

REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

October/November 2013

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

The 2013-14 school year is off to a great start and we invite everybody to become involved in our school activities.

First, check out our schedule of school activities and home athletic events. We have a terrific group of hard-working athletes who would love to have your support, with Football and Volleyball at the high school, and Basketball at the Junior High. Also, our PTC is always looking for parents with some time and an interest in supporting our school.

Also, the Rapid River Lions Club will once again be hosting the annual activities fund raising dinner on November 2. Please plan to support this important fund raiser, as all of the proceeds for this event go directly to support the student activities at the Rapid River Schools.

There are a couple of "new faces" in the elementary classrooms. Rachal Gustafson has joined our team to provide Special Education instruction, and Travis Dubord is providing our Elementary Music. We are pleased to have these fine additions to the staff.

For those still searching for pre-school options, we are working with Grace Church out of Gladstone and plan to house their pre-school program on our site. If interested, please contact Little Light of Mine Preschool directly at 428-9482.

Dr. Jay Kulbertis
Superintendent

PTC NEWS

The PTC's Fall Fundraiser is going on until October 10. It is Believe Kids. They have a catalog filled with a variety of items such as candy, wrapping paper and decorating items. Have fun shopping and support the Rapid River PTC.

We are in the process of getting new people into officer positions and are looking forward to another successful year. The next meeting is Monday, October 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

LIONS' CLUB FUND RAISER

The school district, in conjunction with the Rapid River Lions Club, will be holding its 3rd annual activities fund raising dinner on Saturday, November 2nd. The event is being held at the Rapid River Lions Club. The doors will open at 4:00 p.m. and dinner will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Cost of the dinner is as follows: adults \$10.00, children ages six to ten years \$5.00 and under five are free. Tickets will be sold by staff and student groups or call the high school office at 474-6411. Tickets will also be sold at the door the day of the event and take out will be available. There will be 50/50 and other drawings. All proceeds from the dinner will be used to support student activities in the Rapid River School. Please join us for a delicious spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings on November 2nd.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences will be Thursday, November 7 from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Notes will be sent home with scheduled times for K-5 students.

Grades 6-12 parents may pick up their student's report card in the high school office. No appointments will be made. If parents are unable to attend, the student will receive his/her report card the following day. Lunch will be served prior to a noon dismissal.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2 – Rapid River Sports Boosters mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the library.

October 7 – PTC mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

October 14 – School Board mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

October 11 – No School – Teacher In-Service

October 31 – Trick or Treat, 4:00–6:00 p.m.; Halloween Carnival, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

November 4 – PTC mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

November 6 – Rapid River Sports Boosters mtg., 5:30 p.m. in the library.

November 7 – Noon Dismissal – Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 11 – School Board mtg., 6:30 p.m. in the library.

November 15 – No School – U.P. Holiday

November 27, 28, & 29 – No School – Thanksgiving Break

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Varsity Football

October

11	Sup. Central	Home	7:00
		Homecoming	
18	Mid Pen	Home	7:00
25	Bellaire	Away	7:00

J.V. Football

October

18	Engadine	Home	4:00
----	----------	------	------

Volleyball

October

10	S. Central/Carney	Home	5:00
15	S. Central/Carney	Away	5:15
		Sup. Central	

17	CFFP	Away	*5:00
22	N. Dickinson	Home	6:00
28	Gladstone (JV)	Home	6:00
29	Mid Pen/ Big Bay	Home	5:00
30	N. Central	Home	6:00

Girls' Junior High Basketball

October

3	Munising	Away	6:00
7	Big Bay	Away	6:00
8	Gladstone	Away	6:00
14	Manistique	Home	6:00
21	Sup. Central	Away	6:00
22	Mid Pen	Away	6:00

Boys' Junior High Basketball

October

24	Mid Pen	Home	6:00
----	---------	------	------

November

4	Manistique	Away	6:00
7	Munising	Away	6:00
11	Big Bay	Home	6:00
12	Gladstone	Home	6:00
14	Sup. Central	Away	6:00
18	Mid Pen	Away	6:00
19	Sup. Central	Home	6:00
21	Gladstone	Away	6:00

Girls' JV & Varsity Basketball

December

3	MidPen	Away	6:00
---	--------	------	------

*Central Time

SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Mtg., August 12, 2013

Superintendent Jay Kulbertis updated board members as follows:

- the bond project is underway – most carpeting is installed and sidewalk replacement is taking place now.
- the consolidation of Rapid River's and Gladstone's business offices has already begun in preparation for the retirement of Rapid River's business manager.

