

The *Communique*

Sept. 17, 2010

For employees of the Raymore-Peculiar School District

Foundation awards \$3,695 in mini grants

The Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation on Sept. 9 awarded seven grants, totalling \$3,695, to teachers across the district. Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle** led the “prize patrol,” which included Foundation board members **Phil Parke**, **Becky Klein** and **Juan Alonzo**, and Foundation Secretary/Treasurer **Pam Steele**.

Congratulations to these mini grant recipients:

- **Toni Cook**, special education teacher, Stonegate Elementary, \$405
- **Misty Beichley**, third grade teacher, Stonegate Elementary, \$200
- **Kay Miller**, music teacher, Timber Creek Elementary, \$345
- **Becky Tally**, teacher, Shull Elementary, \$1,000
- **Nancy Schultz**, counselor, Creekmoor Elementary, \$935
- 5th and 6th grade Communication Arts teachers, Eagle Glen, \$800
- **Diane Ejjaidali**, teacher, Ray-Pec East Middle School, \$280.

Look throughout this newsletter for photos of the grant recipients and descriptions of their grant projects.



Ray-Pec is 14 for 14; achieving highest state accreditation level for 5th consecutive year

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has recognized the Raymore-Peculiar School District for meeting all 14 performance standards on DESE's Annual Performance Report (APR).

By meeting these performance indicators, Ray-Pec maintains its rating of “Accredited with Distinction in Performance” by the state for the fifth consecutive year.

Dr. Kevin Daniel, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, said, “This is great news for Ray-Pec. Accreditation with Distinction in Performance is the highest award a school district can be given by DESE. The best news within the APR is that we continue to show growth and improvement in several important areas.”

The APR is based on Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) scores, the new end-of-course tests, ACT scores, attendance and dropout rates, college and career placement measures, and other academic performance measures.

The new reports provide five years of statistics, including data from the past school year (2009-10).

The release of the APR is preliminary, and state officials say the reports will not be finalized until October.

Over the past decade, the annual reports normally were not released until December when the data was final and half the school year had already passed. The department is hoping the early release will help educators and parents see how well their school districts are doing and which areas may need more attention to improve.

To read the state's press release or to view the preliminary APR report, go to the DESE web site at: <http://www.dese.mo.gov>



Grant for peer tutoring in reading

Becky Tally, teacher at Shull Elementary School, second from right, received a grant of \$1,000 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to support a reading program. She plans to purchase books for a cross-age peer tutoring program to improve reading skills. Pictured, from left, are: Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; Foundation board members **Phil Parke** and **Becky Klein**; Tally, and Foundation board member **Juan Alonzo**.

News Briefs

School board to meet Tuesday, Sept. 21

Due to schedule conflicts, the board of education re-scheduled its regular monthly meeting to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21. The meeting is open to the public and will take place at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S. School Rd.

The Board of Education in July changed its regular monthly meeting date to 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. (The board had been meeting on the fourth Thursdays.)

Parents as Teachers offers free screenings

The Parents as Teachers program offers free screenings to all families in the Raymore-Peculiar School District with children ages 6 months to 3 years. They will receive the Denver II screening, which is designed to give parents a clear picture of their child's strengths, weaknesses and emerging skills in the areas of language, social-emotional, intellectual and motor development. Screening is a quick and effective way to look at your child in comparison with other children the same age. Call the Parents as Teachers program at 816-892-1938 to schedule a screening.

Counselor has article published in journal

An article by **Dona Cundiff** was published in the Summer 2010 issue (volume 42, number 4) issue of *The Counseling Interviewer*, a publication of the Missouri School Counselor Association.

The article is titled "Selective Mutism in a First Grader: A Case Study." Dona is the counselor at Timber Creek Elementary School.

Non-discrimination notice

The Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, 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, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Raymore-Peculiar School District, P.O. Box 789, Peculiar, MO 64078. 816-892-1300.



Grant for drum set for music classes

Kay Miller, music teacher at Timber Creek Elementary School, second from left, received a grant of \$345 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to support a reading program. The funds will be used to purchase a set of 12 small drums for students to play the beat, read and play rhythms and community building. There will be four different kinds of drums from different areas of the world to open the door for discussions on different cultures. Pictured, from left, are: Foundation board member **Phil Parke**; Miller; Foundation board member **Becky Klein**; Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; and Foundation board member and Raymore Mayor **Juan Alonzo**.



