RIVER BEND MIDDLE SCHOOL

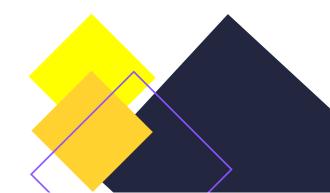
Annual Report

2021 / 2022

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Mathematics

This year the math department worked with students on collaboration, critical thinking, and communication. Students in all grade levels completed performance assessments, and we incorporated stations into our classes. We also took advantage of the spaces outside of the classroom for games such as inequalities, Connect Four, scavenger hunts, and collaboration on vertical non-permanent surfaces such as the windows in our hallways.

Our department had some wonderful recognitions for both students and teachers. The advanced math team competed at the MathCounts Chapter Competition, and five students competing placed high enough to represent LCPS at the VA State MathCounts Competition. Two of our students placed in the top one-third of the students at States!

Science

In April, the science department came together with TechEd, Robotics, and Guitar to create the STEAM EXPO. Our gifted guitar students kicked off the event while sending exquisite acoustics to every guest. Soon after, students and community members explored STEAM-related businesses and student work. Robotics and TechEd presented an impressive fleet of fully functional machines while 7th-grade science students showed off their taxonomy projects, space tomato research, and more.

8th-grade science students all took on the egg drop project. This project applied Newton's Laws of Motion to a project where they were tasked to construct an apparatus to keep an egg safe. The students had a budget and a limited list of materials to choose from. They had to decide what materials to spend their money on and how they would use them. Students presented some of the surviving projects at the STEAM EXPO, where they explained the project and elaborated on their successes.







Our RBMS English 8 classes truly celebrated being back in person during the 2021-22 school year. During the year, students participated in reading *The Outsiders* during our study of social issues and theme. They learned about character development, foreshadowing, and the various types of conflict during this reading and even brought the book to life by participating in a Dress-Like-A-Greaser-or-Soc-Day! Our English 8 students also dove into the futuristic aspects of dystopian literature by discussing the mentor texts of Ray Bradbury and Shirley Jackson as they chose their own independent dystopian novel to read. As a culmination of our unit, students showcased their learning by creating One Pagers about their books which now hang in our 8th-grade hallway! Finally, students are finishing out their year in English 8 with a Passion Project. They will be choosing a topic of their own interest and "passion" and will participate in four weeks of research and creation during our final class meetings. Our 8th-graders will present their findings and their final products in June so we can see where their interests and self-chosen topics of study have led them. It has been a wonderful year of being back together in the

classroom with our students, and we've watched them collaborate and

discuss and really get back to a thriving, learning community.

English

6th Grade U.S. History to 1865

The 6th-grade History team continued their tradition of hosting an in-person Colonial Fair. Students created authentic Colonial period projects and were able to experience the Colonial time period during this event.





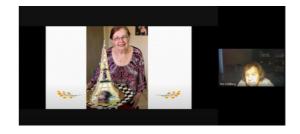




7th Grade History, 1865 - Present

In 7th-grade History, students had the unique opportunity to virtually meet with Holocaust survivor Ms. Charlotte Adelman. Ms. Adelman provided a first-person account of the horrors of living under the Nazi regime. To escape the Holocaust, Ms. Adelman sought refuge with a family, where she was placed in hiding in the family's basement for nine months. Students also engaged with Ms. Adelman by asking her questions about her personal experiences. As Holocaust survivors continue to age, time is limited for students to engage and interact with survivors like Ms. Adelman. This opportunity will surely be one that our students will cherish for years to come. Linked here is the story that Ms. Adelman shared with our students.





8th Grade Civics

To introduce the major economic systems -- Command Economy, Free Market Economy, and Traditional Economy -- the students engaged in a "Restaurant Activity." Students were divided into teams and were given supplies to create a menu of their choice for the restaurant they were about to open.

There were two groups. One group had to hunt and gather food to feed their tribe. The second group had to follow directions and make a menu with specific sizing, color, lettering, and items. If they wanted to make changes they had to go to the "bureaucrat", a gruff and uncooperative person, for permission. Upon completion, the groups explained the decision-making processes it took to come up with their menus.









