) & Varsity Football (vs. Wm. Chrisman) games: Sept. 14 @ RHS—4:00 and 7:00pm (both games will be televised by Spectrum Sports)
- RHS Homecoming: Sept. 15 @ RHS—7:00pm

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Academic Focus

- The class of 2018 was the 55th class with 307 students. The largest class was in 1973 with 637 students. This is the 3rd largest class in 27 years. In addition to scholarship money, 41 students have qualified for the A+ tuition incentive of approximately \$2800 each. This class has received over \$700,000 in scholarships for their first year of post-secondary education. The potential scholarships for 4 years totals \$2.7 million. This breaks the record set in 2010 for the most scholarship money earned in the history of the school since 1962. This total does not include the 3 South High students on the Herndon Culinary Team.
- Each year, the Joshua Center holds the “Me and My World Award for Excellence in Teaching”. This is an opportunity for parents to recognize a teacher that has made an impact in their child’s life. Colin Mulvihill was unanimously chosen as the winner for 2018! Parent, Debra Mixon, wrote about the huge impact Mr. Mulvihill had on her son, Anthony.

Parent/Community Focus

- Students of the Month: Anna Hoffman, Candace Hayes, Ron’Jay Henderson, Chris Aguilar-Rivas, Enrique De La Torre, Alize Swanson, and Ashley Moore.
- Way to represent 7 All-State 2018 Varsity Track student athletes: Ciara Corley, Brianna Garth, Nia Shields, Amya Milligan, Tachelle Thomas, Kerryaunna Ross, Vontrae Booker

Upcoming School Events

- Math tutoring
- Music Man Fall play
- Soccer
- Football
- Softball
- Volleyball
- Steppers

Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus

- Poverty Simulation - RMS teachers participated in the Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) which was a unique opportunity to teach the RMS team to understand what life is like for the 45 million Americans living at or below the poverty line. It’s a team-building activity with a powerful message. Each teacher was assigned a persona: name, gender, age, physical health, and financial situation. For ex. You may be an elderly person suffering from chronic asthma or a high school student with a propensity for skipping school. The object was to remove staff

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members from their normal setting and create an alternative life simulation. The simulation last one “month” (about 2.5 hours total), which is broken up into four 15-minute “weeks”. The object of the activity was to finish the month with all bills paid and your family fed. It was an impressionable experience and teachers reflected on how they could make it a month in poverty as well as how this relates to our RMS families.

- Harvesters Lunch Challenge: RMS teachers participated in the Harvester’s Lunch Challenge which was a fast-paced, hands-on team-building program to help our team work toward a common goal and raise awareness about the issue of hunger. RMS Teams competed against each other to prepare healthy meals on a budget of \$12 and using food you would find at a food pantry. The activity encouraged creativity and problem solving, while promoting healthy eating. After the judging, our teams were able to eat their culinary creations. The experience was enlightening and fun for our RMS family.

Parent/Community Focus

- Welcome Back Students: RMS began the year with grade level assemblies to welcome all students to RMS. Students were introduced to administrators, counselors, interventionist and support staff to ensure a smooth back to school transition. PBS guidelines and incentives were also reviewed and students earned RAPS tickets for demonstrating their knowledge of what it means to be Respectful, Accountable, Positive, and Safe. It is exciting to welcome all students back to the new school year.
- Sixth Grade Orientation~ “Meet and Greet”. This year’s theme continued with a carnival theme in which students and parents had the opportunity to take a fun photo with their sixth grader, enjoy popcorn, cotton candy and play games. Team introductions were made prior to locker move in. Parents also had an opportunity to pay fees and receive schedules as needed. Anticipation was high as our new sixth graders met their Advisory teachers and began moving into their locker. Students and parents toured the building to get acquainted with the school. It was an amazing evening!
- Open House was held on Tuesday August 28, 2018 at 6:00 pm. It began with a welcome message from Dr. May and the PTA president. Our theme, “Connected” was highlighted by the principal and the importance of home school communication was emphasized. Additionally, the PTA book fair was well attended as parents took time to check out the new books for the year. Teachers/staff worked diligently to prepare classrooms and syllabus for open house. Although a storm passed through, parent attendance totaled 194 and it was a productive evening.

Upcoming School Events

- Fundraiser (Otis Spunkmeyer and Popcorn) - August 29 to September 14
- School Picture Day - Monday September 24

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Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- We cannot talk about teaching and learning until students feel their basic needs are being met. South Middle will continue the work we started last year around Trauma Informed Schooling, Cultural Competency, and Teaching with Poverty In Mind. Our staff does an outstanding job building positive relationships and establishing community. As a result of our efforts last year to build staff capacity and understanding, we were able to reduce referrals by approx. 2,700. The impact to realized instructional minutes was significant and we're looking forward to adding a dedicating SEL curriculum this year.

