



SUPERINTENDENT'S EDUCATION UPDATE

November 9, 2023

2023-2024 School Year

Teaching & Learning

RPS AWARDED 2023 PLTW STUDENT WORK CUP

The Randolph Public Schools District is proud to announce that our district has been chosen as the 2023 winners of the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Student Work Cup in recognition of high levels of sharing and celebrating student work.

The Student Work Cup is a trophy awarded annually to the school or district who leads the PLTW science, technology, and engineering community in sharing and celebrating student work. Randolph has been a consistent participant in Student Industry Connects and the Applied Learning Showcase, giving students the opportunity to share their work with and get feedback from industry professionals and the greater PLTW community. Randolph PLTW teachers and school and district leaders are always pushing students to make something they are proud of, and build the skills they need to solve meaningful problems.

We are incredibly proud of our science, technology, and engineering scholars and staff!





Pictured above: The RPS PLTW Science Team Pictured L to R: Adam Smith, Grace Haggstrom, Chakara Cardillo, Kate Fisher, Meghan Ripley, Elana Milstein, Amber Brake, Kathy Bulger, and Caroline Moyer Laurin.

Not pictured: Jennie Shiner, Brittany Odenweller, Andrew Dufault, Brittany Dubois, Diana Gervino, Jane Rotondi, Lee Carlson, Karen Cartwright, Casey Flynn, and Hui Ning Marsigliano.

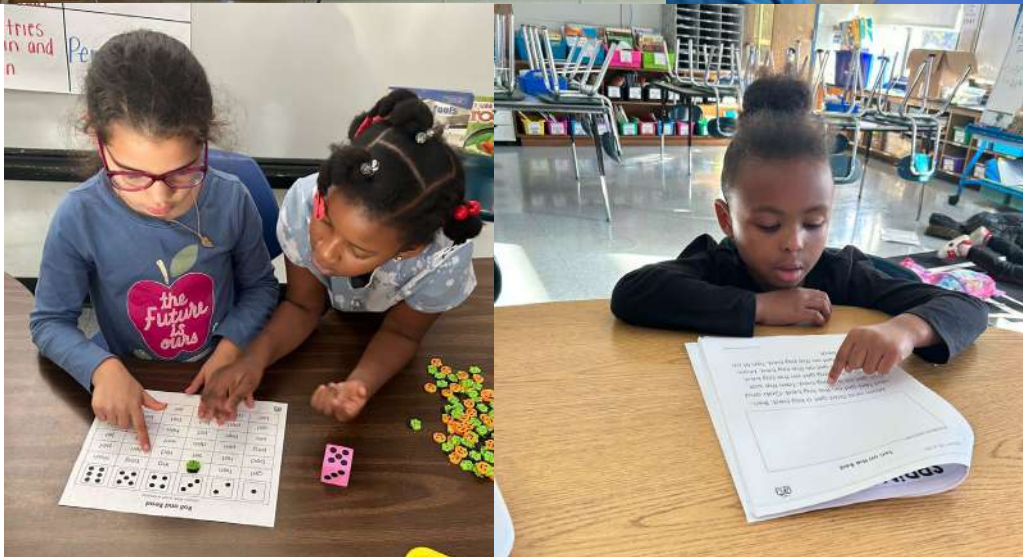
News from the Springboard Reading Program!

Currently, this fall we are serving 144 scholars at Donovan, JFK, Lyons and Young Elementary Schools. During Springboard our K-3 scholars become stronger readers, while families come to learn new strategies to support the learning at home! This fall, we have our highest attendance thus far in our 3+ year partnership.

Our Springboard Scholars have been working very diligently to build reading skills with their reading teachers! Students are building words with stamps, partner reading, and utilizing technology to become better readers! Below are some examples of our learning on Tuesdays and Thursdays along with our first Family Workshop at the Donovan School!

This wouldn't be possible without our amazing Springboard staff: Ms. Daly, Ms. Fitzroy, Ms. Hutton, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Gillis, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Picking, Ms. O'Kelly, Ms. Joyce, Ms. Alaoui, Ms. Powell, Ms. DuBois, Ms. Flaherty, Ms. Mahoney, and Ms. Sherman. They have worked very hard planning engaging lessons after-school!

