



# TWO DISTRICTS. ONE MISSION.



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2

SPRING 2021



## What's Inside:

- Congratulations Class of 2021
- Richmond-Burton Persevered this School Year
- Lorie Schroeder Retires from Richmond Grade School
- Tim Molitor Retires from the Middle School
- Spring Grove Says Goodbye to Diane Olson

## NIPPERSINK SD 2 BOARD OF EDUCATION DEVELOPS LONG-TERM FACILITY PLANS

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Community Members,

Starting in March of 2020, no one could have predicted how quickly our daily routines and lives would be transformed due to the novel Covid-19 virus. The impact of Covid-19 on how students would learn and receive their education presented the greatest challenge that our schools have ever faced. However, regardless of limitations we may have faced on any given day, the focus always remained on ensuring everything possible was being done to meet the needs of each student. This was only possible due to the strong partnership that was developed between our families and our schools.



Moving forward into the next school year, we recognize some students may be struggling with learning loss or have specific social/emotional needs brought about by Covid-19 and the extended school closures. We are currently working to identify and meet these student needs through targeted programs that will be offered this summer and throughout the 2021-22 school year.

To assist in the development of these programs the Joint District Stakeholders Committee was formed. This committee is made up of stakeholders from both school districts and includes board members, school administrators, teachers, parents and students. Through regular meetings, the committee has been able to examine assessment data, parental/student survey responses and direct feedback from students. The work by the Joint District Stakeholders Committee has led to the creation of programs that will address both student learning loss and the social/emotional needs of all students.

As this school year ends, I want to assure you that we are well into the planning phase for the 2021-22 school year, and it promises to be a great year. We look forward to getting back to a more normal school year and enjoying so many of those fall traditions that mark the return to school. Again, thank you to everyone for your continued support of our schools, and enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

*Dr. Tom Lind, Superintendent of Schools*

*Follow me on Twitter @DrTomLind*

Beginning in 2018, Nippersink SD 2 hired Wold Architects and Engineers to develop long-term facility plans to address needed repairs and renovations to the District's schools. Top priorities that were identified through this process were the removal of aging classroom mobiles at each grade school and the need for renovations to the 73-year-old Nippersink Middle School (NMS).

During the last five years, the District has been replacing windows, doors and renovating restrooms at NMS. However, the middle school is in significant need of internal maintenance due to the age and lifespan of most of its mechanicals. These maintenance issues at NMS are scheduled to be addressed during the next step of the long-term facility plan which includes replacement of all piping, boilers, HVAC, roofs and electrical wiring. The long-term facilities plan also includes the renovation of the front office at NMS.

The cost of building a new middle school was explored, but it proved to be significantly more expensive than the total cost for the renovation plans at all three schools. Therefore, the architects and engineers, in consultation with the Nippersink SD 2 Board of Education, have developed a plan to significantly improve our current facilities at a much lower price than it would cost to build a new middle school.

Under this plan, the renovation of NMS would coincide with the removal of the mobile classrooms at both grade schools. However, with each grade school currently near full capacity, the removal of the mobiles would require the repurposing of rooms, the addition of new classrooms and a new learning center at Spring Grove Elementary. In conjunction with these changes, significant enhancements to building security, ventilation and fire suppression systems would take place at all three District schools.

The Nippersink SD 2 Board of Education will continue to work with the architects, engineers, and, most importantly, the community in exploring project cost, potential timelines and how best to fund these needed improvements. Over the next year, the District will hold forums for community members, school staff and local businesses to discuss the proposed long-term facility plans and seek critical input and feedback.



## TIM MOLITOR RETIRES FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fifteen years ago, Nippersink Middle School welcomed Tim Molitor as the building principal. The staff noticed his humor, desire to do what is in the best interest of students and saw how present he was right away. He would always take the time to listen to the needs of staff and was very visible in the building with students. Principal Molitor has decided to retire this year and NMS is sad to see him go.



While Molitor will miss the students and staff, he has great plans for his retirement that include biking, working out, boating, skiing, camping and being a proud grandpa.

Desiree Richards, Associate Principal/Athletic Director, shared, "Tim is an excellent leader and an absolute pleasure to work with. He keeps things lively in the office with his humor and witty personality. It has been an absolute pleasure to work beside him."

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!

