



RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

October 13th – Picture Retake day

October 13th – Evening Conferences 4:30-8:00

October 14th – Morning Conferences 8:00-12:00

October 14-16th –No School

October 20th – Site Council Information Night 5:30-6:30
PTA Meeting 6:30 – 8:30

October 26-28th – 6th grade Field Trip to Camp St. Croix

November 1st -Daylight Savings begins

November 2nd – 2nd quarter begins

November 12th – Give to the Max Day!

Around the Horn is coming to you a week early this month! The schedule has been adjusted in October, but you can expect to see our publication on the 2nd and 4th weeks of each month on Wednesdays.

Upcoming Events

Conferences

October 13 th	4:20 – 8:00 p.m.
October 14 th	8:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Next week, Ramsey Middle School will have student-led conferences. These are “goal setting” meetings with your child’s advisor. In each of your child’s classes, teachers will be working with students to choose meaningful goals. In advisory classes, we will be working with your child to identify strengths and areas of growth. We are excited for the opportunity to sit down with you and your child at conferences. If you haven’t scheduled a conference, contact your student’s advisor.

Parents are encouraged to communicate with individual teachers by monitoring the Parent Portal, emailing specific teachers with questions, setting up a conference call before or after school, or setting up a time to meet with the teacher to discuss progress.

Site Council Information Night

Ramsey Middle School will be developing a formal site council this year. If you are interested in learning more, please attend the informational meeting that will explain the purpose and responsibilities of this group and how it supports the leadership structure at the school. The meeting will take place in the Media Center on October 20th at 5:30 before the PTA meeting.

6th Grade Field Trip to Camp St. Croix

Ramsey Middle School's 6th Grade Team is getting excited about our upcoming field trip to Camp St. Croix, and we are hoping you and your student are as well! We will be at camp from Monday, October 26 through Wednesday, October 28, and will arrive back at Ramsey in time for busses on Wednesday afternoon. Please be sure your student packs light and appropriate clothing for the weather.

There are scholarships available if the camp fee is too great at this time. We don't want money to be the reason students do not participate in this great opportunity!

If you have any questions regarding the Camp St. Croix field trip, please contact your student's advisor.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT FOR ZONE 3

If you live within Zone 3 and you're looking for general information about High School opportunities, consider attending the High School Info night on Monday, October 19th @ 6:00pm at Ramsey Middle School. This night is for students who attend Anwatin, Barton, Field, Folwell, and Ramsey. There will be information available about the high school selection process in MPS and the designated high schools within that zone will have representatives there to answer questions and provide information about their offerings. Visit MPS

Website<<http://studentplacement.mpls.k12.mn.us/>> for more information.

We Scare Hunger food drive 10/19-10/23

Food items will be collected and counted in advisories. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade advisories who collect the most items will win a special prize. Please consider donating a non-perishable food item. Please email Abbey Janicek (abbey.janicek@mpls.k12.mn.us) or Sara Knee (sara.knee@mpls.k12.mn.us) for more information.

8TH GRADE 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.

Washburn High School presents THE FANTASTICKS

Book and lyrics by Tom Jones, music by Harvey Schmidt
November 5-7 at Ramsey Middle School
Directed by Anna Gregory and Miranda Neuhaus

THE FANTASTICKS tells the story of two neighboring mothers who trick their children, Luisa and Matt, into falling in love by pretending to feud. The mothers hire traveling actors to stage a mock abduction to end the feud. Abduction ballets, Shakespearean monologues, sword duels, and wayward journeys ensue. Join us for a show that's bound to be FANTASTICK!

Thursday, November 5 at 7:00pm
Friday, November 6 at 7:00pm
Saturday, November 7 at 2:00pm & 7:00pm

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults.

Don't Forget...

New arrival & dismissal procedures!

We have created official procedures for arrival and dismissal for Ramsey.

Please read and follow these directions:

By Car – Cars should drop off/ pick up students ON 49th Street. Please travel eastbound and drop off/pick up on the sidewalk nearest the school so that students do not have to cross through traffic. Enter the queue at the end of the line, and pull ahead as cars exit the queue. These students should enter through door 7.

Parking Lot rule – you must park and walk in if you use the parking lot.

Follow this link to see a map with specific information about car drop off/pick up:

[Arrival & Dismissal map](#)

Walkers/ Bikers – Students walk and bike from all directions. Be responsible! Cross at intersections and watch for traffic! There are student bike racks near doors 1 and 7.

