



School News October 2014



Dr. Myra Misles-Krhin, Principal

www.ripon.k12.wi.us

(920) 748-1550

Dear Parent,

Greetings as we complete the first month of the 2014-2015 school year! We are off to a great start and I am confident that this year will be another productive one for all. As you may know, we most recently received our School Report Card from the Department of Public Instruction for the 2013-2014 school year and I am proud to report that growth scores are up and achievement gaps are closing. It is clear that our teachers are using student data to guide their instruction in very specific ways.

During the first few weeks of the new school year, teachers have been spending time reviewing and practicing routines and procedures with their students. Research shows that when children are confident with routines and procedures that they will be better prepared to make appropriate choices in all settings. To this end, Mr. Nehls held a "Playground Rodeo" to familiarize our children with routines and procedures on our playground as well. Mr. Nehls has also acquainted the children with our new track during these beautiful fall days.

Hopefully, home routines to support our busy days at school are also in place. Children rely upon and need structure as these important transitions occur. Eight to ten hours of sleep is still the "norm" and a nutritious breakfast feeds our brains. If you find that your child does not have enough time in the morning for breakfast at home, please know that breakfast is served at school through your family lunch account.

Throughout the month of September our teachers have been meeting in collaborative teams during Late Start time and grade level team meetings to review last year's student data and analyze this year's student data. Information of this type is then used to make instructional decisions and to determine growth goals for each student. Know that ongoing data collection, the monitoring of student progress and the implementation of strategic interventions are all part of our *Response to Intervention (RtI)* process that keeps us focused toward our year end student achievement goals.

In addition to our daily instruction, all of first and second grade students have taken two formal assessments. The *Phonological Awareness and Literacy Screening (PALS)* is the state-provided screening tool. *PALS* measures the young child's knowledge of letter sounds, spelling, concept of word, word recognition in isolation, and oral passage reading. The major purpose of *PALS* is to identify those students who are below grade-level expectations in these areas and may be in need of additional reading instruction. The *PALS* assessment will be administered three times during the year to best monitor student progress. Our 4PS and kindergarten students will be assessed with *PALS* for the first time mid October.

Students in kindergarten, first and second grade have also taken the *STAR* assessment. *STAR* assessments measure specific skills as well as overall early literacy, reading, and math ability. These assessments compare students' achievement to that of students across the nation, estimate mastery of our state standards and report growth over time. *STAR* assessments will be used across all grade levels district wide.

Speaking of district-wide, I encourage you to check out the RASD website for calendar events and important information. For now please mark your calendars for the evening of October 9th. This will be an opportunity for you to "Meet Our Specialists" in conjunctions with Parent Teacher Conferences. We look forward to seeing you then!

Regards,

Dr. Myra Misles-Krhin



Calendar of Events

October 2nd

Picture re-take day

October 9th

Hearing and Vision Screening
Parent/Teacher conferences
Family Outreach Event at 6:00

October 10th

No School
Parent/Teacher conferences

October 13th

No School

October 16th

Monday Schedule
Flu Shots

October 30th

BP Technology Night

October 31st

Kindergarten to Little Farmer

Immunization Clinic

Wednesday, October 1st, 2014, the Fond du Lac County Health Dept. will be holding an immunization clinic at Ripon High School from 3-5 pm.

Children who are entering 6th grade will need a booster dose of Tdap (pertussis containing vaccine). **This vaccine is available free of charge, regardless of insurance status at the above clinic.**

The immunization clinic is able to accommodate English and Spanish speaking clients.

Additional vaccines will also be available at the clinic, but are limited to individuals:

- ♦ Who have no insurance
- ♦ Children who are on Medical Assistance (Forward card/BadgerCare).
- ♦ Whose insurance does not cover selected vaccines
- ♦ Who are American Indian and Alaska native whose only source of health care is provided by an Indian Health Service.

Vaccines can also be provided at the Fond du Lac Cty, Health Department during regularly scheduled office hours 8 to 4 pm Monday – Friday, or during immunization clinics held every 2nd Monday from 3-5 pm. Walk-ins are welcome. Please visit their website, www.fdlco.wi.gov, or call the FDL Cty, Health Department at (920) 929-3085 or 1-800-547-3640 for information on vaccines available and questions related to your child's vaccine history.

