

Elementary Principal's Report - November 2025

Community Involvement and Awareness

- Thanksgiving Luncheon is scheduled for November 19th. We currently have nearly 60+ family members signed up. This event is always well attended. Thanks to our supervisory staff and kitchen staff for helping put all of the pieces together to create a successful event.
- Veterans came in for Veteran's day breakfast and assembly on Tuesday 11/11. The elementary students sang the Armed Forces Medley and veterans were recognized for their service. Thanks to Mrs. Borton, Mrs. Aupperle, Mr. Marchese, and Mrs. Schuler for organizing the event and thanks to all of our veterans for their service!

Curriculum & Program Development/Staff Collaboration

- Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Jamison, Mrs. Scaggs, and the hard work of our teachers and students, our Illinois School Report Card Overall Index Score rose from 51.95 in 2023 to 72.96 in 2024 to 81.48 in 2025 (0.44 points away from exemplary). This was in large part to cleaning up data submissions to the Illinois State Board of Education and also as a result of strong increases in ELA and Math growth (especially with last year's 5th grade students).
- Teachers continue to receive mathematics support from ROE 17 and our math coach Hailey. On 11/17 Hailey supported 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 4th grade. We have focused her with our first and second year teachers and found some success in their interaction and assisted planning.
- Problem solving team met with K-5 teachers in an effort to intensify interventions for students in the classroom, in addition to our Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. The fall FastBridge assessment data makes recommendations for classwide and targeted interventions, and the problem solving team planned methods for supporting teachers in planning and implementing these.
- Our Preschool For All (PFA) Program was evaluated by the state PreK Assessor on Monday, 11/10. This evaluation of our program occurs every three years and will determine the status and rating level of our program. This is Mrs. Testory's first review since starting here at Ridgeview last year. We look forward to receiving the feedback and continued improvement.
- Teachers attended the School Improvement Day on November 7th. A majority of elementary staff received training on Arts and Letters curriculum. We also trained bus drivers on the use of the ROOMS communication platform and analyzed the impact of specials/electives and special education.
- Elementary staff participated in a book study led by Mrs. McCarty about Whole Brain Teaching. At least 3 teachers are implementing elements of Whole Brain Teaching after participating in this book study.
- I attended a student teaching panel at Illinois State University on Friday, November 14. This is an excellent opportunity to grow awareness of our district to prospective teachers who plan on staying in central Illinois after graduation. I

continuously look for ways to leverage our relationship with ISU and seek opportunities for our staff and students.

- Nurse Starks conducted a Cardiac Emergency Response Team (CERT) drill in coordination with Leroy ambulance and our emergency response providers. This was a valuable simulation and teased out some areas of strength and areas of development.

Students and Staff

- Students were able to participate in another skating unit this year thanks to the support of STANGS and the Peoples State Bank of Colfax. Skating costs have risen in the last few years, but thanks to their generosity we have been able to keep the cost the same for the elementary school every year. Thanks also to Mr. Ludwig for organizing this activity.
- The elementary students celebrated Red Ribbon Week during the week of 10/27. Thanks to the Red Ribbon Week committee for setting up a great week of dress up days, and a brand new "duct tape" event. Kids had a blast as students were educated and encouraged to live healthy and drug-free lives.
- Students celebrated fall parties on 10/31. Thanks to volunteers who provided treats for the parties and to STANGS and the high school helpers for setting up and running games for K-2 students in the APR.
- STANGS hosted their annual Halloween Bash on Friday, 11/7. At least 65 students attended in costume and enjoyed dancing and the mad scientist's slime lab. Thanks to STANGS and Mr. Brunner and assistants for putting on an awesome community event!

Assistant Principal Report

- Attendance work to deter extended family vacations during school attendance days
- Continued work with preK