

# REACH OUT RAPID RIVER

Rapid River Public School's Newsletter

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**March/April 2016**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

**March 14** – School Board mtg. – 6:30 p.m. in the library.

**March 25** – **Good Friday** – No School

**March 28** – **April 1** - No School – Spring Break

**April 4** - PTC mtg. - 5:30 p.m. in the elementary teacher's lounge.

**April 6** – Rapid River Sports Boosters mtg. - 4:30 p.m. in the library.

**April 11** – School Board mtg. - 6:30 p.m. in the library.

## **MARCH READING MONTH**

Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> the PTC held a free ice cream social featuring games, Book Bucks, face painting & more. March 1st was our Kick-Off Breakfast where parents and their child enjoyed breakfast and a book. Our hard-working PTC sponsored this "Groovy" Book Fair with many games and activities for families.

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Registration for children who will be five by September 1, 2016 will be held on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – 3:00. Children who will be five by December 1, 2016 can also register with a signed waiver.

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.

## **SCHOOL NURSE**

Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> was my last day at Rapid River School. I would like to say thank you to everyone for allowing me to care for your children for the past 16 years. It has been a pleasure. I will miss the students and staff very much! If your child has a health concern at school, please contact either the high school or elementary office at 474-6411.

Most Sincerely,  
Kristie L. Stenlund, MSN

## **PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Head Start and Little Light of Mine Preschool are two preschool options for Rapid River families. Both programs are located at the school. Please contact Cyndi Lundquist at 474-3538 if you have questions about either program or are interested in completing an application for enrollment.

## **SPRING BREAK**

There will be no school beginning Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday). Classes will resume on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **PROM 2016**

The 2016 Prom will be Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-11:00 p.m. in the Elementary Gym.

## **FUZZBUSTER GAME**

Rapid River Senior class will take on local law enforcement for the annual Fuzzbuster game, Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m. in the high school gym. There will be contests and activities for all ages. Proceeds will benefit the Senior class.

## **ELEMENTARY NEWS**

In January, our elementary staff once again gave the Dibels Assessments to determine all students' progress. Nice gains were made! This was also the time we discussed and looked over the reports to see where an individual student may need some extra help. We call these time periods "interventions", where small groups work on specific needs. We want all students to hopefully get the help they need. If you are interested in what your child is doing specifically in their group or wish for some additional ideas at home, please contact Mrs. Karen Wolf at 474-3547.

## **SALMON PROJECT**

The Rapid River School is participating once again in the SIC (Salmon in the Classroom) Program. We went to get our eyed eggs from Thompson Fish Hatchery in November. The students have enjoyed watching our Chinook salmon go through each stage of development. We started with approximately 215 eyed eggs. We have approximately 200 swim up fry in our tank at this time.

Mr. Ostrenga and Ms. Larson work together to teach our students about the fish development process. In the spring, we release the fish into the Escanaba Harbor. The UP

Sport Fisherman group has been vital in sponsoring us with this program. They helped fund our chiller unit. The tank is in the high school biology lab if you are interested in stopping to see the progress of this project.

## **RR GIRLS SOFTBALL**

If you happen to be dining at Jack's Restaurant any Wednesday evening in March, please mention you support the Rapid River Girls Softball team and 10% of your bill will be donated back to the team. This money will go directly to the Rapid River Softball program. Go Rockets!

## **INDIAN ED**

The GladRap Indian Ed programs had their annual family tubing party February 2<sup>nd</sup> and it was great to see how many families enjoyed the activity despite the bad weather. Over the span of 26 years, last year was the first time we didn't have the tubing party (bitter cold).

Thank you to those who responded you would like our program to continue its academic focus. Mr. Pilon has been very busy working with many students in both high school and elementary. It's gratifying to see many of them improve their grades, some dramatically. If you feel your son/daughter needs some extra help, please contact Mr. Pilon or Lollie Eskofski at 474-3572.

