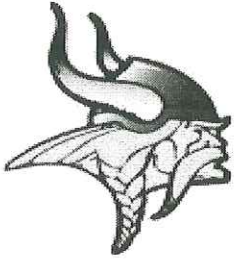


RILEY NEWSNOTES

RILEY COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL



DISTRICT 18
9406 RILEY ROAD
MARENGO, IL 60152
PHONE: 815-568-8637
FAX: 815-568-3709
www.riley18.org

CHRISTINE CONKLING, SUPERINTENDENT
FRANK VICARI, PRINCIPAL
ELIZABETH SHEAHAN, SECRETARY
KAREN SCHNABLE, BUSINESS MANAGER

Vol. 42 No. 6
FEBRUARY 2022

FROM
SUPERINTENDENT
CONKLING'S DESK



Inclement Weather

We still have quite a bit more winter to come and will likely experience some more adverse weather conditions. All students need to know what to do and where to go in the event of an emergency closing during the day. Being prepared is extremely important, as phone calls are not an option for us due to limited time and telephone lines. We will send out a call through our automated system if this would happen. We also do our best to keep the buses running on schedule, but it is not

unusual for buses to be delayed up to 10 minutes as they get farther into the route on bad weather days. They start out on schedule but slow travel due to slick or snow covered roads can quickly get a route behind schedule. Your patience on these days is greatly appreciated as we want to ensure that all students arrive to school and home safely.

Attendance and Student Health

We have been working to implement the new 5-day isolation and quarantine guidelines for Covid-19. Under these guidelines, a student or staff member could return to school if they have tested positive for Covid-19 or have been identified as a close contact on the 7th day from symptom start or positive test results. Return to school is dependent on whether a

person's symptoms have subsided enough as to not cause a disruption at school and they are feeling well enough to attend. We are definitely seeing a difference in how cases present themselves with the Omicron variant. Most adults and students that have had positive tests have had mild cold symptoms such as congestion, runny nose, sore throat, cough, and tiredness. Please be sure to take any of these symptoms as possible symptoms of Covid-19. We ask that you keep your child(ren) home should they or their siblings exhibit these symptoms. We have seen an increase in positive cases over the last few weeks. Hopefully, as we move farther away from the holiday season, we will see a decline in the number of students out.

RILEY NEWSNOTES

Through our SHIELD testing, we have been able to detect many cases that started with no symptoms. As the days progress, minor symptoms have occurred and it has spread to family members. However, I feel that the mild symptoms are often getting overlooked and students that are sick are interacting with others outside of school where protocols are not followed as they are here at school. Please keep this in mind as we know this variant seems to spread much more easily between people, especially those in the same home. Some families with students who tested positive were aware of minor symptoms, but ignored them and sent students to school. This really puts us in a difficult situation as it increases the number of students that have to be removed from school due to exposure.

The quick turnaround time for students returning has also created some stress

and extra work for the teaching staff here. If a student is only going to be out for a couple of days, we may not send home a Chromebook. That will be at the discretion of the teachers. Many are finding it easier to help the students get caught up when they return.

If you need to test your child(ren) because they have symptoms, we are able to accept rapid tests at this time. We recommend that you go to a reputable medical provider in order to have that testing done. Many of the pop-up testing facilities have come under serious scrutiny recently as testing practices have been questioned and results are not being reported in a timely manner or to the appropriate government agencies. Many false negative tests have occurred on rapid tests and the individual has later been shown positive in PCR test results. No matter the testing, if a test

result is still pending, students need to stay home until all results have been received.

The health department has continued to tweak their guidance to us, and updates happen weekly. Some procedures and protocols can change quickly as we receive this new guidance and there are specific guidelines for different types of situations. Be sure to call the office to get the most current guidance if your child is experiencing symptoms.



Automated Phone System

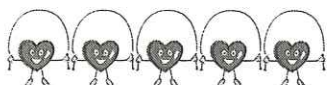
Please be sure to update the office of phone number change(s). This allows us to insure you are getting the emergency messages through our automated calling system.

RILEY NEWSNOTES



RILEY VIKING AWARD WINNERS

Viking award winners for the month of December were 7th Grader Megan Kaczkos and 6th Grader Adrian Johnson. At the January 19, 2022 meeting of the Board of Education, these two students were recognized for their accomplishments.



KIDS HEART CHALLENGE “We’re on Board with the Heart Heroes”

All grades will be participating to raise donations for the American Heart Association starting on Friday, February 28, 2022. All students will have a kickoff on February 28 during PE.

