

Secondary Education Monthly Update to Board of Education

December 2016



Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- Argumentative Writing: RHS Teachers are collaboratively writing and implementing the 3rd round of our building-wide argumentative writing tasks. This is a part of our on-going efforts to improve students' writing and reasoning skills related to developing sound argumentation rooted in logical reasoning with use of textual evidence. Using the Data Review Team process teachers collaboratively scored and reflected upon the student work and well as their instructional practices. There are 5 tasks throughout the school year.

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- RHS Band: KC Metro All-District Band: David Severt (9th)—3rd Chair French Horn, Emma Schoolcraft (12th)—8th Chair Flute. KC Metro All-District Jazz Band: Kevin Johnson (12th)—2nd Alternate Tenor Saxophone.
- RHS Choir: Camerata and Concert Choir will perform the National Anthem at the December 17 Maverick's game.
- RHS Orchestra: KC Metro All-District Orchestra: Anna Ryan(10th)—Viola
- RHS Speech & Debate: The team has been notified by the National Speech and Debate Association that they ranked in the top 8% nationwide and once again are listed in the 200 club for having over 200 degrees and members.
- RHS Journalism: Jeremiah Paul (12th) and Ligia Valencia (11th) earned excellent ratings for their broadcast entry at the National High school Journalism Convention.
- RHS Theatre: The fall musical, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, was a huge success with over 750 attendees during the 3-day run!
- RHS Boys' Basketball kicked off the season with a 65-54 win over Ruskin. The varsity team travels to Springfield, MO to compete in the Parkview High School Tournament December 1-3.
- RHS Girls' Basketball kicked off the season with a 48-39 win over Grandview. The varsity team competes in the Liberty North High School Tournament December 5-9.
- RHS Girls' Swimming: Sydney Jackson (11th) has qualified for the state meet in diving. The team placed 2nd at their first Invitational meet.
- RHS Wrestling: The team, coaches, and several parents participated in a service project at City Union Mission on November 12.
- RHS Boys' Soccer: All-Conference 2nd team: Joshua Franco (12th) and Enrique Garcia (11th). All-Conference Honorable Mention: Mario Garcia (12th), Myles Smith (11th), and Abram Franco (10th).

Upcoming School Events

- RHS Holiday Choir Concert: Thursday, December 8 at 7:00 pm—RHS Auditorium
- RHS Holiday Orchestra Concert: Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm—RHS Auditorium
- RHS Holiday Band Concert: Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 pm—RHS Auditorium

Raytown South High School

Academic Focus

- Building Professional Development Early Release Day 11/2/16
 - Session 1: SSR on “Creative Schools” by Ken Robinson followed by departmental discussions. Departments divided the reading and used the Text Rendering technique. Text Rendering utilizes each reader to compile a word, phrase, and sentence from his/her reading. Information is then shared and discussed as a group. Individuals shared reading results within PLCs. Many departments reported engaging and intriguing conversations as a result. Large group discussion will take place on January 11th to complete our faculty book study.
 - Session 2: MO Connections Each department had an individual present and guide through the steps to set-up MO Connections for advisory classes. Teachers explored MO Connections utilities and are prepared to implement through the advisory program. Any student not in the system was reported through a shared log so that all current students will be enrolled in MO Connections and ready to participate in the advisory curriculum. Counselors explored MO Connections and investigated how to pull reports from the system. They then brainstormed and discussed how to utilize the reports when working with students.
 - Session 3: PLC Times
PLCs took time to share celebrations, review upcoming special schedules, and prepare for the next round of DRT and Content work.
 - Follow-up Needed:
The book study follow-up will take place on January 11th as part of the scheduled book study activities. MO Connections work will continue through the advisory curriculum with grade-level coordinators disseminating plans and information as needed. Teachers can receive assistance via their grade-level coordinator or their PLC head. PLC- DRT and PLC follow-up is differentiated by department and determined within the individual PLC.
- Grandview HS teachers and administration visiting our school to learn about South PBS and ISS. Teachers will attend voluntary PD sessions to take place after school on a variety of topics determined by the BLT, LST, and/or TLT (PGP/Britelocker, STAR training, Literacy, PBS, Standards Based Grading, Differentiated Instruction, TLAC strategies, Block Schedule planning, Book Studies, Content Specific Topics, etc.)
- Teachers Jenny Ernst and Sarah Apple visited the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta to observe innovative strategies that improve rigor, student engagement, and motivation.
- Below is a checklist our mentors are working on with new teachers:
 - Share ideas and application from workshops, conferences, Professional Learning
 - Opportunities and New Teacher Meetings
 - Review field trip procedures and forms
 - Review classroom management and discipline
 - Reconfirm date and time for next classroom observation
 - Analyze lesson plans for organization and pacing
 - Discuss possible interventions for individual students
 - Revisit student referral procedures
 - Review procedures for report cards
 - Discuss parent conferences

