

MARCH 2023 | ISSUE 15

# ROCK RIDGE REPORTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ROCK RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



EDUCATION TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

## LAURENTIAN GRADES PREK-6 STARS OF HONOR

Thirty six students from Laurentian were chosen as "Stars of Honor" by their classroom teachers and the University of Minnesota for their high character and strong work ethic in the classroom. The nominated students were invited, along with their families, to Minneapolis to see a Men's Gopher Basketball game at the "Barn". During that game, the students received a round of applause by the audience to recognize all of their hard work. Laurentian staff is so proud of all of our classroom leaders!



## INDIGENOUS STUDIES IN 5TH GRADE

The fifth grade has just finished up studying the indigenous peoples who inhabited the Americas starting with ancient tribes of Omec, Aztec, Mayan, and Incan empires and ending just short of the 1500's with various regional tribes living in North America.

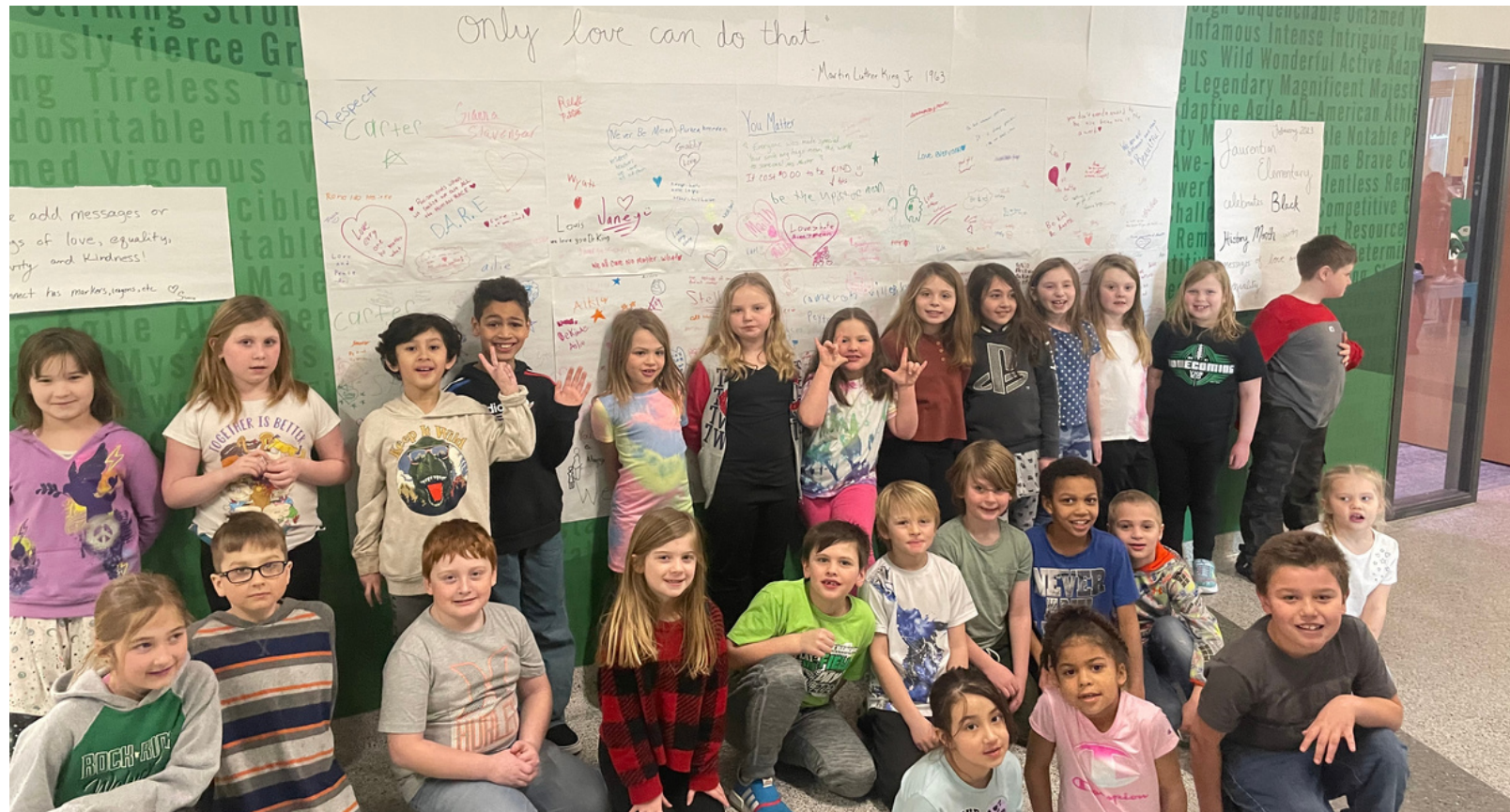
Students learned about a specific region of the U.S. then chose one specific tribe to investigate further. They were then offered choices of projects to showcase the things learned. Projects must include depictions of the environment, clothing, shelter, plants, animals and food. This will be used as evidence to meet the standard of describing complex urban societies that existed in Mesoamerica and North America before 1500. (Before European Contact) 5.4.4.15.1

Students then presented their findings either to a small group of peers or to the entire class. They then had to reflect upon their own efforts as well as provide feedback to peers for their projects.

