



TWO DISTRICTS. ONE MISSION.



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2

SPRING 2024

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 and Nippersink SD 2 Families,
I hope this message finds you well as we embrace the arrival of spring and the culmination of another successful academic year. As we gear up for the end of year celebrations, I am pleased to share some updates and highlights from our two school districts.



Both Nippersink SD 2 and Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 have been busy with activity as students prepare for their annual state testing and eagerly anticipate the various end of the year festivities that accompany the month of May.

I am also thrilled to announce that our students in both districts continue to excel academically, with performances well above the state average on standardized testing. In addition, Richmond-Burton Community High School also achieved a remarkable ranking of being in the top 10% of all Illinois high schools for academic performance this school year. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, faculty and staff.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we look forward to celebrating our students' successes through cherished traditions. Richmond Grade School and Spring Grove Elementary School will host its field days on May 23. Additionally, we eagerly anticipate the graduation ceremonies that mark a significant milestone in the lives of our students. The Richmond-Burton Community High School Class of 2024 will graduate on Sunday, May 19 at 1:00 p.m., while Nippersink Middle School will celebrate its eighth-grade student graduation on May 20 at 6:00 p.m. All graduation ceremonies will be held in the Richmond-Burton Community High School Field House.

As we reflect on another remarkable school year, I am grateful for the unwavering support and dedication of our families and communities. It is your steadfast commitment that truly propels both our districts forward and fosters an environment where our students can thrive. Together let us continue to champion excellence in education and empower our students to reach new heights of achievement.

Best Regards,
Dr. Tom Lind, Superintendent of Schools



SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL IS UNFORGETTABLE

It is with immense pride and joy that we celebrate the extraordinary performance of our drama students in the spring musical, Seussical. This performance was nothing short of spectacular.

Under the guidance of our esteemed Director, Ms. Diane Kane, our students embarked on a journey filled with dedication, passion and creativity. Ms. Kane's leadership and vision have not only shaped the production but also inspired our students to reach new heights of excellence.

The cast members of Seussical have truly exemplified the essence of teamwork and commitment. From the infectious energy of Horton the Elephant to the mischievous charm of the Cat in the Hat, each character was brought to life with remarkable depth and authenticity. It was evident that our students spent countless hours honing their craft, perfecting numerous musical numbers, mastering lines of dialogue and constructing the fabulous sets that transported us into the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss.

Behind the scenes, our dedicated crew members worked tirelessly to ensure that every aspect of the production ran smoothly. From lighting and sound to costumes and props, their meticulous attention to detail added an extra layer of magic to the show.

Seussical has reminded us of the profound impact that the performing arts can have on our lives. Through laughter and tears, song and dance, our students have touched the hearts of everyone in the audience, reminding us of the beauty and wonder that surrounds us each day.

To our talented cast and crew, we extend our heartfelt congratulations. Your dedication, passion and creativity have left an indelible mark on our community, and we are immensely proud of each and every one of you.

As we bid farewell to Seussical, let us carry the spirit of this magical production with us always. May it inspire us to dream big, embrace our uniqueness and always remember that "a person's a person, no matter how small."



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COMPETITIVE CHEER FINISHES SECOND PLACE IN STATE!

Excitement, pride and sheer jubilation filled the air as our community rallied behind our Competitive Cheer Team for their historic achievement in the IHSA State Competition. It is with great pleasure that we announce our team's remarkable second place finish, marking a monumental milestone in the annals of our high school's history.

The journey to this unprecedented success has been one filled with dedication, perseverance and unwavering commitment. Countless hours of hard work, sweat and determination have culminated in this extraordinary accomplishment, showcasing the true essence of teamwork and resilience.

Led by our exceptional coaches, Suzanne Johnson and Jordan Oeffling, our Competitive Cheer Team has demonstrated unwavering dedication and passion throughout the season. Under their guidance and mentorship, our athletes have pushed themselves to new heights, honing their skills and perfecting their routines with unparalleled precision and finesse.

The IHSA State Competition served as the ultimate test of skill and resilience for our team as they faced off against fierce competition from across the state. Yet, our athletes rose to the occasion with unparalleled grace and poise, delivering flawless performances that captivated the audience and judges alike.



The announcement of our team's second place finish was met with thunderous applause and tears of joy. It was a testament to the unwavering dedication, hard work and perseverance of our athletes, coaches and supporters.

This historic achievement not only highlights the exceptional talent and skill of our Competitive Cheer Team but also serves as an inspiration to our entire community. It reminds us of the power of determination, teamwork and passion in the pursuit of excellence.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, let us extend our heartfelt congratulations to each and every member of our Competitive Cheer Team. Your dedication, perseverance and unwavering spirit have brought immense pride and honor to our school.

