The Ringgold REVIEW

Timely Information & Updates From Ringgold School District

Fall 2025 - Vol. 6



Dear Ringgold Families,

The 2025-26 school year is just getting started and there is already so much to inspire Ringgold Pride. In this issue, we share some of the many accomplishments from throughout our learning community.

We were thrilled by the enthusiastic turnout at our back-to-school events and appreciative of the effort it took to organize these informational and fun evenings.

Teachers and administrators worked hard this summer to develop Ringgold's new Instructional Guide to Effective Learning, a best-practices guide to teaching techniques and classroom environments that benefit every student. Thank you to everyone who participated in this important project.

Our School Board and Administration successfully developed a balanced and fair budget that underscores our commitment to both students and taxpayers. Since 2007-08, the state has set an annual limit on how much school districts can raise taxes called the Act 1 index. Our District budget has remained below the index every single year.

Ringgold's athletes are also shining bright, including two who are heading to Florida for the U.S. Olympic Development Team national competition. Speaking of shining, have you seen the newly revamped Joe Montana stadium? It looks great, but even more importantly, improvements have made this community gathering place more accessible for all.

It's going to be a great year!

Sincerely,

Randall Skrinjorich

Mr. Randall Skrinjorich
Superintendent of Ringgold School District

New Instructional Guide for Effective Learning Details Best Practices

About two dozen Ringgold teachers - with support from administrators - have developed a best-practices guide to teaching techniques and classroom environments that benefit every student. The Instructional Guide for Effective Learning was finalized in August and has since been shared with teachers throughout the District.

Throughout the summer, the group used their experience to identify key characteristics of instruction, classroom environments and classroom routines that foster learning and student engagement. This information became a detailed reference document that stresses standards-based, individualized instruction in classrooms where students analyze and apply information, demonstrate deep knowledge and take an active, collaborative role in learning.

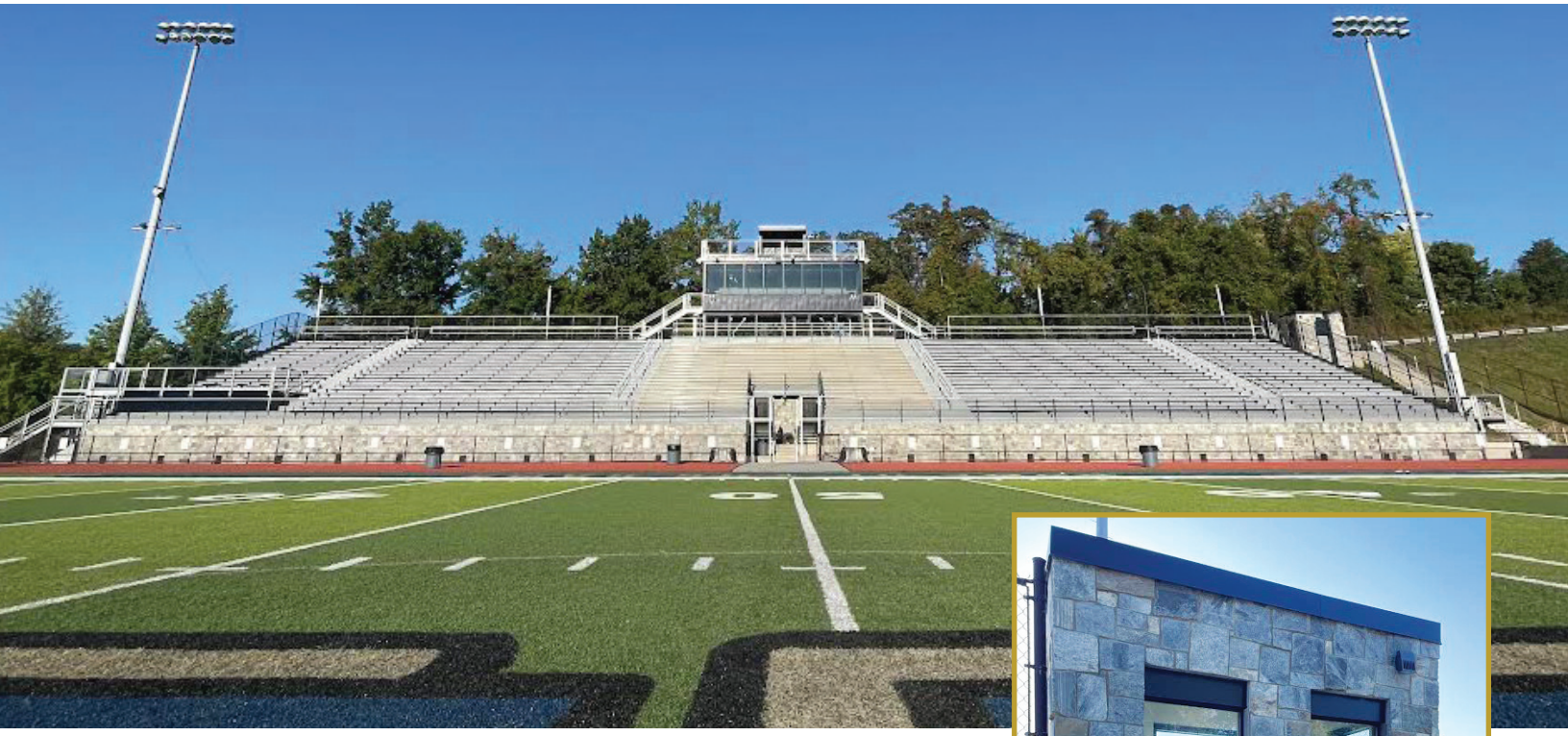
"Every component of the Instructional Guide is critical to building a classroom environment and an instructional process that's going to benefit every student," said Assistant Superintendent Dr. Greg Saraceni. "It's a non-evaluative framework that allows us to align the education we provide across the District." ■

