



Superintendent's Message

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year! In just a few weeks we will begin the new school year. This is certainly an exciting time for students and staff. Throughout the summer, your district team continues our commitment to excellence by teaching summer school, hiring and training staff, writing curriculum, and cleaning and repairing buildings to be ready for the first day of school. As always, our Ripon family team will align our work this year around the Board's four strategic priorities.

Student Engagement and Learning

- Solid education in a healthy/safe environment (*Summer School, p.1; Summer Food Service, p.6*)
- Provide support services to ensure student success (*Graduate Profile, p.2; Registration, p.5, Odyssey p.3*)
- Close achievement gaps in literacy and math (*Achievement, p.2; Summer School, p.6*)

Service and Partnership

- Increase partnerships and satisfaction through CQI (*Community Calendar, p.2*)

Human Resources

- Increase opportunities to build high quality staff (*Superintendent Transition, p.1*)

Finance and Operations

- Refine systems to find efficiencies (*Facilities Improvements, p.3*)

For new students and families, welcome to RASD. We are honored you chose us! For our returning students and families, welcome back! We look forward to continuing to serve you. The staff is ready and committed to providing your children with exceptional education opportunities everyday throughout the year.

Respectfully Yours,



Mr. Ron Rivard
Superintendent of Schools



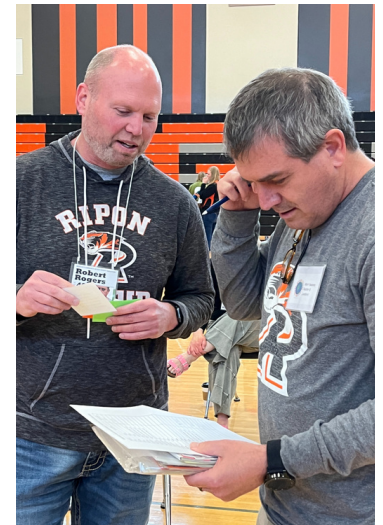
4K students discovered what life on the farm is like during their annual spring field trip.



Human Resources

Superintendent Transition

Ripon's new Superintendent, Mr. Ron Rivard, spent ten days in the Ripon Area School District before his official July 1 start date. Those days in Ripon were spent working with teaching staff during an inservice day, collaborating with outgoing Superintendent Dr. Mary Whitrock to build his knowledge of the past and current context, and meeting one-on-one with all members of the Ripon Board of Education and district administrative staff. Mr. Rivard has relocated to the city of Ripon and is actively familiarizing himself with his new community. He is scheduled to continue engaging with civic groups and community leaders. With the 2025-26 school year rapidly approaching, he is enthusiastic about the opportunity to interact with Ripon staff, students and their families.



RHS English Teacher Paul Wiegel (right) speaks to Ron Rivard about his rent that is due. Wiegel played the part of a mortgage broker while Rivard was a member of the "Rogers Family" during the May 9 Staff Inservice Poverty Simulation



Student Engagement & Learning



Summer School teacher Jane Bradley demonstrates how to boil eggs to students in the "Kids in the Kitchen" class.



Barlow Park Summer School students design name tags during the first day.

Service & Partnership

Thank You Sponsors



Local sponsors supply a free printed 12-month Community Calendar to over 5,000 Ripon households. This student created project provides information about school, family friendly civic, and community events. Additional copies of the calendar are available at all schools and the district office.



The Class of 2025 celebrates with the traditional cap toss after their final dismissal from Ripon High School Principal Bill Kinziger.

Student Engagement & Learning

Overall District Achievement

The 2024-25 End of Year Goals Report to the School Board focused on Grades K- 8 reading and math proficiency and Grades 9-12 course pass rate and honor roll. The report also tracks indicators of success such as attendance, pupil service contacts, and office discipline referrals. Utilizing this information, the School Board ensures all students become proficient by monitoring the capacity of each school to provide interventions and support.

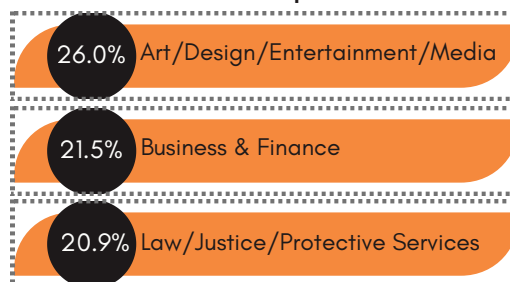
Based on a school-wide assessment in reading, students in Grades 3-5 who began the year with a gap of two or more grade levels from their peers, went from 28% to only 9%. At the high school level, students passed over 98% of all classes, and 53% of all students made the honor roll. Of this year's graduating class, 57% made the honor roll.

