

MAY 2017

VOLUME 2016/17, ISSUE 3
THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER FOR REETHS-PUFFER SCHOOLS

ROCKET CITY news

What Can The “Promise” Do For You?

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You’ve probably heard the statistics: Americans owe nearly \$1.3 trillion in student loan debt, spread out among about 44 million borrowers. In fact, the average Class of 2016 college graduate has

\$37,172 in student loan debt, up six percent from the previous year.

I’ve written extensively about the need for some type of post-secondary education to be competitive in today’s economy. Whether it is a Certificate, Licensure, Associate’s degree or Bachelor’s degree, many, if not most, well-paying jobs and careers require some type of education beyond a high school diploma.

The current cost of post-secondary education is one of the major factors that makes the **Muskegon Area Promise** so appealing. Qualifying students (currently, high school graduates with a 3.5 GPA or higher) can receive a **FREE** education at Muskegon Community College, and an equivalent value at Baker College. I’m not a math major, but even my rudimentary math skills tell me this would **SIGNIFICANTLY** drive down the amount of student loan debt for our students.



If you haven’t done so yet, I URGE you to learn more about the Muskegon Area Promise at www.muskegonopportunity.com/muskegon-county-promise-zone-2/.

The tagline says it all: Our promise. Your future!

Go Rockets!

Steven L. Edwards
Steve Edwards, Superintendent of Schools

Reeths-Puffer High School Class of 2017

Top Ten Graduates



Valedictorian of the Reeths-Puffer High School Class of 2017 is Maria Nolan. Maria is the daughter of Robert and Holly Nolan. She has a weighted grade point average of 4.326. Maria has participated in S.T.A.T.S. (Straight Talk About Tough Stuff), Madrigals, Theatre 3, and Musical Theatre. She is involved in her church youth group and has served with the Food Truck and Family Promise. She was also a counselor at "Blast Off into Musical Theatre." Maria was awarded the Centralis Scholarship from Central Michigan University. She

will be attending Central Michigan University's Honors College where she plans on pursuing a degree in Biochemistry.

Salutatorian of the Reeths-Puffer High School Class of 2017 is Maryssa Depies. She is the daughter of Grant and Laree Depies. Maryssa has a weighted grade point average of 4.262. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the tennis team, and participates in studio dance. Maryssa also served on a mission trip through Grace Ministries. She is a multi-medalist in cross-country having been a four time All-Conference, four time All-City, and three time State qualifier. She was also named All-Conference and All-State three times in track and field along with earning All-State honors. Maryssa will be continuing her running career while attending Hillsdale College this fall, where she is a recipient of the Hillsdale Merit Scholarship and the Female Cross-Country Scholarship. She will study Pre-Medicine.



Lauren Martin, daughter of Jim and Shawn Martin, is graduating number 3 in the Class of 2017. Lauren has a weighted GPA of 4.238. She has been a member of the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, and Madrigals. Lauren has received many awards in both band and choir. She has participated in two Showcase performances, Solo and Ensemble, three musicals, both on stage and in pit, and has participated in the school Talent Shows. Outside of school, she has shared her talents in art fairs and other events. She will be attending Muskegon Community College on the

Muskegon Area Promise Scholarship before transferring to a University.

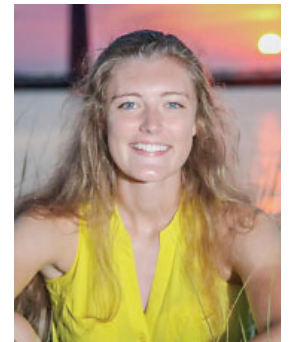
Graduating number 4 in the Class of 2017 is Samantha Mazurkiewicz. Samantha is the daughter of Paul Mazurkiewicz and Holly Mazurkiewicz. She has a weighted grade point average of 4.207. Samantha has been involved in Science Olympiad, the Michigan Math League, and the Reeths-Puffer Spanish Club. She was a volunteer at Wesley School during her freshman and sophomore years. Samantha is a recipient of the Muskegon Area Promise and will be attending Muskegon Community College for two years before transferring to the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering.



Lilah Parker is graduating number 5 in the class of 2017 with a weighted grade point average of 4.198. Lilah is the daughter of Thomas Parker and Perri Parker. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Art Honor Society where she was a recipient of the Curator's Award at the Reeths-Puffer Art Evening, and the recipient of the Arter Art Scholarship. Lilah was selected as a MSBOA District 7 High School Honors Band member. She is a member of the track and field and cross-country teams where she was selected Most

Improved Runner 2015, Most Valuable Runner 2016, and earned All-Conference and All-City Cross-Country medals. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University's Frederik Meijer Honors College where she will be a member of the cross-country and track and field teams while obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis on Graphic Design.

Madison Turner, daughter of John and Pam Turner, is graduating number 6 in the Class of 2017. She has a weighted GPA of 4.167. Madison is a member of the National Art Honor Society, the IMPACT Team, Varsity tennis team and Student Council. She has been a part of the Pit Orchestra for musicals, and a Drum Major of the Marching Band for three years through MCBA State Championships in 2014, 2015 and 2016. She has played in Solo and Ensemble and District Honors Band. Madison was also chosen to be an honorary member of the United States Navy Band for the March 2017 performance in Muskegon. She will be attending Michigan Technological University in the fall where she was awarded the Alumni Legacy Award and the Presidential Scholarship of Excellence. Madison will be pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



Zoe Vandenberg, daughter of Wendy and Jack Vandenberg, is graduating number 7 in this year's class. She has a weighted grade point average of 4.151. Zoe is Vice President of the National Honor Society and a member of the IMPACT Team. She has played JV soccer, Varsity soccer, is on a travel soccer team, and also works part time. Zoe plans on attending the University of Michigan in the fall, where she has received the HAIL Scholarship. Zoe will be enrolled in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts where she plans on discovering her major.

Graduating number 8 in the Class of 2017 is Blake Ross. Blake is the son of Brent and Kim Ross. He has a weighted grade point average of 4.103. Blake is President of the Student Council, Secretary of the National Honor Society, and a member of the IMPACT Team. He was a Varsity wrestler for four years, and Captain of the team for three years where he earned All-Conference. He was also on the Varsity football team for three years where he was Captain his senior year. Blake was a member of PALS, and also participated in a Close-Up trip



to Washington, D.C. Blake's awards include the 2017 Showcase Male Athlete nominee, Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship, and the Muskegon Area Promise Scholarship. Blake plans on attending Muskegon Community College and then transferring to a 4-year college to study medicine.



Jacob Petrick is graduating number 9 in this year's class. He is the son of Paul Petrick and Vickie Ross. Jacob has a weighted grade point average of 4.071. He was a member of the Varsity baseball team for four years where he earned the 2016 Academic All-State Award. He has also played Varsity tennis and was involved in Children's Theatre. Jacob is a recipient of the Muskegon Area Promise and plans to attend Muskegon Community College for two years and then transfer to a larger University to pursue his education.

Delaney Dahlstrom, daughter of Tammy Dahlstrom and Jeffrey Dahlstrom, is graduating number 10 in the Class of 2017. She has a weighted GPA of 4.063. Delaney is President of the National Honor Society and a member of PALS. She was Chairperson for the school Toys for Tots Drive, worked with the N.H.S Red Cross Blood Drive and annual Salvation Army and Reeths-Puffer Thanksgiving Turkey Run. Outside of school, Delaney has taken Cecchetti Ballet and Pointe and has been active in her church youth group. Delaney will attend the University of Michigan where she will pursue a career in the medical field.



