

REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

April 2010

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

March was a busy month for our students, staff, parents and organizations with basketball, cheerleading, the play, Michigan Merit Exam for our juniors, Key Club convention, senior class activities and their fundraisers (I'm sure the seniors have made enough pasties to last a lifetime), elementary March Reading Month activities and other special presentations, and planning for the 2010/2011 school year. Please check out our web site for upcoming activities and school information at www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us.

Thanks go out to all of our wonderful volunteers who continue to help make Rapid River Public Schools a great place for kids.

Please continue to urge our lawmakers to fund education and make our kids' futures their top priority. Soon we will have a link on our school web site to make contacting them an easy process. If they hear from parents and community members they know you care about our schools and support education. Thank you for your help.

In the May *Reach Out Rapid River*, I will introduce our new superintendent. I will work hard over the next few months to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. During the past five years this has been my home away from home. What happens to our kids after I leave means a great deal to

me. I want to make sure that they have the best that we can give them.

Please support our students in track, spring music program, golf, softball, and all of the other activities that make spring a wonderful time of the school year.

Terri Mileski

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Local scholarships were distributed to seniors. Please make sure to read all application instructions/criteria and return to the high school office by Friday, April 23rd at 3:00 p.m.

Seniors who are receiving a scholarship or an award from colleges or universities or military, and would like to be recognized at the Senior Awards Night program (May 24) please contact the high school office by Friday, May 21.

A graduation week schedule and information packet will be mailed to all seniors and parents the first week of May. Please contact the high school office if you have any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5 - PTC mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

April 7 - Fan Club mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the elementary office.

April 13 - Winter Sports Banquet, 6:30 p.m. in the elementary gym.

April 19 - School Board mtg., 6:00 p.m. in the library.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards for 6-12 grades will be handed out to students on April 9.

ATHLETIC EVENTS

High School Track

April

22	Marquette (Dome)	12:00
27	Rapid River	4:00
29	Gladstone	2:30
Delta Co. Invite		

May

3	Mid Pen (CUP)	2:00
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Junior High Track

April

26	Rapid River	4:00
28	Bark River	4:00

Girls' Softball

April

17	Escanaba	Away	TBA
24	Escanaba	Away	TBA
26	Sup. Central	Home	4:00
28	Rudyard	Home	4:00
30	Kalkaska	Away	4:00

May

1	Kalkaska	Away	TBA
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KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for children who will be 5 by December 1, 2010 will be held on April 16, from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. New Young 5's should also register. The screening process will take approximately one hour.

Parents need to bring their child, legal birth certificate, and shot record. To make an appointment call 474-6411, ext. 507.

SENIOR PICTURES NEEDED

Seniors, remember to turn a **vertical, wallet size** picture in to the office for the senior class composite. It must be turned in by May 21.

SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Special Mtg., March 2, 2010

Key Club Advisor Linda Froberg presented information regarding the planned Key Club Convention trip to Green Bay, WI March 5-7.

Superintendent Mileski reviewed the 2010/11 General Fund budget and the need to make budgetary reductions. She also reviewed the proposed budgetary reductions/revenue enhancements.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding many items including becoming more efficient, secretarial/clerical time, the ½ time superintendent's position for 2010/11, technology needs and costs, consolidating services I.S.D. wide, the use of volunteers, working a day or days without pay and possible pay freezes and health insurance concessions.

Band instructor Jeff Ingraham presented his thoughts regarding cutting the band/music program.

Technology and secretary/clerical positions were discussed again. Technology Consultant Henry Knoch will provide information to the board regarding services he provides.

Superintendent Mileski will meet with secretarial staff to discuss their duties.

Superintendent Mileski told board members that decisions should be made at the March regular board meeting.

During Audience Communications Linda Froberg announced that there will be a basketball clinic held June 14-17, 2010 with the coaches being from the Detroit Pistons basketball team.

Mrs. Mary Knoch, high school science teacher, was recognized for receiving "Teacher of the Year Award" from the American Legion,

Department of Michigan Education and Scholarship Committee.

Motion made and approved:

- to approve the Key Club trip to Green Bay, Wisconsin March 5-7.
- to reduce the school nurse time from 7 hours per day to 6 hours per day.

Regular Mtg., March 15, 2010

Superintendent Terri Mileski updated board members on the following:

- The legislature will begin debate to significantly reform Michigan's state employee and public school employee retirement systems.
- There were six responses regarding publishing the Reach Out Rapid River. All six wanted the Reach Out to continue to be published.
- Work continues on the Master Class Schedule. Mid Pen would still like to send students to our school for physics.
- A Policy & Personnel Committee meeting will be scheduled for after spring break to review the Athletic Committee's recommendations regarding the athletic handbook and to review NEOLA policy updates.
- There will be a Winter Sports Banquet April 13, at 6:30 p.m. which is being organized by the Fan Club.

