

Raymore-Peculiar School News



Published for patrons and friends of the
 Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District
 Feb. 20, 2009

Sixth grader Jenna Wellman wins school district spelling bee

Sixth grader **Jenna Wellman** won the Ray-Pec School District Spelling Bee on Feb. 10. She received a trophy, a medallion, and a \$100 savings bond. In addition, Jenna will represent the district at the Cass County Spelling Bee at 10:30 a.m. March 10 at the Ray-Pec Administrative Services Center. Jenna attends Bridle Ridge Intermediate School.



She participated in the Ray-Pec district spelling bees, participated Feb. 10 in the Ray-Pec district spelling bee at Eagle Glen Intermediate School.

See pictures of all participants on Page 2. The pronouncer for the spelling bee was **Theresa Kientz**, library media specialist at the Freshman Center. The judges were: School Board President **Sharon Shores**; School Board Vice President **Joe Anthuis**, and School Board Member **Dana Hille**.

The runner-up was **Madelyn McCullough**, an eighth grader at Ray-Pec Middle School. Madelyn received a trophy, a medallion, and a \$50 savings bond. She will represent the district at the Cass County Bee if Jenna is unable to attend.

Fourteen students, who won their respec-



Runner-up

Eighth grader **Madelyn McCullough** was the runner-up at the Ray-Pec School District Spelling Bee on Feb. 10. At left is **Dr. Kevin Daniel**, Associate Superintendent, Instruction and Student Achievement. At right is Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**.

Spelling champ

Sixth grader **Jenna Wellman** won the Ray-Pec School District Spelling Bee on Feb. 10 at Eagle Glen Intermediate School. She competed against 13 other spellers in grades 4-8 to win the district bee. Jenna received a trophy, a medallion and a \$100 savings bond. She will represent Ray-Pec at the Cass County Spelling Bee. At left is **Dr. Kevin Daniel**, Associate Superintendent, Instruction and Student Achievement. At right is Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**.

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“Through collaboration among parents, students, staff and the community, the Raymore-Peculiar School District will ensure that each student masters specific and challenging learning objectives that maximize achievement and lead to lifelong productivity.”

Fourteen students participated in school district spelling bee



Ray-Pec Middle School
Dane Schnake
Eighth Grade



Ray-Pec Middle School
Madelyn McCullough
Eighth Grade



Ray-Pec Middle School
Connor McLeod
Seventh Grade



Ray-Pec Middle School
Matt Keith
Seventh Grade



Bridle Ridge Intermediate
Jenna Wellman
Sixth Grade



Bridle Ridge Intermediate
Guin Wright
Fifth Grade



Eagle Glen Intermediate
Deja Sterling
Sixth Grade



Eagle Glen Intermediate
Jonathan Knepp
Sixth Grade



Creekmoor Elementary
Lauren Johnson
Fourth Grade



Peculiar Elementary
Drew Snider
Fourth Grade



Shull Elementary
Kirsten Medearis
Fourth Grade



Raymore Elementary
Sydney Phelps
Fourth Grade



Spelling bee judges

Three school board members served as judges for the Ray-Pec School District Spelling Bee on Feb. 10. Pictured, from left, are: School Board Member **Dana Hille**; School Board President **Sharon Shores**; and School Board Vice President **Joe Anthuis**.



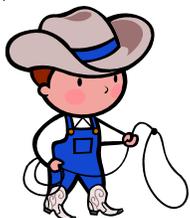
Stonegate Elementary
Spencer Lueckenotto
Fourth Grade



Timber Creek Elementary
Emily Harris
Fourth Grade

Ray-Pec School District Kindergarten Round-up is March 25

Parents of children who will be 5 years old before Aug. 1, 2009, are invited and encouraged to attend kindergarten round-up and enrollment on Wednesday, March 25. The purpose of kindergarten round-up is to receive information and register your child for kindergarten screening in May. Please attend one session for the school which your child will attend in the fall. If you are uncertain which school your child will attend, call 892-1300.



- Creekmoor Elementary School: 1:30 or 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25
- Peculiar Elementary School: 2 or 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25
- Raymore Elementary School: 1:30 or 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25
- Shull Elementary School: 2 or 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25
- Stonegate Elementary School: 2 or 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25
- Timber Creek Elementary: 1:30 or 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25



Please bring these items to kindergarten roundup:

- One document verifying legal residence within the district. (A current utility bill showing name and address, such as a water, gas, electric or a closing agreement for a home being purchased or built within the district.)
- Child's birth certificate. The state certified birth certificate is preferred.
- Child's current immunization record.

Since the nature of kindergarten round-up is informational and an enrollment process, you are encouraged to leave your kindergarten-age child and pre-school children at home. Child care will not be available.

News Briefs

Pancake breakfast to benefit Project Grad

You are invited to a pancake breakfast from 7 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Peculiar Lions Club building, 500 Schug Ave., Peculiar. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students ages 10 and under. Proceeds will help fund a drug-free, alcohol-free celebration for high school seniors on the night of graduation.

McTeacher Night set to benefit Stonegate

McDonald's in Raymore is sponsoring Stonegate McTeacher Night from 4 to 8 p.m. March 3. Stonegate Elementary School will receive a portion of the proceeds from that event to support student activities.