Each breakfast week is different. Today students ate toast, fruit, sausages and eggs.

What's Cooking at Central? Breakfast Club

Where can you get whole grain waffles, cheesy egg muffins, and fresh fruit for breakfast? Central Elementary, that's where! Once a week, a group of students and staff meet to prepare, cook, and serve a family style breakfast. The idea was "cooked up" by some staff members who saw the need for a quiet, nutritional, and unhurried start to the day. A community partnership with Muskegon's YMCA was developed to fund and supply the required cooking appliances, kitchen ware, and groceries.

Students participating in Breakfast Club are part of the entire process of the meal, from setting the table to washing dishes! Breakfast meals are chosen by the students with a little guidance from the adults. Not only do the kids get a great meal, but the staff do too!



Students enjoy cheese sandwiches and watermelon.

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ROCKET CITY NEWS

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Above: 4th graders get instruction from their high school mentor on formatting their stories.



Left: Kayla Major is in the Author Chair with the cast.

Central Elementary Authors and Directors

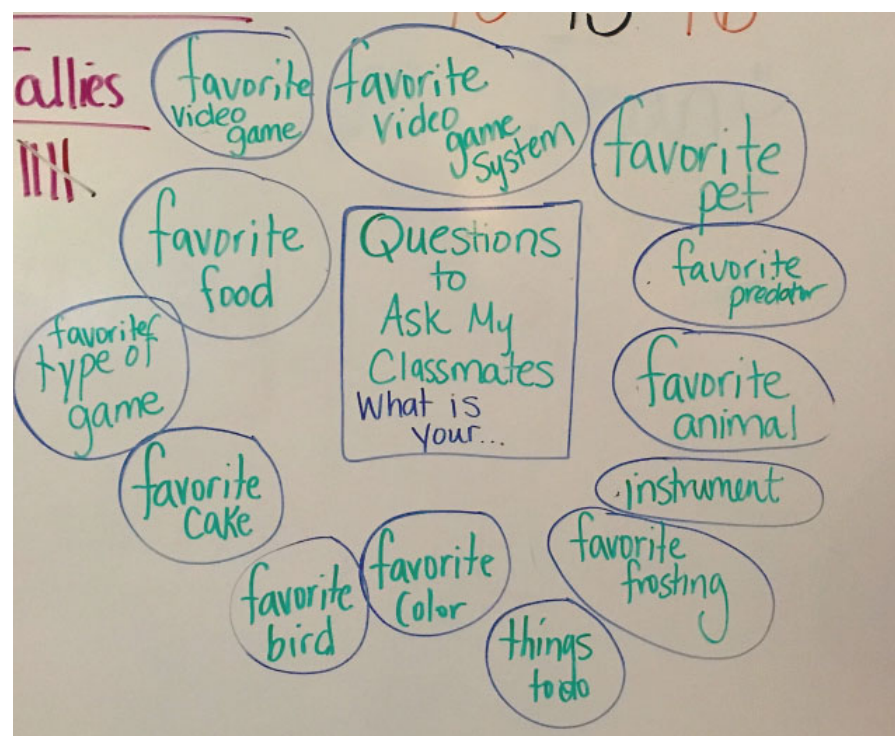
On March 6, the Reeths-Puffer High School Theatre class presented their depiction/creation of ten different stories that Central second and fourth graders authored. This was a partnership event, where Central students were given a prompt to create a story centered on a problem/solution, then our high school students selected a Top 10 list to act out. Thank you again to Mr. Klairter and the RPHS Theatre class.

2nd Grade Authors/Directors:
 Kayla Major - The Missing Piece
 Ashlyn Briggs - Koala and Panda
 Abigail Hansen - The Gold Nut
 Murry Kuipers - Mr. Dream
 Emmarie Siembida - Incredible Ned

4th Grade Author/Directors:
 Malaina Eilers - Halloween Night
 Niselle Pierce - Into the Woods Here We Go
 R'iontae Robinson- Haunted Hotel
 Emma Streblov - The Nutcracker
 Hannah Lindstrom - Day With Pops



Author Hannah Lindstrom with cast.



Brain Frames!

First graders in Mrs. Frazier's classroom used their new skills with Brain Frames to help organize their data collection for their Graphing with Classmates math activity.



Pictures: Students pictured were asking each other questions and graphing their responses.

Top left: Dominic Stewart and Xavier Moore. Center left: Aiden McKee, Tristan Smith, Kyrion Novak and Conner Berus. Bottom: Emily Stowers, Emmalyn Smith and Addison TenHove



Math Strategy Night

On February 23, over 40 families from Central Elementary participated in a Math Workshop Night geared at helping parents learn about current math practices, strategies and math tools their children use throughout the year. Most families came in for a light dinner and then attended two different workshops from the choices of Counting and Cardinality, Beginning Addition and Subtraction, Advance Addition and Subtraction, and Multiplication and Division. The evening was a great success thanks to presenters Mrs. Farmer, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Garibay, Mrs. Bos and Mrs. Wahr.

Math Tools (Top left) – Parents took on the role of being the student. They were given simple addition and subtraction problems and then asked to explain their thinking using math tools.

Engagement (Bottom left) – Parents and students got the chance to explore using various math tools such as Bundles and Sticks, uni-fix cubes and the Rekenrek to help them solve math problems.

Multiplication/Division (right) – Parents try to solve more complex multiplication and division problems using advanced strategies.





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Left: Kayla Major and Hailee Michael work together.

Right: Livia Renna from Mrs. Birr's class works with Kason Shield from Ms. Nauta's room to complete their project.

Technology Enhances Learning

Second graders at Central Elementary have been busy using some new technology in class! Thanks to a technology grant, written by Mrs. Birr, Mrs. Mason and Miss Nauta, students have 64 Chromebooks they are getting the chance to use to enhance their learning! Students have taught each other how to use the various Google programs including Google Docs and Google Slides. Students are also getting to use a variety of different computer programs such as RAZ Kids. Looking forward, students will get the opportunity to use the Chromebooks to help conduct research for various upcoming projects!



Sparky Motor Room

The Central Elementary PTO donated funds to build the Sparky Motor Room! The kindergarteners are enjoying the motor room activities, while they get their bodies and brains ready to learn!

Top: Julianna, Elly and Zack work on fine motor skills. Left: Nevayah crosses the beam working on balance and coordination.



Family Literacy Night

On February 9, Central Elementary held their Second Annual Family Literacy Night. It was a great success with over 25 families, along with 10-teachers from the District, participating in a Literacy Learning Lab to discover more ways of helping their children and/or students learn vocabulary through reading. A big thank you to our teacher presenters, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Patrick, Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Dragoo, along with personnel from the Muskegon Intermediate School District, Mrs. Walhberg, Mr. Kauppila, and Mrs. Hower, for giving their time and expertise.

Left: Debrief - Teachers process their learning after Mrs. Wahlberg modeled vocabulary instruction.



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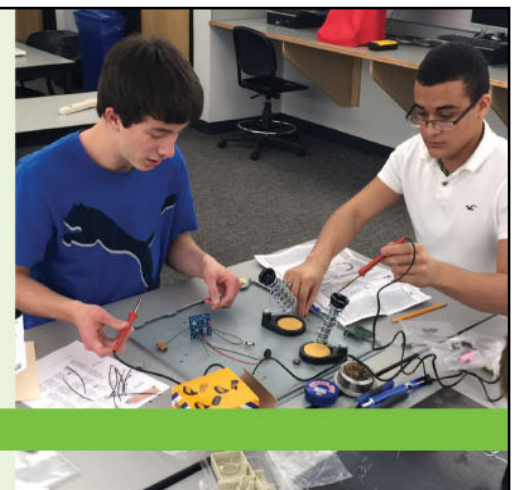


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COURTYARD CLEANUP!

