



Area School District

TIGER UPDATE

SUMMER 2024

Excellence through Innovation



Superintendent's Message

Welcome to the 2024-25 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 (*Friendship Day, p.1; Summer Food Service, p.6*)
- Provide support services to ensure student success (*Graduate Profile, p.2; Registration, p.5; Improved Student Services p.3*)
- Close achievement gaps in literacy and math (*Achievement, p.1; Summer School, p.6*)

Service and Partnership

- Increase partnerships and satisfaction through CQI (*Community Calendar, p.3; Strategic Planning p.2; Wenceslaus Work, p.3*)

Human Resources

- Increase opportunities to build high quality staff (*Out Going Staff, p.2*)

Finance and Operations

- Refine systems to find efficiencies (*Summer Projects, 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,

Mary

Dr. Mary Whitrock, Superintendent of Schools
Go Tigers!



Barlow Park Journey students enjoyed games, music, popsicles, and a fun water cooldown courtesy of the Ripon Fire Department at their end-of-year party.

Student Engagement & Learning

Ripon Hosts Annual Friendship Day

Ripon High School and Middle School hosted 105 student athletes at the annual Friendship Day on May 8. The competitors from nine school districts enjoyed the track and field events and group games at Ingalls Field. The event was supported by many volunteers including Ripon High School ACTIVO, retired Ripon staff, and Diverse Options team members. The Snack Shack funded by Thrivent fueled the athletes and volunteers throughout the day and the Ripon High School Pep Band cheered for the competitors in between their lively pep band performances. The District hosted the first Friendship Day in 2010.



Student Engagement & Learning

Overall District Achievement

The 2023-24 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 30% to only 10%. At the high school level, students passed over 98% of all classes, and 55% of all students made the honor roll. Of this year's graduating class, 64% made the honor roll.



Human Resources

Out Going Staff Feedback

In the Spring Staff Exit Survey, 100% of staff would recommend the District as a great place for a friend or family member to work and 100% affirmed the job matched their expectations. Of the staff leaving the District, reasons included 30% retired, 30% moved to another district, and 40% indicated family time, health needs, or career outside of teaching. Upon leaving, staff commented "I could not have asked for a better place to work"; "I am leaving with a heart full of gratitude and only the best memories"; and "I genuinely enjoyed my time". Staff suggested the District "slow down and appreciate the accomplishments" and "offer more formal training for support staff".



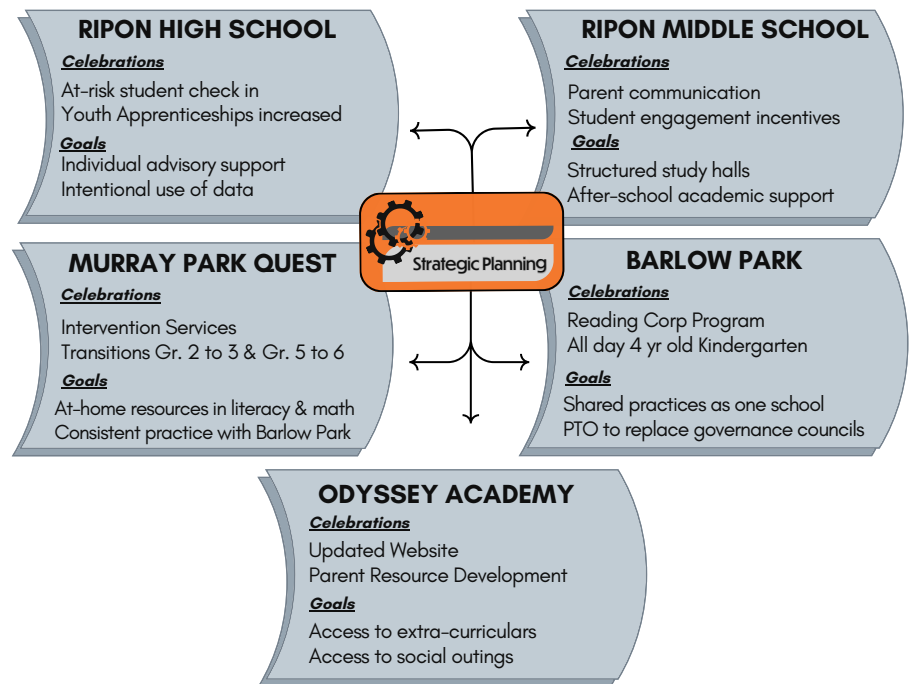
The Class of 2024 celebrates with the traditional cap toss after being dismissed by RHS Principal Bill Kinziger at their 2024 Graduation.



Service & Partnership

Board Strategic Planning Session for 2024-2025

At the School Board's annual Strategic Planning session held on May 6, school level teams highlighted celebrations from the 2023-24 school year and set growth goals for the 2024-25 school year. District wide celebrations included mental health services and a new data management system, while growth goals focused on a simplified website and 4K-Grade 12 behavior management training for staff.

