

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021

## Blue Ridge Elementary



### Celebrations

- Blue Ridge is excited to welcome Krista Phillips as the new principal.
- Read Across America: We celebrated the love of reading by recognizing various authors and genres each day of the week. Students and teachers dressed as characters, read by flashlight, and hosted readers from the Blue Ridge community.
- Dr. Miles provided every student with a book of choice from Scholastic to encourage students to read.

### Academic Focus

- **Reading Focus:** In preparation for next year, teachers are researching effective ways to close the achievement gap in reading and provide tiered support in the classroom. This last month, we read about the implementation of readers workshop and how to align K-2. Our goal is to have 85% of second graders reading on grade level by the end of each school year.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **LEAD Incentive:** LEAD is the third vision word of the school year. Blue Ridge students and staff focus on how to lead by example. Teachers integrate the lives of great leaders into community building and provide students the opportunity to lead in the classroom. This year, 275 students participated in the incentive. Seventy-five earned the VIP experience, which was an extra treat.

### Upcoming School Events

- **April 8** Picture Retakes
- **April 9** Always Changing
- **April 12** MAP Kickoff
- **April 13-15** GLA Assessment 3-5
- **April 20-22** GLA Assessment 3-5

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021

## Eastwood Hills Elementary



### Celebrations

- Read-A-Thon~ Eastwood students participated in a week-long Read-A-Thon as part of Read Across America Week. We were thrilled at the overwhelming participation from students and families alike. Over \$3500 was pledged to student readers for the EWH PTA and students engaged in a total of 15,665 minutes of reading for the week!!
- Bike KC Donation~ As part of Counselor lessons regarding safety, a need for bike helmets for some EW students was identified. Thanks to Bike KC in conjunction with Children's Mercy Hospital, 35 helmets were donated to EW 2nd grade students and bike safety lessons were presented to our students. Community counts!
- Attendance~ Thanks to our community partners KC Credit Union, ABMay, and Dialectic Engineering we have upped our attendance recognition game! At the conclusion of every week, student names with perfect attendance for the week, both virtually and in person, are drawn by grade level to receive a \$5 gift card from McDonalds.

### Academic Focus

- The month of March has been all about reading!! Every Eastwood student participated in a multitude of activities and events scheduled as part of Read Across America Week, March 1-5, including the PTA Read-A-Thon celebrating and rewarding reading in and out of the classroom, daily classroom readings, virtual mystery readers, and a visit from the Bookmobile, providing two books to participating students! Further, books purchased during Black History Month celebrating characters and authors of color were sent home with every Eastwood student!
- College Week is a long standing tradition at EWH. Although college recruiters were not permitted in the building this school year, students were still able to learn about regional college campuses by participating in virtual tours of the almatatters of the teachers and staff of EWH! Major props go to our school counselor, Ms. Jill Krickbaum, for recreating this event for our students with safety!

### Parent/Community Focus

- Eastwood teachers hosted the first of three Parent Involvement Nights of the school year on March 11th. Books & Brownies was a virtual event attended by 135 students and their family members. Students listened to their teachers read stories and model reading strategies used in the classroom to facilitate literacy skills that can be incorporated at home. One book read during this event and a brownie was purchased for every attending student as well!

### Upcoming School Events

<b>April 4-9</b>	PBS 3rd Quarter Celebration Week
<b>April 6, 4:30 PM</b>	EWH PTA Meeting
<b>April 8, 6:00-7:00 PM</b>	Math Parent Involvement Night
<b>April 20</b>	Papa John's Night
<b>April 20-22</b>	Virtual Book Fair

# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021

#### Fleetridge Elementary



#### Celebrations

- Our Fleetridge students participated in week long spirit activities for our annual Read-A-Thon. Our theme was Cultivating Compassion. Each day of the week was focused on showing compassion for a different group-Yourself, Others, Friends, Nature and our Community.
- An important component of our Read-A-Thon was collecting canned goods/non-perishable items for REAP. Our students and staff out did themselves and brought in over 1600 items!

