

Elementary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report November, 2022

Blue Ridge Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Happy Belly Food Truck:** Blue Jay teachers enjoyed a delicious lunch from the Happy Belly Food Truck right out front in the circle drive. It was a great way to keep teacher energy up as they work hard preparing for conferences.
- **Blue Ridge Students Boogie Down:** The first quarter attendance incentive celebrations have been wildly successful. Students in classes with the highest average weekly attendance got funky with a class dance party in the cafeteria! Celebrating students who come to school keeps our attendance average going up, not down!

Academic Focus:

- **Trauma Smart Update:** Blue Ridge staff and various Raytown school employees are diving deeper into District Trauma Smart Training. This month we defined “Your Brain as a Car” in our own terms and terms we can use when working with students. Our Trauma Smart lens is up.
- **Teachers Prepare to Share:** Building teachers created portfolios, gave assessments, went over NWEA reports, and filled in district grade cards so when meeting with parents, they are prepared to paint a picture of each student's academic and social progress this first quarter. Blue Ridge is excited to welcome families to our first conferences of the year!

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Trail of Treats:** Our PTA event, Trail of Treats, went off without a hitch! Combining our Blue Jay Community with New Trails Bears made for tons of fun and excitement. Students enjoyed the decorated cars, receiving yummy treats, and waving to their teachers as they walked the parking lot.
- **Knowing our New Leadership:** Students gathered in the library to better know the newest member of our community, their Superintendent Dr. Penelope Martin-Knox. Dr. Martin-Knox answered questions students were longing to ask her with patience and humor. She reported that the name tags we made for her to know the student name and grade level were epic!

Upcoming School Events:

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| ● November 7, 6:00 p.m. | PTA Board Meeting |
| ● November 7-11 | Scholastic Book Fair |
| ● November 9, 7:30-8:00 a.m. | PTA Donuts with Grandparents |
| ● November 10, 6:00-6:30 p.m. | 4th/5th Grade Musical Performance |
| ● November 10, 6:30-8:00 p.m. | Curriculum Night |
| ● November 10, 6:00 p.m. | Scholastic Book Fair Evening Shopping Event |
| ● November 14-28 | Blue Ridge Fundraiser Begins/Trash Bags |

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Eastwood Hills Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Quarter One PBS Assembly:** Eastwood hosted their first school-wide assembly since 2019 and we rocked it!!! Per pre-COVID tradition, we gather together to recognize our students at quarterly assemblies for meeting short-term goals. Fifty-eight different students were recognized for their accomplishments which include perfect attendance, being a Eastwood S.T.A.R.R. community student, and for academic growth and achievement in math, reading and science! **Perfect Attendance:** Every quarter, students with perfect attendance for that quarter receive a free cupcake from the I Am Cupcakin' bakery food truck during the lunch hour. This year marks the third consecutive year of celebrating our students in this manner with the assistance of our community partners!

Academic Focus:

- **Peer Observations:** This school year, Eastwood teachers are engaging in monthly cycles of peer observations to allow teachers to observe their colleagues within and across grade levels. The focus of these observations allow teachers to strengthen their practice and collaboration around instructional strategies and curriculum implementation. To defray the cost and barrier of substitutes, the administration team pushes into classrooms for 30 minutes to allow teachers to leave and participate in observations.
- **Student Forum:** Eastwood fifth graders were honored to receive Dr. Martin-Knox and her team to discuss celebrations and concerns related to our school community. Every student was able to ask their own question to Dr. Martin-Knox. Requests included handicapped accessible playground equipment, additional after-school learning opportunities, and improved cameras on the playground to monitor safety and community use after-hours.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Walk to School Day:** Students, parents, and staff participated in Walk or Bike to School Day on October 4th. Participants rallied at the Shiloh Learning Center and walked or rode their bike together to school!
- **OneSight Vision Clinic:** We are thankful for the community partnership of the Score 1 organization and KU for free eye exams and glasses gifted to seventeen Eastwood students! Through previous vision screenings conducted at Eastwood Hills through Score 1, students in need were easily identified for participation. Every student returned to Eastwood with glasses! Most received their very first pair while others received updated prescriptions!

