

# The Redtail Ridge Review

## Principals Update

March 2026

### Redtail Ridge Elementary School

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#### Quick Links

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Redtail Ridge Website](#)

[Background Check for  
Volunteers](#)

Hello Redtail Ridge Families,

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb” is an old weather saying suggesting that if the month starts with stormy, harsh weather (a lion), it will end with mild, calm spring weather (a lamb). That’s exactly how March began here at Redtail Ridge- with the roar of our amazing **PTC Read-a-Thon fundraiser!** In all my years as a principal, I have never seen our students embrace a fundraiser with so much fun and enthusiasm. The fifth grade classes even competed to see which could raise the most and when the first stretch goal was met, they suggested going even further with a **stretch-stretch goal**. Not only did Redtail Ridge meet it- they **exceeded all expectations!**

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to all families who supported your students by collecting donations and to our **FABULOUS PTC** for planning the fun events that made this possible. Our students met every goal and over the next few months, they will enjoy the rewards they earned, including **music at lunch, an all-school pajama day, extra recess, an author visit, a teacher costume race, a s’more party, a bounce house day, and a special “cool” treat**. We are so proud of their hard work and can’t wait to see them celebrate these well-earned rewards.

Please take a few moments to read about important information, upcoming events and all the great things happening at Redtail Ridge this month. We are truly grateful for our **amazing school community**-families, students and staff alike, whose support and enthusiasm make our school such a special place!

In Partnership,

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are partnering with Studer Education to gather your input through an anonymous survey. Summary results will be shared on our website.

Your feedback helps us recognize strengths and identify opportunities for improvement.

[Read how we use your survey feedback.](#)

The survey takes about 10–15 minutes to complete. Please complete it in one sitting. You will select your child's school and may complete a survey for each school your children attend.

Thank you for partnering with us to inspire and empower each student to reach their full potential.

Access the Parent/Caregiver survey here:

[Prior Lake - Savage Area Schools – Parent/Caregiver Experience Survey](#)

QR Code link:

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As we prepare for the 2026–2027 school year in Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools, we value parent input as one part of the student placement process. Due to the closing of WestWood Elementary, we will not be able to honor specific teacher requests. Please do not list individual teachers on this form. If your child has previously had a teacher you would like us to be aware of, you may include that information; however, prior teacher placements cannot be guaranteed. Many factors are carefully considered when creating balanced classroom communities. Current classroom teachers work collaboratively with the principal to place students based on a variety of needs, including learning styles, work habits, academic and social-emotional considerations, special programming and overall class composition. Our goal is to create supportive, well-balanced classrooms that meet the needs of all learners.

[Placement Form](#)  
(Parent Input Form)

**This form is Due Friday, April 24th.**

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## School Safety Spotlight

### Safety Spotlight: National Day of Education on Student Safety

**March 25 is the National Day of Education on Student Safety — a reminder that safety is a shared responsibility.** Our schools provide a safe, confidential way to report bullying or to help someone facing mental health concerns. If the situation does not require immediate action, reports can be submitted through the [confidential reporting system](#) on the district website or through the same reporting form on student iPads.

PLSAS also offers an anonymous Tip Line for students, parents, and community members to report weapons, threats of violence, or any activity that could endanger students, staff, or property. Tip Line: (952) 226-0005. Speaking up helps us respond quickly and keep our schools safe and supportive for everyone.

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March is Youth Art Month, and to celebrate, we have a selection of artworks on display at the Savage City Hall, which is open M-F 8:00-4:30.

Here is the list of artists representing Redtail Ridge Elementary School:

Maddie S. (2), McKenna Q. (2), Holly R. (3), Ana P. (5), Aiden L. (5), Mila J. (1), Charlie C. (5), Annie W. (4), Scarlet H. (3), Harrison T. (K), Stella K. (1), Nora S. (2), Luca S. (4), Jordynn J. (2), Jayde N. (K), Corbin B. (4).

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## Yearbook Ordering window is now open!

