



Superintendent Weekly Note #13

Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing...It's About Kids!!!!

RIS Mission: *Our mission is to inspire and empower all students to reach their maximum potential: **one student, one lesson, one day at a time.***

Things I CAN Control...

1. My **ATTITUDE**
2. My **EFFORT**
3. My **BEHAVIOR**
4. My **ACTIONS** to be a Great Team Member

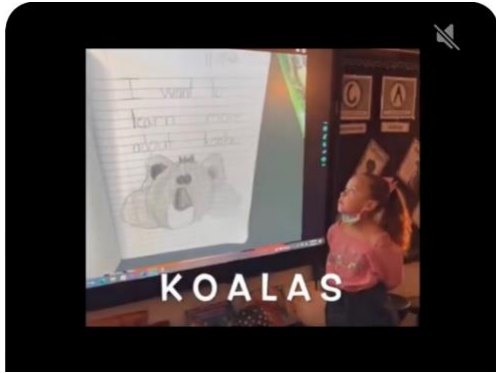
*Continue to focus on the RIS four core beliefs:
It's about Kids! —Accountability—Transparency—Communication.*

☺ *Positives across the district.....*

Russell Primary School (From the desk of Mrs. Crager)

- Russell Primary School and Russell Preschool received the KET The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That Family and Community Learning Workshop Series Grant in the amount of \$2, 500.00. **Thank you Mrs. Cole for writing this grant!** We are always excited to find ways to enhance our family and community involvement at RPS.
- Mrs. Rivers received an Educational Impact Grant from Members Choice Credit Union in the amount of \$200.00 to purchase books for her classroom.
- We have had three studnets excell in their reading the first half of the school year!
- Mrs. House's class is learning about non-standard units of measurement and her class made Christmas chains as tall as they are. Then they used the chains to decorate their classroom. Who says math can't be fun.
- Mrs. Down's class has been researching about animals and using technology to share their research with their classmates. You can watch Mrs Downs Writing on youtube.com
- Our trusted scout elf Snowflake has made his way back to RPS. The students are writing letters and notes about how he got stuck in the ceiling!





Russell-McDowell Intermediate (From the desk of Mrs. Wright)

- Third and fifth-grade students participated in ITBS and CogAT norm-referenced assessments.
- Our Club Days began with a great turnout! We have Reading, Math, and Typing Clubs that begin at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday! What a wonderful opportunity for our students! (Thank you ESS funding!)
- After Christmas, we are offering Volleyball Club. This will be an opportunity for our students to learn the basics of playing volleyball and to have fun and physical activity at the same time!
- On Monday we start our countdown to Christmas break celebrations with dress-up days. Information for these days has been placed on Remind and the RMIS Facebook page!

Russell Middle School (From the desk of Mr. Moore)

- RMS Orchestra performed their Christmas Concert providing sounds for the Holiday Season. Thank you, Mr. Stowers and supporters for organizing this event.
- Russell Middle School students participated in the Russell Christmas Parade. Students marched with the band, rode with the police and fire departments. This is a great way to build civic virtue.
- Gatti's Pizza was back! Students were excited to receive this pre-pandemic lunch option!

Russell High School (From the desk of Mrs. Chaffin)

- Student Government Powder Puff Game raised \$1200 for scholarships.
- Basketball season is officially underway.
- Orchestra concert was a big success.
- Teachers and students are preparing for finals week.

- We will be hosting the EKC basketball games next week.

Russell Area Technology Center (From the desk of Mrs. S. Thompson)

- We hosted our very first VIRTUAL Safety Inspection here at the RATC. Our State Safety Inspector provided an online video meeting and we did a walk-through tour of our facility! It was great fun! Everything checked out wonderfully! Thank you to Mr. Roy Craft for his hard work daily to maintain our building so well! Thank you to our RATC teachers and students for taking such pride in our school! Huge thank you to Mr. Dave Craft and the Russell Maintenance Team for their intentional care and work in our building every day! Thank you to our Russell home district, Dr. Horne and our Russell Board Members, for your investments in our physical building, our programs, & our students! We are super blessed to have Russell as our Home District!
- Through our COVID funding, we were able to purchase a new washer and dryer set for our Health Sciences, Pre-Nursing Program! So proud of Ms. Layne & Mrs. Rose as they train & equip our future healthcare workers with the important skills, empathy, and integrity to care for others!
- HUGE shout out to the Russell Technology Department for their work on our mobile computer lab! Mr. Malone & Mr. McCracken worked for days on our laptops and we so appreciate their hard work! Our teachers and students depend on our technology and it takes a lot of expertise, time, and energy to keep it all going! We appreciate Mrs. Casto, Mr. Malone, Mr. McCracken, & Mr. Dillon so very much!!!
- Our TSA & FBLA students decorated our tree in the front lobby! It is beautiful! It has been named the CTE/PPE Tree of 2021! It is decorated with lights, mask bows, College Ready Medals, Dual Certified Medallions, and beautiful blue and silver bows made by our very own Mrs. Wilburn and our FBLA students!
- Our teachers are trained & ready for our Industry Certification Exams to begin! Thanks to Mrs. Aldrich, we completed our Testing Ethics - Administration & Inclusion training this week! We are equipped and ready to test!!! Bring on those seniors!!!

Russell Preschool (From the desk of Mrs. Staton)

Preschool had a wonderful time with friends during Friendsgiving before we left on break. We are excited to be back in school and are thinking of the upcoming holiday! The rainy weather had us using the bus canopy for gross motor skills this week. We LOVE to hang ornaments on the Christmas tree! This is a great way to work the small muscles in our fingers and improve our fine motor skills.



What's happening at central office / district this week?

- **December Board of Education Meeting—December 20 at 6:00 PM in the Central Office board room. This is an open meeting and a great opportunity to learn what is going on in the district. Great leadership opportunity!**

