

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023

Blue Ridge Elementary



Celebrations:

- Music to Our Ears: Congratulations to Blue Ridge Teacher of the Year for 22-23 school year. Music teacher Anna O’Rennick won by a song. She was selected for her amazing efforts to bring music to students in the building and throughout the district. We are so proud to sing her praises!
- Kindness IS Key: Blue Ridge Blue Jays participated in the national Kindness Week Challenge. Starting off with a delicious sip of “Kindness Kool-Aid” and finished up with an all school assembly/sing-a-long! In-between classrooms completed kindness challenges such as smiling at someone new, sending a kind message to someone in another class, and using kind words with everyone.

Academic Focus:

- Instructional Strategies Improved: Our Instructional Leadership Team reviewed the Instructional Strategies portion of the Collaboration Rubric to create grade-level goals that will promote greater student learning through the PLC process.
- NWEA Success: Teachers and Title gave students their second NWEA assessment and will begin to disaggregate data to see the areas students showed growth.

Parent/Community Focus:

- Thankful Thursday: Staff gave our parents whose students are picked up at dismissal a package of M&M’s for their commitment to a safe dismissal for students and staff.
- Dunkin Donuts for Staff: A family member who has a fourth grade student gave the staff a huge box of donuts, a carafe of coffee, and a carafe of hot chocolate to say a kind thank you for all you do!

Upcoming School Events:

- February 13, 9:00-9:15 a.m. “Bubbles and Bubblegum” weekly class attendance
- February 20, 9:00-9:15 a.m. “Bubbles and Bubblegum” weekly attendance incentive
- February 27, 9:00-9:15 a.m. “Bubbles and Bubblegum” weekly attendance incentive
- February 28, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Third and fourth grade music performance
- February 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m. BINGO for Books

Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report February, 2023



Eastwood Hills Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Teach of the Year selection:** Taylor Williams, EWH Third Grade teacher, was selected by her peers to be the EWH 23/24 Teacher of the Year. Taylor is a Teacher Leader and serves on the school Trauma Informed Care leadership team. She was nominated for her instructional leadership and passion for her students. She is valued for her collaboration, for her listening ears and vulnerability to ask for suggestions as needed. Her colleagues commented on the strong relationships she has with her students, and many other students within the building, and how she encourages all of us to be better.
- **1st Semester PBS Party:** Students with no behavioral incidents attended the culminating PBS Semester party at Graceway Church to play games and watch a movie! We are thankful for this community partnership. Additionally, the average number of daily office discipline referrals, indicating students who are using the focus room, is consistently declining, down from a high of 4.8/day in October to 2.2/day for the month of January.

Academic Focus:

- **NWEA Assessments:** All grade levels have completed NWEA assessments. We are using this data to compare individual student progress from Spring to now, to monitor the effectiveness of our Tier 1 instruction, and to evaluate students needing Tier 3 interventions. On this particular assessment, we saw greater building-wide growth in the area of reading than in mathematics.
- **Math Interventions:** Eastwood has focused our multi-tiered systems of support to students. We have modified our IMW schedule to include opportunity for both Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction across grade levels, and developed a common assessment to evaluate student progress on high priority standards to inform focused and targeted Tier 3 instruction to close learning gaps.
- **Learning Walk:** Eastwood was honored to host 15 district administrators in the January learning walk! This time was highly valuable to Eastwood teachers through the feedback received from our guests.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Book Vending Machine reveal and Ray of Hope recognition:** Thanks to the EWH PTA, we revealed our new book vending machine and will be spotlighted as a district Ray of Hope. Now students who advance along the reading continuum will receive a token to purchase a book from the vending machine. Students may also purchase a token with their Jr. Jay bucks! Students who have earned this reward are recognized every Friday over morning announcements.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 6-10** EWH Service Project Week
- **February 9, 5:30-6:30 pm.** Family Fun Night
- **February 23** Third Grade Math & Science Field Trip, Summit Lanes
- **February 24, 12:30 p.m.** RMS Jazz Band Concert
- **February 27-March 3** Read Across America Week

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023



Fleetridge Elementary

Celebrations:

- **2nd Quarter PBIS Celebration:** Fleetridge Stars enjoyed a Wonderland 2nd Quarter Positive Behavior Celebration! Students rotated between three winter-themed stations: SNOW Much Fun Games, Do You Want to Build a Snowman Craft, and Hot Chocolate and S'mores Snack. Students used Starbucks collected 2nd quarter to purchase fun prizes at the prize station.
- **Teacher of the Year:** Congratulations to the Fleetridge Teacher of the Year, Shalan Mill! Here are some of the things her peers wrote about her: Shalan is a bright light in the Fleetridge community. She is someone who cares deeply for others. As one of the original teachers of RQS English Learners, Ms. Mill's insight and knowledge has been imperative to the success of the ELD program. Shalan is a person who brightens every room she walks into.
- **Field Trip Fun:** Fleetridge 5th graders had the opportunity to play recorders and sing with the orchestra in a fun and engaging program from the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Music teacher Ryan Morrill prepared 5th graders for this special opportunity. Students dressed "spiffy" and enjoyed performing alongside professional musicians.

