

Rr Schools

YOUR SOURCE FOR ROCKY RIVER SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to the

Class of 2015



Class of 2015 Valedictorian

Emily Fox



Class of 2015 Salutatorian

Monica McDonough

On June 5, 213 members of the Rocky River High School Class of 2015 received their diplomas during commencement ceremonies at Lakewood Civic Auditorium. We are proud to highlight some of the achievements of the Class of 2015 in this issue of the Rr Schools.

Appointed to Board of Education



At the June meeting, the Rocky River Board of Education appointed Rick Manoloff to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jay Milano.

Board president Scott Swartz notes that “Rick has a wealth of experience in advising school districts throughout Ohio on legal and school finance issues. He has great skill in collaboratively working through complex situations. Not only are we fortunate that Rick is a Rocky River resident, but also that he has a passion for our school district and is willing to give his time for service on the Board of Education.”

RRHS Welcomes New Principal



When students return to Rocky River High School in the fall, they will be greeted by Rob Winton, who is taking over for retiring principal Debra Bernard. Mr. Winton has served as an assistant and associate principal at Chagrin Falls High School, an art teacher in the Kenston Local Schools and coached basketball and cross-country.

“We are fortunate to have Rob Winton join our administrative team,” remarked Superintendent Dr. Michael Shoaf. “His experience with curriculum, evaluation, strategic planning and student exchange opportunities will enhance our programs at Rocky River High School.”

“I look forward to taking on the role of RRHS Principal and am excited about joining such an great organization,” said Mr. Winton.

Rocky River High School 2015 National Honor Society Inductees



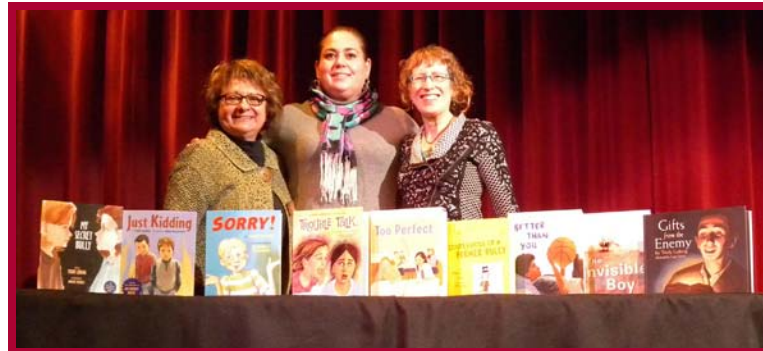
Rocky River Education Foundation

Rocky River Education Foundation continues its tradition of support to the Rocky River schools by awarding over \$29,000 in grants during the 2014-2015 school year.

“The Foundation continues to ‘raise the bar’ by funding grant requests from teachers, administrators and student groups twice each school year. Our mission is, and continues to be, that we enhance the quality of the educational experience in the Rocky River City School District,” explains RREF President Michelle Pike.

Some of the 2014-2015 grant awards include funding for--

- Music therapy enrichment from a certified music therapist for Goldwood’s preschool program.
- Math work stations for kindergarten classes at Goldwood Primary School.
- Musical instruments for the Goldwood music classroom.
- Popular fiction for the 6th grade class to meet its “40 Book Challenge.”
- Twenty-five manipulatives--“clickers”--for RRMS’s 7th grade math classes and various math related card games to enhance learning.
- Participation for students from RRMS and RRHS in the National History Day competition.
- Hardware for a “build your own computer” project for the Computer Science Program at RRHS.
- Materials for an Introduction to Paint Marbling workshop for the RRHS art department. This unique experience included instruction from artist Steven Pittelkow.
- Keyboard/synthesizer for the Vocal Music Department at RRHS.
- Technology for the RRHS Makerspace lab.



Rocky River Board of Education member Jean A. Rounds and assistant superintendent Elizabeth Anderson join author Trudy Ludwig (right) before her evening presentation to parents about bullying and what children can do to protect themselves and their friends. Ms. Ludwig’s visit was partially sponsored by RREF.

In addition to its grant program, RREF continues its funding efforts for the Rocky River City School District Speaker Series. This year, RREF was proud to help sponsor children’s author Trudy Ludwig who visited both Goldwood and Kensington schools.

RREF is also helping to sponsor a visit from best-selling author Jodi Picoult. Picoult will speak to the entire student body at RRHS this December. Each RRHS student will read a Picoult novel this summer as inspiration for an original fiction project.

