

# REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

March/April 2012

## SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

The Rapid River Public Schools were able to take advantage of current low interest rates and recently completed the successful sale of its 2012 Refunding Bonds. The proceeds of these bonds were used to refund a portion of the outstanding School District's 2005 Refunding Bonds. The 2012 Refunding Bonds will save the taxpayers of the district approximately \$445,018 in interest payments over the remaining life of the bonds. The 2005 bonds were also refunding bonds from the 1999 bond issue when the Tri-Township building was expanded to house all of our students. The combined savings of the two refundings of the original 1999 Bonds is saving taxpayers over \$860,000 in interest over the life of the 1999 Bonds.

GO ROCKETS  
Henry Knoch  
Superintendent

## ATHLETIC EVENTS

### Boys' JV & Varsity Basketball

#### March

2 Carney Away 6:00

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 5** – PTC mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

**March 7** –Sports Boosters mtg., 5:30 p.m. by the concession stand.

**March 19** – School Board mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

**April 2 to 9 - No School -**

Spring Break & Easter Monday

**April 2** – PTC mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

**April 4** –Sports Boosters mtg., 5:30 p.m. by the concession stand.

**April 16** – School Board mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

## SECOND QUARTER

### 4TH & 5TH GRADE

#### ACADEMIC AWARDS

**4<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – Garrett Novak and Lucas Gendron; A-B's – Brooke Lancour, Braydon Moss, Payton Siirila;

**Bug Award (improved one grade without dropping in any other areas)** Holly Underwood; **Perfect Attendance** – Cierra Carignan, Azariah Hernandez, Ellie Kudlick, & Mya Paulin

**5<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – P.J. Monticello, Erica Proehl, Jenna Rubick; A-B's – Cassidy Berg, Riley Christianson, Gunnar Larson, Alexis Mayers, Brittany Schwartz, Jaden Schwartz, Alexis Trombley, Sherry Vandeville; **Bug Award** – Riley Christianson, Christopher Hardwick, P.J. Monticello, Zach Narkooli, Erica Proehl; **Perfect Attendance** – Christopher Hardwick, Nathan Olson, Athena Potier, Erica Proehl, Jenna Rubick

## STUDENT OF THE QUARTER

The School Improvement Team is announcing the "Student of the Quarter" for 9-12 graders. Each quarter, teachers from each department select a student to be their "Student of the Quarter". The teachers use the following criteria to make their selections; grades, attitude, participation, and improvement.

**Here are the students selected for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of the 2010-2011 school year: Mitch Narkooli (Science), Danyelle Keenan (English), Katy Michaelson and the High School Band (Fine Arts), Geno Constantino (Physical Education), Neena Brockway (Math), and Josie Miller (Social Studies). The Teacher of the Quarter was Mrs. Hadel.**

**Here are the students selected for the 1st Quarter of the 2011-2012 school year: Emma Hagman (Science), Paige Vietzke (English), Kyle Hunter (Fine Arts), Ben Rubick (Physical**

**Education), Mia Hill (Math), and Paige Jensen (Social Studies). The Teacher of the Quarter was Mr. Ostrenga.**

**Here are the students selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of the 2011-2012 school year: Tyler McGuigan (Science), Travis Froberg (English), Cassidy Gould (Fine Arts), Jacob Berglund (Physical Education), Ashleigh Monticello (Math), and Kendyl Miller (Social Studies). The Teacher of the Quarter was Mr. Rubick.**

## STATE ACADEMIC CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the 2010/11 4<sup>th</sup> grade students (presently 5<sup>th</sup> graders), faculty and staff on being named a State Academic Champion by Bridge Magazine. Rapid River was named the overall champion in Division 7, fourth grade math bracket, one of only 60 districts in the state to receive this honor.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for children who will be 5 by December 1, 2012 will be held on April 13, 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, and shot record. To make an appointment call 474-6411, ext. 507.

## SPRING PLAY

The Drama Club will be presenting "Southern Hospitality" on Saturday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m. The play is directed by Jordan Dalgord and Heidi Pfiester.

