



AROUND THE HORN

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

APRIL 20, 2016

GREAT NEWS

Ramsey Teachers Honored

Ramsey made an impressive showing in the district's celebration of teachers. We are fortunate to have such an excellent staff, and proud to see them recognized. We greatly appreciate all they do everyday.

From the MPS website:

“The annual Celebration of Teachers recognizes educators for making a significant impact on students and student achievement. All MPS teachers were invited to nominate colleagues who demonstrate exceptional growth with students and have practices and strategies that could help others. As part of the nomination, teachers were asked to provide supporting information about student progress in their nominee’s class. A committee made up of teachers and leadership from MFT and MPS reviewed nominations based on a rubric to identify the final group of honorees.”

Congratulations to Ramsey teachers:

Alison Constant
Kate Holland
Elissa Cedarleaf Dahl
Kristin Bauck
Tracey Schultz
and Rachel Lundin

IMPORTANT DATES

April 18th – 29th

H2O for life penny wars

April 21st

All-school Picnic 5:30-7:30

April 25th

8th grade Math MCA begins

April 29th

Ramsey Twins Outing

May 5th

Cinco de Mayo Celebration
5:30-7:30

May 6th & 7th

Ramsey Musical: 7PM
Joseph and the Amazing
Technicolor Dreamcoat

May 16th

Plant sale pick-up

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/fb2f5014fb248a2d0bf1d4209/files/Honoree_list.pdf

Ramsey takes Bronze at MPS Unified Sport Special Olympics Track Meet

The Ramsey team took third place, out of 10 MPS middle and high schools, at the second annual MPS Unified Sport Special Olympics track meet at the U of M field house on Friday, April 15th. “Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.” Twenty students from Ramsey took part and have been practicing together once a week for a couple of months. They had fun participating and cheering for their teammates as well as the other students competing.

Ramsey Student *could be* next MPS Junior Chef

We’ve got exciting news – Nyle Dickel from Ramsey Middle School was selected to participate in the 2nd annual MPS Junior Iron Chef Competition on May 2nd!

Free tickets: <http://bit.ly/MPSJrIronTickets>

Event details & invitation: [HERE](#)

Ramsey 6th Graders Excited about Math!

This week at Ramsey, 80 6th grade students gave up their lunch for two days to compete in a math competition. These kids from all the 6th grade math classes are competing to be one of the top two teams that will represent Ramsey in a few weeks for the district math competition. Thank you to the teachers that helped make this happen and please acknowledge students on their dedication and effort to represent Ramsey.

Thank you to Sonja Krasean for all your hard work organizing this competition!

THANK YOU!

Thank You for Ramsey Planters & Landscaping Beautification

Many thanks to Ramsey parents Katie Wigren, of Simply Potted, and Fernando Floersch, of Green Dreams Landscaping-Stone, for very generously donating their time, talents and professional services to help clean up the Ramsey grounds and to create gorgeous potted planters at the school entrances. The students, staff and community all appreciate your efforts!

Green Dreams Landscape-Stone, Inc
Fernando Floersch
Bloomington MN
[612-250-8261](tel:612-250-8261)

Simply Potted

Katie Wigren
Bloomington, Mn
612-968-8406

Morning Musicians – Thank you to “A Corn On The Combo” Jazz Ensemble:

A big shout out to the student-led jazz ensemble “A Corn On The Combo” who played on Friday morning last week: Jude B, Jason B, Lulu L, Isaac LW, Phoebe S, Claire W, and Eli ZZ.

These students stepped up as the first of many musical acts for the Morning Musicians program at Ramsey, which is reintroducing live music as students arrive at school.

This ensemble wowed everyone, really jazzed up the morning and we hope they come back and play again soon!

Interested in being a Morning Musician or know someone who is? Click here for sign up & info: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-morning>

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tomorrow! All-School Picnic!

The All-School Picnic is Thursday!! Join us on the front lawn for a pot luck dinner, yard games, and community from 5:30-7:30. Please bring a dish to share based on your last name: A-F Salad (any kind) or side dish, G-R Entree, S-Z Dessert

There are still volunteer spots open! - Help is needed to make the event a success!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-allschool>

H2O for Life Penny Wars – April 18th - 29th

We are raising money to fund a water well for Kyere Primary School in Uganda. The grade levels are competing against one another to win a fabulous prize! Please have your child bring in pennies (positive points) for their own grade level and silver/bills (negative points) for the other grade levels. For more information, follow this link:

<http://www.h2oforliveschools.org/index.php/component/k2/item/1003-ramsey-middle-school>

