

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

May, 2023

Blue Ridge Elementary



Celebrations:

- Read-a-Thon Goals Met: The Blue Jay's outdid themselves this month! For our second annual Read-a-Thon fundraiser students read over 200,000 minutes and raised over 10,000 dollars for our activities fund! Principal Phillips and Christy Cozad agreed to be duct taped to the wall of the gym as a reward! EPIC!
- Lounge Makeover: Teacher 's got an early teacher appreciation surprise from our amazing community partners. Blue Ridge Presbyterian, Graceway Church, Life Changers Christian Church, and two anonymous donors chipped in with elbow grease and money to give teachers a space to get away from the stress of being amazing educators!

Academic Focus:

- Trauma Smart Update: Classroom teachers began using "brain as a car" check-in's as they greet students at the door every morning. This is to better gauge students' needs, that way teachers can attune to their students and support them. Classroom teachers also taught the first Trauma Smart lessons about emotional attunement with their students to give them the skills needed to pinpoint exactly how they feel and respond accordingly.
- Equity Council Kick-Off: Teacher leaders, administrators, and CPL chairpersons attended the Equity Council kick-off ready to move forward thinking outside the box about student supports, inclusion, and DEIB! Go Raytown!

Parent/Community Focus:

- Earth Day Awesomeness: The Blue Ridge Blue Jays gave back to the community by picking up trash in the neighborhood surrounding the school. Coleman Park and Blue Ridge Presbyterian never looked so tidy! Several neighbors sent messages of thanks! Way to give back Blue Jays!
- Student Behavior/Hunger Support: Our community partners at Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church donated snacks and toys to support hungry students and students who are safe, respectful, and responsible at Blue Ridge. We are so lucky to have them as neighbors.

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 19, 2:00-3:00 p.m.** Fifth Grade Celebration
- **May 23, 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 1:00-2:00 p.m.** PBIS Incentive at Coleman Park
- **May 25** Field Day

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Eastwood Hills Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Donuts for Perfect Monthly Attendance:** In February, Eastwood Administration began recognizing students monthly for good school attendance. Students with 90%, 95% and 100% attendance for the month are recognized and incentivised for their good school attendance. For students with perfect attendance for the month, students earn a donut breakfast with the principals! In February 50% of Eastwood students earned recognition and reward for attendance at 90% or higher. In March, that number increased to 60%!!
- **Support Staff of the Year:** Eastwood is so excited to honor and celebrate Ms. Ciara Gibbs as our 2023/2024 Support Staff Member of the year!!! Ciara is the Building Clerk at Eastwood and was nominated by her colleagues for the kindness, positivity and support she brings to our school community. Students and staff alike know they can count on Ciara to bring a smile, encouragement and laughter into any situation. We are so lucky to have her at Eastwood Hills!!

Academic Focus:

- **MAP Testing:** Our students in grades three through five began MAP testing this month. We are so proud of how hard they are working on this test! We believe in our students and the potential they have, not only on this test but for all things!
- **Tier 2 and Tier 3 Math Instruction:** Eastwood teachers have developed a systematic structure to ensure that every student has access to Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 instruction in mathematics. As part of this work, this month, teachers met in vertical teams to develop proficiency markers for each prioritized standard, common assessments to measure success on each standard, and collaboration regarding instructional strategies for Tier 2 and Tier 3 math skills.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Score 1 for Health:** Score 1 for Health professionals came to Eastwood Hills for the final time this school year to screen the dental, vision and health of participating students. We are thankful for our network of community professionals to help meet the needs of Eastwood students!

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 3** Bike to School Day
- **May 4, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Family Fun Night and Art Show
- **May 8** Board Member Visit, Welcome Mrs. Johnson-Berry!!
- **May 8-12** Staff Appreciation Week
- **May 18** Career Fair
- **May 23** Fun DAZE
- **May 24** Fifth Grade Recognition Breakfast
- **May 25** 4th Quarter PBIS Assembly and Celebration

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Fleetridge Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Support Staff Employee of the Year:** Fleetridge Interventionist Rodney Jones was honored as the Fleetridge SSEOY. Mr. Jones is a valuable member of the Fleetridge team and the face of Fleetridge every morning and afternoon directing traffic in our car rider line.
- **Girls on the Run:** The Fleetridge Girls on the Run Club has been training for the May 6th 5K at Swope Park. They were cheered on by Fleetridge students at a recent practice race on the playground.
- **Buddy Classrooms:** Primary classes are each paired with an intermediate class at Fleetridge. The buddy classes participate in monthly character building activities and philanthropic projects. Recently, the primary students have been encouraging the intermediate MAP test takers in their buddy classes.