Student Engagement & Learning

Ripon High School Graduate Profile

The My Options survey of this year's seniors provides a graduate profile. Results show the percentage of graduates first in the family to attend college increased by over 1.1% compared to last year. The top career choice remains Art/Design/Entertainment/Media, with Business and Finance coming in second shifting from Allied Health & Medicines. Law/Justice/Protective Services remained the third top career with interest in this category increasing from 15.7% to 20.9%.

2025 Graduates' Top Three Careers



FUTURE PLANS	2025	2024
First in the family to attend college	31.1%	30.9%
Plan to attend four-year institution	84.1%	82.8%



Finance & Operations

Facilities Improvements



The playground at Murray Park dates back to 1992 and has reached the end of its lifespan. Due to deterioration, multiple pieces of the current structure have been removed within the past five years, including a slide, climbing log, and balance beam. A committee of students, staff, and administrators collaborated to design a new playground that meets the needs of students while staying within a defined budget. The school board approved the design which incorporates nearly all features requested by the committee and ensures a safe, inclusive, and engaging play environment. Fundraisers will cover the majority of the project including \$100,000-\$120,000 for equipment. Site work costs of \$38,000 will be paid out of Fund 46.



The bleachers in the Ripon Middle School gym will be replaced this fall. The current bleachers pose safety and accessibility challenges with no handicap-accessible seating or aisle railings. The west bleachers are inoperable, and the east bleachers rely on removable end railings that require replacement. Permanent, modern seating will be installed on the west side and two portable bleachers will be purchased for the east side to provide flexible seating for tournaments and events. The new bleachers (\$179,000), manufactured by the same company used for the high school gym, will provide seating for approximately 675 people with a design matching the high school's. The project includes \$8,000 for removing and recycling old bleachers. The gym walls will be repainted (\$50,000), as they remained untouched during renovations over a decade ago and sound panels will also be installed to improve acoustics and enhance the space's functionality for events. The project will be paid for through Fund 46.



Student Engagement & Learning

Odyssey Updates

Odyssey Academy of Virtual Learning (OAVL) which offers instruction in Grades 4K - 12 made changes to better align with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for the 2025-26 school year. Changes to Odyssey for 2025-26 at the 4K-5 level include more daily direct instruction in reading, writing, and math with interactive classes on Zoom that meet multiple times each week. Grades 6-12 will continue with the live class schedule implemented during the 2024-25 school year. All levels will have specific weekly criteria to meet attendance requirements and PE/Health/FCS/Music classes will be taught by Odyssey Staff.

Odyssey Fieldtrips



Odyssey students and family met Odyssey teachers for a day of learning at Pollack-Vu Farms where they made new feathered friends.



Odyssey students learned about fire safety and the services provided by emergency personnel during their visit to the West Bend Fire Department.

Asbestos Notification

As a result of federal legislation (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act-AH ERA), each primary and secondary school in the nation is required to complete stringent inspection for asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos-containing building materials. The Ripon Area School District has a goal to be in full compliance with this law and is following the spirit, as well as, the letter of the law. As a matter of policy, the district shall continue to maintain a safe and healthful environment for our community's youth and employees. In keeping with this legislation, all buildings (including portables and support buildings) owned or leased by Ripon Area School District were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors and an independent laboratory analyzed samples. Based on the inspection, the school prepared the and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for handling the asbestos located within its buildings safely and responsibly. Furthermore, the Ripon School District, has completed the 3-year Re-inspections required by AHERA. Our district buildings, where asbestos-containing materials were found, are under Area repair, removal and Operation and Maintenance. This past year Ripon Area School District conducted the following with respect to its asbestos containing building materials: Continued to implement our Operations and Maintenance Program. Federal Law requires a periodic walk-through (called "surveillance") every six months of each area containing asbestos. Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. will accomplish this under contract. Short-term workers (outside contractors - i.e., telephone repair workers, electricians and exterminators) must be provided information regarding the location of asbestos in which they may come into contact. All short-term shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work to be given this information. The Ripon Area School District has a list of the location(s); type(s) workers of asbestos containing materials found in that school building and a description and timetable for their proper management. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan available for review in the school office. Copies are available at 25 cents per page. Questions related to the plan should be directed to Jason Schneider of Environmental Management Consulting, Inc. at 920-648-6343 or by contacting 920-748-4600.

Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Ripon Area School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extra-curricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, the national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, genetic information, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap, as required by s. 118.13, Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The District encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available, however, to address allegations of violations of the policy in the Ripon Area School District. Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to the District Compliance Officers: Business Manager Jonah Adams or Pupil Services Director Emmy Jess, P.O. Box 991, Ripon, WI 54971 (920) 748-4600. Any complaint regarding the interpretation or application of the District's Student Nondiscrimination Policy shall be processed in accordance with the following grievance procedures:

- Where the Complainant desires informal complaint resolution if possible, the complaint shall be submitted verbally or in writing to the Principal at the lowest appropriate level that can provide resolution of the complaint. Confirmation of receipt of the complaint must be provided in writing to all parties involved within 10 school days of the receipt of the complaint;
- Where informal resolution efforts are not possible or satisfactory or desired, any student, parent, or resident of the district complaining of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap in school programs or activities shall report the complaint in writing via the Formal Complaint of Discrimination form to the Compliance Officers c/o P.O. Box 991, Ripon, WI 54971. The Compliance Officers, upon receiving such a written complaint, shall verify receipt of the complaint in writing as soon as possible (and no more than 45 days after receipt of the written complaint) and shall immediately undertake an investigation of the suspected infraction. The Compliance Officers will review, with the Principal or other appropriate persons, the facts comprising the alleged discrimination. The Compliance Officers will make an investigation of the complaint and will file a written report with recommendations with the Superintendent within 15 working days of receipt of the complaint;
- Within 10 days after receiving the complaint the Superintendent shall hold a conference with the Compliance Officers and then decide the merits of the case, determine the action to be taken, if any, and report in writing the findings and the resolution of the case to the Complainant;
- If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the decision of the Superintendent, the Complainant may appeal the decision in writing to the Board c/o the Board. The Board shall hear the appeal within 30 days of receipt of the request at its next regular meeting, or a special meeting may be called for the purpose of hearing the appeal. The Board shall make its decision in writing within 15 days after the hearing unless a mutually agreed extension of time is arranged. Copies of the written decision shall be mailed or delivered to the Complainant and the Superintendent within 90 days of receipt of the initial written formal complaint and shall include a copy of the "Notification of Complaint of Right to Appeal" form. If the Complainant is dissatisfied with the Board's decision, the Complainant may within 30 days appeal the decision in writing to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Appeals should be addressed to: State Superintendent, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707;
- If, at this point, the complaint has not been satisfactorily settled, further appeal may be made to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Dept. of Education, 300 S. Wacker Dr., Eighth Floor, Chicago, IL 60606;
- Discrimination complaints relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement of the provision of free appropriate public education of a child with exceptional educational need shall be processed in accordance with established appeal procedures outlined in the District's Special Education Handbook.

Annual Notice of Special Education Referral and Evaluation Procedures

Upon request, the Ripon Area School District is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district. A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability, has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting Becky Morrin, Ripon Area School at (920) 748-4616 or by writing to PO Box 991, Ripon WI, 54971.

Equal Educational Opportunities

All children who reside in the district and are of legal school age are eligible to attend school. The admission of pupils shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Wisconsin Statutes and board policies. The approval of the board is required for the admission of nonresident pupils. Children between the ages of 7 and 16 (those exempted by law) are required to attend full-time day school; thereafter, they may attend part-time with the permission of the principal to follow a program (except designed to help them earn a high school diploma. The same expectation of regular attendance and academic performance will apply to such students as apply to regular students. The Ripon Area School District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every child in the district for as long as day the student can benefit from attendance and the student's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the entire student body. The right of a student to be admitted to and to participate fully in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's school sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, genetic information, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Questions regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the district administrator and processed in accordance with established procedures.

