

---

## In This Issue

[Important Dates](#)

[Principal's News and Notes](#)

[Curriculum Night](#)

[Picture Day is Tomorrow!](#)

[Change Your MPS Communications Preferences](#)

[Last Chance to Get Into the Printed Ramsey Directory](#)

[Seeking Volunteers](#)

[Join the Alpine Ski Team](#)

[Announcements and Events](#)

[Thank You Notes](#)

[Do You Have News to Share?](#)

---

## Important Dates

**Thu, Sep 15:** Picture Day

**Thu, Sep 15:** Curriculum Night, 5:40-8 pm

**Tue, Sep 20:** Site Council Meeting

**Tue, Sep 20:** PTA Meeting, 6:30-8 pm, Ramsey Media Center

**Tue, Sep 27:** Site Council Meeting, 6 pm, Ramsey Media Center

**Wed, Sep 28 - Fri, Sep 30:** Fall Book Sale, 8:30 am - 4 pm

**Wed, Oct 5:** Walk/Bike to School Day

[See the full calendar for more info](#)

---

## Principal's News and Notes

We have had an amazing start to the school year. We are excited to see all of you at Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 15 from 5:40-8:00 pm. The night will be filled with information regarding classes and standards-based grading, and meeting staff.

We are looking to grow our Site Council this year and increase the impact of this stakeholder group within Ramsey. If you are interested in getting more information, please let me know by phone (612-668-4040) or email ([erin.rathke@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:erin.rathke@mpls.k12.mn.us)). The first meeting will be Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00 pm in the Media Center.

Our students are the most important asset to the world; their ability to be present, be empowered, be courageous and resilient is a victory for all who impact their lives!

GO Rhinos!  
Principal Erin Rathke

---

## Curriculum Night

**Come in and get to know what your student(s) will be learning for the year.** Besides learning about the course curriculum and expectations, there will be sessions on iPads, Standards-Based Grading, Literacy, and more. Principal Erin Rathke will have a general welcome session for all families in the auditorium at 5:40, explaining the purpose and reasoning around curriculum night. 6th grade parents are strongly encouraged to attend this welcome session. Curriculum sessions begin at 6 pm. Child care and translators will be provided. See you there!

---

## Picture Day is Tomorrow!

Picture day will be tomorrow, September 15. Pictures can be ordered online here:  
<http://my.lifetouch.com/mylifetouch/pictureDayId/MI206129Y0>

**If you order online, no paper form is needed.** Otherwise, paper order forms will be distributed in advisory this week.

Say "cheese" and smile!

---

## Change Your MPS Communications Preferences

**Families can now edit communication preferences—calls, texts, alternate phone numbers, etc.** This feature also gives you a place to review messages you may have missed.

If you have multiple children attending MPS, you will be able to add them all to the same account.

Follow these steps to create an account through the secure Contact Manager website provided by School Messenger or [download the PDF guide](#) with screenshots.

1. Go to [School Messenger](#) and click the "Sign Up Now" link near the bottom of the page.
2. You will be taken to the "Sign Up" page where you will need to enter a valid email address, a password and your name.
3. Click "Sign Up" when you are done.
4. Log in using your email address and password.
5. Once you've activated your account, you're ready to add your child to your account. Click the "Click here to begin" button.
6. Select the option that says, "I do not have an Activation Code and want to activate by phone," and click Next.
7. Add your child's MPS student ID #. Be sure to use a 6-digit ID #, adding 0 to the beginning, if needed.
8. Simply follow the instructions on the page to call in and activate your account. You will need to be able to call into the system from one of the phone numbers associated with your child's student record.

9. When you have finished adding your child to your account, navigate to the “Contacts” tab and click the edit link to the right of your child’s name. There you can simply check which types of messages you would like to receive and at which phone number or email address. Make sure that you click “Save” when you are done making changes.
  10. At any time you can simply go to [School Messenger](#) to access your account.
- 

## Last Chance to Get Into the Printed Ramsey Directory

Each year, the PTA puts together a student directory. All information is voluntary; you do not need to participate. However, most parents and students find the directory to be an invaluable resource.