Spanish

In March, our Spanish and French students participated in a service project. They were able to make a dish from another country and then brought in the dish to share with our amazing custodial staff for dinner. The custodians enjoyed a meal as they began their night shift, and teachers and students tried a variety of different foods from around the world.

Students taking Spanish 2 participated in a cultural exchange project with students learning English in Dormans, France. The students exchanged Flipgrid videos to show each other parts of our school and community. They introduced themselves, and exchanged paper letters via snail mail along with some Valentine's Day treats. In April, the students participated in a Google Meet where they asked questions and played a Kahoot trivia game on French and American culture.









Spectrum

Spectrum students focused on four themes this year: Business and Economics, Communication and Culture, Technology and Engineering, and Ethics and Perspectives. Students engaged in enriching project-based learning, research and inquiry, and real-world problem-solving activities. These critical-thinking activities challenged them to collaborate, communicate, and apply their knowledge to real-world situations. This year, 8th-grade students participated in many authentic learning opportunities, including the Stock Market Game Challenge, robot coding, a mock trial, and a lifestyle auction. Meanwhile, our 6th and 7th-graders studied American Sign Language, robot coding, a bridge engineering project, many mysteries, and a travel planning adventure.

National Junior Honor Society

The River Bend Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) was chartered in the Fall of 2016. The National Junior Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle-level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. In January of 2022, the River Bend Chapter inducted 32 members into its 2021-2022 class of the National Junior Honor Society. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but also challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. The NJHS students spearheaded Tutoring and Homework Help Sessions this spring by mentoring and helping 6th and 7th-grade students with their work both during school and by holding after school sessions. Our NJHS students also led sessions on Relieving Stress, Applying to College, and at the time of this publication were also organizing an idea to create a permanent mural at RBMS to celebrate our strength and resilience during our time of distance learning and getting back to regular school!

Band

This year our 8th-grade students participated in a fall concert, Around the World, Student Choice Concert at Potomac Falls High School (PFHS), Music in the Parks, and the 2022 VBODA District Band Assessment where they received a superior rating. They also performed in the stands with the Marching Panthers at a PFHS football game.

The 7th-Grade Concert Band performed a winter concert program in February and a spring concert in May. The 6th-Grade Concert Bands will perform their spring concert on June 6th. River Bend Jazz performed in the 2021 Jingle Jam Concert and another program in May. The combined RBMS Band supported the River Bend Student-Staff Basketball Game by performing in the stands.

Keeley Greer (clarinet) and Peterson Linn (euphonium) participated in honor ensembles representing River Bend Middle School at the 2022 All-District Band. Ranson Thayambath (trombone) will represent River Bend Middle School at the 2022 All-County Jazz Band.

Chorus

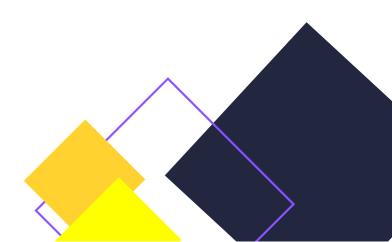
Five students participated in the 6th-Grade All-County Chorus in November: Sara Azhar, Elena Kramer, Kaitlyn Rogers, Chloe Schibley, and Grace Soto. Ten students participated in the All-District Chorus in February: Marley Antognoli, Aelwen Chalfont-Hurst, Nane Danielyan, Eliot Doglo, Sofia Lupas, Keelin Moriarty, Ryan Payton, Akshay Setty, Isabelle Ventura, and Lydia Yang. Five students participated in the VCDA All-Virginia Middle School Honors choir in April in Richmond, Virginia: Marley Antognoli, Sofia Lupas, Keelin Moriarty, Akshay Setty, and Isabelle Ventura.

Raven Choir, an RBMS select vocal ensemble, performed the National Anthem at a Washington Wizards game at the Capital One Arena and attended District XVI Choral Assessment receiving a Superior in both performance and sight-reading.

RBMS choral director, Rachel Binger, hosted all 17 middle schools for their District Assessment Performance.

