



# RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

- November 11<sup>th</sup> – Veterans Day
- November 12<sup>th</sup> – Give to the Max Day!
- November 12<sup>th</sup> – Washburn 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House 5:30
- November 17<sup>th</sup> – Site Council 5:30-6:20 & PTA Meeting 6:30
- November 19<sup>th</sup> – Native American Family Involvement Day
- November 19<sup>th</sup> – Speaker – Internet Safety 7:00-8:30
- November 25-27<sup>th</sup> – No School Thanksgiving Holiday
  
- December 10<sup>th</sup> – Choir concert 7:00-7:45
- December 15<sup>th</sup> – Orchestra concert 7:00-7:45
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – Varsity/Beginning Band concert 7:00-8:00

## Happy Veterans Day!

Thank you to our Veterans!

## GIVE TO THE MAX DAY!

**Give to the Max Day 2015 is tomorrow, November 12th!** If you haven't already scheduled your donation, you can do it today or tomorrow. This unique event offers the possibility of multiplying our donations, so whether you can give \$10 or \$1,000, each donation counts! Your donations support individual classroom teachers, arts & sports, and provide scholarships to ensure all Ramsey kids can participate in field trips and extracurricular activities. As you consider where to make your

dollars count the most this year, please consider a donation to Ramsey Middle School. It's for the kids!!

## Washburn High School Open House

Washburn High School will host an 8th Grade Open House on Thursday, November 12th @ 5:30pm. This is a night for families and students interested in being at Washburn for the 2016-2017 school year. Come and learn about the course offerings, elective options, and extra-curricular opportunities. Students and their parents will move through a shortened version of our seven period schedule. It's a great chance to get a feel for a day in the life of a high school student, get questions answered, and learn more about Washburn.

## Spirit Week

Next week is Spirit Week at Ramsey! Our Student Council is planning a week of fun including “Ramsey Spirit Wear Day” on Wednesday. If your student would like to purchase Spirit Wear, it will be for sale before school on both Monday and Tuesday by the main entrance. Items and pricing <http://tinyurl.com/spiritwear2015>

## Native American Family Involvement Day

Native American Family Involvement Day is Thursday, November 19th. Families are invited to come to school! We welcome you to visit an afternoon class or come for a reception with Ms. Janecek in the conference room from 3:15-3:45 p.m

## School Social

**Friday, November 20 is our first SCHOOL SOCIAL!** This is a *dance with a DJ*, snacks, board games, and lots of fun for all students. Students will need signed permission slips to attend the Social which begins right after school. The fun runs until **5:45 p.m.** when parents are asked to pick students up from school. There is a suggested donation of \$2. If you are able to help make this event happen, please let us know <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-school2>

## The Rhino Report –Student Newspaper

The Ramsey Rhino Report is where some Ramsey students will write articles and Mr. Koupal, the newspaper leader, puts it all together (for now). The articles will relate to the students and our target audience is the students of RMS. The newspaper comes out every other Friday, and you can find it on the RMS website. There will be a tab on the home page.

By Madison Curtis

## PTA Corner

## Speaker: Internet Safety

Parents, are you looking for guidance navigating the muddy waters of teens and the internet? Teens, do you know how to protect your online footprint?

Join us **Thursday, November 19 from 7-8:30PM in the Ramsey Auditorium for a great speaker for parents and teens on internet safety.** Alison Feigh from the Jacob Wetterling Foundation knows the laws and what kids are up to and she tells it like it is. Sponsored by the RMS PTA.

## Next Meeting

November 17th, Site Council and PTA

5:30 – 6:20 Site Council

6:30 – 8:00 PTA

The RMS staff will present on our new Literacy period happening this year.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Parents! Let's thank our devoted Ramsey teachers and staff with a monthly Treat Day! The first Wednesday of the month will now be our designated Treat Day when families can sign up to bring in a favorite snack for staff. Let's show our appreciation starting December 2!

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

**The Media Center Needs You** - Help promote the joy of reading, curiosity and creativity at Ramsey. Come for an hour or if you can, on a regular basis. Shelve books, organize the room, update book displays and more. Right now, Mr. Casey needs help with processing a new shipment of Middle School books that just arrived. Volunteer Orientation sessions will take place in the Media Center on Friday November 13th, from 11:30-12:15. All are welcome. Sign up here for a volunteer time:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-media1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-media1)

Questions? Contact Sean Casey, Ramsey Media Specialist at [sean.casey@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:sean.casey@mpls.k12.mn.us)

## Curriculum News & Notes

**AVID 7 & 8**

Recently, AVID students researched and wrote to a college or university of their choice. The research was focused on learning about the institution's academic programs and other offerings. Student letters introduced themselves, including their personal and academic interests, and shared what they like about their particular school. Students also asked for the college/university to send them a college pennant.