School board meeting

The February Ray-Pec School Board meeting has been re-scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, in the Board of Education room at the Administrative Services Center. The meeting is open to the public.



Blood drive

Ray-Pec High School student **Jake Henderson** donated blood on Feb. 17 at Ray-Pec High School. Jake was participating in a Community Blood Drive sponsored by the school's National Honor Society.

News Briefs

New principal selected for Raymore Elementary

Michelle Hofmann of Kansas City has been selected as the new principal at Raymore Elementary School for the 2009-2010 school year. Hofmann is coming to Ray-Pec from the Raytown School District, where she has been the Director of Extended Learning and Director of the Smart Start Summer Team since 2006. Her hiring is scheduled for official approval at the Feb. 26 Board of Education meeting. Hofmann will replace **Susan Romeo**, who resigned to accept a position as principal of a new elementary school under construction in Lee's Summit. Romeo's resignation is effective June 16, 2009.

Freshman recognition

The Ray-Pec Freshman Center recognized 91 students for having zero absences, zero tardies and zero discipline referrals for the first grading period of the second semester. They received donuts and milk on Feb. 11.

Guitar Hero tournament

Rock Out for Charity, a Guitar Hero tournament, is scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in the Ray-Pec Middle School gymnasiums and cafeteria.

The tournament is a fundraiser for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. It is sponsored by the Ray-Pec Middle School Student Leadership Team and Best Buy of Lee's Summit. Best Buy is providing all of the prizes, including Guitar Hero World Tour Complete Band Kit, a guitar kit, gift certificates and CDs.

Students and staff are invited to participate. The cost is \$5 to participate in the tournament, and \$2 to just come and watch.

Non-discrimination notice

The Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District does not discriminate on the basis of face, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Terri Jamison, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 366, Peculiar, MO 64078. 816-892-1300.

Emanuel Cleaver visit

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver was a guest speaker at a special assembly Feb. 19 at Ray-Pec High School. Ray-Pec Common Ground, a high school club to promote acceptance and diversity, organized the assembly in observance of Black History Month. Titled "Achievement Within Diversity/A Climate of Change," the assembly was presented three times to allow all students an opportunity to attend. Cleaver spoke only at one assembly. Alvin Brooks was a guest speaker at all three assembly sessions. The program also included performances by the Ray-Pec Concert Choir, Step Team, essay contest winner Makayla Searle, and students Mahogany Maraston, Jordan Fox, Fatima Washington, Jhimae Brock, Alia Potts and Iraya Dennis.

Mobile recycling program

Beginning March 14 and 15, mobile recycling collection units will be available on the second weekend of each month on the west end of the Freshman Center parking lot. The recycling centers will be available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each of the scheduled days.

These materials will be accepted: aluminum and steel (tin) cans, newspaper, office paper and junk mail, shredded paper in paper bags, paperboard (like cereal boxes), corrugated cardboard, magazines and catalogs, telephone books, paperback and hardback books, and plastics. You do not need to sort the materials; the items will be commingled in one container.

The mobile recycling centers will be back at the Freshman Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 11, and Sunday, April 12.

Raymore Sylvan Learning honors Larry King

Congratulations to **Larry King**, eighth grade counselor at Ray-Pec Middle School, who was named the Sylvan Learning Counselor of the Year. Larry was honored during a breakfast Feb. 3 at the Raymore Sylvan Learning Center.

This statement was read on behalf of Larry at the ceremony:

“On behalf of Sylvan Learning and the entire Ray-Pec Middle School learning community, I am honored to recognize Larry King as the Sylvan Counselor of the Year.

“The students in the Raymore-Peculiar School District have been blessed with the good fortune of working with you. During your eight years at RPMS you have demonstrated, in countless ways, a genuine concern for the well-being and success of your students. Working with adolescent students creates many unique and challenging situations. Your positive, calming demeanor has often provided students in crisis a much needed adult role model to lean on.

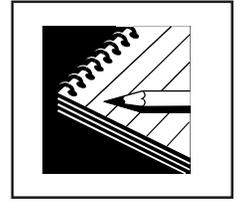
“The middle school staff has come to rely on your expertise with master scheduling, student assistance, and assessment coordination. Your efforts to coordinate our building’s annual MAP assessments have appropriately earned you the title of “Map Man”. Each spring you devote hours upon hours locked up in the “MAP cave” ensuring that all testing materials are accounted for and that the teachers and students have what they need to perform their very best.

“For those who have walked in your shoes, we know what an arduous undertaking this is and truly respect the job you do. In a school community full of caring educators, selecting one counselor as Sylvan Counselor of the Year was no easy task. However, for anyone who has every had the privilege of working with Larry King, the decision became far more obvious. I can’t think of anyone more deserving of this award than the “King” from Ray-Pec Middle school, Mr. Larry King.”

Larry was selected from participants in the Ray-Pec, Belton, Grandview, Harrisonville and Pleasant Hill school districts.

Summer School 2009

“A Burst of Learning” will again be the theme for Ray-Pec’s Summer School program in 2009. The dates for Summer School are June 2-26, 2009.