Please place your order for your 2025-26 Redtail Ridge Yearbook via Lifetouch today! The deadline to order is April 3rd. There will be no LATE ORDERS and NO AVAILABLE Yearbooks after the ordering window has closed.

Place your order [here](#) now!

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## I Love To Read Month & the Read A Thon were a HUGE success!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Read A Thon fundraiser and all of the I Love To Read Month activities. We had snuggle and read day every Thursday in February along with Mystery Readers each day and the fundraiser. It was a busy and very successful month! **Together we raised over \$40,000!!!** (We even had some friendly competition between some of our 5th grade classrooms!)

Way to go Redtail Ridge Families and Friends - we truly appreciate the support!

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## Principals Reading Corner

This month, I had the opportunity to visit each grade level to read *Kindness Rocks* by Megan Murphy. The story shares a simple but powerful message- small acts of kindness can make a big impact in our communities.

Throughout March, students will be participating in our **Kindness Challenge**. Each class will be tracking daily acts of kindness and reflecting on how they are showing care, respect and compassion toward others at school.

As they work toward their class goal, students will be earning the opportunity to **paint their own Kindness Rock** at the end of the month. Students may choose to keep their rock and place it in their own neighborhood or community to spread kindness, or they may choose to donate it to former PLSAS teacher Nancy Duehn as part of the Prior Lake and Savage Kindness Rock Initiative. Donated rocks will be placed throughout the Prior Lake and Savage communities to brighten someone's day.

We are excited to see how our students continue to make a positive impact- one small act of kindness at a time! Thank you for encouraging and reinforcing these acts of kindness at home as well.

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## Every Buddy's Playground

Every Buddy's Playground is an exciting initiative focused on making our playgrounds welcoming, accessible, and fun for every student. By improving surfacing for easier mobility and adding more inclusive equipment, we're creating more opportunities for students of all abilities to play, connect, and build friendships together. This work reflects our district's commitment to inclusion and supporting the whole child — both in and out of the classroom.

Playground updates at each school will be based on its unique needs, with input from staff and families. Redtail Ridge will be part of Phase 2, and our PTC will be helping with fundraising efforts to support this project. We're grateful for their partnership and enthusiasm. If you would like to donate to the Redtail Ridge Every Buddy's Playground project, here is the link to our PTC's donation site.

Please help spread the word about this wonderful initiative and visit the Every Buddy's Playground website linked here, for more information on how this work is making a difference for students across our district.

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## Tutoring through Community Ed

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## Lunch Room Volunteers

This year we are again asking for lunch room helpers. THANK YOU to all who have already signed up and helped us out this year! If you have time in your schedule to come volunteer in our lunch room, we would LOVE to have you. Here's the [sign up genius](#). The link has been updated with all dates for the rest of the school year.

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## From the PTC

Thank you to all who helped with the Conference Meals in February. We fed the staff with an amazing charcuterie board made by Molly Lujan, a pizza dinner and a soups and salads dinner.

We also ran the Read A Thon, which was a huge success - THANK YOU to everyone who contributed, either financially or with sharing our fundraiser with friends and family!

In March we have our Noodles and Company fundraiser on 3/17 from 4-8 at the Savage location. Please spread the word!

Thank you for continuing to support the PTC so we can support Redtail Ridge!!!

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## From the Library

Redtail Ridge is excited to offer the Legacy Book Club. This is a positive way for your child to give a unique gift to everyone at Redtail Ridge Elementary while celebrating a special day in their lives. The legacy book can be for a birthday, in honor of someone special, or for whatever you would like to celebrate.

If interested, you can purchase a book from this wish list: [bit.ly/rrlegacy](#). Your child's name will be featured on a special bookplate in the front of the book, and your child will receive a bookmark as a thank you gift. They will then get to be the first person to check out the book from the Redtail Ridge Library.

If you have questions, please email Mrs. Iverson at [kiverson@plsas.org](mailto:kiverson@plsas.org). Happy Reading!

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## Caught Caring Winners

At Redtail Ridge we celebrate our CARES (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-Control). Students can be "Caught Caring" if they show one of the CARES during school and staff may give them a Caught Caring Ticket. Each week we draw winners and those students can choose a reward from a list of Caught Caring Awards as a special thank you from the school staff for being a CARES student.

