



## Rim of the World Unified School District

### Superintendent Newsletter

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**SNOW DAYS** There has been quite a different weather pattern this year compared to last Winter. This year we have only used one day as of February 27. Last year we used all 6 built in snow days and had to file a waiver from the state for 3 additional days. I caution you that Winter is not over yet. As of now staff and students will report on Wednesday, April 1 having the other 5 days be non-attendance days **SHOULD THERE BE NO MORE SNOW DAYS NEEDED.** We will update the community with additional attendance dates if we need to due to weather/road conditions.

**Heart for ALL** Highlights that demonstrate our theme for this year:

#### Rim of the World HS

Thank you to David Nygren for his service to RHS over the last 1 1/2 years. Congratulations to Dave on his Coordinator position and to Torri Burke as the new RHS principal.

#### Charles Hoffman Elementary

A train set was donated anonymously during Kindness Week for a kindergarten student confined to a wheelchair.

#### Valley of Enchantment

Mr. Gomes, Mrs. Ogbeni-Lether, and Ms. Alarcon (special education department) collaborate with teachers, build relationships with students, and truly embody the philosophy of All students means ALL!

#### Lake Arrowhead Elementary

Student Leadership Team is partnering with Burrtec to bring recycling awareness and instruction to our students through their “Recycle Buy Back Program.”

#### Mary Putnam Henck

Mrs. Marinaro’s class “Skyped” with author, Mr. Grossi, after reading the young author version of his book, “Craig and Fred” about a Marine and a stray dog in Afghanistan. The students prepared wonderful questions and showed admiration during the session. MPH Pride!

#### Superintendent

Thank you to ALL of our Employees who demonstrate Heart for All on a daily basis for our students.

#### Brain Breaks

**Brain Breaks are simple games that allow learners to return to work with renewed focus and energy.**

**Websites with free ideas:**

[www.playworks.org](http://www.playworks.org)

[www.classcraft.com/blog/features/brain-break-ideas/](http://www.classcraft.com/blog/features/brain-break-ideas/)

[www.everfi.com/insights/blog/brain-breaks-for-the-classroom-at-every-grade-band/](http://www.everfi.com/insights/blog/brain-breaks-for-the-classroom-at-every-grade-band/)

#### Quote

“Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and they seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted.”

Garrison Keillor, author, storyteller, and radio personality

Please feel free to email examples as they happen that demonstrate our theme: Heart for All! I will include them in future newsletters. Thank you. Nominations for Certificate of Excellence are also available on our website.

## Did you know.....about our ROWUSD budget?

In collaboration with our Business Department

- **That all school districts must certify their financial position in a 3 year cycle twice a year with the state?** The purpose of this reporting is to review data related to enrollment, attendance, actual and budgeted financial activity and to prepare multi-year projections. Please visit this link to view our financial statements: [www.rimsd.k12.ca.us/Page/1625](http://www.rimsd.k12.ca.us/Page/1625) under the Business Services page.
- **That Lottery Funds do not solve any districts' budget problem?** Just 1% of all state lottery funds are set aside for school districts. That 1% is divided between all 1,000+ school districts in California based on ADA (Average Daily Attendance). Rim of the World Unified School District receives a total of \$605,287 with \$157,256 of that in restricted funds. That leaves \$448,031 in lottery funds in unrestricted revenue. The lottery funding stream is less than 2% of our total budget. The amount we receive in Lottery Revenue also decreases every year due to it being funded on ADA. As enrollment declines (as it is doing across the state) so does this revenue source.
- **That the ROWUSD can not just sell the closed school sites and use that revenue for general fund expenditures?** The short answer is no. Government Code #54220 and Education Code #17464 limit the ability for a school district to just sell property. Certain agencies have priority rights to negotiate with a district. A 7-11 committee can make recommendations to the school board for school closure or property sales. The district has received prior recommendations from a prior 7-11 committee for use of Grandview, the District office and Lake Gregory. We may look to reconvene the committee, and seeking legal counsel to see what is possible with current district properties. Funds from the sale of any property have strict guidelines for spending. Funds received on a sale of school district real property are not deposited to the general fund. They are restricted for capital outlay. Even if all properties were sold there would not be enough revenue to cover our \$75 million in facility needs. Currently Lake Gregory Education Center is being utilized and rented by Park and Recreation and Grandview Elementary is our district warehouse with plans to open as a district training center in the future.
- **That our current enrollment is?** 3,109 students. The current district's ADA is 2,922.50. This is an average of 94% attendance. The state no longer funds excused absences so our sites are offering Saturday school to increase our ADA and services to students. A 1% increase of ADA over time yields over a \$300,000 increase to the general fund.
- **That Measure W funds are audited each year and reviewed by an Oversight Committee of community members?** In January of 2020 the auditors reported another successful year with no findings. To see all documents please visit our website at [www.rimsd.k12.ca/Page/1672](http://www.rimsd.k12.ca/Page/1672) under Business Services.
- **That Governor Newsom lowered the projected COLAs for school districts in his latest budget proposal?** School Districts were expecting a 3% COLA for next year but were given only 2.29% and all future years were decreased as well. Resulting for ROWUSD in a \$400,000 reduction in revenue to the current budget cycle.

## Celebrating Improvement!

Educational Services and the Executive Cabinet wants to celebrate success and continuous improvement across the district.

CHE Has positive culture and climate and decreased their chronic absenteeism rate by 4.1% achieving green on the California School Dashboard.

LAE Increased their academic indicator in both English Language Arts and Mathematics on the CAASPP assessments.

VOE has a strong STEM program focus, they scored 42.16% meeting standard on the new California Science Test (CAST). They scored well above the state average of 29.9%.

RHS has demonstrated strength in both the college and career indicator and graduation rate receiving a color designation of green and blue in those areas.

MPH demonstrated growth and improvement on ALL California Dashboard indicators and exited Comprehensive Support and Improvement Status (CSI) .

We are so proud of our kids and school teams for all their improvement efforts. Keep up the good work!