



THE INSIDE VIEW

ISSUE 12 • DECEMBER 2021



WESTVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL NAMED A 'TOP GROWTH MIDDLE SCHOOL' IN MATH

Westview Middle School was named as a Top Growth Middle School in Mathematics in the Beating the Odds: Student Growth in Missouri's High Poverty Schools Report. The report was published by Saint Louis University's PRiME Center.

The report highlighted schools that are "beating the odds across the state by moving student learning forward the fastest while serving high concentrations of low-income students as measured by the percentage of students identified as eligible for the Federal Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL) program."

Westview Middle earned a PRiME growth score of 89.0 in the report. For more information, view the report [HERE](#).

RIVERVIEW GARDENS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

- 12/16 - SPECIAL SAB MEETING - 6PM
- 12/16 - VIRTUAL BINGO NIGHT - 6PM
- 12/17 - END OF 1ST SEMESTER
- 12/20 - WINTER BREAK BEGINS
- 12/28 - DEADLINE TO FILE CANDIDACY FOR RGSD SCHOOL BOARD
- 1/03 - RETURN FROM WINTER BREAK
FIRST DAY OF 2ND SEMESTER

Happy Holidays!



SAB APPROVES 2021 COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR SCHOLARS & STAFF

On November 22, Cole County Circuit Judge Daniel Green ruled that health orders issued by St. Louis County and other local health departments were in violation of the Missouri Constitution. As a result of Judge Green's decision, the St. Louis County Department of Public Health rescinded its Face Covering Order on Thursday, December 9.

The District consulted with legal counsel, the Special Administrative Board (SAB), neighboring school districts, health officials and others to determine the impact of the ruling on the COVID-19 guidelines, policies and mitigation practices for the Riverview Gardens School District.

The Riverview Gardens School District's top priority is maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for scholars and staff.

During the Dec. 14 Special Administrative Board meeting, the SAB approved the December 2021 COVID-19 Protocols for Scholars and Staff. The approved plan states that masks continue to remain required inside all RGSD properties. The decision was made by the SAB to protect the health and safety of scholars and staff and is in compliance with all local, state and federal laws.

However, important changes have been made in relation to school exclusion due to COVID-19 exposure, testing protocols for staff and students exposed to COVID-19 and more. These changes will go into effect on Tuesday, Jan. 18, following the return from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

For a condensed list of the important changes in the SAB-approved protocols, please read the RGSD December 2021 COVID-19 Protocols for Scholars and Staff Summary.

We will be sure to communicate any additional changes with our District personnel, families and community as soon as possible.



Riverview Gardens SCHOOL DISTRICT

VIRTUAL BINGO night

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH AT 6PM

GAMES - FUN - PRIZES

JOIN US VIA ZOOM
MEETING ID: 941 9490 3574

WE WELCOME STAFF STUDENTS AND PARENTS

CALL: 867-0410 EXT. 36178 FOR MORE INFO

WINTER BREAK
DEC. 20-31
DISTRICT CLOSED

RGSD IS HIRING
JOIN OUR TEAM

Rewarding Careers

SEND YOUR RESUME TO:
shgreen@rgsd.k12.mo.us

SEE JOB LISTINGS

EARN EXTRA CASH & Win a Pizza Party!

Announcing the ESS Referral Pizza Party Contest!

We've found that some of our top-performing substitute teachers and support staff are referred to us by the people who know your schools best. That's why our partner school districts' faculty and staff can participate in our referral program.

Do you know someone who fits the bill? Simply fill out our online referral form at [Refer.ESS.com](https://www.ess.com), and you'll receive a \$75.00 gift card for every candidate who gets hired and meets the minimum requirements!

On top of the \$75.00 you earn per referral, you can now help your school win a pizza party! From December 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022, every successful referral that comes from your school will be counted toward the contest total. The winning school in Riverview Gardens School District will be notified by Area Manager Annette Hinkle.

A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON WITH DR. PRUITT-ADAMS

Acting Superintendent Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams addressed the faculty and staff of Riverview Gardens School District on Dec. 14 and Dec. 15 to present, "A New View On the Horizon."

Dr. Pruitt-Adams took the opportunity to speak with staff to discuss the upcoming changes to the District's COVID-19 plan, recent changes in the Special Administrative Board, MAP results and general uncertainty.



SAB President Veronica Morrow-Reel joined Dr. Pruitt-Adams as they discussed how RGSD can collectively move forward as a team and work collaboratively to educate scholars effectively.

Town hall meetings are also in the works (after Winter Break) to capture community voice as the District moves forward towards regaining full accreditation.

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLARS HONORED FOR ESSAY EXCELLENCE



Kyrie Hayes (far left) and Ambriel Willis (second from left), scholars at Central Middle School, were named first- and second-place awardees in an essay contest (Middle School Division) held by the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. The essay question asked: How Does Social Media Affect Teens?

Photo by Lois Ingram / Ingram Studio

RAM-ILY HOLIDAY GIVEAWAY

Riverview Gardens High School teamed up with the Little Bit Foundation and Dream It Big Inc. for the 2nd Annual Ram-ily Holiday Giveaway.

The event helped to provide 100 turkeys to families in the community. Families also received winter coats and accessories, daily food items, masks, hygiene products and more.



THE SUPER'S REVIEW

By Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Acting Superintendent

On Tuesday, December 7, the State Board of Education approved recommendations that will impact the makeup of the Riverview Gardens School District's Special Administrative Board. The actions are part of a plan by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to gradually return Riverview Gardens School District to local governance. In an effort to keep the RGSD community informed, we would like to make you aware of the upcoming changes.



Tuesday morning, following a presentation by Margie Vandeven, Commissioner of Education; and Sarah Madden, Chief Counsel, the State Board of Education approved the following actions:

- The SAB was recertified through June 30, 2024.
- Two members will be added to the Special Administrative Board via local election (April 5, 2022). This will expand the SAB from five members to seven members.

Individuals who wish to serve as elected members of the SAB may declare their candidacy during the December 7 - December 28 filing period.

Candidate filings will be accepted at the Riverview Gardens School District Administration Building, located at 1370 Northumberland Drive.

In addition to the items approved at the Dec. 7 meeting, DESE a tentative plan was unveiled to return RGSD to local control by June 2024. The plan included the following:

- Replace/re-elect two members via local election in April 2023.
- Replace/re-elect two members via local election in April 2024.

These additional recommendations are expected to be voted on at a later date.

To learn more about the recent actions taken by the State Board of Education, please visit <https://dese.mo.gov/media/pdf/december-2021-consideration-special-administrative-board-riverview-gardens>.

A poster titled "RGSD SCHOOL BOARD FILING INFORMATION" with a table of filing times and the RGSD logo. The poster is framed with page numbers 50 and 51 at the top and a page number 8 at the bottom left.

Date	Filing Time
Dec. 7	4:30PM
Dec. 8	8AM-12PM 1-4PM
Dec. 9	9AM-12PM
Dec. 10	12-4PM
Dec. 13	9AM-12PM
Dec. 14	1-4PM
Dec. 15	9AM-12PM
Dec. 16	1-4PM
Dec. 17	9AM-12PM
CLOSED DEC. 20-24	
Dec. 27	10AM-12PM
Dec. 28	3-5PM

Candidate filings will be accepted at
1370 Northumberland Drive