

Secondary Schools Monthly Board of Education Report



November 2021

Raytown High School

Academic Focus

- RHS social studies teacher has worked with students from her Dual Credit American History and World History classes to start a chapter of the National Honor Society for Social Studies Rho Kappa. The group just received its charter Rho Kappa. This honor society is an academic service organization that recognizes student work in the field of the social sciences. The group's first project is working on assembling a display case that features information and artifacts about Raytown High School's storied history. They have visited the Raytown Historical Society, taken several behind the scenes tours of RHS, and collected artifacts from a variety of staff members, former students, and members of the community.
- RHS is gearing up for the Signs of Suicide (SOS) Training. Our counseling department has been working hard to prepare teachers for this one day event that help students better understand how to identify the signs of suicide risk in themselves and others. The training also focuses on how to seek help for yourself or others. T'Neisha Love, RHS Counselor, has taken the lead planning role, with assistance from other members of the department, Shana Bobbitt, Jennifer Northcutt, Katie Kross, LeKeysha Fontenot, and Allecia Lowery. Our SOS training day is Nov. 1.

Parent/Community Focus

- RHS Boys' Swimming finished their dual meet season with a 12 -0 record. They have 6 seniors and their four year dual meet record is 46 and 1 with 3 undefeated seasons. If they win the Suburban White Conference Championship, it will be their 4th consecutive title. This is Coach Aziere's 13th undefeated season since he became head coach at Raytown in 1974, and a dual meet record of 559 wins, 88 losses, and 2 ties. The conference meet will be at Belton Oct. 29 and 30.
- RHS Speech & Debate traveled to Blue Springs and Blue Springs South for the first in-person tournament since Feb. 2020. Judy Batts (12) placed in Quarterfinals at the varsity tournament.
- RHS Choir: Clara Bryant (12) was selected to All-District Choir. Marques Alsup (11), Parker Cobden (11), and Lucas Mayo (11) were selected to the Tenor/Bass Honor Choir. Marissa Johnson (10), Naomi Gonterman (12), and Trinity Brown (12) were selected to the Soprano/Alto Honor Choir. Nigel Turner (10), Hannah Batts (10), Victoria Olson (10), and Anthony Carranza (10) were selected to the 9/10 Honor Choir. Next choir concert is Tuesday, November 30th at 7:00pm.
- RHS Orchestra had their Autumn Festival Concert on October 19th featuring some Halloween Music and music to celebrate Missouri's 200th Birthday. We presented an arrangement of the Missouri Waltz as well as a piece inspired by Missouri Artist George Caleb Bingham entitled, "Descending the Missouri". The holiday concert will be on December 14th and once again conclude with RHS Symphony Alumni joining us on stage for our finale.
- RHS Color Guard finished our football and competition season with the RHS Bluejay Pride Marching Band and will be enjoying our trip to Disney World October 27-30th in Orlando, Florida.

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- RHS Band: The Bluejay Pride Marching Band had a successful season. They finished 6th out of 11 overall in the first competition at Smith-Cotton, 6th out of 20 overall at Missouri Western University, and 7th out of 18 overall in their final competition at Cameron. They celebrated the success of their season with senior night last Thursday, the 21st. Many of the members travelled to Disney World over the October break to participate in a variety of musical activities.
- RHS Theatre: The fall musical, performs in just 3 weeks! 9 to 5 the Musical will be Nov 18-20 at 7pm. The Repertory Theatre class also just performed their fall one act, One Lane Bridge on 10/21, the play was a success.
- RHS Boys' Soccer finished regular season play with a record of 2-14. The team begins district play on October 30. They are a young team that has developed a lot this season.
- RHS Football: The varsity team is currently 4-3. They will play in the first round of district play against Truman High School on Friday, October 28.
- RHS Cross Country wrapped up their regular season at the Conference Meet on Saturday October 9 in Belton. Jacchaeus (JT) Taylor (12) placed 5th in the varsity boys race and finished on the First Team All Conference team. Cassandra Gonzalez (12) placed 14th in varsity girls race and finished on the Second Team All Conference team. Carson McKinley (9), Ben Crowe (9), Andersen Howard (9), and Lanee Cooper (9) are all freshman and ran in the JV races where all medaled and placed in the top 10 of their races. Paige Jacoby (12) and Reece Harmon (9) raced JV and rounded out the medalists for RHS at the Conference Meet. The Boys and Girls varsity will compete at the Class 5 District 4 race on Saturday October 30 at Lee's Summit North High School.
- RHS Girls' Golf season ended at districts this year. The girls had a great season with many new golfers added to the team. We beat many of our conference teams such as William Chrisman and Fort Osage along with North Kansas City, Grandview and Raytown South.
- RHS Softball ended their season with a loss to Lee's Summit North in the first round of district play. The Lady Jays finished with a 3-20 record. Congratulations to Eva Schultz (10) who was named first team All Conference & All region softball team as a utility player & 1st Team All District player.
- RHS Cheer: Our new members on varsity have started cheering and they are doing amazing. We found a permanent mascot and are looking into a new breakthrough banner for next football season and a new mascot costume. In November we will start preparing for competition in February.
- RHS Girls' Tennis: The first Raytown tennis season in many many years finished up this October with a district loss to Pembroke Hill. We had 20 girls come out for the team. 18 of the 20 girls won at least one match this inaugural season. Of the 20 on the team, 11 had not played a school sport prior. There were not any seniors on the team so we are looking forward to lots of offseason growth and for a big roster next year!
- RHS Volleyball finishes 5-18-4. Mitriana Garth (11), MB was rewarded for 2nd Team- All Conference.

