



BLUE *print*



From Head of School Jerry Bates



As many of you know, I like to say; “It is a great day to be a Raven.” Throughout this issue of the *BLUEprint* you will see the celebrations of our current Ravens, information on the accomplishments of our Alumni and a look to the future as we unveil the beginning elements of our new strategic plan.

Riverfield’s Board of Trustees adopted a new mission statement this spring.
Ignite adventure, inspire inquiry, and build excellence to empower students to change their world.

These words define Riverfield’s past, present and future. A multi-layered study on hiking experience, our green school, and environmental student of the year awards are all excellent examples of our new mission in action.

Riverfield’s mission, commitment, strategy, core values, and approach to learning are highlighted on pages 28-29. While mastery is an elusive target in many respects, often the pursuit of mastery results in excellence. In this issue, we celebrate the successes of our recent graduates, our teams and individuals that have excelled both academically and through extra-curricular accomplishments.

Finally, our beliefs begin with a strong image of the student and that image has been at the forefront of Riverfield since we began in 1984. All of the important aspects of life at Riverfield are included in our belief statements (see pages 28 and 29). The tremendous work of RFA representing our family involvement, the work of our DEIJ alliances—with both parent and student—and, the examples set by our faculty and staff as life-long learners are all evidence of “The Riverfield Way.”

Our journey toward “ONE RIVERFIELD,” from Pre-School through Upper School, is one that involves continuous improvement and hard work. I would like to thank our students, faculty, staff, and the greater Riverfield community for their support this year. As we open the ’23-24 school year we will celebrate the conclusion of the iNSPiRED Campaign, and the completion of the Clark Gymnasium expansion and the Center for Creativity. It is an exciting time to think how these additions to campus will ignite adventure, inspire inquiry and build excellence. It truly is a great day to be a Raven!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Jerry Bates in black ink.

Head of School

***Ignite adventure, inspire inquiry, and build excellence
to empower students to change their world.***

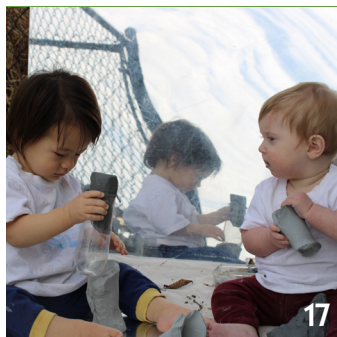
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BLUEprint

**celebrating the dreams, designs, plans, and projects
of riverfield students**

~SUMMER 2023~



**Annual
Report**

36

iNspired

37



On the Cover:

4th/5th "Tulsa Celebri-trees" team planted trees with Tulsa Parks in honor of Arbor Day celebrations.

Congratulations

CLASS OF 2023

The class of 2023 leaves a legacy of enthusiasm, empathy, and engagement. This year's graduating class brought their varied experiences and perspectives together to show others that, as the great Dr. Angelou says, "In diversity there is beauty and there is strength." While I only spent one year with the class of 2023,

I will never forget their generous, welcoming spirit and their willingness to learn through the art of play. We are so proud of their accomplishments and impact on the Riverfield community and we wish them well as they take their next steps!

—Upper School Division Head,
Dr. Michael Berglund



Hana Al-Alawneh
Tulsa Community
College



Amelia Anderson
Spelman College



Calla Andrews
Washington & Lee
University



Nya Barnard
University of Oklahoma



Tucker Beech
Drexel University



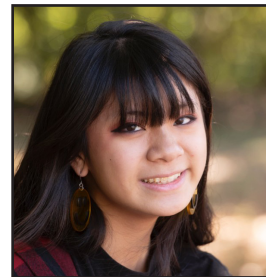
Olivia Bontrager
Oklahoma State
University



