



**GO REBELS!**

September 6, 2019

# THE RANKIN REVIEW

Rankin School District #98 - Community Newsletter - Vol. 1

## RANKIN SCHOOL DISTRICT #98

**MISSION:** Empowering all students to reach their maximum potential and become productive, respectful, responsible, and well-rounded citizens.

**VISION:** Building the foundation of the future by engaging youth through rigorous and diverse educational opportunities.

**MOTTO:** Our School is a Great Place to Learn

**CONNECT WITH US:** Website~[www.rankin98.org](http://www.rankin98.org), Twitter~[@RankinRebels98](https://twitter.com/RankinRebels98), Facebook and District App~ Search for "Rankin School District #98"

## Did you know?

- On the Illinois Science Assessment (2018), 75% of students were proficient in meeting state standards compared to the state of Illinois average of 51%.
- Rankin is home to the 2019 IESA Class A 7th Grade Girls 4X400 Relay State Champions.
- Lucie Lamberson is the School's Facility/Therapy Dog.
- In 2018, Rankin Student Council hosted IAJHSC's first-ever Leadership Summit.
- At the end of this month, Carole Delahunt will be retiring and the staff will be recognizing her 30-years of outstanding service as the District's trusted Bookkeeper.
- The Annual PFK Chili Supper will be Saturday, November 9th from 5-7 p.m.
- The District's Pupil to Teacher Ratio is 13:1 compared to the state of Illinois' average of 19:1.
- Dr. Matt Gordon's Superintendent Shout Out Sessions are accessible via the District's website.
- The District's Teacher Retention Rate is 96%.
- The District broadcasts various events outside of the Regular School Day via Facebook Live.
- The HVAC systems for the 1956 and 1980 Building Sections were upgraded this past summer.
- The Rebel logo was recently added to center court in the Gymnasium.
- Current District programs include: Band, Challenge Club, Chess, National Junior High Honor Society, Scholastic Bowl, Science Club, Speech Team, Spelling Bee, Student Council, and Young Authors.
- The District is in the second year of a 1:1 Technology Device Per Student Program for grades 3rd-8th.
- Full-time Guidance Counseling and Nursing services are provided in the District.

## Be a STAR at Rankin!

Our theme for the first day of the 2019-2020 school year was, "Be a Star at Rankin!" Student Council created memories for our students by providing picture back drops, props, games, signs, music, noisemakers, and a maze!



## Principal's Corner - Mrs. April McLaughlin

We are underway with another new school year. It is hard to believe that summer is gone and fall is quickly approaching! Last spring, our Board of Education approved the purchase of a K-5 English/language arts program from the American Reading Company. Our K-5 teachers are excited about our new reading curriculum. This curriculum has students learning to read and reading to learn through thematic units. These units incorporate science and social studies topics. A few of these units include zoology, wild animals, bugs, weather and climate, American History, and adventure and survival. Students will be reading "just right" books to learn about these topics. We would love to share more information with you about our new curriculum. Let us know if you are interested!



Rankin has a Parents for Kids (PFK) group that meets monthly. These meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in our JH science room. All are welcome to attend. This year the PFK annual Chili Supper is planned for November 9th from 5-7pm. This is one of the main fund raisers for our PFK organization. Our PFK organization supports the district in many ways. In the last few years, our PFK has purchased Chromebooks, iPads, paid for field trips, provided cookies and cocoa for holiday parties, as well as providing for classroom requests by teachers.

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT ~ Meet Mrs. Julie Gale, Teacher's Aide**



- 36-year member of Rankin via a variety of different roles: Parent, Grandparent, Volunteer Chair Librarian, PFK Member, School Board Member, Teacher's Aide, and an Assistant with Student Council and the Chili Supper Spook House.
- Mrs. Gale had three children attend Rankin, and two of her three grandchildren also attended.

Mrs. Gale commented about Rankin, "What started as a combination of 5 one room school houses has continued growing into a beautiful K-8 building! I am deeply interested in history of the 1800s era. Formerly nicknamed "The Barn", we are now a large, state of the art facility! My time here has become like part of a long generation of family members. Education has greatly changed, (for the better) but the relationships of our small community and its members has stayed STRONG!! I LOVE our little country school!"



**Discover the Rankin Difference!**

Rankin's Staff (pictured above) began this year discussing the Rankin Difference! A few of the staff's descriptors included:

- Kids first
- Involved students/families
- Relationship based
- Culture of collaboration
- Encouraging and ambitious staff
- Community feel
- Variety of activities for students
- Small class sizes

**\*CONGRATULATIONS to the Rankin Board of Education - One of 19 School Districts to earn IASB's 2019 School Board Governance Recognition Designation! This award was earned via a multi-year process.**



**Rich in Tradition - Rankin's History (At-a-Glance)**