On March 18, a group of community volunteers from Life Change Church embarked on an enormous courtyard cleanup project at Central Elementary. In three hours they hauled away over ten trailers of environmental debris, making the courtyard look spectacular. Staff and students would like to thank the volunteers and Jenna Sorensen, Praise and Worship Director, for reaching out and making a difference. We also would like to thank Jim Lothschutz, Central parent and maintenance crew member, for his time and effort.



McMillan Going Green!

Teachers and students at McMillan Early Childhood Center are excited to announce they have received their Green School Certification! A committee of parents and teachers have been meeting monthly to develop and incorporate new ideas.

Great things happening...

- School-wide recycling program
- Reusable lunch supplies
- Composting
- Stop to a local farmer
- Nature trails
- Garden areas and bird feeder stations
- Incorporating more outdoor education
- Peace poles
- Fruit trees

Things to come...

- Rain barrel
- Vegetable and herb gardens
- Sensory garden
- Murals created from upcycled materials
- Ornamental grasses
- Family Earth Day event
- Enhancements to the nature trail and playground

Students have been learning what it means to reduce, reuse, and recycle by implementing these green school initiatives. This will be expanded in May when they begin their unit of study on recycling. Generous donations from our community have made all of this possible. Thank you!





Pennsylvania Elementary

Making it Happen



Students at Pennsylvania Elementary are dedicated to helping their community and the world around them, whether it's growing greens for the high school salad bar, singing songs for a local nursing home or picking up garbage on Lake Michigan. They are always brainstorming about the needs of the world and what they can do to contribute. This year, with the help of a grant from the WMGLSI (West Michigan Great Lakes Steward Initiative), Pennsylvania Elementary students were able to gift a new drinking fountain with a water bottle filling station and some recycling bins to the Winter Sports Complex, one of their community partners. This will support the Winter Sports Complex's efforts to become more environmentally friendly. Their motto is, "What we stand for is what we stand on."



Pizza and PJs

Seventy-five RPEL students and their families came together in February to enjoy pizza in their pajamas. The night began with a family dinner of pizza and salad. Families then spread throughout the room and enjoyed a variety of math and reading games. Each grade level had several games for

both reading and math targeted to their grade's needs. Classroom teachers and staff were available at each table to answer questions and assist with gameplay. Families were able to play the games and then take a copy home to continue their practice. Families were also able to create several different math



manipulatives to use at home. The evening ended with a bedtime story complete with cookies and milk. A vocabulary read aloud was modeled for families so they could make the most of their reading at home.

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Team 6018 – Bat Craze

Back in December, Team 6018, consisting of four R-P Elementary students, was able to show off their robot building skills while competing against many other schools in our state. Cooper Ross, Molly Matz, Lauren Matz, and Brayden Ross participated in the Junior FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League. The theme of this year's event was 'Creature Craze,' and had students studying animals and their habitats, the effects humans are having on their habitats, and how those effects impact humans. Our young scientists chose to study bats of Michigan, and learned how bats help our environment, and the many diseases and dangers that bats face every day. Team 6018 brought home the award for 'Show and Tell,' which was an award for the team that had the best theme and flow from research, poster and model.



RPEL Fourth Graders Immerse Themselves in Circular Abstracts

RPEL fourth graders spent a morning at the Muskegon Museum of Art checking out the Circular Abstractions – Bulls-eye Quilts exhibit. Forty-one artists from around the world created quilts from the common theme of bulls-eyes. Their differing views provided visitors with a wide array of perspectives on what constitutes a bulls-eye. Students spent time talking in-depth with art teacher Robin Cavis and museum director Cathy Mott about two of the forty-one quilts in the show. From this discussion and the rest of the exhibit, they learned what visual culture and global perspectives mean in terms of artistic statement. Once back at school, each class made a collaborative "bulls-eye" quilt of their own. They also had a visit from one of the forty-one exhibiting quilters, Sue Cortese, who talked about her vision for the bulls-eye and her craft.



Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser

Reeths-Puffer Elementary School has a goal to raise \$5,000 (or more) to install additional water bottle filling stations throughout the building. Last year, the Walk-a-Thon raised enough money to purchase and install two stations. They are a HUGE hit! Students have been enjoying the hydration systems to quench their thirst while also minimizing plastic bottle waste in the environment. More filling stations throughout the building will make staying hydrated easier for everyone. Any additional funds raised above the cost of the filling stations will continue to fund the ongoing community garden projects. Ongoing community garden projects include a garden planting day for students and a composting station. Staff and students are eager to collaborate with Reeths-Puffer Intermediate students for these exciting initiatives.



Reading Corps comes to RPEL

Reeths-Puffer is proud to host the Reading Corps program this year through Americorps. Reading Corps is a proven program that began in Minnesota more than 13 years ago. Kasey Crowell is the Reading Corps tutor for Reeths-Puffer Elementary. She is trained to help children learn to read, so they can “read to learn” throughout their education. Reading Corps has one goal – to help every child become a successful reader. RPEL is seeing great results from this program.

Reading Corps provides:

- Research-based tutoring
- Daily reading practice on skills children need
- Reports that show student progress
- Reading activities to try at home



- Check-ins after they “graduate” to be sure they’re still successful

This year, 32 RPEL students have been serviced through Reading Corps. Students are selected based on their reading assessments. Students in the Reading Corps

program are very close to grade level goals and need a boost to help them achieve reading success! Tutor Kasey Crowell, fills her days with one-on-one, twenty-minute sessions with students. Students continue in the program until the data shows they have met their goals. She follows the proven Reading Corps intervention guidelines and makes changes for students with guidance from the Internal Coach, Sonya Rathbun and also our Master Coach, Alina Fortenberry. As of March 15, we have graduated seven students from our Reading Corps program!

Reeths-Puffer is looking to expand this program for the 2017-2018 school year. If being a tutor sounds like an interesting opportunity for you, please contact your local elementary school principal or Michigan Education Corps for more information.

RPEL's Earth Force Team

At RPEL, the Earth Force Team has been busy restructuring. They are excited to hear the status of their recently completed Green School Application. The team is also planning a community service learning opportunity for parents, students, staff, and community members. The date for this event is May 23 (rain day May 24). Experts will be available at each outdoor learning station to teach students more about the green school projects completed, and the project for this spring – a composting site. The team is looking forward to setting up the composting site and eliminating even more waste, not to mention making GREAT soil for the community garden. Experts in gardening from MSU, bird experts, and composting, recycling, and nutrition experts have all been contacted. Tours will be given of past projects that include bluebird houses, the butterfly garden, the fruit orchard, the pollinator garden, the composting site, the recycling center and the community garden. Planting of the community garden will also take place that day - a few hands will make light work. COME JOIN THE EARTH FORCE TEAM! If you know any experts that would like to teach for a day, please call (231) 744-4777.