PLTW COURSE IS A SUCCESS

The Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course has been a huge success so far at R-B. Specifically, the first year of the Principles of Biomedical Science course is off to a great start. R-B is eagerly looking forward to onboarding Human Body Systems in the coming year. These courses represent an integral part of the college and career pathway program.

R-B is committed to providing students with innovative and engaging learning opportunities that not only prepare them for their future careers but also instill a passion for lifelong learning. The PLTW curriculum serves as the cornerstone of the college and career pathway program, offering students a hands-on approach to learning that goes beyond traditional classroom instruction.

In its inaugural year, the Principles of Biomedical Science course has provided students with engaging and interactive learning experiences. From exploring the principles of biology and human physiology to investigating various medical mysteries, students have been actively involved in their learning journey. Technology plays a vital role in the field of biomedical science, and the course integrates the latest technological tools and resources. Through virtual simulations, laboratory experiments and data analysis, students have gained valuable technical skills that are essential for success in the field. The Principles of Biomedical Science course has provided students with a glimpse into the diverse career opportunities within the biomedical field highlighted by a field trip to a local biomedical company.

R-B is incredibly proud of the achievements of students in the Principles of Biomedical Science course. Their enthusiasm, dedication and hard work serve as a testament to the effectiveness of the PLTW curriculum in preparing them for future success.





RICHMOND GRADE SCHOOL

~Michelle Smith, Principal



RICHMOND GRADE SCHOOL SPRING UPDATE

As we begin to wrap up the school year, we recognize that our parents and guardians have a unique opportunity during the summer to enhance their children's academic development right from the comfort of home or within our community. Everyday activities offer valuable learning experiences beyond the traditional classroom. Cooking together provides a chance to practice measurement and fractions, while exploring the backyard encourages scientific inquiry and observation. Reading books aloud and discussing them during family dinners fosters language and comprehension skills, strengthening the bond between parent and child. Additionally, incorporating math into household tasks, such as budgeting for groceries or calculating change at the store, promotes critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Online resources and educational apps can further supplement learning, providing interactive opportunities for exploration. Furthermore, signing up for library cards at the local library grants access to a wealth of books, resources and educational programs, enriching children's learning experiences. By embracing these simple yet meaningful activities, parents can empower their children to become lifelong learners and build a strong academic foundation, regardless of the circumstances.

At RGS we are grateful for the opportunity we've had to work alongside your children, nurturing their curiosity, fostering their growth and witnessing their remarkable journey of learning and development! We look forward to next school year.



LITERACY

Building a Literacy Bridge

Richmond Grade School is already buzzing with excitement as students, families, teachers and staff dive into the enchanting world of *The Tale of Despereaux* for our first One School, One Book initiative. This sweet and exciting tale by Kate DiCamillo has captured the imaginations of readers of all ages, inspiring discussions and sparking creativity throughout our school community and is a favorite among all ages.

Families have embraced the opportunity to read *The Tale of Despereaux* together at home, with parents and children alike enjoying the adventures of the brave mouse with big dreams.



SCIENCE Into the Darkness

On April 8 students had the incredible opportunity to witness a celestial event as they viewed the solar eclipse from our school grounds. Teachers had been preparing for this day with various lessons leading up to the event that explored our sun, universe and seasons. Equipped with specially designed viewing glasses, our young astronomers observed the moon as it passed between the Earth and the sun, casting a shadow over our planet and creating a breathtaking display in the sky. Under the guidance of our teachers, students learned about the mechanics of a solar eclipse, including the alignment of the sun, moon and Earth and the phenomenon of totality when the moon completely blocks out the sun. Their excitement was palpable!

Throughout the day, students engaged in various scientific activities to deepen their understanding of the solar eclipse. They utilized solar viewing devices to safely observe the sun's surface and studied the sun's corona, the outer atmosphere visible during totality. Students also explored the concept of solar energy and its importance in sustaining life on Earth, reflecting on the sun's role as the ultimate source of light and energy for our planet. As they gazed up at the sky in wonder, our students were reminded of the beauty and majesty of the universe, inspiring a sense of curiosity and awe that will continue to fuel their passion for scientific exploration.



