

Elementary School Monthly Update to Board of Education

June, 2018



Blue Ridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **2017-18 Reflection:** Blue Ridge staff used time during Wednesday professional development to reflect on this school year and discuss improvements for next year. Reflection questions discussed were 1) What worked well? 2) What was frustrating or needs improvement? 3) What are some areas students were well prepared for this year? 4) How can the preceding grade level better prepare students? and 5) What are some school wide structures or processes that need tightening during the 2018-19 school year? Teachers were able to have honest conversations about expectations in academics and behavior. Overall, all teachers agreed to raise the level of behavior expectations for all students and focus on writing across the curriculum.
- **Writing Focus for 2018-19:** Blue Ridge established K-5 writing goals for the 2018-19 school year. For example, by the end of kindergarten students will be able to write a three sentence paragraph on topic using accurate grammar, conventions and syntax. On the other end of the spectrum, fifth grade students will be to write a five paragraph essay using 3 sources with accurate grammar, conventions and syntax. Each grade level will publish one narrative, opinion and expository writing piece throughout the same year.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Inspire Incentive:** Students who demonstrated respectful, responsible and safe behavior earned a special end of the year incentive. Students walked to Coleman Park and ate pickles for a snack. In addition, some students used Bluejay Bonuses to purchase additional park time for a VIP experience. This included a visit from the ice cream truck to cool off after an hour of play.
- **Fifth Grade Celebration:** On Friday, May 25th, students and families celebrated the academic, social, and personal achievements of our fifth grade students. Each student received a shirt for to their future middle school courtesy of PTA and string back with their high school graduation year for Blue Ridge staff.
- **Fun Day:** Tuesday, May 29, was our annual Fun Day. Teams were mixed kindergarten through fifth and took part in a variety of activities from balloon toss to obstacle course. Teams competed against each other for the best times or most points in each area. A grand champion was named for displaying the best teamwork and sportsmanship. Check out @RQSBlueRidge on Twitter for pictures.

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Eastwood Hills Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Assessment and Instruction:** Teachers have been meeting with students to set and review academic goals utilizing STAR Data.
- **Teacher Leadership and Professional Learning:** In addition to weekly Professional Learning Communities, an end of year survey was collected asking teacher to report on what they most value about our work at Eastwood Hills, what they need to be their best instructional selves, ideas to increase our celebration of our students as people and learners, and content interest in book studies was explored. This information will be used for 18/19 Professional Development and Community Planning.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Girls on the Run and Let Me Run:** Thirty 4th and 5th grade Eastwood Hills boys and girls participated in the separate culminating 5K races for the Girls on the Run and Let Me Run organizations this month. Eastwood Hills' students and teachers have been so thankful for the opportunity to participate in these social emotional and strengthening programs due to donations by both organizations and the generosity of Raytown staff and Eastwood families through fundraising campaigns.
- **5th Grade Student Led Career Day:** Every year, fifth grade students at Eastwood Hills prepare career presentations and deliver them to lower elementary students through the building. Every year our students improve their ability to present to audiences about the opportunities that await them all.
- **5th Grade Recognition Breakfast:** On May 17th, family members celebrated with fifth grade students and teachers over a pancake breakfast hosted by the school. Our Fifth Grade students ended the morning recognition ceremony with a final music performance as Elementary students. It was a very sweet time!
- **Title One Reading Celebration:** We hosted our second annual Title One Reading Celebration. Every student who participated in Title 1 math and reading interventions celebrated with teachers and their families at this remarkable event. A summary of student learning through Title 1 and an emphasis on continued summer reading was shared with families in attendance. Every student and family left with resources to extend their learning over the summer session.

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Fletridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Title 1 Reading & Math DRT** - Classroom teachers and Title 1 Reading and Math Specialists met to analyze data together. Title 1 Specialists shared the progress monitoring data on the students they work with. Together recommendations were made and next steps were planned for each student so programming is ready in August when students return.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Bookmobile** - The Bookmobile came to Fletridge and each student in the school received one new book and one used book. Students always enjoy this and received the following compliment from the volunteers: "**Fletridge Staff and Students** - We were very impressed by the behavior and politeness of the Fletridge students while choosing books from the bookmobile on Wednesday."

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Laurel Hills Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Reading Growth Awards:** We recognized 20 students, one student per classroom, for making the most growth on STAR Reading or Early Literacy at the Talent Show on May 31st. The students were selected by making the greatest growth in scale score points from their pretest to their posttest. Several students made over 300 point gains in one year. One of our students made a 400-point gain! The students received a certificate and a pair of Royals tickets for their accomplishments.
- **Perfect Attendance Awards:** At the talent show, we also recognized students with perfect attendance for the school year. We had 7 students with perfect attendance for the entire year. These students were recognized with a certificate and a pair of Royals tickets.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Fun Day:** The Laurel Hills students participated in Fun Day on May 25th. The students were engaged in movement activities throughout the day. We had many parents come and support the event. It was a great day for all of our students and families!
- **5th Grade Celebration Picnic:** Laurel Hills hosted a 5th grade picnic celebration for students and families on May 30th. The 5th graders ate a picnic lunch, had ice cream sundaes, received a certificate of completion, coupons for Cool Crest and Wingstop, and a final Laurel Hills t-shirt. Each year, the PTA purchases t-shirts for just the 5th grade students. Each student signs the t-shirt before it is made. The 5th graders wear their shirts on the last day of school.

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Little Blue Elementary

Academic Focus

- **STAR Testing:** STAR testing has been completed by all grade levels. We are very pleased with our students' progress over the school year.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Field Day:** Students, parents and staff participated in our annual Field Day, Friday, May 18. The weather was absolutely perfect and it was a fun time had by all.
- **Talent Show:** Little Blue had our annual talent show on Tuesday, May 30. We had 15 student acts including karate, singing, dancing, orchestra, comedy, and art. The staff also created a dance routine.

