

FYI September 13, 2019

READING IMPROVEMENT ACT . . Last year the Nebraska Legislature passed a new law called the Reading Improvement Act for students in grades K-3. While Raymond Central Schools already used many of the actions mandated in the law, the law formalizes these procedures. For instance, Raymond Central Schools previously conducted literacy screening three times each year; the law now requires all Nebraska schools to conduct this screening. One new component is an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) for each student who does not meet benchmarks in respective grade levels. Although Raymond Central Schools has provided supports and interventions for students who do not meet grade level benchmarks, individual plans have not been formalized. In the past, these interventions have taken place in the classroom and with our reading specialists through the Title I program. This will still be the case. Schools are now also required to notify families if a student does not meet these benchmarks during the screening process. As with any new change, we anticipate some bumps along the way. Please be assured that Raymond Central Schools will continue to do whatever it takes to help students be successful. More information was attached to the FYI last week.

NWEA MAP TESTING . . . will take place September 16-27 for grades 3-5. Understanding each student's academic level gives teachers the power to help them excel. MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) computerized adaptive assessments are the tools that make it possible-providing educators with the detailed information they need to build curriculum and meet their students' needs, one child at a time. It's information teachers can use in the classroom to help every child, every day. MAP dynamically adapts to a student's responses as they take the test.

- Answer a question correctly and the test presents a more challenging item
- Miss a question, and MAP offers a simpler item

In this way, the test narrows in on a student's learning level, engaging them with content that allows them to succeed. We would appreciate you not scheduling appointments so students may be assessed with their class. Most students in grades 3-5 at the elementary will be administered the test from September 16-27. Classroom teachers will have their own schedules. Encouraging students to do their best, getting plenty of rest, and eating a healthy breakfast on test dates are all ways to help your child perform his/her best. If you have questions about the tests, please call Mrs. Dostal 402-784-3301 or Mrs. Egr 402-665-3651.

HOMECOMING WEEK . . . is September 16-20. To show our school spirit, elementary students will have some special days. Monday-Beach/Hawaiian Day, Tuesday-Hippie Day, Wednesday-Meme Day, Thursday-Jersey Day and Friday-Spirit Day-Show your Mustang pride by wearing your spirit t-shirt.

POWERSCHOOL . . . for access or problems getting signed in, please email Mr. Steve Rose at srose@rcentral.org.

PTO VOLUNTEER FORM . . . Attached last week was the 2019-2020 PTO Volunteer form for parents/guardians to sign up. Please complete and return to either elementary school office. Thank you in advance for volunteering. PTO organizes events to promote a sense of community and to supplement students through a variety of enrichment activities and programs. Volunteers are critical to the success of these events, and without your help, we are not able to provide these fun and engaging activities for our students. Volunteering also provides a great way to meet other families having fun.

10TH ANNUAL HUSTLE . . . Mark your calendars! The 10th annual Hustle run/walk and pancake feed is scheduled for Saturday, October 19. All monies from the run/walk and pancake feed are used to fund the RC Food Bank Back Pack Program. Registration forms were sent home with each student today. Registration is also available online at www.active.com and search for "2019 Hustle". Registration is due October 4 to guarantee a T-Shirt. If you or your place of business would like to help sponsor the fundraiser, please return the form that was attached to last week's FYI. Thank you in advance for supporting our efforts to feed children.

CHEER CLINIC . . . Attached is a flyer with information about the upcoming cheer clinic and performance.

PTO FUNDRAISER . . . THANK YOU to all who participated! **Product is scheduled to arrive just in time for parent teacher conferences in October.**

PTO supports the elementary schools throughout the year with events, assemblies, and materials. Your assistance is appreciated.

FOLLOW PTO . . . on Facebook for updates. Just click "like" so news and reminders will be sent to you. A strong and active PTO is a key contributing factor to the success of our students.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER . . @ RC_Elementary

Upcoming Dates . . .

Sept 16-27 NWEA Map Testing, grades 3-5
Sept 20 RC Homecoming
Sept 25 Late Start @ 10:15AM
Oct 7-11 Fire Prevention Week
Oct 10 School Picture retake day at both elementary schools
Oct 11 End of First Quarter
Oct 17 RC Family Game Night @ Valparaiso 6-7:30PM
Oct 19 Hustle Fun Run