

# REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

May 2013

## SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Although we wouldn't know it by the weather, the school year is quickly coming to a close.

Our spring sports have had a difficult time with early cancellations, but now things should be ramping up to full speed. We hope to see the stands full as our Rockets put their athletic talents on display.

As we prepare for the end of the school year, a major focus of the summer will be on initiating several of the building projects that are included in the February Bond Election. In addition to a number of building renovations, we are excited to be looking at a number of innovative instructional technologies that will enable us to better meet the educational needs of our students.

Although this year has been quite busy, it has been a privilege for me to have been welcomed into the Rocket family. Enjoy the summer, and I certainly look forward to building on the relationships that I have been able to establish this year.

Dr. Jay Kulbertis  
Superintendent

## THANK YOU

-to the following groups for contributing financially to the Rapid River Reach Out: Indian Education, PTC, Rapid River Sports Boosters, School Improvement and Key Club.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 1** – Rapid River Sports Boosters mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the library.

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

**May 8** – Sports Physicals, Gladstone

**May 13** – School Board mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

**May 27** – No School – Memorial Day

**June 4** – Last Day of School; 11:30 Dismissal (pending approval from Michigan Department of Education); Breakfast will be served; No lunch

## REPORT CARDS/DIPLOMAS

Report cards for grades 6-12 along with diplomas will be ready starting June 12 in the high school office. They will not be mailed. They may be picked up by either a parent or the student. Any money due will need to be paid in order to pick up your report card/diploma. The high school office will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for June and August and closed in July.

## MDS CAA EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Rapid River Early Childhood Program will be taking applications for the 2013/2014 school year. You may apply May 7 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Rapid River Public School Room 169. Your child must be 3 or 4 years old on or before November 1, 2013. Please bring proof of household income (ALL sources) from the previous 12 months or from 2012. You will also need to bring your child's birth certificate.

Keep in mind we serve families of a variety of incomes through our Head Start and GSRP programs. If you are unable to apply on the above date or have any questions please call 474-3538 or 786-7080.

## SENIOR EVENTS

**May 20** - Last day of class for Seniors; all fines and lunch accounts need to be paid by this day. Locks, textbooks and library books must be turned in. **All luggage for the class trip must be brought to school May 20 or to the awards program.**

**May 20** - Senior Awards Program, 7:30 p.m. in the elementary gym (All Seniors who applied for scholarships MUST ATTEND.)

**May 21 & 22** - Senior Class Trip

**May 24** - Senior Breakfast 8:30 a.m.; Graduation rehearsal & decorating to follow

**May 25** - Graduation, 7:00 p.m. in the H.S. gym

## UPDATE ON CANCELLED SCHOOL DAYS

Even with all of the cancelled school days, our goal for the end of the school year is to keep our scheduled calendar the same for students (11:30 a.m. dismissal on Tuesday June 4, 2013). This plan is dependent upon approval from the Michigan Department of Education and we are confident that we will be notified soon. As soon as we receive confirmation from the State, we will update the district's website. Please visit the district's home page at [www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us](http://www.rapidriver.k12.mi.us) for this information in the upcoming weeks.

## **SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Regular Mtg., February 11, 2013**

Mrs. Beth Larson and 5<sup>th</sup> graders Cole Gustafson, Avery Closs, Hayden LaCasse, Brooke Lancour, Gavin Stumpf and Garrett Novak explained their plans for an overnight trip to Clear Lake Science Camp.

Senior Class Advisor Cara Brockway and senior class representative Neena Brockway explained the proposed itinerary for the Senior Class Trip to Chicago, Illinois May 21-22, 2013.

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

- to approve the Legal Reference Note as presented.
- to approve the 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Clear Lake Science camp on May 9-10, 2013.
- to approve the Senior Class Trip to Chicago, Illinois May 21-22, 2013 contingent upon overnight trip requirements being met.
- to accept a \$2,000 donation from former student Joseph Mead, matched by his employer Applied Materials, Inc., for a total donation of \$4,000.