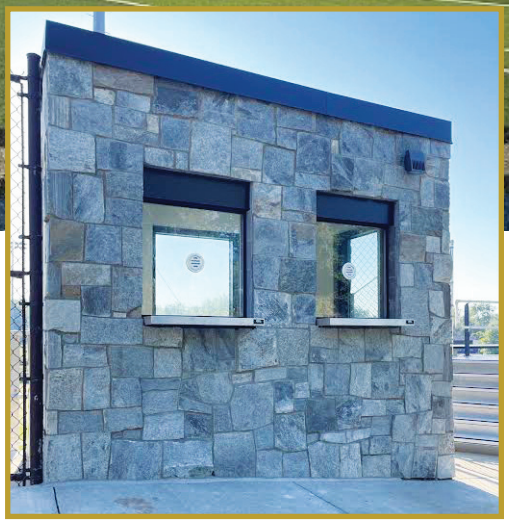




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Completed Upgrades Make Joe Montana Stadium More Accessible to All



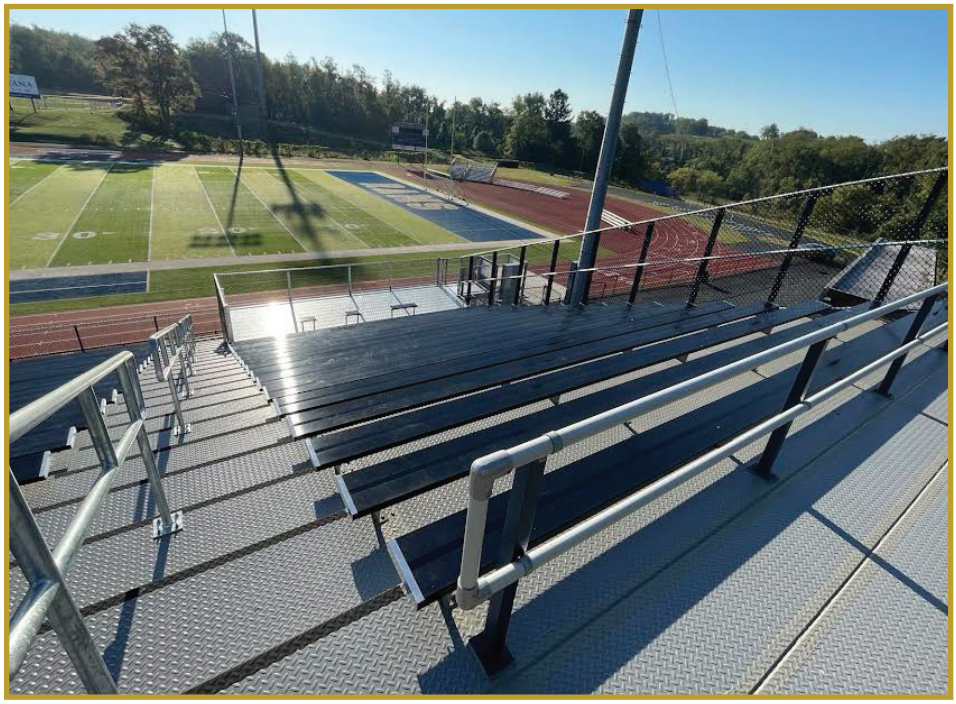


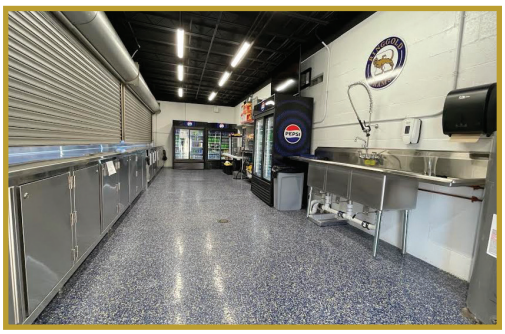
Widened aisles, new handrails, a wheelchair lift and platform, and bleachers painted with anti-slip epoxy are among the features making the updated Joe Montana Stadium more user-friendly.

"It comes down to accessibility," said Director of Buildings & Grounds Mr. Bill Hoffman. "These improvements make it a much better experience for everyone in attendance."

The press box has been improved inside and out, with new stairs that are less steep, a refreshed exterior, and new counter tops, flooring, and lighting inside. A new upper ticket booth has been added and the bleacher wall that faces the field has been improved. ■







Two Ringgold Soccer Stars to Compete at U.S. Olympic Development Team Nationals

Ringgold High School Senior Imani Arnold and Ringgold Middle School eighth-grader Dominica "Domi" Homa Childs have won spots on their age group's 2026 Olympic Development Program (ODP) East Inter-Regional Soccer team. In January, they will head to Florida for the national competition and a chance to advance to the international level.

This achievement represents years of work and is a career milestone for both athletes. "I've made regionals in the past, but this is my first time being picked for nationals," said Imani, 17. "I'm overwhelmed to have this opportunity," said Domi, 13. "It's very exciting and I'm very happy."

For the Love of Her Game and Her Brother