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 3** 3rd Grade field trip to Mahaffie Farms
- **November 5** Girls on the Run 5K, Swope Park
- **November 7** Learning Walk @ EWH
- **November 11, 7:30 a.m.** VIP Breakfast
- **November 17** Math Curriculum Night

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Fletridge Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Cerner “Healthe” Kids** Monday, October 24th, more than 250 Fletridge students participated in the Cerner “Healthe” Kids event at Fletridge. Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of our students received a comprehensive screening that included height, weight, temperature, body mass index calculation, vital signs, hearing test, near and far vision test, dental check, and a head-to-toe assessment.

Academic Focus:

- **Parent Teacher Conferences** Fletridge Teachers will meet with parents in person at Fletridge for Parent Teacher Conferences October 26 and October 27. Parents also have the option to meet virtually with the teacher.
- **Hands on Learning:** Fletridge teachers are intentional in the way they incorporate hands-on learning opportunities. Recently, second graders made root beer floats as a delicious example of the three states of matter. Is the ice cream a solid, liquid, or a gas? Ice cream is a mixture of all three states of matter! Fifth graders are also learning about matter. The physical science unit concluded with a focus on mixtures and solutions. Students made a yummy trail mix mixture and a sweet, refreshing Kool-Aid solution.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Haunted Hallways and Math Night** Fletridge hosted Haunted Hallways and Math Night, Thursday, October 20, 6:00-7:30. More than 450 people participated in the fun, safe event. Families donated 166 bags of candy for the event. Students and their families were invited to dress in costumes or festive fall gear. Families first followed the Haunted Hallways route that led them by decorated classroom doors through which teachers and staff members passed out candy. The route ended in the Fletridge gym where families participated in a variety of interactive math games and activities. Families left the event with a bag full of candy and math games they can play at home. Check out the Fletridge Facebook page for pictures of the event.
- **Community Partnership:** The Ridge Church members worked during the months of August and September to collect money to purchase teacher appreciation gifts for Fletridge staff members. October 10th, members of the congregation delivered gift bags, one for every staff member. Teachers received snacks and school supplies while support staff members received snacks and gift cards. It was a wonderful surprise for Fletridge staff members! Check out the Fletridge Facebook page to view a video that showcases the donation.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 5, 8:00 a.m.** Girls on the Run Club 5K @Swope Park
- **November 8, 5:00-8:00 p.m.** PTA Sponsored Culver’s Fundraiser,
- **November 14-18** Book Fair @FR Library
- **November 16, 9:45 a.m.** 5th Grade DARE Graduation
- **November 17, 6:00-7:30 p.m.** Grandparents’ Night and 4th Grade Music Program

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Laurel Hills Elementary



Celebrations:

- **PBS Monthly Award: Popsicles** - Students that had less than 3 ODRs for the month of August and September earned a popsicle treat to eat during their recess time. Students can earn the monthly incentive by making good choices that are safe, respectful, and responsible. The October treat will be a snack or drink.
- **Character Trait Breakfast** - Each month a student from each classroom is selected as the winner of the Character Trait Student of the Month. They are treated to a donut breakfast where they receive a certificate, Laurel Hills water bottle, and have their photo taken for the bulletin board. The October trait is "Responsibility"!
- **Positive Phone Calls Home** - At Laurel Hills, we love to celebrate our students! Any adult can nominate any child for a positive call home from the office. This is above and beyond the positive contact made home by the classroom teacher. Students are called down, and we call home together. Then, they are added to our special board. In quarter 1, we had nearly 30 different students nominated!

