623 TODAY

A newsletter about Roseville Area Schools SUMMER 2022

District Seeks Community Input on Strategic Plan

Roseville Area Schools is developing a plan for our future. We are seeking input from the people who will be directly impacted by the plan – students, staff, families, and community members. Please join us for one of these opportunities to provide feedback about the future of our school district.

Tuesday, July 12

Join us for an IN-PERSON MEETING from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Roseville Area High School Media Center

Wednesday, July 13

We are hosting an ONLINE MEETING from 12:00-1:00 p.m. Details about how to join the meeting will be posted to www.isd623.org on July 1.

Online Survey

Until July 15, you are invited to provide your feedback via an online survey. To access

the survey, scan the QR code or visit https://www. surveymonkey. com/r/RAS-R1







Congratulations to the 593 students who graduated from Roseville Area High School, Fairview Alternative High School, and the Adult Learning Center as part of the Class of 2022. We are so proud of their commitment and determination and wish them all the best in the future. (More graduation photos on pages 2-3)

Navigating Change



Change is difficult. In education, we are accustomed to change – the school year ends, most of our buildings are quiet, and when we come back in September our students have shifted to new grades, new classrooms, perhaps new buildings – or even off to life after high school. This change is bittersweet as we celebrate student accomplishments and growth but mourn the loss of the small communities we have nurtured in our classrooms and spaces.

Change also represents new beginnings. Staff members retire, change positions in our district, or take new positions outside of Roseville Area Schools. This fall, we are welcoming four new elementary principals and we are excited about what they will bring to the leadership roles in their buildings. We are also welcoming a new director of human resources, a new multilingual program administrator, and many other new staff members across the district. Our warmest welcome to those joining Roseville Area Schools and best wishes to our departing colleagues.

Change has also been at the forefront of our minds as COVID-19 introduced a number of challenges (and changes) as we navigated this difficult and unknown time. We are hopeful that this fall our students and staff will experience a "traditional" start to their school year complete with all of the fun community-building events that build excitement for the new year.

To all of you, I wish you a safe, happy, wonderful summer!

Jenny Loeck, Ed.D. Superintendent



























Our Scho

Brimhall Students Enhance Persuasive Essays with Creative Backgrounds

Once Brimhall Elementary 2nd graders completed their persuasive essays, they got to work on presenting the essays using green screens so they could add backgrounds to enhance their opinion pieces. According to Principal Ryan Vernosh, the project, which was a collaboration between the school's media specialist and 2nd grade team, resulted in 10 makeshift green screen "studios" around the school for students to use as they completed their projects.





Annual Senior Walk Produces Cheers (and Tears) Across Roseville Area Schools

As part of a wonderful annual tradition to mark the end of graduating students' journey through our school district,

members of the Class of 2022 visited their respective elementary schools on May 26. As the younger students lined the hallways, graduates wound their way through the schools to cheers and high fives. Its always an exciting experience for our youngest and oldest students!



Central Park Welcomes Becky Sutten as New Principal

Roseville Area Schools has announced that Becky Sutten will be the next principal of Central Park Elementary School starting July 1. Becky has served

in Roseville Area Schools for more than 10 years in a number of roles including as a school counselor and then dean at Roseville Area High School, an associate principal at Roseville Area Middle School, and as an interim elementary principal last fall at Central Park and currently at Little Canada. "Becky is a proven relational leader who loves fiercely and devotes her full self to her school community," says Assistant Superintendent Melissa Sonnek. Congratulations!

Helen Keller International Provides Students with Free Glasses

A huge THANK YOU to Helen Keller International



(HKI) for their work to provide students in Roseville Area Schools with free prescription eyeglasses! Elle Watson, the school nurse at Central Park Elementary who coordinated the effort on behalf of the district nurses, estimates more than 150 district students received glasses through this program. Julie, a 2nd grader at Central Park, is pictured with HKI's Korrine Gerhart (left) and Elle Watson (right).

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Edgerton Nutrition Services Staff Receive Hero Site Award

Congratulations to the Nutrition Services staff at Edgerton Elementary School! They were the recipients of the first-ever Minnesota School Nutrition Association's Hero Site Award. The award showcases excellence in teamwork, creativity, and customer service. According to the Edgerton team, their goal is always to be "the fun kitchen where students want to be!"







