

FEBRUARY 2025 | ISSUE 32

ROCK RIDGE REPORTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ROCK RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



EDUCATION TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

LAURENTIAN GRADES PREK-6 FRIENDLY POLICE VISIT

OVER THE RIVER & THROUGH THE WOODS

Ms. Hill's 4th grade class at Laurentian Elementary enjoyed the warmer temps and went snowshoeing around campus.



Last week in Ms. Flank's Class...

- The Eveleth Police Department recently made a special visit to our preschool, creating an engaging and educational experience for the young children.
- Officers arrived in full uniform, bringing excitement and curiosity to the classroom. They took the time to explain their roles in the community, focusing on safety and the importance of being kind and respectful.
- This visit not only fostered a positive relationship between the children and law enforcement but also instilled valuable lessons about safety.



IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE

On Thursday, January 23, the 6th graders from Laurentian Elementary embraced the chilly temperatures for an exciting day at Giants Ridge. Despite the cold, the kids had a blast learning to ski, exploring the slopes, and making the most of the winter fun. Their enthusiasm was truly inspiring as they braved the elements to enjoy the day on the mountain. A big "thank you" to Giants Ridge for offering this incredible skiing program, which made the day possible. The students' spirit and determination, combined with the support of the community and Giants Ridge, really show what it means to be part of this awesome school. Go Wolverines!



CAN WE GET YOUR AUTOGRAPH?

The Laurentian Elementary 4th graders had some very special skaters with them. The Minnesota Wilderness came onto the ice to skate with them during their field trip to the Eveleth Hippodrome. The Minnesota Wilderness are a junior ice hockey team in the North American 3 Hockey League (NA3HL). They play their home games at the Eveleth Hippodrome. So much fun was had by all! The 4th graders were thankful for this opportunity and could not stop talking about it.

Some members of the Minnesota Wilderness hockey team then gave their skates a rest and came in to read with the 3rd grade students at Laurentian. Another very exciting experience for the students!



COOL COLLABORATORS

Collaboration is a powerful skill that can make learning fun, exciting, and more effective. Working together allows students to share ideas, solve problems, and create something amazing as a team. For elementary students, learning how to be an effective collaborator can set the foundation for success both in and outside the classroom. These students were nominated by their teachers as demonstrating these skills in the classroom.

SCHOOL READINESS: Jacyn Mackey, Rhett Dincau, Astrid Johnson, Leila Stavenger.

KINDERGARTEN: Evelyn Mankus, Owen Johnson, Rosalie Bradach, Ryder Russell, Maja Magnusen, Arja Hejda.

FIRST GRADE: Finley Larson, Amaya Ali, Etta Holweger, Hallie Stefanich, Unisun Hackensmith.

SECOND GRADE: Piper Ebnet, Nora Sherman, Lyla Duncau, Hazael Holland, Freya Jacobson, Vanessa Ventura.

THIRD GRADE: Sylvie Samargia, Mave Donnelly, Madeline Stefanich, Peyton Shambow, Aubree Hamble, Aspyn Kainz.

FOURTH GRADE: Louis Johnson, Devin Donnelly, Delilah Bradach, Emmett Schmidt, Annika Niemi, Eliot Schilling.

FIFTH GRADE: Becca Griener, Behr Cochran, Josie Quick, Rebecca Rantala, Ali Pavelich, Erin Lautigar.

SIXTH GRADE: Miles Mackey, Twyla Prout, Janey Hazelton, Ian Stanaway, Thor Thelen, Elise Denny.



PARKVIEW GRADES PREK-2 COIN DRIVE TO SUCCESS

Parkview Elementary finished out a cold January with our annual COIN DRIVE. Every day, the staff and students dressed in a theme to make it all the more exciting to come to school. Monday was Pajama Penny Day - everyone wore their favorite jammies and brought in pennies. Tuesday was Tag Out Tuesday - everyone could wear all their clothes inside out when turning in their nickels. (And boy, did the students love this!) Wednesday was White Out Wednesday while collecting dimes. Thursday was the absolute best with crazy hair/crazy clothes to bring their quarters in.