Summer School sites

Based on previous enrollment numbers, Summer School will be reduced by one site. Sites for 2009 will be:

- Creekmoor, Raymore and Shull for students entering grades K-4
- Bridle Ridge Intermediate School for students entering grades 5-6
- High School for students entering grades 7-12

Students who attend Stonegate during the regular school year will attend Creekmoor for Summer School. Students who attend Timber Creek during the regular school year will attend Raymore. Students who attend Peculiar Elementary during the regular school year will attend Shull.

All incoming fifth and sixth graders will attend Bridle Ridge. All students entering grades 7-12 will attend the High School.

Summer School principals

Here are the principals for Summer School:

- **Karen Cain, Brenda Clayton** and **Julie Dahlstrom** for the elementary sites, with school assignments to be determined
- **Bill Harrington** for grades five and six at Bridle Ridge Intermediate School
- **Jeanne Kuhlman** for grades 7-8 at the High School
- **Jim Brown** for grades nine through 12 at the High School
- An assistant principal for grades seven through 12 will be selected, following interviews

Student daily schedule

Here is the daily Summer School schedule for students:

- 7:20 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. for grades 7-12
- 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. for grades 5-6
- 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. for grades K-4

Student enrollment information will be announced soon.

Applications for Summer School jobs

Teacher and support staff applications are available on the district’s web site under the “For Staff” link. Go to: www.raypec.k12.mo.us and click on the staff resources link to find Summer School information. All applications should be sent to the Human Resources Department.

Research Belton Foundation provides dental screenings

Dentists, dental hygienists and other volunteers from the community are conducting dental screenings for third grade students this month.

The screenings have been arranged through the Research Belton Foundation, a community foundation that funds for health-related projects and scholarships.

The volunteers are conducting the screenings of all third grade students in the Belton, Grandview and Ray-Pec school districts.

Each visit included a screening by a dentist, an education session by a dental hygienist, and, with parental approval, the application of flouride varnish.



Third grader **Brittany Haley** shows the goody bag she received after her dental screening on Feb. 6.



Dental screening

A volunteer with the Research Belton Foundation applies a flouride varnish to the teeth of third grader **Samantha Paddock** on Feb. 6 at Creekmoor Elementary School.



Creekmoor benefit event

Creekmoor Elementary School on Feb. 9 had a fun game night and chili supper to benefit **Jacob O'Dell**, son of a staff member. Activities included Wii tournaments, a balloon artist, face painting, rock climbing, games and a silent and live auction. At left is first grader **Emily Holmquist** wearing a balloon horse created by the balloon artist. At right is a crowd of people during the bidding on themed gift baskets.

News Briefs

Ray-Pec High School Band prepares for sixth annual Father/Daughter dance

Spring picture days scheduled for K-6

Picture day is coming for students in grades K-6. Here is the schedule for class pictures:

- Friday, Feb. 20, at Raymore
- Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Eagle Glen
- Wednesday, March 4, at Peculiar
- Thursday, March 5, at Stonegate
- Friday, March 6, at Bridle Ridge
- Wednesday, March 18, at Creekmoor
- Wednesday, March 25, at Shull

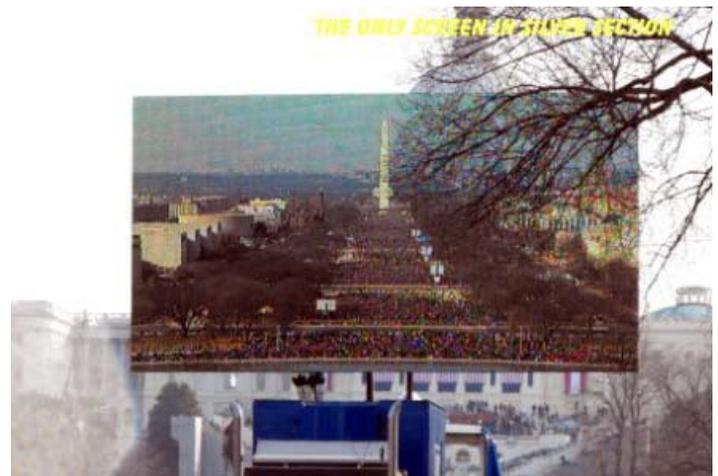
The Ray-Pec High School band presents its sixth annual Father/Daughter Dance from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, in the Ray-Pec Middle School gym.

All girls in kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to attend along with their father or special male companion (grandfather, older brother, uncle, family friend, etc.).

The theme is Disney Princesses on the Red Carpet. Admission at the door is \$21 for a couple, with \$10 for each additional daughter.

Admission includes one complimentary photo per daughter, entry into raffles, and light refreshments.

For more information, contact **Jenny Everson**, Ray-Pec Band Booster president, at 816-318-4301. A flyer with the ticket order form is available at: www.raypecband.org. The dance is a fundraiser for the high school band.