How to Build a Better Lunchbox at Pick 'N Save

Healthy Fats

Almonds
Avocado
Flaxseeds
Olives
Sunflower seeds
Tahini
Walnuts



Protein

Beans
Canned tuna
Cheese
Cottage cheese
Ham, turkey or chicken
Hard-boiled egg
Hummus
Lean beef
Seitan
Shrimp
Yogurt

Whole Grains

Tortillas
Brown rice
Quinoa
Barley
Granola
English muffin
Popcorn
Whole grain bread
Wheat crackers
Wheat pasta
Whole grain pita bread

Fruits

Apple
Banana
Grapes
Kiwi
Melon
Orange
Peach
Pear
Pineapple
Plum
Strawberries
Raspberries

Vegetables

Bell pepper
Broccoli
Carrots
Cauliflower
Celery
Cucumber
Green beans
Leafy greens
Peas
Summer squash
Tomato
Zucchini



Reminder

The Barlow Park/Journey office is open daily from 7:30 until 3:50.

Every Wednesday is Late Start the bell rings at 9:00.

Busses pick up students 1 hour later than normal.

****Supervision is available on Wednesdays in the Consumer Science room starting at 7:45 AM****

Attendance

Written approval from the child's parent or guardian is required in order for a child to be excused from school attendance. The written excuse should specify the reason for the absence and state the time period for which it is effective.

Excused absence

- illness
- doctor/dentist appointment that can be scheduled at no other time
- emergency (**determined by Principal**)

Unexcused absences

- errands
- shopping
- haircuts
- caring for younger or sick siblings
- out of town trips, vacations or family time that **has not been** prearranged

Excused tardy—marked after 8:15 am

- medical appointments that fall at the beginning of the morning or afternoon session
- transportation delays due to hazardous weather

Unexcused tardy—marked after 8:15 am

- arriving late because adequate time was not allowed
- oversleeping
- parent/guardian work schedules
- student supervision of siblings

Prearranged absence

Although the school discourages absence from school during regularly scheduled school days, a parent/guardian may excuse a child, in writing for not more than 10 days in a school year. **This request must be made a minimum of one day in advance of the child's absence.** The following questions will be considered prior to approval of a prearranged absence:

1. Is the student in good academic standing?
2. Is the student's attendance record good?
3. Has the student previously completed homework and make-up assignments responsibly on time?

WELCOME TO BARLOW PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND JOURNEY CHARTER SCHOOL!

Please review the following informational items as we begin our new school year:

- ♦ Our first bell rings at 8:00 am and our second bell rings at 8:05 am signaling the start of our instructional day.
- ♦ Outside supervision for our students begins at 7:45 am. Students who arrive between 7:45-8:00 am will be supervised outside by our playground supervisors as our teachers are planning for the school day between 7:30-8:00 am.
- ♦ Students can be dropped off at the front of our school between 7:45 - 8:00 am. If you are not able or do not choose to park your vehicle and walk your child to the sidewalk, children can exit your vehicle along the yellow curb on the sidewalk. Please be patient as students are dropped off and do not park along the yellow curb.
- ♦ The front door of our main entrance will remain locked during school hours. To enter our building, you will need to ring the bell and a member of our staff will "buzz" you in.
- ♦ Students can also be dropped off at the turn-around in the park behind our school at 7:45 am. Parents are reminded that our west side parking lot is reserved for buses and staff parking only. For the safety of our children, private vehicles are not allowed in this parking lot.
- ♦ Our instructional day ends at 3:13 p.m. Please wait for your child in the parent waiting area outside of the office or in the media center. This practice will avoid end of the day distractions as teachers are giving final directions at the end of the day and more importantly, keep our school as safe as possible.
- ♦ Outside supervision for our students at the end of the day will be provided until 3:30 pm. Children who do not ride the bus can to be picked up at the front of our school. Students must be escorted from the sidewalk to vehicles due to the amount of traffic at this time. With this in mind, parents are asked to park vehicles in the angle parking spaces provided and walk to meet their child on-site. Children can also be picked up at the turn around in the park behind our school. Supervision on the back playground is also provided for this purpose but it would be helpful for students to leave our playground area as soon as they are dismissed. Feel free to come back to play after our students have departed.
- ♦ Please note that cell phones are not to be used in our school during the instructional day due to the unnecessary distractions they can cause to our students and staff. Please turn all cell phones off before entering the building.

