



Cook County Schools - ISD #166

The Viking Voice Monthly

Vol. 4, Issue 4 - January 2019

New School Board Member



We welcome Rena Rogers to the Cook County School Board. Rena will be representing District 3 of the Cook County School District which covers Cascade and Grand Marais West.

Rena moved to Cook County full time nearly five years ago when she accepted the position of MIS Director for Cook County. Prior to that Rena worked at the State of Minnesota for 20 years as an information technology project and program manager. But before she ventured into the technology world Rena was an elementary school teacher.

Rena's educational background includes: a bachelor's degree in elementary education, a master's degree in math education, and a second bachelor's degree in computer science.

Throughout her working career Rena has had many great opportunities to learn about strategic planning, process improvement, policy development, and communication management.

From Rena Rogers: Public education and the opportunity that it presents for all children is critical to both our community and to our democratic society. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the ISD 166 school board and to play a part in ensuring a quality education for all Cook County children.

~ Dr. William Crandall, Superintendent

Welcome New Counselor



Our support for students has grown this month! Please welcome Brad Shannon to the Cook County school community. He comes to us with mental health counseling experience. Brad has 3 children at Cook County Schools. He is excited to be a part of the school community to support students in their mental health needs. Sam Savoie will still be on as the guidance counselor and assisting with college and career readiness. Our students will have even more support outside of the classroom to continue their academic success in the

classroom. Please feel free to stop by the counseling office in the high school media center to meet Brad. We are excited to have him be a part of the team supporting our Viking students!

~ Sam Savoie

New Message System Starting Soon

ISD 166 will be changing the system used to contact families regarding school closings, early release days, low lunch account balances, student absences, etc. Instead of Honeywell Instant Alert we will be switching to Campus Messenger. It allows us to send voice and email messages. If you also wish to receive a text message please contact the school office so we can add that to your account as this needs to be added on an individual basis. Parents are also able to edit how they receive messages from the school themselves by logging into their Parent Portal account, click on the "contact preferences" tab on the left side of the main page, adjust the settings, and hit the "save" button at the bottom of the page. Please call 387-2271 ext 602 or 609 or email Cindy Everson at [ceverson@isd166.org](mailto:cceverson@isd166.org) or Cindi Crawford at ccrawford@isd166.org if you have any questions.



Attention 8th Grade Parents

On January 31, 2019 the 8th grade class will be participating in the National Assessment of Educational Program (NAEP), watch for a letter with details and information about the assessment. Here is what you need to know:

- This assessment information collected is for statistical purposes only.
- Not every student or school takes the test.
- Your child's grades aren't affected! Results are anonymous.
- The test requires 90-120 minutes to minimize time away from instruction.
- The test is administered on tablets provided by NAEP and sometimes on paper-and-pencil or laptop computers.
- Accommodations are provided so that as many students as possible can participate.
- Survey questionnaires are voluntarily completed by students, teachers, and school administrators. Student survey questionnaires ask your child about their educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and out of the classroom.
- Questionnaire responses are anonymous and cannot be linked to your child's identity or personal information.
- The subjects are randomly selected. They will be doing either math or reading.
- NAEP is often called the gold standard of assessments and has been around since 1969.



NEXT MEETING:
 Monday, January 7th
 in Sawtooth Library @ 4:00 p.m.

Meetings for the 2018-2019 School year.

- January 7 @ 4:00 p.m.
- February 4 @ 5:30 p.m.
- March 4 @ 4:00 p.m.
- April 8 @ 5:30 p.m.
- May 6 @ 4:00 p.m.

Special Lunch Dates with your children

2nd Grade - 01/15
 3rd Grade - 02/12
 5th Grade - March TBD (Spring exploratory day for Middle school)

*Join today! \$10 Annual Membership fee.
 We appreciate your support in any way you can give.*

Amanda Anderson, President
 Marcela Perez-Abreu, Vice President
 Jill Boen, Secretary
 Agne Smith, Treasurer
pta@isd166.org

Counselor's Corner

School day testing

On February 20th, Cook County High Schoolers will be taking various standardized tests throughout the school day. Here are the details:

- 10th graders will be taking the ASVAB military aptitude test. This is free to take. It is not meant to engage students with the military unless that is a choice they would like to make. This is a typical standardized test that many students around the country take in high school at some point.
- 11th graders are invited to take the ACT. This is a great opportunity for students to take the ACT easily. They do not need to sign up through the ACT website. The test will only cost \$44.50 and \$58.00 with the writing test. This a reduced price from the national testing cost. Please send your student to school with a check for the testing amount between February 1st and 13th. Students can turn in ACT money to the main office. This is a much easier process for taking the ACT than testing on a weekend. Students and parents will receive more information about testing procedure and study materials in the month of January.
- 12th graders will be able to take the Accuplacer test during this time as well. This is a standardized test many community colleges in the state need to place students into English and math courses. It is free to take.