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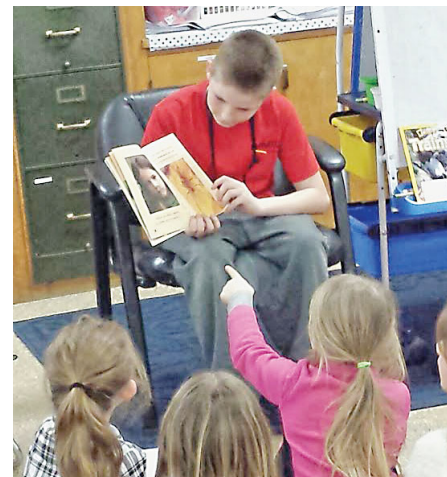


Muskegon Rescue Mission
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Reading Month at Twin Lake Elementary

Reading month is an exciting time for students to explore new books and genres, invite their families to join and support them in reading at home, and share their love for reading with others. Three 4th grade students, Edward Ransom, Thomas Ransom and Jayden Wiseman, from Mrs. Adams class at Twin Lake Elementary School, did just that when they traveled around the school reading their "good fit" books to kindergarten through fourth grade classrooms. In four days and 12 classrooms these students had the opportunity to share their personal reading experience and love for books along with reading aloud to a large group and answering questions about the text. What started out to be a low key promotion for a "reading tour" quickly turned into a battle for time slots! This experience encouraged students to take risks and trust in the time and effort they put into learning each day. When the experience was over, one student expressed his excitement best when he said "can every month be reading month!?"



Top left: Jayden Wiseman reading to Mrs. Monaweck's kindergarten Class.

Far left: Edward Ransom reading to Mrs. Greene's kindergarten class

Direct left: Thomas Ransom reading to Mrs. Palazzolo's kindergarten class





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Community Outreach Makes a Huge Difference for Twin Lake Elementary

"Many hands make light work," so the saying goes. On March 18, volunteers from Life Change Church proved this to be true. With the leadership of Jenna and Rob Sorenson, a group of nearly 30 volunteers, adults, teens and kids, came to RPTLE on a mission: to make our school a better place. A crew spruced up a boys' bathroom with a much needed coat of paint. They also painted a couple of other areas in school, creating a fun place for kids to read and relax. And those soccer nets that have been waiting to be hung? Those were also taken care of for our kids. The group spent nearly four hours helping and sharing their time and talent. Staff and students appreciate the outreach and the example that was given to our kids for community service. You put the "Rock" in RPTLE Rockets!



Twin Lake Radio Project

For the past few months, third grade students at Twin Lake Elementary have been learning and practicing the skills of interviewing, note taking, drafting, creating, speaking and listening, and persuading with storytelling, selling points, and calls to action. Their goal was to create radio commercials persuading listeners to visit local Twin Lake Rocket City businesses. The third graders partnered with Mr. Tim of Wheeler Creative Studios who came in once a week to work with the students on this project. When the work was complete, the learners celebrated with family, friends, and the community.

Staff and students would like to publicly thank Twin Lake Rocket City business partners. They are:

- East Muskegon Roofing
- Family Farm and Home
- J & J Farm Sales and Service
- Kuerth's Disposal
- Lothschutz Blueberries
- Overboard Inn
- Rynberg Car Company
- Shelby State Bank
- Twin Lake Greenhouse



A Shout out to Shoreline Natural Wellness

RPTLE classrooms have been moving to alternative seating to support learning. Some teachers have written grants in an effort to purchase exercise balls, scoop chairs

and other flexible seating. So, when Heather David, owner of Shoreline Natural Wellness on Whitehall Road, offered to donate 18 exercise balls to our school, we said "THANK YOU VERY MUCH!" This type of seating works well for kids who have the wiggles and need to develop core strength... and, they're just plain fun! Thank you, Heather, for your generous donation! You put the "Rock" in RPTLE Rockets!



Nonfiction Text Features Surgery

Second grade students in Mrs. Kinstner's classroom became surgeons for a day! After sanitizing their work surface, hands, and "blades" (scissors), students put on their surgical masks and hair nets and began searching for nonfiction text features to extract. They carefully removed captions, graphs, maps, indexes, and diagrams (to name a few) and glued these "specimens" into their notebooks. Next, they wrote their reports, explaining the importance of the text features they found. What a great way to immerse themselves into nonfiction text features before beginning their own Informational Writing from Personal Expertise books.



Guest Composer speaks to music classes at Twin Lake Elementary

Students in second through fourth grades had the opportunity to learn what it's like to be a music composer. On January 6, Jesse Dunn, son of Twin Lake staff member Mrs. Dunn, visited Twin Lake. Jesse was home for the holidays from Wheaton College where he is a music composition major and in his junior year of studies. He shared four of his compositions with students, showing how he creates them and then with the help of the music software "Finale" writes the music for musicians to play. Jesse also had the students follow music as he played the piano piece he wrote while still in high school, titled "Autumn Leaves." Students



asked him many questions and were fascinated with a 'real live' composer in their presence. Most of those we study are long gone – like Mozart, Beethoven and Bach. Jesse ended with a video on YouTube of his band, Ivory Mixtape, which is a contemporary rock band. Students can't wait to see how famous Jesse gets in the world of music! Thank you Jesse for sharing your love of composing and playing music!!

Dalton Public Library Gets into the *Lemonade Wars* Spirit

RPTLE is very fortunate to have a public library that is super involved with the community. Any time we have something happening at school, Miss Rachel and Mr. Jonathon ask to be involved. For Reading Month, RPTLE chose to read



the Lemonade Wars as an all school read. The library team jumped right in! Thanks to Jonathon's artistic talent, he was able to design a lemonade stand in front of the book drops at the library. He also created a lemonade mural on the doors leading into the library from our school. We appreciate both of our library friends for all they do for RPTLE. You put the "Rock" in RPTLE Rockets!

SUMMER CAMPS

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3rd Annual R-P Baseball Summer Skills Camp

Monday-Wednesday June 12-14

The R-P Fundamentals (K-8 Grades as of the start of the 2016-17 School Year)
Registration Starts on Monday at 8:00 a.m. Camp/Instruction Runs from 8:30-12:00, Tuesday and Wednesday 8:00-12:00

Areas of Focus Include: Pitching Mechanics, Throwing Progression/Mechanics, Infield/Outfield Drills, Catching, Defensive Situations, Hitting, Base Running, Bunting, The Philosophy of Baseball, and The Importance of Academics.

\$50 Price Includes T-Shirt and Snack for each Day - (Make checks Payable to: Reeths-Puffer Baseball Program)

Reeths Puffer High School Varsity and Junior Varsity Baseball Field, 1545 North Roberts

Camp Instructors Include:

1. Brett Witczak- Head Varsity Coach at RP/ Eastern Michigan University/Texas Rangers Associate Scout
2. Brandon Becklin- Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach at RP/Former MCC Assistant Coach
3. Jon Johnson- Reeths-Puffer Little League/8th Grade Middle School Baseball Coach
4. Rich Paugh- Pittsburgh Pirates Organization/7th Grade Middle School Baseball Coach
5. Mike Balkema- Head JV Baseball Coach
6. Ian Engle- Head Freshman Baseball Coach
7. Current RP Varsity and Junior Varsity Players
8. Current Collegiate Players

For More Information Contact: Brett Witczak Reeths Puffer Intermediate Building (witczakb@reeths-puffer.org) REETHS-PUFFER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, 1500 N. Getty Street, Muskegon, MI 49445 OR Brandon Becklin Reeths Puffer Middle School (becklinb@reeths-puffer.org) REETHS-PUFFER MIDDLE SCHOOL, 1911 W. Giles Road, Muskegon, MI 49445

R-P Boys/Girls Basketball Shooting Camp

Camp Description: Coach Lance Johnson and Coach Tim Mitchelson will instruct boys & girls grades 4 - 9 in shooting fundamentals. Time will be spent strictly on fundamentals and techniques of shooting, including shooting form, catching and shooting, shooting coming off screens, and shooting off the dribble. Space is limited and must be reserved ahead of time. Email Coach Johnson to reserve your spot now: johnsonl@reeths-puffer.org

Date: Wednesday, June 28th **Time:** 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Location: Reeths-Puffer High School Arena **Cost:** \$20

R-P Boys Basketball Skills Camp

Camp Description: The Reeths-Puffer Boys Basketball coaching staff will instruct boys grades 3 - 8 in fundamental basketball skills. Instruction will include ball-handling, passing, shooting, footwork, finishing, and individual defense.