SPRING GROVE ELEMENTARY

~Chris Pitman, Principal



SGE PROMOTES LITERACY

Spring Grove Elementary recently hosted its Scholastic Book Fair, an event eagerly anticipated by both students and parents alike. The fair transformed the school's library into a hub of literary exploration, with shelves adorned with an array of captivating books spanning various genres and age groups. The Book Fair not only fostered a love for reading but also provided an opportunity for families to bond over shared stories and interests. Moreover, the event served as a fundraiser to support the school's literacy initiatives, ensuring that every child has access to quality reading materials to nourish their minds.

Accompanying the Book Fair was the much-loved Donuts with Grownups event, adding an extra layer of warmth and community engagement to the occasion. Parents, grandparents and guardians joined their children for a morning of sweet treats and shared stories. Donuts with Grownups provided a relaxed environment for families to connect and reinforce the importance of reading both at home and in school. It was a memorable morning that left both children and adults alike with cherished memories and a renewed appreciation for the joy of reading together. Moreover, as part of our commitment to promoting literacy, we hosted a Family Reading Night, welcoming all students and their families for an evening dedicated to the celebration of books. The highlight of the event was an engaging assembly focused on the importance of reading, featuring guest speakers and interactive activities designed to ignite a passion for literature in students of all ages. Through these initiatives, Spring Grove Elementary continues to cultivate a culture of literacy and lifelong learning within its community, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to unlock the endless possibilities found within the pages of a book.





THE SOLAR ECLIPSE EXCITES STUDENTS

April 8, 2024, was a day of wonder and excitement as our students experienced a rare celestial event - a solar eclipse! The skies treated us to a breathtaking sight as the moon passed between the sun and the Earth, casting its shadow upon our planet. At Spring Grove Elementary, we seized the opportunity to turn this event into a memorable learning experience for our students.

Through this experience, our students not only witnessed a rare astronomical event but also gained valuable insights into the science behind solar eclipses. Guided by their teachers, they learned about the alignment of the sun, moon, and Earth; the importance of solar safety; and the cultural significance of eclipses throughout history. As the eclipse reached its peak and the moon gradually moved away from the sun, the students returned to their classrooms, buzzing with excitement and eager to share their experiences with their families and friends. For a brief moment in time, the boundaries of the playground faded away, and the students of Spring Grove Elementary were united in their wonderment of the universe.



We look forward to continuing to inspire and ignite the spark of curiosity in our students as we journey together through the wonders of learning.



NMS SPORTS

Two eighth grade Nippersink Middle School students qualified for the IESA state wrestling meet at Northern Illinois University on March 8 and 9. Max Martin and Shane Falasca represented NMS at this year's IESA state meet. Both wrestlers had an outstanding showing this year at the Convocation Center in DeKalb. Max finished third overall in the 145 pound weight class. Shane finished as a state champion in the 215 pound weight class. Shane finished his NMS career as a two-time IESA State Champion!



STAFF RETIREMENTS AT NMS



Mr. Pat Evans

The Nippersink Middle School family would like to express our gratitude and best wishes to two outstanding educators who have dedicated their careers to educating our students. As they move on to the next chapter in their lives, we want to thank Ms. Beth Wieters and Mr. Pat Evans for their hard work and dedication. Their commitment to excellence, love for teaching and positive influence on students will always be remembered. We appreciate all that they have done and wish them a retirement filled with happiness and fulfillment. While they will be missed, their impact on our school will continue to be felt for years to come.



Ms. Beth Wieters



YOU'RE INVITED!

The Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each calendar month at 7:00 pm. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Nippersink School District 2 Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each calendar month at 7:00 pm. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

RICHMOND-BURTON CHSD 157 SCHOOL BOARD OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

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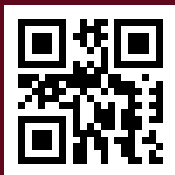
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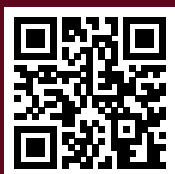
OUR PHONE NUMBERS

Richmond-Burton Community H.S. (815) 678-4525
Nippersink Middle School (815) 678-7129
Spring Grove Elementary (815) 678-6750
Richmond Grade School (815) 678-4717

OUR WEBSITES:



www.rb157.org



www.nippersinkdistrict2.org



**TWO DISTRICTS.
ONE MISSION.**

Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2
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D2 **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN** **2024-2025**

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Richmond

Spring Grove Elementary
2018 Main St
Spring Grove

Nippersink Middle School
10006 N. Main St.
Richmond

KINDERGARTEN
[HTTPS://WWW.NIPPERSINKDISTRICT2.ORG/KINDERGARTEN](https://www.nippersinkdistrict2.org/kindergarten)

1ST - 8TH GRADE
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**VIEW THE RICHMOND-BURTON
SCHOOL CALENDAR 2023-2024**



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