Winter

Academic Focus:

- **NWEA Assessments:** Title Teachers and classroom teachers administered the second round of NWEA for students 2nd grade through 5th grade and also administered the first round of testing for Kindergarten and 1st grade students. Next Title teachers and classroom teachers will look over data to help guide classroom instruction.
- **Access State Testing:** The ACCESS for ELLs Assessment allows educators, students, and families to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English in the domains of speaking, listening, reading, and writing and will be aligned with the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards. Annual ACCESS scores are used to make course placement decisions along with providing the only opportunity for exit from ELD services. The assessment is required for K-12 students who are English Learners (ELs). The state testing window is January 9, 2023 - March 3, 2023.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Family Movie Night:** The PTA sponsored Family Movie Night 2023 took place Friday, January 27, 5:30-8:00 in the Fleetridge gym. Families brought lawn chairs, blankets, and pillows, and cozied up together to enjoy the movie Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile. The Family Movie Night was a fundraiser for Fleetridge PTA. Money earned will be used by PTA to support Fleetridge students.
- **Staff Appreciation:** Fleetridge staff members appreciate The Ridge Church who recently made sure our week started on a BRIGHT note with muffins, pastries, hot chocolate, and warm tea!

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 8** PTA Sponsored Friendship Parties
- **February 10** 1st Grade Zoo to You Experience at Fleetridge
- **February 10** Fleetridge Staff Paint Night at BlendWell Community Cafe

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023

Laurel Hills Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Academic Awards:** We had our 2nd quarter Academic Award Assemblies on Monday, January 23rd. Four students were chosen from each class, two for Reading/ELA and two for Math to be recognized for their growth and/or effort. Our Title teachers also chose one student from each grade level to be recognized. Students received a certificate and a “round of applause” from their peers.
- **Teacher of the Year:** Laurel Hills is so pleased to announce our Teacher of the Year for 2023-2024. We are thrilled to announce Mrs. **Melanie Ferguson**, Functional Skills Teacher (Essential Skills), has been selected to represent our building. Mrs. Ferguson was praised by her peers for her unyielding commitment to students and collaborative nature. Our school is a stronger place because she chooses to teach here.

Academic Focus:

- **NWEA Benchmark Window:** Students recently persevered through the winter NWEA benchmark window. Mr. Britt visited classrooms and encouraged students to do their best to “show what they know”. Teachers later met with Title 1 support to review data, analyze trends, and plan for future instruction.
- **Black History Month:** All February long students and staff will celebrate Black History Month. Through resources gathered by the school’s JEDI (Justice, Equity, Dignified, and Inclusion) team, students will highlight and celebrate the impact of Black history, culture, contributions, and integral importance to our past, present, and future.

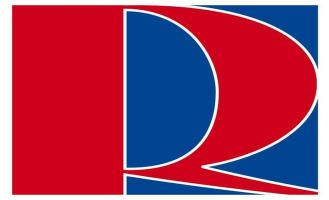
Parent/Community Focus:

- **Math Night & 2nd/3rd Grade Music Performance:** Earlier this month, Laurel Hills held our annual Family Math Night! We had a tremendous turnout, and families were “spotted” all over school learning new math games and engaging in family time.
- **Read-A-Thon:** The Read-A-Thon has landed at Laurel Hills! All month long students will be raising money to support their independent reading habits. Students are sharing their personal reading page with family and friends. We will celebrate the top readers in each class with a special treat at the end of February!

