

# Elementary School Monthly Update to Board of Education

May, 2018



## Blue Ridge Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Give, Get, GROW:** Throughout this school year, Blue Ridge staff studied *Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind* by Eric Jensen. To deepen our understanding and apply the learning, Dr. Corey Shonk and Ms. Missy Marcella provided professional development on building working memory throughout the school day using engaging strategies. In this professional learning opportunity, teachers engaged in brain and memory activities, while enjoying The Crust Pizza and Kronuts for A Piece of Cake. Teachers were excited to take the memory activities back to use in their classrooms. The result- teachers grow in strategies and students grow in achievement.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Earth Day:** Blue Ridge participated in Earth Day by picking up trash around Raytown. Kindergarten thru 3rd grade picked up trash on the grounds of Blue Ridge and New Trails. Fourth grade walked to Rice Tremonti to clean up the historical site. Fifth grade ventured to Coleman Park to beautify a common area of Raytown.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 17** Skating party
- **May 22 & 23** INSPIRE Incentive
- **May 25** 5th Grade Celebration
- **May 29** Fun Day
- **May 30** 5th Grade v Staff Kickball Game

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## Eastwood Hills Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Assessment and Instruction:** Eastwood Hills has continued our primary instructional focus this school year on fidelity to Professional Learning Communities through the formal DRT process. Grade level teams meet weekly to determine learning intentions/objectives based on the standards and student pre-assessment data, collaboratively develop assessments during and at the summation of learning, determine what “success” on the learning intention looks like, and collectively discuss instructional strategies to meet learning objectives and modify instruction for both enrichment and remediation.
- **Teacher Leadership and Professional Learning:** This month’s Building PD day focused on vertical alignment and concentration of writing instruction. Using the prioritized Writing Standard 1 “Apply a writing process to develop a text for audience and purpose,” grade level teams compared student work samples to standard objectives before taking a gallery tour and engaging in vertical discussions of the evidence of learning, instructional implications and professional development needs for the 2018/19 school year in the area of writing pedagogy.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten Round-Up:** Approximately 20 future Eastwood Hills Jr. Jays and their families participated in Kindergarten Round-Up. Parents learned important information about the school community and met Kindergarten Staff, students received screening assessments and everyone received a tour of EWH!
- **Kindergarten & First Grade Music Performance:** Kindergarten and First Grade students alike entertained their parents and teachers April 3<sup>rd</sup> during their evening music performance.
- **Royals Home Run for Health:** Fourth and Fifth Grade students along with the KC Royals and Mrs. Hunter the Eastwood Hills PE Teacher, kicked off the Royals Home Run for Health fitness challenge. Students (and staff members) were so excited to hear from retired Royals players and partner with them in this healthy challenge to improve their bodies and minds!

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 16** Title 1 End of Year Celebration
- **May 17, 8:15 a.m.** Fifth Grade Recognition Breakfast
- **May 17, 6:00 pm.** Family Fun Night
- **May 24, 10:00 a.m.** Fourth Grade RayPal Reception in EWH Library
- **May 25** 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Positive Behavior Party
- **May 29** Fun Daze
- **May 30** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade v. Teacher Kickball Game

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## Fleetridge Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **K-1 Music Program** - Led by Mrs. Barker-Fisher, 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. Students ended their performance with a song that encouraged their parents to take them out for ice cream following the performance. Mrs. Barker-Fisher was presented with flowers to honor her final music performance of her career as she is retiring at the end of this school year.
- **MAP Testing** - ELA and Math MAP Testing was completed within the two-week window. There were 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 and scheduling proctors.

### 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 18, 6:00 p.m.** PTA Family Fun Night
- **May 23** Field Day

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## Laurel Hills Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Greg Tang Professional Development:** The Laurel Hills teachers met with Shea Thomas, Elementary Math Curriculum Coordinator, to discuss the implementation of the math strategies taught by Greg Tang this year. Each grade level team shared their new learning and implementation of these strategies during the grade level meetings. Additionally, each grade level developed a commitment statement for the 18-19 school year. Following these grade level discussions, the teachers met for a faculty meeting and divided into K-5 vertical teams. The teams discussed their implementation with the math strategies taught by Greg Tang and they shared their grade level commitment statements. The vertical discussions were rich with content and showed a deep level of commitment to applying these math strategies.
- **MAP GLA:** Laurel Hills 3rd-5th grade students participated in the MAP GLA. They worked hard and showed tremendous determination. The teachers were proud of their attitude towards the testing. The students also reported feeling prepared and ready for the tests!