Edgerton Students Participate in Annual Egg Drop

Sixth grade students in Alicia Bjork's class at Edgerton Elementary participated in a fun end-of-the-year activity during which they built and tested ways to safely drop raw eggs from the school roof. Students designed a wide variety of egg drop "vehicles" made from everything from boxes and shipping peanuts to Styrofoam and bubble wrap!



Maura Weyandt Named New Edgerton Principal

Roseville Area Schools has announced that Maura Weyandt will be the next principal of Edgerton Elementary School. Weyandt comes to Edgerton from St.

Paul Public Schools where she has served for 14 years in a number of roles including as an elementary teacher, a teaching coach, the principal of J.J. Hill Montessori School, and currently as the principal of Chelsea Heights Elementary School. "Maura's energy, love for people, and her passion for education is undeniable," says Assistant Superintendent Melissa Sonnek. Weyandt will start July 1. Welcome to Roseville Area Schools!



José Becerra-Cardenas Named New Principal of Harambee Elementary

Roseville Area Schools has announced that Dr. José Becerra-Cardenas will be the next principal of Little Canada Elementary School starting July 1. Becerra-Cardenas comes to us from Minneapolis Public Schools where he is currently the assistant principal at Emerson Dual Language School. Prior to his current position, Becerra-Cardenas was a lead teacher and classroom teacher at Little Canada Elementary as well as a site supervisor for summer school at Little Canada Elementary, Edgerton Elementary, Parkview Center School, and online. "He is a proven relational leader who devotes his full self to his school community," says Assistant Superintendent Melissa Sonnek. Welcome back to Roseville Area Schools!



Our Schools

Emmet D. Williams Students Cast, Reel & Catch Fish!



Students in grades 4 & 6 at Emmet D. Williams Elementary School learned how to fish as part of a physical education unit. They practiced casting, reeling, and more during their time with their physical education teacher and the unit culminated with a walking field trip to Lake Josephine for fishing





Story Cloth Captures Students' Visual Maps of Their School Year

At EDW, the 2021-2022 school year was centered around the book *A Map Into the World* by Kao Kalia Yang who reminded readers to "...seek beauty and connection in a busy world." Students and staff finished the year with a final project where all students reflect on the school community's "good human" work, special classroom moments, school-wide events, and individual academic and social growth made throughout the school year. This culminated in a story cloth where each student made their own map to visually represent the school year. Principal Jen Wilson said, "What a blessing to seek beauty and connection with all of those in our school community!"



RAHS Student Named National Merit Finalist

Congratulations to recent RAHS graduate Alicia Hopper, who was named a National Merit Finalist! In addition to being a finalist, Alicia was one of only 2,000 students (out of 1.5 million entrants nationwide) to secure a National Merit corporatesponsored scholarship. This fall, Alicia will be attending Carleton College in Northfield, MN



Falcon Heights Staff Bid Farewell to Students & the School Year

Every school in the district has its own traditions for saying goodbye to students as they leave on the last day of school. At Falcon Heights Elementary School, staff lined up in the beautiful sunshine to wave goodbye as buses pulled away from the curb and walkers moved down the sidewalk. What a fun and poignant moment!



Nathan Meyer Named New Principal of Harambee Elementary

Nathan Meyer, the assistant principal at North Park Elementary School in Columbia Heights, has been named the new principal of Harambee Elementary School. Prior to his current position, he was a district discipline and diversion specialist with Columbia Heights Public Schools and a 6th and 7th grade English language arts teacher and technology support specialist in St. Anthony-New Brighton Public Schools. "Nathan believes there is no such thing as other people's children. He uses words like 'community', 'our', 'we', and 'the power of us'," says Assistant Superintendent Melissa Sonnek. Welcome to Roseville Area Schools!



Elementary Students Participate in Field Day Fun

It's spring and that means (among other things) it's time for Field Day. Sometimes known as Track & Field Day or Sports Day, this is a fun event that gets the students outside and involved in a number of fun team activities. At Little Canada Elementary, Field Day meant such fun activities as Egg & Spoon Race, Potato Sack Race, Shoe Kick & Shoe Run, and Beach Ball Towel Toss – with beautiful weather for all!