Mr. Kotlyar and Ms. Shea-Pohl
Springboard Program Leaders





Humanities Update (Oct 25)

Kindergarten Toy and Play Experts at Young Elementary School

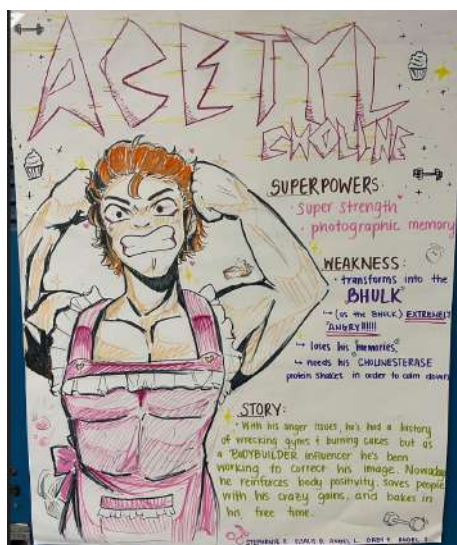


As part of the EL Education curriculum, kindergarteners at Young Elementary School have been learning about toys and becoming play experts. As part of that work, Kindergarteners asked other Young community members which toy they preferred. Later, the students designed their own toys. Similar work is happening at the other elementary schools in Randolph!



If you have an RPS kindergarten student in your family, please ask them about their experiences becoming play and toy experts!!

What's Your Superpower?



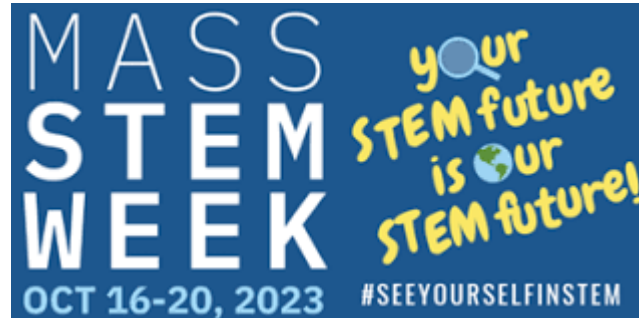
AP Psychology students at Randolph High School (RHS) created Neurotransmitter Superheroes as part of their study of Biopsychology in Unit 2 of the course. Students worked in groups to create a superhero based on a neurotransmitter, synthesizing information about the chemical to determine "superpowers" and "kryptonite" for their superheroes, illustrated and presented with a vignette, based on that neurotransmitter's function in the brain.

Ms. Dearborn, AP Psychology teacher, shared that this is one of her favorite projects because, not only do students get the opportunity to display their incredible creativity, but they also tend to retain information about neurotransmitters well because of how memorable their superheroes are. Ms. Dearborn states that the students are proud of their work and excited to share it with the school!

Math: Students used marker boards and manipulatives to solve ST Math Puzzles! We love to see the students using different tools to problem solve.



October 16-20 was STEM Week!



RHS Career Exploration: During STEM week, over 30 presenters joined RHS to speak to our students about how they use STEM in their careers.





School Update

Donovan Elementary School (Donovan School)

The annual Walk-A-Thon, a PTO event, did not disappoint! We had wonderful weather and over 95% of students participated. We had 33 parent volunteers and our therapy dog, Luna, joined us for the walk. A fun morning was had by all!



Pick Up Patrol is coming to Donovan!

Parents and guardians will be able to use a free app to put in dismissal plans for their child(ren), and are easily able to put in changes as needed. At dismissal, staff will be able to see exactly where students should go and can digitally confirm, in real time, when students are picked up. Watch these [videos](#) for more information.



ST Math is in full swing and our kids love JiJi!

Our students are learning critical thinking skills while solving math puzzles on ST math. Ask your student to show you how it works and who the adorable mascot, JiJi, is!



DIBELS 8 literacy fall screenings are complete!