Choral concert performances:

- PFHS Choirs/RBMS 8th-Grade Chorus Combined Concert in October at Potomac Falls High School.
- Raven Choir performed in the "Jingle Jam" Holiday celebration with Pop Strings, Jazz Band, and Guitar Club.
- 7th/8th-grade performed a Winter Chorus Concert and each grade performed a Spring Chorus Concert.
- Music in the Parks Kings Dominion 8th-Grade Chorus performed two selections for their adjudication in June.



Guitar

Eighth-graders participated in their first ever in-person concert as River Bend Ravens. Our students worked with Potomac Falls High School to produce an incredible joint concert. Our 7th-grade had their first-ever in-person concert in January. 8th-grader Teagan Mortellaro auditioned and was accepted into the 2022 All County Guitar Ensemble. The 8th-grade ensemble participated and earned a Superior Rating at the 2022 All County Guitar Assessment. Other activities from the year include music performances for the STEAM Expo, the Poetry Slam, and a joint project with Chorus students. In May, students will be participating in the Aguado Solo Competition.

Orchestra

Orchestra had many notable successes this year. 8th-Grade Orchestra earned the highest possible rating of Superior at Music Assessment. Three students were selected from a competitive audition to perform in the LCPS All-County Orchestra: Moses Guo (8th), Ian Farber (7th), and Talia Knutsen (7th). Six students participated in the LCPS Solo & Ensemble Festival and received the highest possible music ratings of Excellent and Superior: Talia Knutsen (7th), Ian Farber (7th), Lena Kass (7th), Nathalie Dedegbe (7th), Yusuf Ozkan (8th), and Addie Harlow (6th). Additionally, Professor Dr. Johannes Dietrich from Lebanon Valley College performed a mini-recital for students and provided a clinic with our 8th-Grade Orchestra students. Another highlight was when the Potomac Falls High School and the RBMS 8th-grade orchestras performed a joint concert last October.

River Bend Middle School received the Blue Ribbon Award from the Virginia Music Educators Association. The VMEA Blue Ribbon Award is the highest award given to school music programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia and recognizes excellence in band, orchestra, and choral performance. All ensembles in a school must receive the highest rating of "Superior" at assessment to qualify for this award!

Theatre

River Bend Theatre had an exciting season of shows this year with five sold out performances of Frozen JR and the premier of its first in-person one-act plays, Common Ground and How to Overthrow Your Student Government. Drama teacher Mr. Simonton directed all shows. Chorus teacher Ms. Binger acted as vocal coach/choral director for the yearly musical, "Frozen". Mr. Woolridge acted as tech director and Mrs. Kate Dober as choreographer.





Intro to Computer Applications

Students progressed towards using the touch-typing technique to increase their typing speed and are currently averaging 27 words per minute (wpm), with some typing over 40wpm! Students created Digital Citizenship videos where they addressed common issues that they might encounter online and how to respond appropriately. Students enjoyed full creative control while creating their own digital animations, and many turned their animations into their own gifs. Another favorite this year was the food truck business startup BPA project. Students applied their online design skills from the animation project to promote their food truck businesses.

Family And Consumer Sciences (FACS)

7th-grade FACS students love Cupcake Wars! They competed in cupcake advertisement competitions in which the winners' classes baked their cupcakes. Another highlight was Career Investigations with career lessons cotaught by the 7th-grade counselor and the 7th-grade FACS teacher. The course rounds out with units on laundry, sewing, advertising, and adolescence and families. Our 8th-grade Teen Living students enjoyed sewing pajama pants and baking pumpkin pie from scratch. Student highlights for our remaining projects include Room in a Box, cooking homemade pop-tarts, and our unit on Entrepreneurship.

Tech Ed 7

A favorite in our Technology Education 7 programs is our Rapid Prototyping Lab. This year, students were able to utilize our extra 3D printing capacity to design and print functional sets of tools. Prints that failed or had design flaws were fixed using a 3D printing pen as a plastic welder. As students moved on to structural engineering, they used a food dehydrator to accelerate the build process to speed up the curing of the glue on their balsa wood towers and bridges.

Tech Ed 8

This school year, there has been a noticeable shift to community service projects which provide students with three benefits: the projects are defined for them, they provide instant gratification because they are short in duration, and they produce an artifact in which the student can take pride. A benefit of service projects is a notable increase in student participation. Other students chose to explore their interests in art in wood, furniture design and construction, video game design, radio-controlled vehicles, computer repair and rebuilding, electronics, and facility redesign.