RAHS Class of 2022 Graduate Wins Ed Prohofsky Award



Congratulations to recent RAHS graduate Xavier Shaw, who was named the winner of the annual Ed Prohofsky Award, which is an award given by the Minnesota Adapted Athletics Association (MAAA) to a very deserving senior adapted athletics student athlete. Xavier earned a total of 15 varsity letters during his athletic career. "Xavier has the most engaging personality and demonstrates enthusiasm, sportsmanship, a great sense of humor, and a competitive

spirit in all he does," says Ian Porter, the Mounds View/Irondale/ Roseville Rams adapted athletics coordinator.



Trane Engineers Inspire Students with Book Donation

Mayra Reyes and Melissa Schumann, who are engineers with Trane Technologies, visited Harambee classrooms to read "Lucy's Engineering Adventure," a book sponsored by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers. Trane employees donated more than 200 copies of the book to area school districts in support of STEM education and uplifting communities.

Roseville Area Schools Provides Free Summer Meals

Roseville Area Schools is providing breakfast and lunch at a number of sites across the school district this summer. The meals are available to all individuals 18 and under. No identification needed, just show up and enjoy a meal!

Breakfast contains an entrée, fruit, juice, and milk. Lunch consists of an entrée, fruit, vegetable, and milk. For information about where to go for free meals, visit www.isd623.org.





RAMS, PCS Students Present "Nonsense in the North Woods"

This spring, 95 Roseville Area Middle School and Parkview Center School 7th and 8th grade students participated in the RAMS Theatre spring musical "Nonsense in the North Woods". The students spent eight weeks learning blocking, music, and choreography, as well as building a beautiful north woods lodge set. "After hours, days, weeks of hard work we see a miracle happen!" exclaimed RAMS Theatre Director Linsey Owen. "The stage is lit, the performers dressed, the crew poised and ready to move, and then the curtain goes up and the audience takes in an audible breath as they see the set, hear the music, and watch the stage come to life. It is in that moment that my heart soars!"



Parkview 1st Grade Students Study Dragonfly, Damselfl Biology

Parkview Center School 1st graders finishe out the year with a field trip to Lak McCarrons to wrap up a focus on entomology and lake and wetland habitats. Students had

a great time doing Odonata (dragonfly and damselfly) catch/identify/releas sampling macroinvertebrate water, and searching for monarch larvae on the milkweed in the park. According to 1st grade teacher Jenny Eckman, the fiel trip was a culmination of a trimester-long study of dragonfly and damselfly biology and ecology and part of a Parkview Water Project Grant through the Capitol Region Watershed District.







RAHS Scholarship Night Celebrates Student Achievement

Roseville Area High School celebrated student achievement during Roseville Area Community Scholarship Night.

- 52 students
- \$76,000 in scholarships
- 29 generous local organizations

Thank you to those local donors who believe strongly in the education our students are receiving and are backing it up with support for their future!



AVID Family Night Celebrates a Successful Year

To wrap up a fabulous year, Roseville Area Middle School hosted their end-of-year AVID Family Night. Students, families, and staff celebrated by having pizza and playing board games and family BINGO. AVID is a college readiness system that is taught school-wide and will be district-wide starting with the 2023-2024 school year.



Hester Named Capitol Division Principal of the Year

Chris Hester, who has served as the principal of Roseville Area High School since 2017, was named the Capitol Division Principal of the Year by the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP). According to the MASSP, the Principal of the Year award recognizes school leaders who use research and innovative practices to lead and improve their schools. Congrats, Ms. Hester!



RAHS Hurdler Breaks State 100-meter Record

Congratulations to Roseville Area High School's Ava Fitzgerald, who took 1st and broke the state record in the June 11 state 100-meter hurdles final



RAHS Renovation & Addition Named *Finance & Commerce* **Top Project**

The Roseville Area High School renovation and science addition was chosen as a *Finance & Commerce* Top Project of 2021. According to Bill Gaier, the publisher of *Finance & Commerce*, "This is the 14th year we are honoring the best in the built environment from across the state. Of the nearly 100 nominations of projects completed during 2021, the selection committee felt yours stood out among the best." The RAHS project was started in September 2018 and completed in March 2021.