Washburn Registration Events

Attention 8th Grade Families! If you received the district letter confirming your placement at Washburn High School for the 2016-2017 school year, please join us for our registration events on Thursday, April 28th. You will have the opportunity to come to the school and learn about the registration process as well as learn about the different class choices for your student. Sessions listed below:

- 4/28 7:30-8:30 am: Open to all (Auditorium)
- 4/28 5:00-5:45 pm: Last Names A-K (Main Gym)
- 4/28 6:00-7:00 pm: Last Names L-Z (Main Gym)
- 5/3 7:30-8:30 am: Make-up Session -- Open to all families who missed the 4/28 event (Auditorium)

Contact the Parent Liaison at Washburn with further questions: Erica Lebens-Englund (612-668-3440) erica.lebens@mpls.k12.mn.us

Lets' Celebrate Cinco de Mayo!

Where? Ramsey Middle School Cafeteria and Auditorium

When? Thursday, May 5th, 5:30- 7:30p.m.

Why? Watch a traditional Cinco de Mayo dance, Learn Bachata, enjoy a Mexican dinner

How much? \$2.00/person. Every student must come with a parent.

How can I get a ticket? Tickets on sale starting Monday, April 18th after school near main entrance.

Spring Musical!! May 6-7, 7PM

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is loosely based on the "coat of many colors" from The Book of Genesis, but is in essence an irresistible family story of a dreamer who overcomes adversity and ultimately finds acceptance and success. With some of the most endearing and entertaining numbers, audiences will leave humming the unforgettable songs, including "Go Go Go Joseph" and "Coat Of Many Colors". We hope you will come and support live theater at Ramsey!

Minnesota High School Cycling League

The Minnesota High School Cycling League is a state-wide co-ed club sport that is quickly growing with over 1000 participants expected this year. They recently expanded to include categories for middle schoolers in 7th and 8th grade.

Riders learn bike safety, road and trail etiquette, trail-side maintenance, fitness and nutrition, and technical skills needed to overcome obstacles on a mountain bike trail. All levels and abilities are welcome.

Practices are 2-3 times a week and run July-October. There are 5 races in Sept. and October where riders challenge themselves to their greatest potential. If you would like more information on joining the middle or high school team, please contact Tonja Sahaydak by May 1, 2016 at: tonjasahaydak@gmail.com.

Cycling team events:**Chipotle Fundraiser**

Show your team spirit by joining us for a fundraiser to support Minneapolis Southwest, Washburn and Southside Mountain Bike Teams. Come in to the Chipotle at 3040 Excelsior Blvd in Minneapolis on Tuesday, May 10th between 6:00pm and 8:00pm. Tell the cashier you're supporting the Mountain Bike Team to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Minneapolis Southwest, Washburn and Southside Mountain Bike Teams.

MTB Registration Party

Please join us on May 14 anytime between 10-1 for a team party. We will meet at Charlie's Tangletown Bike Shop at 322 W 48th St, S. Mpls. This is what's we'll be doing:

- Paying team fee (bring your checkbook!) and signing up for the team
- Getting info packets
- Trying on a jersey for size
- Checking bike fit and safety
- Meet coaches, other parents, and the rest of the team
- FREE GEAR (Joe Christian of Bike City Juniors has collected lots of donations of jerseys and equipment to pass out)

CURRICULUM NEWS AND NOTES

8TH GRADE SCIENCE (KROUPAL, SCHULTZ):

In 8th grade science we are off and running with our final unit of the year, "the Earth in Space." In this astronomy unit we will investigate the Sun-Earth-Moon system, our solar system, and Earth's history as a planet. Please mark your calendars for the 8th grade MCA Science test. We will complete this assessment during science class on Tuesday, May 10th and Wednesday, May 11th. It is very important that all students are in class on time these days to complete this state testing. Please email your child's science teacher directly if you have any questions or concerns about the 8th grade MCA Science test.

MATH 7 for 6TH GRADE STUDENTS (KRASEAN, KROGER):

In Math 7 (for 6th grade students), we are preparing for the MCA test by covering important 6th grade topics. Students will take the MCA test during the first week of May. In addition, many of the students are participating in the 6th grade Math Competition. The two winning teams will represent Ramsey at the MPS District Competition on May 7. In our final unit for the year, we will be learning more about linear relationships and we will have the chance to problem solve using many real world scenarios.

6TH GRADE ESL (SUO):

In 6th grade ESL we are finishing a research project finding out how sugar affects our bodies. After this research project we will be reading about endangered species and finding out how species become endangered and what is being done to help save them. We will also be reading about the negative effects of cyberbullying. This will lead us into creating an anti-cyberbullying campaign where we will be creating posters and videos to raise awareness around this issue.