- |                               |                          |                               |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jacob David Abate             | Nicole Dorothy Grant     | Dylan Scott Minzey            |
| Caroline Grace Adams          | Claire Ashleigh Gregory  | Yesenia Miah Miranda          |
| Adedeji Foluwasho Adesunloye  | Reymundo Guajardo        | Nicholas Ronald Mrozek        |
| Aaron Joseph Anderson         | Aurelia Dawn Gutierrez   | Austin Nathaniel Nellesen     |
| Rachel Elise Baker            | Garasin Frederic Haley   | Darcie Grace Nestler          |
| Joseph Anthony Baldwin        | Katlyn Marie Hall        | Madeline Shea Noonan          |
| Jacob C. Barthel              | Kody Andrew Hammond      | Alexander John Novak          |
| Tyler Paul Bieder             | Frances Alice Hannigan   | Zofia Renée Obara             |
| Colton Garry Bowerman         | Alexander James Harrison | Layla O'Machel                |
| Rylan Scott Bradley           | Royce Patrick Heaney     | Sarah Noelle Osborn           |
| Kassidy Lorri Brey            | Abbielle Marie Henson    | Thomas Jeffrey Pahl           |
| Hope Stephanie Brown          | Aidan M. Herrick         | Andrea Lynn Paquin            |
| Kaylee Amber Busch            | Roger Lee Hickey Jr.     | Jacob John Petersen           |
| Hugo Steven Campos            | Gavin Paul Higgs         | Nash Ryan Piegł               |
| Chase Michael-Douglas Chapman | Lauren Fu-Ying Hillier   | Zoie Rae Pletcher             |
| Breanna Elizabeth Christensen | Maxwell M. Hilton        | Mackenzie Taylor Popp         |
| Sasha Andriana Cichon         | Austin Thomas Hird       | Caitlin Marie Pruitt          |
| Matthew Thomas Colson         | Grant Nathan Hogan       | Jack Norman Przanowski        |
| Connor Andrew Comein          | Amber Lynn Houle         | Rachel Jean Radke             |
| Caylee Marie Cook             | Jacob Hunter Huber       | Alaina Grace Robinson         |
| Thomas Scott Cooper III       | Kayla Grace Ingalls      | Leland Jay Robinson           |
| Haley Lynn Davids             | Payton Joseph Irslinger  | Molly Elizabeth Rogan         |
| Marcus Santiago DeLeon        | Ricky Lee Johnson        | Matthew Allen Rogers          |
| Carys Keenan De Lucia         | Isabella Hope Kallieris  | Matea Marie Rosendahl         |
| Genevieve Nevena Denkov       | Brian Michael Kantz      | Hannah Christine Schleibinger |
| Kyle Elliot Denzel            | Caroline Ann Keim        | Matthew Joseph Schneider      |
| Jack Mitchell Dipiero         | Maeve Aislinn Kelly      | Trace James Schneider         |
| Ryan Christopher Drdla        | Sean Jacob Kelly         | William R. Slawitschka        |
| Constance Jordyn Duncan       | Emma Jean Klein          | Anthony Barrett Smith         |
| Mitchell Christian Durham     | Jesse Lauren Klicker     | Jillian Summer Smith          |
| Lucas Martin Eckardt          | Cody John Klimek         | Trenton Davis Smith           |
| John Patrick Elder            | Skylar Ann Krasinski     | Aden Frederick Sorensen       |
| Morgan Anna Fakhoury          | Kylee Krysiak            | Jessica Brittany St. Pierre   |
| Rose Marie Felch              | Emily LaBelle            | Olivia Lee Stahl              |
| Samuel Thomas Filczkowski     | Mia Jade LaBelle         | Michael A. Strauss            |
| Isabella Rae Finnen           | Nicholas Carlo Legnaioli | Isabella Zofia Szelepinski    |
| Hailey Marie Fish             | Timothy John Lehn        | Griffin Taylor                |
| Alexis Sandra Fred            | Joshua Matthew Leslie    | Kayla Scott Tanyan            |
| Darien Rose Garbis            | Connor Joseph Lindsey    | Trent Paul-John Turner Jr     |
| Danielle Therese Golemba      | Chloe Lynn Lowry         | John Joseph Vejvoda           |
| Samantha Carol Golemba        | Dakota Ann Mandel        | Blake Michael Volkmar         |
| Skylar Rae Gordon             | Cailin Grace McCallister | Carson C. Webb                |
| Abigail Theresa Graf          | Garett Scott McInnis     | Sierra Marie Wells            |
| Mark Thomas Graham            | Christian Mendoza        | Jane Frances Wisniewski       |
| Lucas Michael Grant           | Catherine Louise Miller  | Samantha Rose Zimmer          |



## LORIE SCHROEDER RETIRES FROM RICHMOND GRADE SCHOOL

As each year comes to a close, there are always announcements of retirements that never get easier to hear. This news always brings feelings of sadness, excitement and accomplishment. Lorie Schroeder's time here will never be forgotten.