Fall 2025 School Registration

Returning Students

- ✓ Update student information
- ✓ Pay fees
- ✓ Request bus transportation
- ✓ Submit Free & Reduced Lunch Application



Online Window Open
JULY 1-31, 2025

New Students

- ✓ Complete online enrollment
- ✓ Click Families tab at www.ripon.k12.wi.us
- ✓ Select Enroll New Students & Register
- ✓ Complete 2025 School Registration

**Computer
Station at
District Office**

Need Help? Contact Us
(920) 748-4600



School Pictures

August 5 & August 6, 2025

12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Ripon High School Gym
850 Tiger Drive



Free and Reduced Priced Meals

Ripon Area School District students who are unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program or milk for split-session students served under the Special Milk Program may apply for free or reduced-price meals or free milk. Each school office and the District Services Center has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Application forms are available to parents or guardians on the Free Reduced Price Meal page of the website or in paper format at all school offices and the District Services Center. To apply for free or reduced-price meals or free milk, households must fill out the application and return it to the school or District Services Center. The information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

To obtain free or reduced price meals or free milk for children for whom households receive FoodShare FDIPIR, or Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash benefits, an adult member needs only to list the names of the school children, give FoodShare, FDIPIR or W-2 case number for each child, sign his/her name and return the application to the school office.

For the school officials to determine eligibility for free or reduced price meals or free milk of households not receiving FoodShare, FDIPIR or W-2, the household must provide the following information requested on the application: names of all household members, and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. In lieu of a social security number, the household may indicate that the signer does not possess a social security number. Also, the income received by each household member must be provided by amount and source (wages, welfare, child support, etc.).

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size changes, the family should contact the school. Such changes may make the household eligible for reduced price meals or free meals or free milk and they may reapply at that time. In certain cases foster children are also eligible for these benefits. If a household has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for free or reduced price meals, the household should complete an application for a family of one or contact the school for more information.

The information provided by the household on the application is confidential. Public Law 103-448 does authorize the release of student free and reduced price school meal eligibility status to persons directly connected with the administration and enforcement of federal or state educational programs. Consent of the parent/guardian is needed for other purposes such as waiver of text book fees.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Any questions regarding the application should be directed to the determining official.

McKinney-Vento Assistance Act

Do you know a student or family that may be in need of assistance? Many families in Wisconsin have found themselves to be families in transition without a place to call home. The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth (twenty-one years of age and younger) as: children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including those: Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as doubleup); Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative/adequate accommodations; Living in emergency or transitional shelters; Having been abandoned in hospitals; or Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for humans. If you are aware of any children who may qualify according to the above criteria, please contact Emmy Jess, Homeless Liaison for the Ripon Area School District at jesse@ripon.k12.wi.us or at (920) 748-4616. All information will be kept confidential.



Area School District

PO Box 991

1120 Metomen Street

Ripon, WI 54971

(920) 748-4600

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MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering learners, engaging community, enriching the world.

VISION STATEMENT

One of Wisconsin's finest school districts, fostering excellence for all through innovation.

ORGANIZATION VALUES

Integrity
Commitment
Innovation

Excellence
Collaboration
Kindness

POSTAL CUSTOMER



TIGER UPDATE EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION SUMMER 2025



Student Engagement & Learning



Summer School

Summer School is offered to students entering 4K - Grade 12. Barlow Park's Camp Tiger features two core academic classes and two enrichment classes. Core classes are provided at all schools to close learning gaps, and many enrichment options, such as Kids in the Kitchen and History Unlocked, are available. Tiger Hoops, Youth Tennis, and Intro to Cheer keep students moving, and the popular RHS Summer Science and Engineering Camp will be back, along with Health, Global Studies, Credit Rescue, and Band Lessons.

Barlow Park Literacy Coach, Tammy Fox, will offer an invitation-only Summer Bridge session at the Boys and Girls Club Ripon site in August. The session is designed to support the academic achievement of incoming RASD 3rd-grade students during the first two weeks of August as a bridge between summer school and the start of the school year.



Student Engagement & Learning

FREE SUMMER MEALS

For Children & Teens 18yrs and Younger

Breakfast & Lunch

June 9- July 17 (Monday - Thursday)

SERVING AT ALL SCHOOL LOCATIONS

- Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 am
- Lunch 12:00 - 12:30 pm
- Snack provided with lunch on Thursdays for Fri-Sun

Curbside Meal Pack Pick Up

July 22 - August 19 (Tuesdays)

Pick Up: 7:00 - 9:00 am Ripon Middle School

Pre-Order Your Meal Packs Here or go to <https://bit.ly/4jHHzp8>



Breakfast & Lunch

SERVING AT ALL SCHOOL LOCATIONS

August 28 & 29

Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 am
Lunch 12:00 - 12:30 pm



1120 Metomen St, Ripon, WI 54971



www.ripon.k12.wi.us