

Elementary Schools

Monthly Board of Education Report



May, 2019

Blue Ridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **MAP Assembly:** Staff and students kicked off the week of MAP testing with a pep rally that starred Chiefs Coach Andy Reid (Danielle Miles), star football players (teachers) and the Raytown High School Cheerleaders. The pep rally focused on a football game between the “Blues” and the “Jays”. Each football play demonstrated how specific strategies help students successfully take a test. At halftime, cheerleaders wowed the crowd with jumps, tumbles and cheers. Pre- and post-game words were provided by Coach Reid. As intermediate grades exited the gym, primary students cheered them on with chants and shakers.
- **Dress for Success:** Students and staff dressed in their best outfits on Monday as if they were preparing for the future. When students dismissed from the building, they walked the red carpet while the “parazzi” captured smiles and struts on camera.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Skating Party:** Students attended a skating party at Lee’s Summit Landmark. To date, it was the best attended party raising almost \$400 for PTA.
- **Teacher Appreciation Night at the K:** Blue Ridge teachers and staff attended the Royals game on Friday, April 26. Staff enjoyed watching the Boys in Blue play while eating \$1 hotdogs and chatting about life.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 17** MAP Carnival
- **May 20-22** BOGO Scholastic Book Fair
- **May 20** BINGO for Books
- **May 22** Muffins with Mom
- **May 31** 5th Grade Celebration
- **June 3** Fun Day
- **June 4** Kickball Game

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Eastwood Hills Elementary

Academic Focus

- Kindergarten: Students have been learning how they can take care of the Earth. Students went on a nature walk, discussed what is good and bad for the earth and learned the vocabulary words recycle, reuse, and reduce.
- First Grade: First grade has been working on How-To Writing. Students work together to verbally share their thoughts and ideas, create an organizer, cut and sort in sequence introducing transition words, share their writing verbally to their peers, transfer their writing into an organizer, rough draft, edit, and lastly end with a final published copy. First grade students are now able to write six sentence paragraphs!
- Second Grade: Second grade students are learning to create different types of poems and are using manipulatives and strategies to gain an understanding of fractions.
- Third Grade: 93% of third graders also met their SMART goal of being proficient on identifying and representing fractions on a number line!!
- Fourth Grade: 4th grade has worked on prewriting and drafting ideas for essays. Students are working hard to organizing their thoughts and ideas to respond to various types of writing prompts.
- Fifth Grade: Students wrote narrative pieces about their life story and they are so very cool!!
- Multi-Age: Students in Functional Skills went to visit their middle school; they are very excited about going to 6th grade next year! Students are working hard on their MAP test taking strategies and giving their best effort!

Parent/Community Focus

- April 2nd was our PTA Fundraiser at Culver's Night! Students had so much fun helping the Culver's employees by carrying food to cars and greeting customers. It was such a great time to work and dine together as a school community with over \$300 raised to support the Eastwood Hills PTA!

Upcoming School Events

- **May 10, 2:30 p.m.** Fifth Grade Terrific Kid Assembly & Orchestra Performance
- **May 16, 7:00 p.m.** Fifth Grade Orchestra Concert @RHS
- **May 21** Fifth Grade Student-Led Career Fair
- **May 23, 12:15 p.m.** Fourth Grade Ray Pal Reception
- **May 24** Student Talent Show
- **May 28** Title 1 End of Year Celebration
- **May 30** Fun Daze
- **May 31** Second Quarter PBS Celebration

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Fletridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **K-1 Music Program** - Led by Mr. Ryan Morrill, our Kindergarten and First Graders showcased their vocal talents by performing their favorite songs from the school year. Several students had speaking parts to explain the standard (in student friendly terms) that were addressed with different songs. Not only did they show off their vocal skills, but several songs included dance routines. Parents and staff were quite entertained!
- **MAP Testing** - ELA MAP testing began at the end of the month. There have been minimal computer issues and teachers reported that students felt confident with taking the assessment online. Mrs. Greeson, our counselor, did a great job of organizing and disseminating information to teachers.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Art Fair/Ice Cream Social/Silent Auction** - The Art Fair was a big success with parents, grandparents and students enjoying the hard work and beautiful artwork of our students. PTA sponsored an Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction as well as a book fair. There was a lot to participate in during the evening!

Upcoming School Events

- **May 17, 6:00-7:30 p.m.** PTA Family Fun Night & Fletridge's 50th Anniversary
- **May 29** Field Day

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Laurel Hills Elementary

Academic Focus

- The Laurel Hills staff continued to focus on implementing Greg Tang math strategies in the classrooms. Beginning in March, our math specialist and a 4th grade teacher are teaching math thinking strategies each Wednesday morning to teachers available to attend. These sessions are recorded for teachers to view on their own. The teachers are enjoying these math sessions and are attending as many as possible. We have noticed an increase in the use of math manipulatives in classrooms. We are very excited to see the progress our students will continue to make in the area of math with most teachers using the Greg Tang math strategies.
- DRT continues to be an area of focus this year. Our teachers are working together to discuss student progress each week. The DRT sessions are becoming more rich in discussions as the year has progressed. Teachers are feeling more comfortable when discussing students not demonstrating the anticipated growth. The emphasis on DRT and collaboration has been a huge success this year.

