

# REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

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**February 2010**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

January was School Board Recognition month. Rapid River Public Schools proudly joined Governor Jennifer Granholm, the State Board of Education and school districts across the State of Michigan in thanking our Board of Education members for their dedication to the students in our district. Their commitment to community service through public education deserves to be recognized publicly at this time.

Local School Boards are charged with a tremendous responsibility – making difficult decisions on educational issues that have a huge impact on all students and the entire Rapid River community. Their role has become especially difficult during these tough economic times.

Our local School Boards are deeply rooted in the past, yet must meet the demands of the future so that public education can continue to help our students succeed and reach their full potential.

When you have an opportunity, please take a moment to thank our School Board members for serving the needs of our future – our children. They have the most important volunteer jobs in the country.

The man and women serving Rapid River Public Schools as board members are Kate Ignat, president; Dawn Gustafson, treasurer; Debbie Pajnich, secretary; Cara Brockway, trustee; Roxanne Soderstrom, trustee; and Larry Sundling, trustee; and our newly

appointed Board member, Karen Lundquist. Thank you again to our current Board members and to outgoing Board member Wendy Holzenkamp for their many hours of dedicated service.

## **TALENT SHOW**

The Rapid River's Got Talent Show will be Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the elementary gym. This fundraiser is hosted by the Rapid River School Improvement Team. Proceeds will be used to fund school extras such as billboards, school signs, ads, school folders, print cartridges, reading month incentives, science fair treats, MEAP snacks, academic awards, student/teacher of the quarter treats, etc. Cost to see the show is Adult-\$4.00; Student-\$2.00; Family-\$12.00; Senior Citizen-\$2.00; 5 and under free; performers free.

Flowers will be available for purchase at the event. Proceeds from the flowers will benefit the American Cancer Society.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**February 1** - PTC mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

**February 3** – Fan Club mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the elementary office.

**February 5** – Talent Show, 7:30 p.m. in the elementary gym.

**February 10** – Health Fair, 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the high school gym.

**February 12** – No School – Teacher In-Service

**February 15** – No School – President's Day

**February 15** - School Board mtg., 6:00 p.m. in the library.

## **NO SCHOOL**

There is no school February 12 for a teacher in-service and February 15 for President's Day.

## **SPRING PLAY**

The High School Drama group will perform "Northwoods Nonsense". The performances will be Saturday, March 20, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 21, 2:00 p.m. The play will be directed by Jean Nicholson.

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

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

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

## **HEALTH FAIR**

The Rapid River School – Key Club/Student Council will hold their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Health Fair on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Students, staff and the community are invited to attend. If needed, a bus will be made available to pick up at the Rapid River Senior Center at 5:00 p.m. and drop off at approximately 7:00 p.m. Please call 474-6411 to reserve a seat. Several health agencies are participating providing health education and screening. Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions or would like to participate in the health fair, please contact Linda Froberg or Kristie Stenlund at 474-6411.

# **SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

## **Regular Mtg., December 21, 2009**

Superintendent Terri Mileski updated board members on the following:

- the Athletic Focus Group is scheduled to meet January 7. The group will prepare a list of recommendations for the Board to consider as they work on budget concerns for the 2010/11 school year.
- the Annual Delta Schoolcraft I.S.D. Board of Education dinner meeting is scheduled for February 10. Kathy Hayes, with MASB, will present on Superintendent/Board communication and relations.

### **Motion made and approved:**

- to approve the Resolution to Conduct Annual November School Board Elections.
- to approve the Resolution Amending the 403(b) Exclusive Benefit Plan.
- to hire Lollie Eskofski as National Honor Society Advisor.
- to approve the Resolution to Enter into a Consolidated Service Agreement with the Michigan Department of Education.
- to approve the Resolution to Participate in the Michigan School Readiness Program.
- to authorize Superintendent Terri Mileski to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding required by the Michigan Race to the Top grant if the Delta Schoolcraft I.S.D. superintendents decide to do so.
- to accept the resignation of board member Wendy Holzenkamp effective December 31, 2009.

## **Special Mtg., January 11, 2010**

Superintendent Mileski reviewed the General Fund budget history and possible reductions and revenue enhancements for the 2010/11 school year. She also noted the fund balance history.