Technology of Robotic Design

Robotics students started the year by exploring code iteration and the Engineering Design Process. They began with The VEX Clawbot and progressed to their next build: The VEX Speedbot. With these platforms, students completed challenges from programming for remote control to fully autonomous control. Throughout the course of the year, students have had the opportunity to have three different "free builds". Their first task was to design, engineer, build, and program a stationary apparatus that could be used as a sign for a business, a toll gate, or an autonomous machine to move material from one place to the next. Next, they were tasked with designing, engineering, building, and programming a ride or game for an amusement park. This culminated with a video demonstration of their product with an explanation of the process. As a final project, students designed, engineered, built, and programmed a robot with design parameters laid out by the instructor. Students celebrated their successes with a gallery walk to showcase how much they had grown in Robotics during the year.

English Learners

During our Parents as Educational Partners (PEP) events, our English Learners (EL) families came back in person and engaged in a series of night events where they learned how to participate more in their children's school life. Community leaders, administrators, counselors, teachers, parents, and students joined efforts to work on behalf of our diverse learning community.

This school year, Newcomer and Intermediate English Learners engaged in building language knowledge through several Project-Based Learning (PBL) projects. Newcomers created a pocketbook guide about places in their community and prepared a recipe for a dish from their country to present and share with the class.

During their nonfiction units, Intermediate English Learners researched topics important to them and authors from their countries to present to their peers. In this way, both groups were learning and using English in an authentic and meaningful way while learning research and presentation skills.









Art

This year in Art, students in all grade levels used the therapeutic properties of the art process to help them through a challenging year of change & adjustment. Students were introduced to the process of neurographic artwork, which promotes mindfulness and is scientifically designed to use neuroplasticity to reduce stress. Several of these pieces from each grade level were selected to be displayed for the year at LCPS Central Offices. In addition, students now back in the art room setting were able to take advantage of materials such as paint, stone, fabric, metal, and many others to create personal works of art representing many diverse cultures and identities.





Physical Education (PE)

The River Bend Health & PE department engaged students in a wide variety of physical education activities throughout the year. Students participated in team sports, team building challenges, and special individual activities like golf and archery.

Students also engaged in a variety of health topics throughout the year, including the health triangle, the heart and lungs, the skeleton and muscles, and mental health. Students were asked to self-reflect each quarter, examining their physical, social, and mental health, evaluating their challenges, and celebrating their accomplishments.

Student Awards

Malone Awards

Malone (Art) 8th-grade - Siona Srivastava Malone (Math) 8th-grade - Ryan Chung Malone (Music) 8th-grade - Chill Gustilo Malone (Science) 8th-grade - Asifah Mirza

Division Awards

Spelling Bee - Maahika Bailur Student Equity Ambassadors - Aaliyah Johnson, Eddie Membreno Lovo, Jashaun Williams

Superintendent's Task Force for Student Mental Health - Tochi Onukwufor Sterling Ruritan Outstanding Student -Moses Guo

PBIS Ravens of the Year

6th-grade - Team Rappahannock -Tatiana
Doane & Raheem Imam, Team Shenandoah Anna Benham & Dixon Trice, Team
Potomac - Brianna Vasquez & Levi Simpson
7th-grade - Team Dogwood - Reagan
Bischoff & Benjamin Addo, Team Hemlock Sarah Weltens & Enrique Gamboa, Team
Spruce - Kashifa Mirza & Camden Ueltschy
8th-grade - Team Appalachian - Kathleen
Kuech & Thomas Kalka, Team Blue Ridge Riya King & Stanley Sorto-Urrutia, Team
Cumberland - Jamie Morales & Robert
Manfredi

5 Star Department Awards

Art - 6th-grade: Yasmin Latchinian, 7th-grade: Kashifa Mirza, 8th-grade: Julia Prelewicz CTE: Introduction to Computer Application - Daysy Hang

CTE: Coding - Wes Govoruhk CTE: Robotics - Pearce Long CTE: FACS 7 - Cadence Cerniglia CTE: Teen Living 8 - Izzie Reuter