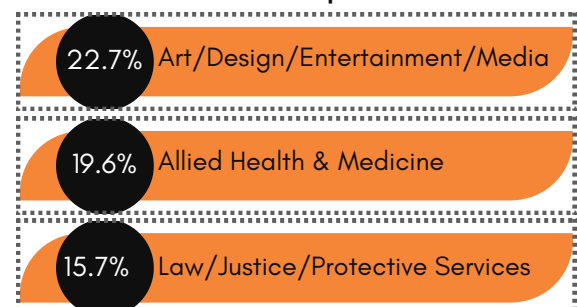


Student Engagement & Learning

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 4% compared to last year. The top three career choices show Ripon 2024 graduates shifted from engineering as their predecessors indicated to art/design/entertainment/media.

2024 Graduates' Top Three Careers



FUTURE PLANS	2024	2023
First in the family to attend college	30.9%	26.4%
Plan to attend four-year institution	82.8%	86.2%



Finance & Operations

Summer Facility Projects

Maintenance and custodial crews work throughout the summer to prepare buildings for the return of students and staff in the fall. The following projects highlight the 2024-25 summer project lists.

Middle School & High School

- Installation of additional cameras
- Roofing upgrades
- Space renovations as Crossroads, Ripon's alternative high school program, moves from an offsite location to the high school site
- Conversion of classroom lighting to LED with dimming
- Installation of smart panels in classrooms

Elementary Schools

- Installation of additional cameras
- Swing set installation at Barlow Park
- Carpet replacement in Barlow Park's main office
- Classroom air conditioning upgrades at Murray Park Quest



Student Engagement & Learning

Improved Programming for 2024-2025

Staff make changes at three locations to improve programming for next school year. Classrooms shift as Barlow Park Charter and Journey Project School as the two schools join together to serve students in Grades 4K - 2 under one name - Barlow Park Elementary School. The changes include clustering grade levels to improve students and staff collaboration.

Crossroads, Ripon's alternative high school program, relocates to Ripon High School to allow Crossroads students to attend elective classes throughout the learning day. Students also benefit from the additional support available due to the close proximity of the pupil service, special education and content area staff.

Special education staff developed a near-site special education program in the former Crossroads space to serve Ripon students who currently attend programming outside of Ripon. This new program includes opportunities for students to participate in classes focused on academics; social/emotional learning; college/career readiness; community engagement; life and work skills; and physical fitness. The design and location of the program increases opportunities for students to transition back to regular educational programming.



Service & Partnership

Community Calendar Sponsors



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

St. Wenceslaus Road Work



With the project underway, the District asked parents to consider how the construction on St. Wenceslaus Street impacts students' daily commute. The project schedule shows a completion date as early as mid October. Improvements include the water main, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, sidewalks, curb, and gutter. The District intends to provide regular updates to parents to ensure students arrive safely to school throughout the construction project.

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); types(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 Complainant 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 2024 School Registration

Returning Students

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



Online Window Open
JULY 1-31, 2024

New Students

- ✓ Complete online enrollment
- ✓ Click Families tab at www.ripon.k12.wi.us
- ✓ Select Enroll New Students & Register
- ✓ Complete 2024 School Registration

**Computer
Station at
District Office**

Need Help? Contact Us
(920) 748-4600



School Pictures

August 6 & August 7, 2024

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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RIPON WI
PERMIT NO. 197

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	Excellence
Commitment	Collaboration
Innovation	Kindness

POSTAL CUSTOMER



TIGER UPDATE EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION SUMMER 2024



Student Engagement & Learning



Barlow Park Elementary students build Dinosaur Houses.



Drivers Education is offered at Ripon High School.



Summer School

Summer School keeps students learning from June 17 - July 19. 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 as well as many enrichment options such as: Duct Tape Creations; band lessons; and sports classes. Ripon High School offers: Health; Global Students; Credit Rescue; and the popular Summer Science and Engineering Camp.



Student Engagement & Learning

Free Summer Food Service

Free breakfast and lunch is available to anyone in the community 18 years old and under. See details for dates and times below.

	June 17- July 19 Weekdays	
SERVING TIMES		LOCATIONS
Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 am Lunch 12:00 - 12:30 pm		Ripon High School Murray Park Elementary Barlow Park Elementary



Curbside Meal Pack Pick Up July 23 - August 27

Meal Packs include:

7 breakfasts

7 lunches

Easy fresh or heat & serve

Pre-Order Your
Meal Packs Here
or go to

<https://bit.ly/3xrfc2K>



	Non-School Age Children Welcome August 29 & 30	
SERVING TIMES		LOCATIONS
Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 am Lunch 12:00 - 12:30 pm		Ripon High School Murray Park Elementary Barlow Park Elementary



1120 Metomen St, Ripon, WI 54971



www.ripon.k12.wi.us