Parent/Community Focus

- Laurel Hills hosted its annual Art Show, Grandparents Night, Book Fair, Ice Cream Social for our families during the month of April. It was well attended! We saw several generations walking through the halls during this evening. Families also participated in art stations in the gym featuring art around the world. Families got to make different art projects together to take home that evening.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 9, 6:30 p.m.** Kindergarten Music Performance
- **May 22, 8:15 a.m.** Pastries with Parents
- **May 23, 6:00 p.m.** PTA Family Carnival
- **May 31** Fun Day
- **June 4, 9:30 a.m.** Talent Show

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Little Blue Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Testing:** 3rd through 5th grade students started state testing the last week of April. Students are working very hard to show how much they know and teachers and staff members did an excellent job being flexible but consistent with our students.
- **Kindergarten and 1st Grade Performance:** Our Kindergarten and 1st grade students had a musical performance early this month. Over 350 friends and family members came to enjoy the performance led by music teacher, Mrs. Emily Bartz.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Movie Night:** Our PTA hosted the second annual dinner and movie night in April. We enjoyed pizza and watched little Foot. We had just over 100 people attend. It was a great night!
- **Talent Show Tryouts:** Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students had the opportunity to try out for the “Little Blue’s Got Talent” talent show. The auditions were so much fun to watch. Those who were selected continue to practice before the big event at the end of May.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 16** Zoomobile to visit 1st Grade
- **May 20** Terrific Kids Assemblies
- **May 28** PBIS Parties
- **May 30** Talent Show
- **May 31** Field Day

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Norfleet Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Spring Reading Week:** Librarian Denise Smith brought a week of wacky things featured in children's books and organized spirit days related to the books the week of April 15th. Our library clerk, Mrs. Barrett, also gradually transformed into a bunny by Friday.
- **GLA Send-off:** Norfleet welcomed Slugger to help motivate 3rd-5th grade students at our annual GLA send-off assembly. Primary grade students lined the halls to chant and cheer for the older students to do their best on the test.
- **GLA Testing:** Norfleet 3rd-5th grade students successfully kicked off GLA testing on the last day of April. Intermediate grade teachers have been preparing students for these assessments the past several months.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten and First Grade Music Program:** Norfleet Kindergarten and 1st graders were able to showcase their talents in April for friends and family at the final music program of the year.
- **Service Project:** Norfleet's Community Service Club visited Hidden Lakes Nursing Home one day after school. Student played games and read to residents. It was a rewarding day for all.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 7** PTA Board Meeting
- **May 29** Field Day
- **May 31** 5th Grade Recognition and Fun Day

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Robinson Elementary

Academic Focus

- Robinson celebrated the GLA kickoff with a pep rally. Students in 3rd-5th were the focus of our attention as we worked to encourage and motivate. We had a DJ and classes ran through banners to a chosen song. Students and staff shared tips on being the best test takers and students during these testing weeks. A video was created and shared to encourage our students. At the end of the pep rally, students walked through the halls as K-2 cheered them on equipped with noisemakers and lots of spirit.
- As a staff, we will be having our final Training and Treats next week. This year, we have had many great conversations led by our Cultural Competency team specifically about supporting students who have experienced trauma. Included in this is addressing our own adult triggers and responses to ensure we are doing everything we can to help our students be successful. Our time spent together has generated a lot of great dialogue.

Parent/Community Focus

- Robinson will be hosting their annual Art Fair in conjunction with the 4th grade wax museum. The walls are lined with all of the fabulous work from our students.
- Robinson wrapped up the 2018-2019 musical performances with our 4th and 5th grade show. This was held in conjunction with our school literacy night and Scholastic book fair.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 11, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** PTA 5th Grade Celebration & Champions Gymnastics
- **May 20** PBIS incentive
- **May 23** GLA incentive
- **May 24** Career Day
- **May 31** Field Day
- **June 3** Fifth Grade fun/yearbook signing

