

Ripon Area School District  
**Ripon School News**  
 "MORE CHOICES. BETTER RESULTS."

September 2016

WWW.RIPON.K12.WI.US

**From the Superintendent's Desk**



*Congratulations on a very well executed first day! This year brought much excitement with the Grand Opening of the 6-12 facility. As teachers and students settle into the new space, parents are doing an excellent job adjusting to the traffic flow at the start and end of each day. Thank you to everyone for your patience and feedback as the new school year gets underway.*

*This September Edition of the Ripon Area School District Newsletter celebrates the beginning of the school year, student performance on the ACT, new staff, and the dedicated service of some of our staff. In addition, you will meet new Technology Director Mandy Froelich and learn some of the ways our mission is realized each day from Curriculum Director Chrissy Damm.*

*The newsletter highlights upcoming concerts, showcase nights, and other special events. Congratulations to Alliance Laundry Systems, the 2016 Friend of Public Education recipient. Alliance received their award at the All Staff Meeting in August.*

*Through the diligent efforts of our staff, RASD continues to raise student achievement and maximize district resources. Moving forward into the 2016-17 school year, the focus on continuous improvement continues as we work to develop indicators with measurable outcomes under each of the district's four core strategies: increase personalized learning through student academic and career plans; encourage leadership and innovation through professional learning communities; strengthen service and partnerships through continuous improvement; and address financial challenges by streamlining processes and systems.*

*Thank you to everyone for setting the tone for a successful and exciting school year. I look forward to working with you this year to achieve our vision as one of Wisconsin's finest school districts, fostering excellence for all through innovation.*

*Respectfully yours,  
 Dr. Mary Whitrock  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 Go Tigers!*

**Homecoming School Tours & Celebration Luncheon**



A celebration event of the old Ripon Middle School and the new combined Ripon Middle School and Ripon High School facility will take place during Homecoming weekend on Saturday, September 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A highlight of the day will be tours at both buildings. An historical tour of the old Ripon Middle School building will take place at 11:00 a.m. with a tour of the new combined Ripon Middle School and Ripon High School at 1:00 p.m. Both buildings will be open for those wishing to tour on their own and school staff will be available to answer questions.

Community members and alumni will also be able to reminisce with friends while enjoying a delicious luncheon in the old RMS Cafeteria catered by A'viands beginning at 11:45 a.m. Those planning to attend the luncheon should reserve their spot by contacting Jolene Meyer at the District Administration Office at meyerj@ripon.k12.wi or at (920) 748-4612.

**PARA ESPAÑOL VEA LA ULTIMA PAGINA**

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**BRAVE Program**

BRAVE at RMS/Catalyst starts on September 19th. Registration packets can be found on the BRAVE website and in the RMS office. BRAVE at elementary schools start on September 26th. Calendars can be found on the elementary school's websites.

**Coffee with the Superintendent**

Join Dr. Whitrock for a guided tour of the new 6-12 facility

October 5 at 9:00 am  
 RHS Community Room



**Board of Education Dates**

September 19

September 26  
 (Budget Hearing & Board Annual Meeting)

October 17

October 24  
 (Special Board Meeting: Approved Tax Levy)



**RMS & RHS Grand Opening Celebration**



Ripon Area School District officially opened the new RMS/RHS Facility at a celebration attended by hundreds of students, families and community members. Each school was individually dedicated at a separate ceremony. The programs featured musical selections from the RHS Band and RHS Cantabile, guest speakers, and raising of the American flag. The Ripon community has much to be proud of in the beautiful, innovative spaces designed with the sole purpose of preparing students for success in the 21st century.

**Students Back to School**



Students and families showed off their smiles for the first day of school.