Academic Focus:

- **MAP Pep Assembly:** Fleetridge students participated in an interactive pep assembly complete with pep band music, a skit performed by the teachers, and an encouraging video created by Fleetridge staff members.
- **MAP GLA Prep:** Fleetridge students are ready to show what they know. Students will test April 25-27 and May 2-4.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Spring Family Night:** Families participated in a fun family night at Fleetridge. Several weeks before the event, students received a copy of the book *Ranger in Time* to read in advance of the ELA activities at the spring event. Teachers transformed Fleetridge into the Oregon Trail complete with a covered wagon and many interactive learning stations. Art teacher Emily Schmitz displayed more than 1,000 pieces of student artwork throughout the building for the Art Fair. PTA operated the Scholastic Book Fair throughout the evening, and 5th graders organized a concession stand with \$1 hot dogs and snacks that were donated by 5th grade parents. Proceeds from the 5th grade concession stand will be used to fund 5th Grade Fun Day. Spring Family Night was a huge success!
- **Culver's Night:** Fleetridge PTA earned more than \$700 at the April 4th Culver's Night event. Most impressive was the way Fleetridge students preferred serving food and helping customers to eating the yummy burgers and custard with their families. Fleetridge student workers wearing blue Culver's aprons = lots of tips!

Upcoming School Events:

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| ● May 3, 6:00 p.m. | PTA Meeting |
| ● May 5, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | 5th Grade Fun Day @Main Event |
| ● May 19, 6:00-7:30 p.m. | PTA Family Picnic Night @Fleetridge Playground |
| ● May 22 | 4th Quarter PBS Celebration-Fleetridge City |
| ● May 23, 2:00 p.m. | 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony @Fleetridge Gymnasium |
| ● May 24 | Field Day, 9:00-11:30 Grades 3-5, 12:30-3:00 Grades K-2 |
| ● May 25, 2:00 p.m. | Talent Show, @Fleetridge Gymnasium |
| ● May 26, 9:00 a.m. | 5th Grade vs Staff Kickball Game @Fleetridge Playground |

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Laurel Hills Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Wedding Shower Fun:** This month we celebrated the nuptials for FOUR staff members with a little social gathering and fun. Congratulations to Mr. Ballard, Ms. Serville, Ms. Shelton, and Mr. DJ on their recent and/or upcoming weddings. We love it when the Leopard family grows bigger!
- **Support Staff of the Year:** We were thrilled to honor our Laurel Hills Support Staff Employee of the Year, Ms. Leslee Hunsucker, at the district's annual breakfast celebration. Leslee works in our functional skills program and is an integral part of our team. We couldn't do it without you, Leslee!

Academic Focus:

- **MAP Prep:** We set an ambitious goal of meeting with all MAP testing students one-on-one for a check in and conference before testing started. Mr. Britt, Mrs. Frazier (AP), and Mrs. Sanders (Counselor) had a blast talking to all of our students and giving them some individualized encouragement before their big task!
- **Reading Rockstars:** As we continue our progress on reading achievement, teachers recently met with our Title 1 Reading teacher to review progress. We are proud of the hard work of our students. In four of our six grade levels we have surpassed the end of the year goal. The other two grade levels are making great strides and have overcome many obstacles. Way to go, team!

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Art Fair / Grandparents Night:** Laurel Hills hosted our annual Art Fair & Grandparents Night on April 13. We had an ENORMOUS crowd of folks. Nearly 550 folks came through the door. We had music from Kindergarten and First Graders, ice cream, art, and of course lots of family togetherness. Thank you to all who came out!
- **Earth Day Clean Up:** In honor of Earth day on April 22, the third graders from Mr. Berger and Mr. Ballard's classes went outside and did a clean up of our grounds at Laurel Hills. They collected multiple bags of trash and even found two old tires dumped in our fields! Way to show love to the planet and your school team!

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 19** LH Career Day
- **May 24** 5th Grade Recognition
- **May 25** LH Fun Day



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Little Blue Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Terrific Kids!**- Each month at Little Blue we celebrate a student who is representing that month's character trait. For the month of April the character trait was Capable! Teachers nominated one student from their class that represented that trait and will be getting a certificate and t-shirt!
- **Support Staff of the Year!**- Congratulations to Juliette Genteman, Little Blue Elementary's Library Media Clerk, for being named the 2023-2024 Support Staff Employee of the Year!