Why is this important? Heart disease is the nation’s number one killer. Stroke is the fourth leading cause of death. Almost a third of U.S. children and adolescents

between the ages of two and nineteen are overweight or obese. Children who are obese are more than twice as likely to die before the age of 55. Sixty-one percent of children ages 9-13 aren’t physically active outside of school. On average, American children and adolescents spend nearly four hours watching television every day. About 90% of Americans eat too much sodium. Don’t forget this fundraiser also benefits the PE Department adding equipment to be used in all grades.

Online fundraising is available and super easy for the students to use. Students have already been given a “save the date” with the link for online registration in it. Students can also download the app to a smartphone to get their “heroes” to come alive. Want to get a jump start on keeping that heart of yours healthy? Sign up [HERE!](https://www2.heart.org/site/TR?jsessionid=00000000.app359a?company_id=346799&fr_id=6319&pg=company&NONCE_TOKEN=D9A78353BB89C030AED701F48760EE80)

https://www2.heart.org/site/TR?jsessionid=00000000.app359a?company_id=346799&fr_id=6319&pg=company&NONCE_TOKEN=D9A78353BB89C030AED701F48760EE80

We can’t wait to share all of our class incentives with our students once we Kick-off!

Mrs. Mortimer & Mr. Rogers
The P.E. Department



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2022-2023

Kindergarten registration will be held on **Friday, February 11, 2022 from 10A-2P**. At time of registration please bring in your child’s original birth certificate (or official copy from the county where they were born) and two forms of “proof of residency.”

If you have any questions, or are unable to register at the above-mentioned time, please call Riley School.

RILEY NEWSNOTES



PRESCHOOL SCREENING & PROGRAMMING

Marengo-Union School District #165 & Riley School District #18

Marengo-Union School District #165 & Riley School District #18 are currently accepting screening appointments for their Preschool Program. Screenings are available in English and Spanish for children 2 years, nine months through 5 years of age. Children who need additional evaluations will be referred to the building Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Team. To schedule an appointment, please call Locust School, 815 568-7632. The preschool program is a State of Illinois grant-funded joint initiative between Marengo-Union School District and Riley School District. It is housed at Locust Elementary School and eligible children are determined following a mandatory screening administered by Locust School staff. The program is a regular preschool program and is free of cost for those eligible. Transportation is included. The purpose of the grant-funded program is to provide a regular education,

high quality, preschool program to qualifying families. The program meets Monday-Friday, half day – either AM or PM classes (2.5 hours in length).

Our Early Childhood Education Preschool Program (ECE) is designed for students with special needs. Students in ECE are eligible for special education as determined through a District 165 evaluation team.

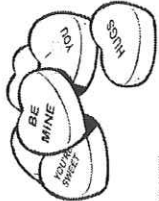


I am excited to announce the start of the Kane County Cougars Reading Club. The eight week event will begin on Monday, January 24, 2022 and end on Friday, March 18, 2022. After completing the 8 week program students will be given a ticket to one of two Cougar games either Sunday, May 15, at 1pm or Saturday, May 28, at 6:30pm. They will also receive a voucher for a hotdog and drink as well as one for a drawstring bag. Parents will be able to purchase tickets prior to

the conclusion of the program. I highly encourage all students to participate as it's a great way to continue to encourage reading, support the Cougars and have a little fun in the process. I have been told there will be fireworks at the May 28th game!!



RILEY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU FEBRUARY 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	<p>1</p> <p>Sloppy Joe Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Chicken Salad Sandwich Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Chicken Fajita Casserole Rice Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Breakfast Casserole Yogurt Fruit Biscuit</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Soft Shell Taco Cheese/Lettuce Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Pancakes Hashbrown Fruit Yogurt</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Orange Chicken Rice Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Walking Taco Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>11</p> <p>NO LUNCH 11:30 DISMISSAL</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Sauce Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Chicken Patty Sandwich Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Hamburger Vegetable Fruit</p>
<p>21</p> <p>NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Hot Dog Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Popcorn Chicken Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Corn Dog Nuggets Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Pizza Vegetable Fruit</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Meatball Sub Vegetable Fruit</p>	<p>Lunch Ticket Prices 20 Day - \$63.00 5 Day - \$15.75 20 Day Milk - \$7.00</p>	<p>Choice of milk served daily with meals: 1% White Fat-free Chocolate Skim</p>	