Ray-Pec student attends inauguration

William Anderson, a sixth grader at Eagle Glen Intermediate School, attended the inauguration of President Barack Obama last month with his parents, Leo and Frenchette Anderson. The Andersons are pictured above left at the Kansas City International Airport. The photo above right shows the large screen on display in the Silver Section, from which they watched the inauguration. The photo at bottom left shows President Obama on another smaller screen in the Mall area. The photo at bottom right was taken during the Midwestern Ball. *(Photos courtesy of the Anderson family)*

News Briefs

Trip to Costa Rica

If you would be interested in learning more about a trip to Costa Rica for June 2010, there will be an informational meeting at the High School, in trailer 230 on Thursday evening March 5, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. This is a trip that is not school sponsored, but is open to all students, past and present, parents and staff. We will discuss the price of the tour; give ideas to fund-raise and answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend, but have questions; please feel free to email Heidi Lanksbury (Spanish teacher) at hlanksbury@raypec.k12.mo.us

Zumba classes

Zumba classes are continuing from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Eagle Glen Intermediate School. The cost is \$5 per class prepaid for either 5 or 10 classes (you will be given a punch card) or pay \$6 each time you go. Your first class is free.

The class is not just limited to Ray-Pec employees. Bring a friend. For more information, contact **Terry Dean** at tdean@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Maria Fleming resigns to take new position at Fort Osage School District

Maria Fleming, Director of Assessment and 7-12 Curriculum, will leave the Ray-Pec School District at the end of the school year. She has accepted a position in the Fort Osage School District.

The Fort Osage School District Board of Education on Feb. 10 approved naming Maria as Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.

Maria has worked in the Ray-Pec School District six years. She joined the district in 2003 as Director of Research and Assessment with responsibility for student testing and analysis of test results. The position later changed to include secondary curriculum.

Maria serves as the district's testing coordinator for state assessments, including the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP). She works with principals and teachers to develop curriculum and assessment for the district. She also helps to implement the district's Professional Learning Communities initiative.

She came to Ray-Pec from the Independence School District, where she was Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment from 1999-2002. For the 1999-2000 school year, she was assistant principal at Truman High School in Independence. From 1996 to 1999, she was the A+ Coordinator at Truman High School. Earlier, from 1990 to 1996, she taught language arts at Truman High School and Palmer Junior High School.

She earned her bachelor's degree in language arts education from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She earned her educational specialist degree in educational administration from UMKC.



Maria Fleming



Raymore-Peculiar Student Success Council

These photos were taken at the Raymore-Peculiar Student Success Council meeting Feb. 10 at the Eagle Glen Intermediate School library. Parents, teachers, staff members, students and school leaders met to review part of the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. **Jay Harris**, Associate Superintendent for Management Services, presented an overview of the "growth" portion of the plan. He also talked about the facility-planning process. Participants also discussed specific areas and provided feedback. The Student Success Council is scheduled to meet again on April 2 at the Freshman Center.

News Briefs

Superintendent's stories

Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** has started a blog. To read his blog, called "Superintendent's Stories," go to the district web site: www.raypec.k12.mo.us. There is a link on the right-hand side of the home page.

Diversity theme days

The Raymore-Peculiar School District Diversity Committee has selected a theme or topic each month during the 2008-2009 school year. Each school is encouraged to plan activities or lessons around the theme. On Feb. 9, or another day during the month, schools planned activities for Black History Month.

Upcoming dates and themes are:

- March 9, National Women's History Month;
- April 27, celebrate diversity in your own school; and
- May 11, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Color guard meeting is Feb. 23

Come join the Ray-Pec High School Color Guard for the trip to San Antonio, Texas, for the 2009 Alamo Bowl. A parent/student informational meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23, in the high school band room. Students interested in trying out should attend this meeting. Tryouts will be from 5 to 7 p.m. March 10, 17, 19, 24 and 26, in the Freshman Center gym. For more information, contact Teacher **Amber Hess**, Color Guard Director, at ahess@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Prowler try-out meeting is Feb. 24

A meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in the high school library for parents of students interested in trying out for the Prowlers dance team.

Students who will be in grades 9-12 for 2009-2010 are eligible to try out. The meeting will cover eligibility, squad selection, and membership requirements. Applications are available in the main office at the middle school, freshmen center and high school.

Cheerleading tryouts are March 23-27

Cheerleading tryouts are coming in March for students currently in grades 7-11. The tryouts will be from 3:30 to 5 p.m. March 23-27 in the Shull Elementary School gym. For more information, contact Teacher **Melinda Young**, head cheer coach, at: myoung@raypec.k12.mo.us or visit the RP Cheer web site at: <http://elearning.raypec.k12.mo.us/course/view.php?id=361>.



Students recognized for tolerance and empathy

These students were recognized at an all-school assembly at Peculiar Elementary School for exhibiting the January virtues of tolerance and empathy. In the fourth row, from left, are: **Eli Hanks, Taylor Boyd, Chenoa Toler, Sam Winton, Cheyenne Boos** and **Destiny Alvarado**. In the third row, from left, are: **Alex Gertst, Zach Skivers, Zander Snow,** and **Nolan Dick**. In the second row, from left, are: **Blake Richeson, Nicole Wilson, Haley Killingsworth, Seara Persson** and **Adrian Kuhns**. In the first row are: **Sydney Lecure** and **Kevin Oliver**. Not pictured are: **Madison Riley** and **Alisa Cahoon**.

News Briefs

Election filing

Five people have filed for election to the Ray-Pec Board of Education. Two seats will be up for election on April 7, 2009. The seats are currently held by **David Crabtree** and **Dana Hille**.