I thank you for your attention to these important school-wide procedures.

Dr. Myra Misles-Krhin

Barlow Park & Journey Elementary PTO

What is the Barlow Park PTO and what do they do?

The Parent Teacher Organization at Barlow Park/Journey Elementary School is made up of parent volunteers, teacher representatives and the principal. The PTO meets monthly to plan and organize fundraising to sponsor grade level field trips, equipment for the school and teachers and to provide lyceums (speakers and presentations). The PTO hosts a luncheon for staff in honor of Staff Appreciation Week, provides refreshments for events like Technology Night and Grandparents Day, and purchases t-shirts for Kindergartners. Everything we do benefits the children and families of Barlow Park/Journey Elementary School.

How can you get involved?

You can join us at our next meeting and be an active member of the PTO and attend monthly meetings, or you can sign the general help sheet and will be called when needed. All parents are welcome to attend monthly meetings whether or not they are members of the PTO. Being involved with the PTO is a great way to get better acquainted with the school and staff and to do something positive to make a difference in the lives of our children. **Contact Carly Mancl at 920-748-3912** if you have questions.

We need help cutting and packaging Box Tops

The General Mills Box Tops program is a large source of our income, but we need your help. We need volunteers to take home bags of box tops, trim them, package them in snack bags and return them in a timely manner. If you are interested, please call **Haley Julian**.



Help by supporting fundraisers and rebate/refund programs

Last year the Barlow Park PTO collected and raised over \$16,800 thanks to parents like you and your support of our fundraisers and rebate/refund programs. Our fall cookie dough fundraiser raised over \$8,000 last year and is our largest fundraiser. Please continue to participate in these important programs by doing the following:

TARGET- When you shop at Target stores and use your Target Debit or Target Credit Card, we will receive a refund equal to 1 percent of your purchases. To designate Barlow Park Elementary to benefit from your Target Card call 1-800-316-6142. (Of course shop locally whenever possible as local businesses support our fundraisers.) Last year we received \$342 from Target.

GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION- Turn in your box tops from labeled General Mills products. We receive ten cents for each Box Top collected. Last year we received \$5,391 from General Mills.

In past years, our PTO was able to purchase iPads, digital cameras, and new knee/elbow pads for the roller skating unit with the money raised. Grade level field trips and theater performances have also been funded. Your past support is much appreciated and your continued help is important to our school. Thank you!

Conscious Discipline at Barlow Park School

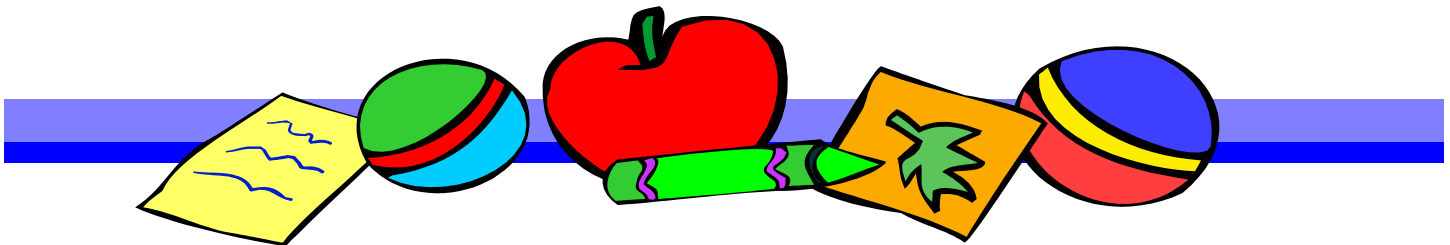
Conscious Discipline® forms the basis of the school-wide Social Skills Program at Barlow Park School. Over the past several years staff members at Barlow Park have spent many hours learning and practicing the concepts of Conscious Discipline. Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, social-emotional curriculum that facilitates a sense of community wherein positive behaviors and attitudes are taught and fostered in students, staff, and parents. These approaches are based on current brain research, child development information, and developmentally appropriate practices. Conscious Discipline was developed by Dr. Becky Bailey, PhD., and was recognized as a national model by the Character Education Partnership in 2005.

