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## Important Dates

**Mon, Dec 5 - Fri, Dec 16:** Warm Clothing Drive

**Mon, Dec 12 - Fri, Dec 16:** Spirit Week

**Thu, Dec 15:** Concert & Jazz Bands Concert, 7 pm, Ramsey Auditorium

**Mon, Dec 19 - Mon, Jan 2:** NO SCHOOL, Winter Break

**Tue, Jan 3:** School Resumes

**Tue, Jan 3:** Site Council Meeting, 5 pm, Ramsey Media Center

**Mon, Jan 16:** NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Tue, Jan 17:** PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm, Ramsey Media Center

**Tue, Jan 24 - Thu, Jan 26:** Intersession

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

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## Rename Ramsey

This fall, our students started a campaign to educate the community about the life of Alexander Ramsey and engage in conversations on whether or not this namesake inspires us and reflects our current values. On December 6, the Ramsey Site Council voted unanimously to continue to explore and engage students in conversations around renaming Alexander Ramsey Middle School.

Attendees at our Community Voices event December 1 overwhelmingly supported exploring a new name and now we are requesting name suggestions from our students and the broader Ramsey community. Do you have an idea for a name for our Middle School? [Print out the recommendation](#)

[form](#), fill it out and submit it to Paul Sommers ([paul.sommers@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:paul.sommers@mpls.k12.mn.us)) or Elissa Cedarleaf Dahl ([elissa.cedarleafdahl@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:elissa.cedarleafdahl@mpls.k12.mn.us)) by January 17! Share with your neighbors, alumni and RMS friends!

If you don't have a name idea but would like to support this effort in other ways (like phone-calls, getting estimates for a new sign or helping students run a bake sale or other type of fundraiser), please don't hesitate to contact [Elissa Cedarleaf Dahl](#) or [Paul Sommers](#).

We are currently forming a committee of students, parents, staff, historians and community members (let us know if you are interested!) to meet at the end of January to narrow down the submissions and further research our best options. In March, Site Council will vote again on the final 1-3 name suggestions and, if approved, the campaign for a new name goes to the MPS Superintendent and School Board.

Follow students' Facebook and Instagram at [#renameramseympls](#)

More information to come!

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## Winter Band Concert December 15

Our winter concert bands and jazz band concert is tomorrow night! Join us in the Ramsey auditorium at 7:00 pm on December 15 for an evening of fun music for families and friends.

We could still use a couple of volunteers to chaperone student groups in the auditorium during the concert. If you're willing to help, [sign up here](#).

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## Annie Jr.

Auditions are complete for roles in *Annie Jr.* The cast list will be posted on the doors of the auditorium at the end of the day today, Wednesday, December 14. All cast are called to rehearsal from 3:45 to 5:45 pm on Thursday, December 15.

The directors will share the music recordings and script on Google Drive with all the cast so they can listen to the music and learn lines over Winter Break. Rehearsals start right away after break on Tuesday, January 3.



Costume Crew starts Thursday, January 5 and Technical Theatre starts January 10. Call Community Education at 612-668-3450 for more information.

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## Give Warmth and Support to Struggling Families

Help support and empower those in need this winter.

Ramsey's student council is hosting a **warm clothing drive** through Friday, December 16. Please consider donating new and/or gently used, CLEAN warm clothing items (hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, coats, sweaters, heavy socks). All donations should be brought to room 301.

Ramsey's social workers are holding a **gift card and snack drive** to help students and families.

**Gift cards help struggling families with the holidays and beyond.** We would love to have gift cards on hand, to distribute where help is most needed. In particular, gift cards from the following stores would be most useful: Cub, Walmart, Super America, and Target. Cards in any amount are welcome!

And, our social workers frequently **provide snacks to students who are hungry** throughout the day. Boxes of granola bars or packages of single-serving packets of goldfish crackers would be greatly appreciated!

Also, our social workers have asked for donations of **men's and women's deodorant**, as some of our students could really use this item.

If you have gift cards, snacks, or deodorant you'd like to donate to this cause, please drop them off with Cassie Zonnefeld, in the main office.

A big thank you to those who have already contributed; you've already had a huge impact on some of our Ramsey families!

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## Warm Up With (Whole) Sum Cafe and Benefit Ramsey!

Take a break from the hectic pace of the holidays and drop by (Whole) Sum Cafe on 50th at Bryant for a sample of their fresh offerings: smoothies, juices, soup, salads, & bowls....and ever important coffee, teas, and specialty hot drinks!

Our newest community hot spot is hosting a Ramsey Appreciation Day on Wednesday, December 28. A portion of every purchase throughout the day will be donated to Ramsey PTA. Socialize, fuel up and support our school!

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## Ramsey Spirit Week

Spirit week at Ramsey continues through Friday. Show your school spirit by participating in fun dress-up days. Also, candy grams will be sold at all lunches through December 15. They are 50 cents apiece or 3 for \$1. They will be delivered to students at the end of the day on Friday, December 16.

Remaining dress-up days for Spirit Week (**please note that HATS are not allowed**):

|          |                          |  |
|----------|--------------------------|--|
| Thursday | Dress Like a Teacher Day |  |
|----------|--------------------------|--|

|        |   |  |
|--------|---|--|
| Friday | Twin Day<br>(dress alike<br>as a pair or<br>group, or<br>wear MN<br>Twins gear) |  |
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## Community Education Winter Session

Winter Classes after school start on Tuesday, January 3. [Registration is open online](#). A flyer can be downloaded [here](#).

NEW THIS SESSION:

- Kids in the Kitchen
- Japanese Language and Culture
- Comic Book Club
- Birding Club (starts January 19 in partnership with [Active Solutions](#))

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## Treats for Teachers

Show our wonderful Ramsey staff how much they are appreciated by supporting "Treats for Teachers". Bring or send in a treat for the staff to enjoy on the first Wednesday of each month. Treats can be a simple bag of fruit, a veggie tray, baked goods, chips and dip or salsa, a family favorite, or anything you would like to send in! Contact Heidi Knaus with questions at [haknaus@yahoo.com](mailto:haknaus@yahoo.com) or sign up here for any of the Treats Days this year: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-teacher2>.

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## Around the Horn Resumes January 4

The deadline for the next issue of *Around the Horn*, which comes out on January 4, will be Friday, December 30. The editor wishes everyone a fun and relaxing winter break!

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## 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.**

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|-----------------|----------------|
| MAIN OFFICE     | (612) 668-4040 |
| ATTENDANCE LINE | (612) 668-4030 |
| TRANSPORTATION  | (612) 668-2300 |

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