



GO REBELS!

September 22, 2020

THE RANKIN REVIEW

Rankin School District #98 - Community Newsletter - Vol. 2

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,
Twitter~@RankinRebels98, Facebook and District App~ Search for "Rankin School District #98"

RANKIN ACHIEVES EXCELLENCE!

Rankin was one of the 332 elementary schools out of the 3,058 total elementary schools across our state to receive an Exemplary Rating on the 2019 Illinois Report Card. The link to the report card can be found here:

<https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/District.aspx?districtId=53090098002>

Rankin's performance was considered to be in the top 10% of all schools across our state. Our small, but mighty school outperformed the state average in nearly every category measured in the report card.

Last year, the District celebrated the success during the "RANKIN REVEAL," which was a whole school celebration filled with pizza, cookies, juice, music, and games! During the "REVEAL," our staff expressed how proud they were of our students! In addition, our students were encouraged to continue to maintain a strong work ethic, never stop learning, and to always strive to make good choices. The Rankin Staff was also recognized and warmly thanked for their dedication, commitment, and awesomeness! Further, the District expressed appreciation for the parents of our students and for our community as a whole as it is a total TEAM effort in terms of supporting education at Rankin.

Our staff believes in the "Rankin Difference," which represents our team-orientated mentality and commitment to developing and maintaining positive and caring relationships with everyone. We are excited that our school was recognized via the state report card; however, the District is continuing to focus on each child and the important relationships associated with helping each and every child be successful. We are grateful for our awesome students, parents, staff, and community who are all supported by our caring Board of Education. With or without Illinois Report Card's Exemplary rating, please note that we are always proud of and grateful for our small, but mighty school!

Go Rebels!

Dr. Matt R. Gordon, Superintendent

RANKIN STUCO

On August 19, 2020, Rankin Student Council celebrated the first day (Operation Launch) of the 2020-2021 school year with picture back drops, lights, a bubble machine, music, and positive messages displayed on the sidewalks! It was an exciting beginning to the new school year, which is themed "Show the Rankin Resilience!" Thank you to Rankin StuCo for making Operation Launch fun and memorable!



RANKIN BEGINS NEW SCHOOL YEAR IN-PERSON!!!

On March 17, 2020, the District moved to Remote Learning and never returned to In-Person Learning before the 2019-2020 school year ended. Our students, staff, and families made the very best out of a difficult time period. Once the 2019-2020 school year ended on May 27, 2020, the District developed a Planning Team who met virtually multiple times over the summer to create a safe Reopening Plan for this school year that is taking place during a global pandemic. While the plan can be found on our website www.rankin98.org, the highlights of the plan include:

- A multitude of safety measures and protocols are implemented related to COVID-19 in nearly all aspects of students being on campus.
- In-Person instruction is provided on a daily basis from 8:15 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
- The option exists for families with documented reasons to request Remote Learning for their children this year.

Our staff worked with Remote Learners and their parents to develop Individualized Remote Learning Plans, which outlines daily remote schedules. The District has approximately 3% of our students currently Remote Learning. The District moved to a full 1:1 program (i.e. 1 technology device per 1 student) for the entire school (K-8). In addition, our staff is committed to hosting the majority of our curriculum and learning opportunities on Google Classroom, which is accessible to all learners. Our staff uses the time from 2:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m. every day to check-in with Remote Learners, create and post instructional videos, and update Google Classroom regularly. Our District's improved Remote Learning preparedness has been beneficial for our Remote Learners and for our students who are forced to isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. The success of our entire Reopening Plan has been the product of a total TEAM effort on the part of our students, staff, and parents.

Summative Designation

EXEMPLARY SCHOOL

Schools performing in the top 10% of schools statewide, with no underperforming student groups.



RANKIN REBELS



STAFF SPOTLIGHT ~ Meet Ms. Michele Cleeton!

Ms. Michele Cleeton has spent her entire career at Rankin as she is in her 26th year! She currently teaches 1st Grade and has taught Kindergarten, Jr. High Social Studies, and Jr. High

English Language Arts during her tenure at Rankin. In addition to teaching, Ms. Cleeton has coached softball, volleyball, and basketball and has been in charge of the Speech Team and Young Authors all while at Rankin!