In keeping with Conscious Discipline's focus on building caring, cooperative, and respectful relationships as a foundation for achieving school success, we have organized our school's Social Skills Program around the theme of "We Are a School Family." Our goal is to create problem-solvers who are able to successfully manage the important life tasks of learning, displaying self-control, forming relationships, communicating effectively, and getting along with others. Seven basic skills of discipline related to social and emotional competence form the core of our monthly instructional program. These are:

Choices
Encouragement
Consequences
Positive Intent

Composure
Assertiveness
Empathy

Through direct instruction and guided practice in everyday situations, students will have the opportunity to learn and practice skills of interaction that promote respect and develop the inner self-discipline necessary for effective learning.



Responsive Classroom Approach

The teachers at Journey Charter School and many staff members from Barlow Park Elementary School use the Responsive Classroom Approach into their daily teaching practices. This approach uses the following Guiding Principles to ensure best teaching practices:

- ♦ The social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum.
- ♦ How children learn is as important as what they learn: Process and content go hand in hand.
- ♦ The greatest cognitive growth occurs through social interaction.
- ♦ To be successful academically and socially, children need to learn and practice specific social skills. Five particularly important skills are cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control (often referred to in the Responsive Classroom approach with the acronym CARES).
- ♦ Knowing the children we teach-individually, culturally, and developmentally-is as important as knowing the content we teach.
- ♦ Knowing the families of the children we teach is as important as knowing the children we teach.
- ♦ How we, the adults at school, work together is as important as our individual competence: Lasting change begins with the adult community.

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members!



Stacey Bradley-Clemo
Classroom Aide

My name is Stacey Bradley-Clemo but prefer to be called Stacey or Ms. Bradley. I am a mother of 2 boys, ages 14 and 2 years old. I am a foster parent but currently do not have placement of any children. I live in Pickett and love the area so much that I never left. I graduated in May with an Associate's Degree in Instructional Assistant and Early Childhood Education. I enjoy spending time with my family. I have many hobbies such as scrapbooking, snow skiing, boating, fishing, taking nature walks, listening to music, reading all types of books and watching favorite television shows and movies. I am so very excited to be working at Barlow Park and very happy to be working with Mrs. Willoughby and her kindergarten class. I am so excited that you are sharing your children with me and giving me the chance to love them and educate them as much as I love my own children!



Laura Damsteegt
Classroom Aide

My name is Laura Damsteegt and I am very excited to be an assistant to Mrs. Highlander starting this school year! My family and I moved to Ripon four years ago and we absolutely love the community and school district. My children, Jeehoon (age 4) and Taeyang (age 6), are also students in the district. I received my Bachelor's Degree in Education (pre-kindergarten thru 6th grade) from the University of Wisconsin – River Falls and I am a Licensed Educator. I have had the opportunity to be a substitute teacher for the Rosendale-Brandon and Ripon Area School Districts, a summer school teacher for the Ripon, and a kindergarten teacher for the Rosendale-Brandon. My husband works for the City of Ripon and we live in the community. During our free time, my family and I enjoy traveling and experiencing a variety of locations and cultures from around the world.



Jesse Lain
Art Teacher

Hello, I'm Jesse Lain the new Art teacher for most of the second grade at Barlow Park Elementary and Journey Charter Schools. I also teach all levels of art at Ripon Middle/Catalyst. I live in Oshkosh and also went to UW-Oshkosh earning a BFA Art Education. I have previous experience teaching art to levels pre-k through 12th grade. For fun I like to visit art galleries, spend time outdoors biking, kayaking, hiking, and snowboarding. I also have a 9 year old daughter who keeps me busy.

We've already started some exciting projects this year and will continue the year with themes of animals, ourselves, and family. Along with the themes, we will use the elements and principles of art, look at art history, and use many techniques to make art.

We can always use donations of supplies in the art department. Some suggestions of items that would help us out are, newspaper, art supplies, and containers like ice cream buckets.

WELCOME!

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members!

Sheena Cleveland **Second Grade Teacher**

Hello! My name is Sheena Cleveland and I am very excited to be Journey Charter School's new 2nd grade teacher. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 2011. I previously student taught 2nd grade at Winneconne Elementary and 4th grade at Omro Elementary. I am originally from the Fond du Lac area and moved to Ripon a year and a half ago with my family. I am returning to teaching after taking some time off to raise my daughter, Sequoia. I am so excited to be back doing what I love - teaching!