Academic Focus:

- **Little Blue Learning Walk!**- On April 19, district administrators visited Little Blue for Little Blue's first Learning Walk! Led by Dr. Schmidli, Mrs. Maring and Mr. Cook, our visitors were split into groups and visited classrooms across all grade levels to see our amazing teachers and students working hard!
- **Cue Is In The Building!**- Little Blue has a new staff member! Back in March, Ms. Fox went to a week long training to get certified to have a therapy dog name Cue! Cue has made an immediate impact on students and staff by greeting everyone as they enter the building and making sure she is always ready for a pet or snuggle!



Parent/Community Focus:

- **Get Air! Night!**- On April 13, Little Blue held a Get Air! Trampoline Park Night Fundraiser. Students and their families came out for an amazing night and after all was said and done, the school raised \$200!



Upcoming School Events:

- **May 4** Kindergarten & First Grade Performance
- **May 23** Quarter 4 PBIS Party
- **May 24** 5th Grade Fun Day & Talent Show
- **May 25** Field Day

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Norfleet Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Support Staff of the Year:** Congratulations to Building Clerk and Great Expectations Site Coordinator Savannah Chancellor who was selected as Norfleet's Support Staff Employee of the Year! Her teamwork, support, and positive energy are noticed throughout the building.
- **Instructional Assistants, Librarian, GE Staff, Bus Driver, & Administrative Professionals Days:** Norfleet recognized these many key staff people in our building with their own special days in April.

Academic Focus:

- **MAP Support:** Norfleet kicked off MAP testing by having Principal pop-in visits to give testing reminders and encouragement. Students also enjoyed cheese popcorn during these visits. Primary students made encouraging posters and cards for their big buddy classrooms.
- **MAP Testing:** Between April 25-May 4, third - fifth grade students took part in the state-wide MAP Testing. They worked hard to show all that they know.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Community Garden:** Our community garden is seeing spring growth! This year, first and second grade planted radishes, lettuce, mustard greens, cilantro, and Swiss chard. Students are also responsible for watering and taking care of the plants before they harvest them. Once they are harvested, students will be able to enjoy tasting and learning about these vegetables.
- **Art Fair and Book Fair:** Norfleet hosted Art Fair and PTA hosted the Book Fair during the last days of April. The Art Fair included displays of artwork by every student and interactive art stations. It was a great experience for all and we thank Art Teacher Mrs. Hartnett for her hard work!
- **Donuts with a Grown Up:** We hosted Donuts with a Grown Up and the Book Fair on the last Friday of April. The gym was full of families enjoying time together!

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 1-5** Staff Appreciation Week
- **May 5** 5th Grade Fun Day
- **May 10** PBS Assembly
- **May 17** Field Day
- **May 19** Career Day
- **May 24, 1:45 p.m.** 5th Grade Recognition
- **May 25** PBS Q4 Parties

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Robinson Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Fourth and Fifth Grade Music Performance** - Mr Dancy, once again, led an amazing performance to showcase all the great learning that is going on in our music classes. Students showed off all their talent with a whole class performance, grade level performances, and solos. Thank you, Mr. Dancy, for all the wonderful performances we have had this year at Robinson!
- **Art Fair** - Thank you, Mrs. Corniels, for setting up a great Art Fair. Each student had a piece of artwork on display. We loved seeing all the great work that has been going on in our art classes this year.
- **Field Trips** - So many educational field trips have happened at Robinson this month! Second grade visited Science City to explore, build, and learn. Fifth Grade went to the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts for Life on the Vertical presentation on rock climbing. First Grade ended their plant unit with a trip to Kemper Outdoor Education Center. We loved hearing about the experiences and learning that is happening on these field trips. Thank you PTA for providing the funds for these opportunities.

Academic Focus:

- **Peer Observations** - We completed our third round of peer observations this month. Teachers had the opportunity to visit another colleague's classroom and leave positive feedback. This has been a great experience for Robinson teachers to see all the wonderful learning that is going on outside of their classroom and grade levels. We hope to continue this in the future.
- **MAP Pep Rally** - We had a great afternoon of cheering and encouragement during our whole school pep rally to get ready for state testing. Kindergarten, first, and second graders performed with uplifting songs. There was a skit from our third, fourth, and fifth grade teachers on test taking skills and reminders. We finished with a speech and video from Mrs. Washington and students paraded the halls to be cheered on by our younger students. Our students are ready for the test and we can't wait for them to showcase all that they know and have learned!

