



## Superintendent's Message

Here's how the articles in this quarterly update connect with each of the School Board's strategic objectives:

### Student Learning and Engagement

- Provide well rounded education in a healthy and safe environment (*Science Fair - p.1, PlaySchool - p.2, Field Trip - p.3, Music in Our Schools - p.3*)
- Using evidenced-based interventions and support services to ensure every student graduates from high school prepared for their college and career plans (*Youth Apprenticeships - p.3*)
- Close achievement gaps in literacy and math (*New 4K Program - p.4*)

### Service and Partnership

- Increase partnerships and satisfaction through CQI (*SRO - p.1, REF Scholarship Drive - p.2, Webster Grants - p.2, Youth Apprenticeships - p.3, Board Members and Officers - p.2, Science Partnership - p.4*)

### Human Resources

- Increase opportunities to build high quality staff (*RHS Leadership - p.1, SRO - p.1*)

### Finance and Operations

- Refine systems to find efficiencies (*Playground Update - p.3*)

Our District continues to work to serve you by striving for excellence through innovation. Together we are making a difference for the children of Ripon.

Respectfully Yours,

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



## Human Resources

### New Leadership Team at Ripon High School

**Beginning July 1, 2023 Bill Kinziger and Vince Propson will start in their new roles at Ripon High School as Principal and Assistant Principal/Athletic Director respectively.** Mr. Kinziger has been the Assistant Principal and Athletic Director for 8 years and a teacher in Ripon for 25 years. Mr. Propson served as the Activities Director, Strength and Conditioning Coordinator, and the physical/health education teacher in Randolph for the past three years and in White Lake prior to that.



### Welcome SRO Brad Rasmussen

**Officer Rasmussen will join RASD as the second School Resource Officer (SRO) beginning July 1, 2023.** He will join the current SRO, Officer Lindsey Michels. Brad has been a Ripon Police Department officer and investigator since October of 2021. Previously, he was an officer with the Waupun Police Department for four years. Officer Rasmussen has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and Rehabilitation from the University of Wisconsin Stout, and completed Law Enforcement Academy through Chippewa Valley Technical College.



## Student Engagement & Learning



Students presented findings from their Bouncy Egg Project to Superintendent Mary Whitrock.



This student questioned "How does the amount of air affect the bounciness of a basketball?"



A Murray Park Quest student explains the melting effects of salt when applied to ice.





## Service & Partnership

### Elected to School Board



Josh Rieder



David Scott



Tom Stellmacher

### Newly Appointed



Denise Martinez



Lori Machmueller

#### 2023-2024

#### School Board Officers

President - David Scott

Vice President - Betsy Heffernan

Board Clerk - Nicole Dash

Treasurer - Andy Lyke

At the Spring Election Ripon community members voted incumbents Josh Rieder, David Scott, and Tom Stellmacher to serve three-year terms on the Board of Education. New members Lori Machmueller and Denise Martinez were interviewed and appointed to fill one-year open seats on the Board. The seats will be up for election April 2024.



### Scholarship Drive By The Numbers

**2023 Donation Total:**  
**Over \$21,000**

**Total Awarded  
Since 1999:**  
**Over \$250,000**



## Student Engagement & Learning

### Ripon High School Hosts PlaySchool



**The PlaySchool program is celebrating 60 years this year. Retired RASD Educators Cindy Ebert and Sue Mokler laid the foundation for the program.** Today, the program is still thriving as students in Kelly Esala's Child Development and Early Childhood Education class create a unique learning opportunity for Ripon's youngest learners. The Early Childhood Education is accredited through Moraine Park Technical College which means students completing the program receive an endorsement from the college. This spring, 22 children ages 2 1/2 - 5 years from across the Ripon community attended the two week preschool. The high school students prepare activities in fine motor skills, large motor skills, letter and number recognition, and creativity and then lead the whole group and small group instruction. Mrs. Esala shared, "the program is a win-win for all. The PlaySchool provides the high school students with hands-on experience working with young children. The children get a quality educational experience prior to entering 4-year-old-kindergarten, make new friends, and have lots of fun."



## Service & Partnership

### Webster Foundation Grants Awarded

- \$2,000 RMS Tech Ed: Lego Robotics Updates
- \$1,500 RHS FBLA: Money Smart Week 2023
- \$1,000 RHS Robotics Club: CNC Desktop Engraving Machine
- \$1,100 RHS Science Department: Exploring Earth & Space Science
- \$800 RHS Spanish Class: Expanding Classroom Library

## Service & Partnership

### Youth Apprenticeships Provides Experience



**Ripon High School had 40 participants in Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship (YA) in the 2022-23 school year.** The apprenticeship program combines industry-directed, competency-based, paid learning with related classroom instruction for high school juniors and seniors. YA provides employers with an additional pipeline of workers to meet their future skill needs. Students complete 450 hours on the job as part of the program requirements.



## Student Engagement & Learning

### Music in Our Schools Concert

**The annual Music in Our Schools Concert was held on March 7.** Students in Grades 5-12 performed choral and band arrangements with a grand finale ensemble performance by all grades.



## Student Engagement & Learning

### Grants Support Field Trips



**Middle School 6th & 7th-grade students attended equine sessions with Beaming, Inc.** to learn the self-awareness skills needed to care for horses. Five riding lessons were included to provide an opportunity to practice those skills. Funding for the sessions was provided by the Ripon Education Foundation, Beaming, Inc., and the Student Needs Fund which is supported by donors like the East Central Tractor Benefit group.

## Finance & Operations

### Playground Additions



*Renovated space at Barlow Park Journey is part of the district's continued effort to support cognitive growth and physical development of students through a nature based playground. New elements include zip lines and a log scramble.*





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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 SPRING 2023



### Student Engagement & Learning

#### New 4K Program



**The District's 4 year old kindergarten program will increase from half days to four full days per week with all sections located in the Barlow Park/Journey Elementary School building.** The additional time at school will allow students to develop more knowledge and skills related to early math, reading, and social-emotional development and ensure there is plenty of time to address the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards and allow Ripon's 4K teachers to incorporate plenty of time for students to learn through play.



### Service & Partnership

#### Science Partners with Ripon College

**Superintendent Whitrock spoke at the groundbreaking for the Franzen Science Center highlighting the strong partnership between the District and Ripon College to:**

- design the RHS/MS Graphic Arts and Technical Education-Fabrication Space;
- offer a two-week residential International Summer STEM and Leadership Camp;
- enable RHS students to take classes on campus as part of the statewide "Start College Now" program; and
- Host RC education majors completing their student teaching within the RASD



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