Parkview staff and students ended the week with Wolverine Fierce Friday and everyone was able to sport their Rock Ridge Wolverine apparel and bring in dollars.

This year the competition between classrooms was not only raising the most money, but seeing what class could have the most participation in dress up days. It was a great week to be at Parkview! As a school, they were able to raise \$3,717.73 with the top class being Mrs Schroeder's 1st graders. The money raised will go to purchasing a Rock Ridge Wolverine shirt for all Parkview students! They will wear them for "Game Day" in the spring - each class will have their own distinctive shirt and then be able to keep and wear it for any school spirit day or event to cheer on all our Wolverines!



NORTH STAR

GRADES 3-6

BUILDING SCHOLARS, NOT JUST STUDENTS

At North Star Elementary, the guiding mantra “Our Building, Our Responsibility” is more than just a slogan—it’s a way of life. This year, staff and students have embraced a renewed focus on scholarship, emphasizing the importance of academic excellence and personal growth. The school has shifted its perspective from seeing children as students to recognizing them as scholars, individuals who actively seek knowledge and work to contribute meaningfully to their community. From the classrooms to the hallways, the commitment to this vision is evident in every interaction.



Research underscores the importance of fostering a scholarly mindset in young people. According to the National Education Association, when students view themselves as scholars, they develop a sense of purpose and motivation that directly correlates with higher achievement and improved engagement. Scholars take ownership of their learning, asking questions, setting goals, and striving for excellence. At North Star Elementary, staff are empowering students with these skills by cultivating an environment where inquiry and responsibility are celebrated daily.



One of the unique ways this philosophy is implemented is through the intentional language used by staff. Teachers and administrators frequently ask students, “Are you prepared to be a scholar today?” This simple question reminds students of their potential and encourages them to adopt a growth mindset. It aligns with research from psychologist Carol Dweck, whose work highlights the power of believing in one’s ability to learn and improve through effort. By instilling these principles, North Star Elementary is helping students embrace challenges and view mistakes as opportunities for growth.



The impact of this approach is already visible in the school community. Students are rising to the challenge, taking pride in their work, and demonstrating greater responsibility for their actions and learning. Teachers report an increased sense of engagement in the classroom and stronger collaboration among peers. From group projects that encourage critical thinking to leadership roles that emphasize responsibility, every facet of the school day reinforces the idea that each child is a scholar with unique talents and the ability to make a difference.



As North Star Elementary continues its journey under the banner of “Our Building, Our Responsibility,” the transformation is clear. By fostering a culture of scholarship, the school is preparing its students to excel academically and become lifelong learners who contribute to their community. Through this innovative and intentional focus, North Star Elementary is proving that the road to success begins with a simple but profound question: “Are you prepared to be a scholar today?”

