



Third Quarter Panther “PAWSInos”

Rocky Mountain
Middle School

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The Forgotten Middle

In last year’s newsletter, we sent out information about the American College Testing’s (ACT) report entitled *The Forgotten Middle*. This research has proven vital to the work we are undertaking at Rocky Mountain.

Researchers found that “the level of academic achievement that students attain by eighth grade has a larger impact on college and career readiness than anything that happens academically in high school” (p.1).

ACT identified certain behaviors that can help improve middle level (grades 5 – 8) students’ readiness for college and career opportunities. They found that “three academic behaviors had an impact: academic discipline (i.e. good work and study habits, such as consistently completing homework), orderly conduct, and having positive relationships with school personnel” (p.6).

Ensuring “that all eighth-grade students have attained the knowledge and skills that put them on target to becoming ready for college and career is the single most important step that can be taken to improve their college and career readiness... We must reduce the number of students who are seriously underprepared by the end of middle school, which will require interventions before grade 8” (p. 6).


ACT concluded with four recommendations for improvement:

- 1) Focus K-8 standards on the knowledge and skills that are essential for college and career readiness and make these nonnegotiable for all students
- 2) Monitor student progress and intervene with students who are not on track to becoming ready, beginning in upper elementary and continuing through middle school.
- 3) Improve students’ academic behaviors.
- 4) Increase federal and state support for schools to implement intervention programs that help all students become ready

To read the full ACT report go to www.act.org

Important Date to Remember

Special RMMS Parent Night

You are invited to attend the  **College and Career Readiness Celebration**
“Knowledge is Power - Saber es Poder”

**We will be hosting this event on
March 8, 2010
From 6:00 - 7:30PM
In the RMMS Library**

**We hope to see you at our
“Knowledge is Power -
Saber es Poder”
Celebration**

**Refreshments will be served and
Child care will be provided.**

**Students who attend will have their names
entered in a drawing for a TSR Pass!**

Essentially, “being on target for college and career readiness in the eighth grade and improving the college and career readiness skills that students possess by grade 8 have the most dramatic impact on high school graduates’ ultimate level of college and career readiness” (ACT Report, *The Forgotten Middle*, p.3).



Student Spotlight

Levi Harris Award

The Levi Harris Award is given to an 8th grade student who has been chosen by his/her teachers for being an outstanding citizen.

Our Levi Harris outstanding citizen for the month of November was Fine Taufotofua. Fine is an exceptional student who shows courtesy and respect to everyone. He is a member of the RMMS championship football team. Fine enjoys hanging out with his family and friends. His family likes to travel to Utah to visit relatives. Last year he enjoyed a trip to Las Vegas! His favorite book is The Broker by John Grisham. He hopes to attend the TCU (Go Horn Frogs!), and become a lawyer.

Our Levi Harris outstanding citizen for the month of December was Laura Waters. Laura is a great example for all of us, and especially her three younger sisters and one brother. She was a member of the Lady Panthers Basketball team who won the Conference Championship this year. Laura's favorite vacation was to upstate New York where her family used to live. She was also able to visit New York City and saw Lion King on Broadway. Her favorite book is My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult. She would like to attend BYU or Utah State. She is interested in becoming a dental hygienist.

Our Levi Harris outstanding citizen for the month of January is Jared Ward. Jared really enjoys dirt biking (motorcycle style). He is the youngest of three brothers. He likes to go camping with his family and really enjoys riding his motorcycle in the Kelly Canyon area. Jared's favorite vacation was a trip to the San Francisco Bay area – going to Six Flags was a highlight of the trip. His favorite book is Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix. He plans to attend Boise State University and would like to study mechanics.

National Geography Bee

The competition was tough during the recent RMMS National Geography Bee finals! Richard Ryan emerged the victor after intense preliminary rounds, semifinals, and finals. His final answers included: Moscow, Japan, Greece. Richard is now eligible for the state level competition which will be held in Boise on April 9, 2010. Congratulations Richard –

Good Luck!



PAWS: Pride, Achievement, Work, Success

Invention Convention Winners

1st Place: Cody Crowfoot, Natalia Webber, Rachel Young, Jordan Rydalch, Jonathan Scoresby, and Aubrey Stacey

2nd Place: Marissa Cook, Melissa Culotta, Luke Lemmon, and Devanie Smith

3rd Place: Jordan Stumph-Stoddard, Jared Stutzman, Sarah Phillips, Ben Baksis, and Craig Butikofer

These Rocky Mountain Students will now compete in the Regional Competition on February 1, 2010

Good Luck Panthers!

Upcoming Events

February

- 2 Boys Basketball vs. Eagle Rock – 4:30
- 4 Boys Basketball @ Rigby – 4:30
- 8 Early Release – 2:15
- 9 Boys Basketball @ Gale – 4:30
- 11 Boys Basketball vs. Madison – 4:30
- 15 President's Day – No School**
- 16 Boys Basketball @ Taylorview – 4:30
- 17 Boys Basketball @ Sandcreek – 4:30
- 23 Boys Basketball vs. Mountain View – 4:30
- 25 Boys Basketball @ Eagle Rock – 4:30
Orchestra Concert – Auditorium – 7:00

March

- 2 Boys Basketball vs. Rigby – 4:30
- 8 Early Release – 2:15
- 9 Boys Basketball vs. Gale – 4:30
- 18 Band Concert – Auditorium – 7:00
- 19 Last Day Term 3 – ½ day of School – 12:00**
- 24 Parent Teacher Conference – 6:00-9:00
- 25 Parent Teacher Conference – 6:00-9:00
Spring Musical and Pre-Show – 7:00
- 26 Spring Musical and Pre-Show – 7:00
- 29 PTC Comp Day – No School**
- 30-Apr.2 – Spring Break**

BARNES & NOBLE BOOKFAIR



Supporting Rocky Mountain Middle School

When: Saturday, February 13th

Time: From 9:00AM - 10:00PM

Where: Barnes & Noble in the Grand Teton Mall

RMMS will receive a percentage of the BOOKFAIR sales which will be used to purchase literature sets for our reading classes.

Buy your

Valentine a book on February 13th!