

Elementary Principal's Report - February 2025

Community Involvement and Awareness

- The 5 Essentials survey opens on February 18th for all Ridgeview families, staff, and students (4th and 5th only). This survey is part of our overall summative designation. We will begin getting more information out soon to encourage our stakeholders to complete this survey. The survey window closes on March 28th.
- The STANGS Royal Princess Ball dance was last Saturday 2/15 at 5:30 PM. This has been a great event in the past and we are excited for this opportunity to celebrate. Stangs arranged for corsages, pictures, and a great dance.

Curriculum & Program Development/Staff Collaboration

- The administration team will attend various hiring fairs at Illinois State University on 3/4 and Eastern Illinois University on 2/26. These education career fairs will be opportunities to talk to prospective employees and get the word out about how great Ridgeview is.
- The Elementary Building Leadership Team began reviewing data to identify a problem of instructional practice. Staff looked at various data sources and decided our primary focus should be on reading instruction with our new curriculum and ways to improve family engagement and education.
- Teachers received CPI training in de escalation from Carrie Green, our special education director. They learned strategies and best practices as they pertain to the CPI framework.
- ISU Clinical and Nursing students arrived on 2/3 to continue their education with our teachers. We have 8 clinical students supporting in grades 1-4. We always look for opportunities to have potential employees see all of the great reasons why they may want to teach in a smaller rural school. We have lots of brag about!

Students and Staff

- During our February Problem Solving Team meeting we graduated 12 students from reading or math intervention. They have shown continuous progress and we are proud of their accomplishments. We moved two students who are struggling to show progress to a domain meeting. FastBridge assessment are the guiding piece of information we analyze each meeting.
- Mr Ludwig kicked off the Kids Heart Challenge on January 31st. Mr. Ludwig is planning another students vs staff basketball game to celebrate the fundraiser. He does an outstanding job each year with this fundraiser and raises thousands of dollars for the American Heart Association.
- Students and staff celebrated the 100th day of school on 1/31. We had 100 day celebrations in the classroom and students came with 100 items and 100 day shirts.
- Students and families had Valentine's celebrations on 2/14. Thanks to all family members who supplied treats, helped with Valentine boxes, and volunteered in classrooms.

- Students celebrated FastBridge growth and achievement on Friday, 2/14. Students wrote their names on stars to signify their growth and be displayed in the hallway. They also got to ring a bell to announce their progress. We recognized 142 students who made growth or had exceptional achievement.
- Second grade students will celebrate their poetry writing on 2/21. They will critique each other's writing and will listen to poetry from all students. Students really enjoy these days focused on celebration and sharing. Families are invited to attend and listen.