Grant for Fraction Tower class kit

Diane Ejajidali, seventh grade math teacher at Ray-Pec East Middle School, center, received a grant of \$280 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to purchase the "Fraction Tower Class Kit," which allows 25-30 students make and compare models of fractions, decimals and percents. Pictured, from left, are: Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; Foundation board member **Phil Parke**; Ejajidali, and Foundation board members **Juan Alonzo** and **Becky Klein**.

News Briefs

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Laura Streicher**, teacher at Ray-Pec High School, on the death of her mother-in-law, Deleva Lavon Streicher, 83, of Garden City, Mo., who died Aug. 23, 2010, in Harrisonville. A graveside service was held at the Floral Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery Chapel in Oelwein, Iowa. The family suggested memorials to Our Savior Lutheran Church Memorial Fund in Harrisonville, Mo. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Dickey Funeral Home in Garden City, Mo.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Nancy Schultz**, counselor at Creekmoor Elementary School, on the death of her mother, Norma VanNest, 84, of Raymore, who died Aug. 28, 2010. A private service is scheduled for Sept. 24 at Fort McPherson, Neb.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Bill Harrington**, teacher at Eagle Glen Intermediate School, on the death of his father, Duane Harrington, 80, of Independence, who died Sept. 5, 2010. The visitation and funeral service were Sunday, Sept. 12, at Woods Chapel Community of Christ Church, 500 NE Woods Chapel Rd., Lee's Summit. Fellowship to follow. The family suggests memorials to Community of Christ Thrift Store and Food Pantry, 17 N. 2nd St., Council Bluffs, Iowa, 51503.

Little Cheer Clinic

Girls ages 4-15 are invited to participate in the Little Panther Cheer Clinic on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Girls will be divided by age and ability and will learn to cheer and perform with the Ray-Pec varsity cheerleading squad. The cost is \$25, which includes a T-shirt.

The clinic is from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30, at the former Freshman Center, located north of the Administrative Services Center on School Rd. Little cheerleaders will perform during pre-game festivities before the Friday, Oct. 1, home football game. Girls should meet at 6 p.m. on the high school track wearing their cheer T-shirt and black shorts.

For more information, contact Cheer Sponsor **Mallary Henry** at: mhenry@raypec.k12.mo.us.



Grant for character education program

Nancy Schultz, counselor at Creekmoor Elementary School, second from right, received a grant of \$935 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to support a character education program. The funds will be used to purchase a character education kit library, which will be used by students of all grade levels.. Pictured, from left, are: Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**; Foundation board members **Juan Alonzo** and **Phil Parke**; Schultz; and Foundation board member **Becky Klein**.



Grant for visual schedule kits

Toni Cook, special education teacher at Stonegate Elementary School, second from left, received a grant of \$405 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to purchase visual schedule kits. A visual schedule provides students with special needs a visual map of their daily schedule and offers structure to help students prepare for events. Pictured, from left, are: Foundation board member **Becky Klein**; Cook; Foundation board members **Phil Parke** and **Juan Alonzo**; and Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**.

News Briefs

Sign up now for Panther Youth Basketball league

Youth basketball sign-ups are taking place for boys and girls in grades K-7. The deadline for applications is Oct. 15. Please contact Coach **Scott Jermain** at sjermain@raypec.k12.mo.us or 816-892-1454 or register at www.tinyurl.com/youthbasketball. As always, volunteer coaches are also needed.

Adults needed to mentor Ray-Pec students

Do you have an extra hour during your week? How about spending it with a Ray-Pec student. Ray-Pec has a mentoring program called Together We Can YouthFriends. This program is fun for both young people and adults. Mentors can participate in a wide range of in-school activities, including sharing lunch with a student, reading to a student, sharing special talents or career interests, tutoring, or just being a good friend who listens. Together We Can YouthFriends training will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, at Eagle Glen Intermediate School, 100 S. Foxridge Dr., Raymore. Please contact Janet James at jjames@raypec.k12.mo.us or 892-1459 for more information or to register for the training.

Competitive bball teams forming for grades 4-7

Boys and girls in grades 4-7 interested in playing competitive basketball are invited to attend a basketball tryout and informational meeting on Sept. 20 and Sept. 23 at Ray-Pec High School. Persons interested in coaching a competitive basketball team should contact Coach **Scott Jermain** at sjermain@raypec.k12.mo.us or 816-892-1454. Please visit www.tinyurl.com/youthbasketball for more information or for registration.

