We'll be over here reading...

Many of our schools across the district celebrated Read Across America by setting aside time for reading events. (Above) Sage Elementary School held a Stop Everything and Read event, where students gathered in the gym with their books, blankets, and buddies to read for 20 minutes. (Below, left) Terrebonne Community School held a flashlight reading event. (Below, right) RSDFlex students and families took a trip to the public library to learn about accessing resources.
At the Schools and in the Community

National Reading Month, the Joy of Literacy

By Pia Alliende, RSD Library Media Specialist K-12

March is set aside as National Reading month to celebrate the joy of literacy which is what school libraries and their staff do every day. They welcome users to a warm environment where everyone feels free to peruse the shelves and find books that represent them and others, and learn how to read, listen, respect and connect their own experiences with themselves, their peers and the world. Our libraries foster an appreciation of books and cross-curriculum learning; they encourage social skills and routines; their staff plan and deliver lessons connected with the curriculum; they support students to learn how to choose their own reading materials, by recognising authors, genres, facts from fiction, needs and wants, among many other things. They train library helpers, connect with our community and are involved periodically in activities that promote literacy: Reading groups and clubs, Book Fairs, Readathons, Storytelling, Booktalks, Battle of the Book Competitions, Storywalks, book displays, book treasure hunts and so many more.

Personally, I believe that one of the best ways of fostering literacy is by example. I’m reading El clima de Los Ángeles (L.A. Weather) by Maria Amparo Escandón, one of the authors invited by the public library for their Novel Idea program, where all the community is invited to read the same book. What are you reading?

(Left) Pia Alliende reads to students at Vern Patrick Elementary during Read Across America.
At the Schools and in the Community

Literacy Growth in Redmond School District

An update from our district curriculum team:

Literacy is a critical component of instruction for our elementary classrooms. We recognize the big work ahead of us to ensure all students make gains in reading after disrupted learning during the pandemic. Last year, according to the Oregon State Assessment, 47 percent of our Redmond 3rd grade students scored in the categories of meeting or exceeding 3rd grade standard expectations, ahead of the 40 percent statewide average. However, we recognize that it is critical for us to increase proficiency rates. Our district is working to increase the growth for all students in reading, and particularly for those students in the achievement gap.

One of our adopted curricular assessments that helps us track student growth and progress is called the iReady Reading diagnostic. This year’s progress is encouraging. The data from this diagnostic helps inform personalized instruction in the classroom. After our midyear iReady diagnostic, Redmond 3rd graders are showing more growth than peers within Oregon and around the nation. We will continue to provide high quality instruction, rigorous expectations, and consistent progress monitoring to ensure increased growth for all students.
Social media has given us a platform to connect with the world. We keep up with friends and relatives, learn about different cultures and ideas, and share our thoughts with a broad audience. While there are several benefits to social media, it can also be harmful to our community.

Social media can distract our students, disrupt their sleep, expose them to unrealistic beauty standards, bullying, and rumor-spreading. The more we educate ourselves on warning signs and how to monitor students, the better we can help prevent them from these adverse effects.

There are healthy ways to find a balance with social media and mitigate the related risks. Here are a few tips on how to protect students:

**Set boundaries.** Ensure your student has a phone use routine, so their phone does not interfere with their sleep, homework, or other responsibilities.

**Have open discussions.** Ask your child why they are using social media and ask if they understand its risks. Ask them how social media makes them feel and have a plan if they start to have negative emotions associated with their use.

**Teach social media etiquette.** Discuss appropriate behavior on social media. Ensure they carry their core morals on how to treat others as they interact with others virtually.

**Set social media rules.** For example, making their account private, not allowing them to accept friend requests from strangers, and having restrictions on what type of content they are allowed to post, consume, and share.

Here are some helpful websites for more information on how to protect our students:
- The Family Dinner Project How to Talk to Teens About Social Media
- Child Mind Institute Social Media Effects on Teens
- American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Social Media and Teens

(Continued on next page)
WHY IS ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE USE A CONCERN?
The adolescent brain is not fully developed. Long-term effects of the use of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, or other drugs can lead to poor performance in school and can get in the way of the brain functioning to its full capacity.

Adolescent Substance Abuse
We invite parents/guardians of Redmond School District to join an UpShift Specialist at your child’s school for the Teen Intervene parent/guardian session (upon eligibility). Strategies in the Teen Intervene Parent Guide include:

Monitoring. Parental monitoring is defined as knowing the general whereabouts of your child at all times, especially when school is out for the day. Role Modeling. Adolescents imitate not only healthy behaviors but also unhealthy behaviors. This includes alcohol and other drug consumption.

WHAT CAN PARENTS/GUARDIANS DO?
Parents and guardians are the number one influence on an adolescent’s decision about vaping, alcohol use, or other substance use. Talking to your child about substance use and establishing clear boundaries can protect them from using and help them reduce or quit their usage if they’ve already started.