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- Congratulations to Chris Gilbert and Megyn Payne for their successful audition into our All-District SATB choir (and future audition for All-State) and to Mason Coldsnow for his successful audition placement into the All-District Men's Choir!
- Kansas City Metro All District High School Paige Teeman, senior at RSHS, made 2nd chair French Horn 2nd Band.
- FCLA Fall Leadership Conference Hayley Brooks won 1st place in Health Administration and Sydni Turner won 2nd place also in Health Administration.
- On Saturday, October 1st the Raytown South Southern Regiment marching band competed at the Golden Regiment Marching Band Invitational at Blue Springs High School in Blue Springs, Missouri. The event is one of the biggest marching competitions in the entire Midwest during marching band season. The top band programs from Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and Oklahoma competed on Saturday. For the Raytown South band program to be invited and compete is a major honor and privilege. The Southern Regiment band finished with high honors and had a great performance. Please congratulate band students for there hard work. Great job band!
- Please congratulate the following students today for making students of the month:
 - 9th- Rebekah Nunn
 - 10th- Bishop Manlimos
 - 11th- Dawson Schmoltzer
 - 12th- Noah Miller Farley
- Miss Vivian Bozikis was voted Staff member of the Month.

Upcoming School Events

- Choir will air on Channel 38The Spot from 9-11pm on Christmas Eve It will air on KSHB-TV Channel 41 from 6-8am on Christmas Day.
- Check out the new Elite Eight basketball banner. Way to represent! The last time the Varsity Basketball Team was in the Elite Eight was 13 years ago.
- Dawson Schmutzler, Juliette Vargas, Eileen Slinker, Dr. Markley, Maia Lewis, Emmanuel Childs, and Landon Montgomery are the SHS representatives for the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting.
- The BLT is planning a visit to Jefferson City High School to observe their Advisory, zero block and late start collaboration programs.

Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus

- November 2 Professional Development was a productive day. The Objective: This planning session provided teachers time for meaningful collaboration to prepare engaging lessons/units to support building instructional goals aligned to our CPL plan with One to One technology and 4.2 Indicator; Critical thinking skills. Teachers selected from a list of planning options to develop a deeper use/development of Actively Learn, use of text structures, collaborate to develop shared vocabulary, and a deeper use of tech tools/resources: Google docs, Google forms, Google classroom, Google drawing, Near Pod, Class dojo, Kahoots. Teachers provided support to help each other throughout the afternoon. High quality engaging lessons and units were created and taught.
- Math Highlights: The RMS math department has worked consistently to support their students by providing additional math tutoring for their students. A tutoring plan was developed and

implemented in October for math support to be provided five days a week for one hour before or after school. Student participation has been high and improved scores have been documented. The goal is to continue this plan throughout the school year, with a focus on small group, skill based instruction. I am proud of the effort demonstrated by our math team.

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- Girls volleyball season: Students began the season with a steep learning curve as they were introduced to the game. The girl's exposure to more experienced players was difficult at the start, but many lessons were learned along the way. The second half of the season had more successes marked with a better understanding of the game. The girls became more consistent with serving, choosing the strategy of pass, set, hitting which led to several of wins. The highlight of the season for the A team was winning first place in the Grandview tournament and defeating our sister school, SMS. The B team learned basic fundamentals of volleyball and ended the season with a better understanding of the game. Students could pass, set and hook with ease. During the last week, the girls felt comfortable with blocking the net. The girls were very supportive of each other, displaying positive teamwork. The B team was excited that they won against CMS and SMS. The C team was also brand new to the sport. They learned the expectations of being a student athlete, the rules of volleyball, and the skills involved. The girls learned fast and improved dramatically from the first day of practice.
- Red Ribbon Week: The goal of Red Ribbon Week is to present a commitment to living a safe, healthy, and drug-free life. Our campaign was designed to create student awareness concerning the problems related to the use drugs and alcohol use and to support student's decision to live a drug-free lifestyle. Red Ribbon Week activities included classroom lessons, drug facts/information and hourly announcements with prize give always. All students received a red bracelet, Proud to be Drug Free.