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Southwood Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Book Study:** SW Teacher Leaders are facilitating book studies for a majority of our staff. They chose *Mindset* and *Trauma Sensitive Schools* as a continuation of prior book studies and in an effort to learn more about ourselves and how we serve students. Staff were able to choose their book of interest and the format in which they prefer to study. For example, one group meets at a coffee shop, another in the building, one online and both books offered in the morning or after school. These book studies will provide a springboard for conversations and planning next year.
- **MAP/GLA:** Student preparation continued up to testing time with teachers making sure students feel prepared in content, test taking skills and online tools. Non-testing classrooms showed their support through cards and posters and chants leading up to the test. Students enjoyed the parade through the halls where they were greeted with cheering and applause.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Art Fair and Wax Museum:** On April 30, many SW families walked the halls enjoying a school-wide collection of art work and learning about our 4th graders in a wax museum venue. The students were proud to show off their artwork and 4th graders beamed when they were asked become a famous Missourian throughout the night. The evening was topped off with ice-cream sundaes and a book fair.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 14** Bingo for Books
- **May 22** Final Assembly
- **May 24** Career Day
- **May 29** Grade 5 Recognition

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Spring Valley Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Workshop Wednesday:** As students and staff prepare for the GLA assessment and STAR assessment over several weeks, Workshop Wednesday has been put into place to provide additional differentiated time to support critical skill areas in ELA and Math. Additionally Spring Valley's morning announcements consist of vocabulary review of terms students will encounter on their assessment. This time has been a very beneficial start to our instructional day and focus during our mid-week Wednesday!
- **Curriculum Summit:** Over the summer the district will be offering many professional development opportunities for teachers. Spring Valley teachers are signing up for these dynamic trainings July 22nd-29th. Information learned will be implemented and utilized to support the learning and development of students during the 2019-2020 school year.

Parent/Community Focus

- **SV Book Fair:** During the week of April 8th -12th, Spring Valley hosted their Spring BOGO book fair. This was a wonderful week in which students were able to buy one book and get one free.
- **Spring Valley Music Program:** On Tuesday, April 16th, Spring Valley Elementary participated in our 4th and 5th grade Music Program. Under the musical direction of Mr. Anthony Harvey, more than 200 family and friends came out to support students in this spring music experience. The program directly aligned to the music curriculum with the incorporation of reading, speaking, solos, and instrumentals. This was an exciting time for our families to engage in the last music performance for 5th graders as they prepare to transition to middle school.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 7** Art Fair/Ice Cream Social/4th Grade Wax Museum
- **May 9** SV Talent Show
- **May 17** SV Career Day
- **May 24** Kindergarten/5th Grade Celebration
- **May 31** SV Field Day

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Westridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **MAP Assembly:** Staff and students kicked off the MAP testing with an assembly with Healthy Hip Hop. Students danced and exercise to music as the presenters reinforced a message of hard work and focus before testing.
- **Vertical Teams:** Writing, Reading Comprehension, and Math vertical teams met to determine content goals, desired outcomes, and needed professional learning for the 19-20 school year. All of this input and discussion drives the building focus and CPL Plan.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Autism Awareness Month:** April is Autism Awareness Month. Fourth grade student, Mariah Turner, lead a group of fourth graders in a plan to increase awareness at Westridge. This included decorated puzzle pieces throughout the building with facts about autism and reading various facts over the announcements. This is a fantastic story that has been reported on by the district, KCTV 5, and KCUR radio.
- **Girls on the Run:** Westridge has a Girls on the Run club with 16 fourth and fifth grade students. On Saturday, each student and several staff members ran the 5k, representing our building. The group is currently working on a project to paint the girls restroom with positive and uplifting quotes.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 24** Kindergarten Celebration and Lifer Breakfast
- **May 29** Platinum Water Party
- **May 30** Field Day
- **May 31** Fifth Grade Fun Day
- **June 3** Diamond Rootbeer Float Party

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New Trails Early Learning Center

Academic Focus

- DRT: NT SMART GOAL is 84% of students can write their first name. At this time we have 83% have met this goal. During our latest meeting we discussed strategies to help a few more children that were close to proficient. All the children have made progress and many are writing their last name.
- We have finished most of our Kindergarten transition IEPs. As a part of the process we meet at the elementary so the parents can visit the building and meet the new team.
- We helped Blue Ridge clean their playground for Earth Day.
- Staff have been meeting to plan for next year including amending IEP's for the changes.

Parent/Community Focus

- We hosted our Meet Me At Recess event. We had many families come to NT and play.
- Harvesters provided a pop-up pantry for the event. Families could get potatoes, rice, and other canned goods to help their families.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 14 and 16** Moving On
- **May 31** Water Day
- **June 3** School Picnic

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Three Trails Preschool

Academic Focus

- Three Trails teachers have focused during DRT identifying students who are not on target to meet end of the year STAR score. Three Trails developed a set of common assessments along with a monitoring tools to measure student progress.
- Teachers have focused on teaching students to monitor their comprehension using Connections with the text. Students have been working on text to self connections and learning to write about their connections.

Parent/Community Focus

- Three Trails partnered with Raytown DECA for Community Big Truck Night. Police, EMT and the Fire Department there for families to visit along with messy night activities planned by the high school students.
- Community Arts Partners visited Three Trail to provide students with the opportunity to see a theater performance.

Upcoming School Events

- **May 20 & May 27** Moving on Ceremony for PRK students