Panther Market offers Ray-Pec apparel, gifts

Are you interested in some Ray-Pec or Panther apparel or gift items? Check out the Ray-Pec High School Panther Market. Check out the latest offerings, plus some clearance items, at: www.raypec.k12.mo.us/panthermarket.



Grant for Readers Theatre library

Communication Arts teachers at Eagle Glen Intermediate School received a grant of \$800 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to purchase materials for a Readers Theatre Library. They plan to purchase scripts and whisper phones for individual practice. The fifth grade teachers are pictured here. Pictured, from left, are: Foundation board member **Becky Klein**; teacher **Andrew Perkins**; Foundation board member **Phil Parke**; teachers **Leah Sapp** and **Janet Castleman**; Foundation board member **Juan Alonzo**; teacher **Tresea Brockman**; and Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**.



Grant for Readers Theatre library

Communication Arts teachers at Eagle Glen Intermediate School received a grant of \$800 from the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation to purchase materials for a Readers Theatre Library. They plan to buy scripts and whisper phones for individual practice. The sixth grade teachers are pictured here. In back, from left, are: teacher **Nathan Northcraft**; Foundation board member **Phil Parke**; and Superintendent **Dr. Jeff Kyle**. In front, from left, are: Foundation board member **Becky Klein**; teachers **Kris Schuler**, **Ashlie Renfro** and **Dana Markey**; and Foundation board member **Juan Alonzo**.

News Briefs

Car wash and car hop

Cub Scout Pack 245 will have a Car Wash/Car Hop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Peculiar Sonic.

Howl at the Moon 5K

The third annual Howl at the Moon 5K Run begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18. The race begins and ends at Eagle Glen Intermediate School, 100 S. Foxridge Dr. For information, go to: <http://www.raymore.com/index.aspx?nid=397>.

Blood drive on Sept. 23

The Peculiar Lions Clubs invites you to participate in a Community Blood Center blood drive from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, at the Lions Club building, 500 Schug Ave., Peculiar. All donors will receive one free ticket to the Renaissance Festival. To make an appointment, go to: www.savealifenow.org and use the sponsor code: peculiarcomm. You may also contact **Sharon Shores** at 816-779-5061.

Festival in the Park

You are invited to Raymore Festival in the Park, which is scheduled for Sept. 23-25 at Raymore Memorial Park, located behind Raymore Elementary School.

The Ray-Pec High School marching band is scheduled to perform in the parade on Saturday, Sept. 25.

This year's theme is "The Community That Cares." Some of the events planned include the Baby Contest, Little Mr. and Miss Raymore, car show, parade, free sand volleyball, baking contest, dog show, karaoke and silent auction. Local bands scheduled to play include: The Outtakes, Rhythm Method and New Vision L.I.F.E. For information, go to: www.raymorefestival.com or contact Matt Sehorn at 816-362-3708.

Pretty in Pink for Ladies

Research Belton Hospital invites all women to its Pretty in Pink - Ladies Night Out event from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 4, at the High Blue Wellness Center, 16400 Mullen Rd., Belton. In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, this free event includes appetizers, vendor booths, give-aways, door prizes and more. The featured guest speaker will be Oncologist Dr. William Stephenson. The event is free, but reservations are requested. Call 816-361-4428 to reserve your place.



Cross country team win invitational

Devon Young, pictured above, led the varsity boys cross country team to the championship at the Sept. 11 Ray-Pec Invitational, which included 22 teams. The boys team, led by Devon, nearly achieved a perfect score by placing first, second, third, fifth and sixth. The Ray-Pec boys also won the junior varsity championship. The varsity girls placed fourth overall.



Devon Young enters Ray-Pec CC Hall of Fame

Cross Country Coach **Jamin Swift**, left, and Senior **Devon Young** pose during a ceremony to induct Senior **Devon Young** into the Ray-Pec Cross Country Hall of Fame. Devon is the 17th runner to hang his name with other state medalists. The ceremony took place following the Sept. 11 Ray-Pec Invitational. Last year, Devon placed fourth in the Class 4 state meet. Also among his achievements last year, as a junior, Devon broke **Stephen Pool's** school record of 16:08, with a time of 16:06.

Find us on Facebook

Ray-Pec has 2,149 fans on Facebook.



Check out the posts or become a fan of the Ray-Pec School District on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/raypec

Foundation offers software discounts

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

Go to www.raypec.k12.mo.us/foundation, and click on the software purchase link on the left. Select the

sign-in link at the top.

If you previously registered, 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.



Marketplace

This is the place to advertise items to sell or trade, or to seek items you wish to buy. Employees and their immediate family members may place ads in the Marketplace at no charge. Business ads are limited to 25 words and must include a contact name. Employees may not list school telephone numbers in a business ad. As with any purchase or contracted service, employees should seek references before buying or hiring services.

For sale: Hunting items

For sale: Many hunting items. Please call for details. Items include: "Winchester Sportsman" coveralls (size 3X, like new, worn once) in mossy oak pattern with features: Thinsulate material, zip-off hood, zipper front and outside legs, all with snap-over weather seal, chest and hip pockets with weather seal; "Quest" boots (size 12), rubber soled with leather uppers; Thinsulate "Tasco" binoculars, 7x35 zip focus with case and lens caps; "Buck" knife, 5-inch with sheath (new); Portable "dove" seat with swivel and padded top and 4-gallon insulated bucket; Scope lens cleaning kit; insulated socks with toe pocket for warmer (size 11); buck call, blaze orange; safety vest/ball cap/holder for tags/license; Thinsulate gloves, fingerless with Velcro mitten; fingerless gloves with grippers on palms; "Decolorator" rubber/slip-on shoulder cushion for gun butt; Mossy oak T-shirt (size 2x); cable safety lock (new) with two keys. For information, call **Carol Brandt** at 816-318-9655 or 816-665-6531.

Need a holiday gift?

Scentsy Warmers and Wax are the perfect gift. Safe around kids and pets. No harmful pollutants! 80+ scents. Over 100 warmers, for any decor. Call **Eva Flannagan**, 816-204-1853, www.scentsifiedsisters.com

I love to clean!

Let me clean for you. Schedule now for a neat, professional job. 26 years of experience. References available. Free estimates. Call **Linda McNeil**, 816-507-4893. Bonded.

Painting and deck staining

Interior/exterior painting and deck staining. Contact **Dan Rangel** of Rangel's Painting at 816-718-6652.

Silpada Jewelry

New 2010-2011 Silpada jewelry catalogs are in! Host a party and your jewelry is free! Contact **JoAnn Tinney** at jrt.bling@live.com, 816-806-2194, or mysilpada.com/joann.tinney.

I Run Errands for You

Need help with your errands? Automotive appointments and licensing, deliveries, shopping, transportation, house sitting and more. Contact **Jay Johnson** at 816-721-1349 or go to: <http://irunerrands4u.com>.

Scentsy Wickless Candles

Take a Scentsy Warmer or Plug-In, add one of 80+ fragrances, and enjoy! For the latest styles and scents: <https://england.scentsy.us/Home>. Contact **Macey England** at mengland@raypec.k12.mo.us.

For sale: Girls bikes, bouncy horse

For sale: Three girls bikes, varying sizes, \$10 each. I believe frame sizes are from 16-24 inches (probably best for girls 5-10 years old). Spring bouncing horse on metal frame. Played with, but still has a lot of bounce left. \$20. Can send photos. Contact **Michele Donahoe** mdonahoe@raypec.k12.mo.us.

Two new benefits available to employees

Ray-Pec Benefits/Payroll Coordinator **Nicole Osborn** announces two new benefits.

Missouri 529 College Savings Plan

You may now set up a payroll deduction for your Missouri 529 College Savings Plan (MOST). You must first open an account with your financial advisor or through the MOST 529 website at www.missouricollegesavings.com. Once the account is active, you can submit a payroll deduction authorization form. For more information, go to the Intranet at: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/index.aspx?NID=129>

Special Savings Program for Personal Insurance Needs

Raymore-Peculiar School District is now a member of the group network at Stafford & Stafford Insurance. As a member, employees are now eligible to receive discounts on many different insurance products offered. A flyer highlighting details of the program is posted on the Intranet at: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/index.aspx?NID=129>

For more information on these new benefits, contact Nicole at 892-1324 or nosborn@raypec.k12.mo.us.

The Communique

The Communique is published weekly while school is in session. For information about the newsletter, call **Michele Donahoe**, Communication Director, at 892-1314, or e-mail: mdonahoe@raypec.k12.mo.us