"This award is a testament to the wonderful work of our staff members and construction partners to ensure the RAHS renovations and addition would result in a state-of-the-art learning environment for our students," says Shari Thompson, Roseville Area Schools director of business services. "I am proud



of what these renovations and new learning spaces mean for our students, staff, and community members." The RAHS project will be featured in the July 2022 edition of *Finance & Commerce*.

Community Ed

Adults: Come Learn With Us!

Learning is for adults, too! This year, we had 24 students graduate from the Roseville Adult Learning Center and receive their diploma. Congratulations, graduates!

You could be next! Interested in learning English or earning a high school diploma? We can help. Want to advance your technology skills? We can help with that, too. Become a certified Microsoft Office Specialist at no cost. e also offer a Northstar Digital Literacy course at no cost.

Contact us at 651-604-3553 or alc-info@isd623.org to learn more about our free opportunities for adult education.



RAMS Students Decorate Bags for Meals on Wheels



Students at Roseville Area Middle School (RAMS) recently decorated meal bags for our Meals on Wheels program as a way to spread joy! They added personal touches to the bags, including messages like "You are loved." Thank you, RAMS students!

Meals on Wheels is a program that delivers meals to those in need. The program offers a nutritious meal for homebound older and disabled adults, a critical wellness visit by volunteers, and a means of connecting older adults to other community resources.

Interested in this service for yourself or for a loved one? Call 651-318-9091.

Save the Date: 36th Annual 623 Walk/Run

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 12, 2022!

The 36th Annual 623 Walk/ Run will be back in person this year! Get active while making a difference in our community. This event is a fundraiser for youth scholarships. The route is 6.23 kilometers long and is not timed. Walkers, runners, families, and strollers are



welcome! All participants will receive a free t-shirt. This year, you will also have the option to purchase a Roseville Raider winter hat!

Registration is now open. To register, visit http://www.isd623.ce.eleyo.com or call 651-604-3770.



Harambee Green Thumbs Benefit Sarcoma Foundation

On Outside Adventures Day during Harambee Intersession, students did a service project for the Rein in Sarcoma Foundation! They decorated planters and then filled them with dirt and sunflower seeds. The colorful planters will be given away at the foundation's Party in the Park this summer.



Dear Friends of Roseville Area Schools,



Welcome to our 2022 issue of *Voices*. Roseville Area Schools is proud to publish *Voices*, our student publication of writing and art, each year. We want to

share our students' voices and talents with you through these pages. This year our theme is COURAGE.

We all witness and perform large and small acts of courage every day. The past few years, we all have had to be especially courageous. With everything going on in the world, it can be easy to feel despair, but as a Roseville 5th grader wisely reflects, *We are Courage*. Together we can face these obstacles; we are often braver together.

This issue of *Voices* will hopefully inspire you to reflect on the courage in others as well as the courage within yourself. We honor the strength and fearlessness of our students and community through hearing their voices. Here, we are happy to share that with you.

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Jenny Loeck, Ed.D. Superintendent



Climbing Mountains by Kylie, Grade 5

Courage

By Maya, Grade 7

Courage isn't something you find in a da Many people have to find it their wa

That might be found by standing up to the mean Or raising your hand and being seen Like kids telling a teacher when something is wrong Or singing a solo in a song

Courage can be found in everything Like in a movie when a knight saves the king Or in a different country when you try a new food And courage can affect everybody's mood

When I look to my left and to my right I see courage that is shining bright

Disclaimer: Selected pieces were chosen from work submitted by teachers and students in spring 2022. Due to space limitations, not all submitted pieces can be included. Also, in a few cases pieces have been lightly edited from their original form.

[Born a Coward]

By Gow Nong, Grade 8

You were my courage. My strength my sunshine my heart for without you, I would've been nothing. For you only appear before me as a heroic persona, I still remember the you who crouched on the floo crying. You cried just like me. You hiccuped and hid your eyes. With your palms placed against your eyelids and your breath hitching you looked helpless as if you were a child once again. If I could be reborn as a person with confidenc pride courage rhyme and reason I swear I would for you. But I wasn't so I ran from you and tried to forget your crying face as the image danced beneath my closed eyelids. I was scared of hurting you even more. But either way my existence has stunted you and no matter what I did I could never become more than just a coward. So you continue to be my crutch.