It is my passion as an educator to make learning fun, engaging, and an importance in children's lives. I am here to help them discover the world and learn the skills needed to become successful in whatever they choose to pursue. I am honored to be a part of Journey Charter School and look forward to collaborating with staff and parents to effectively help children grow academically and socially.

Dana Franco **Media Center Specialist**

My name is Dana Franco. I was born and raised in New York State and graduated from CUNY Brooklyn College with an MEd in Early Childhood Education. I moved to Wisconsin in 2003 and brought with me, experience in teaching Head Start, Preschool, First Grade, Second Grade, and English Language Learners. I am committed to library science and am pursuing a second masters degree. I look forward to a great year of collaborating with teachers to ensure a seamless transition from media center to classroom. I live with my family in Fall River, Wisconsin. In my spare time I enjoy reading, gardening, playing with my children, traveling, and Zumba.



McBeth Fernandez **Classroom Aide**

Hello! My name is McBeth Fernandez. I was born in Chicago, Illinois and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I love music, to play the guitar, scrapbooking, and I truly enjoy reading. My family and I are proud to be Ripon residents where my sons attend school. My youngest son does a variety of sports, my middle son loves to play on the computer, and my oldest son enjoys facts on firefighters.

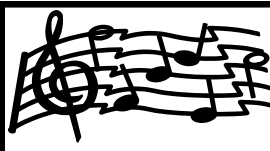
Poh Yee Goh **School Psychologist**

My name is Poh Yee Goh. I was born and raised in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. I speak English, Malay, Chinese Mandarin, Chinese Cantonese, and Chinese Taiwanese. I have been in the United States since 2009. I attended Bemidji State University, MN where I received my Bachelor Degree in Psychology. I then obtained a Masters of Science in Education (M.S. Ed.) in School Psychology from UW-Stout and now I'm currently pursuing an Education Specialist Degree in School Psychology. I just recently got married, and live in Oshkosh with my husband. In my free time I enjoy music, movies, and spending time with my family and friends.

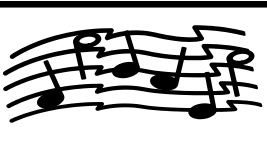


Dennis Jahns **Custodian**

We would also like to welcome Dennis Jahns to our school family. Dennis started working at our building in June as Custodian. Dennis was the Custodian at the Middle School before he joined us. We greatly appreciate everything he has done for us this year already.



Keeping the Beat in Music



As the school year begins, students will experience many events & activities to stimulate musical growth. During the month of September, we focus on the steady beat through singing, playing, listening, moving, creating, reading, & writing. The first & second graders then learn new rhythm patterns to play. Here is a quick summary of outcomes worked on:

Kindergarten children are learning basic music concepts that include the steady beat, and high & low sounds. We are developing a song repertoire from which performance activities & games can be derived. Singing games always have a positive influence on specific social skills while developing steady beat skills. Ask your child to sing & do the motions with “Johnny Works with One Hammer,” for example.

First graders are playing the steady beat, using body percussion & instruments while singing. They are beginning to read & perform rhythm patterns – long sounds (ta) & 2 short sounds together (ti-ti). First graders are also demonstrating ostinatos (repeated patterns). Ask your child to do “Hop Old Squirrel” with words & pat-clapping.

Second graders are reviewing rhythm patterns that use “ta, ti-ti, & ta rest.” We have been creating & playing ostinatos which reinforce these patterns. Ask your child to perform the “apple” ostinato pattern & motions they created in cooperative teams....they were awesome! It is so rewarding to see the retention & growth as they apply their music skills!

If at any point during the year you have a question or concern about your child’s music education, please contact me at school: 748-1550 or e-mail: stracyb@ripon.k12.wi.us.