Candidates are:

- **David Crabtree** of Peculiar,
- **Lisa Edington** of Peculiar,
- **Chad Heggem** of Raymore,
- **Dana Hille** of Raymore, and
- **Dr. Dennis Lang**, Lee's Summit.

The filing period ended on Jan. 20. School board members serve three-year terms. Each year, two or three of the seven seats are up for election.

RPHS 1989 reunion

The RPHS Class of 1989 has scheduled its 20-year reunion for July 31 through Aug. 2, 2009. Please see the Facebook "Ray-Pec Class of 1989" web page for updates and details.

Ray-Pec Physical Night set for March 2

Ray-Pec High School will again host the annual physical night for athletes in grades 7-12. Physical night is scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday, March 2, at Ray-Pec High School. The cost is \$15. Physicians, nurses and paramedics will be available to conduct student physicals. The physicals are valid for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and for the 2009-2010 school year. For more information, contact Activities Director **Tom Kruse** at 892-1410; Activities Administrative Assistant **Tina Misner** at 892-1411 or Athletic Trainer **Dan Schwarz** at 892-1400.



MSHSAA recognizes Ray-Pec groups

The Missouri State High School Activities Association recently announced congratulations to these Ray-Pec groups for achieving the MSHSAA scholastic achievement award. Receiving the Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award were: Varsity Cross Country (Boys and Girls combined) with an average grade point average of 3.34; Girls Varsity Volleyball, with an average GPA of 3.58; Girls Varsity Golf, 3.32; Girls Varsity Tennis, 3.41; Girls Dance, 3.50; and Boys Varsity Soccer, 3.27. Receiving the Distinguished Scholastic Achievement award were: Girls Varsity Cheerleading, with an average grade point average of 3.10; and Girls Varsity Softball, 3.18.



'Polar Roller' goes bald

Chris Roller, physical education teacher at Peculiar Elementary School, fulfilled a promise on Feb. 6. Chris was one of the district participants in the Polar Plunge. Chris promised that if he raised more than \$800, he would allow Principal **Rob Weida** to shave his head in front of the entire school. That was all it took to motivate students, staff and parents to donate a total of \$1,015.20 to benefit Special Olympics. These pictures show Rob wielding the razor during an all-school assembly.



Winner to be announced in April

School district seeks nominations for 2009 Teacher of the Year

The Ray-Pec School District is seeking nominations for the 2009 Teacher of the Year.

Anyone may nominate a teacher by submitting a letter of nomination by Monday, March 2. A candidate must be

- a full-time teacher,
- returning to teach in 2009-2010 in the district,
- completed three or more years of teaching in the Ray-Pec district, and,
- be effective and innovative in the classroom.

Once nomination letters are submitted, the district will determine if candidates are certified in the area they teach, and whether they meet additional criteria for attendance, positive evaluations and participation on school or district committees. Ten finalists will be selected, and a panel of judges from outside the district will



select the winner.

The Teacher of the Year will receive a cash award and other prizes, and will be nominated to participate in the Missouri Teacher of the Year program.

You may send nominations to: Ray-Pec Teacher of the Year program, Administrative Services Center, P.O. Box 366, Peculiar, MO 64078, or to **Michele Donahoe**, Communication Coordinator, at mtonahoe@raypec.k12.mo.us or rupdate@raypec.k12.mo.us.

A banquet to honor the 10 finalists is scheduled for Monday, April 20.



Perfect attendance for second quarter

These employees from the Buildings and Grounds Department had perfect attendance during the months of October, November and December. In the front row, from left, are: **Tonya Riley**, Creekmoor night custodian; **Bill Germann**, maintenance; and **Mike Davis**, Freshman Center night custodian. In the back row, are: **Mike Phelps**, Stonegate night custodian; **Jerry Goodpasture**, Eagle Glen night custodian; **David Bourey**, Middle School night custodian; **Josh Everitt**, Middle School night custodian; and **Scott Dobson**, maintenance. Not pictured are: **Johnny Moore**, maintenance, and **Debbie Newell**, central receiving/warehouse.

News Briefs

Procedures outlined for inclement weather

In cases of snow or inclement weather, the school district may close school. The district may delay the opening of school by two hours when it appears that transportation conditions will improve. The decision to close school or to delay the start of school will be made by 5:30 a.m. to allow time for media to broadcast the news before most students leave home.



Times for delayed starts

When there is a two-hour late start, the Freshman Center will begin at 9:20 a.m.; the high school will begin at 9:30 a.m.; the middle school at 9:35 a.m.; the intermediate schools at 10 a.m.; and the elementary schools at 10:45 a.m. Schools will dismiss at the regular time.

TV, radio broadcasts

School closing information will be provided to television stations 4, 5, 9 and 41, as well as most major radio stations in the Kansas City metropolitan area. (This notification takes place through a cooperative effort of the media outlets.)