Board Trustee Larry Sundling reported on the Athletic Focus Group golf outing fundraiser that is planned for June 12, 2010 at the Gladstone Golf Course.

Eliminating athletic transportation for events that are less than 50 miles away was discussed. This would virtually eliminate junior high athletic transportation as none of their events are more than 50 miles away. The possibility of eliminating scrimmage transportation was also mentioned. Reducing athletic transportation would create a savings of approximately \$6,500.

Outsourcing of business services was discussed. Mid Pen, Gladstone and Escanaba have all been approached, but to date this has not been successful.

Superintendent Mileski explained that she will be meeting with Mid Pen to work out details of exchanging Physics and Advance Math classes to Mid Pen students for the transportation they provide for our I.S.D. students.

Principal Bill Warning explained the possibility of eliminating the band/music program. Several negatives were mentioned by board members.

Principal Bill Warning explained that due to declining enrollment special education teachers could be reduced from 2.8 F.T.E.'s to 2.0 F.T.E.'s. Several negatives were mentioned by board members. Special Education teachers Flo Kuehl and Shireen McLaughlin explained how this would affect the special education program.

Principal Bill Warning explained that due to declining enrollment 2 or 3 classes could be eliminated from the Master Class Schedule. Some of this would have been done regardless of the budget concerns.

Due to declining enrollment Director of Non-Instructional Personnel Kevin Beaver recommends that food service time be reduced one hour per day. The savings would be

approximately \$2,900.

Changing the annual election to November should save the district approximately \$2,000 and eliminating board member pay would save \$2,100.

The Great Start Readiness Program revenue can be flowed through from the Headstart program to our district this year only which is a revenue enhancement of \$6,800.

There was further discussion regarding outsourcing business services as well as discussion regarding reducing the number of classes, class size, Compass Learning, instructional cuts vs. non-instructional cuts, athletic pay to participate, eliminating junior varsity volleyball, lunch time supervision and contracting with a retired Superintendent for part time Superintendent services.

Board members discussed the Race To The Top Memorandum of Understanding at length.

During Audience Communication Flo Kuehl thanked the board for allowing the audience to communicate freely during the work session. Ruth Schwartz questioned if there had been consideration given to lengthening the day and reducing the number of days of student attendance.

### **Motion made and not approved:**

- to enter into the Race To The Top Memorandum of Understanding.

## **Regular Mtg., January 18, 2010**

Superintendent Terri Mileski updated board members on the following:

-Reported on the Delta Schoolcraft I.S.D. Superintendent's Roundtable meeting. Items discussed were career tech and general education services, the 3<sup>rd</sup> party employer to pay substitutes and a negotiations workshop to be held on March 3, 6:30 p.m. at the I.S.D.

-Mike Koster, Superintendent of the Delta Schoolcraft I.S.D. will be invited to attend the January 27, 2010 work session to discuss consolidation of business services.

-Continue to plan with Mid Peninsula School to share academic

programming and to continue sharing I.S.D. transportation and the football cooperative.

-recognized board members for their dedication to the district.

Teachers Traci Tardiff and Kim Viau presented a book that will be donated to the library to recognize the board members service to the district. Board members, Superintendent Mileski and Principal Warning were presented cards of thanks and Rocket bars thanking them for their service.

Under Old Business 2010/11 budgetary considerations were discussed. Several items were discussed including shortening the calendar/lengthening the day, consolidation of services and possible retirements.

Mr. Mark Blau and Mrs. Karen Lundquist, applicants for the vacant board position, were interviewed by the Board of Education.

Adherence to the district's athletic policy was discussed. This matter was referred to the Policy & Personnel Committee.

During Audience Communications Teacher Traci Tardiff shared with board members a list of possible budget reductions to be considered by board members, support staff personnel Ruth Schwartz expressed concern that shortening the school year only personally and financially impacts support staff as teachers do not have their pay reduced when this happens and teacher Kim Viau voiced concern that the elementary parking lot was very slippery.

#### **Motion made and approved:**

-to appoint Karen Lundquist to the vacant board position until December 31, 2010.

-to retain Thrun Law Firm as legal counsel at a cost of \$1,100 for 2010.

For complete minutes go to our website at

[www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us](http://www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us).