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 6-10** “Super Spirit Week”
- **February 14** Friendship Parties
- **February 22** Staff Dyslexia PD (Part 2)

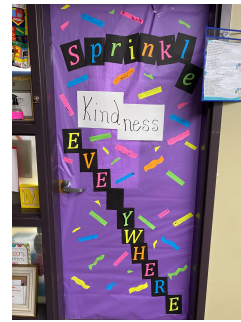
Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report February, 2023



**RAYTOWN
QUALITY
SCHOOLS**
Expect the Exceptional

Celebrations:

- Little Blue Teacher of the Year: Congratulations to Hannah Potter for being named the Little Blue Elementary's Teacher of the Year! Her peers say she is a supportive teammate, friendly coworker, and outstanding teacher. Little Blue is definitely lucky to have her. Way to go Mrs. Potter!
- The Great Kindness Challenge Week!: Staff and students both participated in a week full of spirit days and classroom activities to focus on the importance of being KIND! Classrooms also took part in a Kindness Door Decorating competition! Congratulations to Mrs. Christiansen & Mrs. McAfee on winning the competition with their one of a KIND doors.



Academic Focus:

- NWEA Assessments: Title Teachers and classroom teachers administered the second round of NWEA for students 2nd grade through 5th grade and also administered the first round of testing for Kindergarten and 1st grade students. Next Title teachers and classroom teachers will look over data to help guide classroom instruction! Way to go for both teachers and staff!

Parent/Community Focus:

- Chipotle Night- On January 11th, Little Blue Elementary held its Chipotle Fundraiser Night. Families had a great time heading out to dinner and, with 33% of all sales going to Little Blue, helped raise \$110.70! ¡Holy Guacamole!

Upcoming School Events:

- February 14 Classroom Friendship Parties
- February 21 ELA Vertical Team
- February 22 Dyslexia Training
- February 24 Math Vertical Team
- February 27- March 3 Read Across America Week

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023

Norfleet Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Teacher of the Year:** We are thrilled to announce that Kindergarten teacher, Courtney Kuhnhenh, was selected as our Norfleet Teacher of the Year! Ms. Kuhnhenh has taught for five years at Norfleet, in Kindergarten and first grade. She is dedicated to doing what is best for students and for making their first year of school full of learning and fun. We are fortunate to have Ms. Kuhnhenh on the Norfleet team!
- **Safe Riders for Quarter 2:** Norfleet's safe rider awards for second quarter went to: Ruby White, Giselle Jimenez, Jeremiah Blackman, Peyton Brooks.

Academic Focus:

- **Professional Development:** Norfleet staff continued our professional learning with Trauma Smart, as well as a session on de-escalation techniques with Behavior Coordinator Amanda Keen.
- **Benchmark Testing:** All students were tested this month for the mid-year NWEA benchmark testing. We are proud of how hard our Kindergarten and first grade students did on their first time taking this assessment! Teachers have been reviewing the data to help adjust their instruction.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Chiefs Fever:** Norfleet celebrate Red Friday every Friday by donning our Chiefs gear. Students and staff enjoyed several spirit weeks to cheer on the Chiefs during the playoffs. We are planning another fun spirit week during Super Bowl week, as well as helping the community by collecting cans of soup for REAP.
- **PTA Skate Night-** PTA hosted a skate night in late January to break up the cold winter nights. A good time was had by all.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 7** Papa John's Night
- **February 7, 6:00-7:00 p.m.** PTA Board Meeting
- **February 22** Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- **February 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m.** PTA Get Air
- **February 28, 6:20-7:00 p.m.** PTA Unit Meeting and 4th/5thGrade Music Program

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023



Robinson Elementary

Celebrations:

- Congratulations to Robinson's 2023-2024, Carly Mack!
Mack is a 5th grade teacher who has outstanding relationships with all members of our Robinson community and works tirelessly to ensure our students are successful. She is a facilitator or participant in several of our committees here at Robinson. Congratulations, Carly!
- Second Grade teacher, Jen Skinner, completed a marathon during the month of January. She has been training so hard the past year and was able to cross the finish line with her daughter.
- Monthly Staff Outings - Robinson Staff have been participating in monthly staff outings throughout the city of Raytown and surrounding areas. This helps us to practice self-care outside of the school day, promotes collaboration and team building, and creates a safe and fun environment for staff to get to know each other and celebrate all that we accomplish on a daily basis.

Academic Focus:

- **Student Support Teams (SST)** SST have started at Robinson. This idea was sparked from our DRT Tuesday meetings where teachers are able to collaborate with each other to create WIGs and commitments related to priority standards. This team will spend time merging all of our social emotional behavioral supports—Trauma Smart, BIST and PBIS as well as some of our other building supports. Our goal is to set school wide and individual goals in the area of behavior, Trauma Smart, BIST, and PBS to better support our students in all areas that will help our students be even more successful at Robinson.
- **Peer Observations-** During the second quarter, staff had the opportunity to observe two colleagues during an academic block they wanted to learn more about. In January, staff had another opportunity to observe a teacher/content area of their choice. Teacher Leaders hope this will begin the process of monthly observations, as well as, work toward an inviting and collaborative environment within our school and to continue to build and improve on building collective efficacy. This has been a wonderful experience and opportunity for teachers and staff to recognize the great teaching and learning taking place at Robinson!