Academic Focus:

- **1st Quarter Academic Assemblies** - Teachers can nominate 2 students for both Math and Reading to celebrate their 1st quarter accomplishments. These students will be celebrated for their effort and progress.
- **DRT In Action** - Grade level teams have been working hard to complete Data Review Team cycles. In our first quarter, we completed more than a dozen DRT cycles. Grade level teams use the data review team process to select, monitor, and evaluate progress on "power standards" within their curriculum.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Student Forum with Dr. Martin Knox** - Our students asked some very insightful questions to Dr. Martin Knox including: What do you think about a 4 day school week and What is it that the superintendent does exactly? They finished up with a group photo and a discussion of where she shops and her favorite shoe brand.
- **The Book Fair has Landed** - The Scholastic Book Fair has "landed at Laurel", and is open for families to shop during our Parent/Teacher Conference time. Families will have the ability to browse, buy, and read together. The book fair is supported by our library crew.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 1-30** LH Celebrates Native American Heritage Month
- **November 10** ELA Night & 4th/5th Grade Vocal Performance
- **November 11** Fall Picture Retake Day
- **November 15** LH Chipotle Night

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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. The month of October's character trait was Enthusiastic! Teachers nominated one student from their class that represented that trait and will be getting a certificate and t-shirt!
- **PBIS Celebration**- Students who were Safe, Respectful and Responsible throughout the 1st quarter of school got to attend the Quarter 1 PBIS Party where they painted pumpkins, played a class game in the gym, and had popcorn and lemonade during their special class time.

Academic Focus:

- **Parent Teacher Conferences**- Little Blue Teachers will meet with parents in person or virtually for Parent Teacher Conferences October 26 and October 27.
- **Trauma Smart**- New teachers to the Raytown School District have been attending Trauma Smart sessions to become more trauma aware to meet the needs of not only the students and their families we serve but also their own needs.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Candy Caravan**- On October 19th, Little Blue Elementary hosted a Candy Caravan and it was such a blast! Nearly 200 cars, full of families & friends, came through Little Blue to get candy & show off their costumes!



Upcoming School Events:

- **November 7** Picture Retakes
- **November 14-18** Book Fair
- **November 17** Parent Involvement Night (Title Night)

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Norfleet Elementary

Celebrations:

- Norfleet celebrated Tim Terry, Gail Khounvongsa, and Claudia Kunzler on October 3rd for National School Custodian Day! We appreciate how they work so hard to keep everyone safe and everything clean!
- We recognized 255 knights for their good choices and positive behavior during our first quarter PBS party. Students made calming bottles, ate a snack, and enjoyed a movie.

Academic Focus:

- **Superintendent Student Forum:** Dr. Martin-Knox met 26 eager students who came with lots of questions for her. The students asked her about why she chose Raytown, lunch, recess, what she plans to change here, and her favorite book.
- **First Quarter Ends:** Teachers worked hard during this month to complete end of quarter assessments to be able to share a complete picture of student progress at parent teacher conferences.
- **Monthly Focuses:** Norfleet's PBS and Cultural Competency Teams selected one or more building focus(es) for each month. In October, we finished Hispanic Heritage Month (which lasts from September 15 through October 15. Mrs. Kang, Mrs. Burke, and Mrs. Hernan taught bullying prevention lessons in each classroom, as part of Bullying Prevention Month. We concluded the month with a spirit week for Red Ribbon Week, where "Drug Free Looks Like Me".