## KINDERGARTEN VISITATION

Kindergarten visitation will be held on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. New kindergarten students will be contacted as to times.

## **SCHOOL BOARD**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Regular Mtg., Nov. 21 2011**

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

- to approve the resolution Authorizing 2012 Refunding Bonds.
- to approve a second section of Algebra – Algebra 1a.
- to accept the generous donation of \$3,546.32 from the Lions' Club dinner fund raiser.

#### **Regular Mtg., Dec. 19, 2011**

Superintendent Knoch updated board members on the following:

- The school's Christmas card was designed by Senior Kyle Hunter. It will be sent to other school districts and businesses in the community.

There was discussion regarding splitting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes. Due to financial constraints the possibility of a full time instructional aide in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade was presented.

Superintendent Knoch provided information regarding the requirement for all day, every day kindergarten beginning in 2011/12 in order to receive full funding for kindergarten students.

There was discussion regarding the requirement of two World Language credits for students graduating in 2016.

During Audience Communications Pam Balenger, Gwen Christianson and Becki Smith commented on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and the need for assistance in that classroom. Roxanne Soderstrom thanked those present for allowing her the opportunity to serve on the Board of Education. Cherie Froberg commented on a bullying issue.

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

- to approve the NEOLA policy revisions as presented.
- to approve the 2011/12 General Fund and Food Service budget revisions.
- to hire an instructional aide for the remainder of the 2011/12 school year.
- to table the all day, every day kindergarten topic until the April 2012 regular board meeting.

#### **Regular Mtg., Jan. 16, 2012**

Superintendent Knoch updated the board members on the following:

- the 2005 bond refunding is moving

forward; a Standard & Poors rating of A was received.

-recognized school board members for their service to the district.

Teachers Kim Viau recognized school board members for their service to the district on behalf of the Rapid River Education Association. They donated books to the library in their honor.

5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Beth Larson and students presented information regarding a proposed trip to Clear Lake Education Center.

Linda Froberg, Key Club Advisor, addressed the board requesting permission for the Key Club to attend the Key Club convention March 2-4, 2012 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

During audience communications Mary Anderson, on behalf of the support staff, thanked board members for their dedication to the district and presented two books which will be donated to the library in their honor. Beth Larson mentioned the national award the current 5<sup>th</sup> graders received from Bridge Magazine. Paraprofessional Karen Wolf presented DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) data which indicated good progress by elementary students.

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

- to approve the overnight 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Clear Lake Education Center May 22-23.
- to appoint Robert Gifford to the school board until the 2012 election.
- to retain Thrun Law Firm as legal counsel at a cost of \$1,500 for 2012.
- to grant permission for the Key Club to attend the Key Club Convention provided all school policies with regard to chaperones are met including a staff chaperone.
- to accept the donations of \$25 from John and Barbara Majestic and \$175 from OTIC, Inc. Bowling League to be used for the library and \$1,000 from the Edward Sackerson Foundation for Reading Buddies.
- to approve the Rapid River Education Association 2011 to 2013 contract.

#### **Regular Mtg., Feb. 20, 2012**

Superintendent Knoch updated board members on the following:

- the district is in receipt of policy from NEOLA which meets the requirements of

PA 241 of 2011 regarding bullying. He requests a Policy & Personnel meeting at 5:00 p.m. February 29 to have the 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Edwin LaCrosse reported on the recent meeting a group of school personnel and community members had regarding School Climate and Bullying. At Principal Warning's suggestion a school climate survey will be developed.

Senior Class President Zach Anderson provided information regarding the proposed itinerary for the Senior Class Trip.

Mr. Bill Wickham updated board members on the Masonville Township Planning Commission Master Plan for zoning and land use. The plan is being updated at this time and there will be a Public Hearing to take input as part of the process.

There was discussion regarding filling the Superintendent position as Mr. Knoch will not be returning for the 2012/13 school year. The possibility of sharing a superintendent will be investigated.