Imani's soccer career began when her mom signed her up at age 5. "I just happened to be good at it," she said. In addition to playing for ODP and Ringgold High, where her role as team captain has honed her leadership skills, Imani plays for the Pittsburgh Football Club. "I like the chemistry of it, the teamwork with my teammates and coaches, and it keeps me in shape," she said.

Her commitment to soccer excellence deepened after her brother, Quinte, passed away last year. "Losing him pushed me to go even harder, in honor of him," she said.

Imani plans to play college-level soccer next year. She's deciding between nursing or legal studies. ■



Imani Arnold



Dominica "Domi" Homa Childs

A Fierce Competitor Who Builds Lasting Friendships

Domi had already concluded from televised matches that soccer was her sport by the time she joined her first team at age 5. "I love the teamwork. I love making new friends, and I love the competitiveness," she said.

Domi also enjoys the mentoring relationships built between player and coach, and soccer is her biggest stress reliever. "If I'm ever upset, I'll go outside and juggle a soccer ball," she said.

In addition to the ODP and Ringgold Middle teams, Domi plays for Beadling Girls Academy and Assassins Futsal Academy. Her future soccer goals include playing for RHS and then Penn State University. ■

Ringgold Celebrates a New Year with Back to School Activities

Ringgold Elementary School North

The Ringgold Elementary School North community celebrated the new school year with an Open House. Students and families met teachers and signed up for sports leagues. Everyone enjoyed a visit with staff from Monongahela Local Library, food trucks, ice cream and raffle prizes.