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Schoolyard Garden-**Robinson 4th grade students will have the opportunity to take part in a special garden built in our courtyard in conjunction with Kansas City Community Gardens. This is made possible by a grant written by our counselor, Allie Cook. Staff members plan to sponsor a future Garden Club for students at Robinson. This club will be used to grow fruits and vegetables and teach students about the importance of organization, hard work, and perseverance.. We are excited to see the process and the end results throughout this grant opportunity.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 1-28** Attendance Incentive
- **February 8** Monthly Buddy Activities
- **February 13, 9:30 a.m.** Garden Club Build with KCCG
- **February 23, 5:00 p.m.** PTA Meeting @ RO in the library

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023



Southwood Elementary

Celebrations:

- Quarter 2 Assembly: Students were chosen from each class to receive a certificate in the area of Reading/ELA and Math. They were then recognized for their growth and/or effort. Students were also selected for displaying one of our Quarter 2 character traits (empathy, teamwork, or trustworthy). Character trait students received a certificate and a shirt.
- Southwood Teacher of the Year: Congratulations to Kimberly Powell for being selected as Southwood's 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Powell is described by her colleagues as positive, encouraging, and someone that is always willing to take initiative in order to do what is best for students.

Academic Focus:

- Essential Standards Unit Planning: Our Reading and Math Specialists introduced an essential standards unit planning map during grade level meetings. Teams were then able to pace out their upcoming math units. This helped teams dive deeper into conversations surrounding prioritized standards, instructional strategies, and data collection to help guide student learning and instruction.
- NWEA Assessments: Teachers alongside our Math and Reading Specialists gave students their second NWEA assessment in second through fifth and their first in kindergarten and first grade. Teachers are excited to analyze the data to see growth and use it to help make instructional decisions.

Parent/Community Focus:

- Family Game Night: Southwood PTA hosted a fun filled game night for students, families, and staff. Southwood Nazarene, our Caring for Kids partners, were also in attendance. Everyone enjoyed playing games such as Jenga, Twister, Happy Salmon, Cornhole, and Gaga ball. It was truly fun for the whole family!
- MLK Day of Service: Members of Southwood staff volunteered at REAP on Martin Luther King Day and helped to organize their food pantry. It was a great way to give back to an organization that does so much for Raytown Quality Schools and the Raytown community.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 7, 8:00-8:40 am** Donuts with Grownups
- **February 13** Spring Pictures and Class Picture Day
- **February 14** Friendship Parties
- **February 21, 6:30-7:30 pm** PTA Meeting with Dr. Martin-Knox
- **February 22, 4:00-7:00 pm** McTeacher Night @ 350 McDonalds
- **February 23, 2:45-3:30 pm** Southwood's Black History Month Program

Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report February, 2023

Spring Valley Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Teacher of the Year:** Congratulations to Mrs. Halsey-Rogers for being selected by her peers as Spring Valley's 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Halsey-Rogers teaches Kindergarten and is the leader of our PBIS team as well as a prominent force on our PTA.
- **1st Semester Awards:** Students in Kindergarten-5th grade were celebrated for their academic achievement and improvement as well as those who were STAR students and who showed Cougar Pride during the first semester.



Academic Focus:

- **NWEA Assessments:** Kindergarten-5th grade students completed their Winter Benchmark Assessments in Reading and Math. Our teachers and title specialists are looking forward to analyzing the data and collaborating to determine new goals with students.
- **Small Group Reading Instruction:** Our Academic Team collaborated in PD with teachers to dive deeper into the inquiry and action cycles as we learned and practiced questioning through games and conversation that could be utilized in their classrooms and with our current curriculum.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **ELA/Math Winter Wonderland Night:** Families had a ball at our ELA/Math Winter Wonderland where families enjoyed learning various reading and math activities that they could make and take to enjoy at home with their students. We had our first Parent University class where Ms. True, a 4th grade teacher, taught parents various math strategies that students are learning so they would be able to better support them at home. Our Trauma Smart Connections team also presented to parents Brain as a Car. We ended the evening with Bingo for Books which was a huge hit for all age levels.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 8, 5:30 p.m.** PTA Meeting
- **February 14** Friendship Parties

