

## A Message from Mr. Magnafici....

RMS Students and Families—

I hope this message finds you doing well! I want to take a moment to remind everyone of the importance of consistent attendance and staying engaged in your child's education. Your involvement makes a difference—it shows your child that school matters and reinforces the value of learning both in and out of the classroom.

Reagan Middle School is more than just a building where students learn; it's a community (team) built on support, encouragement, and growth. When families are involved—whether by checking in with teachers, attending school events, or volunteering—it has a direct impact on student motivation, confidence, and success.

With that in mind, I encourage you to stay connected over these next few months. Reach out to your child's teachers, stay informed about their progress, and find ways to be involved. Whether it's joining a PTO meeting, helping with an event, or chaperoning a field trip, your time and support are always appreciated.

Thank you for being part of our RMS community. Let's keep working together to make this a great school year!

## **Builders Club**

Advisor - Ms. Brigitte Becker

President—Lillian Haws
Vice President—Emily Wendt
Secretary—Lauren Wagner

Builders Club members donated a Family Movie Night Basket to the DPS Stupor Bowl silent auction. Members are also collecting donations to assemble birthday bags for the Dixon Food Pantry.



## **REAGAN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

FEBRUARY 2025

**Students of the Month** 

**Carmen Patterson** 

**Jack Taylor** 







RMS Student Artwork





### **Student Council**

Advisor - Ms. Brigitte Becker
President—Irelyn Shaw
Vice President—Margaret Atkinson
Secretary—Lauren Wagner

During February, the RMS Student Council donated a S'mores Basket to the DPS Stupor Bowl silent auction. Members also volunteered to help out during the Stupor Bowl. Student Council members also sold candy grams during lunch to be delivered to students on Valentine's Day.

#### **Choir Festival**

The DPS Choir Department hosted their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Choir Festival Friday, February 7. Over 200 students 5-12 brought their voices together to get to know each other, learn music, and perform for each other. The day is planned by wonderful high school students and their director, Mrs. Rogers. It's one of the choir's favorite days each year! The 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir performed "Cripple Creek". The 7<sup>th</sup> grade choir featured 5 soloists with "Fly Away Home". The 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir sang "Ten Thousand Miles" and rocked some difficult rhythms with body percussion.

# Grade Level Report

In 6th grade, Social Studies students have been working through the geography of the United States. Students have been working on comparing the differences across our large country while diving into how the geography has affected the history and the culture of different regions. ELA students have just successfully completed The Greeks unit. In the last part, students read a chapter of the Odyssey where Odysseus confronts a cyclops. The next unit is Summer of the Mariposas. This novel is a modern, Hispanic spin on the Odyssey. The students will enjoy reading about Odilia and her sisters as they make their way through Mexico confronting monsters and facing their fears. In Math, 6th graders are starting their expressions and equations unit, which sets the stage for pre-algebra next year! So far, students have explored exponential growth through a genie's challenge and later this month they will be writing codes, evaluating hourly pay and doing some crime scene investigating! 6th Grade Science students are working their way through the Geology Unit. After studying Plate Tectonics and Earthquakes, students are using their STEM skills to engineer an earthquake safe structure to be tested in class. Soon, they will move on to learning about volcanoes as they explore more forces that change our Earth.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

In Social Studies, 7th graders just finished up their unit on the European continents where they not only looked at the long history but also compared the culture and geographical differences of the different regions. Students are now diving into a short unit that explores the complicated history of Russia. 7th grade ELA students have learned about a man who survived an iron rod going through his prefrontal cortex and also about how the adolescent brain works. Now that they are brain masters, the students are understanding how the two cases have some similarities. They are working on comparing and contrasting through an essay. Students will culminate this unit with a simulation to understand a variety of brain injuries and how people navigate through daily activities with them. Math students are working with percentages and finishing up their work with the number system by working on multi-step problems. Students will then be moving on to Expressions and Equations, where they will work with combining like terms and solving multi-step equations. The 7th grade science students are making great strides, and are halfway through our body systems unit! They had a lot of fun exploring the circulatory and respiratory systems, and next up is the skeletal and muscular systems.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

8th grade Social Studies students are wrapping up their studies on key historical topics, including the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key and the national anthem, Presidents James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, and the Trail of Tears. As part of their learning, they completed a project on the first seven Presidents, creating trading cards that highlighted each leader's political party, years in office, achievements, and lasting impact. In 8th grade ELA, students are finishing Frederick Douglass's *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. After thinking critically about Douglass's memoir, students consider how the language in the Gettysburg Address presented the American people with a way to recommit to their nation and its principles of justice and equality. Finally, students will write an end-of-unit essay responding to the following prompt: "How does Douglass, in *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, try to change what his readers believe about what it means to be dedicated to the American idea that 'All men are created equal'?" 8<sup>th</sup> grade math students are finishing up their unit on functions by writing equations in y=mx+b form. Accelerated math students are exploring the characteristics of exponential functions and how they differ from linear functions. Science students recently wrapped up their exploration of Force and Motion with an exciting engineering challenge: building Newton Scooters! Students put their knowledge to the test, designing and constructing scooters that demonstrated Newton's laws of motion. Now, they're gearing up for a new adventure, diving into the fascinating world of Electric and Magnetic Forces.

<u>RMS Artists</u> - Here are a few samples of the art produced here at RMS featuring a variety of projects from different grade levels.