Support for our students does not end at graduation. RREF works with a host of generous donors to administer scholarships to RRHS college bound seniors. We are proud to announce that at the Spring Recognition Ceremony on May 21st, over \$45,000 in 41 scholarships were awarded to the class of 2015.

With the generosity of the Rocky River community, local businesses, and RRCS’s teachers, staff, and administration, Rocky River Education Foundation continues its mission to help enrich the educational experiences of our students.

For more information about RREF and its mission, visit rredfoundation.org.

History Comes Alive at the Fourth Grade Wax Museum

When you see Woody Hayes, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Gloria Steinem, John D. Rockefeller, Drew Carey, and Dorothy Day in the same room, you know you’re at the Kensington Intermediate Fourth Grade Wax Museum.

On Friday, June 2, each member of the fourth grade class presented his or her living report about a famous Ohioan. Students researched a person, wrote a two-minute, first-person presentation, and memorized it. Students also assembled a costume and gathered props. Part of each student’s collection of props was some sort of button. These ranged from a non-functioning light switch to a handmade creepy skull on a spring (for Goosebumps author R.L. Stine) to a circle drawn on a piece of paper.

Students stood or sat, posed as their character, waiting for museum visitors to come by and press their button. Many a visitor who tried to engage a figure in conversation quickly learned that wax figures cannot talk, interact, or move unless activated.

Noelle Yohman, a fourth-grade teacher who is also one of the social studies teachers, explains that the Wax Museum is the culmination of an in-depth, multi-disciplinary unit. Not only does this obviously tie in to their education about the State of Ohio, but they learn how to use biographies, take notes, write a report, memorize text, and speak in front of an audience.

Many visitors remarked on how well-prepared the students were, with every one smoothly and confidently reciting his or her biography. As Mrs. Yohman notes, the process is carefully guided by teachers as part of the Social Studies curriculum: “The children get four to five weeks to work on their Wax Museum Project and teachers have check points along the way to be sure all are on the right track.”

Kensington’s annual Fourth Grade Wax Museum was a successful wrap-up to an educational unit that came alive, literally, for students and visitors alike.



Larry Doby is portrayed by Ely Jenkins

Class of 2015



Francis Samir Achour • Noah Gordon Adams • Margaret Anne Adler • Bridget Mary Akin • Ammar Issam Alhakim • Sydney Paige Alibeckoff • Omar A. Alshaikhli • Claire Frances Anderer-Armstrong • Alan José Arancibia • Klentina Arifi • Adam Assad • Caroline Ann Auzenbergs • Samuel Anthony Barrow • Rei Basho • Rachel Elise Bednarski • Brendan John Charles Benson • Kaitlyn Elizabeth Bobbitt • Brandon Lee Bouchaya • Lucy Elizabeth Bowers • Sean Patrick Cain • Tessa Jane Carelli • Tess Madeline Carroll • Serena Josefina Celeste • Erika Hajdamár Chmielewski • John Alan Clark • Claire Elizabeth Combes • Grace Ann Combes • Sara Victoria Connelly • Patrick Martin Connors • Brendan Doyle Cooney, II • Devon Andrew Corcoran • Caroline Claire Cornelius • David Andrew Cox • Maleena Mary Cratcha • Sarah Delaney Danzinger • Mysha R. de Jong • Mary Elizabeth Devito • Meghan Mariah Donnelly • Mazzi Michelle Drinkwater • Hanss Mehmet Dushku • Daniel Lee Eddy • Lily Anna Eyring • Carolyn Grace Farling • David Michael Fiorvante • Chad Douglas Fischback • Meaghan Eileen Fitzgerald • Joelle Elizabeth Fleming • Emma Grace Flynn • Elizabeth Ryan Foley •

