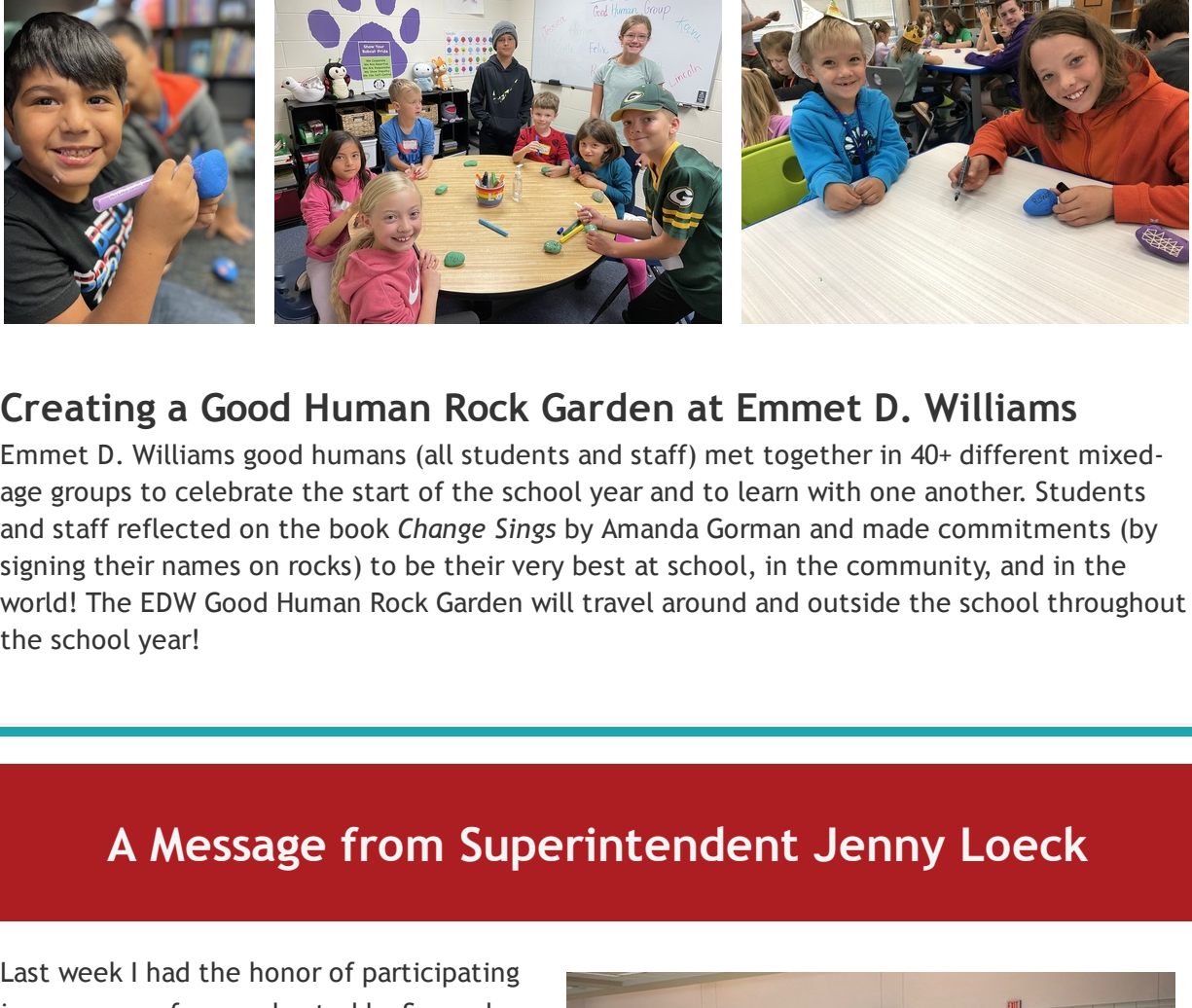


Photos of the Week



**Creating a Good Human Rock Garden at Emmet D. Williams**  
Emmet D. Williams good humans (all students and staff) met together in 40+ different mixed-age groups to celebrate the start of the school year and to learn with one another. Students and staff reflected on the book *Change Sings* by Amanda Gorman and made commitments (by signing their names on rocks) to be their very best at school, in the community, and in the world! The EDW Good Human Rock Garden will travel around and outside the school throughout the school year!