Parent/Community Focus

- 6th Grade Orientation & Open House:
 - 6th Grade Orientation was a smashing success. It was well attended and we were able to meet most of our new Cardinal Families. Staff was welcoming and helped frustrated 6th graders figure out their lockers
 - Open House - Although the rain and clouds may have kept some of our families away, it could not dampen our enthusiasm and commitment to our students and that was clearly on display for parents during Open House The teachers have taken time to make their classrooms welcoming environments for students and have worked to build meaningful relationships and community. All of these things translate to parents as follows: My student is cared for. My student is safe. My student will learn. My student enjoys being a South Middle Cardinal. I trust these adults. I'm very proud of our staff and the work they do on behalf of students

Upcoming School Events

- Fall Sports Kick - Off: Red vs White Football @ RSMS 5:00 p.m.

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- This year we are excited to launch a new Advisory component with Social Emotional Learning curriculum. The program we are using is Second Steps, and we are looking forward to the opportunity to connect with students in a more meaningful way through this curriculum. We will officially launch this initiative in Advisory on September 12th.
- 6th Grade Transition: We have had another great start to the school year welcoming in a whole new group of 6th grade students. Our 6th grade teams have spent a lot of time working to help our students adjust to the middle school setting. We are excited to watch this group of students continue to grow and flourish while here at RCMS!

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Parent/Community Focus

- We held our annual 6th grade Transition night on August 9th. This year we had a parent meeting for the first 20-30 minutes where we shared information with parents/guardians about the transition from elementary to middle school through a brief powerpoint presentation. We also offered our prospective Band students the opportunity to try the instrument they were wanting to play that night. It was a great night of anticipation and high energy as our newest Ravens became more acquainted with RCMS!
- Tuesday August 28th we hosted our annual Open House night for all grade levels. Parents - and some students - came out to meet the teachers and hear about what their students will be learning throughout this school year.

Upcoming School Events

- Purple/Silver for Fall Sports is Thursday August 30th at 4pm with a Tailgate to kick off our Fall Sports Season.
- Math Tutoring will begin in September.

Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- SW-PBS Expectations and Routines - Teachers spent the first week of school practicing and covering expectations.
- RSA has a building wide initiative to connect with three students and build a relationship with students.
- RSA is implementing an additional Social Emotional Learning Curriculum on Wednesdays. The program we are using is Resilience For Youth, this curriculum will allow us to connect and build resilience skills with our students

Parent/Community Focus

- Family Fun Night September 13 from 6:00 - 7:30

Upcoming School Events

- Passing all classes celebration is September 28th
- Pancake Breakfast Celebration for RSA Level students is September 28th

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Northwood

Academic Focus

- Bootcamp SW-PBS Expectations and Routines- Students spent the first two weeks of school practicing routines and procedures.
- Northwood has a building wide goal to increase student communication. Students are working on increasing communication skills, specifically asking for help.

Parent/Community Focus

- Meet the Teacher Night was held on August 13. Northwood had many parents and students attend.

Upcoming School Events

- The L.I.F.E. Program will start working at the Wellness Center the beginning of October.
- Community Based Instruction will begin in September.

Herndon Career Center

Academic Focus

- Students in Construction, Welding, Auto Tech, Auto Collision, Diesel, Cosmetology, and Culinary Arts all passed safety tests in order to proceed to the lab and shop spaces.
- EMT students utilized a John Knox Village ambulance to learn the spaces within an ambulance and how to work effectively in small spaces to maintain or improve patient health.

Parent/Community Focus

- Staff will visit each school for a football game to promote student opportunities available by attending Herndon. The staff will engage community members, parents, students, and business partners in conversations about access to Herndon and how to partner with Herndon.
- Staff will be visiting our community partners on the afternoon of September 11 to continue to build on existing relationships and expand opportunities for students.

Upcoming School Events

- Recruiting at FB Games: 9/7 @ RaySouth, 9/14 @ Center, 9/21 @ Wm Chrisman & Ruskin, 9/28 @ LSN
- Consortium Counselor Meeting: 9/13

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Southland CAPS

Academic Focus

- Spring Valley Elementary will be the host for our inaugural Education Exploration year. Students will have unique opportunities to learn about Education careers not only at Spring Valley but other locations throughout the district.
- Students in the Animal Health program went through the employee onboarding experience on the first day at the Zoo to outline expectations similar to every associate that works at the Zoo.
- All CAPS strands went through boot camp at the beginning of the year to begin to learn professionalism skills to be prepared for the upcoming year.

Parent/Community Focus

- Staff will visit each school for a football game to promote student opportunities available by attending Herndon. The staff will engage community members, parents, students, and business partners in conversations about access to Southland CAPS and how to partner with Southland CAPS.
- Second year students in Animal Health and Tech Solutions will be starting their internships at businesses within the community in the next few weeks.

Upcoming School Events

- Recruiting at FB Games: 9/14 @ Raymore Peculiar, 9/21 @ Ruskin