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

- to approve the Senior Class Trip on May 22-23, 2012 to Gurnee, Illinois.
- to approved the resolution Declaring the District as Policyholder for Healthcare Services Benefits.
- to hire Kurt Almonroeder as part time Title I aide.
- to approve the Ratification Resolution for the 2005 Bond Refunding.
- to approve the administrative contracts for 2011 to 2013.

For complete minutes go to our website at [www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us](http://www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us).

## **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED**

The Rapid River Board of Education is looking for two dedicated individuals. The terms would run until December 2012. The individual must be 18 years of age, a resident of the district and a registered voter. Please send a letter of interest to Rapid River Public Schools, 10070 US Hwy 2, Rapid River MI 49878 by March 14, 2012. If you have any questions call Superintendent Knoch at 474-6411 ext. 511.

## HONOR ROLL

### First Quarter

**6<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Daren Landis; 3.69 to 3.30 – Luke Gustafson, Levi Miller, Joseph Pilon; 3.29 to 3.00 – David Alvarado, Julia Breault, Clay Cole, Logan Hardwick, Takoda Hardwick, Rease Hubert, Jarrett LaCasse, Shelby LaCosse, Cassidy Micheau, Aleece Paulin, Wyatt Schwartz, Richelle Vandeville; **7<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Jared Anderson, Mason Berglund, Caitlyn Gimler, Brooke Harris, Rhiley Hubert, Ashlynn Pryal; 3.69 to 3.30 – Adrianna Breault, Erica Rubick, Robert Salka, Hana Vanlerberghe, Alexandria Viau; 3.29 to 3.00 – Carolyn Hamill, Madelyn Moss, Cameron Redburn, Austin Wicklund; **8<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Daniel Blair, Reinna Blair, Shannon Gould, Victoria Hagman, Dominique Pavlat, Brody Schroeder, Erika Schwartz, Brandon Sundstrom; 3.69 to 3.30 – Hannah Kanyuh, Alec Miller, Paige Schwartz; 3.29 to 3.00 – Hayley Brockway, Craig Martin, Taylor Paulin, Tessa Sundling; **9<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Aslynn Brockway, Taylor Hedges, Kendyl Miller, Paige Vietzke; 3.69 to 3.30 – Halie Hardwick, David Hough, Benjamin Rubick, Valerie Viau, Alexandra Williams, Laurel Zar; 3.29 to 3.00 – Lucas Bero, Andrea Gendron, Sawyer Johnson, Rachel LaCosse; **10<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Cassidy Gould, Josephine Miller; 3.69 to 3.30 – Rachel Hileman; 3.29 to 3.00 – Michael Boyer, Hayden Hardwick, Steven Lippold, Jacob Pearson; **11<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Neena Brockway, Emma Hagman, Mia Hill, Katrina Pavlat; 3.69 to 3.30 – Paige Jensen, Kristy Kerstner, Tyler McGuigan, Sidonie Scizak; 3.29 to 3.00 – Geno Constantino, Averil Kanyuh, Heather Keenan, Alex Person, Heather Pfiester, Rikki Stropich; **12<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Zachary Anderson, Travis Froberg, Taylor Hileman, Ashley Hough, Danyelle Keenan, Darrell Kohli, Audrey Larsen, Heather Sanderson; 3.69 to 3.30 – Tori Augsburg, Jacob Berglund, Kelly Bintner, Taylor Bintner, Jace Botsford,

Kade Botsford, Haley Gustafson, Kaylee Judson, Ashleigh Monticello, Mitchell Narkooli, Zachary Pavlat, Samantha Peterson, Kyle Williams, Shannon Wolf; 3.29 to 3.00 – Brett Bryant