All students' literacy skills have been assessed and targeted instruction is in place to meet kids' needs and help them reach or exceed grade level standards. Letters have been sent home to parents/guardians of children receiving extra support.

Our First Cultural Night is in November!

Bring a delish dish to share and/or host a mini-workshop. Let's learn about each other's cultures!

PLEASE JOIN US AT

Donovan Elementary

1ST ANNUAL CULTURAL NIGHT!
POTLUCK AND CULTURAL WORKSHOPS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

5:30PM-7:00PM

DONOVAN SCHOOL CAFETERIA

All Donovan community members are invited to bring a dish that represents your culture to share! We will feast together.
Parents/Family members: have something to share about your culture? We are looking for adults to lead workshops for students and their families about their culture!



Sign up for a workshop now! Email Principal Duane duanek@randolph.k12.ma.us or call 781-961-8248



John F. Kennedy (JFK) School

This month we had our first community meeting with a focus on the core value of "Safety." Students earned an award, reviewed expectations, and earned a token to choose from our book vending machine.





We also held a costume dance! The students were so excited to dress up and have a dress-up contest. Students danced and enjoyed the cotton candy machine, pizza, and prizes.



We have the amazing opportunity as a PLTW community to host the Student Work Cup. It is a trophy awarded annually to the school or district that leads the PLTW science, technology, and engineering community in sharing and celebrating student work.

Randolph has been a consistent participant in Student Industry Connects and the Applied Learning Showcase, giving students the opportunity to share their work with and get feedback from industry professionals and the greater PLTW community.



We are incredibly proud of our science, technology, and engineering scholars and staff!



Here is more exciting news - PreK entered into a drawing for a Communication Board to be placed on the playground at the JFK School, and we won!!

The communication we have had briefly with the Doug Flutie Foundation has been limited to only providing a rough estimated delivery date of 2-3 weeks.





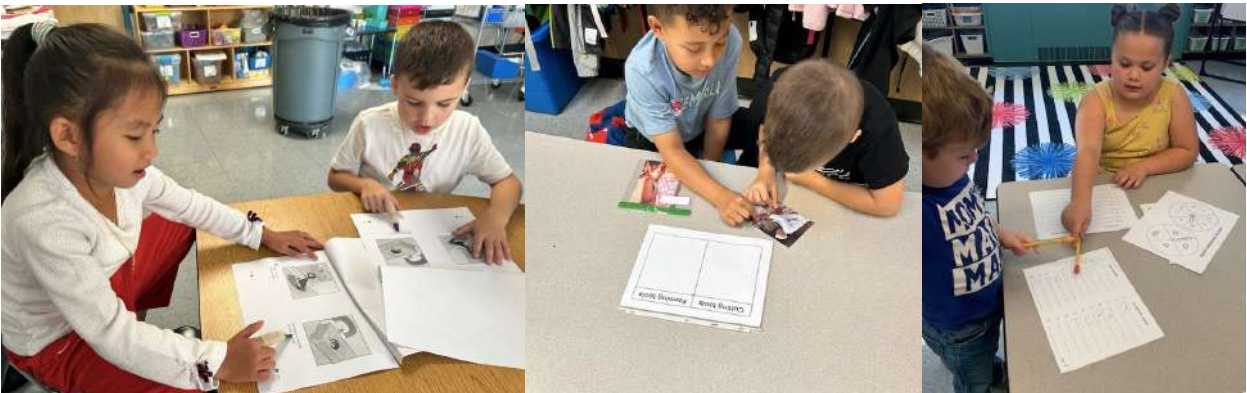
Lyons Elementary School (Lyons School)

This week at Lyons School we held our yearly Scholastic Book Fair. Profits earned through Scholastic are used to purchase classroom books and books for our book vending machine.



Featured grade of the month: Grade 1

Look at us reading in grade 1!! The pointer fingers help! We work together to play phonics games that help us read blends. We are working on learning about different tools we use to get jobs done. We sort the tools based on the type of work they do.