Courage by Charlotte, Grade 5

You explain me so I wouldn't have to. With my name and identity memorized within your mind as if it was yours. For we are one, but you had never saw me that way. You would shatter your bones in hopes of being stronger for me. A weak me. A coward. Solely because that was who I believed I existed as. For when the inner child in me chases you until you escape from my line of sight, I am forced to give you up. So I comfort my inner child who had never been alone they defied loneliness simply because it was scary. I bid them a goodnight because as much as I love you, I would never learn how the world shakes and hurts if you sheltered me so. For you were never my courage because my courage was letting you go.

Courage is a Rising Sea

By Gwenyth, Grade 6

Courage is a rising sea Full of ups and downs. Ever changing.

Courage is intrepidity Or you could call it Dauntlessness.

Courage means to Be brave Empower.

Courage is something Great to have If you have just the right amount.

> Courage is self-love Audacity, And kindness.

Courage means Different things To a lot of different people.

Courage can be As small as a mouse Or as big as an elephant.

Courage builds up As you go Getting bigger, and bigger.

Courage gets smaller The less you think About the good in everyone.

Courage means A lot of things Try to think of them all.

Impossible

By Kiy, Grade 6

Impossible is what others want you to be or do You want to be you

Sometimes I feel like I have to be what people want me to be

NO I want to be something better

I want to be Me. Not you. Me

So if you feel like you have to be someone else don't be,

be the impossible you.



Angell, Grade 1

Courage Award By Angell, Grade 1

Courage is like going on a humongous, steep hill, even when you are afraid.

ahain alan Date: 6-16-02 Name: Page: Parkview Ist Grad Words like Idex Used Word aws Louis about Weren at 111. Braille 11e, He Wanted Ihven brai 6 hange who things People DY Were blind. hange takes courage, Narrative - Unit 1

Graham, Grade 1

Courage Could Be You

By Briony, Grade 5

Courage can take many, Sometimes only one. There are different kinds of courage It could be one small word, Or it could be many loud ones. It could be a small act, Or a really BIG act. Courage can be a big task, It could even be a small one. Courage could be one small voice, Or many big voices. Courage, Could be you.



Courage Climber by Flora, Grade 4



Courage like an Eagle by Keira, Grade 6

Courage Is

By Jack, Grade 6

Courage is Everyone in the world, The military, Health workers You and me, We are all examples Of unity.

Courage is Charity, Hospitals, Your local donut shop Courage just will Never STOP.

Courage is Being strong, Fearless, Brave, Teamwork, And playing!

Courage is The new 2022 And all the new Voices Ready for me and YOU!

More Than Brave

By Leilani, Grade 7

Courage might be mistaken for bravery, and I can see why. I understand why. Bravery is when someone does something dangerous, courage is the ability to do something that frightens one. Courage can be speaking up for yourself or standing up for someone, but I see it as so much more than that. It can be going to school with dirty shoes, or ragged clothes. It's doing your best even when you know it's not enough, or playing a sport even if you can't, maybe just going to school or being in public, people are insecure and courage to me is overcoming those insecurities.



It Takes Courage by Tara, Grade 7

Courage Is

By Samantha, Grade 6

Courage is Being brave and taking risks. Being determined and holding onto your ideas Until they turn into amazing things.

Courage is Sticking up for others, Even if they aren't your friend. Courage is chasing your dreams, No matter where they might take you.

Courage is Being a hero, Who doesn't wear a cape. Walking with the people you love, 'Til the sidewalk ends.

Courage is Being confident And not being afraid of judgements, Letting your personality shine.

Courage is being yourself.