Web, e-mail and texts

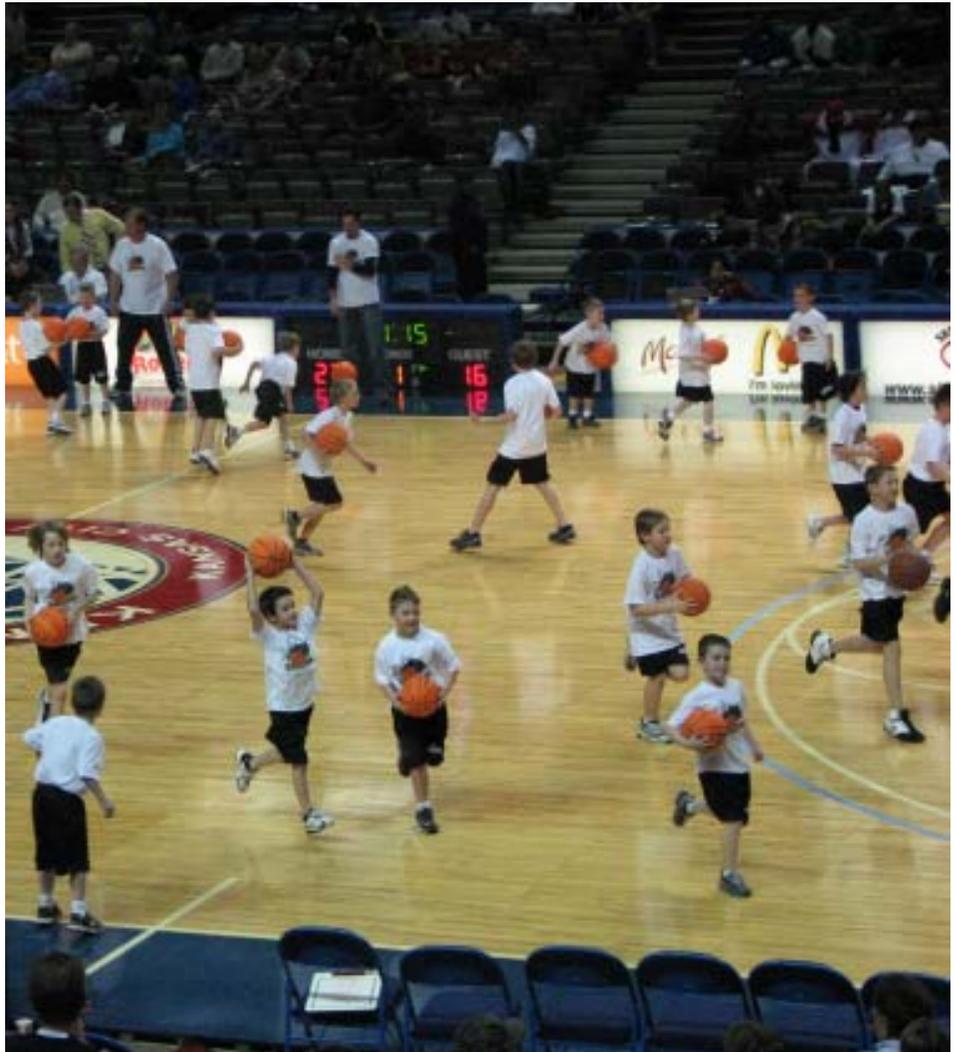
The information will also appear on the school district's web site at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us.

You may call 892-3988 to hear a recorded message.

Subscribers of RP Update will receive an e-mail message. Subscribers of the text messaging service will receive a text message.

School Reach calls

In addition, the school district will use the School Reach automated calling system to call the contact phone numbers for staff and students in the event of school cancellations or delayed starts.



The Ray-Pec Ballers performed during half-time of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Kangaroo mens and womens basketball games Jan. 31 at Kemper Arena. The Ballers are a group of boys ages 5-13 who perform a dribbling and passing routine. Coach **Scott Jermain** started the group.

Ray-Pec 'Ballers' perform at Kemper

The Ray-Pec Ballers have taken their show on the road.

The group of boys recently performed during half-time of the University of Missouri-Kansas City mens and womens basketball games. At the Jan. 31 performance, the boys met some of the coaches, cheerleaders and the team mascot, "Roo." The boys also performed on Feb. 12 during half-time of a Ray-Pec High School boys basketball game.

The Ballers are a group of 80 boys who perform an energetic dribbling and passing routine. The boys range in age from 5 to 13 and are in kindergarten through sixth grade.

Ray-Pec Varsity Boys Basketball Coach **Scott Jermain** started the Ray-Pec Ballers program in December 2007. He is assisted by several teachers and a group of parent volunteers. Jermain said that the impetus of the program is the development of fundamental ball-handling skills, a love of the game of basketball, and also, instilling self-confidence, self-motivation and a sense of accomplishment to encourage hard work and dedication on and off the court.

'Miles for Matt' benefit 5k run/walk planned

A 5k run/walk, "Miles for Matt," is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 21, in Raymore to benefit **Matt Hernan**, an eighth grader at Ray-Pec Middle School, who has a brain tumor.

Matt was diagnosed on May 26, 2006, with a brain stem tumor the size of a golf ball. After chemotherapy treatments for a year, the tumor shrunk to the size of a watermelon seed by September 2008. In late October 2008, an MRI showed growth in the tumor. Testing also revealed nerve damage.