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Grandparent's Night & Art Fair:** Laurel Hills hosted an evening for grandparents on April 17th. Families were invited to spend an evening with their children looking at the art displayed around the school. They also enjoyed a complimentary ice cream social served by our PTA. To top off the evening, families could purchase books from the book fair. It was a great night for grandparents and families to spend some time together at school.
- **Kindergarten Round-Up:** We welcomed incoming kindergarten students to Laurel Hills on April 12th and 13th. We are excited about our new leopards and their families.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 16, 6:00 p.m.** PTA Family Carnival
- **May 25, All Day** Fun Day
- **May 31, 9:30 a.m.** Talent Show

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## Little Blue Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Testing:** 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students concluded state testing the last week of April. Students worked 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 Round-Up:** Little Blue hosted our incoming Kindergartners and their families earlier in April for Kindergarten Round-up. Students and families were able to learn about Little Blue, our expectations, procedures, get a tour, and spend some time in a Kindergarten classroom. We are very excited about our new mustangs!

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Performance:** Our Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students had a musical performance early this month. Over 350 friends and family members came to enjoy the performance led by music teacher, Colene Moss.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 16** Boys to Gentlemen Banquet
- **May 18** Field Day
- **May 30** Little Blue Talent Show

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## Norfleet Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **MAP Testing:** Norfleet 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students successfully completed MAP testing in the month of April. Intermediate grade teachers have been preparing students for this new venture over the past several months.
- **Zoo Field Trip:** 1st and 4th grade classes paired up to take a field trip to the Zoo with their big/little buddies. It was a great day of science in action, sunshine, and relationship building between grade levels.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten Round-Up:** The families of our upcoming Kindergarteners were able to participate in Kindergarten Round-Up in April. Parents were able to listen to a presentation by led by Principal Lori Kang and then go on a guided tour of the building. Students enjoyed centers and snacks with building staff. This was an amazing opportunity for our building to establish rapport with new Norfleet families.
- **Kindergarten and First Grade Music Program:** Norfleet Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders were able to showcase their talents in April for friends and family at the final music program of the year.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 11, 9:30 a.m.** 5th Grade Recognition
- **May 11, 12:00 p.m.** 5th Grade Fun Day
- **May 11, 1:00 p.m.** Career Day
- **May 23, 9:00 a.m.** Field Day

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## Robinson Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Data Teams:** Although we are in our last few weeks of school, collaborative teams are still pushing to raise the bar for student achievement. Grade levels continue to meet and prepare for end-of-year assessments and data evaluation (STAR Math and Reading, pre and post unit assessments, team surveys, etc.). Teams have also started to plan for the beginning of next year as we set not only grade level goals, but also building level goals that fall in line with district expectations.
- **MAP:** Our third, fourth, and fifth grade students finished their MAP testing. It was very exciting watching our students show what they had learned throughout the year and even more exciting being able to display their knowledge utilizing technology skills. MAP celebrations will take place this month to praise our students and let them know how proud we are of their efforts. They worked extremely hard!

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten Round Up:** Robinson held Kindergarten Round-Up for several of families mid-April. It was very beneficial getting to greet our new students and their families for the first time. There were lots of excited faces as students met our Kindergarten staff and were able to look around their school building. Parents were also given some great information to put their minds at ease as they prepare to send their babies to us in August.
- **BINGO Night:** PTA hosted the second annual Bingo Night at Robinson. Families were able to purchase bingo cards, enjoy some snacks, and win lots of cool prizes. We even had a raffle of community donated items.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 9** Career Day
- **May 21** PBS Celebration
- **May 25** Field Day
- **May 30** Fifth Grade Celebration and Fun Day
- **May 31** 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Academic Certificates