Dates: Monday, June 19th - Wednesday, June 21st
Times: **Session I:** 1st - 3rd graders (8:00 am to 9:30 am)
Session II: 4th - 6th graders (9:30 am to 11:30 am)
Session III: 7th - 8th graders (11:30 am to 1:30 pm)
Middle School Coaches Matt Pallet and Matt Kemp will direct Session III

Location: Reeths-Puffer High School Arena **Cost:** \$25

For more information contact: Coach Lance Johnson at johnsonl@reeths-puffer.org

Rocket Cup Golf Outing

Friday, June 16th, 1:00 pm Shotgun • Registration forms available at RPFootball.com

R-P Youth Football Camp

Sunday, July 30th • Grades 1-6 • Registration forms available at RPFootball.com

Middle School Football - Grades 7 and 8

Spring & Summer Information Packets available at RPFootball.com

High School Football - Freshman, JV, and Varsity

Spring and Summer Information Packets available at RPFootball.com

Soccer Camps

Third grade through twelfth grade R-P Soccer Camps will be held July 10-13 at the RPHS soccer fields (behind R-P Elementary).

The pre-K through 2nd grade camp will be held July 17 through 20 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the fields behind Central Elementary.

Brochures and additional details can be found on the Reeths-Puffer Youth Soccer Club website (rpyouthsoccer.com).

Speed and Sport Skill Development Camp through Peak Training Academy

Date: June 12 through August 3

Days and Times: Monday and Wednesday - 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
OR Tuesday and Thursday - 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

Cost: \$100

Registration forms were sent home with students in April. You may also go to PEAK's website to register (<http://trainatpeak.com>). For more information contact Aaron Szura at szuraa@reeths-puffer.org.

Summer Tennis Camp

Summer Tennis Camp runs June 19 through June 30 and July 10 through July 28 from 10:00 a.m. to noon for all players interested. The cost for the five-week program is \$250. For more information or to register for this camp, contact Coach O'Brien at obrient@reeths-puffer.org or call (517) 256-9255.

R-P Workout Club for a Healthy Rocket City!

The R-P Workout Club, led by Julie Voorhies, has been rockin' it over the school year at RPI. The club's goal is to get people moving and healthy while raising money to support wellness initiatives in our schools. So far this year, they have raised over \$2,000! After spring break, the Workout Club will move their fitness time to Saturday mornings. Plus, Julie is already looking ahead to next year and a Workout Club fitness schedule. For more information on how you can join the R-P Workout Club, contact Julie at julievoorhies@gmail.com.

Curriculum Corner

Curriculum

Read to Succeed! Take part in the Ultimate Read 23 Summer Reading Challenge

The summer reading challenge is back for a fourth year!!! This challenge is being offered to students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade at Reeths-Puffer Schools in fall 2017. This challenge is an opportunity to instill the love of reading as a life-long habit, as well as to win an electronic tablet.

Thanks again to a community member's generous donation, five electronic tablets are available to win. All R-P students who complete the "Ultimate Read 23 Summer Reading Challenge" and submit the proper parent signed challenge form will have a chance to win. One name will be drawn from each of the following "levels" on Monday, September 11, 2017. Winners will be notified on Tuesday, September 12th. **Reading challenge forms will be available in each building office the final week of school; can be picked up at the District office at 991 W. Giles Road between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. during the month of June; or can be downloaded from the District website. (Go to Curriculum Department then to the Curriculum Corner for Parents)**

District Drawing Levels:

- Kindergarten – 2nd Grade Students
- 3rd & 4th Grade Students
- 5th & 6th Grade Students
- 7th & 8th Grade Students
- 9th – 12th Grade Students

So What Does it Take to Meet this Challenge?

- Students read or are read to for 23 minutes every day. This can be family reading or individual reading.
- Date range of challenge: **June 12th through August 31st**
- Five "free days" throughout the summer challenge dates are allowed to meet any unique family situations that may arise.



So What Counts for Reading?

- Reading together as a family, reading individually, or listening to audio books.
- Reading while being a passenger in the car, reading on the beach, in bed at night, at the breakfast table, by the campfire, etc.
- Turning on the closed caption and reading your favorite TV show instead of listening to it.
- Reading a book, a magazine, a how-to book, a website (researching colleges, vacations, etc.).
- Reading anywhere, anytime . . . be creative and have fun! Read to Succeed – Read 23!

**Reading 23 minutes every day can make a life-long difference in both the short and long term success of our Rocket City families.
Go Rocket Readers!**

Summer Math Challenge: Calling All Mathematicians!!!

The second annual Reeths-Puffer Summer Math Challenge is back!! The Summer Math Challenge will be fun, hands-on, thought provoking, and will provide opportunities to apply math through everyday life activities.

At the end of the summer, each mathematician will be invited to submit, with parent sign off, as many "Summer Math Challenge Grids" they completed over summer break. Each grid will go into a drawing for a variety of prizes. Mathematicians, get ready . . . and let the fun begin!

We will draw 50 math grids from all that are turned into the District Office, or your respective building, no later than Friday, September 8, 2017. Winners will be notified on Tuesday, September 12th. The "Summer Math Challenge Grids" will be available in each building office the final week of school; can be picked up at the District Office at 991 W. Giles Road between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; or can be downloaded from the District website. (Go to Curriculum Department then to the Curriculum Corner for Parents)

Below you will find a sneak peak of a sample math challenge grid with twenty five different types and levels of activities that may show up on a "Summer Math Challenge Grid." More information and additional ideas will be supplied in early June.

Sample Math Grid

(Grids will be different based on the age of the Mathematician)

Enjoy a Cooking Activity With Your Family	Math in the Car - Counting	Outdoor Math Grid - Jump on a number to show your answer to the problem	Grocery Store Math - Estimating Cost	Free Choice Math Activity
Represent Today's Number 10 Different Ways	Draw Repeated Patterns Found in Your Home or in Nature	Play a Math Game With Your Family	Help With a Building Project	Math in the Car - Number Hunt
Hopscotch Math	Fractional Items - Make a list of fractional items that you can find in your house	Free Space - You choose what type of math activity you want to do	Recording Time & Distance	What Would it Cost?
Grocery Store Math - Food Groups	Restaurant Math	Interview 3 Adults Asking Them How They Use Math in Their Jobs	Beach Ball Math	Tracking the Weather
Where Numbers are Found	Measure 5 Things in Your House - Use both standard & non-standard methods for measuring items	Find, Draw, & Label 10 Arrays in Your Home	Represent the Number 10 in as Many Ways as You Can	Grocery Store Math - Best Price Decision Making

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Grant, Partnership to Support Mental Health Services

Reeths-Puffer to Partner with Muskegon County Agencies to Build Systems of Care for Children Facing Mental Health Challenges

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has awarded HealthWest a four year, four million dollar grant. As a project partner, Reeths-Puffer will work with area agencies to build and strengthen partnerships among local agencies to effectively address the needs of children and youth who are at-risk for mental illness and other challenges. The grant will provide resources to fill gaps in the system ultimately providing "Systems of Care" for children and their families.