On Jan. 16, Matt had surgery, and doctors were able to remove 60 percent of the tumor. The benefit run will help with Matt's medical expenses.

To register to participate in the run, volunteer or donate to Matt's fund, go to:

www.sportkc.org/MilesforMatt.

For more information, contact Karen Camp at 816-916-4029 or kcamp1705@sbcglobal.net.



News Briefs

Buckets of golf balls

Attention boys trying out for the golf team: Peculiar Golf Center, south of the Flying J, has a spring special. For 30 days, you get one bucket of golf balls each day for a total of \$50. In five visits, you make your money back.

Tryouts will begin on March 2.

Coach **Paul Carvan** and Coach **Darrick Gray** will be there regularly after school to encourage quality workouts.

For more information, send an email to Coach Carvan:

pcarvan@raypec.k12.mo.us



Middle School Students of the Month

Here are the January Students of the Month from Ray-Pec Middle School. In the back row, from left, are eighth graders: **Luke Sibert** and **Sydney Martinez** from the Jets Team; **Emily Mosman** and **Jeric Ardito** from the Emerald Team; and **Sarah Hruska** and **Jordan Willis** from the Ruby Team. In the middle row, from left, are seventh graders: **Jake Brown** and **Haley Tripaldi** from the Comets Team; **Brenna Sanders** and **Aaron Patterson** from the Star Blazers Team; **Mathew Keith** and **Katy Mueller** from the Solar Storm Team; and **Suzie Lottie** and **Blake Skeed** from the Voyagers Team. In the front row, from left, are eighth graders: **Bailey Welty** and **Justin Pierce** from the Diamond Team; and **Drew Thomas** from the Sapphires Team. **Derek Taylor**, also from the Sapphires Team, is not pictured.

News Briefs

Parents as Teachers offers screening for Ray-Pec 4-year-olds

The Ray-Pec Parents as Teachers program offers early childhood screenings for 4-year-olds in the district. The screening is for children who will not be attending kindergarten in fall 2009. (A different screening is administered following Kindergarten Roundup in the spring for children who will enter school next fall.)

The free screening includes vision, hearing, speech, and the areas of motor, language, cognitive and social development. Screening takes 60 to 90 minutes, and is by appointment only. Children who have turned 4 by the screening date listed may be scheduled for a screening.

The next screening date is March 18. To make appointments, call Parents as Teachers at 892-1938.

Ray-Pec Foundation offers software

You may purchase software at special prices through the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation.

Go to the district website at www.raypec.k12.mo.us and click on the Foundation software purchase link. Select the sign-in link at the top of the page. If you previously registered at this site, you should still be registered. If not, click on the "register" tab.

If you have questions, contact **Pam Steele** at psteele@raypec.k12.mo.us or 892-1311. Students, parents and patrons may also order the software, but they should send an e-mail to Pam Steele to obtain a registration code.

Job openings

Employment opportunities in the Ray-Pec School District are posted at the Administrative Services Center and listed on the district web site at: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us>.

If interested in a position, obtain an application in person or on-line, complete it, and submit it to: Ray-Pec Schools Human Resources, 21005 S. School Rd., P.O. Box 366, Peculiar, Mo. 64078.

Foundation offers memorial envelopes

The Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation now offers memorial envelopes. You can make a donation to the foundation in memory of a specific individual. (See sample envelope below.)

The envelopes are available at each school and the Administrative Services Center.

The Foundation awards scholarships each year to graduating seniors, and awards mini grants each fall to staff members. The Foundation also sponsors the Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year recognition banquets. The mission of the Foundation is to acquire and manage alternative resources to enhance educational opportunities for the benefit of students,

staff and community. For more information, contact **Pam Steele** at 892-1311 or psteele@raypec.k12.mo.us.



 In Loving Memory of _____

General fund Scholarships Other _____

Please make checks payable to the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation

Name _____ PO Box 366
Address _____ Peculiar, MO 64078
City/State/Zip _____ 816-892-1311

Ray-Pec Project Grad Presents the 2nd annual **Restaurant Mania** March's featured restaurant:



- ◆ 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 4
- ◆ Walk-in AND drive-thru
- ◆ Raymore location only
- ◆ 10 percent of proceeds donated to Project Grad
- ◆ No coupon necessary

Standard Complaint Resolution Procedure for Improving America's Schools Act Programs

This complaint resolution procedure applies to all programs administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

A complaint is a formal allegation that a specific federal or state law or regulation has been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by school district personnel or by Department of Education personnel.

Any parent or guardian, surrogate parent, teacher, administrator, school board member, or other person directly involved with an activity, program, or project operated under the general supervision of the Department may file a complaint. Such a complaint must be in writing and signed; it will provide specific details of the situation and indicate the law or regulation that is allegedly being violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted.

The written, signed complaint must be filed and the resolution pursued in accordance with local district policy: The Board recognizes that situations of concern to parents/guardians or the public may arise in the operation of the district. Such concerns are best resolved through communication with the appropriate staff members and officers of the school district, such as the faculty, the principals, the Superintendent or the Board.

The following steps are proper procedures to be followed by persons with questions or complaints regarding the operation of the school district:

Matters concerning individual students should first be addressed to the teacher.