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Norfleet Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Benchmark Testing:** Classroom teachers have worked diligently to assess their students' growth using STAR and district assessments.
- **Middle School Tour:** Fifth grade students enjoyed touring Central Middle School and getting a sneak peek into next year. They also practiced opening combination locks with Norfleet Counselor Sonya Swenson. Students are looking forward to their transition from being a Knight to a Raven!

Parent/Community Focus

- **Fifth Grade Recognition and Fun Day:** Fifth grade teachers honored our fifth grade students and their families at our annual Fifth Grade Recognition. Students each created a slide about themselves and recorded themselves reading it. Many students were recognized for earning the Presidential gold or silver awards. Students performed one final music number at Norfleet. This year's ceremony was held during the morning. Later in the day, parents returned to accompany students to their Fifth Grade Fun Day at B & D Roller Rink. Students enjoyed pizza after returning to school. We appreciate PTA's support of this memorable day.
- **PBS Second Semester Incentive:** Over 270 Norfleet students celebrated having zero Office Discipline Referrals during fourth quarter. This year, students enjoyed a water day to celebrate their success.

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Robinson Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Positive Behavior Support:** Robinson Elementary earned Silver Level Recognition in our sixth year for implementation of Schoolwide Positive Behavior Supports. This was awarded in recognition of the work administration and staff do to achieve positive social and emotional outcomes for students. The Missouri SW-PBS School Recognition Ceremony will be held at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach.
- **Leadership Team:** The building team met to discuss many upcoming ideas for the 2018-2019 school year (Building Community of Professional Learning Plan, Robinson School-wide and Parent Involvement Plans, Robinson Action Plan, Homework Policy, established routines and building procedures, Character Traits, etc.).
- **Developing Our Teaching:** Teachers met with Administration to set new professional growth plans to be implemented in the upcoming school year. Teachers provided data and discussion also took place about the standards that were chosen. Goals were set for 2018-2019.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Robinson Art Show:** Mrs. Vanbuskirk, art teacher, decorated the hallways of Robinson with student art work. Families were invited to take an “art walk” and see the wonderful displays throughout the building. There was also a make-and-take art activity set up in the gym.
- **Fourth Grade Wax Museum:** Our 4th grade students dressed as famous Missourians and astounded our parents with their presentation abilities.
- **Field Day:** The rain stopped long enough for Coach Lantsberger, p.e. teacher, to complete field day activities. He had a lot of parent help on May 25 to make the day a success.

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Southwood Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Teacher Leaders:** New Teacher Leaders were selected through an application and interview process. The new team spent time during May discussing, brainstorming and planning for the upcoming school year. Much discussion took place about providing teachers what they need to improve teaching and learning. Teacher Leaders discussed the impact some of our professional learning in cultural competence and trauma has had on the building. Discussion centered around continuing and expanding our work in these areas. We also want to move forward in creating a focus around our writing standards and expectations across grade levels.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Bingo for Books** - Our annual Bingo for Books event was a huge success. Many families came to school for an evening of pizza and bingo. Children of all ages enjoyed the competitiveness and collegiality among the families. Every student went home with at least two books and most had many more than that. The planning committee did an excellent job of making it an easy, fun and affordable (free) night for SW families.

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Spring Valley Elementary

Academic Focus

- **Instructional Minutes:** Spring Valley grade levels and administration will work to collaborate and organize the instructional schedule for the 2018-2019 school year as instructional data is summarized and reviewed. This method has been determined to provide greater teacher/staff buy-in, in addition to accountability for all.
- **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 23rd-26th and July 30th –August 1st. Information learned will be implemented and utilized to support the learning and development of students during the 2018-2019 school year.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Spring Valley Art Fair/Ice Cream Social/Wax Museum:** On Tuesday, May 1, 2018, Spring Valley Elementary held our annual Art Fair/Ice Cream Social and 4th Grade Wax Museum in which art was displayed throughout the entire building that represented the talents of all K-5th grade students. Additionally, 4th Grade students were posed as Missouri Historians in the gymnasium based upon individuals that they researched and portrayed themselves as. Families had the opportunity to see the creative work of their students through art, historical information, while enjoying ice-cream and socializing. This event brought out over 300 students and families.
- **Spring Valley Talent Show:** On Thursday, May 17, 2018, Spring Valley students, staff, families, and friends had the opportunity to see students display their diverse talents and skills during our annual talent show. This was an outstanding event in which over 100 families came out to support and participate in.

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Westridge Elementary

Academic Focus

- **End of Year Data Analysis:** Teachers met to review classroom and individual student data. Through this, teachers were able to draw global conclusions on how teaching practices and student progress. The process concluded with providing suggested class placements for the 2018-2019 school year.
- **STAR Analysis:** Teachers reviewed end of the year Star Data to determine which goals were met and determine levels of progress. Third, Fourth, and Fifth also used Renaissance measures to make projections on MAP performance.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Fifth Grade Fun Day:** The 5th grade team, PTA, and Caring for Kids partner, Connection Point partnered to celebrate our fifth grade students. Students went to Connection Point for games, tie dyed t-shirts, pizza party, and dance party. This is a great tradition at Westridge and is looked forward to by both students and staff.
- **End of Year BBQ and Yearbook Signing:** The PTA hosted its annual End of Year BBQ for families and staff to celebrate the closing of the school year. During this evening, families have the option to purchase a hot dog, chips, and drink package for \$3.00 per person. Students get to have their friends and staff sign yearbooks and play. Thanks to Caring for Kids partners, Caring for Kids all students were given a memory book for signatures.