6TH-8TH GRADE ART:

Students in art have recently completed some astounding still life drawings. We are now focusing on combining illustrations with words for a bas relief clay sculpture. They are developing skills in planning and organizing. Students are also learning clay vocabulary and techniques.

Congratulations to the following students whose wing designs were chosen to be permanently installed in the Nicollet Ave Bird Benches project: Maggie K, Julia B, Corinne S, Fiona M, Neal W, Anna C, Ashley P, .Isaac O, Jennifer A, Jennifer R., Diego, Stephanie R, Amanda F., Nikki A., Tatiana D-J, Maddie M., Hannah W., Keaton M, Shirley O and Augustine M.! For more information about this project go here:

<http://www.southwestjournal.com/news/2016/02/public-art-arrives-on-nicollet/>

8th grade Global Studies

8th grade students have been learning about the colonization of Africa and are now beginning an annotated and illustrated timeline of African independence movements. Students are working with partners to create this research based arts integration project! Our next topic is African diaspora movements where students will take a close look at Sudan through literature and a film.

6th Grade Math (Lescenski, Halvorson)

We are moving from equations, graphs, context and tables to writing variable inequalities, then on to classifying angles and the sum of the interior angles of polygons. This will cover the material needed before students take their MCA Math tests during the week of May 2. Homework and study materials will be heavier until their tests. Following the week of May 2, students will move into learning about similarity, similar figures and scale drawings. This begins their journey with proportional reasoning, one of the main themes in 7th grade math.

AVID 7 & 8 (Werner)

Current 6th and 7th grade students who are interested in applying for AVID for the 2016-17 school year at Ramsey should [apply here!](#) Interviews will be taking place soon! Current 8th graders will be invited to apply for AVID during their AVID class as soon as applications start being accepted by our high schools. Watch for more information!

All 7th and 8th grade AVID students are invited to our college visit field trip to the University of Minnesota on Tuesday, May 17. We will be having a morning program on leadership, followed by tours of the campus! Watch for permission slips to come home the week before.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Ramsey Morning Parent Greeters

Help promote a positive culture and start our students' days out on a positive note by greeting students when they arrive at Ramsey!

Who? - Ramsey Parents or anyone who wishes to support our Ramsey students.

What? - Stand in pairs inside school entrances and actively greet students as they arrive to school in the mornings. Smile, say "hello", "have a great day", "great to see you", etc.

When? - School days from 8:15 AM to 8:30 AM

First time volunteers are requested to sign up for a briefing session from 8:00-8:15 with Principal Amy Janecek so everyone is clear on their roles.

Where? - At the Ramsey entrances, 49th street doors; 50th street doors; Nicollet doors.

Why? - To promote and support a positive school culture at Ramsey.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-ramsey>

MCA escorts

Now that MCA testing has begun, we are looking for parents to serve as bathroom escorts. During the test, students are not allowed by law to leave the testing room without an escort. Escorts would be stationed between the computer labs waiting on call for any students who need to use the restroom during the test.

For the week of April 25-29, the 8th grade math classes will be taking the MCA test and we would like help Monday – Thursday for the following times:

9:00-10:45

12:00-2:00

If you can help for any part of this time, please contact Kate Goeddeke :

kathleen.goeddeke@mpls.k12.mn.us

PTA NEWS

There are tickets available for the **Twins game** next Friday, April 29! Order forms are in the office or here tinyurl.com/ramseytwins Tickets are on a first come, first served basis and will be distributed through advisories.

We are in need of a parent or pair of parents to **coordinate the May Book Fair!** Help make this event happen and get books into our students' hands for the summer. Please contact Bridget McGinnis if interested bfmginis@gmail.com

Yearbook orders are still being accepted! Order forms are in the office or you may order online http://link.entourageyearbooks.com/YBStore/yearbookStoreMain.asp?yearbook_id=18452&product_id=12072

Upcoming Ramsey Rendezvous!

A few tickets remain to **this Saturday's Spring Scavenger Soiree!** Enjoy some friendly competition, drinks & food, all while hanging with other Ramsey parents. Then, regale other 6th Grade Moms' with stories of your adventures, at the **6th Grade Moms' Coffee, Sunday, April 24th.** Mark your calendars in May, it's your turn 8th Grade Moms. Just like that, they're heading to high school! Come on over to enjoy coffee, tea and pastries with **Ramsey 8th Grade Moms on Sunday, May 15th.**

BRING A KINDERGARTEN AGE PICTURE OF YOUR 8th GRADER!

All tickets available: <https://sites.google.com/site/ramseyptafundraising/ramsey-rendezvous>