By Bus – Busses will drop/pick up students on Nicollet Avenue. These students should enter through the main doors on Nicollet Avenue.

District Calendar Survey

Minneapolis Public Schools is committed to ensuring every student is college and career ready. The district calendar is designed to support the goals of the district's Acceleration 2020 strategic plan to accelerate student learning.

We are developing a district calendar for the next three years (SY2016-17, SY2017-18, SY2018-19) that balances the needs of families, schools and community members while meeting the educational requirements of our students. Community input about the calendar will shape the final proposal to the Board of Education in November. We invite you to look at the informational calendar resources on this page and provide your feedback about what the calendar should look like for the next three years.

http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/proposed_district_calendar

Ramsey Community Education Enrichment and Extended Learning

After School classes at Ramsey started on Monday, Oct. 5. If you have not registered your student, it is not too late. Visit <http://youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/ramsey> for information and to download a form. NOTE: there are no After School classes Oct. 11, 12 and 14 due to MEA. Classes resume on Monday, October 19. Call 612-668-4051 or email joellyn.jolstad@mpls.k12.mn.us with questions.

Math Center

The Math Center is now 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!

Curriculum News and Notes

AVID 7 & AVID 8:

Our AVID classes are going strong! The first goal that we worked on in AVID was students setting up a single 3-ring binder to be used for all classes, with the end result being organized AVID students who have most of their materials with them all day. Be sure to check in on your child's use of the 3-ring binder to be staying organized--loose papers and materials always need help finding their way into the correct class section!

In early October, we have been working with Costa's Levels of Questions, and how to apply higher-level thinking to our other classes. More specifically, students will be focusing these questions, along with other inquiry skills, to successfully complete Tutorial Request Forms (TRF's) to be used in the student-led tutorials, or study sessions, in class. For more information, watch the newsletter, or check out the AVID section of the RMS website!

Looking forward in AVID classes, we will have a variety of reading and writing assignments which work to improve students' literacy skills. Additionally, we will periodically be having guest speakers from a variety of backgrounds speaking to students about their high school, college, and career experiences!

Spanish with Ms. Borrell

In Spanish we are learning and reviewing numbers, creating class stories with target vocabulary, and learning about Latin America.

Art 6, 7, 8

Students are starting their final Unit 1 project which is a still life pencil drawing that will take place over 3-4 class periods. We will work on shading, overlapping, drawing 3D shapes, creating textures, arranging a good composition and developing endurance during this project. Students can practice gesture, contour or blind contour drawings at home to become better artists! If you are interested in volunteering in our art classroom or helping us hang art, please contact elissa.cedarleafdahl@mpls.k12.mn.us or brenda.butler@mpls.k12.mn.us

Choir 6, 7 & 8 with Ms. Kochanowski

All choirs have received their first song and have started reading music. 6th grade is singing "Mambo Italiano" 7th grade is singing "Riversong" and 8th grade is singing "Pompeii." We will be starting our mini units on reading and using solfege.

Multimedia Studies 6, 7, 8

Having completed our unit on digital citizenship (just in time for the rollout of the iPads!), students in Multimedia Studies classes have been learning about information literacy and the research process, engaging in activities related to developing a research topic; identifying potential sources of information; developing, using, and revising search strategies; evaluating sources and information; and recognizing how to use information responsibly, ethically, and legally. Students will be putting these skills into practice in our next unit on media literacy as we research the history of various forms of media.

Musical Theater 6, 7 & 8 with Ms. Kochanowski

This week we will be starting our unit about West Side Story. In this unit we will discover creative design, compare similarities and differences between Romeo and Juliet and the difficulties of immigrating to the US.

Beginning Band 6,7 - Nelson

Students have all been placed on an instrument and we have begun small group lessons in like instrument groups during advisory (Mon-Trumpet, Tues.-Trombone, Wed-Percussion, Thursday-Flute, Friday-Clarinets/Saxophones). Students are working towards mastering the assembly of their instrument as well as practicing their first sounds.

Beginning Strings 6,7 - Nelson

Strings have started shoulder hold (violin/viola) and notes on the G string with appropriate hand and finger position. Books have been passed out and instruments have begun to go home with practice expectations.

