



# AROUND THE HORN

**RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2016**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

### **Celebrate African-American Family Involvement Day on Feb. 8**

At Ramsey:

Parents and families are invited to have lunch with your student, then attend afternoon classes. From 3:00-3:45 there will be a coffee & cookie reception with Principal Janecek and Ramsey teachers. Parents make our Ramsey Community even STRONGER! We look forward to seeing you Monday!

District event:

As a parent, you are a school's strongest ally in helping students achieve success. Let's strengthen this partnership by having fun together! Join us for a great, free, family event.

What: African-American Family Involvement Day

When: Monday, Feb. 8, 6-8 p.m.

Where: Roller Garden, 5622 W. Lake St., St. Louis Park

We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Thursday February 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday February 12<sup>th</sup> are Parent Teacher Conferences. Thursday evening conferences are reserved for group conferences with the core teaching team. Teachers will reach out to families to request a conference. Families may also contact your child's advisor if you have concerns and wish to schedule a conference. Priority is for students that the team identifies. Friday morning is for all families to come for drop-in conferences with individual teachers.

Thursday, February 11 4:30 - 8:30 - scheduled by teachers (in teams)

Friday, February 12 8:00 - 12:00 - OPEN Drop-in

## IMPORTANT DATES

**February 4<sup>th</sup>**

Multicultural Pot Luck/  
Ramsey Open House

**February 6<sup>th</sup>**

MPS School Fair Showcase

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**

MPS African American  
Parent Involvement Day

**February 11<sup>th</sup>**

PTA Feed the Teachers dinner

**February 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

School Conferences

**February 16<sup>th</sup>**

PTA meeting

## **Multicultural Night and Information Night for Incoming Families**

**This fun Ramsey event will take place on February 4th, from 6:00-8:00 PM.** This is an evening to build community and welcome incoming families. The staff will share general information about the school as well as offer an opportunity for a tour hosted by our student ambassadors.

This same evening our Ramsey PTA is also hosting a multicultural pot luck dinner. We encourage our families to bring a dish to share that represents their culture. New families are welcome to bring a dish to share or simply enjoy conversations with current Ramsey families at the pot luck event.

The schedule is as follows:

5:30 Set up begins  
6:00- 8:00 Potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share!  
6:00- 6:45 Welcome and presentation in the auditorium for incoming families  
6:45-7:45 School Tours

Current Ramsey families, please help make this event great by **signing up for a shift:**

5:30-6:15: Set up/Welcome table  
6:45-7:30: Clean up

Spirit Wear will be available for purchase at the Multicultural Pot Luck event!

### **NO Drop Off/Pick Up in the parking lot!**

The drop off and pick up location for the children is on 49th Street. This keeps our students safe as they arrive and depart each school day. Do NOT drive into the parking lot to drop off or pick up your students! There have been a number of dangerous situations where staff or students were nearly hit by cars driving a loop through the parking lot.

Additionally, please do not allow your children to arrive to school too early. Children are not allowed in the building before 8:10 AM unless they have a scheduled meeting with a teacher.

### **Online school request site is open. Requests due by March 5th!**

For elementary and middle school requests <http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us>  
And for high school requests please visit <http://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us>

For the 2016-17 school year, please use the school request site to request:

- o A school for an incoming kindergartner
- o A new school for a current K-11<sup>th</sup> grade student
- o A middle school (only if your 5<sup>th</sup> grader wants to request a school other than the middle school pathway)
- o A high school for all incoming 9th graders

The site is easy to use and requires your address with zip code to learn more about your school options.

**MPS School Showcase**  
**Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Minneapolis Convention Center**  
**<http://studentplacement.mpls.k12.mn.us>**

One-stop opportunity to meet school principals, staff and parents to help inform your school search. Free parking and child care available. Spanish, Somali, Hmong & Oromo interpreters on-site to assist families.

Questions? Please call 612.668.1840 or 612.668.3700

Spanish/Español: [http://ramsey.mpls.k12.mn.us/feria\\_escolar](http://ramsey.mpls.k12.mn.us/feria_escolar)

Somali/Soomaali: <http://ramsey.mpls.k12.mn.us/soomaali>

Hmong/Hmoob: <http://ramsey.mpls.k12.mn.us/hmoob>

### **Transition to High School:**

The High School Request Center is now “live” on the Student Placement website. This means that all students, with their families, can sign-up for their high school of choice for the 2016-2017 school year. The website is: <http://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/> and the deadline is March 5th. Please email the school counselor at [carolyn.tibbetts@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:carolyn.tibbetts@mpls.k12.mn.us) if you have any questions.

### **Ultimate Frisbee is Here!**

Ramsey Middle School students can join an Ultimate Frisbee team this spring. Registration is open to boys and girls interested in this co-ed, worldwide, non-contact sport. Teams of seven players work together to win points by moving a flying disc into the opponents’ end zone. It’s fun and fast-paced. No previous Ultimate experience is necessary.

The team will practice after school at MLK park twice a week with games on weekends against neighboring middle school teams. The league starts the week of April 11 and goes until the first part of June. To register and find more information, click on Spring League at [www.youthultimateprogram.org](http://www.youthultimateprogram.org).

### **PTA NEWS**

Teacher Appreciation Treats Day is February 3 (and the first Wednesday of each month)! Show your appreciation for this amazing staff with a little treat. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544abaa2aaafe3-teacher>

### **Next Meeting**

February’s PTA meeting on Tuesday, 2/16 will be focused on high school choice as well as the transition to Washburn High School. Our counselor, Carolyn Tibbetts, will talk about how it all works. We have also arranged a panel of parents of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who transitioned from Ramsey to Washburn this year. They will share their experiences and insight. Please note there is a time change for the night: We will meet from 6:30-8:30.

### **Conference Dinner**

Let's help feed our hardworking and devoted teachers on Thursday, February 11th when they put in a long day for conferences. Items can be dropped off at Ramsey Wednesday or Thursday. Please have items at Ramsey no later than 3:30 pm on Thursday. Non-perishable items may be dropped off in the PTA room. Perishable items should be taken to the office. Please label dishes, utensils, or items otherwise needing to be returned. They can be picked up in the PTA room on Friday.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-dinner3>

### **Ramsey Rendezvous 2016!**

The latest Ramsey Rendezvous offering is on our site--the ever-popular Hunt & Gather shopping spree event is slated for Thursday, Feb. 25, and tickets are available now. Click on the link below for tickets to the event.

[Ramsey Rendezvous - Ramsey Middle School Fundraising](#)

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

### **Host Family needed**

Washburn High School has a male German exchange student who needs a home for second semester! Lasse Scholz is a 17 year old from Hamburg, Germany. He has been a B student at Washburn and participated on the Cross-Country and Nordic Ski teams.

Please contact Washburn school counselor, Herb Crowell, at [herb.crowell@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:herb.crowell@mpls.k12.mn.us) if interested and able to host Lasse!

### **Media Center**

Help keep the media center well organized. Our goal is to have volunteers 5 days per week. Sign up for whatever dates work for you and in the notes column, please write what time you will be coming. Volunteering can be done as a single volunteer, or two people can come together, double the fun! Instructions for volunteering can be found in the attachment. Thanks for helping in the Ramsey Media Center!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-media4>

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