### **Regular Mtg., March 11, 2013**

Superintendent Jay Kulbertis updated board members on the following:

-administration and staff will be focusing on finishing up this year plus developing and planning the 2013/14 school year. Staff is energized and willing to help in the process.

Acting President Ryan Bruursema appointed Karen Lundquist to represent the board on the 2013 Scholarship Selection Committee.

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

- to approve the 2012/13 General Fund and Food Service budget revisions as presented.

-to approve the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Bonds, Delegations of the Sale and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

### **Regular Mtg., April 8, 2013**

Superintendent Jay Kulbertis updated board members on the following:

- finance timeline for construction project.
- pre-bond sale meeting 4/18/13, finalize sale 4/19/13, and have resolution ready for the May Board meeting.
- meeting with Integrated Designs Inc. to set timelines for 2013, 2014, 2015 construction project.
- State has passed no new legislation.

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

- authorizing radio advertising for Schools of Choice students on three FM stations for last two weeks of May, first two weeks of June and the month of August. Cost not to exceed \$1,000.
- to accept the retirement notification of Sandra Deneau effective October 1, 2013.

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

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to all the students who participated in our yearly Talent Show! We have some impressive students who sang, played the piano, wrote poetry, danced, and kept us entertained. A big thank you goes to Beth Larson who puts this together every year in her "spare time," and does a remarkable job. Thank you to the many student and parent helpers involved, as well. Great Job!

Congratulations to ALL the art students who have work on display at the Bonifas Youth in Art show. We had a fantastic turn out with over 20 students in attendance at the art opening. It was great to see the overwhelming support from both

students and parents. In the end, the Rapid River art students took home 10 awards in all. Individual awards went to: Lexie Schroeder, Rikki Stropich, Neena Brockway, Kendyl Miller, Halie Hardwick, Elizabeth Veatch, Erica Rubick, and Shelby LaCasse. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade class won 2 separate awards for a group tessellation project. Congratulations again to all those who participated. Also, thank you to our community for the donations given to our art department. We appreciate your support!

The Delta/Schoolcraft ISD sponsored a poster contest (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) and video contest (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) to encourage students to create compelling media addressing personal, family, or community problems related to substance abuse and/or bullying. Rapid River Schools is proud to recognize our winners of the Delta/Schoolcraft Substance Abuse Awareness Contest.

Congratulations to:

- 4<sup>th</sup> grade** -Allison Gustafson (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and Cecilia Pilon (4<sup>th</sup> place)
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade** - Brooke Landis (honorable mention) and Braydon Moss (4<sup>th</sup> place)
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade** - Jenna Rubick (honorable mention), Brianna Beauchaine (4<sup>th</sup> place), Willow Kinney (4<sup>th</sup> place) and Erica Proehl (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade** - Taylor Hedges, Allie Williams, & Breanne McNally (honorable mention), Faith Triest (honorable mention), Kendra LaMarque (4<sup>th</sup> place), Savannah LaMarque, Megan Evans, & Brittany McNally (4<sup>th</sup> place), Megan Evans, Erika Schwartz, & Shannon Gould (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Dominique Pavlat (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade** - Robert Metter (4<sup>th</sup> place), Rachel Hileman and Robert Metter (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Tyler Culliton and Zachory Dominique (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

## CLASSROOM

### *"Bits & Pieces"*

March is always a busy and exciting time for Rapid River Elementary. This year's March Reading theme was "A Recipe for Good Health." Our teachers and food nutritionist, Tracie Abram came up with lots of things to do that encouraged healthy minds and bodies. We had a Zumba dance class with Michelle Czygan which was lots of fun and got the oxygen moving towards our brains! Did you check out Mrs. Sauve's wonderful wall mural at the end of the hallway? It gave us plenty of good information. We had a week of sledding during recess with all of the snow this year! Students were presented with a program about train safety and Representative Ed McBroom came to read to our students and tell them about farming and the political process.

Look for our very own "Favorite Recipes Book," which the students, with the help of Mrs. Hadel's high school students and the P.T.C., have put together and will be selling.