Varsity Band 6,7 - Nelson

Students are self assessing the review pages of their method book and sight reading new pieces for the winter concert. Students have begun logging practice time using practice logs that are due just before MEA break.

Concert Band 7,8 - Nelson

Students are self-assessing the review pages of their method book and sight reading new pieces for the winter concert. A few students participated in a MASS band event with Washburn High School band. Students have begun logging practice time using practice logs that are due just before MEA break.

Varsity Strings - Nelson

Varsity Strings for 6,7,8 graders starts after school starting on 10/6/2015 every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45-4:45. If you are interested in playing in this group and haven't signed up yet, connect with Mr. Nelson at andrew.nelson@mpls.k12.mn.us

Jazz Band - Nelson

Jazz Band started Monday October 5th and rehearses every Monday and Wednesday from 7:30-8:20 am. Students will be learning about playing in a swing style as well as acquiring tools for improvisation on their instruments.

Health/Phy Ed - Henderson - 6th & 8th PE: We just started our two week soccer unit. It will continue until MEA break.

6th Health: We are talking about Personal Safety & the accident chain.

8th Health: We are learning about Relationships & what makes them successful.

Mrs. Littlefield's 7th and 8th grade PE class just finished our football unit and we are just starting soccer games this week. In health for 7th grade we are starting the nutrition unit and in 8th grade we have begun the healthy relationships unit.

Mr. Johnson- 6th & 7th grade just started Decision-making in health and Football in PE

MATH CENTER

The Math Center is now 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!

ALGEBRA 8 - Ismail, Janicek, Knee

The Algebra 8 students will be working on their first Unit project which will be due Tuesday, 10/13. They will be working together to create a calendar where each day will have an order of operations, equation, or inequality problem instead of the date. The answer to the problem will be that date. For example, on the first of the month, the students could write:

25410-1

We challenge you to simplify the expression! Each student will be assigned 7 dates that they will need to come up with problems where the answer is that date. They will then

work with a group of 3 other students to complete the month that is assigned to them. Please ask your student about this project to see what they are doing!

Also, our first Unit test will be Friday, October 9.

SCIENCE 8 - Schultz, Koupal

In 8th grade science students are investigating heat transfer to better understand why we have the weather and climates we do on Earth. We have explored heat transfer by convection and radiation and this week we will experience heat transfer by conduction. Please continue to talk to your student about the weather (the actual conditions in the atmosphere) and the climate (what you expect it to be like in the atmosphere). Often times here in Minnesota what we get is not what we expect!

SCIENCE 6 - Halbach, Noriega

In 6th grade science, students are finishing our unit on controlled experiments. Students will be assessed on their ability to perform the steps of a controlled experiment independently. We will then begin our unit on engineering. We hope to finish the engineering unit by having students practice being an engineer at Leonardo's Basement. Please consider helping fund this field trip by donating here:

[Leonardo's Basement Field trip donation](#)

ESL 6 - Ms. Suo

Over the last few weeks we have been studying how to find the main idea of a text as well as how to make inferences about a text. We have spent a lot of time reading non-fiction. Starting this week we will begin studying poetry and how poets use imagery to pull the reader in. Students will be creating art around poetry we read as well as writing their own poems.

PTA Corner

Next Meeting

Join us October 20 for our second PTA meeting. We will meet from 6:30-8 with the math team presentation beginning about 7:00. We hope to see you there!

From Ms. Janecek:

Thank you for a fantastic first PTA meeting to start the school year. I continue to be impressed with the commitment by families to support the school community and their students. The September meeting included answering questions about a variety of topics and of course, more questions emerged. Below is more specific information about a few questions:

How are middle school athletics working this year?

A change was made to align middle school athletics with high school athletics over the summer. If you have questions about individual sports, please contact the athletic director at Washburn, Reggie Perkins. He can be reached at Reginald.Perkins@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-3456.

Is Pic Collage an app that can be viewed by the public?

Teachers throughout the building use a variety of apps in a variety of ways to allow for creativity and critical thinking. Pic Collage is an app that many staff use in order for students to create unique collages that align to the content of their class. Yes Pic Collage images can be posted in a public forum. The staff also work to teach students how to safely and appropriately use the iPad as a learning tool. If you have specific questions about how any of the apps are used in your child's class, please contact the teacher.

Passing Times – Is 4 minutes long enough between classes and after lunch for students to take care of their needs?