CTE: Technology Education 7 - Elyse Colon Oliveras

CTE: Manufacturing 8 - Sophie Rieger EL 6th-grade - Wilfredo Argueta Quintanilla

EL 7th-grade - Maria Hashimoto EL 8th-grade - Linyue Tong ELA 6th-grade - Jayden Pereira ELA 7th-grade - Gabby Watkins ELA 8th-grade - Amelia Cave

Reading Strategies Workshop = Salima Karimi Exploratory Dramatics - Zoe Flatla Health & Physical Education - 6th grade Krishna Vadrev, 7th grade Marley Antognoli,

8th-grade Mason Medford

Math - 6th-grade Zoe Easton, 7th-grade Anto Preston, 8th-grade Lauren McManus

Music: Band - Keeley Greer

Music: Chorus - Sofia Lupas

Music: Music Lab - Grady Jackson

Music: Guitar - Turon Ochiloff

Music: Strings/Orchestra - Moses Gu

Music: Strings/Orchestra - Moses Guo Science - 6th-grade Phillip Voqui, 7th-grade Julia Raby, 8th-grade Amanda Gobeille

5 Star Department Awards (con't)

Social Science & Global Studies:

History 6 - Piper Welly, History 7 - Wes Govoruhk,

Civics & Economics 8 - Ryan Gallagher

WLC: French - Rachel Sigler WLC: German - Isabelle Ventura WLC: Latin - Peterson Linn

WLC: Spanish - Mohammed Elgamri WLC: Spanish for Fluent Speakers - Owen

Camarena Cordoba

National Junior Honor Society

Ariana Amir Samantha Ankers Juliana Barham Rajvi Brahmbhatt Colton Call Amelia Cave Sunny Chen Prajeet Chitty

Camille Ciambruschini Amanda Gobeille Monica Goswami Keeley Greer Moses Guo

Chill Gustilo
Riya King
Ishani Krovvidy
Sofia Lupas
Kelan Mann
Hayden Manor
Mason Medford
Lina Minkara
Clare Potter
Julia Prelewicz

Landon Rogers-Reinhart

Julia Sagen Rachel Sigler Ria Vasanthan Isabelle Ventura Eli Wike

Addie Williams Allison Wulff

Student Ambassadors

7th Graders: Akshay Setty Ana Clara Mendonca Avishi Anurag Ciara Donaldson Constantinos Kantsios

Cooper Petty Danyelle Ritter

Elyse Daugherty-Moysey

Emma Bogoslov
Gabby Trainor
Hazel Anderson
Isaiah Khan
Josephina Kritsky
Jzahbel Herbas
Keelin Moriarty

Leila Brumskine

Student Ambassadors (con't)

Lena Kass
Mackenzie Balsley
Marley Antognoli
Mia Dufty
Nolyn Kolstad
Reagan Bischoff
8th Graders:
Elise Ernest
Isabella Ackerman

Isabella Ackerman Isabelle Ventura Jennifer Mai Jordyn Ranuado Joshua Tovar Julia Franklin Julia Sagen Katie Choi Keeley Greer Kendall Hopkins Lilly Myers Malak Ahmed Mars Alabi Naomi Olatubosun

Nava Ghaffari
Olivia Swank
Prajeet Chitty
Rachel Sigler
Ria Vasanthan
Rumasya Saeed
Riya King
Ryan Chung
Samantha Ankers
Sharanya Jeksaani
Sofia Lupas
Sunny Chen

STEM Recognition

Science Olympiad Akshay Setty 7 Aurora Akinbo 6 Avishi Anurag 7

Brianna Kouri-Najarro 7 David Correa Cabrera 8

Katie Choi 8 Krishna Vadrev 6 Leah Hollerith 6 Mara Nicolae 6 Oliver Sutler 7 Ryan Chung 8 Sara Kordi 6 Victoria Weng 8

Math Team: National Noetic Math Competition, American Mathematics Competition 10, Virginia Math League

Antonia Gabrial 6 Aurora Truong 6 Avishi Anurag 7 David Correa Cabrera 8 Prajeet Chitty 8 Ryan Chung 8 Ryan Gallagher 8