Michelle Kimberly Fordos • Emily Therese Fox • Jacob Lyle Freesty • David Wilson Furry, Jr. • Hannah Gabriella Gannon • Vaughn Edward Garten, Jr. • Julia Grace Gentner • Allison Marie Giorgi • Rikardo Gogaj • Addison Patrick Gorenc • Emma Nicole Grant • Katelyn Marie Gregg • Camden James Grendow • Valerie Griffiths • Amanda Winifred Grossman • Alexander Scot Hafko • Kara Michelle Hall • Sydney Kay Hamker • Gabrielle Nicole Hammarlund • Zyhra Hamzaj • Fiona Elain Harkin-Newsome • Enxhi Harunaj • Ethan Charles Heald • Kayla Marie Healy • Cameron Scott Heider • Isabella Mia Heimke • Maxwell Stephan Herron • Hannah Elizabeth Hetman • Darby Kathleen Hickey • Emily Erin Holcomb • Jillian Marie Hollis • Rosemary Patricia Holtz • Corrinne Elizabeth Horvath • Nadja Hoxha • Victoria Anne Hvizda • Julia Marie Inks • Tierra Camia Jackson • Alexis Nicole Janke • Jack Edward Janosik • Alai Jaser • Conner Scott Jurs • Eric Andrew Kanner • Madeline Maeve Kelley • Edward Patrick Kelly • John Thomas Kelly • Sally Claire Kershner • Fiona McGuire Kessler • Hayden Joseph Kind • James William Kinsley • Sutton Harris Klodnick • John James Klucznik • Michael William Knapp • Christian Alexander Kneubel • Jessie Katherine Koberg • Matthew Michael Kocur • Mollie Aleene Kopp • Riley Walter Kosch • Mallory Teresa Krajcer • Jillian Page Krebs • Leonardo Krizanovic • Libby McConaughy Kurfis • Cameron Kelley Kysela • Anna-Maija Josefina Laine • Matthew Martin Lowry • Daniel Patrick Mahoney • Jacob Anthony Malburg • Jack David Mallett • Nathaniel Manns • Emanuel Angelo Marotta • Gary Lee Matthews • Frances Bernhardt McAfee • Lea Christine McClure • Monica Grace McDonough • Connor Joseph McFarland • Tess Marie McNamara • Elisabeth Price Mead • Ezekiel Daniel Meeker • Brian Michael Meermans • Ledja Metaj • Mason Paul Mocho • Alexis Taylor Mod • Anthony Ryan Mod • Justin Alexander Monte • Oliver Pikus Moreau • Ashley Marie Moreman • Michael Francis Morice • Patrick Scott Morse • Lauren Elizabeth Murphy • Rei Ndoni • Chase Odell Newby • Ceara Aine O'Connor • Nathaniel John O'Halla • Isabella Marie Olivo • Steven James Pappadakes • Marlina Diana Paulic • Kathryn Sydney Paull • Emily Lynn Pawluk • Kejda Pelari • Christian Edward Perez • Catherine Elise Peters • Guido Kolos Pinter • Ryan Joseph Radanovich • Yousif Nasir Rahman • Orlando Manuel Real • Connor Richard Reinhard • Kathryn Ivory Rieg • Jordan Elyse Riha • Hannah Lee Robison • Nicholas Manco Rodgers • Juliana Evelyn Rodriguez • Nathan Edwin Roldan • Nicole Marie Rosenbaum • Haley Eleanor Rosiak • Nathan Thomas Rouse • Viola Rreza • Zachary Frank Ruebsteck • Gabriela Marie Ruffus • Morgan Colucci Russell • Sam Philip Russell • Alison Miehl Salisbury • Tudor Sebastian Sandu • Maria Fernanda Sanhueza Herrera • Brett Matthew Scherzer • Quincy Edison Schmidt • Eva Marie Schneider • Megan Elisabeth Schulte • William Kenneth Schulz • George P.C. Schumacker, V • Mallory Quinn Scott • Sean Marie Scotten • Nathan J. Seffernick • Rebecca Ann Shaffer • Cristal Michele Smith • James Lendell Smith • Travis John Smith • Zenaida Verbena Smith • Shiloh Olivia Snavely • Patrick Joseph Sperli • Bradley Michael Sprau • Christopher William Spreng • John Byron St. Pierre • Olivia Ruth Stafford • Samuel Donald Stankivicz • Ethan Edward Steele • Travis Jeffrey Stohr • Chloe Celeste Stryker • Cody Robert Suarez • William Edward Summers • Alexandra Talpa • Connor Patrick Thorp • Emily Kathleen Upton • Carmen Frances Valencia • Jessica Mae Vitou • Tristin Chase Warland • Elizabeth Ann Weger • Adam David Wenner • London Tru Weston • Brendan Christopher Whitman • Brandon Paul Williams • Cody Richard Wintucky • Rebecca Anne Wuest • Tianhe Xu • Violet Melinda Yeager • Corey Hays Zucker



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Class of 2015 earned in excess of \$5.6 million in scholarships to help them pursue college and university degrees.