The Caught Caring MVP's for the week of February 2nd are....

First Photo:

Kindergarten: Clara (Alpaugh) & Andrew (Madson)  
1st Grade: Carmella (Schnackenberg) & Kylee (Haugh)  
2nd Grade: Liam (Stufft) & Will (McGinnis)  
3rd Grade: Maxton (Hatchett) & Brooklyn (Kodada)  
4th Grade: Lane (Hanstad) & Ava (Hough)  
5th Grade: Sawyer (Cockrill) & Hazel (Weeres)  
Missing from photo: Lane

Second Photo:

Bus: Nora (Madson) & Rylie (Erickson)  
Biker/walker/Parent Pick Up/Kids Co: Essa (Roberts) & Henry (Weeres)  
Missing from photo: Henry

Our Caught Caring Winners for the week of 2/9 are....

First picture:

Kindergarten: Aleena (Scheffler) & Townes (Madson)  
1st Grade: Kane (Hanson) & Lincoln (Haugh)  
2nd Grade: FredBear (Hansen) & Karima (Glass)  
3rd Grade: Julia (Erickson) & Grady (Miller)  
4th Grade: Owen (Roberts) & Addie (Groll)  
5th Grade: Yuliana (Reetz) & Rhyker (Doerr)  
Missing from picture: Townes, Kane and Julia

Second picture:

Bus: Lainey (Hanson) & Bennet (Miller)  
Biker/Walker/Parent Pick Up and Kids Co: Jesse (Schnackenberg) & Sophia (Alpaugh)

Our Caught Caring Winners for the week of February 17th are:

First picture:

Kindergarten: Jayde (Alpaugh) & Vincent (Scheffler)  
1st Grade: Henry (Schnackenberg) & Jack (Hanson)  
2nd Grade: Evy (McGinnis) & Brody (Stufft)  
3rd Grade: Lily (Kodada) & Mia (Hatchett)  
4th Grade: Harrison (Hough) & Raegan (Hanstad)  
5th Grade: Quinn (Cockrill) & Lauren (Weeres)  
Missing from picture: Brody

Second Picture:

Bus: Drew (Weeres) & Auggie (Hatchett)  
Parent Pick Up/Biker/Walker/Kids Co: Ada (Reetz) & Cora (McGinnis)

Our Caught Caring MVP's for the week of February 23rd are:

First picture:

Kindergarten: Blake H (Madson) & Maeve (Alpaugh)  
1st Grade: Vincent (Schnackenberg) & Mason (Haugh)  
2nd Grade: Carson (Glass) & Audrey (Hansen)  
3rd Grade: Jordyn (Miller)  
4th Grade: Paige (Roberts) & Brook (Groll)  
5th Grade: Jaysen (Reetz) & Jax (Doerr)

Second Picture:

Bus: Millee (Stuft) & Rowen (Schnackenberg)  
Parent Pick Up/Biker/Walker/Kids Co: Azhar (Hansen) & Ellie (Hanstad)

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### Mark your calendars for these upcoming events at Redtail Ridge:

(Be sure to check this list each month, as changes or additions **MAY** occur)

Thursday, March 12th: 1st Grade Music Program 1:30 pm  
Friday, March 27th: End of 3rd Quarter  
Monday, March 30th-Friday, April 3rd: No School-Spring Break  
Tuesday, April 7th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center  
Friday, May 1st: PTC End of the Year Family Fun Night  
Tuesday, May 5th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center  
Thursday, May 7th: Redtail Ridge Choir Concert 6:30 pm  
Monday, May 25th: No School-Labor Day  
Monday, June 1st: 5th grade Graduation 1:30 pm  
Tuesday, June 2nd: Fun in the Sun Day  
Wednesday, June 3rd: Kindergarten Graduation & Music Program 1:30 pm  
Tuesday, June 3rd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center

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Be sure to follow Redtail Ridge on Facebook!





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