We will continue to monitor the length of passing time but based on feedback from the PTA meeting, we did allow students to be released 1 minute earlier after lunch to give them 5 minutes in order to stop by their locker and use the restroom as needed.

Arrival and Dismissal

We are continuing to monitor the arrival and dismissal patterns at school to make sure we are creating a safe experience for all our students and families. We have a variety of modes of transportation including walkers, bikers, individual drop offs and students taking the busses. Last week another team including Ramsey and Washburn staff, the School Resource Officer and the City of Minneapolis officials came to 49th street to review the traffic patterns and make recommendations. We will continue to refine the arrival and dismissal process in order to create a safe environment for all. I will share more information as it becomes available.

[Arrival & Dismissal map](#)**Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities**

Help **feed the teachers for conferences** on October 13th!! (This date was formerly published incorrectly.) Show the teachers your support by donating food for the teacher conference dinner. Follow this link to sign up:

[Feed the Teachers Sign-up](#)

- **10/31: Monster Dash volunteer opportunity;** Join the Ramsey Student Council in helping to hand out food to the Half-Marathon and 10-mile finishers at this year's Monster Dash on Halloween! We will need volunteers in shifts (you can do more than one shift!) We will be at the finish line near the intersection of Eagle Parkway and Shepard Rd. Come dressed in your Halloween best! Please email Abbey Janicek (abbey.janicek@mpls.k12.mn.us) or Sara Knee (sara.knee@mpls.k12.mn.us) with questions or use this link to sign up! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-monster1>

- **The Ramsey Media Center needs you!** The library needs volunteers to help make it inviting, organized, and inspiring for all of those who use it. A place to gather, read and explore. Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis. Times are flexible during the school day. Come once to see what it is like, then keep coming back because it is great to be at Ramsey! Things to do include checking in & shelving books, general room maintenance, changing book displays, helping with visual displays, etc. You can come on a regular basis or from time-to-time. It will always be worthwhile and your efforts will make a big difference. Stay tuned for more information about library volunteer orientation sessions in the next few weeks. In the meantime, come on in. We would love to see you!

Sign up here for a volunteer time:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0544ABAA2AAAFE3-media1

Questions? Contact Sean Casey, Ramsey Media Specialist at sean.casey@mpls.k12.mn.us

Thanks for volunteering at your child's school.

- **Girls on the Run Volunteer Opportunity**

Who: Women runners

What: Be a running buddy for a Ramsey girl. Run alongside her and encourage her!

When: ONLY 2 days - Practice 5k Wed, 10/28 and Final 5k race 11/14

Contact: Rachel Borrell Rachel.Borrell@mpls.k12.mn.us

or Brenda Butler Brenda.Butler@mpls.k12.mn.us

Ramsey Fundraising Updates:

Your Ramsey PTA has a fundraising philosophy...your kids have enough to do, with school, sports, music, friends...just being a kid. We'd rather they didn't spend their time going door-to-door selling candy, magazines, popcorn, wrapping paper... you get the idea. The fundraising opportunities that you will be seeing over the course of the year

focus more on parent and community involvement and support. Help us maintain and build a vital, community-based middle school at Ramsey, and watch your children thrive!

Coming Soon: **Monster Dash** is fast approaching. Do you have time to help distribute treats and raise money for our school? Please click on the volunteer link to help out:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0544abaa2aaafe3-monster1>

Next Up: **Give to the Max Day is November 12th**! Every donation to Give to the Max counts, no matter how big or small. More information to follow! Please consider Ramsey on Nov. 12th!

Ramsey Rendezvous: What's a Ramsey Rendezvous you ask? You may already know them as Great Gatherings, Adventures, or FUNdraisers from your elementary school. But for those uninitiated, Ramsey Rendezvous are social gatherings that Ramsey parents host in their homes and elsewhere. Proceeds are raised from tickets sold to the events and range in price and activities to appeal to a broad set of interests and families. We're starting to put together a list of Rendezvous for the 2015-2016 year. **We need fresh ideas for themes, hosts/co-hosts...**if you are able to help recruit for parties or willing to host/co-host your own, please contact Beth Gyllstrom at bethgyllstrom@yahoo.com

Student Hours – 8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

Office Hours – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Office – 612-668-4040

Fax – 612-668-4040

Somali – 612-668-4045

Spanish - 612-668-4032

Attendance Line – 612-668-4030

Transportation – 612-668-2300