Upcoming School Events

- Nov. 18-20--Fall Musical: 9 to 5--RHS Performing Arts Center @ 7:00 pm
- Nov. 30--Winter Choir Concert--RHS Performing Arts Center @ 7:00 pm
- Check out the [RHS Bluejay's Activities Website](#) for additional information

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Raytown South High School

Academic Focus

- The RSHS Social Studies Department is made up of student-focused, driven individuals with diverse backgrounds. Their passion for educating and empowering young people is evident in their classrooms. The teachers work tirelessly to not only teach the district curriculum but to help students make connections to the world they are living in. As a professional learning community, the department lifts each other up; not only by providing curricular support but also through encouragement and support during these difficult times. Providing an engaging, thought provoking curriculum is important to the Social Studies department. The team regularly uses district provided resources such as Edulastic, Nearpod, and Actively Learn. All courses have been integrated with Google Classroom as teachers continue to meet student needs, both virtually and in person.

Parent/Community Focus

- Student athletes of the month include:
 - Philip Wolfe – Cross Country
 - Emma Ratterman – Cheer
 - Rihanna Ricks – Cardettes
 - Marcus Foster – Football
 - Kaden Whitney – Swim
 - Na'Ryah Britton – Softball
 - Andrew Porter – Soccer
 - Cidney Woods – Volleyball
 - Livia Lewis - Golf

Upcoming School Events

- For current updates and news follow us on the Twitter @RQSSouthHigh.
- Check out Sonic Locker Room for sports, clubs, theatre, and music interviews of students, teachers, and coaches

Raytown Middle School

Academic Focus/Social Studies

- **Sixth grade** social studies classes wrapped up their unit on the world's first writing system, cuneiform. Students are now gaining an understanding of how the Sumerian's put their writing skills to new uses. They wrote works on history, law, grammar, and math. They also created works of literature. Sumerian's wrote poems about the gods and military victories; some of these were epics. These stories are often an important part of a people's culture. Also this month, students read a short story about the Epic of Gilgamesh; the story of the legendary Sumerian king, followed by a short video showing a similar yet slightly different version. Students were asked to analyze both stories comparing and contrasting the similarities and differences. Finally, the students were asked to re-create the story of Gilgamesh by making their own epic of Gilgamesh using a comic strip. Students enjoyed these lessons and are now traveling through Mesopotamia.

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- **Seventh grade--** While studying Europe seventh grade students compared and contrasted the Bubonic Plague with the Covid 19 pandemic. Students studied and researched the bubonic plague, including how it was transmitted, how it affected society, and families in the Middle Ages. After discussing results of each pandemic, students learned there were many similarities including quarantines, face coverings, and social distancing. We also learned there were several differences including one being a virus and the other a bacteria. Students were engaged in this lesson and wanted to showcase their knowledge and ELA skills, so they wrote a compare and contrast essay.
- **Eighth grade-**American History students studied colonial economies and learned that everyday items were made by hand, including items like clothing, soap, candles and butter as well as processing grain to make bread. To help the students experience what it is like to make everything yourself, students made butter using heavy cream and a process taking the buttermilk from it. After completing the demo/lab, students had the opportunity to taste the home made butter with crackers. They were amazed by the process.