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Gardening Club** - Our Robinson Schoolyard Garden continues to thrive with the help of our fourth graders and Mrs. Sparks-Summers. We have lettuce, cilantro, radish, strawberries, and much more. Our students look forward to returning in the Fall to harvest their fruits and vegetables.

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 4, 7:15-8:15 a.m.** Donuts with Grownups
- **May 5, 11:00 a.m.** March and April Character Trait Lunch
- **May 5** Third Grade Field Trip to the Zoo
- **May 23, 9:30a.m.-3:00 p.m.** Field Day
- **May 25, 10:00 a.m.** Fifth Grade Celebration

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Southwood Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Fine Arts Night:** Ms. Amos, art teacher, and Mrs. Tarwater, music teacher, hosted Fine Arts Night consisting of our Art Fair and activities with the 4th and 5th grade music performance. Sweet sounds of jazz filled the air while the building competed with the Nelson Atkins for best art museum in KC. Families enjoyed fun stations along the way of decorating Frida Kahlo headbands, adding landscaping to a city, and much more.
- **Field Trips:** Kindergarten and 2nd Grade had fun exploring on their field trips to Kaleidoscope and Legoland! Students were able to explore, build, and design new things and structures.

Academic Focus:

- **MAP Pep Rally** - Third, Fourth, and Fifth grade students were celebrated to get pumped up for testing! Classes made signs and cheered chants to get them ready for the test! Students were also able to watch a video with messages from teachers and members across the community!
- **MAP Testing:** Between April 25-May 4, third - fifth grade students took part in the state-wide MAP Testing. They worked hard to show all that they know.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Greg Tang Parent Night:** Mrs. Reger, math specialist, hosted parents and guardians for a virtual math learning night with Greg Tang. They were able to learn and practice strategies while seeing the progression of kindergarten skills through algebra. It was a fun night of exploring concepts together!
- **Bingo for Books:** Mrs. Stine, reading specialist, hosted Bingo for Books where families were able to come have fun while playing Bingo, eating pizza, and winning brand new Scholastic books! There was fun for all and everyone left a winner!

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 5** Career Day
- **May 11** First Grade Field Trip to Kaleidoscope
- **May 16, 9:30** Fifth Grade Recognition
- **May 19, 9:30** Field Day
- **May 23** Southwood City
- **May 25, 2:00** Talent Show

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Spring Valley Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Perseverance Chew & Chat:** We will celebrate 40 SV Cougars who were selected as showing perseverance during the month of April. These students will be celebrated with cookies, juice, certificates and shout outs as to why they were chosen.
- **Support Staff of the Year:** SV was honored to celebrate Freda Green, Resource Instructional Assistant, as our 2023-24 SSEOY. Ms. Green shows joy in her work daily with smiles and partnerships throughout our building.
- **Kindness is Contagious Celebration:** Our 1st grade students won our school wide challenge of being kind to others and celebrated with a popcorn and juice party while watching a kindness video. SV's counselor and social worker celebrated with the students as their teachers enjoyed an extra break in their day.

Academic Focus:

- **GLA/MAP Parade:** Third, Fourth and Fifth graders were pumped up for their upcoming testing as they walked to halls to the sounds of music and cheers from Kindergarten-2nd graders as well as staff. Buddy classrooms also made signs of encouragement and delivered a treat with positive messages daily to their partner class.
- **Monthly Reading Data:** SV was excited to celebrate reading growth in April with 53 students moving up in phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and/or fluency/comprehension. Students were announced over the intercom to come to the front office to receive a certificate, reading celebration pencil and grade level picture.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **World's Finest Chocolate Bar Fundraiser:** It's all about the chocolate in April as families surpassed our goal and sold 456 boxes of chocolate which equates to 27,360 candy bars sold!!! This fundraiser is a huge hit in our community and all students who sold at least 3 boxes of chocolate are able to attend a field trip to BUMP City and enjoy pizza to celebrate!