A Message from Superintendent Jenny Loeck

Last week I had the honor of participating in a press conference hosted by Second Harvest Heartland. The purpose of the press conference was to shine a spotlight on issues surrounding food insecurity in Minnesota and efforts to maintain universal meals for our students. We outlined our efforts to get families to fill out the Application for Education Benefits and why these forms are so important to our families and our schools. I was joined by School Board Chair Curtis Johnson, members of our Nutrition Services staff, staff members from Second Harvest Heartland and Hunger Solutions, and district leaders from metro districts.

As I reflect on the press conference, I want to say THANK YOU to our amazing Nutrition Services staff. From Angie Richey and Maria Anderson to the amazing staff members who prepare and serve delicious breakfasts and lunches to our students, we are so fortunate to have staff members committed to providing our students with healthy meals and honoring local food producers if and when possible. We are also fortunate to have district and school staff members, including our fabulous cultural liaisons and Central Enrollment staff members, who worked tirelessly to ensure families filled out the Application for Educational Benefits and therefore had access to the many benefits afforded students and families who had approved applications.

So many, many reasons that I'm proud to work in Roseville Area Schools!

Jenny

DISTRICT NEWS!

Join us on October 2  
as we observe  
**NATIONAL CUSTODIAN DAY**  
and say *Thank You!*

Important Attendance Information for Families

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance. Research shows that consistent attendance at school correlates with student achievement. Therefore, we want to do all we can to ensure children are in school as much as possible. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children graduate from high school and do well in college and at work. Last year we noticed an increase in school absences. Our hope is to partner with families to remove barriers so students can be in school as much as possible.

We also know there will be days when your child will miss school, especially if they're sick. Missing school when you're sick is okay. In fact, children should stay home when they are sick. The goal is for students to be in school 95% of the time. That means missing 8 days or less for the entire school year.

- Here are some things you can do to help:
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
  - Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
  - Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
  - If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.

For more on school readiness, visit [attendanceworks.org](https://attendanceworks.org)

- Here are some additional reminders regarding attendance for the upcoming school year:
- If your child has a doctor appointment, please bring them back to school after appointment if possible.  
Excused absences include but are not limited to: illness, doctors appointments, religious holidays, family emergency, and funerals.  
Unexcused absences include but are not limited to oversleeping, missing the bus, no transportation and cold weather.

There are also times students miss school due to family events. Some examples include cultural celebrations, weddings, funerals, graduations, and vacations. Up to five Family Event days will be excused. Day 6+ would be unexcused. Families could choose to take students out of school for family leave, but these days would be unexcused absences.

Thank you for all you do to support getting your child to school each day. Higher attendance equals higher student achievement! Thank you in advance for your support and partnership.

Information about The One Chip Challenge Trend

Thank you to Brimhall Principal Ryan Vernosh for the following content:

A social media trend happening around the country is called The One Chip Challenge when participants eat a chip laced with Carolina Reaper and Scorpion peppers. This is a dangerous challenge as children have experienced unexpected side effects and have been hospitalized. Eating this dangerously hot chip can result in vomiting, lowered oxygen rates, difficulty breathing, fainting, slurred speech, and loss of consciousness. These symptoms are worse if you have asthma or an allergy.

If you hear your child(ren) talking about The One Chip Challenge, please intervene and share with them that it is dangerous and they should not do it. The warning label on the chips state "keep out of reach of children."

Student Services

**Special Education Advisory Council**

**SEAC Mission Statement:**  
"The purpose of Roseville Area Schools SEAC is to advocate for justice and work collaboratively to provide input to the district regarding special education policies, practices, and issues related to the education of each child."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE WEBSITE OR CONTACT BERNAE VERA KRUSE

651-635-1608  
bernae.verakruse@isd623.org

PLEASE JOIN US!

**Location:** RAHS Media Center  
**Time:** 6pm to 8pm  
**Dates for the 22/23 SY:**  
September 28th  
October 26th  
November 16th  
January 25th  
February 22nd  
March 29th  
April 26th  
May 24th

INTERPRETERS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

CHOOSE ROSEVILLE Profile

This is the first profile in a series highlighting staff members, their path to their current job, and why they chose Roseville.