Ringgold Elementary School South

Ringgold Elementary School South welcomed students, parents, families and the community to the annual Back to School Night celebration. Families had the opportunity to meet teachers, beginning positive and collaborative relationships. They learned how to navigate the school through several fun activities, including an obstacle course in the gym, book fair in the cafeteria, and food trucks outside. Families were also encouraged to sign up for extracurricular activities.





Ringgold Middle School

Fifth grade students and new Ringgold Middle School students viewed a welcome presentation with the principals. Afterward, they and returning students in grades six through eight had the opportunity to tour the building and meet their teachers. Students also enjoyed special fun and educational activities throughout the first week of school.





Ringgold High School

Administrators and counselors welcomed new Ringgold High School students during Freshmen/New Student Orientation. Students learned about credits, graduation pathways, expectations and ways to get involved in their new school community.

At the Open House that followed, students in grades nine through 12 received their schedules. Students and parents toured the building, assisted by volunteers from various student clubs, and local vendors and food trucks were on campus for all to enjoy.

Senior Izzie Hooper led a Dress Drive in the cafeteria so students could donate and/or borrow dresses for the Homecoming Dance.







Feature a Teacher



Ms. Rosalyn Malarbi, Ringgold Elementary School North Kindergarten Teacher

Ms. Malarbi connects lesson content to real-world applications, enabling her students to benefit not only from the curriculum, but also from actively engaging in planned activities. With the District since 1993 and in her second year as an RESN kindergarten teacher, she effectively implements academic standards in her hands-on classroom. She also leads the Lil Rams Camp for incoming kindergarten students and is actively involved in STEAM Night and Family Fun Night, among other events.

"One of Ms. Malarbi's most notable contributions to our school community was the creation of Mother/Son Night, an annual event held for both elementary schools," said Ringgold Elementary School North Principal Mr. Ross Ference. "Mothers and sons create crafts, enjoy snacks and spend quality time together at this event, which has grown to become one of the most attended in the District."



Mrs. Kim Long, Ringgold Elementary School South Special Education Teacher

In her 20-year Ringgold teaching career, Mrs. Long has helped thousands of students and families on their educational journeys. Her approachability and level of care have been nothing short of exemplary. Mrs. Long started her work at Ringgold Elementary School South when it opened. She began as a learning support teacher, then taught kindergarten for nine years before returning to her passion: teaching learning support for the primary grades and gifted education for grades K-2. In every role, she thrives on helping young learners acquire the foundational skills they need to be successful.

Mrs. Long "excels in focusing on the total student, working diligently to help aid in their academic, social, and behavioral progress. She has earned the respect and appreciation of her colleagues, serving as a team leader, mentor, and source of support in her everyday interactions. Her ability to collaborate with the administration has greatly helped with the positive direction of our building and the District as a whole," said Ringgold Elementary School South Principal Mr. Marc Berry.



Ms. Jennifer Rice, Ringgold Middle School Sixth Grade Math Teacher

As Ringgold Middle School's Math Lead Teacher, Ms. Rice is dedicated to effective, engaging, and standards-based math instruction that gives students the opportunity to learn and excel. A District employee since 2006, she cares deeply about her students as individuals and attends student events during and after school.

"Ms. Rice takes the time to get to know her students and develops relationships that last long after her students leave RMS. Her former students love to stop and visit her," said Ringgold Middle Principal Mr. Kenneth Patterson.



Mrs. Tiffani Trice-Kolar, Ringgold High School Career Exploration/Walking for Fitness Teacher

Mrs. Trice-Kolar – better known as TK – makes sure every student meets Pennsylvania's career-related requirements for graduation. The partnerships she builds with representatives from colleges and universities, employers and the military shine during the annual Career and College Fair she organizes, offering students direct access to their future pathways. TK, who has worked at RHS for 20 years, supports many other student programs and groups, including Student of the Month, Teen Outreach and Read Across America.