Mr. Dave Keller is planning cultural projects for some of our elementary grades. This includes the annual 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sacred Fire/Plant Walk in May. Our cultural program and the latter half of the academic year is funded through the Sault Tribe's 2% grant. We are very thankful for their generosity.

Our program will have its first Spring Feast/Awards dinner sometime in April, as Escanaba and Gladstone programs have done for years. More information will be coming home once we have set a date.

## **EXXON MOBIL GRANT**

For the fourth year, Rapid River Public Schools received a \$500 grant from ExxonMobil. ExxonMobil became a founding sponsor of the National Math and Science Initiative in 2007 which focuses on dramatically improving math and science education in the U.S.

We would like to thank Shannon Edwardsen and Kelly Dittrich of the Rapid River Mini Mart for nominating our school to receive this grant. Your support of Rapid River Schools is greatly appreciated.

## **REPORT CARDS**

Third quarter report cards for grades 6-12 will be given out on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

## RR SCHOOLS SURVEY

We would like your input to help us improve the operations at Rapid River Schools. Please go to the following link to take a brief survey:

Community Survey:

<http://advanc-ed.org/survey/public/6618737>

Parent Survey:

<http://www.advanc-ed.org/survey/public/7518544>

If you don't have internet service, we ask that you pick up a paper copy in the elementary office or have a student bring a copy to you. Thank you in advance, we value your input.

## SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

### Regular Meeting January 11, 2016

Beth Larson thanked Board members, on behalf of the RREA, for their service. Beth presented them with a chocolate bar and a thank you note.

**Motion made and approved:**  
-to roll over board positions as they were for 2015.

**President** – Karen Lundquist

**Vice President** – Michelle Denkins

**Secretary** – Edwin LaCosse

**Treasurer** – Wayne Christoff  
-to appoint members to various sub-committees and other various committees –  
Transportation: Edwin LaCosse, Albert Wickham, Jake Stenlund

**Finance:** Karen Lundquist, Michelle Denkins, George Kanyuh

**Building & Grounds:** Edwin LaCosse, Albert Wickham, Wayne Christoff

**Policy & Personnel:** Karen Lundquist, Wayne Christoff, Jake Stenlund

**Dual Superintendency:** Karen Lundquist, George Kanyuh (Michelle Denkins – alternate)  
-to hold regular monthly meetings on the second Monday of every month (with the exception of November) at 6:30 p.m. in the Tri-Township School Library.

### Regular Meeting February 8, 2016

5<sup>th</sup> grade students Lexie VanOss, Austin Rafuse & Carter Sisson provided details on the 5<sup>th</sup> grade overnight Clear Lake trip request.

James Ayotte provided details on the Key Club District Convention overnight trip request.

Board members discussed the current Superintendent's Evaluation Tool.

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

-to approve the 5<sup>th</sup> grade overnight Clear Lake trip request.

-to accept letter of resignation from Kristie Stenlund.

-to approve the Key Club District Convention overnight trip request.

-to accept donations from Gladstone Kiwanis, Boy Scouts and Kathy Paul.

For complete minutes go to our website at

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

## LIBRARY

Thanks to donations of money in memory of the late Sheila MacFarlane, sister-in-law of our Mike MacFarlane, and Marian Martens, we've been able to update our middle school biography section in addition to some new Wimpy Kids books that are so popular with the upper elementary. Donated funds and the generosity of the Gladstone / Rapid River Kiwanis Club is the major source of income to purchase books for our library.

Please make sure your child brings his/her library books back on a weekly basis. We'll simply renew it if it isn't finished.

Already many of our younger students are telling us they forgot the book at home, so we would greatly appreciate if you help them with this responsibility. Designate a place at home where library books go so you or your child knows where to put/find it to bring back to school.

If there are any questions or concerns with overdue notices, please call the library at 474-3512 and leave a message and phone number if we are not available. We want to encourage reading/being read to. Thank you!