Besides having fun this month with special treats and activities, we encouraged one of the most important things we can do for our minds and well-being: challenge ourselves to turn off T.V. and game screens. Let's read and get our bodies moving! Thanks for encouraging this at home.

In **Kindergarten** we have worked very hard on learning to put sounds together to make words, and our beginning reading skills are coming along very nicely. We are currently working on writing kindergarten number books. They are titled "Countdown At The Pond!" There is lots of great pond life illustrated and good "Kid Writing" presented. We are excited

to be authors and illustrators in kindergarten!

The **first grade** has enjoyed having Mrs. Abram talk to our class about healthy food choices. Mrs. Abram has taught us about the different food groups, healthy food choices, and the amount of food we should eat from each food group. We enjoyed the variety of healthy snacks Mrs. Abram brought to sample.

The first grade class is reading like crazy! We started the Accelerated Reader program and the children LOVE it!

**Second grade** will be finishing the year with lots of projects including measuring, drawing dinosaurs and hatching baby chicks, which is exciting for the whole school!

Mrs. McKnight's **third graders** are studying hemispheres and reading about Antarctica. They went outside and made snow forts. They enjoyed a non-school outing with families on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> where they hiked into the Eben Ice Caves.

Mrs. Wolf's **third grade** math class has been learning real-life fractions using Hershey bars and making granola bars. A single batch is never enough so we had to double our amounts and add up those fractions.

**Fourth grade** reading classes practiced thank you letter-writing and Venn Diagrams.

Mrs. Sauve's **fourth grade** had the opportunity to learn about and try out some interesting Native American culture with Flo Cutter and the Indian Education Program. They had a scavenger hunt in the library while looking for information. They are also working on Lighthouse projects. Parents and kids had some bonding time at home while reading literature about the Upper Peninsula.

**Fifth grade** is beginning to make the adjustments to include more independence so they'll be ready to

move to the "big end" of the school next year! They are also working hard to raise money in order to attend Clear Lake. The overnight experience with many empowering activities will be one they will never forget!

## ATHLETIC EVENTS

### High School Track

#### May

9	Rapid River Invite	2:00
10	Gladstone Night Meet	6:30
14	Bark River Invitational	2:00
16	Rapid River Regionals	2:00
22	Bark River Frosh/Soph	2:00
24	N. Dickinson Skyline	2:00

#### June

1	UP Finals Kingsford	TBA
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### Junior High Track

#### May

6	Mid Pen Class D Invite	1:30
13	Rapid River Cup	1:30

### Girls' Softball

#### May

6	Marquette	Home	4:00
7	Gladstone	Home	4:00
13	Munising	Away	4:00
14	Sup Central	Away	4:00
15	Marquette	Away	4:00
18	Escanaba	Away	*10:00
23	Munising	Home	4:00

\*a.m.

## INDIAN ED

It's been great to see so many students and teachers taking advantage of our excellent tutor, Mr. Pilon! Please encourage your student to seek out the extra help if they need it. In many cases it's just a matter of getting them caught up on some things.

If anyone is wondering what the next cultural activity is going to be at the Dale Thomas Center, please contact Pat Hardwick at 474-6696.

Congratulations to Indian Ed's graduating seniors Geno Constantino, Christopher Morgan, Katrina Pavlat, Lexie Schroeder, and Rikki Stropich.

## LIBRARY

As the school year draws to a close, please help your child look for library books that may still be at home. The younger children especially have a difficult time remembering where they put their books or even if they had brought them back. As notices come home, please help them with this. If books can't be found, please call us at 474-3512 and we will work something out. Thank you!

Many thanks to volunteers Janet Lundin, Karen Lundquist, Paul Schram, Chelsea Dalgord, and student James Ayotte. The library wouldn't be able to function without their wonderful help!