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Hallo-wheels Parade:** Norfleet hosted a Hallo-wheels reverse car parade on October 20. Over 150 students drove through our parking lots to see the staff dressed in costume. Students enjoyed a treat bag at the end of the line and teachers were treated to many smiling and costumed students.
- **Parent Conferences:** Norfleet held parent-teacher conferences on October 26-27. This year, parents had the option to conference in person or virtually.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 1, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** PTA Board Meeting & Party Planning
- **November 3, 5:00-8:00 p.m.** PTA Get Air Night
- **November 10, 6:00 p.m.** PTA Unit Meeting and Kg & 1st Grade Music Performance
- **November 11** Picture Retakes
- **November 14-17** PTA Book Fair
- **November 15, 7:30-8:10 a.m.** PTA Donuts with a Grown Up
- **November 17, 5:30-8:00 p.m.** Family Literacy & Math Night; Book Fair
- **November 29** Cerner Health Kids screenings

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Robinson Elementary



Celebrations:

- **Qrt 1 PBS Party** - Our students celebrated our first Positive Behavior Support School Wide Party this week. Our students redeemed more than 7,000 Raccoon Rewards to participate in games, crafts, and a dance party, as well as, entered into a school wide raffle, and had the opportunity to get additional treats with their rewards. Staff had so much fun celebrating our students for being safe, respectful, and responsible! **REF 5k Staff Recognition** - We had the largest team in the history of Robinson and the largest team in the race. Three staff members, Robin Crump, Brice Lantsberger and Robin Rahardja all placed within the top five in their age groups. Way to go, team!

Academic Focus:

- **Robinson Rockstar** - Academic Rockstars have returned for the second year in a row! We will be recognizing students that are showing growth and effort in an academic area. Students will receive a certificate and place their name on our school wide mystery picture. The picture will be revealed as the year progresses.
- **Data Teams**-We have analyzed NWEA data and are utilizing that information as we continue to use our priority standards and set smart goals. We will continue taking a deeper dive into how our data relates to what our students know, what they need, and where we can take our daily instruction.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Boo Fest** - Wow! One of our favorite events of the year. This year we had more than 430 students and their families attend our Fall festival. We had candy, crafts, games, food trucks, and a DJ. It was so much fun welcoming everyone to our building, seeing some amazing costumes, and building relationships through laughter and smiles.
- **PTA Read-a-thon Fundraiser** - PTA hosted our first Read-a-thon fundraiser where students pledged to read over a two week period by gathering donations, sponsors, and recording reading minutes. Our students read over 90,000 minutes and raised over \$9,000. Spirit days and books read by administration, including a special visit from Dr. Martin-Knox were all part of this amazing event!
- **Fall Book Fair** - We had a great turn out during our Book Fair! Students were able to shop with their home adult during school hours and spend money through an online ewallet. The top twenty readers from the Read-a-thon had the opportunity to choose a book! So much fun seeing books in students hands and the excitement of reading home and school.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 11** Family Movie/Game Night
- **November 15** Fall Picture Retakes

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Southwood Elementary

Celebrations:

- **Quarter 1 Positive Behavior Parties:** Students that had less than 4 ODRs for the months of September and October earned a time for popcorn and puzzles while wearing pajamas. Students can earn the quarterly incentive by making good choices that are safe, respectful, and responsible.
- **REF 5k:** Fourteen Southwood staff members signed up as virtual runners for the REF 5k hosted on October 8th. As a staff, we held our “virtual” 5k next door at Minor Park on October 5th while taking time to get outside and talk with coworkers. We are now sharing ideas and how to use our Cash for Classrooms donation to celebrate student success at Southwood.

Academic Focus:

- **Quarter 1 Academic Awards:** Classroom teachers selected students to be celebrated during our quarter 1 assembly in the areas of reading and math. Students were selected for showing growth, hard work, and effort in the areas. Specials teachers selected classes to celebrate that have shown growth and effort this quarter.
- **Professional Learning Communities:** Staff are working on cultivating collaborative and data driven professional learning communities at Southwood. We are analyzing our practices to ensure we are focusing on reviewing data, selecting power/ priority standards, implementing best practices and quality instructional strategies, and mapping out lessons and units during grade level meetings.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **PTA Events:** October was jam packed with wonderful engagement opportunities for our families and staff. Southwood families celebrated our 10th Walk to School day to promote pedestrian safety. Donuts with Grown ups allowed staff to share breakfast with students and the special adult or two in their lives while distributing more than 400 donuts. Lastly, we hosted Trunk or Treat and had great participation in attendance. There were 18 trunks total with 9 families joining in on the fun by decorating a special trunk. Our PTA president even created a special treat tent for adults where they could get coffee samples, office supplies, and king size candy bars.
- **Staff Outing:** For October, Southwood’s community committee planned a staff lunch during our Teacher Work Day on October 21st. Staff went to Los Compas to support a local Raytown business and share time and giggles in between planning for Parent Teacher Conferences.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 1, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** PTA Meeting
- **November 29** Picture Retakes