Upcoming School Events

- Community Outreach Pancake Breakfast - December 3, 2016 8-11 am.
~All BOE members are welcome to come! Please come out. Lots of prizes to win!
- Holiday concerts: ~Vocal Music-December 5, 2016, ~Band- December 8, 2016,
~Orchestra- December 12, 2016
- All School Spelling Bee-- December 19, 2016 at 3 pm
- School Pride Day-- December 20, 2016

Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- South Middle is piloting a target POI with 8th grade math. We have identified students who are in need of "intervention" and providing support and "reteaching" during advisory on Wednesdays. We have STAR tested these students and will assess the effectiveness of our intervention prior to the end of 1st semester. Our goal is to more than triple the percent of students identified as basic and below basic on the MAP at the 8th grade level. As we continue to focus intervention for our struggling students, we've added a new lab that will enrich proficient to advanced bubble students. AS we continue to experiment with this intervention, it is my hope that we will continue to grow and add the number of labs we have to service students across the entire

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- The first annual NEON Dance was held on Friday, Nov. 11th. Students who met the eligibility requirements were allowed to attend as a first and second trister incentive. The timing could

not have been better. In an election cycle that seemed to polarize and divide our world outside of school, the dance was a great opportunity for our school community to come together and celebrate the accomplishments of our students. Several of our new PTA members showed up to help. A great time was had by all!!

Upcoming School Events

- 3rd Annual RSMS Christmas Lunch will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 20th.

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- November has been another fantastic month at RCMS! We had a great time of professional learning during our early release half-day on November 2nd. We spent a portion of our time together reviewing student academic data and discussing possible interventions that we could implement to continue to improve our academic achievement. Additionally, three of our staff members developed a professional learning experience to extend our learning in the area of cultural competency as a follow-up to our early release half day session from September. There was wonderful, meaningful discussion and feedback provided to plan for future trainings.

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- We held our fall Drama Club production on November 11th. Our Drama Club students did a great job with the show.
- Girls and Boys Basketball hosted a combined Purple/Silver even on November 15th. Both teams are looking good and getting ready for regular season play!

Upcoming School Events

- First home Boys Basketball game – November 21st at 4pm (at SMS)
- First home Girls Basketball game – November 29th at 4pm
- Orchestra Concert – December 5th at RHS gymnasium
- Band Concert – December 6th at Raytown High School
- Vocal Music Concert – December 8th at Raytown Christian Church

Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- Questioning
- Effective Feedback
- Purpose of Culturally Responsive Teaching/School Climate at RSA

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- Semester Attendance Awards
- Weekly Attendance Awards
- Monthly Attendance Incentives
- Level Celebration

Upcoming School Events

- None for month of January

Herndon Career Center

Academic Focus

- Auto Collision students are replicating the workplace environment in the shop. Students applied for different positions with leaders being selected as foreman. Students are learning how to operate within the teams and their specific roles based on the tasks assigned.
- Diesel students are deconstructing and reconstructing diesel engines as their semester end project. Students need to learn how to take apart and reconstruct the engines as this will be required on the job. Students were required to obtain an engine through networking and contacting businesses as this is also an essential job skill.
- Counselors and administrators met to discuss enrollment procedures for the 17-18 school year with the focus on trying to help students make their selections with as much information as possible prior to applying.
- Students who are at risk of not passing for the semester due to grades or poor attendance have been working on success plans in an effort to improve grades and attendance.
- Student attendance incentives are encouraging students to have perfect attendance. At the end of trister 2 in the 15-16 school year, 57 students had perfect attendance. At the end of trister 2 in the 16-17 school year, 166 students had perfect attendance.

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- Students in Construction and Welding attended a Career Night at the Carpenters Apprenticeship Hall to meet with a variety of businesses who do or will potentially have job openings. Several students were hired as a result of attending the event.
- The Sophomore Showcase was held on November 15 – 17 where 10th graders from the sending schools came to campus on explored three programs through hands-on learning. This event is held to provide a preview of opportunities at Herndon.

Upcoming School Events

- January 26, 2017: Career Night for 8th – 11th grade students
- February 7 & 9: 8th Grade Tours

Northwood

Academic Focus

- State Testing / MAP-A
- Individualized IEP goals
- Community Based Instruction

Parent/Community/Activity Focus

- Community Based Instruction Trips
 - Bowling – Nov. 11 & 18 (Diamond Bowl)
 - Students practice ordering, paying, and appropriate eating manners
- Northwood School Store
 - Continues to be a success
 - Students earn Penguin Points for demonstrating appropriate behaviors

Upcoming School Events

- Mavericks Game – Dec. 16 (Student Incentive)
- Northwood Christmas Party
 - Date TBD