“Keeping the beat”

Barbara Stracy



On the Move in Physical Education



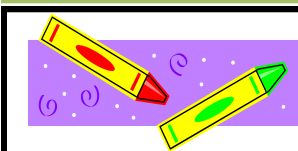
I'd like to welcome everyone to another exciting and active year in Physical Education. As always, we continue to plan many activities for the up-coming school year to help aid and improve the student's physical, social, and emotional developmental needs. Our emphasis continues to be on fitness as it is a very important area in our curriculum. We will be working toward improving our fitness levels as the year goes on. Along with improvement, the students will gain an understanding of cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and flexibility. Other areas that we will be active in are fine and gross motor activities, eye-hand and eye-foot coordination, rhythms, rope jumping, rope climbing, other manipulatives, being honest, working together, being fair, being respectful and much more.

As always, I am excited for the year and look forward to a fun and exciting school year. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

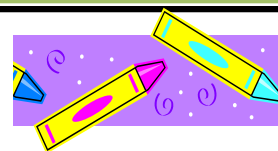
Always on the Move,

Dale E. Nehls

K – 2 Physical Education



Being Creative in Art



WOW! What a great start to the beginning of a new school year. Each class has started the year off with creating a self portrait that will be saved until the time they reach 5th grade. At the end of 5th grade students will be able to look back at all the self portraits they have done and they will notice how much their drawing skills have improved over the years.

We will be doing something new this year for our newsletters. We are going to capitalize all our vocabulary words and medium used. Your child will have been taught these words as we go through the projects. Ask your child what the words mean and what kind of medium they used to create their projects.

In Kindergarten we have finished our first project. We used WATERCOLORS to make a BACKGROUND. We used black ink to blow our trees. We then used TEMPERA paint to make our leaves. We used a foam brush and dipped it into paint. Then we made dots on the trees for our leaves.

In first grade we have finished our first project. We talked about PRINTMAKING and FOUND OBJECTS. Each student used METALLIC PAINT to make a print with leaves. They used three papers to create a TRIP-TYCH. We cut out our leaves and glued them onto a long piece of construction paper. To finish the project we used the metallic paint and added dots.

In second grade we read the book "Elmer." We talked about how being different is a good thing. We looked at the SHAPES of an elephant. We used those shapes to draw the OUTLINE. We used a sharpie marker to trace all lines. We used TISSUE PAPER and glue to fill in the elephant. When all of the glue dried we used the sharpie marker to draw PATTERNS on the elephant so that everyone was different. We then glued our elephants onto construction paper.

Ms. Willett & Mr. Lain



Media Center News



The Barlow Park and Journey Media Center has begun the new school year with many new things: from new books, to online resources that provide new opportunities for learning. Your child will usually see Patti Ingram on a daily basis. Ms. Dana Franco, the district media specialist, visits twice a month on Fridays to provide library skills lessons. We are both very excited to be a part of the Barlow Park and Journey staff and hope we can develop a love of books and reading in your child.

Many students had the opportunity to continue developing their love for books over the summer with the Summer Reading Program. Each child that signed up for the program, was able to check out ten books at a time over the summer. Several students came back during summer school to restock their selections. It was great to see the excitement on their faces as they checked out more books!

The Ripon Public Library held the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative to help place books into the hands and homes of pre-K children. As each child read 100 books they claimed their prize at the library.

Now that summer is over the children are becoming more excited about learning how to check out books for the first time or to continue checking out books. With this excitement comes lots of books being checked out and returned. At times it can be very difficult to keep up with our fast readers. If you are interested in volunteering to help in the library, please stop in and inquire in the office. We look forward to another grand year filled with lots of excitement about developing a love for reading!



“We are a School Family”
Barlow Park/Journey Social Skills Program
October: Composure
“We use self-control.”



The discipline skill of “composure” will be the focus of the Social Skills Program during the month of October. Composure can be defined as self-control in action. Healthy, secure relationships require that we control our own upset. This is true of both adults and children. The ability to be aware of and manage one’s emotions has been called “emotional intelligence.” How individuals develop with respect to emotional intelligence has been found to be a greater predictor of future academic, career, and social success than intellectual ability. It is essential that children be provided with regular opportunities to learn to acknowledge and name their feelings and be taught appropriate ways to express and manage those feelings. In particular, anger management is integral to social competence. Neither children nor adults can think clearly when they are angry and upset. The children’s storybook, Shubert is a S.T.A.R., has been used to show students appropriate ways to calm themselves when they are upset. Modeling and role-playing has also helped students learn how to use words to express their feelings and solve problems in cooperative ways. Ask your child to show you how to be a “S.T.A.R.” at calming down!