Unsettled matters from (1) above, or problems and questions concerning individual schools, should be directed to the principal of the school.

Unsettled matters from (2) above, or problems and questions concerning individual schools, should be directed to the Assistant Superintendent.

Unsettled matters from (3) above, or problems and questions concerning the school district, should be directed to the Superintendent.

If the matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the Superintendent, it should be brought to the Board of Education. Questions and comments submitted to the secretary of the Board in letter form will be brought to the attention of the entire Board. If necessary, a Board hearing will be scheduled to resolve the complaint. However, the decision of the Board shall be final.

The Board considers it the obligation of the professional and support staff of the district to field the questions of parents/guardians or the public.

If the issue cannot be resolved at the local level, the complainant may file a complaint with the Missouri Department of Education. If there is no evidence that the parties have attempted in good faith to resolve the complaint at the local level, the Department may require the parties to do so and may provide technical assistance to facilitate such resolution.

Any persons directly affected by the actions of the Department may file a similarly written complaint if they believe state or federal laws or regulations have been violated, misapplied, or misinterpreted by the Department itself.

Anyone wishing more information about this procedure or how complaints are resolved may contact local district or Department personnel.

News Briefs

Activity telephone line

Call 892-3988 for daily activities and sports information updates and cancellations. Call after 1 p.m. for weather-related cancellations.



Text messages

To sign up for text message alerts from the Ray-Pec School District, visit the district web site at:

www.raypec.k12.mo.us

Each subscriber must self-enroll and submit an authorization code that will be provided during the enrollment process. Allen Bank and Trust of Raymore is sponsoring the service.

RP Update

To receive e-mail news from the school district, send a message to: rpupdate@raypec.k12.mo.us. In the body of the message, type "Subscribe RP Update." RP Update is sent out on Tuesday.

Safe and Drug Free Schools Federal Grants Title IV Annual Report

School districts in Missouri are required to present an annual report to the public describing school programs that were funded with Title IV, Safe and Drug Free dollars, and to identify how these programs support the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) objectives.

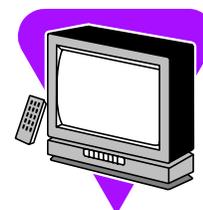
The Ray-Pec School District provided the following programs and activities, which were selected and designed to address district CSIP objectives for student achievement and safe and productive learning environments.

Stop Violence Now programs on bully prevention, prevention of violence in school, prevention of substance, alcohol and tobacco abuse and anger management skills were presented throughout the school year.

Funds also supported instructional supplies and materials for classroom and small group guidance lessons with students. Small groups and some after-school groups focused on such topics as: stress management, friendships, diversity, tolerance, peer pressure, conflict resolution and building social skills.

At the secondary level, funds also helped support an online alcohol education program to help tutor students to make good decisions regarding social pressures dealing with alcohol use or experimentation.

Title IV funds also helped support the mentoring program "Together We Can," which provides adult mentors for elementary students. Adult volunteers meet with students on a weekly basis to offer assistance with school work, or just be a friend to a student identified at-risk socially or academically.



For more news and information
about the
Raymore-Peculiar School District,
check out:

Comcast Cable Channel 15

and our web site at:
www.raypec.k12.mo.us



Raymore-Peculiar School District Public Notices

Children with Disabilities

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include: autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness, and young child with a developmental delay.

Raymore-Peculiar School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State of Missouri in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program. Raymore-Peculiar School District assures personally identifiable information collected, used or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Raymore-Peculiar School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed at Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District, Administrative Services Center, 21005 School Road, Peculiar, Missouri, 816-892-1300, during business hours.

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Americans with Disabilities Act

It is the policy of the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District to make our services, facilities, programs and accommodations accessible to all individuals, including individuals with disabilities. The District continues to upgrade its facilities in accordance with its ADA Transition Plans.

If a disability prevents you from fully using our facilities or enjoying our services and programs, we would like your input and ideas on how we can better serve you.

Please direct your input in writing to:

ADA Coordinator, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District
P.O. Box 366, Peculiar, MO 64078

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title XI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, P.L. 93-112, and Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the regulations hereunder, it is the policy of the Ray-Pec School District that no person shall, because of age, sex, race, disability or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any district education program or activity, including employment. Written policies about the rights and responsibilities of employees and students are available for inspection at the district's administrative offices. Inquiries about protection against discrimination under the above-named acts may be directed in writing to: Dr. Terri Jamison, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 366, Peculiar, MO 64078.

Notification of Asbestos Plans

Asbestos Management Plans for the Raymore-Peculiar School District include two components: a general plan for the entire district and a specific plan for each school. The entire plan is located at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S. School Rd., Peculiar, MO 64078. Each school office has a copy of plans for that school. Plans may be viewed during regular business hours. To view plans, make an appointment with the Asbestos Program Manager at least one (1) working day in advance. Any request to view the plan must be honored by the Asbestos Program Manager within five (5) working days of the receipt of such request. Document copies are available from the Administrative Services Center at a cost of 25 cents per page.



Raymore-Peculiar School News

Raymore-Peculiar School District
21005 S. School Rd., P.O. Box 366
Peculiar, MO 64078