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

**4<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – Everett Belanger

**A-B's** – Tucker Carlson, Erin Dedic

**Bug Award** – Erin Dedic, Tyler Trombley

**Perfect Attendance** – Everett Belanger, Morgan Dawley, Erin Dedic, Evan Horwitz, Nathan Moore, Nickolas Raspor, Gabe Stumpf, Leondrea Vietzke

**5<sup>th</sup> grade** – All A's – Eliana Junttila

**A-B's** – Madison Couillard, Austin Rafuse, Monica Thibault, Lee Parrett

**Bug Award** – Eliana Junttila, Mary McNally

**Perfect Attendance** – Cydnie Carignan, Madison Couillard, Imara DeGrand, Walter Kahl, Karmyn Schwartz

## **SECOND QUARTER HONOR ROLL MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL**

**6<sup>th</sup> grade** - 4.0 to 3.70 – Bryce Buchbinder, Addie Christoff, Maddison Kee, Gabrielle Moss, Corey Novak; 3.69 to 3.30 – Jersie Segerstrom; 3.29 to 3.00 – Jace Holmio, Logan Lancour, Gracie Stemick;

**7<sup>th</sup> grade** 4.0 to 3.70 – Hannah Casey, Griffin Flath, Allison Gustafson, Ahna Larson, Myah Pearson, Cecilia Pilon, Shania Poore, Franklin Thibault,

Taylor VanOss; 3.69 to 3.30 – Madison Axtell, Calvin Thibault; 3.29 to 3.00 – Aiden Christianson, Riley Edwardsen, Ismael Hernandez, Derek LaBumbard, Dylan LaBumbard, Benjamin Lenaker, Maxwell Lenaker, Ethan Letourneau

**8<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.0 to 3.70 – Lucas Gendron, Brooke Landis, Garrett Novak; 3.69 to 3.30 Azariah Hernandez, Brooke Lancour, Braydon Moss; 3.29 to 3.00 – Avery Closs, Mya Paulin;

**9<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.0 to 3.70 – Audrey Naeyaert, Gwen Naeyaert, Jenna Rubick, Emily Thibault, Erica Proehl ; 3.69 to 3.30 – Riley Christianson, Brittany Schwartz; 3.29 to 3.00 – Joseph Davis-Holzenkamp, Alyssa Deneau, Leonard Menary, Phillip Monticello, Christina Olson, Jaden Schwartz, Sherry Vandeville;

**10<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.0 to 3.70 – Daren Landis, Levi Miller; 3.69 to 3.30 – Julia Breault, Luke Gustafson, Logan Hardwick, J.J. Pilon; 3.29 to 3.00 – Takoda Hardwick, Gavin Harris, Rease Hubert, Emily Johnson, Shelby LaCosse

**11<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.0 to 3.70 – Jared Anderson, Adrianna Breault, Rhiley Hubert, Ashlynn Pryal, Erica Rubick, Hana Vanlerberghe, Alexandria Viau; 3.69 to 3.30 – Madison Bagwell, Mason Berglund, Conner Bryant, Madelyn Moss

**12<sup>th</sup> grade** – 4.0 to 3.70 – Daniel Blair, Reinna Blair, Megan Evans, Shannon Gould,

Victoria Hagman, Hannah Kanyuh, Lindsay Knuth, Craig Martin, Alec Miller, Dominique Pavlat, Erika Schwartz; 3.69 to 3.30 – Hayley Brockway, George Kanyuh, Brody Schroeder, Tessa Sundling, Alec Sundstrom, Brandon Sundstrom; 3.29 to 3.00 - Riley Gustafson, Taylor Paulin

## **STUDENT OF THE QUARTER**

The School Improvement Team is announcing this quarter's "Student of the Quarter" for 9 –12 graders. Each quarter, teachers from each department (Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Physical Education and Fine Arts) 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 that were selected for the 2nd Quarter of the 2015/2016 school year:

Adrianna Breault (Science), Alexandria Viau (English), Taylor Paulin (Fine Arts), Mason Kennedy (Physical Education), Rease Hubert (Math), and Erica Rubick (Social Studies).

Teacher of the Quarter:

Mrs. Julie Pilon. Congratulations!