Circe Boston
Lawrence University



Carter Burrage
University of Science
and Arts of Oklahoma



Ashley Chan
Savannah College of
Art and Design



Kaleb Chesher
Oklahoma State
University



Davieon Clinton
Bacone University



Cayton Doerr
Drury University



Aidan Feeley
University of Central
Oklahoma



Avery Flinton
Northeastern Oklahoma
A&M



Boas Gelfand
Loyola University



Lydia Hardcastle
Hendrix College



Jessica Hartwig
Hendrix College



Stella Hubler
Oklahoma State
University



Katelyn Jenkins
University of Tulsa



Colin Long
Missouri Science and
Technology



Zachary McCormick
University of Kansas



Ishan Patel
University of Oklahoma



Sophia Rapacki
University of Central
Oklahoma



Sophia Roytman
University of Arkansas



Elias Scoggins
City Year - Denver



Kamden Snell
Tulsa Community
College



Jack Thomas
University of Oklahoma



Maddux Thompson
Undecided



Isabel Widdoes
Kansas City Art Institute



Culminating Events

Upper School Commencement

Riverfield 2023 graduates were the first graduating class to walk across the stage in the newly renovated Clark Gymnasium. With family, friends, and RCDS faculty and staff surrounding the 29 graduates, they celebrated the end of their school years at the Upper School Commencement Exercises on Friday, May 19.

Jack Thomas was selected by his peers to address his class at the ceremony. “I like to think of Riverfield as its own oceanic ecosystem. A successful ecosystem produces a unique scale of harmonious biodiversity,” Thomas said in his opening. He went on to compare magnificent creatures of the ocean to his classmates and teachers, all with a nod to how they are part of the symbiotic relationships that make the whole. For example, he said, “I like to think of Mrs. Coutant as a powerful, glowing moon, controlling the tide with her gentle pull.” In the end of his captivating speech, Thomas encouraged his fellow classmates, “The ocean may be turbulent on some days and smooth as glass on others. Overall, THIS [Riverfield] ecosystem has taught us how to thrive, sometimes in an unforgiving environment. Without all the moving parts, an ecosystem cannot be excellent. It will not reach its full potential. So, remember, wherever the current may take you, never forget to JUST... KEEP... SWIMMING.”

Daniel Hodges was chosen as the faculty speaker by the Class of 2023. Affectionately known as “Hodges,” he spoke of his pride for the student body and shared sage advice and words of wisdom, leaving the graduation class with this: “Your generation has many challenges ahead, but I, for one, and all of us here tonight have confidence you can make the world a better place, not just for yourselves, but for humanity.”



SENIOR AWARDS

Presidential Scholar Semi-Finalist &
Philipp Richter Exemplary
Student Award

Calla Andrews

B. Thomas Clark Athletic Award

Nya Barnard

Davieon Clinton

Tim O'Halloran Outstanding
Citizenship Award

Zack McCormick

Martha S. Clark
Head of School Award

Jack Thomas



8th Grade Closing Exercises

The '22-23 8th grade class continued one of Riverfield's longest-standing and memorable traditions, the 8th Grade Closing Exercises on May 18. Part of what makes this tradition so special is each student shares a short speech they crafted from their experiences in the Middle School. Some speeches brought tears from proud parents and teachers and many brought out the laughter of everyone.



8TH GRADE AWARDS

Blue Raven Athletic Awards
Scott Thompson & Nicya Moore
 Citizenship Award
Sierra O'Malley
 Leadership Award
Nicya Moore & Sailor Lee
 Academic Excellence Award
Aiden Uddin & Sam Ames
 Raven 360 Award
Kurtis Villafane & Alex Gund

5th Grade Bridge Crossing

The bridge at Mooser Creek, connecting the Lower School to the Middle and Upper Schools, hosted yet another Bridge Crossing tradition. The '22-23 5th grade class passed their cheering families and hugged their Lower School teachers goodbye as they crossed the bridge. One by one, they shook **Jerry Bates'** hand before being welcomed by Middle School Division Head **Dee Maxey** and the hugs, hoots, and hollers of their new Middle School peers on the other side.



DEIJ at RCDS

**We believe in
supporting and
encouraging diversity,
equity, inclusion, and
justice
in all ways.**

—Core Value supporting
RCDS mission

At Riverfield Country Day School, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) has been and continues to be an important area of focus and effort—for students, faculty, staff, and parents alike.

The DEIJ Alliance came together in 2021 at the direction of the Board of Trustees and has been working to inform and empower all of the RCDS community including faculty and staff, parents and students, as well as alumni, and alumni parents. The Alliance currently consists of three working groups; Policy and Procedures, Classroom Resources, and Training for Adults. Through the Alliance,

RCDS faculty and Alliance members have completed trainings on racial justice, gender identity, and education equity.