Science :

This month in science first grade students have been learning about structure and function. Students have been working on using the design process to create solutions to problems. Here are a few examples of their beanstalk structures that needed to hold a golden egg on top!



Also, after reading the story about the three little pigs, first graders were given materials and asked to build structures that could withstand the blow of the big bad wolf! Many of the structures were successful!



Lyons School Food Drive

The Lyons School is running a food drive from October 16th – November 16th. Look how generous our families have been in the first week!



Young Elementary School (Young School)

Hello Randolph! It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is right around the corner! October was a very productive month. We had our data meetings early in the month which helps teachers make sure they are hitting the sweet spot of challenging students while also not frustrating them.



A very cool new tool we have in grade 1 is IGNITE! We have 20 students who receive 1:1 virtual literacy support every day! Across grades, we are using a variety of tools to build students' literacy skills, including Lexia and 95%.

In math, our students in grades K - 2 have been assessed with 1:1 assessments to measure foundational math skills; this has been a time consuming process BUT has been so worth it because we have really helpful individualized data so we can best support student growth.

The last week of October was our Book Fair and Trunk or Treat. This month, we look forward to our Potluck and the annual Turkey Burn!

We held a School Site Meeting on Monday, November 7th, 6:30 PM, and a PTO Meeting the day before on Monday, November 6th, 6:30 PM. We continue looking forward to seeing our community throughout the month of November!

Here are a few pictures to give a sample of life at YES during October.

Monthly raffle basket. Thank you PTO!



Band and Chorus! Thank you, Ms. Duguay!





Learning about shapes in grade 2!



Randolph Community Middle School (RCMS)

October has been a busy month at RCMS and it is hard to believe that we are halfway through Term 1. Here are some highlights.

- Mr. Carlson's Design and Modeling students built windmills to align with the upcoming sixth grade ELA book, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*.
- Our seventh grade Social Studies classes enjoyed an architectural dig in Mr. R.C. and Ms. Henry's classrooms.
- Our seventh grade ELA students held Socratic Seminars based upon *A Long Walk to Water*.
- Ms. Cardillo took several eighth grade Engineering students to Flagship Pioneering for a field trip where they were able to interact with Flagship scientists.



- Ms. Ladd's ELD class created and published Life Maps with stories of events that are important to them.
- A great time was had by all at the RCMS Fall Ball!

We hope that you enjoy these photos:
Gr 7 Architectural "Dig"



Life Maps in ELD



Flagship Pioneering Field Trip





Fall Ball...lots of dancing, food, and fun!



Randolph High School (RHS)

Parent - Teacher Conferences at RHS - November 16th

Parent-Teacher Conferences for RHS are coming up on Thursday, November 16th. RHS family members should sign up for conferences using the PTC website below.

[RHS Parent Teacher Conferences \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com)



RHS Harvest Feast - November 16th

We are excited to host a "Harvest Feast" at RHS this year. The Harvest Feast will be a multicultural potluck for our community. We invite you to bring a food item representing your cultural heritage or family tradition to share at this potluck event.

Come out and enjoy good food, good music, and good company.



When: Thursday, November 16th 4:00pm-7:00pm

Where: RHS Cafeteria

Are you an RHS alumni?

Consider becoming a part of our newly formed RHS alumnae association.



2023 College and Career Fair

On Friday, October 20th, RHS Juniors and Seniors had the opportunity to attend the RHS College and Career Fair. The College and Career Fair provided students with a chance to meet with a variety of colleges, universities, programs, military, and union representatives. This was an excellent opportunity for our seniors to get important information and think about their future plans.

One senior said...

“This was really great. It opened my eyes to many different schools and programs that I never knew about.”



Students were provided with a list of questions that they could ask representatives prior to the event in the Google Classrooms, and they received a hard copy on the morning of the event. Students who completed the survey about the fair were entered into a raffle for a free cap and gown for graduation.