Please contact Sam Savoie (ssavoie@isd166.org) with questions or to request study materials separately. We are always excited to offer our students opportunities to excel in their education after their time at Cook County High School!

Climb

Mrs Viren's 3-5th grade CLIMB classes have been busy with many different activities. Every week 2 or 3 different students write and broadcast the Sawtooth Mountain School News for the WTIP radio station. The radio broadcast highlights special events that are happening at Sawtooth as well as the academic learning that is happening in the student reporters' classrooms. You can tune in to WTIP every Thursday morning between 9:00 and 9:15 to hear the news!

One of the enrichment activities that students have recently worked on is 9 patch paper quilts. Students learn about symmetry, reflections, translations and rotations as they design their paper quilt block. Fifth graders will have the opportunity to create a pillow or mini quilt of their pattern later this year!

Mrs. Viren would welcome any donations of fiberfill, quilt batting or fabric scraps.



Choir Performs

The Middle School Viking Choir will be going to the Grand Marais North Shore Care Center to sing for residents on January 8, 2019. Choir members have been working on a number of favorite songs and are excited to share the gift of music with individuals staying there. This is an especially nice opportunity since it would be impossible to find a more appreciative audience! It is wonderful to have the school situated so close to the Care Center, this makes it possible for a group to go and perform during their normally scheduled music class. Hopefully a choral group will be able to share the gift of music there each month for the remainder of the school year. The High School Choir performed special songs for residents in December, 2018.



Cindy Johnson, Choir Teacher

5th Grade News



Mrs. Dumas 5th grade class enjoyed making bird feeders for their feathery friends. Afterwards, the students hung them next to their shelters, which were built in the woods next to the school during the fall.

Our class also had a great time creating 3D snowflakes. We decorated our classroom, and made several for the Care Center, to bring a little Holiday cheer to the residents. We are also accepting donations for anyone interested in getting one or several of those magnificent creations to help raise money for our trip to Wolf Ridge. Anyone interested, can send me an email at ndumas@isd166.org Thanks for your support!



This month, the students did a research project about endangered species. Not only they learned a great deal about their chosen endangered animal, but they also learned about the impact that humans have on the environment. Everyone had the opportunity to present their findings to the class using Google slides, so that we could all learn from one another. It was the first time they presented in front of their classmates and they surpassed my expectations.

Nancy Dumas, 5th grade teacher

1st Grade Special Lunch

Our First grade had their special lunch on December 11, in the AAC Lobby. There were many families that enjoyed a delicious Taco Nacho lunch, time with family and friends and a created memory for First Grade! These special lunches are put on by our PTA, THANK YOU to the volunteers that help organize the different events that are sponsored by the PTA.



Common Ground Summit 2019



Logo designed by Cook County Student, Hazel Oberholtzer

The ISD 166 Diversity Committee is excited to host the Common Ground Summit on Friday, March 1, 2019. The Summit is a one-of-a-kind educational experience for students in grades 6-12 and will focus on creating unity and celebrating diversity. All students will participate in their regular first block class and then attend the Keynote with a message from Ricky White (see bio below). After that students will have their choice of small group workshops.

At this year's event, students will identify the different lenses through which they see the world. By exploring the experiences and ideas that create these lenses, they will be able understand why every person sees the world in a different way. The Common Ground Summit will allow students to better understand themselves and, consequently, they will better understand the strength in diversity.

The committee needs YOUR help to make this another successful and positive event for our students. The committee is seeking donations to help provide conference materials (booklets, t-shirts, folders, special lunch, door prizes) and fund expert speakers. Checks, if you wish to donate, may be made out to ISD 166, but please indicate "Common Ground Summit" in the memo portion of your check. Donations can be sent to the address below:

Cook County Public Schools
Common Ground Summit
101 W. 5th Street
Grand Marais, MN 55604

Common Ground Summit Keynote Speaker: Ricky White

Welcome Ricky White



Ricky White, Niigonanakud, is Anishinabe from Whitefish Bay First Nations in Ontario, Canada. He is Pizhew or Lynx Clan and is a lifetime member of the renowned drum group, the Whitefish Bay Singers. As a result of growing up on his isolated reservation, Ricky retained deep knowledge of the Anishinaabe language and culture. Those teachings continue to drive his spirit and leadership today.