Parent/Community Focus

- **Red Ribbon Week** RMS students participated in Red Ribbon Week from October 25-27. The theme, *Drug Free Looks Like Me--* was highlighted trivia questions presented by RMS counselors. Monday kickoff was to Make Super Choices/Wear your favorite superhero or anime shirt. Tuesday- Combat drugs; Wear camo and Red Wednesday was to wear red to celebrate the end of red ribbon week. Red Ribbon Week is a week to celebrate and show the commitment to being drug free. Daily Trivia questions were sent to students and daily drawings were held for prizes aligned with the theme.
- **“Soctober” Sock Drive** Under the direction of Aimee Mills, Raytown Middle School sponsored a sock drive called Soctober! Each Advisory was challenged to bring in as many brand new pairs of socks as possible. Why Socks? Socks are the one of most requested items from people in need and least often donated. All socks collected will be donated to REAP. The Advisory with the most socks will win a Donut Party!!! The Winning Advisory will be announced next month.

Upcoming School Events

- Picture retakes –November 9, 2021
- Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @RQSRaytownMiddle
- For current updates and highlights, follow us on RMS Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Raytown-Middle-School-106165480742984>

Raytown South Middle School

Academic Focus

- The instructional staff at South Middle continues to move forward with our learning CADRES. These groups are self-selected and designed to not only increase teacher capacity in the topic of study but also provide a forum for cross building collaboration and dialogue. CADRE meetings are conversation heavy and require that teachers come prepared and ready to discuss. CADRE groups are focused on one of four anchor texts:
- Permission to Fee, The Power of Emotional Intelligence
- Equity-Centered Trauma-Informed Education

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- Culturally Responsive Teaching & the Brain
- The Successful Middle School, This We Believe
- Through these literacy circles, teachers are engaging in critical dialogue that will ultimately result in a change of thinking, understanding, and practice. Teachers will meet with cross study groups to periodically present learning and best practice with the larger community. Reflections and suggestions will be populated through Padlet allowing community learning to be visible. I look forward to how learning CADRES can advance professional learning at South Middle.

Parent/Community Focus

- Fall Musical: Shrek - Thursday, Nov. 11th and Friday Nov. 12th @ 7:00 p.m

Upcoming School Events

- Winter Sports Season Begins Nov. 1st

Raytown Central Middle School

Academic Focus

- CMS Advisory Lessons have focused on Digital Citizenship in October. Students will soon participate in SEL focused lessons next.
- Teacher Leader Team (TLT) is planning PD related to Core Instructional Practices and Planning Effective Lessons, as a “back to the basics” professional development opportunity for CM Staff to learn from each other. This was sparked by shared information from the RHS admin team.
- Several CMS Math Teachers will participate in Greg Tang Math Workshops on November 10th.

Parent/Community Focus

- Fall Play Production: The Outsiders - November 4th & 5th at 7:00pm

Upcoming School Events

- Picture Retakes - November 11th at 8:30am
- Winter Sports Season - Begins November 1st

Raytown Success Academy

Academic Focus

- Core Instructional practices that lead to Critical Thinking
- 8th Grade Geography project

Parent/Community Focus

- Hoping to have our Family Fun Night on Thursday November 18th

Upcoming School Events

- Celebrate students and their academic progress on Nov. 2nd
- Encouragement reward for student meeting attendance goals

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Northwood

Academic Focus

- Individualized Education Goals
- Communication
- Social/Emotional Learning

Parent/Community Focus

- Community Based Instruction - Lakeside Nature Center
- 81% Parent/Teacher Conference Attendance

Upcoming School Events

- Annual NW Christmas Party

Herndon Career Center & Southland CAPS

Academic Focus

- Foundations of Nursing students began clinical rotations at the beginning of October. We have two clinical sites, Jackson Creek Memory Care and John Knox Village. Students go two days a week to work on essential skills required to test for their CNA in the spring. They must accumulate at least 100 clinical hours to be eligible to test.
- Students in Advertising & Graphic Design planned, designed, and created the graphics for the Kansas City Comets season tickets.
- Instructors are reaching out to our post-secondary counterparts to increase opportunities for students in regards to dual and articulated credit. We have some agreements in place already, but we are looking at extending opportunities for students based on our post-secondary placements.
- We have already had seven MO Option students complete the requirements of successfully passing the HiSET test, portfolio, and constitution tests. These students will continue working on the vocational component to complete all requirements for graduation.

Parent/Community Focus

- We had over 85% attendance in person or via Zoom for Parent-Teacher Conferences for our Herndon, Southland CAPS, and MO Option students.
- Students collected canned goods and money for REAP through a competitive drive organized by cosmetology students. The next two weeks students will be collecting toys to also support REAP.

Upcoming School Events

- November 1: Applications open for 2022-23 school year
- November 24-26: Thanksgiving Break