There was discussion regarding the budgetary reductions. The possibility of eliminating the band/music program was discussed at length. There were audience comments from Traci Tardiff, Brent Berglund, Linda Froberg, Ben Swanson and Amber Froberg who did not think it would be wise to cut band.

There was also discussion regarding reducing the number of student attendance day by lengthening the day. Board members concurred that this would not be in the best interest of students. Superintendent Mileski requested that secretarial positions and technology services be addressed at a later date.

Senior class member Amber Froberg explained the proposed senior class trip itinerary to Gurnee, Illinois May 25-26.

Key Club members reported on their Key Club Convention trip and showed the first place winning video of George Reinwand's Pearl Harbor experience.

President Kate Ignat appointed Karen Lundquist to the 2010 Scholarship Selection Committee.

During Audience Communications Lori Shope requested help with opening up the concession stands during the track meets.

Motion made and approved:

- to not cut the band/music program.
- to approve the senior class trip.
- to approve the 2009/10 General Fund and Food Service Budget revisions.
- to hire Paul Brunngraeber as Junior High Boys' Track Coach and Kurt Almonroeder as Junior High Girls' Track Coach.
- to accept the \$70 donation from the American Legion Post #301 to be used for laminating, \$130 from Richard & Edie Spriks to be used for library purchases in memory of their daughter, Megan Marohnic, and \$200 from New Page for volunteer work done in the district by John Pajnich to be used by the Athletic Department.
- to allow Sandy Deneau & Diane Kuchan to adjust the time for written notice to 30 days if they resign from the district in order to participate in the Consolidated Business Services Plan.
- to consider Mr. Henry Knoch as part-time superintendent for the 2010-2011 school year to be approved at the April 19, 2010 Board of Education meeting.

For complete minutes go to our website at www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us.

BOOSTER BUCKS

WINNERS

March 3, 2010

\$100-Ted/Annette Russell, Rapid River

\$50-Mark Bittner, Gladstone

\$25-Melissa Schimke, Rapid River

\$25-Jeff Delke, Gladstone

March 17, 2010

\$100-Lesley Scizak, Rapid River

\$50-Jon Miller, Rapid River

\$25-Mike Hebert, Rapid River

\$25-Cindy Collins, Gladstone

YEARBOOK

Yearbooks are on sale for \$35.00 from April 1-16. To order your 2009-2010 yearbook today pick up an order form in the office or call (906) 399-3170. All books must be pre-paid when ordered.

Seniors start picking out your favorite baby picture. Please use vertical pictures if possible. Baby and senior pictures must be turned into the high school office by April 16, 2010.

If you have any pictures taken during the year of sporting events, dances, or other events that could be considered for the yearbook please email them to

cdalgord@rapidriver.k12.mi.us or drop them off in the high school office. If you have any questions call Chelsea Dalgord, Yearbook Adviser at (906) 399-3170.

CLASSROOM

"Bits & Pieces"

Mrs. Kuehl's Life Skills Class just completed sewing projects. They hand sewed stuffed animals and tied fleece blankets to give to the police departments Victim's Care Unit. They will be given to children who have been through a traumatic event.

CONGRATULATIONS

-to fourth grader Lauren Norberg who won the 2010 Essay and Artwork competition sponsored by the Delta County Family and Community Education Association. Lauren Norberg's entry was chosen as the district level winner and has now been sent on to compete at the state level. She had a wonderful essay on the topic of Fairness. She received a generous award of a gift certificate to the Canterbury Bookstore and a Webster Dictionary with an inscription marking her achievement.

-to Mrs. Mary Knoch on receiving "Teacher of the Year Award" from The American Legion, Department of Michigan's Education and Scholarship Committee. Mrs. Knoch is one of two teachers in the State to receive this wonderful honor. The criterion for winning the award was based upon Mrs. Knoch's teaching competency, community involvement, and patriotism/Americanism. Mrs. Knoch will receive a \$500 grant to be used for an educational project of her choice for our school and a recognition plaque that will be awarded to her at the American Legion State Convention in May held in Lansing. Michael Jackowski, Department of Education and Scholarship Chairman stated in his letter to Mrs. Knoch, "Thank you for being an instrumental vessel in building a firm foundation for your community and the young people of this great state we live in."

INDIAN EDUCATION

Tutoring has been going strong. Thanks to the Sault Tribe's 2% grant, we will be able to continue our tutorial program through the end of the school year. Contact our office at 474-3572 if you feel your son/daughter could use some extra help, or contact his/her teacher.