"With a consistently positive and kind demeanor, TK models respectful and encouraging relationships, fostering a supportive environment for both students and staff, said Ringgold High School Principal Dr. Tiffany Bevard.

Meet Ringgold's New Teachers & Counselors

Ringgold School District welcomes our new teachers and counselors – we're so glad you're here!

Ringgold Elementary School North



From left to right: Ms. Cassandra McDine, kindergarten; Mr. David Molisee, technology; and Ms. Amanda Cooke, autistic support.

Ringgold Elementary School South



From left to right: Mr. Noah Kunzelman, second grade; Ms. Sophie Jebose, STEM; Ms. Tobie Victor, third grade; Ms. Justice Lundy, third grade special education; and Ms. Gabrielle Bricker, school counselor.

Not pictured: Ms. Samantha Kracun, fourth grade special education.

Ringgold Middle School



From left to right: Mr. Chris McConnell, seventh grade English Language Arts; Miss Taylor Clawson, school counselor; Mrs. Renee Petrovich, STEM and middle school topics; Mr. Thomas Samosky, eighth grade social studies; Mr. Dalton Randolph, fifth grade science and social studies; Miss Megan McIlvaine, sixth grade English Language Arts; Miss Lana Peters, sixth grade math; Mrs. Taylor Boarts, sixth grade science and social studies; and Miss Angelina King, special education.

Ringgold High School



From left to right: Mrs. Nichole Ragnelli, special education; Mrs. Kelly Thompson, English; Mrs. Marisa Edwards, special education; Miss Katharine "Wren" Vanosdall, grades 9 and 10 science and biology; Miss Devyn Peskorski, physical education; and Mrs. Casey Bacha, physical education.

Ringgold Leaders Prioritize Students & Taxpayers to Craft Balanced 2025-26 Budget

Ringgold School District leaders developed a balanced and responsible 2025-26 budget that protects classroom instruction and student services, prepares for potential shifts in funding or costs throughout the year, and did not require a tax increase above the Act 1 Index.

"Our District leadership and School Board remain committed to delivering a strong educational experience for all students, and to careful, conservative budgeting that also protects taxpayers," said Ringgold Director of Finance Kimberley Moore. "We have always stayed below the Act 1 index and never asked for an exception," she said.

The $58,988,763 budget accommodates increasing costs in three areas that the District must fund to meet its educational mission or a state mandate:

- **Special Education Services:** Ringgold proudly supports students with a wide range of learning needs. Doing so is expensive. The cost of delivering individualized instruction and hiring specialized staff has risen by more than $1 million this year – far more than the $83,001 increase in the proposed state budget. The District must use its general fund to make up the difference.
- **Cyber School and Charter School Tuition:** When students who live within a school district enroll in these out-of-district programs, the local public schools are required by law to pay their tuition, based on rates that are set by a state formula. The 2025-26 budget includes an increase of $900,000 in cyber school and charter school tuition payments.
- **Transportation Costs:** A combination of factors, including an increase in out-of-district routes for some special education students, rising fuel prices, and ongoing driver shortages, have contributed to a $300,000 increase in this year's budget. Ensuring safe, reliable transportation for all students remains a top priority, and these rising costs are a reality the District must plan for.

In addition to the cost challenges listed above, District leaders also had to factor in state funding uncertainty, as the final state budget has not yet passed. "We budgeted our revenues conservatively," Ms. Moore said.

Ringgold School District is committed to providing every student with the resources and support they need to thrive and succeed and to fiscal responsibility. Our leaders will continue to advocate for fair and sustainable public education funding. ■

Ringgold Fall Celebrations

Bonfire Night!





School spirit burned as brightly as the flames at Ringgold's Second Annual Bonfire.

2025 Homecoming Celebration





Left: Homecoming Court, Andrew Nibbs, Sarah Simko, AJ Lewis, McKenna Adams, Isabella Hooper, Amoni Ward, Alice Ramous, Ty Anderson, Bella Massey, Michael Stasko. Right: Queen Isabella Hooper and King Amoni Ward.