Minneapolis Public Schools does not provide student information to the PTA, so you must use our online confirmation process to be included in the directory. Even if your family was in the directory last year, you need to opt in again to be included this year.

**If your family is new to Ramsey, or your family was not included in last year's directory, and you would like to be included this year, please [click here to to add your family](#).**

Fill out all information in this form as you would like it to appear in the directory. The **last day for adding information for the printed directory will be 9/19.**

Questions? Contact us at [ramseydirectory@gmail.com](mailto:ramseydirectory@gmail.com).

---

## Seeking Volunteers

Looking for a way to get involved at Ramsey? Look no further! Here are the current volunteer opportunities at Ramsey:

### Single Event:

- [Book Fair](#)—help share the joy of a great book by staffing our book fair

### Ongoing:

- [ESL Newcomer Class](#)—help students new to the USA work on their English skills
  - [Greeters](#)—start our students' days out on a positive note by greeting students when they arrive at Ramsey
  - [Media Center](#)—help keep the media center well-organized and running smoothly
  - [Musicians](#)—welcome students as they arrive at school with live music in the mornings
  - [Teacher Treat Day](#)—thank our devoted Ramsey staff and teachers with a monthly treat day
- 

## Join the Alpine Ski Team

**Dear 7th and 8th graders:**

**Do you enjoy downhill (alpine) skiing?** Would you like to learn how to ski race? The Minneapolis Alpine Ski Team (MAST) may be just for you.

The Minneapolis Alpine Ski Team (MAST) is the downhill ski racing team of Minneapolis Public Schools. Our team is open to seventh and eighth graders, as well as high school students. In fact, we PREFER that students join our team in seventh and eighth grade so that they have more time to develop as ski racers and enjoy the benefits that skiing and our sport add to their lives. We are encouraging interested athletes to sign up right away, as space is limited and it's best for parents to take advantage of pre-season race gear swaps in early October. Financial assistance is available!

Learn more about MAST and sign up for the team at <http://www.mplsalpineski.org/>.

---

## Announcements and Events

### First PTA Meeting is September 20

Join us in the Ramsey Media Center on September 20 from 6:30-8 for our first PTA meeting of the 2016-2017 school year. We will set expectations and discuss our goals for the year. All Ramsey parents are invited.

### Fall Scholastic Book Fair

Ramsey Middle School will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the cafeteria from Wednesday, September 28 through Friday, September 30, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Come load up on books!

---

## Thank You Notes

Many thanks to Ramsey parent **Katie Wigren**, of [Simply Potted](#), for very generously donating her time, talent and professional services to create gorgeous potted planters at the school entrances on 50th Street and Nicollet.

The students, staff and the whole community all appreciate your efforts!

Simply Potted  
Katie Wigren  
Bloomington, MN  
612-968-8406



A huge shout out to **The Melvilles** ([www.melvillesband.com](http://www.melvillesband.com)) who rocked it on Tuesday, 8/30, and to **Kate Niemisto** who played piano (<http://www.mtolivet.org/music/mosom>) on Friday, 9/2, at Ramsey. Thank you for generously sharing your music and making our day!

Thank you also to the **dozens of parent volunteers** who, alongside Principal Rathke, welcomed students to school on Tuesday & Friday to kick off the year of Greeters at Ramsey. Awesome turnout and enthusiasm - thank you parents!

Come join us any Tuesday or Friday at 8 AM. Together we can change the world, one "good morning" at a time.

Sign-up links:

[Greeters](#)

[Musicians](#)

---

## Do You Have News to Share?

Send all stories, ideas, and comments to the *Around the Horn* editors at [RamseyMSCommunications@gmail.com](mailto:RamseyMSCommunications@gmail.com).

**Deadline for submission is Friday the week before publication at 5:00 pm.**

---

ATTENDANCE LINE  
TRANSPORTATION

(612) 668-4030  
(612) 668-2300

[SCHOOL MESSENGER INFO](#)  
[MPS LUNCH MENUS](#)