Courage While Playing by Reina, Grade 1

Fleeting

By Ryley, Grade 7

I don't know how to write a poem about courage A poem requires to know To know the experience you are speaking of Courage is a fleeting experience Although Ambition now rising with the sun Courage is new Looks different Like a shadow casted over a puddle Shifting Poetic Courage fleeting like the breeze Leaving us gone Inside without breeze But Fleeting doesn't mean it's gone Fleeting like the last reminder Of a friend far gone Move from the past Requires courage So not fleeting Maybe here In over packed hallways Smelling of summer

Courage Is

By Caroline, Grade 4

Cool Optimistic Unreal yet Real Adapting Generous Empathy



Courage Is by Oiana and Eliana, Grade 4

Courage Is

By Oriana and Eliana, Grade 4

Courage is being brave, Helping others, Standing up for what is right, And doing things no one else will.

Courage is staying on your own page, Getting help when you need it, Being you, And facing your fears.

Courage is making change!

Do I have the courage?

By Gemma, Grade 5

Do I have the courage to make sure I am ever really heard? Do I have the courage to sing before a crowd? Do I have the courage to stand for what is right? Do I have the courage to speak what's on my mind? Do I have the courage to reach the sky? Don't be afraid to try.



Courage by Briza, Grade 4



Courage Wins by Ruby, Grade 1

Courage Wins!

By Ruby, Grade 1

Courage is bravery. Of course, courage is wonderful! Uneasy as it is, you still do it. Redoing your work is courage. Anyway, courage is brave. Good to have courage. Everyone has courage in their heart.

We Are Courageous

By Nora, Grade 5

COURAGE IS THE STRENGTH AND BRAVERY TO BE WHO YOU ARE NO MATTER THE SHAPE, SIZE, OR COLOR. COURAGE IS THE POWER TO TRY EVEN WHEN IT'S HARD. WE ARE COURAGEOUS! WE ARE ROSEVILLE!

What is Courage?

By Ella, Grade 6

Courage isn't always jumping over a canyon, Courage isn't always swimming in a rapid river. Courage isn't always skydiving, Courage isn't always climbing a tall mountain.

Courage is telling the truth even when it's hard, Courage is facing people that scare you.

Courage is standing up for what you believe is right, Courage is saying "NO" to what is wrong.

Courage is doing what you are afraid to do, Courage is something you can find on an inner quest. Courage is deep inside you. It has always been there and will continue to be there until,

You discover it and choose to have courage. Courage can be a powerful force. But discovering it depends on you, Do you choose to have courage?



The Slaying by Miguel, Grade 4

What It Means to be Courageous

By Cora, Grade 4

What I think it means to be courageous, is to have bravery. Face your fears. Live in the moment. Stand up for people who can't. Tell the bully to back off. Don't be afraid. Superheroes have courage. Be your own superhero! If you stand up for people who are getting picked on, you'll be their superhero too. The next time you're feeling fearful, don't let it get the best of you. You have more in you than you think.

The Two Sides of the Sea

By Hazel, Grade 6

A tidal wave of worry Crashes over me Salt and sand in my eyes Makes it hard to see

I'm standing in a sea of despair My heart, worry's newest catch While everyone seems to walk around without a single care I am fighting my hardest match

But I am strong I will make it through You also might be feeling down But guess what? You are strong too

So go, dear, let your hair be free Go scream, and laugh, and shout Remember just to BE For the sun is just starting to come out

Stand Up for Courage by Nawal, Grade 6



We Are Courage

By Sofia, Grade

Courage. That is me. I'll help you speak out, say what you need to say. I'll help you stand out, show your true colors. I'll help you face your fears, no more needing to be scared. Yet I'll slowly slip away, but you keep on going. You speak out. You speak out. You stand out. You face your fears and more. All you needed was to find that courage inside of you That is you. Courage. Roseville Area Schools Independent School District 623 I251 West County Road B2 Roseville, MN 55113-3299

Voices

A Student Literary and Art Publication



Courage Isn't

By Callie, Grade 6

Courage isn't just being brave Courage is not just looking away Courage is instead helping in some way

Courage isn't just wearing a cape and flying through the sk Courage is helping others

Courage isn't just a trait Courage is something you show And once you do everyone will know



Just Keep Walking by Makayla, Grade 7



Showing Courage by Emanda, Grade 1

Showing Courage

By Emanda, Grade 1

I showed courage when I went underwater with no goggles!

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