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## Southwood Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **MAP TEST:** Southwood 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students completed the MAP Test using their chromebooks again this year. Thanks to technology and counselors for making sure we were ready on all fronts to provide a calm testing environment. Everything went off without a hitch. Students worked hard every day and seemed comfortable on the chromebooks now that we have used them for two years.
- **Title Reading:** As we wind down the year and look over data, we are certainly proud of the progress our struggling readers made throughout the year. Our gains are measured in hard data but also on the faces of students who are proud of their accomplishments. They enjoy reading now and believe they can do it which has benefits for years to come.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Bingo for Books:** Bingo for Books continues to be one of our favorite activities among students and families. We gather in the gym for free pizza and prizes. Every student in attendance walks out the door with at least two books from our grand selection of authors and illustrators.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 23** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition
- **May 25** Fun Day
- **May 29** Southwood City- End of the Year PBS Celebration



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## Spring Valley Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **Professional Growth Plan Reflection:** Spring Valley teachers collaborated with administration to determine their growth outlined in their PGP's and plans that wanted to outline for the upcoming year relating to their professional growth. During the upcoming school year, staff plans will continue to have a direct focus on the areas in which they are working to master to support their implementation of curriculum and behavioral plans.
- **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 23<sup>rd</sup> -July 26<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup> –August 1<sup>st</sup>. Information learned will be implemented and utilized to support the learning and development of students during the 2018-2019 school year.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **SV Book Fair:** During the week of April 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 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. Parents and families even joined us following the music program.
- **Spring Valley Music Program:** On Tuesday, April 10, 2018, Spring Valley Elementary participated in our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student Music Program. Under the musical direction of Mr. Anthony Harvey, more than 100 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 musical performance of the school year.
- **Spring Valley Career Day:** On Friday, April 27, 2018, students and staff welcomed the Raytown and Kansas City community to support the first annual Career Day. Students learned about a variety of professional careers, trades, and skills that aligned to the goal of preparing students to being college and career ready. This day provided students the opportunity to have hands on interaction, ask questions, and see the daily operations of the work that adults engage in all the way from doctor's to mounted KCPD horses.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 17, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** SV Talent Show
- **May 30, 9:00 a.m.** Spring Valley Field Day

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## Westridge Elementary

### Academic Focus

- **MAP Testing Success:** The third, fourth, and fifth grade students received a tremendous amount of encouragement and support from the staff and younger students. To kick off the MAP testing window Healthy Hip Hop performers came to reinforce effort and the importance of peer respect.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **Kindergarten and First Grade Performance:** Kindergarten and First Grade students participated in their music performance. Both grades combined to perform songs on “Me”. The performance included props, songs, speaking transitions, and dance. The event was well attended by family and friends.
- **PTA Movie Night:** Westridge had its first PTA Movie Night. Families and staff collected in the gym to watch the movie Coco. We had about 60 people at the event.
- **Career Day:** Westridge’s Career Day was a huge success. We had over 30 volunteers that presented to students from all walks of life. News anchors, city workers, lawyers, and even professional wrestlers.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 9, 10:05 a.m.-12:35 p.m.** MAP Carnival
- **May 25, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** 4th Grade Wax Museum
- **May 23, 6:00-7:30 p.m.** PTA BBQ
- **May 24, All Day** Fifth Grade Fun Day
- **May 29, All Day** Field Day

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## New Trails Early Learning Center

### Academic Focus

- **New Trails-** Teachers have been finishing up transition with elementary, and giving benchmark and STAR assessments. They are using that data to focus on key skills for those entering Kindergarten. Our building DRT focus has been name writing.
- **Transition-** Staff has been very busy attending transition IEP meetings to help our students going to kindergarten get off to a great start. The staff at NT and the elementary staff met and worked together to develop the IEP and any supporting accommodations.
- **Parents as Teachers-** Staff have been focused on screenings to support our preschool programs. Those screenings also give parents suggestions and ideas on how they support their child in kindergarten readiness.

### Parent/Community Focus

- **BR Mall Optimists-** Came and provided Easter treats for the children. The children at NT sang spring songs for them.
- **New Trails and PAT:** Hosted a Family Night event at New Trails. Mr. Stinky Feet came and performed two concerts.
- **PreK Enrollment-** Staff at NT and 3T helped enroll for next year PreK and Early Childhood Programs.

### Upcoming School Events

- **May 22 & 24, 6:30-7:45 p.m.** Moving On for New Trails
- **May 25** Water Day
- **May 29** Last day of school and a school wide picnic