**2016-17 Family Outreach Events**

*Save the Date!*

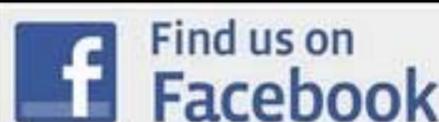
October 6 - Meet the Specialist

November 10 - Food, Friends, and Fun

January 24 - Understanding & Helping the Child with ADHD

February 21 - Kid Concoctions

March 23 - Craft Creations



Check the web for 100s of photos!  
[www.ripon.k12](http://www.ripon.k12)

## 2016 Friend of Public Schools



Todd Kaul, Alliance Laundry Systems Plant Manager and Anna Ewerdt, Plant Human Resources Manager attended the District Staff Inservice on August 24 to receive the 2016 Friend of Public Schools Award. Alliance Laundry Systems is a true friend of public education. Over the past two years, the Ripon Area School District and Alliance Laundry Systems formed an official partnership to strengthen technical education and the Ripon community as a whole. The Ripon Area School District has a history of partnerships with business and organizations within the community and Alliance Laundry Systems has been one of those partners. Alliance Laundry was founded in Ripon in 1908, and the company has been a strong pillar of the community since that time.

Alliance Laundry Systems, the Ripon community's largest employer, is a provider of commercial laundry systems. The company designs, manufactures, and markets a line of commercial laundry equipment in over 100 countries including the Czech Republic and China. Alliance Laundry's core values include leadership, reliability and excellence. As a result, they support educating students on manufacturing and enlightening them to the career opportunities available.

Beginning in the fall of 2014, Alliance began working with Ripon High School students through a technical education apprenticeship program. Students in the apprenticeship program earn credit and receive a paycheck while learning on the job. In the spring of 2015, Alliance Laundry supported the District through the plan and design phase of the new technical education space within RASD's combined middle and high school. This work included facilitating a Kaisen process to bring administrators, teachers, students, local business leaders, and staff from Moraine Park Technical College together over the course of several months. During that time, the Kaisen team reviewed the program course offering, curriculum, resources, equipment and the actual physical space in the new combined MS and HS building.

Most recently, Alliance Laundry Systems committed to further strengthening their partnership with the Ripon Area School District. Alliance Laundry Systems pledged Ripon Area School District a maximum of \$100,000 over the next two years to be received in quarterly installments. This money will go towards supporting Technology Education Fabrication computers and software in addition to scoreboards for the new gym. Furthermore, they have also offered to support the Technology Education laboratory with material, tools, parts, guidance and other areas where their involvement can enhance the department outside of their monetary contribution.

The Ripon Area Public Schools are fortunate to have friends such as Alliance Laundry Systems. This partnership between the Ripon Area School District and Alliance Laundry will help to provide Ripon students and residents with motivating and stimulating career paths. Alliance recognized a need in their manufacturing sector of the labor market and worked to develop opportunities and provide the resources needed for the Ripon Area School District to be positioned to help individuals improve themselves and ultimately gain employment which strengthens the Ripon community.

## Curriculum Corner



**Mrs. Christine Damm**  
Curriculum Director

Mission Impossible? Some may think the district's mission of "inspiring learners, engaging community, and enriching the world" is too daunting and perhaps even impossible, but we are proud to say that we are well on our way to accomplishing this mission.

Mission #1:  
Inspiring Learners...

RASD set out to design state of the art spaces that promote flexibility, mobility, and collaboration district-wide. As students entered their buildings on September 1, they were welcomed enthusiastically by faculty and staff who were eager to introduce them to their new environments that reflect our vision for innovation. In addition to new furnishings and collaborative learning areas, students will experience new

curriculum offerings in science, technology, engineering, and math that reflect their interests and actively engage them in the learning process.

Mission #2:  
Engaging Community....

RASD recognizes the impact that community support has when it comes to educating our students. Community engagement sessions were an integral part in the design of our combined middle and high school facility. Spaces were created to not only accommodate student learning during the day, but also to support community events and evening courses for adult learners. We are actively working to expand community involvement opportunities, including volunteer programs, business partnerships, and health and wellness activities. We are committed to involving the community in educational decisions that impact our students daily.

Mission #3:  
Enriching the World....

Beginning with the 2016-17 school year, high school students have the opportunity to earn a Global Education Achievement

Certificate (GEAC). This program validates the global partnerships that we have established with our sister schools in China, and encourages students to enroll in classes with global content in the arts, sciences, and humanities. It is our mission to prepare globally competent students who are career ready. Our curriculum offerings will prepare students to enter the workforce and take on jobs in the world's top companies. Courses are designed to help students develop highly transferable skills in collaboration, communication and critical thinking, which are relevant for both continued education and career readiness. Regardless of the path our graduates choose, they are sure to leave their mark in the world.