Ricky's latest experience was at Circle of Life Academy on White Earth Reservation where he spent almost 4 years turning around the school. When he arrived in June of 2015 the school's report card was one of the lowest 5% of BIE schools in the nation with 10% proficiency in Reading and Math, 40% graduation rate, 120 students K-12, and a 50% student transient/turnover rate. The overall morale and image of the school and community was at an all-time low.

White Earth Nation is similar to many of our reservations across the nation that are in crisis with a drug and opiate epidemic that is ravaging the societal functions of our families leaving so many students wounded with trauma, homelessness, neglect and abuse. It's no wonder national statistics look very similar to the ones of COLA in 2015.

Even with those challenges and barriers, Ricky White led the turnaround of COLA's achievement, school climate and culture of the school. In just 3 years, the school has increased to 40% overall proficiency in Reading and Math, 73% graduation rate, and 50% fewer behavior referrals from previous year. All the while increasing enrollment to a record setting 250 students with waiting lists in 6 of 13 grade level classrooms. The transient rate also went down to an impressive 8% of student population. Students and families feel wanted and ultimately feel belonging in the school.

Ricky White has dedicated his professional career to being generous and is now sharing the blueprints of best practices for success and turnaround with other schools, programs and communities. He started a consulting company fittingly called "First Nations Consults" and he is now sought after all over Canada and the United States to inspire his methods and messages of enhancing education.

His accomplishments go far beyond the classroom. Ricky has been recognized as the next leader of the Anishinabe Nation of Treaty #3 in his homeland, Minnesota Indian Education Teacher of the Year, Minnesota Indian Education Administrator of the Year, and now a sought after emcee for pow-wows, gatherings, conferences, keynote addresses, radio, television, and other public speaking venues.

Ricky will say this, the magic to champion change for our youth is to create and instill their own identity in their school, their programming, their curriculum and their lives and when schools get serious about that, all the barriers that interfere with student success are not only manageable, but are overcome.

Ricky is proud to be here at Grand Marais Public Schools to share his story, strategies, spirit and inspire all of you in attendance.

January 2019 Calendar

Wednesday, January 2 - **School back in Session**

Nordic Skiing vs. Proctor @ Spirit Mountain - 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 3

Girls Hockey vs. Marshall in Two Harbors

Friday, January 4

Alpine Skiing @ Hibbing - 10:00 a.m.

Girls V Basketball @ South Ridge - 4:45 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball @ South Ridge - 6:30 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball @ South Ridge - 4:45 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ South Ridge - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 5

Girls Hockey @ Pequot Lakes

Boys Hockey @ International Falls

Nordic Skiing vs. Mesabi East @ Giants Ridge - 10:00 a.m.

Monday, January 7

Boys Hockey vs. Greenway in Silver Bay

Tuesday, January 8

Nordic Skiing vs. Cloquet @ Pine Valley - 4:00 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball @ Cherry - 4:45 p.m.

Girls V Basketball @ Cherry - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 10

Girls Hockey vs. Proctor In Two Harbors

Alpine Skiing @ Moose Lake - 10:30 a.m.

Friday, January 11

Girls JV Basketball, Home vs. McGregor - 4:45 p.m.

Girls V Basketball, Home vs. McGregor - 6:30 p.m.

Boys V Basketball, Home vs. McGregor - 4:45 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball, Home vs. McGregor - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 12

Girls Hockey vs. Minnehaha Academy in Silver Bay

Boys Hockey vs. Mora in Two Harbors

Nordic Skiing, Home at Pincushion - 11:00 a.m.

Girls JV Basketball, Home vs. Duluth East - 12:00 p.m.

Girls V Basketball, Home vs. Duluth East - 1:45 p.m.

Tuesday, January 15

Girls Hockey vs. Eveleth in Silver Bay

Boys Hockey vs. Virginia in Two Harbors

Nordic Skiing vs. Two Harbors at Korkki Nordic - 11:00 a.m.