Below is a sampling of projects:



# THE POWER OF LOVE



In February, the Laurentian Elementary celebrated Black History Month in the classroom and all throughout the school. Check and Connect hung this mural commemorating Martin Luther King Jr.'s beautiful quote:

**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."**

Students had the opportunity to sign their name to signify their commitment to kindness and equality. Many students took the time to write messages and draw pictures to show their sentiments. Teachers took time to stop and talk to their students about MLK's impact and the importance of Black History Month.

Laurentian Elementary, students and staff, is a wonderful community committed to continued education and growth.

## IMPOSSIBLE SHOT WALL OF FAME

Twenty-seven students in Mr. Skoglund's and Mr. Casareto's physical education classes have made the "Impossible Shot".

One lucky student tried her luck to sink the "Impossible Shot" as the rest of the kindergarten class cheered her on. She earned this shot by showing respect, teamwork, and kindness throughout physical education class.



# PARKVIEW

## GRADES PREK-2

### STUCK ON READING

Parkview Elementary celebrated I Love to Read month with "Bookopoly". Students participated all month to set reading goals and earn different prizes. At the end of the month, the entire school celebrated with a game day party. Prizes included popcorn, juice, candy, and a game to take home. The students were also challenged to read more than 4,000 books. All students and families read vigorously to meet that goal and they far exceeded it. The reward for meeting and surpassing the challenge was to tape Mrs. Stefanich to the wall on Thursday. It was a great month!



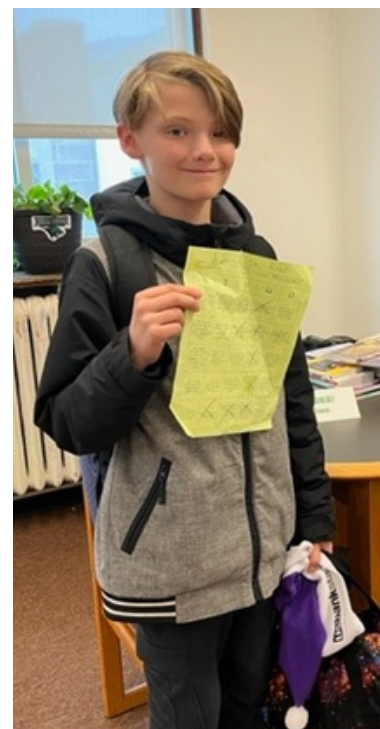
# NORTH STAR

## GRADES 3-6

### THE READING RACE FINISH LINE

North Star students did a lot of reading during February's I Love to Read Month. Announcements were made each day for students to "Stop, Drop, and Read" for twenty minutes each day. Then, two lucky winners were able to choose a book of their choice.

A friendly competition was held to complete the "Iditread Challenge", in which Accelerated Reader points were totaled by classroom. Each Friday, students were able to go to the teachers to get stamps on their Iditread log-book. When students completed each of the 25 check-points, they were awarded with a prize. As of Monday, February 27th Ms. Kemen's fifth grade was in first place with Mrs. Little's and Ms. Collins' class following right behind.



# UNITED IN BOOKS

Students at North Star were Fiercely United in I Love to Read Month! One of the activities brought together the 6th grade students and the younger 3rd grade students. They spent the end of a day reading TOGETHER!

It was a great way to celebrate the gift of books and reading!

# EGHS GRADES 7-12

## ROCK RIDGE ORCHESTRA RATES HIGH AT CONTEST

Congratulations goes out to the high school orchestra for three Superior ratings at the MSHSL Region 7A music contest on Feb. 27th. Superior ratings also went to Ellie Norvitch - viola solo, Lynette Pearson - cello solo, Luke Hecimovich - violin solo, Natalie Stahl - bass solo, Siri Stocke - viola solo, Adrian Rausch - cello solo, and Lynette Pearson, Quaid Peterson, Luke Hecimovich, and Ellie Norvitch for string quartet, and Siri Stocke, Mia Stark, and Natalie Stahl for string trio. Additionally, Marian Louks and Brady Peterson received an Excellent rating on their violin solos.