Mission impossible? I think not. We live and breath this mission every day and are witness to the fact that anything is possible. Simply look around and you will see that our mission is being accomplished. As we continue moving forward, we will constantly challenge ourselves to live up to the ideals set forth in our mission and make Ripon one of the finest school districts in the nation.

## RASD Welcomes New Teaching Staff



RASD welcomes new staff for the 2016-17 school year. Pictured are Sidney Blodgett, Alexia Panagopoulos, Emmy Marvin, Danna Miller, Inga Johnson-Hershoff, Carlie Cardinal, Anessa Feucht, Alissa Wittchow, Jolene Schatzinger, Kaitlyn Wiese, Elizabeth Kiel, Crystal Gianopoulos, Samantha Fitzpatrick, Rachel Zarzyski. Not pictured are Jason Hauman, Heidi Sokolich, and Renee Reszel.

## Technology Update



**Mrs. Mandy Froehlich**  
Director of Technology  
and Innovation

Welcome to a new school year! I am beyond thrilled to be a part of the Ripon Area School District, and excited to begin our year of innovation! My name is Mandy Froehlich and I am the new Director of Innovation and Technology. I have come from the Oshkosh Area School

District where I was a Technology Integrator and worked with teachers on effective practices for infusing technology into their curriculum. I'm hoping to bring those same practices and that same innovative thinking to Ripon!

Our technology team has been working hard on moving teachers into their new classrooms in the high school and middle school, as well as getting devices ready for teachers and students as they come back for the new year. We have a gigantic implementation in our new Learning Management System, Canvas, so a significant amount of work has been done to ensure that the rollout goes as smoothly as possible. Teachers

will be learning to use Canvas right along with students!

In the classroom, we will be focusing on creating opportunities for all learners to use the Four C's: Communicate, Collaborate, think Critically, and think Creatively. For example, how can we connect with real world experts and bring them into our classrooms using technology? What different types of creativity can a learner show, and how do we allow them to display their talents in their work? Focusing on the Four C's will allow us to build toward our district mission of "Inspiring learners, engaging community, enriching the world". It's going to be a fantastic year of learning!

## Thank You for Contributions to the District:

Ripon Printers  
Early Bird Kiwanis Club of Ripon  
Jerry Schmuhl - Homan Ford  
Lenita Hein - Hillside Dental  
Andy & Jeanne Lyke - Ripon Printers  
Lyn Herriot - Yellow House Realty  
Greg Dragolovich - Edward Jones  
Culver's of Ripon  
Paul Semenske - Surface & Surroundings  
Jack Johnson - Ripon American Legion Post 43  
Ripon Education Foundation  
ROARS  
Bruce Patrick  
Ripon Lioness  
John Triller - Horicon Bank  
Greg Coburn - Ripon Lions Club  
Sgt. Andrew Wallace Donor Fund  
Anonymous Donor on Behalf of the Class of 1966

## Years of Service Recognition



Honored for 10 years of service in the RASD, Miranda Schmidt, Steve Brooks, Lisa Burdick, and Brian Pepler (not pictured).



RASD employees with 15 years of service are Stacey Oakes, Amy Panetti, David Wilkins, Mary Wagner, Chris Lalor, Ann Zabel, Paul Wiegel, Heather Bednarek, and Nancy Lemiesz.



Pictured here with 20 years of service in the district, John Berndt and Pat Miller.



With 25 years of service in the district are Wendy McCulloch, Janet Ernst, and Gretchen Geiger.



Jeanne Shohoney was honored for 30 years of service in the district.



Recognized for 40 years of service in the RASD, is Sandy Wisneski.

## ACT Scores Remain High

The Ripon graduating class of 2016 maintained scores consistent with the state average. This is the first time all juniors in the school district were required to take the assessment. This assessment was administered to students during the spring of their junior year, 2015. A total of 123 students were tested and Ripon students outperformed the state average in English and mathematics. Our students scored just under the state average in reading and science. Ripon's composite score of 20.4 was just under the state score of 20.5.