**Faustina Mullen, African American Cultural Liaison**  
Faustina Mullen joined Roseville Area Schools this year as an African American cultural liaison. She is a 2016 graduate of Roseville Area High School and participated in AVID! (The photos are of Faustina and her husband at the prom in 2016 and in Washington, D.C., this summer.)

**What is your history in Roseville Area Schools?**  
The first Roseville school I attended was Edgerton for Pre-K; I only spent one year there. For Kindergarten through sixth grade, I was at Central Park. After I graduated from elementary school I moved up to RAMS. This was a huge change for me! But I got the hang of it and was ready to conquer RAHS as the class of 2016!

**What educator (Roseville or otherwise) inspired you and why?**  
I have had many educators who inspired me as I grew up in Roseville schools i.e. Ms. Johnson (RAHS), Ms. Riebel, and Ms. King (CP). But my biggest inspiration came from my AVID teachers (Ms. Oberstar and Ms. Barnes. I would not be the person I am today without them! They helped me get through tough times and they were always constant even if I was not. They were my rock and I am thankful every day for them.

**What have you been up to since you graduated from high school?**  
I got my degree in history and a minor in ethnic studies and at the same time, I was working in Roseville. I originally had plans of being a social studies teacher so most of my jobs focused on where I would have liked to teach. I was an AVID tutor for a while at RAMS, then I worked at Harambee for two years as a PreK para, and then I went back to RAHS and continued tutoring in AVID for the last two years. I had other jobs in between but I kept coming back to work in the district.

**How did your AVID experience impact your journey?**  
Oh my, where do I begin? AVID left a huge impact on my journey-and this was a good thing. My sisters, Rachel and Maleah, and I are first-generation college students (my youngest sister, Matrina is a sophomore at RAHS!). Not to say that my parents did not go to college, but because they were immigrants America did not want to acknowledge where they attended school. So growing up all my information about college came from AVID.

I joined AVID in 8th grade and at first, I was not too thrilled about it. High school seemed so far away at the time and college was but a distant thought. But whether I recognized it or not, AVID was slowly modeling me into a resilient young adult. Through AVID I learned that giving back was my purpose in life. I saw the opportunity to do that by working with students.

**What is your role in Roseville Area Schools now?**  
I am the district's new African American Cultural Liaison working mainly at RAMS, but I will have the opportunity to work at many of our schools as well.

**Why did you "Choose Roseville" for your career?**  
In the beginning, I did not have a choice when my parents enrolled me in Roseville, but after being here my whole life Roseville has become my home and a place where I want to continue growing.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?**  
What I enjoy most about my job is seeing the wonderful students and staff interact with one another and being a part of a community that is about being there for each other. RAMS is a beautiful place and I am very thankful for the opportunity to grow alongside them.

**In your "spare" time, what do you enjoy doing?**  
My husband and I love reading, baseball, video games, and traveling and when we travel we love playing Pokemon Go. We've been playing for about a year and we always have a competition on who can catch the coolest "shiny" pokemon from the recent place we visited.

News from Our Community Partners

Nominate a K-12 Student for an Uplift Grant

As a part of the Festival for Communities and in 2022, several Roseville Area Faith Communities and Do Good Roseville are creating Uplift Grants to address the inequities faced by BIPOC students. The Uplift Grant for Youth will be given to a BIPOC student based on a story about a student that is persevering through challenges, where receiving even a small amount of funds could, potentially, make a difference in the trajectory of their lives. A story, as told by school staff, a community member, or a parent is the key to the grant.

Who is eligible for nomination?  
Any K-12 BIPOC student who attends Roseville Area Schools or who live in Roseville. BIPOC identification will be based on the school identification.

What can a grant be used for?  
There are no restrictions on how the grant may be used. Some possibilities are college and career readiness, sports fees, or community projects. The uses are limited only by the student's imagination!

How will the grant request be made?  
A student must be nominated by someone. It could be a school staff, faith community member, community member, a family member, or a combination.

For more information and to nominate a student, [CLICK HERE](#)

<https://dogoodroseville.com/uplift-grants/>

**YOU HAVE THE POWER TO HELP!**  
Please join us by donating to the Uplift Grants. The more money we raise, the more kids we can help.

If you have questions, please email [communications@isd623.org](mailto:communications@isd623.org)

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