Students are also working to learn and improve with the AVID tutorial process. This process is focused on asking higher level questions to help them in their other content classes, which builds students' inquiry skills. Watch for the blue Tutorial Request Forms (TRF's) coming home that students will be filling out and using as guides for their student-led tutorial sessions!

**Arabic 1**

Students have finished three lessons and presented while asking and responding to a partner in Arabic about family members, birthdays and favorite days of the week.

**Arabic 2 & 3**

Arabic 2 students are practicing the Arabic alphabet letters while connecting words and writing full meaningful sentences. Arabic 3 students have finished some grammar lessons using the present and the past tense. This week both Arabic 2 and 3 are going to be in an art integration class creating a small pottery piece of art .

**ESL 6 (Suo)**

In 6th grade ESL, we are focusing on reading non-fiction articles from Scholastic Action Magazine. While reading these articles, students will find the main idea of the article as well as use textual evidence to support their findings. The article that we will start this week is called *Are Aliens Really Out There?* After reading, we will have a class discussion. Students will have to choose a side (aliens DO exist or aliens DO NOT exist). They will need to use examples from the article as well as evidence from research to support their arguments.

**8th grade Science**

In 8th grade science, we are hard at work explaining weather. We can now describe how and when clouds form, why the wind blows, and more! Soon we will be able to accurately predict the weather at a given location using the information available on weather maps. As our Weather and Water unit winds up over the next few weeks, we will investigate the water cycle, ocean currents, and how oceans influence weather and climates worldwide. We will also study past, present, and future climate changes on Earth.

**8th grade Global Studies**

In 8th grade global studies we are studying South America. Topics include globalization, indigenous populations and NAFTA. Students are learning the physical geography as well zooming in to the Kayapo, an indigenous group in Brazil. Students will be analyzing the pros and cons of globalization and the World Trade Organization and finally choosing a side for a philosophical chairs debate!

**8th Grade English Language Arts**

We are wrapping our work with dystopian literature. Students are currently analyzing the Kurt Vonnegut short story "Harrison Bergeron" to identify elements of comedy and tragedy. They are working hard on an in-class essay to prove their thinking. Next week, we will begin work with Sandra Cisneros' book *The House on Mango Street*. This is comprised of a series of vignettes about life. Students will be reading both fiction and nonfiction related various topics, and also writing their own vignettes.

**7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA**

We are proud to announce that we have started S.E. Hinton's The Outsiders in class as we explore the question: What makes you who you are and determines who you will become? Remember: Students should be reading 100 minutes/ week and documenting this in their reading blogs.

**7th grade science**

We are getting close to the end of our second unit on Diversity. We have learned how all organisms have adaptations or traits that help them survive. We also now know that these traits are passed down through our genes. We are focusing on the impact of environment on these traits, or Natural Selection. After Thanksgiving we will be starting Chemistry.

**Health & Phy Ed - Henderson**

In Phy Ed class, we just started our Handball unit on Monday. This will go until Thanksgiving Break. We will then start our Floor Hockey unit followed by Volleyball. In 8th grade Health we are in the middle of our non-communicable diseases unit. In 6th grade Health we are in our Anti-bullying unit.

**Don't Forget...**

## Beyond the Bell

Ramsey allows students in the building at 8:10 a.m.

With winter just around the corner, remember that Minneapolis Kids offers *Beyond the Bell*, which is a school drop-in program especially designed for middle school students.

If you need a place for your student on a particular morning because you need to be somewhere early, this is the program for you. Some activities offered are: foosball; shooting baskets; designing your favorite piece of jewelry; finishing a homework assignment.

**Cost:** \$7/morning; **Registration fee** of \$35 - **Doors** open at 7:00 a.m.

24-hour notice is required - Register at [Minneapolis.thatscommunityed.com](http://Minneapolis.thatscommunityed.com)

## Math Center

The Math Center is open during all lunches! Students may come to the Math Center to get help on homework or other assignments. It is also a place where students can retake assessments or work on ST Math! The Math Center is staffed by Ms. Janicek and Ms. Krasean as well as tutors from the University of Minnesota. Find us in room 322!

**Student Hours – 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.**

**Office Hours – 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Office – 612-668-4040**

**Fax – 612-668-4050**

**Somali – 612-668-4045**

**Spanish - 612-668-4032**

**Attendance Line – 612-668-4030**

**Transportation – 612-668-2300**