Randolph High School Football Update

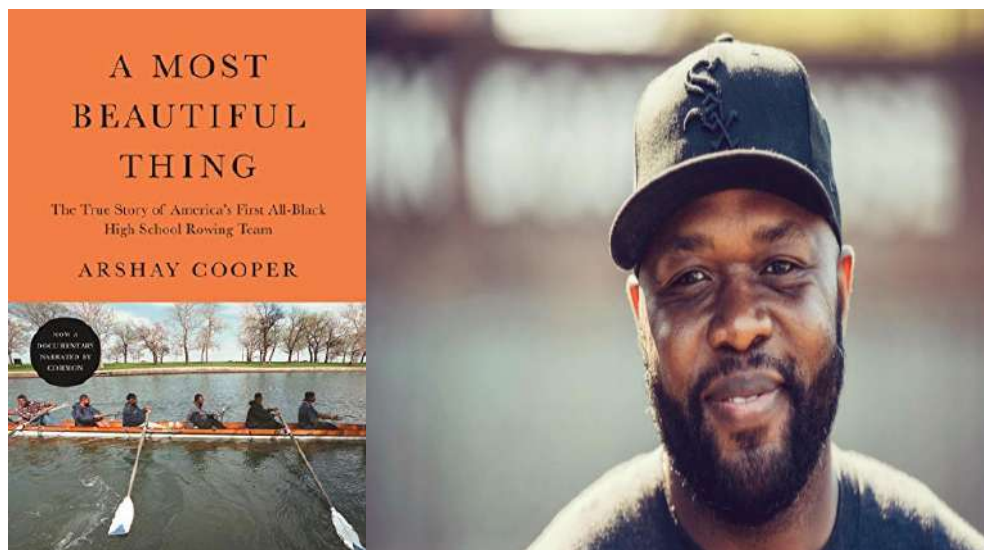




On Friday, November 3rd, our football team went up against Ware High School at an away game. We're proud to announce that our students won this playoff game with a score of 3-0. Our boys have now made it to the "Elite 8" in the state. They will face Cathedral High School at a Friday evening game. Join us in wishing our boys well. Go Blue Devils!



RHS Special Event with Arshay Cooper



On October 20th, the entire RHS community attended a special assembly with **Arshay Cooper**, the author of the summer reading book, ***A Most Beautiful Thing: The True Story of America's First All-Black High School Rowing Team***.



Arshay is a Rower, Benjamin Franklin award-winning author, the protagonist of the critically acclaimed film “A Most Beautiful Thing,” a Golden Oar recipient for his contributions to the sport of rowing, motivational speaker, and activist, particularly around issues of accessibility for low-income families (Cooper, 2023).

On Saturday October 21st, twenty-five of our students attended the **Head of the Charles Regatta** as special guests of Arshay. It was an amazing experience. Students were intrigued by the sport of rowing, which most were very unfamiliar with. We are looking forward to partnering with Arshay in the years to come. We received a generous donation of five RowErg machines from one of his sponsors, Concept2. Our hope is to interest more of our students in aquatic sports such as rowing (crew) and swimming. Students of color are not as well represented in these sports as they are in basketball or football. However, there are endless opportunities for our students in some of the aquatic sports.

Learn more about Arshay Cooper here: <https://www.arshaycooper.com/> There are extra copies of his book located in the library. Feel free to see Ms. Lane for a copy. Below are pictures from the special event.





Free tutoring with RHS students

Did you know that a group of our high-performing RHS juniors and seniors provide free one-on-one tutoring for students in elementary and middle school? Tutoring takes place at the Turner Free Library in Randolph. See the flier below, and reach out to the tutors for more information or to sign up.

Randolph High Tutors

What:
Free after-school tutoring in math and science by highly determined RHS students