Lessons in our Social Skills Program in the month of October included the following:

1. We calm ourselves when we are upset.
 - a. S.T.A.R (**S**top, **T**ake a deep breath **A**nd **R**elax)
 - b. Pretzel
 - c. Balloon
 - d. Drain
2. We talk one at a time.
 - a. Raise your hand to have a turn.
 - b. Talk loudly enough for others to hear.
 - c. Stick to the point—others are waiting for a turn.
 - d. If you need to interrupt a conversation:
 - ♥Say “Excuse me.”
 - ♥Use “Body Basics” when talking.
3. We accept “No” from a person in authority.
 - a. Use “Body Basics”.
 - b. Say “OK”.
 - c. Stay Calm.
 - d. Do as you are asked.
4. We can share our feeling appropriately.
 - a. Notice how bodies and actions show feelings.
 - b. Know that it is OK to be mad, but not OK to be hurtful.
 - c. Think about how to calm yourself without being hurtful.
 - ♥S.T.A.R, Pretzel, Balloon, Drain.
 - ♥Go to a safe place to calm down.
 - ♥Ask for a time to share feelings with a person in authority.
 - d. If feelings have been hurt by another, use words to tell that person.
 - ♥“It hurts my feelings when you ----- . Next time, please _____”.
 - e. Show patience when you want a turn.
 - ♥Wait for your turn without pushing, grabbing, or crowding.
 - f. Share happy/excited feelings without bragging.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Aidan
Allee
Anastasia
Andrea
Ava
Brennan
Cayden
Emerson
Evan

Grant
Hayley
Joseph
Kaylan
Kira
Kyler
Layla
Lilliona
Logan

Madison
Maliki
Margaret
Mirabella
Nelly
Noemi
Peighton
Priscilla
Robert

Seth
Sienna
Spencer
Stephanie
Timothy
Timothy
Vicente

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Aidan
Alaina
Anna
Brandon
Caleb
Carly
Cassidy
Christopher

Coy
Devin
Emerson
Gavin
Hazel
Kadince
Kayla
Kerrigan

Landon
Landyn
Lane
Leah
Lydia
Michael
Paige
Ryan

Serenity
Sky
Sofiya
Tristan
Urijah

Ripon Area School District Family Outreach Programs

Unless specified, all programs are held at Barlow Park/Journey

Programs are free and open to all families.

Registration is encouraged. Free child care is available.

October: Meet the Specialists!

Thursday, October 9th

5:00-6:00

Meet the Specialists provides your family an opportunity to meet the rest of your child's educational team: Ms. Pam Willett, Art Teacher; Mr. Dale Nehls, Phy. Ed. Teacher; and Mrs. Barbara Stracy, Music Teacher. Each teacher has an exciting session planned for you.

Facility Improvement Referendum Fact Sheet



Facility Improvement Referendum

Ripon Area
School District

Building Our Future

Vote November 4!

Two referendum questions to appear on the ballot:

Question 1

Question 1: requests permission to borrow funds not to exceed \$29.1 million for paying the cost of constructing additions to, renovating and remodeling the high school to create a combined middle school and high school on one campus; demolishing the current middle school to convert the space into a parking lot and tennis courts; undertaking safety, security and other improvements at the elementary schools; and acquiring furnishings, fixtures and equipment.

Question 2

Question 2: requests the continuation of the existing \$500,000 operational referendum for the 2015-2016 school year through 2020-2021 for non-recurring purposes consisting of updating curriculum, updating technology, performing maintenance and replacing vehicles.

Why this plan?

Average Life Expectancy of a School Building: 40 Years

Renovations help to extend the building's life, but the Middle School has been in use for 75 years, 35 years longer than the average expectancy.