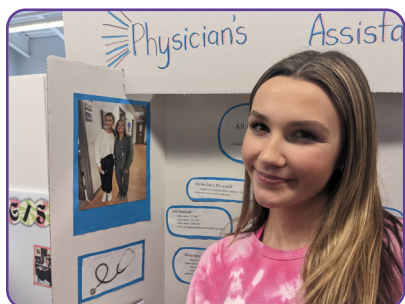
The DEIJ Steering Committee has been working to provide an official voice for the DEIJ Alliance with institutional and structural support from the Board of Trustees. The Diversity Alliance, composed of Riverfield Students, has provided ground-level support to student concerns.

To join the efforts of these working groups and committees, or for more information, please email deij-steering@riverfield.org.

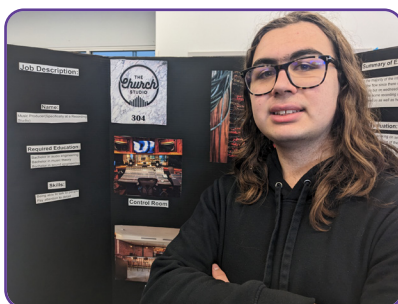
Real World Experience for Real Life: A Look at RCDS Internships

In February, RCDS juniors spent a week (30 hours) interning to learn about careers of their interest. They explored fields of mechanical and civil engineering, dentistry, college athletics, IT, private and judicial law, scientific research, counseling, interior design, pediatrics, visual effects, theatre management, chiropractic care, software development, and music production. As the internships commenced, the interns shared what they

learned, loved, and didn't like so much about the industries they explored. This was the sixth Upper School class to have this opportunity and we appreciate RCDS families and professionals who support this effort by welcoming students and offering meaningful internships. If you can provide an internship for next year's class, please email Daniel Hodges at dhodges@riverfield.org.



Macey Musick



Sky Vincent



Os Herrera Pano

ART GALLERY



Deer Class, weaving



Turtle Class, painting



Purple Class, story quilt



Space Encounters with the Tulsa Opera



Blue Raven Singers



Blue Raven Juniors

A Song & Dance

Riverfield partners with local arts organizations to connect students with real life performers and visual artists. On March 30, the Tulsa Opera visited the Lower School and blasted off into the cosmos with their performance of *Space Encounters*, taking our students to a world far, far away. Led by **Libby Sublett**, Blue Raven Juniors and Blue Raven Singers each held a concert in the fall and spring semesters complete with a variety of ensemble performances, props, and choreography. This was the first year for the Middle School choir, Blue Raven Legends. They announced their name and held their first performance on Visiting Day.

Academic Bowl Sweep



5th/6th grade Academic Bowl Team

The 5th/6th grade Academic Bowl team had a clean sweep at their Area tournament in March after finishing in 2nd place in the Firebird Tournament in February. At the Area Tournament they competed against All Saints, Monte Cassino, Marquette, and St. Marys, finishing strong to bring home the championship. The questions they answered ran the gamut: from Shakespeare to politics to Pokémon! Congratulations to **Hannah Martin**, **Lucas Randolph**, **Raleigh Thompson**, **Roman Williams**, team captain, **Gus McKay**, and coach **Brandi Thomas**. Also, special thanks to **Tom Clark** for volunteering to moderate the tournament.

Undefeated!



5/6th Basketball Team



David Roberts, Hudson Stewart, and Hudson Bogle

The 5th/6th grade Basketball team finished the season UNDEFEATED, a first in Riverfield history! Congratulations to the entire team and to **Coach Brummett** on the new record. The team finished the season by winning the Lake Country Conference title on January 27! **David Roberts**, **Hudson Stewart**, and **Hudson Bogle** were selected for the Lake Country Conference Players Select.