## **FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Daniel Blair, Reina Blair, Shannon Gould, Dominique Pavlat, Brody Schroeder, Paige Schwartz, Brandon Sundstrom; 3.69 to 3.30 - Zoie Berg, Riley Gustafson, Victoria Hagman, Hannah Kanyuh, Craig Martin, Alec Miller, Shane Norberg, Erika Schwartz, Tessa Sundling; 3.29 to 3.00 - Hayley Brockway, George Kanyuh, Michael Larsen, James Moore, John Stropich

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Kendyl Miller, Valerie Viau, Laurel Zar; 3.69 to 3.30 - Lucas Bero, Aslynn Brockway, Lydia Froberg, Halie Hardwick, Taylor Hedges, Ben Rubick, Alexandra Williams; 3.29 to 3.00 - David Hough, Faith Triest, Elizabeth Veatch

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Victoria Brunette, Cassidy Gould, Josephine Miller; 3.69 to 3.30 - Michael Boyer, Hayden Hardwick, Rachel Hileman, Cheyene Linder, Steven Lippold, Jacob Pearson; 3.29 to 3.00 - Haley Clement, Lydia Person, Joellen Roberts, Kelsey Shope

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Neena Brockway, Emma Hagman, Mia Hill, Rikki Stropich; 3.69 to 3.30 - Haley Gould, Averi Kanyuh, Heathar Keenan, Kristy Kerstner, Tyler McGuigan, Riley Pajnich, Katrina Pavlat; 3.29 to 3.00 - Paige Jensen, Christopher Morgan, Lydia Ortiz, Heather Pfister, Sidonie Scizak, Tracie Soderman

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Travis Froberg, Taylor Hileman, Ashley Hough, Darrell Kohli, Panyapat Nitikitpaiboon, Brandi Norman, Jordan Schwartz; 3.69 to 3.30 - Zachary Anderson, Brett Bryant, Haley Gustafson, Dylan Holzenkamp, Audrey Larsen, Ashleigh Monticello, Zachary Pavlat, Heather Sanderson, Kyra Wallace, Shannon Wolf; 3.29 to 3.00 - Jacob Berglund, Danyelle Keenan, Janelle Roberts, Tyler Wicklund, Kyle Williams

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Noah Hagman, Vincent Hagman; 3.69 to 3.30 - John Geils, Christian Harris, Derek Pistulka, Whitney Thull; 3.29 to 3.00 - Jared Clausen, Travis Hebert, Cassie Martin, Damian Ortiz

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade** - 4.00 to 3.70 - Peter Behnke, Jordan Dalgord, Amber Froberg, Keefe Ignat, Miranda Kohli, Kayla Shope; 3.69 to 3.30 - Derek Berglund, Kelsey Gustafson, Kathleen Lang, Cassidy Larsen, Caitlin Moberg, Heidi Pfister, Rikki Prescott; 3.29 to 3.00 - Zachary Mischeau, Alex Pajnich, Faith Scheeneman, Ben Swanson, Ken Thompson

## **ATHLETIC EVENTS**

### **Girls' JV & Varsity Basketball**

#### **February**

1	N. Dickinson	Home	7:30
4	Carney	Home	7:30
8	Big Bay	Away	7:30
11	C.F.F.P.	Away	*7:00
15	Mid Pen	Home	7:30
18	N. Central	Away	*7:00
22	N. Dickinson	Away	*7:00
25	Republic	Home	7:30

### **Boys' JV & Varsity Basketball**

#### **February**

2	N. Dickinson	Away	*7:00
9	Sup. Central	Home	7:30
12	C.F.F.P.	Home	7:30
19	Mid Pen	Away	7:30
23	Big Bay	Away	7:30
25	Republic	Home	6:00
26	N. Dickinson	Home	7:30