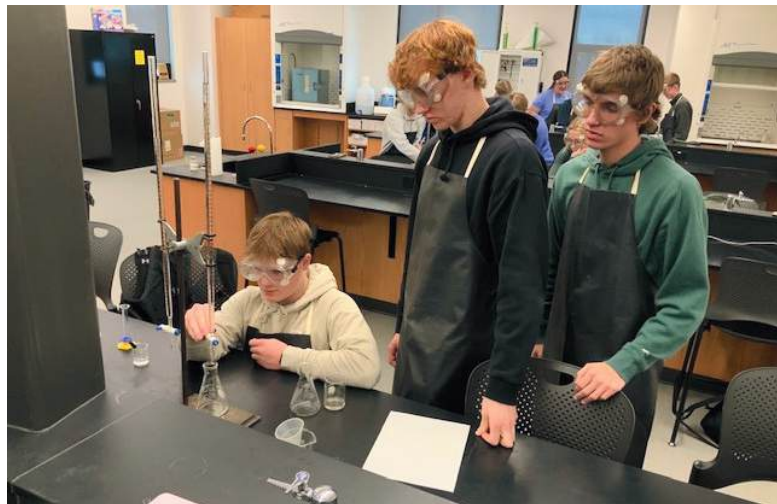
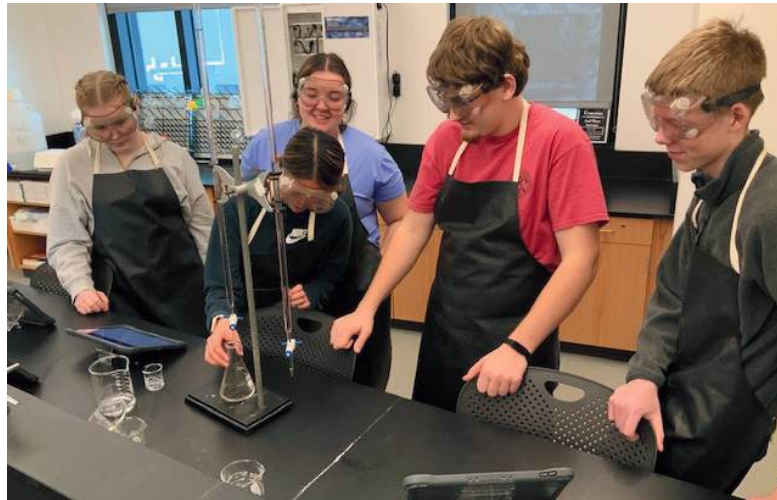
RRHS GRADES 7-12 MEALS ON WHEELS

Culinary 1 recently completed their final project of creating a mock food truck business. Students decided on a theme, name, and design for their truck and then worked to create a menu and a business plan for their truck. After trying out a few of their recipes in class, they chose one to make for the judges. Judges scored students on the taste of their food, creativity, and truck design. The winning truck was "Mamma Mia Mobile" which made a parmesan crusted chicken breast, homemade fettuccine, with alfredo sauce and a raspberry Italian soda.



TRY, TRY AGAIN

Students in Strasser's CIS Chemistry class ended the year with an Acid-Base Titration Lab. Students were tasked with finding the unknown concentration of a base (sodium hydroxide) using a known concentration of an acid (hydrochloric acid). If students got the volume of base correct, the hot-pink color would NOT be present. Fortunately, they had multiple trials to get the right amounts!



A CAREER AS AN ENGINEER

Students in Mr. Foster's Engineering class had the opportunity to tour ASV-TEREX and MN North-Itasca College in Grand Rapids. These Engineering students spent 2nd quarter learning how to use a 3D modeling software called SolidWorks.

While touring ASV, students got to meet with two engineers and learn how they use 3D modeling software to design their tracked machines. Students also got to tour their facility and see how all the parts were designed, manufactured, and assembled into a finished machine.

After the ASV tour, the group stopped at MN North-Itasca College to learn about their Engineering program. Students interested in pursuing a career in Engineering learned that MN North-Itasca and MN North-Virginia would be two great options to start their post-secondary education in the field of Engineering. They also learned about how to earn a 4-year Engineering degree at IRE-Iron Range Engineering.



BEYOND THE WALLS OF RRHS

Kicking off 2nd semester, Rock Ridge High School students were given a unique opportunity to attend the Nancy Daughtery retrial at the Virginia Courthouse which provided them with an educational experience that extended beyond the classroom.

This exposure allowed the high school students to engage with the real-world applications of forensic science and criminal justice, sparking their interest in future career paths in these areas. Witnessing the trial firsthand deepened their understanding of positions in these career fields and made for quite an unforgettable experience that certainly highlighted the complexities and significance of justice in our local communities.

Rock Ridge would like to thank the 6th Judicial District staff for welcoming us into the courthouse and investing in our students' education!



SUMMER DAY CAMP

REGISTER NOW

ROCK RIDGE
COMMUNITY ED

SUMMER
DAY
CAMP

7AM - 5:30PM

\$45 PER DAY INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND LUNCH
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

11 WEEKS OF CAMP!

STUDENTS GOING INTO KINDERGARTEN-6TH GRADE IN FALL OF 2025

Join us for a memorable experience at our Summer Day Camp, where you can meet new friends, make memories and have lots of summer time fun!