#### Academic Focus

- Cultivating Compassion also gave students many opportunities to read. We enjoyed guest read-alouds from district administrators like Dr. Markley, Dr. Shelton, Dr. Moore, Dr. Huff, Mrs. Beth Plank and Mrs. Alicia Wallace. Students and staff love seeing guests get excited about literature and reading.
- Teachers are getting back into the groove with DRT sessions. With all of the movement between in-person and virtual, it has been challenging to find our stride with consistent collaboration. This month, one of our teachers created a screencast to remind our staff of the most important components of Data Review Teams. This was a nice refresher as we look to end the year strong when using data to make informed decisions about student learning.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- Teachers are busy meeting with parents this month for Parent-Teacher Conferences. This is always a nice time to reconnect with our families and share student progress, both academically and behaviorally.

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 7** PTA Meeting
- **April 8** Picture Retakes
- **April 13-15** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 20-22** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 27-29** GLA Testing for Virtual students

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021

## Laurel Hills Elementary



### Celebrations

- Laurel Hills welcomes Mr. Tyler Britt as the 2021-2022 Principal!
- Laurel Hills was selected as an Outstanding Caring for Kids partner for the first semester
- We celebrated our students' hard work by having a Spring Break Party on March 23rd. Each classroom held a small celebration to recognize the work and accomplishments of their students.

### Academic Focus

- **Data Review Teams:** The Laurel Hills staff continue to examine their instructional prowess during the weekly Data Review Teams. During these meetings, grade levels examine assessment data, both formative and summative, to determine how students are progressing with the learning standards, to determine what instructional strategies need to be implemented to support the students, and to determine what additional supports are needed to either further learning or remediate learning.
- **Summer Learning Academy:** The teachers also worked closely to identify potential candidates for the July Summer Learning Academy. Teachers reviewed student work and data to make informed decisions about which students should be invited.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Parent Teacher Conferences:** Teachers held parent teacher conferences during this month. Conferences are a great way to connect with our families. It is fun to celebrate successes and to identify growth opportunities for students.

### Upcoming School Events

- **April 8, 4:30-6:00 PM** Picture Retakes at Fleetridge Elementary
- **April 13-15** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 20-22** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 27-29** GLA Testing for Virtual students

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021

## Little Blue Elementary



### Celebrations

- **PBIS Celebrations:** Students and teachers celebrated positive student behavior just before Spring Break with an extra recess and snack for students who have been consistently safe, respectful, responsible during the third quarter.

### Academic Focus

- **Summer Learning Academy:** Teachers and staff have been working closely to identify potential candidates for the July Summer Learning Academy. Teachers reviewed student work and data to make informed decisions about which students should be invited. Parents were also part of the collaboration.
- **Attendance:** All staff are working with students and parents to improve attendance. We are focusing on every minute counting, both virtually and in person toward academic and social development and improvement.

### Parent Community Focus

- **Parent Teacher Conferences:** Little Blue staff enjoyed conferencing with parents about the growth and success of our students.

### Upcoming School Events

- **April 13-29** MAP Testing
- **April 14** National School Librarian Day
- **April 22** Administrative Professionals Day

# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021

#### Norfleet Elementary



#### Celebrations

- **RAA Week:** Students participated in a fun week focused on reading with the theme Cultivating Compassion during Read Across America Week. The spirit week included dress up days to recognize how we show compassion to different groups of people.
- **PBS Third Quarter Incentive:** Students were recognized for having great behavior during the third quarter of school. Students enjoyed a beading party in class.

#### Academic Focus

- **Professional Learning:** Norfleet teachers continued our professional learning on Strengthsfinder with Dr. Sondra Cave. This was a great opportunity for teams to discuss the shadow sides of their strengths and what teammates need from one another.
- **Amazon Guest Speakers:** Norfleet fourth graders enjoyed learning about how workers at Amazon use their STEM skills in their daily work. Amazon also donated a bristlebot for each fourth grader and school supplies to the school.
- **One Year Smarter:** Third-fifth graders are discussing how their effort and attitude will impact their GLA test scores. They will be showing they are “one year smarter” when GLA testing starts on April 13th.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Teachers met with parents virtually to discuss a child’s progress and to share areas of growth.
- **RAA Food Drive for REAP:** During Read Across America Week, Norfleet students and staff collected canned goods to donate to REAP. We collected 1100 items!

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 6** PTA Virtual Board Meeting
- **April 13** PTA Papa John’s Night
- **April 13-29** MAP Testing
- **April 14** National School Librarian Day
- **April 22** Administrative Professionals Day
- **April 27, 6:00 PM** PTA Virtual Board Meeting

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021



## Robinson Elementary

### Celebrations

- Robinson students celebrated Read Across America week with different activities and all students got to select a new book.
- Robinson students and staff took part in the high school's Lead2Feed campaign and collected many items to benefit Sheffield's Place.

### Academic Focus

- **Professional Development**-As a staff, after reading an article about Culturally Responsive Literacy Instruction, we have been examining our current instructional practices and conversing in breakout sessions over Zoom. This work will be continued in conjunction with the work of our culturally responsive teaching team here at Robinson.
- **Character Trait Breakfast**- Each month at Robinson, we focus on a specific character trait during our daily community building time. This month the focus was self control. The month ends with a nominee to represent each classroom as the recipient of the student of the month for that character trait. Each month, we combine our virtual and in person students in a special Zoom meeting. Here students celebrate their award with a special breakfast and a coveted t-shirt in honor of their contributions.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **PBIS 3rd Quarter Incentive**-Before Spring Break, we were able to hold our 3rd quarter PBIS incentive. Students were able to participate in a dance party/prize walk, spend their hard earned Raccoon Rewards on prizes and also have fun in a glow station complete with glow in the dark activities. We have a separate day scheduled in early April to celebrate our virtual learners.
- **Virtual Supply Pick up**-Virtual learners were invited to Robinson to pick up 4th quarter learning supplies and materials. At that time, a snack and trinket for our virtual PBIS incentive was also available for pick up.

### Upcoming School Events

- **April 9, 6:00-7:30 PM** Robinson Virtual Paint Night
- **April 13-15** GLA testing
- **April 20-22** GLA testing
- **April 27-29** GLA testing (virtual learners)
- **April 22, 6:30 PM** PTA Unit Meeting
- **April 28, 5:30-7:00 PM** Superhero Drive-Thru

# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021

#### Southwood Elementary



#### Celebrations

- PTA Fundraising” The school sold \$8,110 worth of trash bags with an estimated profit of \$3,244.
- The 1st Black History Program was a success. All Southwood classes participated, district employees shared some thoughts and students were able to learn some history from great stories and items they researched. On March 8, 2021 all students/staff wore their Southwood Black History shirts and watched the program.

#### Academic Focus

- **Black History Speaker:** Ms. Pamela Peppers, spoke to staff about the importance of teaching black history to students on March 4, 2021.
- **Strengthfinder:** Dr. Cave had 2 professional development sessions with our staff. March 8th and March 11th. The informational and thought provoking sessions allowed staff the opportunity to talk about their emotions, changes and overall feeling about the school year .
- **Writers Workshops:** Seven staff members completed a writers workshop on March 15th & March 17th. The workshop focused on specific genres for the grade levels. The teachers learned about different components of writing. How to tie writing into their current lessons. They were given a list of authors who write with different types of genre they could look for when selecting books to look for. They completed a unit of study and were given units of study to try. This is an ongoing training at Southwood Elementary this year.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- **PTA Unit Meeting:** We had our unit meeting on March 16 and voted for new board members for the 2021-2022 school year. Our new board is as follows: (President-Victoria Denney), President Elect-Ben Helt, Vice President 1-Kara Kellerman, Vice President 2-Stacey Parsons, Treasurer-Sarah Helt and Secretary-Kathleen Rizzo.
- **PTA Fundraiser** Our PTA hosted a monthly fundraiser selling trash bags. We sold several trash bags.
- **Sheffield Drive:** Our school donated 168 hygiene products for the benefit of homeless mothers and their children in Kansas City.

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 8** Picture Retakes
- **April 15** PTA -Papa John’s Pizza night ( Fundraiser)



# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021

#### Spring Valley Elementary



#### Celebrations

- **Read Across America Week:** Spring Valley staff and students celebrated reading daily the first week of March with guest readers from across the district and our Caring for Kids Partners who shared virtual book reading videos. We celebrated with a Reading Spirit Week which was fun for everyone. In person and virtual students each received a book to promote reading.
- **Shooting for Kindness:** Our counselor, Michele Jordan, led Spring Valley in a Kindness Challenge during the month of March. Students and staff soared with this challenge by decorating doors to promote kindness through writing compliments, kind words and offering smiles to others. Classes created amazing videos, wrote letters to other students and staff and did kind deeds to spread kindness throughout Spring Valley hallways.