Varsity Boys Basketball



Anthony Harper & Braeden Clinton



Homecoming Court



Jack Thomas & Nya Barnard

At the Homecoming game on January 7, the Varsity Boys Basketball team beat Christian Summit 66-33. The Homecoming Court included Freshman **Lily Clark** escorted by Sophomore **Caleb Walton**, Junior **Mery Muro** escorted by Sophomore **Brody Thomas**, Senior **Nya Barnard** escorted by Senior **Jack Thomas**, and Sophomore **Katy Coutant** escorted by Sophomore **Anthony Harper**. Jack Thomas and Nya Barnard were named 2023 King and Queen. The Varsity Boys Basketball

team finished an incredible season and saw these impressive stats and smashed school records: 78 wins (school record), 6,102 points (school record), 24-0 undefeated home record, first team to qualify for the Area Tournament in school history, only class to ever qualify for Area three years in a row, first team in school history to qualify for State! Senior **Eli Scoggins** was selected for the Academic All State award.



Golden Goal



Varsity Soccer celebrating with Calla Andrews



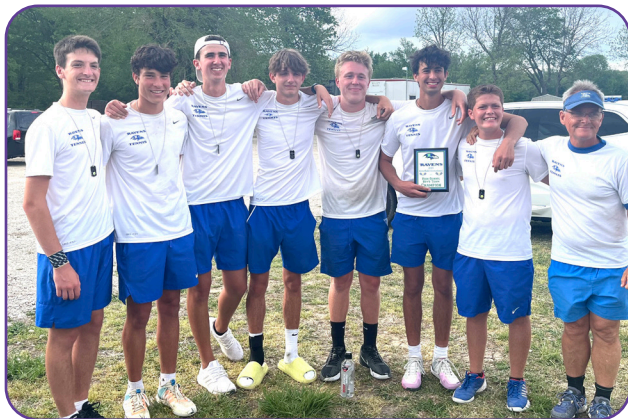
State Playoff send off

Varsity Girls Soccer

The '22-23 season was Erica Barnard's first year as coach of the Varsity Girls Soccer team. She took the team to their first scrimmage win of the season, where the team won 4-0 in March. On April 6, the Varsity Girls team scored the winning goal in overtime against Summit Christian, ending the game with a 4-3 final! After being down 2-0 at halftime, the Lady Ravens came back and the score was 3-3 at the final whistle, pushing the game into overtime. **Nya Barnard's** Golden Goal

(the first goal scored in overtime) won the game! The Lady Ravens finished the season strong and qualified for the 3A State Playoffs. In May, the entire Varsity Girls Soccer team and Upper School student body cheered on **Calla Andrews** as she signed her Letter of Intent to play college Soccer with Washington and Lee University in Virginia.

Banner Year for Ravens Tennis



Varsity Boys Tennis at the Riverfield Invitational

Both Varsity Teams had successful seasons with tournament victories at Pauls Valley, Regent, Henryetta, Stillwater, and Riverfield.

The Varsity Girls played the state tournament at the 5A classification for the first time due to success in recent years, despite being one of the smallest schools playing tennis in Oklahoma. The entire team qualified for state finishing 2nd at Regionals. At state, all entries won matches. **Kennedy Patterson** and **Katie Smith** (#2 Doubles), **Amelia Anderson** and **Reese Covey** finished 8th (#1 Doubles), **Maureen Sellers** was on the podium finishing 5th (#2 Singles), and freshman **Lily Clark** (#1 Singles) won the first state championship in Girls Ravens Tennis history.

The Varsity Boys swept the 4A Regional Tournament winning every flight. At State, **Kaleb Chesher** (#1 Singles) finished 6th. **Trey Pope** (#2 Singles) won multiple "marathon" matches and finished 3rd. **Johnson Hale** and **Caleb Walton** (#1 Doubles) finished 4th. **Jake Bell** and **Quinn Steenson** (#2 Doubles) were State Champions becoming the first Ravens Tennis doubles team to ever win State. Overall, the Boys team finished 2nd at State and will join the Girls team in the 5A class next year.

The Middle School Tennis teams were lean in numbers but worked hard all year. They improved throughout the season and gained a lot of experience. The girls were led by **Sophia Diaz**, **Kara Flinton**, **Evie Fowler**, **Zoe Jackson**, **Nicya Moore**, and **Rylyn Williams**. The boys team included **John Brown**, **Ethan Chesher**, **Wynn Dorwart**, **Alex Gund**, **Evan McCartney**, **Cole Patterson**, **Harry Phariss** and **Kenyon Williams**.