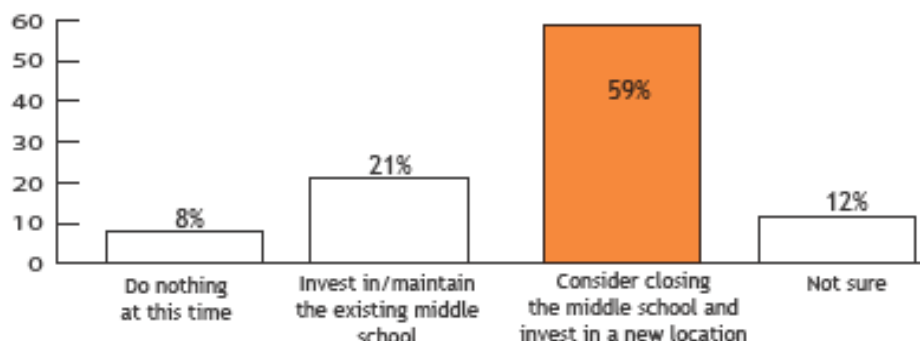
School	Year Built
Middle School	1939
High School	1963
Murray Park Elementary School	1992
Barlow Park Elementary School	1999

The District has the responsibility to provide learning environments that meet the basic physical and emotional needs of students while being fiscally responsible and good stewards of taxpayers' dollars.

In recent years, the District has been focused on developing educational initiatives to better prepare our students for careers, college and life after high school. The District has made a commitment to provide students and staff with the training, support, and resources needed for success.

It's now time to address our outdated school facilities by providing safe, affordable, accessible, and equitable schools for all students and staff. The District has been working with the community for more than a year to define a long-term Facilities Master Plan to cost-effectively repair and revitalize our aging facilities.

Our schools have become inefficient and outdated. Furthermore, the Middle School has exceeded its useful life. The proposed plan would demolish the existing school and create a combined Middle School and High School facility. With renovations and additions, the existing High School building can continue to be used. This project maintains the pool, improves the auditorium and adds a gym, cafeteria, and classroom space to accommodate all students in grades 6-12. The combined facility can still accommodate an increase in enrollment, while maximizing operating efficiency by consolidating from two schools into one school. This plan provides a long-term solution for Ripon Area School District.

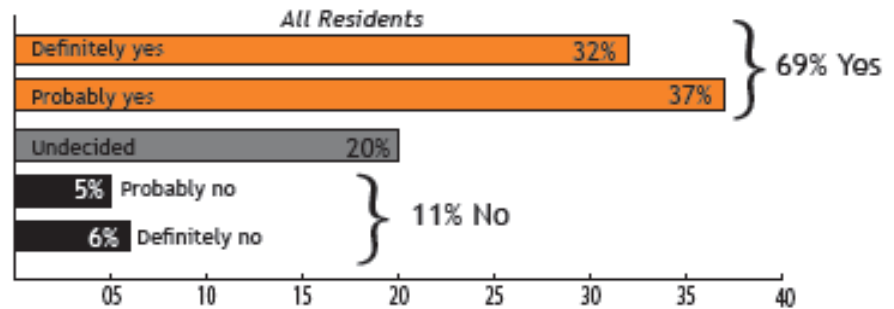


When residents were asked how the Board should proceed with planning for the Middle School...

59%
support closing
the middle school.

69%

of district residents indicated they would likely support the continuation of the \$500,000 operational referendum.



What is included in this plan?



- ✓ Increased Safety and Security
- ✓ Updated HVAC Systems
- ✓ All Schools Meet ADA Regulations
- ✓ Improved Annual Operating Budget
- ✓ Flexible/Adaptable Learning Spaces
- ✓ Energy Improvements and Savings
- ✓ New and Improved Middle School and High School Facility
- ✓ New Gymnasium
- ✓ Buildings Operate More Efficiently
- ✓ New Tennis Courts
- ✓ Expands School and Event Parking
- ✓ Access to Latest Technology
- ✓ Updated Pool and Locker Rooms
- ✓ Proximity to Ingalls Field
- ✓ MS Students Have Access to HS Programming
- ✓ Spaces for Community Use
- ✓ Reconfiguration of Under Utilized Spaces



What is the tax impact?

NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL Project Cost: \$29,100,000	Estimated AVERAGE ANNUAL Prop- erty Tax Impact:	Estimated AVERAGE MONTHLY Property Tax Impact:
Increase per \$100,000 of property value	\$123.00	\$10.25
Increase per \$200,000 of property value	\$246.00	\$20.50
Increase per \$300,000 of property value	\$369.00	\$30.75

Principal repayment & borrowing of funds extended over 20 years at 4.5% interest rate.

Visit the District website for more information. www.ripon.k12.wi.us