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023



Westridge Elementary

Celebrations:

- **2nd Quarter PBIS Celebration:** Westridge students enjoyed a Winter Penguin Parade party 2nd Quarter Positive Behavior Celebration! Students rotated between an obstacle course, a snowball fight, a treat station, and more.
- **Teacher of the Year:** Congratulations to the Westridge Teacher of the Year, Matt Wick! Mr. Wick is our counselor and is a support to so many students, staff, and families. We are so proud of Mr. Wick! the ELD program. Shalan is a person who brightens every room she walks into.
- **Field Trip Fun:** Fourth and Fifth graders visited Arrowhead stadium. They not only got to see the stadium and explore what it has to offer, they also participated in educational components surrounding health, wellness, art, history, careers, gameday, and much more.

Academic Focus:

- **Power Standards and Strategy Planning:** Grade levels continue to use our CPL funds to have extended planning time for math. Teams identify specific instructional strategies, proficiency scales, and lesson planning. We recently aligned standards to MAP priority scores to emphasize high leverage standards.
- **NWEA Assessments:** Students participated in their second NWEA assessment in second through fifth and their first in kindergarten and first grade. We will analyze the data to monitor growth and confirm instructional decisions.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Westridge Movie Night:** Students and families recently came up for Westridge movie night. Approx 60 parents, students, and siblings huddled in the gym to enjoy Super Pets. This was a great rebound compared to last year.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 21-24** Book Fair
- **February 27-March 2** Dental Clinic
- **February 28-March 24** Bike Walk KC

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report

February, 2023

New Trails Early Learning Center



Celebrations:

- **Teacher of the year-** New Trails chose Liz Roccaro as our Teacher of the Year. Liz teaches special education in a four year old blended preschool classroom.

Academic Focus:

- Three year old classes have focused on the prepositions- on, in and behind for their WIG. Those three impact every aspect of a child's day. They focused on the quantity of 7 and the numeral. Students learned about community helpers and how/why they are important.
- Four year old classes have focused on initial sound for their WIG. They are post testing this week. They are finishing a science unit, investigating. Topics included: learning by observing, using tools to investigate, how to compare objects and what they can do with wheels. Children had fun being scientists experimenting, making hypotheses and testing them. Math focus was identifying quantity and corresponding numeral.

Parent/Community Focus:

- We offered parents an opportunity to get clothes from our pop up clothing closet.
- Trauma Training on Module 7: Affect Identification and Modulation

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 6-10** Chief's Spirit Week
- **February 24, 1:00-3:00 p.m.** Trauma Training

Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report February, 2023



Three Trails Preschool

Celebrations:

- **New Arrival:** We welcomed a new arrival. Ms. Jenny had a healthy baby boy. **Announcement:** The staff did a scavenger hunt to find clues to see who won Teacher of the Year for our building. Congratulations to Ms. Deborah. **Attendance Goal:** We started a new attendance resolution for students and staff. It is called "It's never too late to be on time." We have seen an improvement in late students for this month. **School Family Jobs:** To build community 3T has started building jobs. This ritual aligns with the jobs teachers provide to the students in the classroom. The School Jobs builds community as well as a great model for their classroom.

Academic Focus:

- This month the students will wrap up their Clothing unit by celebrating. We will celebrate by designing a t-shirt and wearing it during our 3T Fashion Show!
- Teachers will begin a new unit about Investigating Buildings. The students will investigate different buildings in our neighborhood, what makes buildings strong, and what tools are needed to build.
- Teachers have continued learning and implementing the PLC process. Teachers have created goals in Academics, Behavior, Attendance and Trauma Smart.
- 3T has focused on our Conscious Discipline Skill of Positive intent for the month of January/February. Teachers and students have been learning together about the importance of using "loving eyes" and being able to QTIP (Quit Taking it Personally) and language of noticing to help self-regulate.

Parent/Community Focus:

- Families and community members have been supporting our clothing unit. Guest speakers visited classrooms to discuss their clothing and how it impacts the job.
- Mid-America Head Start has begun the process of a new playground in the inside courtroom. This will be a great addition for our students.

Upcoming School Events:

- **February 7** Zoomobile
- **February 8-10** Super Bowl Spirit Week
- **February 13-15** Spirit Week
- **February 14** Friendship Parties
- **February 23** Mesner Puppet Theater
- **February 27-March 3** Read Across America