### Second Quarter

**6<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Luke Gustafson, Daren Landis, Levi Miller, Joseph Pilon, Wyatt Schwartz; 3.69 to 3.30 – Julia Breault, Clay Cole, Logan Hardwick, Takoda Hardwick, Rease Hubert, Jarrett LaCasse, Cassidy Micheau, Aleece Paulin; 3.29 to 3.00 – Adam Cappaert, Mirielle Hill, Shelby LaCosse, Lauren Norberg, Sydney Siirila, Richelle Vandeville, Kailey Vietzke; **7<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Jared Anderson, Mason Berglund, Caitlyn Gimler, Brooke Harris, Rhiley Hubert, Ashlynn Pryal; 3.69 to 3.30 – Adrianna Breault, Cameron Redburn, Erica Rubick, Hana Vanlerberghe, Alexandria Viau, Austin Wicklund; 3.29 to 3.00 – Carolyn Hamill, Sean Harris, Madelyn Moss, Robert Salka; **8<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Daniel Blair, Reinna Blair, Shannon Gould, Dominique Pavlat, Erika Schwartz; 3.69 to 3.30 – Hayley Brockway, Victoria Hagman, Alec Miller, Brody Schroeder, Paige Schwartz, Tessa Sundling, Brandon Sundstrom; 3.29 to 3.00 – Hannah Kanyuh, Taylor Paulin; **9<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Aslynn Brockway, Kendyl Miller; 3.69 to 3.30 – Lucas Bero, Halie Hardwick, Taylor Hedges, Sawyer Johnson, Benjamin Rubick, Valerie Viau, Paige Vietzke, Alexandra Williams; 3.29 to 3.00 – David Hough, Rachel LaCosse; **10<sup>th</sup> grade** – 3.69 to 3.30 – Michael Boyer, Cassidy Gould, Rachel Hileman, Josephine Miller; 3.29 to 3.00 – Steven Lippold; **11<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Neena Brockway, Emma Hagman, Mia Hill, Kristy Kerstner, Katrina Pavlat; 3.69 to 3.30 – Paige Jensen, Heather Keenan, Tyler McGuigan, Heather Pfiester, Sidonie Scizak; 3.29 to 3.00 – Geno Constantino; **12<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Zachary Anderson, Travis Froberg, Taylor Hileman, Ashley Hough, Danyelle Keenan, Darrell Kohli, Audrey Larsen, Ashleigh Monticello, Heather Sanderson; 3.69 to 3.30 – Jacob Berglund, Haley Gustafson, Zachary Pavlat, Shannon

Wolf; 3.29 to 3.00 – Brett Bryant, Kyle Hunter, Kaylee Judson, Mitchell Narkooli, Samantha Peterson, Tyler Wicklund, Kyle Williams

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Come check out the Scholastic Book fair, March 1 - 9. Everyone is welcome. We will be open mornings 7:30 - 8:30 and afternoons 2:30 - 4:30. On March 6 we will stay open until 5:30. On March 9 we will only be open in the morning. If you can't make any of those days you can go on line at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/rapidriver>. This will take you right to the Rapid River book fair homepage. We will get credit for anything bought on line. If we reach our goal of \$3000 in sales we will receive 50% of all profit in books! See you there!

## INDIAN ED

Our tutorial program has been busy with many students coming to work with Mr. Pilon. Please encourage your child to continue to get this help if he/she needs it. Our program works with all students, both Native and non-Native. Please call us at 474-3572 if you have any questions.

CHI-MII-GWETCH to the **Sault Tribe** for its generous 2% grant money which will enable our tutoring and cultural program to continue through the remainder of the school year.

February 14<sup>th</sup> was Rapid River and Gladstone Indian Ed programs annual family tubing party at the Sports Park. Everyone had a great time! Thank you to all the families who brought bars or cookies to add to the meal of sloppy joes, beans and chips. We were pleased to see so many families enjoying this activity together.

## ELEMENTARY PARENTS

The supplies you provided your students at the beginning of the school year have been depleted. It would be appreciated if you would please re-supply your children with pencils and notebooks. Thank you.

## LIBRARY NEEDS

Please check your child's room or book bag for any overdue books from our library. Sometimes the children, especially the younger ones, need help in finding their library books at home.