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 3** Perseverance Chew & Chat
- **May 8** GLA/MAP Celebration field trip to Harris Park (grades 3-5)
- **May 8-12** SV BOGO Book Fair, Staff Appreciation Week
- **May 9** WF Chocolate Fundraiser Incentive FT to BUMP City
- **May 9, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Annual Ice Cream Social, Art Fair & 4th Grade Wax Museum @ 5
- **May 10, 5:30 p.m.** PTA Meeting
- **May 11, 7:00 p.m.** 5th grade Orchestra Concert
- **May 12** 5th grade JET Camp FT
- **May 19** PBIS Incentive - Cougar Carnival - Come One, Come All
- **May 22** K Celebration @ 9:30am, 5th Grade Recognition @ 2:00pm
- **May 23** Talent Show
- **May 24** Field Day
- **May 26** 5th grade Kickball vs. Staff
- **May 26** Year Long Perfect Attendance Bike Celebration

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Westridge Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Support Staff of the Year:** Last month we recognized our secretary, Kaitlyn Larry, as the support staff of the year.
- **Doctor in the House:** Staff celebrated 4th grade teacher, Carole Garth, for successfully defending her dissertation. We celebrated Dr. Garth by having a staff food day that included many of her favorite treats.

Academic Focus:

- **First Grade Math Mastery-** Almost 74% of first graders mastered the ability to solve and addition or subtraction problem within 20 in a story problem!
- **Third Grade Math Mastery-** Almost 80% of third graders can recognize and generate equivalent fractions

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Pastries with Peeps-** We had almost 300 people participate in our PTO's Pastries with Peeps event. Families come to Westridge to enjoy a donut and drink before heading to class.'
- **Kindergarten and First Grade Performance-** Kindergarten and first grade students held a performance for families and friends. We had over 100 visitors for the performance. If you would like to see it, [click here](#).

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 16, 6:00 p.m.** Challenge Lego Expo
- **May 18, 6:00 p.m.** End of Year BBQ
- **May 18** 4th Quarter Awards
- **May 19** 4th Quarter Platinum Party
- **May 22** Field Day
- **May 23, 9:30 a.m.** Lifer Breakfast
- **May 23, 6:00 p.m.** Kindergarten Celebration

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New Trails Early Learning Center

Celebrations:

- **Trauma Smart-** New Trails staff completed year 1 of our Trauma Smart Training.
- **Wellness Friday(Wednesday)-** Staff enjoyed the beautiful day to practice self-care.
- **Splash Into Spring-** We had a great turn out at our spring family event. We had 36 families participate. Many families brought siblings and other family members. Families enjoyed making special chalk, planting seeds, sink or float, shaving cream, and other fun activities.
- **Administrative Assistant Day and Bus Driver Appreciation Day-** NT staff and students dressed in spirit wear and treats were given to thank our Bus Drivers and Aides. They also celebrated Ms Rachel and Ms Ammie for all they do in our office.

Academic Focus:

- **Data Review-** Four year old students met their WIG of retelling with beginning, middle and end. Many students moved up two or more levels on the learning progression. They are currently working on writing their first name with correct spacing, spelling and in the space provided. Three year olds continue their WIG of 100% of students will identify circle, square and triangle.
- We also reviewed IEP, WIG, and behavioral data to help with classroom assignments for next fall.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Community Connections:** New Trails, Success By Six and Parents as Teachers had a table at Community Connections.
- **State Fair Softball Team-** The softball team came and spent the morning reading to students and observing. Several of them are in school to be teachers, we recruited hard!
- **Raytown HS Child Development-** The child development class sent 19 students to spend the morning at NT. They were able to participate and observe different jobs working with young children. They asked great questions and during our conversations options for going into teaching were shared.

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Moving On
- **May 23** Water Day
- **May 25** Last Day PreK and our school Picnic

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Three Trails Preschool

Celebrations:

- Celebrated our secretary, Ms. Jennifer on Administrative Assistant Day with donuts for the staff!

Academic Focus:

- Three Trail students began the unit “Getting Ready for Kindergarten”. Students are focusing on comparing and contrasting Pre-K and Kindergarten. What might be the same and what might be different. They also are discussing what “Big Feelings” they may have and how to handle the “Big Feelings” in Kindergarten. Classroom teachers also are teaching strategies on how to make new friends in school.

Parent/Community Focus:

- It's April and we are springing right along as we amp up our volunteer efforts with parents wanting to attend field trips and have a school presence. Our community volunteer hub “C4K” is wrapping up our staff and parent appreciation efforts as we close out the school year. We are keeping our sights open for new partnerships as the city of Raytown gains new businesses and nonprofits. This month's Diversi-3T focus was “Beyond the Sky” A conversation about Religion, Loss, Grief.

Upcoming School Events:

- **May 4** Jay & Leslie Juggling Performance
- **May 9 & 11** Special Person Breakfast
- **May 15-19** Classes walking to Cave Springs
- **May 22-26** Summer Spirit Week
- **May 23** Water Day
- **May 24** Family End of the Year Picnic