Motion made and approved:

- to certify the 2013 tax levies as 18.00 non-homestead mills; 2.80 mills for the 2012 (original 1999 debt), 1.85 mills for the 2007 debt and 1.75 mills for the 2013 debt.
- to approve the administrative contracts for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Regular Mtg., September 9, 2013

Superintendent Jay Kulbertis updated board members as follows:

- met with Bay College Staff to review student evaluations and to develop a method to track high school graduates.

Mrs. Joy McKnight presented the 2012/13 Annual Education Report.

Motion made and approved:

- to approve the purchase of the man lift from Midway Rentals in the amount of \$24,592.
- to approve retrofitting the kitchen sink in the main cafeteria by MG Mechanical in the amount of \$4,800.
- to approve the 2013/2014 Best practices Resolution as presented.
- to approve the bid from Nasi Roofing in the amount of \$167,500 to install a mechanically fastened membrane roofing system over existing shingles and wood deck of the pitched roof. Motion did not carry.
- to approve the bid from Rapid Electric in the amount of \$87,439 to install new site lighting.
- to approve the bid from Range Telecommunications in the amount of \$15,139.24 for the high school gymnasium sound system.
- to approve the bids from KI Furniture and HPS, Inc. for cafeteria and miscellaneous tables for a total cost of approximately \$21,000.
- to authorize Superintendent Kulbertis to develop a contract for the Assistant Business manager position.

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

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 for a second time and were awarded their academic pins:

Class of 2013- Neena Brockway, Mia Hill and Kristy Kerstner have earned their academic pin "Lamp of Knowledge". Your pins are in the High School Office.

Class of 2014- Josephine Miller earned her academic pin "Lamp of Knowledge".

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

School Improvement Team

INDIAN ED

Our tutoring program is in full-swing, with Mr. Pilon being available from 10-3 Monday through Thursday. Please encourage your child to seek help from Mr. Pilon before they get behind on any school work. K-5 students are already on a schedule with Mr. Pilon through their respective teachers, but parents/guardians may also request help. Call our office at 474-3572 with any questions or concerns.

Also, please check out Indian Ed's showcase by the library. Mrs. Cutter is showcasing pre-colonization traditional foods (to overcome the frybread stereotype) and NMU's Center for Native American Studies (CNAS). It's very informative and well-done.

LIBRARY

Children are now checking out books, so please do your part in not only reading to them or having them read to you, but to **PLEASE** make sure the library book(s) are *put back in their school bag to be returned to school*. We want to encourage the children to read, but we also can't allow them to take books out if others aren't returned yet. Please help to ensure your child can continue to check out books.

We are also in need of more recent magazines in the areas of dirt bike racing, horses, hunting, and sports. These are the subjects most of the students are interested in. If you have any you can donate, the library would greatly appreciate it. Please

drop them off in either office, the library, or your child's classroom. Thank you.

HOMEcoming

Homecoming 2013 will be Friday, October 11th and Saturday, October 12th. The Homecoming Game is Friday at 7:00 p.m. against the Superior Central Cougars. The Fan Club will be holding a tailgate party prior to the game starting at 5:30 p.m., everyone is invited to attend, a free-will donation is appreciated. The Homecoming Dance will be Saturday from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the school's elementary gymnasium. This year's theme is "Under The Sea".

The Homecoming court consists of: Freshmen-Adrianna Breault and Sean Harris; Sophomores-Shannon Gould and George Kanyuh; Juniors-Emily Hickman and Zachary Evans; Seniors-Cassidy Gould, Josie Miller, Veronica Schram, Hannah Micheau, Steven Lippold, Jake Pearson, Jordan Green, and Patrick Pryal.

The King and Queen will be crowned during the halftime program of the football game.

Homecoming week activities for grades 6-12 include: Friday-Yooper Day, Monday-Gender/Bender Day, Tuesday-Color Day, Wednesday-Cartoon/Super Hero Day, and Thursday-Purple and Gold Day. Activities include a Volleyball competition, Powder Puff Football and Pep Assembly.

There will be a float decorating competition for grades 9-12. Judging will take place on Friday afternoon and the winner announced during the football game.

KEY CLUB ADVISOR

We are currently seeking a Key Club Advisor for the 2013/14 school year. Anyone interested please contact the central office at 474-6411.

THANK YOU

The Rapid River Elementary Staff would like to thank our PTC and all who purchased items through our various fundraisers. With these funds we were able to purchase a laminating machine, a die-cut machine and an industrial paper shredder. It feels like Christmas to us! Without the PTC's support this would not be possible. Thank you.

HALLOWEEN

Trick or Treat will be October 31 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. The carnival will follow from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.