



# Haslett Public Schools

## Haslett Happenings Around the District

from the desk of **Erin North** (Principal of Ralya Elementary School)

October 5, 2023

**No School**  
*Autumn Break*  
**October 6-9**



### Homecoming Parade Route:

Academic Way  
Haslett Road  
Cornell Road  
Bayshore Drive (turns into Hallendale Road)  
Franklin Street (walking groups end at MS)  
Marsh Road  
High School Student Parking Lot

Parade starts at Wilkshire (Academic Way) at 5:30 PM

**Reminder:** Academic Way will be closed at 5 PM

## Upcoming Calendar Events

### October 6

No School - Autumn Break  
Football vs. Williamston

### October 9

No School - Autumn Break  
Board of Education Meeting (7 PM)

### October 10

Murphy Book Fair

### October 11

Murphy Book Fair  
Choir Boosters (7 PM - Viking Room)

### October 12

Murphy Book Fair  
Band Boosters (6 PM - HS Media Center)

### October 13

MS Student of the Month (7:40 AM)  
Murphy Book Fair

Homecoming Parade (5:30 PM)  
Football vs. Waverly (Homecoming)

### October 14

HHS Homecoming Dance (7-10 PM)

### October 18

HS Student of the Month (7:15 AM)  
WECC PTO Meeting (6 PM - Rm 207)

### October 19

MS Choir Concert (7:30 PM - PAC)  
Murphy Grade 3 Concert (4:30 PM)

## Collaboration and Inclusivity:

The mission of **Ralya Elementary School** is “to provide educational opportunities, which enable students of all aspirations and abilities to grow and learn.” Ralya staff assist in this by focusing on the whole child. The school currently supports about 400 second to fifth grade students and offers multiple programs that emphasize strong work habits and collaboration in learning.

In a 2022 exclusive interview with the Center for Educational Improvement, Ralya Principal Erin North agreed to discuss the school’s unique strengths, diversity programs, and future goals and plans. In the words of Principal North, “Ralya Elementary is home to a very collaborative environment. There is a great deal of ownership from everyone within the building. This relationship is reciprocated between the adults and the students. It is important to truly feel connected and welcomed at the school you belong to and call home.”

- *In each grade level, teachers regularly engage in collaborative plan time when creating class lessons.*
- *Students and staff members participate weekly in Walking Wednesdays to build healthy bodies.*
- *Mrs. North worked collaboratively with the Food Service Director to enhance breakfast choices.*
- *Ralya staff are meeting families’ needs in the community by offering Community Connection Nights where staff come together with families to offer resources, curriculum, and tools for families to use at home.*

**Inclusivity:** Inclusivity is very important at Ralya and is recognized as one of the school’s key Equity Plan principles. In short, Ralya’s Equity Plan aims to create a school environment that embraces diversity and supports all students with the intention of closing gaps that have marginalized and continue to marginalize communities within the district. In keeping with this plan, the Ralya staff has committed both time and effort in various inclusivity endeavors, such as updating playground equipment in an effort to be more accessible for students with disabilities. Ralya continues to update classroom libraries so they have more diverse books that feature all types of representation, so that students are able to see themselves.

**The Arts:** For a second year in a row, Ralya Elementary is participating with the Besharat Art Foundation, which aims to share global diversity in art by working to nurture empathy among children of all ages. To do this, members of the Besharat Art Program share art pieces with schools in the hopes of helping children learn more about the earth and others.

**Community Involvement:** This year, Ralya continues their service theme of “Ralya Loves Local.” This theme effectively reflects Ralya’s two-way relationship with the Haslett community. It takes effort to maintain these relationships, but each staff member plays a part in developing these connections.

- *Ralya supports this relationship by hosting a Care Closet that accepts communal food, clothing donations, and hygiene products for students in need.*
- *The school also offers opportunities for families to cultivate friendships outside of the school day with events at local business partners, such as Lansing Lugnuts, MSU Women’s Basketball, Schuler Books events, Edru Skate-a-Rama, and Art Unlimited.*
- *Through volunteer work, Ralya students experience hands-on community service and support local associations, such as the Haslett Beautification Association.*

By having high standards, positive collaboration, strong inclusivity, and exceptional community service, Ralya Elementary School has succeeded in helping students grow and learn. Through these efforts, Ralya has served as an example of excellence for other schools and students.