## THIRD QUARTER HONOR ROLL

**6<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Erica Proehl, Jenna Rubick; 3.69 to 3.30 – Riley Christianson, Alyssa Deneau, Philip Monticello, Brittany Schwartz, Jaden Schwartz, Sherry Vandeville; 3.29 to 3.00 – Cassidy Berg, Christopher Hardwick, Brent Lundquist, Nathaniel Olson, Gavin Scizak, Nathan Sundling, Alexis Trombley

**7<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Clay Cole, Luke Gustafson, Rease Hubert, Daren Landis, Levi Miller, Joseph Pilon; 3.69 to 3.30 – Julia Breault, Elizabeth Goodacre, Takoda Hardwick, Gavin Harris, Weston Hedges, Mirielle Hill, Emily Johnson; 3.29 to 3.00 – David Alvarado, Rachel Bintner, Logan Hardwick, Shelby LaCosse, Cassidy Micheau, Aleece Paulin, Wyatt Schwartz, Richelle Vandeville, Kailey Vietzke

**8<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Jared Anderson, Mason Berglund, Rhiley Hubert, Ashlynn Pryal, Erica Rubick; 3.69 to 3.30 – Adrianna Breault, Brooke Harris, Alexandria

Viau; 3.29 to 3.00 – Conner Bryant, Cameron Redburn, Robert Salka, Hana Vanlerberghe

**9<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Daniel Blair, Reinna Blair, Shannon Gould, Victoria Hagman, Dominique Pavlat, Erika Schwartz, Brandon Sundstrom; 3.69 to 3.30 – Hayley Brockway, Megan Evans, Hannah Kanyuh, Alec Miller, Brody Schroeder, Tessa Sundling; 3.29 to 3.00 – Michael Larsen, Craig Martin, Taylor Paulin

**10<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Aslynn Brockway, Lydia Froberg, Kendyl Miller; 3.69 to 3.30 – Andrea Gendron, Halie Hardwick, Taylor Hedges, David Hough, Benjamin Rubick, Valerie Viau, Paige Vietzke, Alexandra Williams; 3.29 to 3.00 – Lucas Bero, Hailie Couillard, Rachel LaCosse; Joshua Parrett

**11 grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Steven Lippold, Josephine Miller, Jacob Pearson; 3.69 to 3.30 – Michael Boyer, Cassidy Gould, Hayden Hardwick, Rachel Hileman, Savannah Stenlund; 3.29 to 3.00 – Cheyene Linder; Veronica Winling-Schram

**12 grade** – 4.00 to 3.70 – Neena Brockway, Emma Hagman, Mia Hill, Averi Kanyuh, Heathar Keenan, Kristy Kerstner, Sidonie Scizak; 3.69 to 3.30 – Geno Constantino, Paige Jensen, Robert Metter, Katrina Pavlat, Heather Pfiester, Rikki Stropich; 3.29 to 3.00 – Zachory Dominique, Tyler McGuigan, Christopher Morgan, Alex Person, Lexie Schroeder

## THIRD QUARTER 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ACADEMIC AWARDS

**4<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – Allison Gustafson, Cecilia Pilon; A-B's – Natalie Belanger, Hannah Casey, Griffin Flath, Derek LaBumbard, Ahna Larson, Myah Pearson; **Bug Award (improved one grade without dropping in any other areas)** – Cecilia Pilon;

**Perfect Attendance** – Morgan Anderson, Belicia Brown, Aiden Christianson, Allison Gustafson, Emma Lambert, Matthew Salka  
**5<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – Avery Closs, Lucas Gendron, Brooke Lancour, Brooke Landis, Braydon Moss, Garrett Novak; **Bug Award** - Siera Balko, Avery Closs, Kristin Goodacre, Brooke Lancour, Brooke Landis, Paige Raspor; **Perfect Attendance** – Cole Gustafson, Hunter Schafer

## SPORTS PHYSICALS

Annual sports examinations will be May 8 at 5:30 p.m. for girls and 7:15 p.m. for boys at the Gladstone High School.

The bus for the girls will leave the school at 5:00 p.m. and return at approximately 6:45 p.m. The boys will leave at 6:50 p.m. and return at approximately 8:45 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2013/14 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. Please have physicals done over the summer and drop off a copy to the H.S. office.

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