Ms. Cleeton shared her thoughts about Rankin, "I would describe Rankin as HOME. For years I have called Rankin home. It is a beautiful place inside and out. It is safe and has everything you need to be comfortable and ready to learn. It has an amazing staff that does whatever it takes to make sure each individual student has the opportunity to learn and grow while also giving students the chance to explore and be a part of many extra curricular activities. It is a great place to be!"

Ms. Cleeton also commented about the Rankin community, "My favorite part about teaching at Rankin is the community. The community as a whole is very supportive of the school and its needs which allows us to provide a great education. Most of all, I enjoy the families of Rankin School. It is amazing to have kids and grandkids of people who once attended Rankin as kids. I absolutely love when I get the opportunity to have a child in my class whose parent is a student I have taught. The Rankin community makes Rankin School a great place to teach."

Ms. Cleeton is a staple of wisdom, positive energy, and love for kids at Rankin. The Rankin Community appreciates Ms. Cleeton and the positive impact she has on students past and present. Thank you Ms. Cleeton!

DID YOU KNOW?

- In January of 2020, the Rankin Board of Education approved the launch of a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program to begin this school year. This new, progressive program is being taught by Mrs. Hilarie Withrow. The STEM Planning Team of Mrs. Withrow, Mrs. April McLaughlin (Principal), and Mrs. Rachel Lamberson (Curriculum Coordinator) has been working hard to develop the scope and sequence of the curriculum for the program. The STEM program features a digital citizenship curriculum, a keyboarding program for K-5, and a variety of hands-on lab activities and technology lessons to challenge our students. Mrs. Withrow commented about the new program, "I am very excited about the STEM program. The first nine weeks are focusing on becoming safe and informed digital citizens. We are also having Fun Fridays with activities to learn about being creative."
- During the 2019-20 school year, our K-5 teachers started using a new reading curriculum. Mrs. Lamberson commented, "Our ARC program has been wonderful. Our students are reading amazing books and writing about a variety of topics. Students have enjoyed reading and writing about nonfiction as well as reading fiction books for their pleasure reading." The District also added ARC to our 6th grade reading curriculum this year.
- 8th Grader, Anicka Ash, became the first-ever Rankin StuCo member to be elected as the IAJHSC Midwest District Representative! Congratulations Anicka!



Rankin Class of 2020!

We are so proud of the Class of 2020! They completed their education at Rankin during a global pandemic via Remote Learning! After postponing the annual 8th Grade Trip and Graduation Ceremony at the end of May, the 8th graders eventually went to Six Flags in Missouri on July 15th and the Graduation Ceremony took place outside on July 16th.

The Ceremony was hosted by 2020 Graduate, Liberty Kasinger. 2020 Graduates who also spoke were Kellen Porter (*Our Past*), Cassidy Rettke (*Our Present*), and Catrina Irby (*Our Future*). The Guest Speaker, who provided inspiring words to our graduates, was Allison Fralick (Rankin Class of 2016 and PCHS Class of 2020). The District finally got the opportunity to honor and celebrate this awesome and historic graduating class! We wish all of our graduates the best in their futures. In addition, we encourage all of our graduates to come back home to Rankin to share with us their future successes.

#OnceaRebelalwaysaRebel!

Principal's Corner



- Mrs. April McLaughlin

Welcome back to our 2020-2021 school year! We are so excited to have our students back in the building. Even though nothing about this year seems to be "normal," having students in the building each day is very exciting.

We are working hard to promote social distancing and hand washing. The students have done a great job adjusting to our new routines and procedures.

IESA has postponed basketball, volleyball, and track for this year. Winter sports will be played later than usual. Please be aware of these dates and check your student's sports physical so they are able to participate.

Boys Basketball—Practice may begin: Jan 4; Games may begin: Jan 16; Regional Tournament: Week of Feb 22

Girls Volleyball— Practice may begin: Jan 11; Games may begin: Jan 23; Regional Tournament: Week of Mar 1

Girls Basketball— Practice may begin: Mar 8; Games may begin: March 20; Regional Tournament: Week of Apr 26

Boys & Girls Track & Field-- Practice may begin: Mar 1; Meets may begin: Mar 15; Sectional Meet 1A/2A: May 7-8; State Date: May 14-15; Sectional Meet 3A/4A: May 14-15; State Date: May 21-22