Sofia Lupus 8 Yusuf Ozkan 8

Student Awards

8th-Graders with all A's

Isabella Ackerman

Ariana Amir

Samantha Ankers

Cassie Balderrama-Iriate

Stella Ballard

Juliana Barham

Mariam Beddawi

Kalyn Biggs

Rajvi Brahmbhatt

Colton Call

Owen Camarena Cordoba

Noah Capcha

Amelia Cave

Yago Chavez

Sunny Chen

Prajeet Chitty

Katie Choi

Ryan Chung

Camille Ciambruschini

Aly Collantes

David Corrrea Cabrera

Nane Danielyan

Justin Dinh

Zoe Flatla

Vanessa Flores

Sophia Flynn

Julia Franklin

Isabelle Freidson

Ryan Gallagher

Sylvienne Garcia

Nava Ghaffari

Amanda Gobeille

Amanda Gobellie

Monica Goswami

Keeley Greer

Moses Guo

Chill Gustilo

Julian Hasbrouck

Ethan Hendershot

Zack Himmelberger

Brady Hobbs

Zaki Hoda

Kendall Hopkins

Sharanya Jeksaani

Thomas Kalka

Aubrey Karnes

Riya King

Kathleen Kuech

Travis Linton

Sofia Lupas

Brienne Ma

Jennifer Mai

Robert Manfredi

Kelan Mann

Hayden Manor

Nathan Manu

Campbell Marino

Dario Martinez Mosquera

Lauren McManus

8th-Graders with all A's (con't)

Mason Medford

Lina Minkara

Asifah Mirza

Turon Ochiloff

Naomi Olatubosun Jillian Paglinawan

Claire Potter

Julia Prelewicz

Andrea Quintanilla Ventura

Landon Rogers-Reinhart

Steve Romano

Julia Sagen

Rachel Sigler

Ella Simpson

Charlotte Smith

Siona Srivastava

Will Starr

Michael Strein

Olivia Swank

Hailey Thompson

Ria Vasanthan

Isabelle Ventura

Aaron Voeghtly

Eli Wike

Addie Williams

Allison Wulff

Bill Turgeon Spirit Award -

Allison Wulff

Ben Lacy Leadership Awards

6th-grade - Geoffrey Haas

7th-grade - Emma Bogoslov 8th-grade - Sunny Chen

Staff Awards

Staff Recognition

Liz Coyle, LCPS Secondary New Teacher of the Year

Cristina Keeton, Washington Post Teacher of the Year Nominee

Meg LaFrancois, LCPS Substitute of the Year Nominee

Samantha Russell, SEAC Recognition for Excellence in Supporting Special Education

Crystal Wallen, Virginia Middle School Teacher of the Year

School Awards

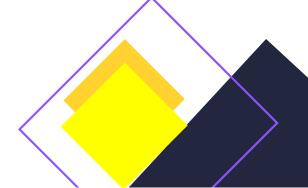
National School to Watch (2019-2022) Recognized ASCA Model Program (2020-2025)

Virginia Distinguished Purple Star School

AMLE School of Distinction

Virginia Music Educators Association (VMEA)

Blue Ribbon Award



Business Partnerships

Barakat Orthodontics Maid Brigade Loudoun
Chick-Fil-A Marquiss Real Estate
Dulles Golf Meadows Frozen Custard

K & H Landscaping Old Dominion Orthodontics

Lowes Sheetz - Windmill Park Drive - Sterling

Subway

STEAM EXPO Partnerships

Bach to Rock
C3 Cyber Club
Code Ninjas
Michelina Queri & Associates
Mindframe Education
NOVA SySTEMic NVCC
Old Dominion Orthodontics
R2D2 ENTERPRISES LLC
Stemtree Ashburn

Student Government

President: Sunny Chen Vice President: Lazar Piletich Treasurer: Prajeet Chitty Secretary: Ariana Amir

Team Representatives: Riya King, Eddy Membreno Lovo,

Naomi Olatubosun, Hailey Thompson

Thank you to our PTA!

A special thank you to our 2021-2022 River Bend PTA board members and volunteers. We appreciate your commitment to our students and staff.