Our snowtubing party with Gladstone's Indian Ed was a huge success this year, with many families showing up for some fresh air, fun, and good food! Gayle Bruntjens from U.P. Raptors was there with some of her fine-feathered friends, much to the delight of kids and parents alike. Chi-miigwetch to Jessie Seronko, Gladstone coordinator, for all her help with everything.

March 19th cultural adviser Mrs. Flo Cutter did a presentation on Anishnabeg Living, Then and Now for Mrs. Sauve's 4th grade class. This has always been a wonderful way to tie in 4th grade Michigan History with how the original people of the area lived (Anishnabeg). Chi-miigwetch to Mrs. Cutter for bringing in so many of her own artifacts and Native toys for the students to see!



FAN CLUB

Track season is right around the corner and we will be looking for help in the concession stand, so please stop in to sign up and volunteer your time.

KINDERGARTEN VISITATION

Kindergarten visitation will be held on Friday, April 23rd. New kindergarten students will be contacted as to times.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Library received a generous donation in memory of Megan Spriks Maronhic. It has been used to update our audio visual equipment.

SUPER ONE SLIPS

Please save your Super One slips for the Senior Class All Night Graduation Party. Slips can be dropped off in either office.

SPORTS PHYSICALS

Annual sports examinations will be May 5 at 5:00 p.m. for girls and 7:00 p.m. for boys at the Gladstone High School.

The bus for the girls will leave the school at 4:40 p.m. and return at approximately 6:30 p.m. The boys will leave at 6:40 p.m. and return at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Proper attire **MUST** be worn. This consists of a loose fitting short sleeve t-shirt/tank top, loose gym shorts and gym shoes (**absolutely NO sandals**). The examiners have to be able to easily see the upper and lower arms, the shoulders, the knees, and the ankles.

REMINDER: Any student who will be in 7th grade for the 2010/2011 school year will be required to have an office-based physical exam by their family physician in order to participate in athletics and school physical examinations in future years.

Any questions contact Rick Pepin (ext. 514) or Kristie Stenlund (ext. 515) at 474-6411.

HEADSTART WEEK

Rapid River Headstart will be taking applications for the 2010/2011 school year on April 27th from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Room 169. For more information or to set up an appointment please call: 474-3538.

RAPID RIVER DANCE

On May 8, 2010 Rapid River Dance will have their end of year dance show in the elementary gym. Show times are 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome. The cost is \$5.00. Tickets will be sold at the door or for advance tickets contact Linda Froberg, at (906) 399-1794 or (906) 446-3148.

Flowers will be sold by Beth Larson with proceeds going to the Relay for Life. Snacks and water will be sold by the Rapid River Key Club to help defray costs for next year's convention.

FUZZBUSTER GAME

Come join us for a night of fun and games. Rapid River Senior class will take on local law enforcement for the annual Fuzzbuster Game, April 6th. There will be raffle prizes from Nyman Jewelers, Rapid River Rustic, UP Ophthalmology and much more. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the seniors playing at 7:00 p.m. Please help support the Alcohol-Free All-Night Graduation Party.

PTC NEWS

Thank you to everyone who purchased books at our recent Book Fair and all the volunteers. It was a huge success.

FUNDRAISERS

All Night Graduation Party
Pop Can Drive –April 25

PROM 2010

The 2010 Prom will be Saturday, April 10, at the Stonington Hall. The grand march will be at 8:15 p.m. Cost is \$40.00 per couple and \$25.00 single. Tickets can be purchased in the high school office.

KEY CLUB NEWS

We would like to thank everyone who donated and helped to make our District Convention trip to Green Bay a huge success. Thirty-six students were able to participate. During the convention we took first place in the governor's project, second place in scrapbooking, and the spirit award. YAYY!

We are looking forward to another great year of community service.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to thank our Elementary Staff and all the volunteers who organized and sold books for our Scholastic Book Fair during March Reading Month. A special thank you to Lisa Anderson for all the work she did for the Book Fair and all the volunteer time she spends in our district to benefit our students. Thanks again for supporting Rapid River Schools.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

These outstanding scholars have earned an award in recognition of their academic accomplishments. The students have met the criteria below.

- 3.7 or above Semester GPA for 3 consecutive semesters.
- 3.3 or above Semester GPA for 5 consecutive semesters or 6 non-consecutive semesters.

The following students have met the above criteria and were awarded their academic letter: Class of 2012 Taylor Hileman, Ashley Hough, Travis Froberg, and Jordan Schwartz; Class of 2010 Rikki Prescott.

Kayla Shope has met the above requirement for the second time and will receive her academic pin.

Way to go kids! We are proud of your accomplishments!

School Improvement