Where:
Turner Free Library

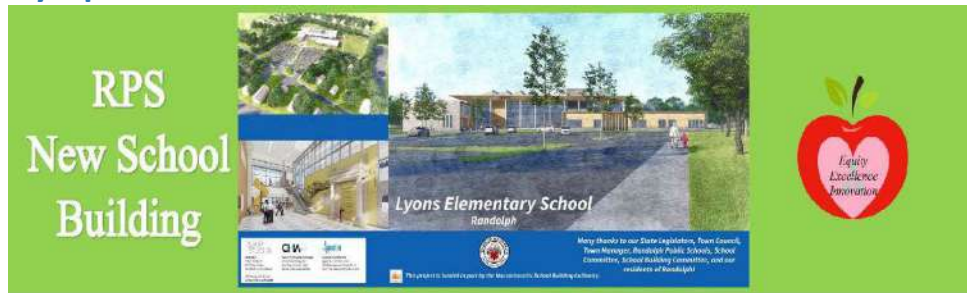
When:
Monday-Friday:
4-5pm

Why:
Students receive one-on-one support. They will learn fundamental skills that are necessary to approach a problem in a distraction-free environment.

Sign up by scanning QR code or Email:
Randolphhightutors@gmail.com



Community Update on the New School



Progress on the new school continues as workers form up the transition between Pre-K and the main academic building. The sound of drilling could be heard in the concrete masonry unit walls at the supply and work areas on level 1 section A. Carpenters installed fiberglass Z-Girt (used as a primary rainscreen framing component) on the south wall elevation in preparation for installation of fiber cement (siding material) and phenolic panels (offer acoustic stability for interior divisions in a building). The framing continued on interior and exterior walls. The Gymnasium high roof was worked on as well as the concrete masonry unit walls, and the west wall elevation and walls around the stage area. Concrete masonry unit walls were started in the supply and custodial work areas on level 1 north west corner.



Above: Installed temporary window coverings to window openings until glass is delivered



Above: Installing air and vapor barrier to Pre-K exterior walls



Above: The building is closed up for temporary heating



Above: Framing interior walls



Above: Laying out rooms and installing wall track (mounting system)



Above: Forming up transition between Pre-K and the Main Bldg.

November 2023



If you have not already seen the October Community Update, which was shared with families on Friday, October 27th, it is included below.



The new school building for the existing Elizabeth G. Lyons Elementary School is really starting to take shape. To date, good progress has been made. Wall framing of levels 1 and 2 and roof blocking on the Pre-K exterior wall sheathing continues. Large concrete slab has been placed on grade plan section. Electrical work was done on level two and also exterior wiring connections through the exterior walls. Ductwork continued to be installed on levels 1 and 2 as well as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning installation on level 2, condensate lines, and refrigerant lines. Air and vapor barrier continues to be installed on the South Wall elevation. Half of the single ply roofing on Pre-K is completed. Granite curbing was installed on the Mitchell Street extension and Dow Street, which will continue onto the school property.



Above: Single Ply roofing on Pre-K, Gray



Above: Top of Concrete Masonry Unit wall, Gymnasium



Above: New curbing and Radius coming into Mitchell Street extension



Above: Ductwork installation Level 2



Above: Installing condensate lines



Above: Making great progress



Above: Almost completed



Above: Framing for skylight

October 2023



To see photos of the progress being made on the new school building, families are encouraged to access the Community Updates on the New School on our website.

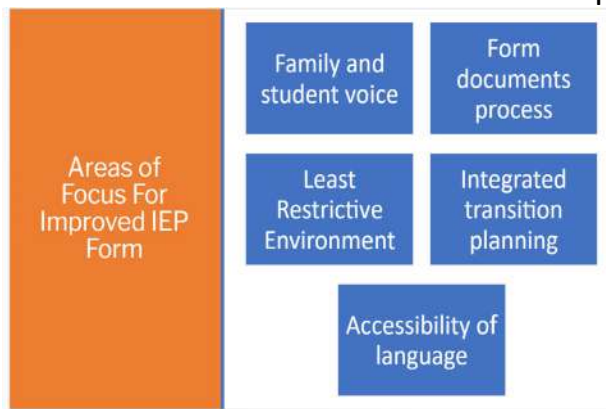
Special Education and Student Services (SPED)

Dear Families,



Every Friday Our Randolph High School (RHS) transition students and staff come around with a coffee cart for staff. This week they made a special pumpkin bar treat for the Special Education/Students Service staff meeting. Thank you for the yummy treat!