In postseason news, senior **Kaleb Chesher** was named All State and will play in the All State games in July. **Lily Clark** is a finalist for the *Tulsa World* Player of the Year in Girls Tennis.



Varsity Girls Tennis at the Riverfield Invitational



Kaleb Chesher, All State Award



Lily Clark, Toby Clark, & Maureen Sellers at the 5A State Tennis Tourney

Art, Learning, & Mr. Bates' Face

The Blue Class (3s-5s) studied portraiture to cultivate their creative and cognitive intelligences. Photography, interview, sketch, collage, wire, watercolor and acrylic paint became media for representing not only the physical attributes of Mr. Bates, but also his personality. Learning through portraiture continued with the creation of three, large-scale collaborative portraits in total. Their tiny hands and working minds also created epic works of art of Pre-School teachers **Kendall Walker** and **Jessie Goen**. Students developed their cognitive abilities, skills of inquiry, and participated in complex mathematical, creative, and critical thinking. For example, **Rhemi Moreau** realized Mr. Bates' teeth were not all white and were different shapes. She found objects for the shading in his smile and a small white button to capture his bottom tooth. Through the entire process, students deepened their relationships with each other and members of their RCDS community.



Jessie Goen's portrait

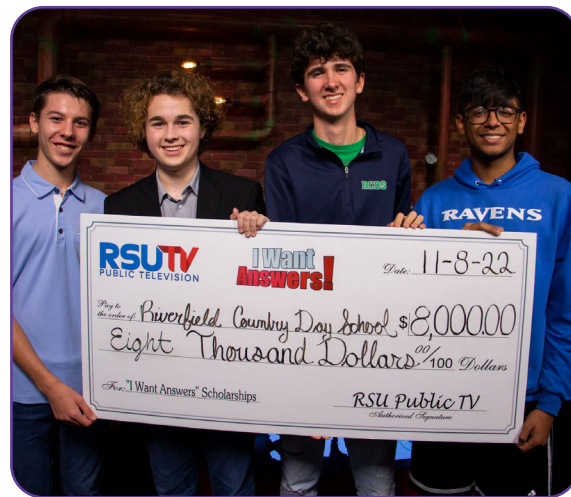
Kendall Walker's portrait

"What's the Answer?" WIN!



Riverfield Team: Chase Hill, Jackson Baker, Caleb Walton, and Ishan Patel

Upper School Academic Bowl students created a four-person team for the 12th season of the RSU TV quiz show, 'I Want Answers!' Making up the Riverfield Ravens team was **Jackson Baker, Chase Hill, Ishan Patel, and Caleb Walton**. The high school game show puts 16 Oklahoma High School Academic Teams head to head to compete for scholarship awards. As the weekly contest continued, the team had to keep the results of each contest a secret as the show was taped before being



televised. In the final episode, the Riverfield Ravens took on the Morris Eagles, clinching the championship with a final score of 540 to 270. On March 8, representatives from RCB Bank and RSU TV presented the winning team with the trophy and a total of \$8,000 in scholarships, with each contestant receiving \$2,000. Congrats to Jackson, Chase, Ishan, and Caleb on the win and well-deserved scholarship money.

Democracy in Action

RCDS National Honor Society members teamed up with the League of Women Voters on a mission to register new Oklahoma voters and help those needing to update their current registration in order to vote in the November 8, 2022, elections. Students encouraged their peers who would be eligible to vote, and their family members and faculty to register and update their information. Before and during lunch, the League of Women Voters representatives were available to answer questions and collect the registration paperwork from the team. The drive itself was an important action for democratic responsibility and led to successfully registering thirteen new Raven voters!



Brody Thomas, 10th grade

ART GALLERY



Jaydon Beuchat, 11th grade



Stella Hubler, 12th grade

MURDER at the Banquet

FRI, MAY 5 &
SAT, MAY 6
7PM

SPAGHETTI
DINNER
& SHOW



Murder at the Banquet

Middle and Upper School cast members of the Riverfield Theatre Co. entertained guests with two evenings of mystery and meatballs in May. The dinner theater production of *Murder at the Banquet* was an interactive "who done it" with guests enjoying their noodles from Mondo's Ristorante Italian. Cast members stayed in character during their photoshoot held at rehearsal to promote the event, bringing out the twisted relationships between the possible suspects. In the end, the Sheriff was led away in handcuffs!