REGISTER TODAY! [HTTPS://RRPS.SACC.RSCHOOLDAY.COM/PUBLIC/HOME/](https://rrps.sacc.rschoolday.com/public/home/)

ACTIVITIES

- Arts and Crafts
- Outdoor Games
- Daily breakfast and lunch included
- Swimming
- Field Trips
- Open to students from any school district.

PROGRAM DATES

JUNE 9-
AUGUST 23

PARKVIEW
ELEMENTARY
VIRGINIA, MN

CAMP

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
Amanda.mathson@rrps.org

Follow us On Facebook
@RockRidgeSchoolAgePrograms



REMINDER:

NO SCHOOL FOR ALL ROCK RIDGE STUDENTS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17



February 2025



Community Education Classes

YOUTH CLASSES

Valentines Cookie Decorating \$25/child

Thurs, Feb. 13 | 6:00 - 7:00 PM | RRHS

Kids, grab an adult and come join Zaden and his mom decorate Valentine's Day cookies. Each child will receive all the ingredients needed to decorate a dozen pre-cooked sugar cookies and take them home. Enjoy all the fun and leave the clean up to us! Each child needs to have an adult present to help during class. Class size limited to 15 children. Register by February 1.

Elementary Swim Club \$90/session

M, W, F | 5:30 - 6:30 PM | RRHS

For students in Grades 3-6. This is for the swimmer who wants to prepare to be on the swim team someday. Must be able to swim the length of the pool unassisted and have a basic understanding of the 4 competitive strokes.

Ninja Warrior Classes \$75/session

NSE NINJA GYM

Ninja Warrior Welcome to the Ninja Warrior Class, where young warriors aged 5-15 embark on an epic adventure filled with excitement, agility, and fun! This action-packed class is designed to develop essential ninja skills through engaging and dynamic activities that keep kids moving, learning, and smiling. Classes are 3 days a week for 6 weeks. Check the website for registration and more information.

Warrior Kid Club \$55/month

Mondays | 3:30-4:15 PM | NSE NINJA GYM

Becoming a Warrior Kid involves a lot of exercise, eating right, studying hard, and staying disciplined. Do you have what it takes to become a Warrior Kid? Each week you will have a set of Warrior tasks to complete and discuss at the next class.

Snowmobile Safety Training Rock Ridge

Community Education is partnering with the DNR to offer Snowmobile Safety Training at Laurentian Elementary School (1409 Progress Parkway, Eveleth). This essential training, led by DNR volunteers, will ensure participants are prepared to safely operate a snowmobile within Minnesota. Class Schedule: Day 1: Tues, February 25, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (Registration 5:00 PM). Day 2: Thurs, February 27, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Driving Test: Sat, March 1, 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM at the DNR Office on HWY 37, Eveleth. Requirements: Participants must be 12 years old by Dec 2025. A parent/guardian must sign in at registration. Those completing the online course must still pre-register for the driving test. Bring birth certificate or other safety certificate to verify age. Reminder: Anyone born after December 31, 1976, must have a Snowmobile Safety Certificate or a driver's license with a snowmobile endorsement to legally operate a snowmobile in MN. Questions or to register: Contact Bill or Patty at 218-865-4664. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and ensure safe snowmobiling!

ADULT CLASSES

Yoga at Rock Ridge High School

Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM | \$45

Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM | \$45

Gain flexibility and strength, reduce stress, sleep better, feel better, and calm your mind and body with a flow of yoga poses. Bring a yoga mat and props. Dress in clothing you can move freely in. All levels welcome.

Morning Lap Swim

M, W, F | 6:00 - 8:00 AM | RRHS

Adult Lap Swim for ages 12 and up. \$5/class or punch cards available. Lifeguard on duty.

Aqua Rock Fitness

Wednesdays | RRHS | 6:30 - 7:15 PM

\$5/class or punch cards available: 6 punches (\$25), 12 punches (\$50).

**For more information and to sign up online go to:
rrps.cr3.rschooltoday.com or call (218) 735-3516.**