- The **Rocky River High School Alumni Association** awarded scholarships to Alison Salisbury & Sally Kershner.
- The **Danny Scherry Memorial Scholarship** was awarded to Rei Basho.
- Caroline Auzenbergs and Kathryn Paull were awarded scholarships by the **Rocky River Teachers Association**.
- The **Ohio Association of Public School Employees #381** awarded scholarships to Samuel Barrow and Vaughn Garten.
- The **Rocky River Middle School September 11th Memorial Fund** presented Nathan Seffernick with a \$500 scholarship.
- Emily Fox, Frances McAfee, Monica McDonough, John St. Pierre and Samuel Stankivicz are National Merit Finalists.
- Daniel Mahoney is a **National Merit Semi-Finalist**.
- Devon Corcoran, Fiona Harkin-Newsome, Corrinne Horvath, Alexis Mod, Nathaniel O'Halla, and Tudor Sandu are **National Merit Scholarship Corporation Commended Students**.



Rocky River Education Foundation Scholarship Program

Francis Achour, Sydney Alibeckoff, Rachel Bednarski, Brendan Benson, Lucy Bowers, Tess Carroll, Erika Chmielewski, John Clark, Mary DeVito, Meghan Donnelly, Carolyn Farling, Emma Flynn, Emily Fox, Alexander Hafko, Kara Hall, Isabella Heimke, Rosemary Holtz, Julia Inks, Eric Kanner, Sally Kershner, Christian Kneubel, Mollie Kopp, Frances McAfee, Lea McClure, Monica McDonough, Brian Meermans, Ashley Moreman, Ceara O'Connor, Catherine Peters, Juliana Rodriguez, Alison Salisbury, Tudor Sandu, Eva Schneider, Rebecca Shaffer, John St. Pierre, Samuel Stankivicz, Elizabeth Weger, Brandon Williams and Violet Yeager



Hall of Fame Inductees

Monica McDonough, John St. Pierre, Emily Fox, Samuel Stankivicz and Frances McAfee: National Merit Finalists



Hall of Fame Inductees

Patrick Connors and Matthew Lowry: All-Ohio Football

S AND AWARDS



Awards of Distinction

Kathryn Paul and Alison Salisbury: *“Best It Can Be” Award*
Cameron Kysela, Justin Monte, John St. Pierre: *Principal’s Positive Influence Award*
Julia Inks, Monica McDonough and William Summers: *Principal’s Leadership Award*
Jillian Krebs: *All-Ohio Academic Team Recognition*
Nicholas Rodgers and Patrick Sperli: *Student Council Leadership - All Four Years*



Medical Mutual Scholarship

Hannah Robison is presented the Medical Mutual Scholarship by RRHS assistant principal Jeff Schultz.



Scholarship Recipients

Back Row: Rei Basho, Chase Newby, Jillian Krebs, Alan Arancibia, Nicole Rosenbaum and Sean Cain
Front Row: Caroline Auzenbergs, Hannah Hetman, Fiona Harkin-Newsome, Violet Yeager and Justin Monte



Athletic Recognition

Patrick Sperli: *OHSAA Respect the Game Award*
Carolyn Farling: *U.S. Army Reserve Scholar Athlete Award*
Jessica Koberg: *OHSAA Courageous Student Award*
John Clark: *Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship*
Kaitlyn Bobbitt: *Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award*
Eva Schneider: *NFHS/OHSAA State Award for Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity*
Mary DeVito: *U.S.M.C. Scholastic Achievement Award*
Ethan Heald: *“Goody” Marcks Sportsmanship Award*



Meta Kramer Scholarship

Corrinne Horvath, Brandon Bouchaya, Hannah Hetman and Tess Carroll

Any errors or omissions are unintentional.

RRHS Makerspace is at the Forefront of a Movement



Rocky River High School art students designed and printed Cleveland landmarks, including the Terminal Tower, FirstEnergy Stadium and the Great Lakes Science Center.

