
In This Issue

- [Important Dates](#)
- [Second Semester Schedules](#)
- [Ramsey 1:1 Technology Program Update](#)
- [Future City Competition](#)
- [Delicious Egyptian Dinner at Washburn!](#)
- [Art Room Needs](#)
- [Treats for Teachers](#)
- [History Day is \(Almost\) Here!](#)
- [African-American Family Involvement Celebrations](#)
- [Winter Conferences](#)
- [Arabic Night](#)
- [Somali Tea at Morning Greeters](#)
- [Rename Ramsey Update](#)
- [Spirit Wear](#)
- [Sports in the City](#)
- [Do You Have News to Share?](#)

Important Dates

- Tue, Jan 24 - Thu, Jan 26:** Intersession
- Wed, Jan 25:** Early School Dismissal, 1 pm
- Thu, Jan 26:** Early School Dismissal, 1 pm
- Wed, Feb 1:** Teacher Treat Day
- Thu, Feb 2:** 7th Grade History Day Showcase, 6 - 8 pm
- Fri, Feb 10:** Ramsey Musical, *Annie Jr.*, 7 pm, Ramsey Auditorium
- Sat, Feb 11:** Ramsey Musical, *Annie Jr.*, 7 pm, Ramsey Auditorium
- Tue, Feb 14:** African-American Parent Involvement Day at Ramsey, 8 - 9 am
- Thu, Feb 16:** Parent-Teacher Conferences (by appointment only), 4:30 - 8 pm
- Fri, Feb 17:** Parent-Teacher Drop-In Conferences, 8 am - 12 noon
- Thu, Feb 23:** Arabic Night, 5 pm, Ramsey Cafeteria
- Tue, Feb 28:** Somali Tea at Morning Greeters, 8 - 8:30 am

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

Second Semester Schedules

Second semester starts on Tuesday, January 31. Students are able to see their second semester schedule on the student portal. If students would like to request a change in an elective class, they need to fill out a schedule change request form. Schedule change request forms are available to pick up in the main office. All request forms are **due by Thursday, January 26 - no exceptions**. A parent signature is required for all schedule change requests. If a student wishes to drop a year-long elective course, a teacher signature is also required. Students and parents will be emailed with a decision about their schedule change request. Students will not be called down to the office to get a copy of their new schedule if their request is approved.

Ramsey 1:1 Technology Program Update

From Principal Erin Rathke:

It is important for me to share with you that we are making some much-needed adjustments to our 1:1 technology program at Ramsey. I am working closely with our tech council, staff and district IT department on the best, most sustainable model for Ramsey and our students. Technology is one of the founding cornerstones of Ramsey. I want to sustain our technology for student learning. We are finding that travelling back and forth with students is causing some more frequent damage to the iPads. At semester end we are moving to a 1:1 cart model for now. Students will have access to iPads on a daily basis at school. Students will hand in their iPads at semester end for reimaging and clean-up. Our goal is to work towards a sustainable plan—we will be surveying students, staff and families, we will be taking guidance from the district IT department, we will work with Site Council and the technology council to inform and implement a more effective plan.

Parents, please help us by taking the following survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/HhQQIC8UoNFh4K0S2>

Future City Competition

Last Saturday, January 21, Ramsey Middle School, and indeed MPS, were represented by three teams of our 8th graders at this year's State of Minnesota Future City Competition. Each of our three teams worked hard over Semester 1 to get there, and each were fantastic ambassadors for our school and our district. While this year none of our teams moved on to the finals for a shot at the National Competition, we did win three of the 16 special awards for which we were eligible. This is out of 47 teams present at this year's competition. While it is nice to win, the journey ultimately is more important than the destination, and our students made us proud. They each even managed to learn quite a bit about engineering, city planning, teamwork, public speaking, and formal writing.

If you see or know any of these students, give them a congratulatory high five.

Team Bonumorbis: Henry B., Charlie B.#*, August B.*, and Ben K.#*

Team Hallowed Place: Faruk B.#*, Will M.#*, Alex P., and Asher T.*

Team Shadows of Wisdom: Alex C.#, Fred H.*, Isaiah L., Josh M.#*, and Ryan M.*

= Team Leader

* = Competition Presenter

Delicious Egyptian Dinner at Washburn!

Washburn Parent Council is planning an event this Saturday, January 28, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Washburn lunchroom. It is an Egyptian Dinner made by Abir Ismail, a former Ramsey math teacher and she also a Washburn parent. This event was hosted at Ramsey last year and was a huge hit! Abir decided to bring it to Washburn this year. Tickets are \$15/person. Tickets, the menu, and additional details can be [found here](#). Sign up and come enjoy an authentic Egyptian dinner!

Art Room Needs

The Art room needs magazines for next semester's Surrealism collage unit. Please drop them off in the office marked "Art Room". Sports, *National Geographic*, or teen magazines especially wanted!

We are also looking for small objects—do-dads, hardware, beads, woods scraps, old CDs and any other random small junk for our Assemblage Unit next fall. Time to clean out your junk drawer and tool box!

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 or sign up here for any of the Treats Days this year: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-teacher2>.

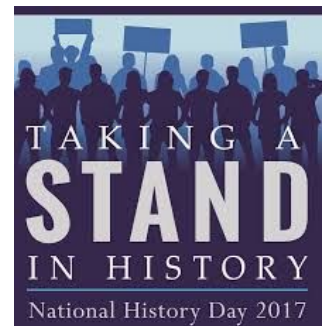
History Day is (Almost) Here!