\*Central Time

## **FUNDRAISERS**

### **All Night Graduation Party**

Pop Can Drive -

February 7, March 21, & April 25

### **Rapid River Key Club**

Candy Bar Sale -

February 1 - 12

### **Cheerleaders**

Raffle during Basketball Game -

February 12

### **Class of 2012**

Easter Eggs/Saykilly's Candy

March 8 - 19

## **BOOSTER BUCKS WINNERS**

**December 2, 2009**

\$100-Jim Johnson, Rapid River

\$50-Haley Gould, Rapid River

\$25-Amber Benjamin, Gladstone

\$25-Gerry Monticello, Rapid River

**December 16, 2009**

\$100-Cheryl Corden, Rapid River

\$50-Tina Person, Rapid River

\$25-Gerry Monticello, Rapid River

\$25-Heather Sanderson, Rapid River

**December 23, 2009**

\$200-Josh Mileski, Gladstone

\$200-Lisa Hough, Rapid River

**January 6, 2010**

\$100-Amy Schroeder, Rapid River

\$50-Barb Lebach, Menominee

\$25-Andy Schwartz, Rapid River

\$25-Josh/Krista Pasco, Escanaba

**January 20, 2010**

\$100-Gerry Monticello, Rapid River

\$50-Nick Johnson, Rapid River

\$25-Jim Johnson, Rapid River

\$25-Angie O'Dell, Rapid River

The Fan Club is looking for volunteers to work the concession stand. Please stop by and sign up! If you have any questions please contact Jenny Ware, Lori Shope, Loreen Harris, or Dodie Micheau.

## **PTC NEWS**

We will be having an ice-cream social book fair on Thursday, February 25, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the elementary gym. Come and enjoy buying books, building your own ice-cream sundae and other family activities. This activity has a 50's theme, so dress-up if you'd like. The Book Fair will run from February 25<sup>th</sup> to March 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be many times you can come and buy books during these two weeks. Look for flyers coming home with your child or go on to the Rapid River website to get the dates and times the Book Fair will be open.

You can preview the books on the 25<sup>th</sup> or buy them right then.

Profits from the Book Fair will go for new library books and accelerated reading books for the Rapid River students. The book fair books will be set up on the stage. If you can't make the evening ice-cream social join the PTC and the K-5 elementary students on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> for breakfast from 7:15 – 8:00 a.m. to kick off March Reading Month!

## **INDIAN EDUCATION**

**TUTORING:** Contact our office at 474-3572 if you'd like your son/daughter to be tutored. Please don't wait until your child is too far behind to seek out help.

**Fry Bread Sale** for grades 6-12 on Tuesday, February 9 from 7:30-1:00 p.m. in the Home Ec room. Blanket dogs will also be available during lunch periods only. Prices are: fry bread - \$.75 or 3/\$2.00 and blanket dogs - \$1.25. Proceeds from this sale will help pay for our annual **TUBING PARTY** with Gladstone Indian Ed at the Sports Park. The date will be set soon.

## **MARCH READING MONTH**

Please come and join the K-5 students and staff for breakfast from 7:15 - 8:00 a.m. on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to kick off reading month.

## **KEY CLUB NEWS**

The Key Club will be hosting a 7-12 grade dance on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> following the Varsity boys' basketball game. We will also be selling candy bars from February 1-12. These fundraisers are to raise money to help fund our annual convention trip.

## **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.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

At a recent Reading Buddies session, library staff presented each of the Reading Buddies with a library card. We look forward to their visits. We feel we have things on our shelves that will be of interest to them.

The library has received a donation in the amount of \$100.00 from former student, Robert Wilson, now living in Thailand. Thank you.

A special "Thank You" to the Rapid River Lion's Club. They very generously funded this year's membership to the Junior Library Guild. Donations such as this make it possible to keep our collection updated.

## **YEARBOOK**

Yearbooks are on sale now for \$40.00. Order your 2009/2010 yearbook today by picking up an order form in the high school office or calling (906)399-3170.

Seniors – Start picking out your favorite baby picture. Please use vertical pictures if possible. Please turn in your baby picture and senior picture to the high school office before March 15, 2010. If you have any questions call Chelsea Dalgord, Yearbook Advisor at (906)399-3170.

## **2010 GRADUATION COMMITTEE**

The Graduation Committee for 2010 would like to thank everyone involved with our last pop can drive. We are having another pop can drive on Sunday, February 7th. Please mark your calendars!

We are having **BAKE SALES** during the boys and girls basketball HOME games. Parents, please bring in your baked good by 5:30 p.m. There will be a sign up sheet at the game to help sell for future games.