Students at Rocky River High School now have the opportunity to design, prototype, collaborate, and create items using hands-on technology. Dr. Dianna Foley, the district's Executive Director of Communications and Technology, saw a need for a Makerspace (as these centers are commonly known) as part of the district's commitment to graduating students who are "Globally Competitive." "I feel that an area where we had room for growth was having a more hands-on space for technology," Dr. Foley explains. "Something that isn't a part of a formal class where students can work together and ideas can germinate." In the room, which is located off of the media center, students can work with sewing and embroidery machines, 3D printers, SketchUp software, and a vinyl cutter.

"Technology never stands still," Dr. Foley points out. "Students have to be able to adapt to new technology." Having the opportunity to work, hands-on, with different sorts of programs and platforms in high school helps students feel more comfortable experimenting with new things.

The room is staffed whenever it's open by Mrs. Megan Milner, an Educational Aide. Mrs. Milner has been impressed with the way the students collaborate on projects in Makerspace. "It's neat to see kids interact with each other," she says. "Projects are coming together into something larger. It's bigger than an individual piece or an individual student." One English class, she says, created 3D chess pieces based on characters from Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Dr. Foley is impressed with the creative problem-solving that's being encouraged by the technology available in the Makerspace. "One student created and printed a knob to replace one that broke on a GoPro camera," she notes. "Another student needed a wrench that wouldn't scratch his car when he used it and so he created and printed one."

Student Technicians can train to help out their peers during the hours Makerspace is open. They can earn service hours for Key Club, National Honor Society, or college entry by logging hours. One student, Mrs. Milner says, came in on a Monday, taught himself to use a piece of equipment, and by Thursday knew it well enough to teach its operation to a class of students who came in.

"The more comfortable these students are at figuring out how to use things," Dr. Foley says, "the better off they'll be in college and in life." She points out that by the time students graduate from Rocky River High School, they will have used many different tools on many different

platforms. "They'll be flexible enough to have the skills to apply their knowledge of how one platform works to another one they're encountering for the first time," Dr. Foley says.

Rocky River High School's Makerspace is looking ahead, and for next year Dr. Foley hopes to add even more equipment to what's available, including a digital circuit printer and robotics. Down the line, the space will certainly be adding things that haven't even been invented yet.

Goldwood First Graders Take a Trip to D.C.



First grade students at Goldwood Primary School performed a collection of poems, songs and recitations about Washington, D.C. for their families and friends.

On May 22, first graders at Goldwood Primary School took a trip to Washington D.C. and brought the audience full of parents, grandparents, and friends along with them.

Dressed in red, white, and blue and wearing tri-cornered hats they made, the students performed a collection of poems, songs, and recitations. The show opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and closed with a rousing rendition of God Bless America.

Four students portrayed The Goldwoods, a family taking a tour of our nation's capital. The Goldwoods stopped by The Capitol, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, all three branches of government, and other notable landmarks. At each stop, the Gooldwood Family was met by a group of guides (fellow students) who answered their questions.

Students learned about everything from the impressive heights of the buildings to the workings of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The preparation for the Washington D.C. "trip" goes beyond learning songs and memorizing lines. The performance is actually the culmination of a unit on our nation's capital. First-grade teacher Mrs. Amy Baruxes explains, "We all teach a unit on Washington D.C. and the kids become experts! The program is a collaboration between all of the first grade teachers and our music teacher, Karen Mahoney."

The first grade Washington D.C. program was the ideal way to kick off Memorial Day weekend. Mrs. Baruxes noted, "All of the students were excited for the show. They loved learning the songs and sharing the special show with their families." Their excitement was evident in their boundless enthusiasm.

RRMS Principal's Award Reception



The following students were recognized in June for having earned straights As on their report cards for eight or more quarters during their three years in middle school: Michelle Auvil, Nastasia Braun, Katherine Burgess, Jacob Cain, Gillian Champoir, Allison Contenza, Susan Cox, Elizabeth Douglas, Filip Dunjic, Alexandra Gluntz, Margaret Grant, Adam Hackett, Antoniu Ilias, Owen Jaite, Tommy Kelly, Isabella Mediate, Elisabeth Milius, Cameron Morris, Raygan Murray, Valentin Neculaescu, Alexis Opdycke, Julia Panyard, Sarah Robertson, Sasha Ruffus, Vivian Sessions, Madeline Smith, Rachel Solecki, Owen Stickney, Hanna Thesken, Marissa Ulchaker, Charlotte Weixel, Grace Willse and Stella Wischmeier.