Girls V Basketball @ Esko - 4:45 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball @ Esko - 6:30 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ Esko - 6:30 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball @ Esko - 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, January 17

Boys Hockey @ Pine City

Girls V Basketball, Home vs. Silver Bay - 4:45 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball, Home vs. Silver Bay - 6:30 p.m.

Boys V Basketball, Home vs. Silver Bay - 6:30 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball, Home vs. Silver Bay - 4:45 p.m.

Friday, January 18 - **End of 2nd Quarter**

Girls Hockey @ International Falls

Girls V Basketball @ Cromwell - 4:45 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ Cromwell - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 19

Nordic Skiing @ Marshall - 11:00 a.m.

Monday, January 21 - **No School - PDD Day**

Tuesday, January 22

Boys Hockey @ Eveleth-Gilbert

Girls V Basketball @ Mesabi East - 5:45 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball @ Mesabi East - 7:15 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ Mesabi East - 7:15 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball @ Mesabi East - 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, January 24

Boys Hockey vs. International Falls in Silver Bay

Girls Hockey vs. Hayward in Two Harbors

Alpine Skiing @ Cloquet - 10:00 a.m.

Boys JV Basketball, Home vs. Mt. Iron-Buhl - 4:45 p.m.

Boys V Basketball, Home vs. Mt. Iron-Buhl - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, January 25

Nordic Skiing vs. Duluth East @ Snowflake - 11:00 a.m.

Girls V Basketball @ Floodwood - 4:45 p.m.

Girls JV Basketball @ Floodwood - 6:30 p.m.

Boys JV Basketball @ Floodwood 4:45 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ Floodwood - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 26

Girls Hockey @ Cambridge Isanti

Tuesday, January 29 - **Kindness Retreat - 4th Grade**

Boys Hockey @ Proctor

Girls Hockey @ Cloquet

Girls V Basketball @ Ely - 5:00 p.m.

Boys V Basketball @ Ely - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 30 - **Courage Retreat - 7th Grade**

Thursday, January 31 - **Respect Retreat - 9th Grade**

Girls Hockey @ Marshall

Boys Hockey @ Ashland

Nordic Skiing vs. Ely @ Hidden Valley - 11:00 a.m.

ART Challenge

High school art student Doran — Shows off the “rhythm challenge”, where teams of students had one hour to work together to create an original work demonstrating this visual art concept



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>A&B Lunch- Build your own Chicken Burger with tomatoes, lettuce, onions and pickles with Fries, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Homemade Chicken Wild Rice Soup with Bread Sticks, Baby Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Cranberries, Pears and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Stuffed Crust Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza B Lunch- Rectangular Pizza, with Romaine Spinach Mix, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>
<p>A Lunch- Blueberry Pancakes B Lunch- French Toast with Sausage patty, Hash brown Patty, Apple Slices and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Taco in a bag with tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, black beans with Steamed Corn, Fruit Cocktail and Milk</p> <p>2nd Grade Parents to Lunch</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup with Bread Sticks, Baby Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Hamburger Gravy B Lunch- Pizza Sticks with Mashed potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Pears and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Stuffed Crust Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza B Lunch- Rectangular Pizza, with Romaine Spinach Mix, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>
<p>A&B Lunch- Build your own Cheese Burger with tomatoes, lettuce, onions and pickles with Fries, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Chicken Alfredo with Bread Sticks B Lunch- Chicken Burger with Romaine Spinach Mix, Peaches and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Tomato Soup with Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Baby Carrots & Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Chicken Tenders, Cheesy Potatoes, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Cranberries, Strawberry Cup and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Stuffed Crust Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza B Lunch- Rectangular Pizza, with Romaine Spinach Mix, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>
<p>A&B Lunch- BBQ Rib Sandwich with tomatoes, lettuce, onions and pickles, with Fries, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Taco Nacho with tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, black beans with Steamed Corn, Fruit Cocktail and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Homemade Chicken Wild Rice Soup with Bread Sticks, Baby Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Pork Roast B Lunch- Chicken Patty with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Steamed Baby Carrots, Cranberries, Dinner Roll, Mandarin Oranges and Milk</p>	<p>A Lunch- Stuffed Crust Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza B Lunch- Rectangular Pizza, with Romaine Spinach Mix, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>
		<p>A&B Lunch- Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup with Bread Sticks, Baby Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Fresh Fruit and Milk</p>	<p>A&B Lunch- Chicken Fries, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Steamed Carrots, Dinner Roll, Cranberries, Peaches and Milk</p>	

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER