



AROUND THE HORN

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

DECEMBER 12, 2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

STUDENT WELLNESS MINI-GRANT | LOCH

For the first year, Ramsey Middle School was the recipient of the Student Wellness Mini-grant! With the funds, the school will be purchasing pedometers for use in Physical Education class, and to promote physical activity before and after the school day for all students.

As part of our commitment, we have begun to organize a Wellness Committee. The Wellness Committee will meet twice during the remaining school year, brainstorming ways to improve the overall well-being of students.

If you would like to be a part of the Wellness Committee, please contact Sarah Loch.

Sarah Loch | sarah.loch@mpls.k12.mn.us
Teacher, Physical Education
Ramsey Middle School | Minneapolis Public Schools
rms.mpls.k12.mn.us/loch_sarah

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, December 16

PTA Meeting
(featuring the Social Studies department
and Transition to High School)
6:30 PM

Monday, December 22 –

Sunday, January 4, 2015

Winter Break

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 –

Friday, January 23, 2015

Interession

Friday, January 30, 2015 –

Saturday, January 31, 2015

Seussical, Jr. Performances
7:00 PM

Saturday, February 28, 2015

School Request Application Deadline

COMMUNITY EDUCATION'S JANUARY JAM | JOLSTAD

Registration starts soon for Community Education's January Jam at Ramsey Middle School! January Jam will start Monday, January 5, 2015 and run for only four weeks. This is your chance to try out something new without a big time commitment.

Students who are in ALC Academics will continue in those classes and will have the opportunity to select new enrichment classes. Many of your favorite instructors will be back with new classes for this short session.

The Winter Session will start in February and run until Spring Break. Registration for Winter Session will take place in January. For more information, please contact JoEllyn Jolstad or Ramsey Community Education at 612.668.3450.

JoEllyn Jolstad | joellyn.jolstad@mpls.k12.mn.us
Community Education Coordinator, Ramsey Middle School and Washburn High School
Minneapolis Community Education | Minneapolis Public Schools
youth.mpls.k12.mn.us/ramsey

TOYS FOR TOTS | PTA

Ramsey Middle School is a drop off spot for the Toys for Tots program. Please bring your new, unwrapped gifts to the school office by Wednesday, December 17. We thank you for your support of this program.

RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL SPIRITWEAR | PTA

If you need a last minute gift, think of Ramsey Middle School spiritwear! Contact Jan at rmsspiritwear@hotmail.com or call her at 612.240.9874 if you would like to purchase something.



RAMSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Special Edition: MPS High School Choice Process

December 15th – Online High School Request Center goes live.

December 16th – Q&A about high school choice process with counselor, Carolyn Tibbetts at PTA meeting.

December 17th – Explore MPS guides mailed to homes of eighth graders.

January 31st – School Choice Fair

February 28th – Deadline to submit high school choice application.

March – High school lottery runs

April – Placement letters mailed.

April 20 – Appeals deadline.

April/May – Register for 9th grade classes.

Eighth grade students have the choice of attending a high school within their attendance zone or a citywide program with transportation. Once a family has made a placement decision, applications may be submitted online (<https://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/>).

This special edition of the Ramsey Middle School ‘Around the Horn’ provides you with specific information on how to move forward in choosing the right school for your child and submitting an application on time.

High School Tours

High school open houses occurred this past fall. However, if you want to learn more about each school, it may be helpful for you and your child to sign-up for a tour during the school day. You will need to contact each high school individually and speak with their tour or family liaison to set up an appointment.

Attendance Areas and Zone Boundaries

Students may request their community high school or one of the citywide high school programs. Students may also request a school outside their attendance area or zone, but will have a less priority than students living in the actual attendance area.

In the event that your requested school or citywide program is over-requested, students will be placed via a lottery according to the placement priorities.

Zone 1:

- Edison High School
- North High School
- Patrick Henry High School

Zone 2:

- Roosevelt High School
- South High School

Zone 3:

- Southwest High School
- Washburn High School

Citywide Programs:

- Edison High School: Personal Care and Therapeutic Services; Business Enterprise.
- Roosevelt High School: International Baccalaureate Career-related Certificate (IBCC) - Automotive and Construction; Health Career emphasis.
- South High School: All Nations; Open.

School Placement Protocols

Students may request their community high school or one of the citywide high school programs. Students may also request a school outside of their attendance area or zone, but will have a lesser priority than students living in the actual attendance area. In the event that your requested school or citywide program is over-requested, students will be placed via a lottery according to the placement priorities below.

Community Schools:

1. **1st Priority – Attendance Area Siblings:** Students with siblings who currently attend the requested high school. Both siblings need to attend the school at the same time in order to receive sibling preference.
2. **2nd Priority – Attendance Areas:** Students requesting entrance to a school that is identified as their attendance area high school.
3. **3rd Priority – Expanded School Options:** Students who live in a high-concentration area of poverty and qualify for free and/or reduced price lunch will be given priority into programs that have a low representation of students in poverty.
4. **4th Priority – Employee:** Children of current permanent benefit-eligible Minneapolis Public Schools employees.
5. **5th Priority – Out-of-Area Siblings:** Students with siblings who currently attend the requested high school and live outside of the high school attendance area. Both siblings need to attend the school at the same time in order to receive sibling preference.

6. **6th Priority – Attendance Zone:** Students who live within the identified attendance zone (Zone 1, 2, or 3), but outside a school's attendance area.
7. **7th Priority – Residents:** Students who live within the city of Minneapolis, but outside the school's attendance zone.
8. **8th Priority – Open Enrollment:** Students who live outside the city of Minneapolis and would like to open enroll into a MPS high school.

Citywide Programs:

1. **1st Priority – Pathways:** Students who attend middle grade programs that have a pathway to an available high school program. Please note, this is not an automatic placement; students must make an active choice to continue in the pathway by completing a high school request form.
2. **2nd Priority – Sibling (Minneapolis Resident):** Students with siblings who currently attend the requested citywide program. Both siblings must attend the same citywide program at the same time (not just the same school).
3. **3rd Priority – Under-Represented Demographics:** Students who live in a high concentration area of poverty and qualify for free and/or reduced price lunch will be given priority into programs that have a low representation of students in poverty. This priority related to all citywide programs that are demographically unbalanced.
4. **4th Priority – Employee:** Children of current, permanent, benefit-eligible Minneapolis Public Schools employees.
5. **5th Priority – Residents (Minneapolis):** Students who live within the city of Minneapolis.
6. **6th Priority – Siblings (Open Enrollment):** Students with siblings who currently attend the citywide program and lives outside the city of Minneapolis. Both siblings must attend the same citywide program, at the same time (not just the same school).
7. **7th Priority – Open Enrollment:** Students who live outside the city of Minneapolis and would like to open enroll into a citywide program.

School Request Form Checklist

Students must fill out a simple request form to request their top three school options.

Please consider the following points before you fill out your school request form:

- ✓ In order to provide students with one of their top three requests, high school request forms must be turned into Student Placement Services by February 28th, 2014. The form must be received or postmarked by that date.
- ✓ Before filling out the request form, students should talk to their families about their school program.
- ✓ In the event that your high school(s)/citywide program is over-requested, students will be placed according to the placement protocol list.

- ✓ Students may request up to three schools, but are not required to do so. If the student does not receive placement to any of his/her request(s), the student will be placed at his/her community school.
- ✓ Make sure the high school request form is complete and signed by a parent/guardian. A parent/guardian signature is required to process the request form.
- ✓ Students may either make their school request online at <http://highschoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us>

Questions? Please contact school counselor, Carolyn Tibbetts
(p) 612.668.4059
(f) 612.668.4040
(e) carolyn.tibbetts@mpls.k12.mn.us