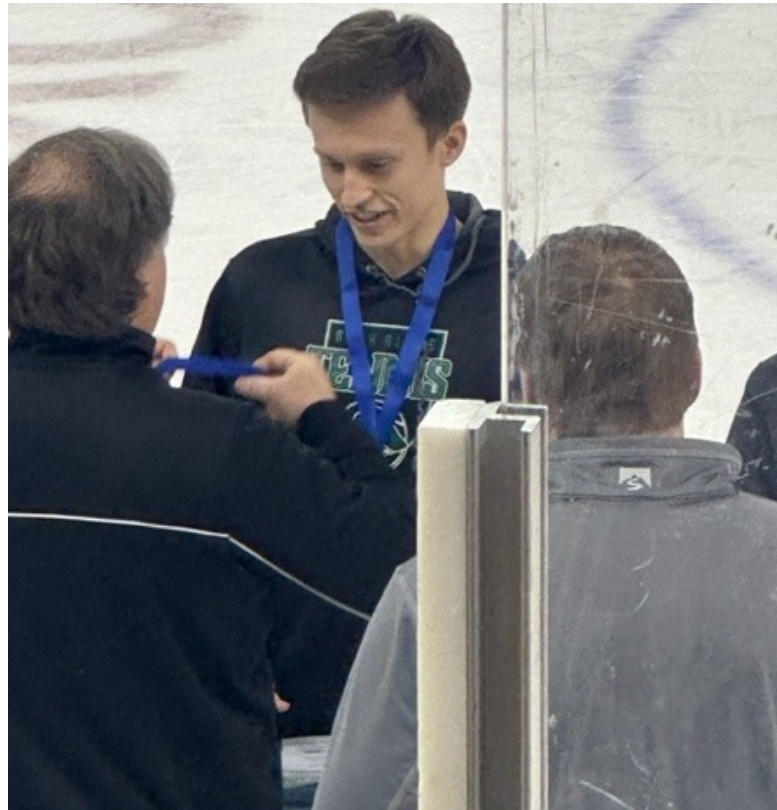


## AAA=AN AWESOME ACHIEVEMENT

Each year, the Minnesota State High School League honors high school seniors throughout the state who have a 3.0 or higher-grade point average and who participate in League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities. This award is known as the “Triple A” award. This is an extremely competitive award, and when all is said and done, only four seniors in the state of Minnesota receive this honor (two from Class A and two from Class AA). Every school in the state has the ability to nominate two students for this award. Each student must put together an application that outlines their accomplishments throughout their high school careers. Each student nominated then is presented to a committee that is governed by that school's competitive section. That committee then chooses one winner from all of the applicants. That winner then goes on to compete at the state level against the other seven winners from around the state.

This year, Jake Bradach was chosen as the Section 7A Triple A Award winner! Jake has had an amazing high school career. He has an amazing grade point average, has competed at the state level in Cross Country, Tennis, One Act, Speech. He is a member of NHS and a variety of other clubs and activities, and is an accomplished vocalist earning superior ratings in the MSHSL choral competitions. Rock Ridge, and in particular, Eveleth-Gilbert High School is extremely honored to have the opportunity to claim Jake as one of its students.

Congratulations, Jake Bradach, on being named the Section 7A Triple A representative and good luck at the state level on the 25th of March!



Triple A Recipient, Jake Bradach and his parents, Jacob and Carmen Bradach, at Amsoil Arena in Duluth.

# DECA DOWN TO STATE

Rock Ridge DECA competed at the District V Career Development Conference in St. Cloud. These DECAtletes had a great time and handled themselves with great poise and professionalism while presenting on a variety of business and marketing scenarios!

Eleven of our students have advanced to the State Career Development Conference in Minneapolis March 5-7th!



DECA State Participants: Top row (L-R): Josh Johnson, Daunte Gooden, Isaac Triestman, Cooper Williams, Jordan Takanen, Jaydon Peglow. Front row (L-R): Marissa Anderson, Kelsey Kramer, Kenzie LeMmons

# VHS GRADES 7-12 SCIENCE FAIR 2023

Rock Ridge students had an exciting day at the 2023 Northeast Regional Science Fair held at the University of Minnesota Duluth Swenson College of Science and Engineering on Saturday, February 18th. Miley Young, Jase Matuszak, and Kara Williams Olsen won first place in their Plant Science Division for their project titled, "Heavy Metals And Their Effects On Plant Growth: Using Carbon As A Remediation Strategy". The team also earned the Association for Women in Geosciences Award. Apres Surla and Madison Roen won first place in the Chemistry Division for their project titled, "The Effects of Emollients in Lip Balm". They also won the American Chemical Society - Lake Superior Section Certificate of Recognition, including a cash prize. Owen Henry won second place in the Environmental Science Division for his project titled, "Temperature of Bioreactors as a Function of Type of Material". All Rock Ridge female students also earned the Northwoods Women in Science Award. With these rankings, they also earned themselves a spot at the MN Regeneron State Science Fair in St. Paul next month. The teams were coached by science teacher Lisa Rudstrom. To view a comprehensive list of awards, click on the link below.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1er4EbenIMpGXwVJ2ZYFN97ePwzToOkvksHakcUY3nto/edit?usp=sharing>

If you see these future leaders, make sure to congratulate them on their accomplishments!



(L-R) Miley Young, Jase Matuszak, Kara Williams Olsen, Apres Surla, Madison Roen, Owen Henry, Instructor Lisa Rudstrom