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Spring Valley Elementary



Celebrations:

- **1st Qtr-It's Fall Ya'll PBIS Incentive:** Students celebrated being successful students by being safe, respectful and responsible leaders. Students enjoyed apple nachos, scare the crows, wrecking apples, fall chalk art, apple sewing, scarecrow relay and build a scarecrow race. **Birthdays Celebrations:** Each day at SV, students are recognized with a Happy Birthday Shout-Out during morning announcement and students receive a certificate and birthday pencil. Students are smiling as they hear their names called and receive their goodies. **One Sight Vision Clinic:** Select students visited the One Sight Clinic to receive a free exam and glasses on the same day. **Staff of the Week:** Mrs. Worledge, Mrs. Heinze, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Sanderson and Mrs. Halsey-Rogers were all selected as Staff of the Week. They were able to park in front all week and enjoy a goodie from Gabbert's Goodies.

Academic Focus:

- **DRT Focus:** Teachers have collaborated during weekly grade level meetings to determine power standards for ELA and Math and determine strategies to engage students in order to meet goals.
- **Cultural Competency Monthly Focus:** Staff and students celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by participating in community building conversations to learn the history of various influential hispanic individuals. K-2 classes did matching activities and 3-5 did fill in the blank activities after their study of individuals. Great conversations occurred and our hispanic students loved sharing traditions from their own families.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **3rd Annual Spooktacular Drive Thru Parade:** This SV event continues to grow each year and families lined 83rd Street to drive through our parade route to see staff and their cars decorated. Staff and our Caring for Kids partner, Smile Doctors, passed out approximately 175 bags of candy to our families. Families even participated in decorating their cars and KISS, the rock band, was our top winner!
- **Superintendent Student Forum:** All classrooms participated during community building in learning about what a superintendent is and does, then came up with their own questions to ask Dr. Martin-Knox. Two students from each classroom were chosen to participate in a Q & A where our Kindness Ambassadors greeted & introduced Dr. Martin-Knox. Students even treated her as a famous celebrity lining up at the end awaiting her autograph. It was a priceless experience!!

Upcoming School Events:

- **October 31-November 4** SV Bookfair
- **October 31-November 14** Read A Thon
- **November 2, 7:30 a.m.** Donuts w/ Grownups
- **November 9, 5:30 p.m.** PTA Meeting
- **November 14, 5:00-9:00 p.m.** McDonald's Night @ 87th & Blue Ridge Location
- **November 18** Picture Retake Day

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Westridge Elementary

Celebrations:

- **PBS Quarterly Award:** Students were recognized as Silver, Gold, and Platinum Eagle winners for having 0-3 referrals in the first quarter. These students had the opportunity to participate in Pumpkin Palooza. PP was a carnival-like event that had games throughout the building and a mini pumpkin decorating station. It was a huge success!
- **Boo Pops Fundraiser:** Fifth graders have organized a Boo Pop fundraiser to collect money for their 5th Grade Fun Day at the end of the year. Boo Pops are Tootsie Roll pops covered in tissue and decorated to look like a ghost. Students purchase them for their friends, family, and teachers for \$0.25 each.