Building a Warm and Supportive Relationship. A close relationship makes it easier when the time comes for you to monitor behavior. Appropriate Parent-Child Communication. Provide information to your adolescent about the health and safety risks of alcohol and other drug use. Maintain Awareness of Peer Relationships. The friend groups that adolescents’ choose to spend time with are often influenced by the relationship they have with you.

Resources for the Community
Social Media (cont.)
At Redmond School District, we believe in the power of working together to create a healthy, thriving community and hope you find these tips helpful. If your child is struggling due to the harmful effects of social media, we encourage you to reach out for help.

As a reminder, Care Solace is a mental health care coordination service that can find an available mental health care provider for you. To access our complimentary coordination services, call 888-515-0595 or visit www.caresolace.com/redmondsd to get started.
Resources for the Community

Substance Abuse (cont.)

Look for signs of vaping. Look for vape devices and vape liquid or juice pods. Some vapes and pods look like a USB drive or common items, like pens. Other signs include: faint scent of flavoring, increase in thirst, increase in nosebleeds, and decrease in caffeine usage.

- Text DITCHVAPE to 88709: Text-based, youth-focused support to quit
- Oregon Quitline (for 13 years and older): Phone, online and text counseling to quit nicotine and cannabis
  - English: 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)
  - quitnow.net/oregon

FRESH TO YOU MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

New Day

1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Text FRESH2REDMONT to 541-577-1673 for reminders when the Fresh to You truck will be in Redmond

Location: Redmond High School Parking Lot
675 SW Rimrock Way

NeighborImpact is an equal opportunity provider.

www.neighborimpact.org
District Updates and Events

Community Forum

Please Join Us

At Ridgeview High School on Wednesday, March 22nd from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for an opportunity to meet the RVHS Principal candidates.

Light refreshments and feedback forms will be provided.

Connecting Kids to Nourishing Food

Do you like working with kids?
Do you care about food justice?
Do you enjoy working alongside communities?

Apply to help foodCorps Service Member at FoodCorps.org/apply

- Service Term: August 2023 - July 2024
- $33,000 living stipend
- Positions available across Oregon
- $6,665 AmeriCorps Stipend Education Award, upon completion of service term.
- Student loan forbearance
- Health insurance is available
- Ongoing training during your service year
- Connect with hundreds of educators and food leaders throughout the country

WE ARE HELPING AND GROWING. APPLY NOW!

Spring Break
March 27-31

Central Oregon Job Fair

Save the Date

When/Where:
March 25th from 1-6 p.m.
Eagle Crest Resort

Who:
Anyone who is looking to join a great team and make a difference in the lives of Redmond students.

Pre-K Screening

Redmond School District offers a Free 12-Day Pre-K Program for 4-year-olds

Registration is opening soon!

Details

Professional Assessments in:

- Behavior
- Development
- Speech
- Hearing
- Vision
- General Pre-K Readiness

When:
April 16th or May 17th
2pm - 6pm

Schedule your appointment today!

Location:
Hugh Hartman Elementary
205 W Antler Ave
Redmond, OR 97756

For more information or to schedule an appointment for your child, contact:

Cheryl Casey
541-925-5437 ext. 1037
cheryl.casey@redmondschools.org

See more upcoming events on our District Calendar
District Updates and Events

Cline's Corner
A message from the superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Despite the continued winter weather, spring is almost here. Spring brings a host of activities that launch right after the break. In the schools, the third trimester has started, indoor winter sports are being replaced by outdoor spring athletics, and seniors are focused on graduation.

As we start to sprint toward the summer. We have a number of things to look forward to:

- Spring Athletics - Please come and attend a spring sport or academic competition. We have students engaged in a wide variety of activities, please come out and support kids doing great things.
- State Assessments* - Please encourage students to do well on the state assessments.
- The results are used to create educational programs for students and schools.
- The Redmond School District is committed to giving both students and parents great customer service. Look for our surveys in April.
- School Board Elections, May 16th - Please remember to vote for your candidates of choice to help lead our district.
- Students are starting their transitions to new schools and grade levels.
- We are still looking for volunteers. Please give your local school a call to make a difference in a child’s life.

As a school district, we have been battered by illnesses this winter. Both students and adults have missed school and work due to various bugs that have sent us home. But as the sun comes out, people can often be tempted to take their children out of school for family activities.

While I understand the temptation, did you know that only 17% of students who miss 10% or more of school during kindergarten and first grade can pass the 3rd grade reading assessment? 64% of students who have regular attendance in Kindergarten and 1st grade pass the 3rd grade reading test. There are a whole host of studies that link attendance to success in school. Let’s try to make up for some lost learning and find reasons to be in the classroom.

Thank you for bringing your child to the Redmond School District. It is our pleasure to work with you to build a bright future for all of our students.

Charan Cline, Ed.D
Superintendent

*Learn why state testing matters [here](#)