## 2016 Oarsmen Award Achievement



Ripon Area School District pauses each year to recognize staff who have attained "Oarsman Status". This award is given after three years of service in the district. During those first years teachers are supported and assisted by fellow staff members when needed. Receiving their own oar signifies that the teacher is ready to "steer and paddle" on their own. Pictured is Michael Yoder, Amber Willoughby, Kristal Mott, Anthony Markon, and Nicholas Goeldi.

## Inservice Team Building



During the recent inservice day, district employees were divided into teams to take part in a team building session. They worked together to problem solve and use the clues to open a locked box as part of a creative thinking and collaboration activity.

## Students Recognized by Ripon Board of Education



Congratulations to RHS students who participated in 2016 Badger Boys and Girls State. The Board of Education formally recognized all participants in Badger Girls State and Badger Boys State at their regular board meeting. The Badger Boy State participants were unavailable for the meeting and photo.



Two FBLA students were recognized for their participation in the FBLA Nationals held in Atlanta, Georgia this summer.

**Administrative Services Center**  
748-4600  
1120 Metomen Street  
P.O. Box 991  
Superintendent: Dr. Mary Whitrock  
Business Manager: Mr. JJ Gutman

**Barlow Park Elementary School**  
**Journey Charter School**  
Grades PreK-2  
748-1550  
100 Ringstad Drive  
Principal: Mrs. Tanya Sanderfoot

**Murray Park Elementary School**  
**Quest Elementary Charter School**  
Grades 3-5  
748-4695  
64 Sunset Avenue  
Principal: Mrs. Renee Bunge

**Ripon Middle School**  
**Catalyst Charter Middle School**  
Grades 6-8  
748-4638  
750 Tiger Drive  
Principal: Mr. Rick Bunge

**Ripon High School**  
**Lumen Charter High School**  
Grades 9-12  
748-4616  
850 Tiger Drive  
Principal: Mr. Randy Hatlen  
Assistant Principal: Mr. Bill Kinziger

**Crossroads Academy**  
Grades 9-12  
Principal: Mrs. Julie Krackow

**Curriculum Department**  
Director: Mrs. Christine Damm

**Technology Department**  
Director: Mrs. Mandy Froehlich

**Ripon Board of Education**  
President: David Scott  
Vice President: Dan Zimmerman  
Clerk: David Olson  
Treasurer: Sherry Muskavitch  
Members: Gary Rodman  
Barb Schultz  
John Sperger  
Tom Stellmacher  
Andy Lyke

**Board Meetings**  
Regular board meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the **Ripon High School Community Room** at 6:00 p.m. Any additional meetings are duly posted at the Ripon Public Library and at the Ripon City Hall. For additional information contact the school district administrative office at 748-4600.

The Ripon Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap or any other characteristic protected by law.



**Families & Students in Transition**

Ripon Area School District is committed to assisting all homeless students to receive the best education possible. If you are aware of or are personally acquainted with any children or youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, please contact Britnie Meyer, Homeless Liaison for the Ripon Area School District at meyerb@ripon.k12.wi.us or at (920) 748-1577. All information will be kept confidential.

**Engineering & Science Camp**



This summer, members of the Ripon High School science department collaborated with Ripon College science faculty to co-sponsor an Engineering & Science Camp. RHS students focused around the ideas and practices of people working in the STEM fields. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The course focused on energy, Electromagnetism, engineering design and scientific practices, reading schematic diagrams, scientific/engineering journaling techniques, and an introduction to college level scientific ways of thinking.

**2016 Upcoming School Events**

*BPES/Journey Charter* - Speech & Language Screening September 29  
Call 920-748-1550 to schedule appointment

*MPES* - Family Night October 13

*Quest Charter*- Project Showcase October 27

*Catalyst Charter*- Project Showcase November 10

*RHS/Lumen Charter* - Marching Band Showcase October 10 at Ingalls Field

**Resumen de noticias escolares para nuestros residentes de habla española**

Ripon Area School District oficialmente abrió la nueva facilidad de Ripon Middle School/Ripon High School en una celebración en la que asistieron cientos de estudiantes, familias, y miembros de la comunidad. Cada escuela fue dedicada individualmente con una ceremonia por separado. Los programas presentados de música seleccionada fueron de la Banda de RHS y RHS Cantable, oradores invitados, y la elevacion de la bandera de los Estados Unidos. La comunidad de Ripon tiene que estar muy orgullosa de los lindos espacios y diseñados en una manera innovadora con el único propósito de preparar a los estudiantes a triunfar en el siglo 21.