Schroeder is retiring after 30 years of working at Richmond Grade School. She began her career as a substitute in 1991. At the time she actually did not want to work at RGS because her children were students here and she was worried it might cause a conflict of interest. However, as soon as she walked in and began to sub, she felt very differently. Schroeder said as a staff member she could just feel the love in the building and knew she had found a place she wanted to stay for the rest of her career. Two years later in 1993 she was hired to teach first grade and has stayed in that position ever since; she's even had the same classroom all these years! As she moves onto the next chapter in her life, Schroeder plans to spend lots of time with her grandchildren, quilt, read and hopefully travel to England and Ireland. She is ready to move on but will miss her RGS family. She says, "The love is still here, just like it was in 1991."

## SPRING GROVE SAYS GOODBYE TO WONDERFUL MUSIC TEACHER

Diane Olson has been teaching at Spring Grove Elementary for 24 years. Every year she looked forward to meeting new students and growing their love for music. This year Olson has decided to retire.



When she first came to Spring Grove, she taught K-5 general music, beginning band and 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band. As the school district grew, she focused on being the K-5 general music teacher. Every year that she was at Spring Grove, she put on a Christmas program in December and a Grandparent's Day program in the spring. In the last couple of years, she added a Veteran's Day program during the day for all of the veterans in the area. Veteran's Day and the program really mean a lot to her as her dad is a veteran.

Music has come a long way in her years of teaching. When Olson first started, she was using records, cassettes and eight tracks, now she teaches students with computers, mp3 players and bluetooth.

One thing is for sure though, Olsen shared, "Music is a gift that no one can ever take away from you." She also commented, "Teaching music in the Nippersink District 2 all these years has been a gift to me. I will miss everyone! The students, the parents, the grandparents, the teachers and staff, the administration, and most importantly I will miss all of the great music teachers I have collaborated and worked with over the years at RGS, NMS and RBCHS!!!"

**Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 & Nippersink SD 2 are complying with CDC and state COVID guidelines for health and safety.**

## YOU'RE INVITED!

The Richmond-Burton Community H.S. Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the third Wednesday of each calendar month at 7 pm. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Nippersink School District 2 Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each calendar month at 7 pm. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

## RICHMOND-BURTON CHSD 157 SCHOOL BOARD

Tracy Highley ..... President  
 Jennifer Read ..... Vice-President  
 Steve Hotz ..... Secretary  
 Elizabeth Furlan ..... Member  
 Joe Keim ..... Member  
 Jeremy Miller ..... Member  
 Oscar Ramirez ..... Member

## NIPPERSINK SD 2 SCHOOL BOARD

Liz Young ..... President  
 Elke Kleisch ..... Vice-President  
 Marcy Garrison ..... Secretary  
 Joel Johnson ..... Member  
 Joe Quinn ..... Member  
 Robin Taylor ..... Member  
 Carl Uphoff ..... Member

## OUR PHONE NUMBERS

Richmond-Burton Community H.S. .... (815) 678-4525  
 Nippersink Middle School ..... (815) 678-7129  
 Spring Grove Elementary ..... (815) 678-6750  
 Richmond Grade School ..... (815) 678-4717

## OUR WEBSITES:



[www.rb157.org](http://www.rb157.org)



[www.nippersinkdistrict2.org](http://www.nippersinkdistrict2.org)



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2  
 8311 Illinois Route 31  
 Richmond, IL 60071

Non-Profit Org.  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Milford, IN  
 Permit No. 2

## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

## RICHMOND-BURTON PERSEVERED THIS SCHOOL YEAR

The 2020-21 school year was no walk in the park. There were new rules, new procedures and a whole lot more on everyone's shoulders. The Richmond-Burton students and staff sure came together as a team and overcame so many obstacles this year.

The Arbor Management food service team acted right away when the pandemic started by delivering meals to the community. Once students were back in the building, the team swiftly transitioned to in-person meals, and now the team is executing a full menu each day.

Teachers, students and families adjusted to four different hybrid models throughout the year while still maintaining motivation, high standards and perseverance. The staff and students learned brand new software programs like Zoom and Schoology to navigate an uncharted landscape of education. Luckily, these are skills that will not be forgotten and will be utilized in their future. Teachers learned to instruct at-home and in-building students at the same time, which is as hard as it sounds, but the Richmond-Burton teaching staff went above and beyond to reach all students. Extra-curricular activities continued thanks to the coaches and players working together to follow guidelines. They even worked together when sports schedules were forced to overlap.

Richmond-Burton High School and the Richmond-Burton District have a lot to be proud of from this past school year. It is apparent that they can handle anything that is thrown their way.



## RICHMOND-BURTON SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-21

June 1 ..... Summer School Begins  
 June 2 ..... Beginning of IHSA Playoffs for Spring Athletics  
 June 7 ..... Beginning of Summer Sport Camps

## NIPPERSINK SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-21

June 23 ..... Nippersink SD 2 BOE meeting  
 July 12-Aug 6 ..... Online registration  
 Aug 18 ..... First Day of School