#### Academic Focus

- **Reading:** Spring Valley teachers continue to focus on comprehension strategies to help close the gap in reading and provide tiered instruction during small group instruction.
- **Trauma Smart PD:** Spring Valley Staff continue to be committed to our monthly Trauma Smart Professional Development. In March, our focus centered around Affect Modulation and Expression which is learning how to express and regulate emotions. We learned how to integrate the use of calming tools for students.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- **Trash Bag Fundraising:** Our PTA organized a very successful trash bag fundraiser which was our biggest turn out ever!! We raised \$8470.00 and received a profit of \$1937.00.
- **3rd Quarter PBIS Incentive:** Students and staff enjoyed a very creative Wee Bit of Fun Scavenger Hunt for those students who displayed safe, respectful and responsible behavior during the 3rd quarter. 239 students attended this ever so fun incentive.
- **Jason's Deli Night:** Our PTA organized a Spring Valley Day at Jason's Deli where the community could eat from 10am-8pm to help SV raise money. We raised almost \$130.00 on March 24th.

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 8** Picture Retakes
- **April 14** PTA Meeting
- **April 13-15** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 20-22** GLA Testing for grades 3-5
- **April 27-29** GLA Testing for Virtual students

# Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report April 2021



## Westridge Elementary

### Celebrations

- **Read Across America Week:** Students participated in a week filled with activities and books surrounding literacy of various genres and topics.
- **PBS Third Quarter Incentive:** Students were recognized for having great behavior during the third quarter of school. Students participated in STEM activities building bridges.

### Academic Focus

- **Trauma Smart PD:** Westridge continued to build on our training and work with Trauma Smart Professional Development. In March, our focus centered around Affect Modulation and Expression which is learning how to express and regulate emotions. We are using these skills to directly teach how to use classroom resources to manage emotions and self-regulate our behavior.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Teachers met with parents virtually to discuss a child's progress and to share areas of growth.

### Upcoming School Events

- **April 13-29** MAP Testing
- **April 14** National School Librarian Day
- **April 22** Administrative Professionals Day

# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021

#### New Trails Early Learning Center



#### Celebrations

- Read Across America: We celebrated the love of reading by recognizing various authors and recognizing how we are each unique in different ways. Students and teachers participated in daily spirit days and hosted readers from the community.
- Attendance~ Thanks to our community partners we are able to provide families with a gift card for perfect attendance, both virtually and in person!

#### Academic Focus

- In the area of Math, New Trails students have been working on understanding zero and reading/counting numbers 1-10.
- In the area of Literacy, 4 year old students have been reading about animals. They have spent some time focusing on answering questions, finding facts, sorting information, and retelling.
- In the area of Literacy, 3 year old students have been reading about their 5 senses.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- Teachers are busy meeting with parents this month for Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Teachers are working with families to start the Kindergarten transition process for those students that will be heading to Kindergarten in the fall.

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 12** Picture Day

# Elementary Schools

## Monthly Board of Education Report

### April 2021



### Three Trails Preschool

#### Celebrations

- Head Start completed their annual Self-Assessment with Three Trails assessing 3T's implementation of the Head Start federal standards. Three Trails continued to meet and exceeded expectations in all content areas.
- Three Trails Preschool provided all parents professional development on how to use IXL at home. Teachers created learning goals for students focused on individual needs.

#### Academic Focus

- Three Trails students participated in week long spirit activities for our annual Read-A-Thon. Each day of the week was focused on a different text.
- Professional development has been focused on integrating more writing opportunities for students throughout the day. Teachers have been providing many opportunities for authentic name writing and free writing. Teachers have worked with parents to provide resources to support students at home.

#### Parent/Community Focus

- **Fathering Event:** Three Trails Head Start fathers were provided the opportunity to complete a family cooking activity. All Head Start parents were provided materials to make cookies. Families are encouraged to complete activities and share photos of their experience.
- **Parent Teacher Conferences:** Teachers met with parents this month for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Teachers reviewed progress cards and encouraged parents to complete Kindergarten enrollment.

#### Upcoming School Events

- **April 8** Picture Retakes