HealthWest and several community partners are working with school districts to roll out school based mental health services. Following an interview process with the seven applying school districts, Reeths-Puffer was selected to be included in the first phase of this project. Planning meetings between Reeths-Puffer representatives and the agencies began in February. First steps are to analyze the systems already in place to support children and families facing mental health issues. An integrated pathway to support will be collaboratively developed. Grant-funded personnel are expected to begin employment this summer, including a full-time Master Level Clinician, full-time Wraparound Coordinator, part-time Parent Outreach Specialist, and part-time Youth Mentor. These personnel will be housed in the Pathways Potential office on the R-P Intermediate/Elementary campus.

HealthWest and its partners will work in collaboration with Pathways to Potential offices at Reeths-Puffer to provide school-based human services staff to improve outcomes in attendance, education, health, safety and self-sufficiency. Similarly, the Systems of Care model will provide clinical and peer support staff on-site in our district starting in the fall. Gaps in the system of services to families will be addressed through this collaborative effort.

Current Systems of Care partners include HealthWest, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, Muskegon County Family Court, The Juvenile Transition Center, Muskegon County, seven individual school districts (including Reeths-Puffer), youth serving agencies, healthcare organizations including federally qualified health centers, and area youth and families.

The implementation of Systems of Care stems from a recent county-wide survey that studied "ACEs" (Adverse Childhood Experiences), or traumatic events such as abuse, neglect, or family dysfunction that affect Muskegon County's population. Data from a national ACE study shows that there is a direct relationship between a person's ACE score and negative health and social outcomes. From November 2015 to September 2016, a Muskegon team conducted the ACE survey in Muskegon County. The data showed that Muskegon County residents as a whole have more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) than the national average. For more information on the ACEs survey, visit www.healthwest.net/community-resources/aces-muskegon/.

District Finance Team Works Behind the Scenes to Save R-P Taxpayers Over \$8 Million

Over the past two years, Reeths-Puffer Schools has successfully sold nearly \$54 million in refunding bonds. These bonds, sold in four separate bond issues, were issued to refinance outstanding debt at lower interest rates. This has lowered costs and will allow the District to pass significant savings along to Reeths-Puffer taxpayers. These four bond issues represent more than 60% of the District's debt portfolio, and nearly all of the debt eligible to be refinanced under current law.

Existing bonds and loans paid off with the new bond issues include the 2005 Refunding Bonds, 2006 Refunding Bonds, 2007 Refunding Bonds, 2010 Build America Bonds, and the District's School Bond Loan Fund balance. In each case, the District saved a significant amount of money for the taxpayers.

A summary of the four bond issues:

- 2015 "A" – \$5,445,000 par value, 7.45% present-value savings, nearly \$2.4 million total savings
- 2015 "B" - \$27,930,000 par value, 3.6% present-value savings, over \$2.7 million total savings
- 2016 - \$5,135,000 par value, 12.65% present-value savings, over \$1.1 million total savings
- 2017 - \$15,415,000 par value, 7.28% present-value savings, nearly \$2.1 million total savings
- Note: Total savings figures include School Bond Loan Fund savings

In total, these bonds saved taxpayers a whopping \$8.3 million!

This puts the District in a strong financial position for the near future and reduces long-term costs to Reeths-Puffer taxpayers. The Board of Education and Administration have been proactive in dealing with declining property values and loss of tax base over the past 10 years, and will continue to make sound fiscal decisions on behalf of Rocket City.

Reeths-Puffer Achieves "Excellence" Three Years Running

The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International has awarded Reeths-Puffer Schools its Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for having met or exceeded the program's high standards for financial reporting and accountability. Reeths-Puffer Schools was recognized for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the third straight year that the District has achieved the award. The finance department, led by Director Jason Helsen, started this initiative in 2014 with support from Superintendent Steve Edwards and the Board of Education.

Sponsored by VALIC, the Certificate of Excellence (COE) award confirms the school business office's commitment to financial accountability and transparency. Recognition through the COE program can help strengthen a district's presentation for bond issuance statements and promotes high quality financial reporting.

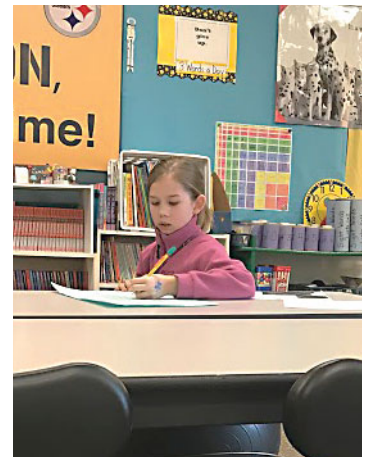
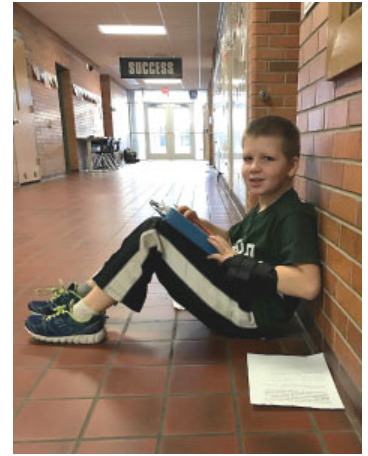
Reeths-Puffer Schools is the only district in Muskegon County that is a current recipient of this award, and one of only a handful in the West Michigan region and the State of Michigan as a whole. Nationwide, 542 districts received the honor for the fiscal year 2015 (statistics are not yet available for fiscal year 2016). ASBO International staff said of the continued achievement by Reeths-Puffer Schools, "Participating in the program is a true reflection of your district's continuing commitment to fiscal integrity."

ASBO International, founded in 1910, is a professional organization of 5,000 members that provides programs and services to promote the highest standards of school business management practices, professional growth, and the effective use of education resources. For more information about the COE award, visit asbointl.org/COE. To read the Reeths-Puffer Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, please visit the district website at www.reeths-puffer.org.

Claim, Evidence, Reasoning



It is one thing to have an opinion, it is another thing to share your claim, support it with evidence, and then be able to give the reasoning behind your claim. RPI learners are asked a very important question when they watch a video clip, read an article, or research a topic. What is the evidence they use to support their claim? This is important work for RPI learners as they grow in their leadership and their ability to influence the world around them. Students in these photos are working on developing their claim based on evidence from a video clip or short non-fiction article.




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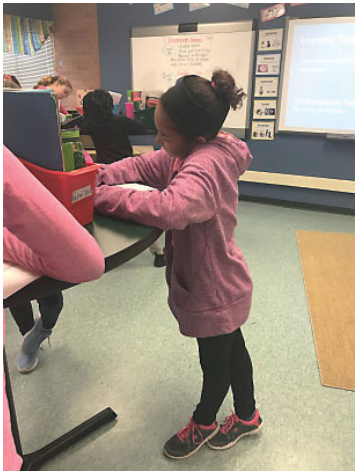
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Is that a classroom?