The Special Education and Student Services Department is beginning the process of rolling out the New IEP Format with training for key stakeholders and a slow roll-out in the spring. The new and improved IEP Form will allow more family and student voices and a more cohesive educational plan for students. Stay tuned for more information to come from our department with specific details.





Did you know.....?

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month. Students who are considered homeless are entitled to certain services and support under McKinney-Vento. Please click on the link below to access our McKinney-Vento flier for Randolph Public Schools.

[RPS- McKinney Vento Flier- English](#)

[RPS McKinney-Vento Flier- Haitian Creole](#)

[RPS McKinney-Vento Flier- Vietnamese](#)

[RPS McKinney-Vento Flier- Spanish](#)

[RPS McKinney-Vento Flier- Portuguese](#)

Health Services Updates and Reminders



Sign up today for a fluoride treatment and dental hygiene screening!!

In collaboration with the RPS Elementary nurses, a team of public health dental hygienists from Protecting All Smiles, LLC will be visiting your child's school next month and again in the spring.

The following dental services may be provided:

- ☺ Screenings and oral health education
- ☺ Fluoride varnish treatments
- ☺ Dental cleanings (as needed) ☺ sealants (as needed)
- ☺ Referrals to local dentists (if needed)
- ☺ A toothbrush and toothpaste will be sent home along with a Report Card with our screening results



****Please note:** This does not interfere with your regularly scheduled dental visit. They do not bill families for preventative services.

Upcoming Dates of Dental Services

Lyons School - 11/17

Donovan School - 12/4

JFK School - 12/5

Young School - 11/8

If interested, please return the attached signed consent to your school nurse at your earliest convenience. [Dental Consent 2023- English.pdf](#)



Do you Need a Covid-19 or Flu Vaccine? Register for the clinic hosted by the Randolph Board of Health at the RICC on Saturday, November 18, 2023. Click on the link below to see the flier.

[Vaccine Clinic Flyer](#)

Multilingual Learners Updates:

Parent Academy ESL Classes

We now have four parent ESL classes running for the fall semester. Classes are now full, but we will offer more in the spring.

ACCESS Testing

Access testing will take place between January 4th and February 16th. Look out for information from your ESL teacher about your student's schedule.



Pictured below: Young School 5th graders working on sequencing and labeling.



Family Engagement Updates:

Better Together Conference

Randolph administrators and parents attended the DESE Better Together Conference on October 26th. We collectively learned about ways to improve family engagement.



Families First Ripple Program

On Tuesday, November 7th, 20 Randolph parents started their leadership training with Families First. This program teaches parents how to engage with the school to collaboratively enact systems level change, and is offered in English, Haitian Creole, and Vietnamese.



Online Family Speaker Series

Look out for our upcoming speaker series sessions. Topics this year will include: Supporting Mental Health in the Community; DPH: Community resources; Vaping and Substance Abuse; Grief; Curriculum; Digital Platforms and Summer School Programs. More information is coming soon!

DEIB Committee Updates:

DESE/AIR, Superintendent Stovell and I deeply appreciate your active participation during the recent equity review process. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all your staff members, students, and families who generously shared their time and insights during this process. We anticipate receiving the report in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your collaboration!

Alpha Sanford
Director of Special Education and Student Services

Thanksgiving 2023

Superintendent Stovell and the RPS administration wish you and your family a happy, healthy, safe, and enjoyable Thanksgiving. If you are in need of assistance this Thanksgiving, you may register for the United Way Turkey Giveaway event by clicking the link below.



[Register for Families](#)

Feel free to share this registration link with those who could benefit from this opportunity. Your support is invaluable.



Si ou gen plis kesyon, tanpri souple kontakte lyezon pou fanmi ki pale Kreyòl Ayisyen yo nan 781-807-0081.

Si tiene más preguntas, llame a la intérprete para las familias hispanohablantes al 339-209-2539.

Se você tiver qualquer outra pergunta, por favor entre em contato para auxílio com o idioma Português, número 339-204-5505.

Nếu quý vị có câu hỏi nào khác, làm ơn liên hệ phiên dịch viên tiếng Việt, tại 339-216-2400.