Alliance Laundry Systems es un amigo verdadero de la educación pública. En los últimos dos años, Ripon Area School District y Alliance Laundry Systems formaron una asociación oficial para fortalecer la educación técnica y la de la comunidad de Ripon en general. Alliance empezó trabajando con estudiantes de Ripon High School en el programa de principiantes de educación técnica. Los estudiantes en el programa de principiantes pueden ganar crédito y recibir un cheque de pago mientras aprenden en el trabajo. Recientemente, Alliance Laundry Systems prometió a Ripon Area School District un máximo de \$100,000 en los próximos dos años para el apoyo de computadoras para la Tecnología de Educación en la Fabricación y para software en adición los marcadores para el nuevo gimnasio. Además, ellos también han ofrecido el apoyo del Laboratorio de Educación Tecnológica con materiales, herramientas, repuestos, y guía.

En la clase, nosotros nos estaremos enfocando en crear oportunidades para todos los estudiantes a usar las cuatro C: Comunicar, Colaborar, pensar Críticamente, y pensar Creativamente. Por ejemplo, ¿cómo podemos conectarnos con expertos en el mundo real y llevarlos dentro de los salones de clases usando la tecnología? ¿Cuales son los diferentes tipos de creatividad que un estudiante puede mostrar, y ¿cómo les permitiremos a mostrar sus talentos en su trabajo? Enfocándose en las Cuatro “C” les permitiremos a edificar hacia nuestra misión en el distrito de “Inspirar a los estudiantes, involucrar a la comunidad, y a enriquecer el mundo.” Va a ser fantástico el año de aprendizaje.

Recientemente, un evento interno de servicio en RASD, los empleados del distrito fueron reconocidos por sus años de servicio y a todos quienes completaron sus maestrías. También fueron reconocidos los maestros quienes trabajaron el distrito por más de 3 años, ganando sus remos lo cual significa que ellos están listos para “girar y remar” por sí mismos.

**Ways You Can Help Ripon Schools**

**Boxtops Needed** — Clip the Boxtops for Education logo on many household products and drop-off at any school office. Some of the many products with the logo are: Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, General Mills, Ziploc, Hefty, Kleenex, and Huggies.

**STEP Volunteers** — Senior citizens can save on property taxes by volunteering in Ripon schools. Contact the District office at 748-4600 to get more information.

**READ Dogs** — Bring your dog to school and let students read to “Fido.” Contact Ms. Pat Grahn at 920-572-6585 to learn about training your dog in the READ program.

**Journey Governance Council**

President: Steve Nankervis  
Vice President: Shelly Kastenschmidt  
Treasurer: Carrie Naparalla  
Secretary: Nicole Mashock  
Members: Amber Dalziel  
Heather Donovan  
Brett Long  
Joel Spaulding  
Lisa Rollin

**Quest Governance Council**

President: Nathan Luedke  
Treasurer: Amy Pollesch  
Secretary: Steve Nankervis  
Members: Nicole Menard  
Nicole Mashock  
Jamie Dragolovich  
Jessica Stoffuss  
Janet Ernst  
Lori Hron

**Catalyst Governance Council**

President: Candie Baker  
Vice President: Renee Schoff  
Secretary/Treasurer: Nicole Bauman  
Members: Inga Johnson-Hershoff  
Julie Elliott  
Shelly Kastenschmidt  
Amy Pollesch  
Sandy Wisneski

**Lumen Governance Council**

Members: Pat Grahn  
Paula Hageman  
Adam Jacobi  
Jean Rigden  
Paul Wiegel

**Stay Informed About Ripon Schools**

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**District Website** — The website includes current news and a calendar of events for the entire district.

**Facebook** — Dozens of albums and hundreds of photos from school activities fill the District’s Facebook page. Anyone can access it from the District’s web page.

**Email News Network** — Sign up for free email updates of news about what’s happening in Ripon schools. To subscribe send an email to: whitrockm@ripon.k12.wi.us.