When you look at RPI classrooms, you may ask yourself, “Is that a classroom?” At RPI, staff continues to explore student centered learning environments. As students continue to strive for more understanding of the standards, our classrooms need to reflect their work, their needs, and support their learning. In one classroom, you may not have desks to allow for community space. In another classroom, you may see only standing desks, so groups may move frequently and for fluid collaborative problem solving. You may see varied seating for students to move between independent work, collaboratives and whole class discussions. Recently, a group of sixth grade students went to Western Michigan University and a student commented, “Wow, this classroom reminds me of my Social Studies class.” To remain engaged in the standards, students need an environment that fosters their creativity, problem solving, and a love of learning.



The “B” Word

Have you noticed how much the “B” word is used lately? It seems as if each time we turn around, we here “B” this and “B” that. Some may wonder if we know what the meaning of “Bully” truly is. Is a bully anyone who is being mean? Is it only when things get to a point of physical aggression? Dr. Marcia McEvoy, licensed Psychologist and consultant throughout the Midwest, has spent time in Rocket City over the past few years, and has provided us with some guidelines on the “B” word. These guidelines have been the topic of conversation here at RPI, with the hope being that our 5th and 6th grade students can continue to educate our community, so the “B” word can be appropriately used.

In order for behavior to be classified as bullying, it has to meet three very specific criteria.

1. The incident(s) have to be intentional. Accidentally knocking someone’s water bottle off their desk may be annoying, but it is not bullying.
2. The incident(s) have to have been repeated over a period of time. A single episode of pushing while entering the bus is definitely mean, but it does not warrant being classified as bullying.
3. The incident(s) must have happened between two people, between whom there is a difference in power. Two friends arguing over a game is an example of two friends being mean to one another, not two students bullying one another.

So, in order for the “B” word to be used in the appropriate manner, we have to have an intentional act of mean or aggressive behavior, which is **repeated** over a period of time, and is occurring between two people with a difference in **power** (e.g. physical, social, economical).

Rocket Choirs Students Excel at State Honors Choir

Four Reeths-Puffer students were chosen to perform with the Michigan Music Education Association’s (MMEA) Elementary Honors Choir on March 25. The students auditioned this past December and were accepted into this distinguished ensemble. Participants were required to learn five challenging vocal music pieces in order to participate. Sophia Ross performed with the 101-student third and fourth grade choir, while Lucy Ackerman, Wyndham Ross, and Kyle Schlaff performed with the 72-member fifth and sixth grade choir. Students traveled to Grand Ledge for rehearsal and performance in this ensemble comprised of students from over 30 Michigan schools. Congratulations to these Rockets for an outstanding performance!

Left to right: Kyle Schlaff, Lucy Ackerman, Sophia Ross, Wyndham Ross





Collaboration

We learn more together! Staff encourages students to take their learning beyond RPI walls. Our teaching teams are set up each day to have students engage with multiple teachers - experts in their content area. Students learn to advocate for their needs, but also see all the learners around them as resources to add to their thinking. Throughout the day, students travel to different content areas to work with different students and teachers. This fosters a learning community with students seeing each other as resources for their thinking and learning.



A Learning Community at RPI

A learning community is a place where people gather to share common goals, attitudes, and collaborate around learning. Staff and students gather every day to learn how to improve in our academics, become more positive people for the community, and to create learning together. We spend our days collaborating around topics and problems. We work independently, in small groups, and in large. These groups help us with our communication of ideas and in influencing the thinking of the learners around us. It's not just the students that are learning, it is everyone: the volunteers, teachers, office staff, and students.



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<p>Oakridge Teen Health Center Oakridge Middle School 251 S. Wolf Lake Rd., Room 14 231.733.6830 M,Tu,Th,F: 8am-4:30pm, Wed: 10am-4:30pm</p>	<p>Muskegon Teen Health Center 80 West Southern Ave. J Building, Room E113 231.733.6680 M,Tu,Th,F: 8am-4:30pm, Wed: 10am-4:30pm</p>
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R-P Middle School Choir Students selected for State Honors Choir



On January 19, five RPMS Choir students performed in this year's State Honors Choir after a rigorous audition process last October. State Honors Choir is a very competitive choral singing experience in which hopefuls must prepare and audition two challenging choral pieces for a judge at a district audition site. From there, the State Honors Choir is formed and students and families are paired with an award-winning conductor for weeks of travel, rehearsal and a culminating concert. State Honors Choir participants performed at DeVos Hall in Grand Rapids during the annual

Michigan Music Education Conference. A round of applause goes to Hallie Ackerman, Leo Ackerman, Sage Foster, Grant Kawaleski and Brett Schlaff!

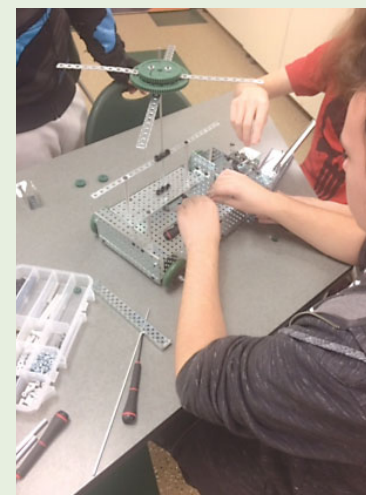
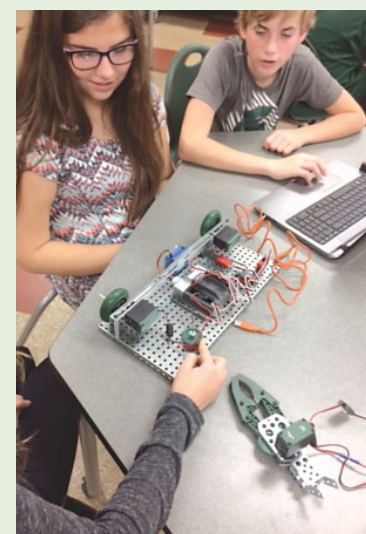
RPMS Students Receive Top Honors at Solo & Ensemble Festival

On February 4, the R-P Choir program hosted this year's District 7 Solo and Ensemble Festival at RPHS. This year, RPMS sent 11 events for adjudication. All middle school participants received an "Excellent" or "Very Good" ratings. Hallie Ackerman (I), Leo Ackerman (I), Makaya Bitely (I), Noah Bowne (I), Zoe Hekkema (II), Jessica Lindsey (II), Brett Schlaff (II) & Lily Wypa (I). Our select after-school ensembles, The Treble Makers and Maletone-ins, also received Excellent (I) Ratings with the Treble Makers receiving a perfect score! Way to go Rocket Singers!



STEM Builds Robots and Critical Thinkers

Middle schools students can often be seen piling into the halls as they test their new designs in our STEM: Automation and Robotics class that is in its second year. Students are presented with complex challenges they have to problem solve using both creativity and technical information they learn in class. Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Through each project, students gain practice and confidence in communication, problem solving, and collaboration which are three of the top employability skills our students will need. Our goal at Reeths-Puffer Middle School is to push students just outside of their comfort zone into their learning zone in order to be critical thinkers and problem solvers in whatever career path they choose.





The Rocket Community Welcomed Mr. Martin Lowenberg

Rocket City welcomed Mr. Lowenberg for an evening community presentation on February 22 and a morning presentation for students the following day. Mr. Lowenberg is a survivor of many Nazi concentration camps. The Rocket Centre was packed as he was able to articulate a message of hope, perseverance, and strength of the human spirit. Students engaged in many learning opportunities prior to his visit in order to appreciate and make connections to what Mr. Lowenberg was able to share. The goal of the learning experience was for each person in the audience to gain perspective and context to reflect on grit, empathy, and hope. The students in the audience as well as adults were clearly impacted by Mr. Lowenberg's visit. When students were able to process, many reflection comments described this as an experience they will never forget. Thank you Mr. Lowenberg for sharing your story and positive attitude in order to make Rocket City kinder, stronger, and more resilient. Mr. Lowenberg taught us that hate hurts and love heals.