Sophomores Collaborate with Hiram College, Yale University

A recent collaboration between Rocky River High School, Hiram College, and Yale University gave Rocky River High School Sophomores the opportunity to take part in a national scientific study. Biology teacher Ann Brokaw teamed up with Dr. Brad Goodner, a professor at Hiram College, to take part in the Prevalence of Antibiotic-Resistant Microbes in the Environment (PARE) project at Yale University.

First, Ms. Brokaw and her sophomore biology students collected soil samples from four locations in Rocky River. Then, on Friday, May 1st, Dr. Goodner brought five of his microbiology undergraduate students to Rocky River High School during the sophomores' biology period. The undergraduates trained the high schoolers in serial dilution and plating of the bacterial samples. The college students also trained the sophomores to analyze the plates.

The class went very well, Ms. Brokaw reports. "My students worked really well with the college kids," she says. "They got to use some lab equipment they hadn't had experience with."

The samples were incubated over the weekend, and on May 4, the high school students analyzed each plate, made calculations, took photos, recorded the data, and uploaded it to a national database. The goal of the Yale program, Ms. Brokaw explains, is to identify the presence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the environment. (Of the four samples the students collected, three showed the presence of such bacteria, with two that met the required threshold). Schools across the country are taking part in the PARE project, and once all the results are uploaded into the database, that information will be available to Ms. Brokaw, who will make further connections to the science curricula, like discussions, questions, and class topics.

Ms. Brokaw notes that she participated in the study in order to give her sophomore biology students a chance to take part in an authentic research experience. Those students who are already considering a career in science got the opportunity to see what it's like to do authentic research, while all the students had the chance to work alongside undergraduate science students. In addition, "[this opportunity] might turn a kid on to doing science who hadn't considered it as a future path before," Ms. Brokaw notes. "Also, even for kids who don't pursue science, this experience improves their science literacy, and it educates them as global citizens" about the topic of antibiotic resistance.

In the future, she continues, these kids may be more likely to partake in "citizen science" opportunities, like collecting data on Monarch butterflies or bird migration patterns.

Ms. Brokaw hopes there may be future opportunities relating to the PARE program, for instance, if the organizers want to see data over time from the same sites. Even if not, she says, she has told Dr. Goodner that she is eager to have her students collaborate with his again in the future.



Micaela Lippert, Neuroscience major at Hiram College, assists Rocky River High School student Grace Nanni with the bacterial samples used in the PARE project.



ECRWSS Local Residential Customer

Rocky River Board Of Education

1st row: Scott Swartz, President and Kathleen Goepfert, Vice President
2nd row: Jon Fancher, Jean A. Rounds and Rick Manoloff

Search for Children with Disabilities

The Rocky River City School District, along with districts across the state, is participating in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children from birth to age 21 who may have a disability. A disability is a condition such as speech or language impairments, hearing impairments, visual impairments, learning disabilities, behavioral, multiple or severe handicaps, intellectual impairment, or other health impairments. If you have a concern about a child, please contact the Pupil Services Department at 356-6006.

Grants

Each year the school district receives federal and state money through several grants. If you have questions or would like to provide input for Title VI-B, Preschool Children with Disability, and/or Title III, Limited English Proficient, please contact the Director of Pupil Services at 356-6006. If you have questions or would like to provide input for Title I or Title II-A Professional Development Program, please contact the Assistant Superintendent at 356-6001.



Senior Prom

Brian Meermans and Paige Baehr are shown in front of one of the magnificent murals at the Cuyahoga County Courthouse, which was the venue for this year's prom.



After Prom

This year's After Prom theme was RRHS Class of 2015 to Infinity and Beyond. The spirit rock was decorated by senior parents as an alien from the movie Toy Story.

Important Dates • 2015-2016

August 20/21.....	New Teacher Orientation
August 24.....	Teacher Professional Day
August 25.....	First Day of School
September 7.....	Labor Day
September 8.....	First Day of Preschool
October 16.....	NEOEA Day
November 12.....	Parent Conference Day
November 13.....	Teacher Professional Day
November 25/26/27.....	Thanksgiving Vacation
December 21.....	Winter Vacation Begins
January 4.....	School Resumes
January 18.....	Martin Luther King Day
January 22.....	Teacher Record Day
February 15.....	Presidents' Day
March 25.....	Spring Vacation Begins
April 4.....	School Resumes
May 2.....	Last Day of Preschool
May 30.....	Memorial Day
June 8.....	Last Day of School
June 9.....	Teacher Record Day