We are still in need of more magazines as ours are a little "ragged" and aged. Young people enjoy Motocross, ATV, bow and rifle hunting, horse magazines, Newsweek, and TPA (Timber Producers Association). Thank you to Larry and Chris Lundin for their generous donation of a year's subscription to TIME magazine.

We also are in need of **headphones** as we are down to only one working set. If you have any that are not being used, it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate them to our library. Any donations of the above items are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off in either office or the library. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please call the library office at 474-3512.

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Congratulations to the Rapid River High School and Middle School Science Olympiad Teams. The annual event was held at Northern Michigan University on February 11, 2012. Both teams proudly represented our school in this academic endeavor. The Middle School Team placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall, earning top five finishes in 10 events including one gold medal and two bronze medals. The High School Team also placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall, earning top 5 finishes in 12 events including two gold medals and a bronze. The team rosters are as follows:

### Middle School Team –

Adrianna Breault, Alexandria Viau, Austin Wicklund, Brooke Harris, Caitlyn Gimler, Dominique Pavlat, Erika Schwartz, James Ayotte, Jared Anderson, Laurel Zar, Mason Berglund, Paige Schwartz, Robert Salka, Shannon Gould

### High School Team

Sidonie Scizak, Katrina Pavlat, Cassidy Gould, Rachel Hileman, Taylor Hileman, Robert Metter, Josie Miller, Mitch Narkooli, Alex Person, Lydia

Person, Micah Hill, Alisha Hirn, Valerie Viau, Tyler McGuigan

If you are interested in joining the Middle or High School Rapid River Science Olympiad Team as a participant, event coach, or volunteer, please contact Matthew Spreitzer at 474-6411 ext. 550.

## "THE ROCKET RACK"

On Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have our new room open containing gently used clothing available at no cost to our students. The room is located close to the High School Office and will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays 11:10 a.m. to 12:48 p.m. during the Jr. High and High School lunch periods. The room can be opened before and after school on a prearranged basis. Currently, we are in need of sturdy hangers. In the future, we will also be accepting donations of clean, gently used clothing as the need arises. If you are in need of clothing, would like to donate or just have a question, please contact Angie Casey or Kristie Stenlund at (906) 474-3515.

Also, a very sincere thank you goes out to all who have donated in the past to our "Families In Need" Program. It has been greatly appreciated.

## TITLE I

Title I and teachers recently reassessed all of our elementary students using Dibels assessments. The results were very promising. The "Response to Intervention" programs have been going well. All grades significantly improved and our 35 second graders did a complete flip from a year and a half ago. Mrs. Viau's class now has 77% reading at benchmark (grade level)! For the last couple years our staff has really been concentrating on how each child learns and then making adjustments according to their progress. Thanks to teachers, aides, and parents...we really can make a difference!

## ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS

There will be a free Zumba fitness class on March 16 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Rapid River School. All ages welcome! No experience necessary!

## LIBRARY NEWS

The RREA and the Support Staff recently made generous donations of books to the Library in recognition of the Rapid River School Board during National School Board Week. These included several good "How To Draw" books, an Illustrated History of the Civil War, Hiking Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and Motorcycling Across Michigan, A Guide.

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Our library is still in need of responsible and dependable adult volunteers. If you have some spare time to work in the library one day a week on a regular basis, even for only a few hours, please call the library office at 474-3512 and leave a message.

## 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 2011** - Christian Harris

**Class of 2012** - Haley Gustafson, Danyelle Keenan, Brett Bryant, and Audrey Larsen.

**Class of 2013** - Mia Hill, Kristy Kerstner, Tyler McGuigan, and Katrina Pavlat

**Class of 2014** - Cassidy Gould and Josephine Miller

The following students have met the above requirement for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and have earned their **academic pins**:

**Class of 2012** - Taylor Hileman, Ashley Hough, Darrell Kohli and Travis Froberg

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

School Improvement Team

## REPORT CARDS

Third quarter report cards for grades 6-12 will be given out on Friday, March 29.