Attention 7th Grade families! SAVE THE DATE

7th grade History Day Showcase

Thursday, February 2, 6:00-8:00 pm

7th grade students will be showcasing their 2017 History Day projects. Throughout the past 3 months students have chosen topics, conducted research, and created projects based on the theme "Taking a Stand in History." There will be more than 175 projects on display including documentaries, websites, exhibits, and performances.



Note to 7th grade families: We are asking each student to present their project during the showcase. Students will be asked to register for ONE 10 minute presentation time. For the rest of the evening, students will have the opportunity to view their classmates' projects on display.

African-American Family Involvement Celebrations

From Principal Erin Rathke:

I want to personally welcome our African American families to school, on **Tuesday, February 14 at 8:00 am**. Our desire at Ramsey is to celebrate the diversity of our building by providing opportunities for our families to be involved. At 8:00 am we will meet by the Auditorium for a brief gathering with the principal and other parents, before greeting students at the door with music. At 8:30 there will be an opportunity to have breakfast, coffee and conversations with the principal. Please let us know you are coming by [signing up here](#).

Minneapolis Public Schools is also hosting a district-wide family event in recognition of African-American Family Involvement Day.

When: **Monday, February 13, 6-8 pm**

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

This is a free event open to all MPS families.

Winter Conferences

Winter Conferences are Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17. Conferences on Thursday, February 16 are reserved and scheduled in advance by the teams. All families are invited to our drop-in conferences on Friday, February 17 from 8 am to noon! If you are not available for Friday drop-ins, contact your child's teachers and they will arrange a time to meet with you!

Grade-level teams will be organized together as follows:

8th Grade

Constant/Jacques/Schultz/Knee: Room 305

Koupal/Miller/Wender/Janicek: Room 304

7th Grade

Burnett/Holland/Peterson/Kroger: Room 132

Olsen/Fowler/Nutter/Novak: Room 129

6th Grade

Bauck/Halbach/Gawronski/Krasean/Lescenski: Room 115

Noriega/Sommers/Marr/Halverson: Room 114

Electives

Elective class teachers will be in the media center (2nd floor)

Arabic Night

Arabic Night will be held at Ramsey Middle School on February 23 from 5 to 7 pm. Lyndale, Ramsey and Washburn students and parents/guardians are all invited for a fun night. The event will take place in the cafeteria at Ramsey. Those attending will enjoy Mediterranean food, Arabic music and dance, and will learn about the Arabic language how to write one's name and greet others in Arabic. Come and have fun! [Click here for an event flyer.](#)

Somali Tea at Morning Greeters

Come enjoy a hot cup of delicious Shaah (traditional Somali Tea) and welcome the students to school on Tuesday, February 28, from 8:00 to 8:30 am. Hosted by Ramsey's very own Safia Qanyare. A treat you won't want to miss!

Rename Ramsey Update

Mark your calendars for our next Community Voices Event at Ramsey: **What should the name of our school be?**

Join us on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:00 pm for dinner, followed by a program at 6:30. All are invited: neighbors, alumni, students, families, historians & community leaders! The event will be held at Ramsey Middle School. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Come for a presentation by students outlining our top new name choices as submitted and chosen by the Ramsey Middle School community. Then, attendees will participate in small group-listening sessions to discuss their name preferences.

Please spread the word as well as RSVP to Paul Sommers (paul.sommers@mpls.k12.mn.us) or Miss Elissa (elissa.cedarleafdahl@mpls.k12.mn.us) for dinner/childcare.

For more information about our Rename Ramsey efforts, see our website: RenameRMS.weebly.com

Spirit Wear

Remember Rhinos, Spirit Wear supports your school. Every dollar spent on your purchase of Spirit Wear goes back to students in a variety of ways. Spirit Wear can be bought at all evening performances. We are also providing opportunities for you, our students and staff, to buy Spirit Wear at morning arrival during greeting time at the Nicollet Avenue entrance, and the second Friday of the month during student lunch in the cafeteria. GO RHINOS!



Sports in the City

Interested in Fastpitch Softball?

Girls in 7th and 8th grades interested in playing softball this season should get engaged with the program at their high school. 7th or 8th grade girls who'd like to play softball for Washburn, please email both Coach Greg Berg (greg.berg@yahoo.com) and Stacie Vickerman (stacie@maplelanerealty.com) who handles communication for the Washburn Softball Booster Club.

For 6th grade players who would like to play competitive softball, tryouts for local community-based travel team, Club 612, has tryouts scheduled for March 12th and March 19th. For more information about Club 612, please e-mail club612fastpitch@gmail.com or check out club612.weebly.com.

Want to try Lacrosse?

Come to Try Lacrosse Day! Minneapolis Lacrosse and Homegrown Lacrosse invite students from K - 8th grade to our TryLAX event on Saturday, March 4 from 1-3 pm at the Concordia Sea Foam Dome (281 Hamline Ave N., St. Paul, MN). All equipment will be provided. Register now at www.MPLSLacrosse.com/TryLax

If you're interested in playing Lacrosse, join Minneapolis Lacrosse! Minneapolis Lacrosse season starts in March and we're looking for players of all abilities to play the fastest growing sport in the US. Register now for Boys and Girls 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U spring and summer league teams.

Register at www.MPLSLacrosse.com/Register

Cost: \$150-\$375 -- Scholarships available

Register by 2/17/17 for preferred pricing

Lacrosse is fast, safe, and fun!

Contact Chris at: chris24miller@gmail.com Call / Text: 612-824-8252

Do You Have News to Share?

Send all stories, ideas, and comments to the *Around the Horn* editors at RamseyMSCommunications@gmail.com.

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

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

SCHOOL CLOSING INFO
SCHOOL MESSENGER INFO
MPS LUNCH MENUS