Candyland Turns Magical For The Princess Ball

It was another magical evening when over 300 princesses arrived with a special guest to Reeths-Puffer Middle School for the Princess Ball. The event, sponsored by the Middle School PTO and supported by adult and student volunteers, allowed R-P students to enjoy a night of dancing, eating, laughing, and connecting with a special adult. You could feel the energy in the building and you could also see the exhaustion as the guests left. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped our young Rockets create a positive memory at Reeths-Puffer Middle School.



Showcase 2017

Reeths-Puffer had an excellent night at Showcase. Our visual artist Noel Sheffer took first place in visual arts. His piece is a spiral of piano keys which is suspended on a swivel from the ceiling. It is in perpetual rotation. Our literary artist Taylor Dibble took first place for her poetry work. Both Noel and Taylor will have their names engraved on the showcase cups and each have earned \$1,000 for their effort.

Our solo performer Brody Yarian earned second place. He performed an original juggling routine including tennis balls, bowling balls and glow in the dark spheres. Brody earned \$500 for his finish.

Our group performance, called Equinox, made up of Cody Jonaitis, Jacob Foster, Lauren Martin, Dolen Austin, Dawson Wheeler, Carson Judd, Zach Ostoin, Gabrielle Burns, Matthew Jeroy, Madeline Stafford, Evan Hodson, Noel Sheffer, Nathan Schweri, Weston Dulyea and Quinn Yarian also took second place. They performed Edgar Winter's 1973 rock anthem Frankenstein. They also earned \$500 for their finish.

Finishing with two first and two second places is unprecedented in the storied history of Showcase. These talented students represented Rocket City very well.





Dalton Township Fire Department gets a fresh new look

Chief Styles from the Dalton Township Fire Department, contacted the RPHS Art Department to inquire if any National Art Honor Society members would be interested in painting a mural. What he had in mind, was the departments badge painted on one of the bay walls at the station where they park all their trucks. Madison Segelstrom, Haley Fox, Madison Turner, and Cody Jonaitis signed up to work on the mural. Madison Segelstrom shared, "After we planned, got paint made, and sketched the design on the wall, we spent a total of about 22 hours. We had some ups and downs, but we couldn't be happier with the end result. The department was so welcoming, as always. It was a fantastic experience. We wanted to thank Chief Styles and Mr. Olson for giving us such an awesome opportunity."

Another example of the impact R-P students are having on the community in which they live!

Art Students Honored



Every year, the Muskegon Museum of Art holds their annual student art show, exhibiting the best art from all local school districts. Only a handful of students' works are selected to be part of the show, and the following artists represent our 2017 RPHS participants for this year's show. Sadie Brown (L) and Madison Turner (R) won the prestigious "Blue Ribbon" award, demonstrating excellence in the visual arts.



Blast from the Past – The Story Behind the Pin



Many people own an R-P Power pin but might not know the story of how the pin came into existence. The story is an important part of the history of our sports program.

On November 6 in the year 1992, the Rocket Varsity football team had just finished a perfect 9-0 season, winning another Seaway Conference title and were set to play the Eskymos of Escanaba High School at Northmen Stadium on the campus of Petoskey High School in a regional opener. The game-time temperature was 22 degrees with

a wind chill near zero. It was cold! Many fans from R-P and Escanaba had made the trek to the Petoskey site to watch this football game. The stands were packed on the Escanaba side with the R-P side mostly full except for our five student fan buses that were delayed due to a road accident.

As the game progressed, both teams found it difficult to score on one another until late in the second half of the game. The Escanaba fans had a cheer that engaged their entire fan base in the stands across from our Rocket supporters. It was loud and it went like this: U-P Power, U-P Power, U-P Power. As our Rocket fans heard this, we responded with, for the first time, R-P Power, R-P Power, R-P Power. The cheering from our side of the field was surely heard by our players and coaches as many of them looked to the stands to hear and see the overwhelming support they sensed from this newly minted cheer. With renewed energy, the Rockets went on to defeat the Eskymos of Escanaba High School and would end their season with a 13-0 state championship. The R-P Power pin was made in honor of the season that brought this cheer to our community. Now you know the "rest of the story".

RPHS Choirs All Qualify for State Choral Festival



The Reeths-Puffer High School Choirs performed at District Choral Festival in Greenville in March. Congratulations to all of the High School Rocket Choirs for qualifying for State! Rocket Harmonix, Rocket Ladies Choir, Vocal Fusion, and Madrigals received Excellent/Division 1 ratings in performance and sight reading. Harmonix and Madrigals obtained a perfect score in sight-reading. Vocal Fusion tied as the top scoring choir overall in their division, and also received a perfect score in sight-reading. MadriGALS and MADmen both qualified for State Solo & Ensemble (a small ensemble competition) with Excellent/Division 1 ratings. Soloists who qualified for State Solo & Ensemble are: Kyle Goltz, Jonathan Krause, Ray Brock, Cassidy Briggs, Morgan Perez, Victoria Bartholomew, and Katie Trusty. The choirs are under the direction of Regina Schlaff, and their accompanist is Jacqueline Fisher.



MadriGALS & MADmen

On February 4, the Reeths-Puffer High School Choirs hosted the MSVMA Vocal Solo & Ensemble Festival. Congratulations to the MadriGALS on their perfect score giving them a Division 1 rating, and the MADmen for performing a near perfect score also with a Division 1 rating. The following singers achieved Division 1 ratings and qualified for State: Kyle Goltz, Morgan Perez (with a perfect score), Jonathan Krause, Victoria Batholomew, and Ray Brock. Also qualifying for state: Cassidy Briggs and Katie Trusty. Congratulations to Kami Seewald, Maria Nolan, Danielle Otworth, and Lucas Visscher on their performances at Solo & Ensemble.

RPHS Choirs Pops Concert, *BROADWAY!*

The Reeths-Puffer High School Choirs will present their annual Pops Concert, *BROADWAY!* on Thursday and Friday, May 18 & 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rocket Centre for the Fine Arts. The choirs will present solos and group dance numbers from Broadway shows, such as: *Wicked*, *Hairspray*, *The Wiz*, *Les Miserable*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Into the Woods*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Chicago*, *Aida*, and much more! Thursday night features the talents of our Reeths-Puffer Middle School Choirs presenting a selection from their spring musical, *Beauty and the Beast*. Friday is Choir Alumni night with an Ice Cream Social in the cafeteria afterwards - only \$2 a bowl. Tickets for the Pops concert are \$5 at the door, and \$15 for a family nucleus.



REETHS-PUFFER SCHOOLS 2016-2017 End of Year

May 6	High School Prom
May 18	RPHS Choir Pop Concert
May 19	RPHS Choir Pop Concert
May 26	K-12 AM Only
May 29	K-12 No School – Memorial Day
May 30 & 31	Senior Exams
June 5	Senior Awards, Rocket Centre, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
June 6	Graduation, L. C. Walker Arena, 6:30 p.m.
June 6	9-12 AM Only – HS Exams
June 7	9-12 AM Only – HS Exams
June 8	K-12 AM Only
	Records Day PM
	HS Exams
June 9	K-12 AM Only
	HS Exams
	Last day of School for all students



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