Academic Focus:

- **Extended Planning Sessions:** As a part of our Committee for Professional Learning Plan, grade levels have had the chance to meet for two hours during the day to focus on math planning. Teams review the standards, curriculum maps, and units to identify Greg Tang strategies to use within their lessons. These strategies not only guide teachers on how to address specific standards, but serve as proficiency scales for student expectations. Finally, teachers pace these skills throughout the weeks and align the end of unit assessment question to each standard.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Superintendent Student Forum:** Students from all grades and classes participated in a question and answer forum with Dr. Martin-Knox. Students spent time crafting and refining questions to ask of Dr. Martin-Knox about building needs, lunch ideas, safety, and recess. Their questions prompted Dr. Martin-Knox to come out and review recess herself!

Upcoming School Events:

- **October 31-November 4** Book Fair
- **November 17** 5th Grade to Symphony

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New Trails Early Learning Center



Celebrations:

- **Happy Belly Food Truck:** Blue Ridge and New Trails teachers enjoyed a delicious lunch from the Happy Belly Food Truck right out front in the circle drive. It was a great way to keep teacher energy up as they work hard preparing for conferences.
- **Pumpkin Day:** New Trails students participated in our own small pumpkin patch. They picked their pie pumpkin, decorated them with stickers. Our Speech Language Pathologists performed a *The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything*.

Academic Focus:

- **Trauma Smart Update:** New Trails and PAT staff are diving deeper into District Trauma Smart Training. This month we learned about Attunement. Staff continues to work on noticing and the four attunement steps.
- **Instructional Rounds-** New Trails teachers and therapists participated in Instructional Rounds. This set of rounds was on improving student engagement. They video taped a five minute lesson to share with their collaboration team. The team gave 5 grows and 5 glows on how each teacher or therapists engaged their students or ways to improve engagement.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Trail of Treats:** Trail of Treats, was a huge success! Combining our Blue Ridge Community with New Trails Students we had 814 people walk the parking lot enjoying the decorated cars, receiving yummy treats, and waving to their teachers.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 1 & 15, 5:00-7:30 p.m.** Care Workshop
- **November 7** Picture Day
- **November 10, 5:00-7:30 p.m.** DECA Carnival at New Trails
- **November 14** SB6 Playgroup

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Three Trails Preschool

Celebrations:

- **Celebration Cart:** As part of Trauma Smart, 3T has been focusing on staff improving on self-care. 3T Trauma Smart coaches have created a staff wellness cart. Coaches went around with

Academic Focus:

- **Monthly Focus:** This month the students at 3T focused on Composure. Our commitment as a School Family was “When we have big feelings, we S.T.A.R (Stop, Take a deep breath, And, Relax). Each classroom discussed above and below the line behaviors and used Conscious Discipline to teach about the Safe Place and Feelings buddies. Our next unit begins on 10/31 and we will be investigating Trees.

Parent/Community Focus:

- **Family Celebrations:** October was an exciting time for our Parents and the Community in which we serve! We started the month off with Poppa Pop-In, which is a Father Figure initiative where father figures are able to visit the classroom and complete social emotional learning tasks with their students.
- **3T Diversity:** Our Monthly Social Work classroom lesson was titled “Whoever you are”. The book/conversation was based on outside “differences” and inside “likes” i.e. our skin may be different but the color of our blood is the same. Reinforcement Activity-Peanut M&M. This months Celebrate Diversi-3T focus was “Love makes a Family”-LGBT.
- **Trauma Smart:** We continue to integrate Trauma Smart language and culture with our parents and public/community visitors. We ended the month with our annual Trunk or Treat, which is a well anticipated family engagement tool.

Upcoming School Events:

- **November 1** School Family Assembly
- **November 1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 15, 17** Wonderscope Field Trip
- **November 7-11** Care Closet Drive
- **November 9** Diversity Lesson
- **November 14** Caring for Kids Meeting
- **November 28-December 12** Read-a-Thon
- **November 29** Picture Retakes