Special thanks to the actors for their countless hours of rehearsal, to stage manager, **Ellery Rettinger**, and to the staff who served dinner as the Riverfield community was entertained with all the drama and mystery.



Lucy Rotenberg, Evan McCartney, Claire Cook, & Samantha Holsopple

ART GALLERY



Parker Nicholas, 8th grade

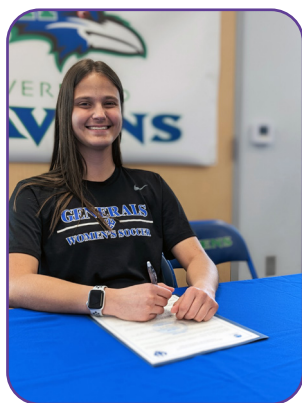


Aiden Uddin, 8th grade



Sam Ames, 8th grade

Signing on to College Sports



Calla Andrews



Davieon Clinton



Avery Flinton

Three Raven athletes will continue their sports careers in college. Congratulations to the 2023 seniors who signed their Letters of Intent to play for their home universities next fall.

Calla Andrews will play Soccer for Washington and Lee University in Virginia. Calla's Soccer career has spanned her time as a lifer at RCDS, with Erica Barnard as her senior year coach and with her club Soccer team, West Side Alliance, coached by Dan Williams and Mansour Ebrahimzadeh.

Davieon Clinton will play Basketball at Bacone University in Oklahoma. Davieon received the All State award in Basketball and played in the OBCA All Star Game at UCO this summer.

Avery Flinton will play Volleyball with Northeastern Oklahoma A&M. Before coming to RCDS where she also played Varsity Soccer and Basketball, Avery played Volleyball while at Booker T. She continued the sport and chose to pursue college Volleyball with her club team, Virgao.

Cross Country



Sophomore **Reese Covey** placed 1st in the Girls 5K at the Tulsa Open in the fall and finished 4th in the OSSAA Regional Cross Country meet, qualifying for State Class 2A Girls Cross Country. Running for Riverfield over the last four years, she represented RCDS as a star athlete who is a member of NHS and also competes in Varsity Tennis and Soccer.


BECOME A
MEMBER OF

BOOSTER Club

MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- ✓ THE JOY OF FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING OF 15 MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL TEAMS
- ✓ OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT GAMES, EVENTS, AND OUR ATHLETES
- ✓ CONNECTING WITH RCDS FAMILIES, FACULTY, AND STUDENTS
- ✓ EXCLUSIVE RCDS ATHLETICS WINDOW DECAL
- ✓ [2] OFFICIAL BOOSTER CLUB SHIRTS

ONLY \$75 PER SCHOOL YEAR.



Booster Club

What does it mean to be a member of the Riverfield Ravens Booster Club?

When you become an active member of the Riverfield Ravens Booster Club you have opportunities to lead and serve RCDS student athletes, the athletic programs, and OSSAA activities such as Basketball, Cheer, Cross Country, Tennis, Soccer, and Academic Bowl. Student athletes and competitive programs rely on the volunteer support of games, concessions, transportation, meals, and more. The Booster Club is an important part of engaging our Riverfield families to support the excellence of our student athletes and teams. Become a Booster Club member today and amp up your support for RCDS athletics! Contact Booster Club chair **Molly Jarvis** for details, boosterclub@riverfield.org.



Celebrating Trees!

RCDS 4th/5th grade classes, aptly named after trees, focused their studies in '22-23 on Tree Advocacy. Specifically, their Investigative Project centered on Tulsa Celebri-Trees: Trees that qualify (or once qualified) as Champion Trees and/or hold historic significance in the Tulsa community. Students formed committees based on their curiosities and interests, from marketing and graphic design to judiciary investigation, playwriting, hiking and geocaching. One group of students interviewed representatives from the Tennessee Champion Tree Program, while another created a [documentary](#) featuring **Clayton Coss**, a Tulsa Chainsaw Artist, who is creating furniture for Riverfield's new Center for Creativity from campus trees lost amid its construction. In celebration of Arbor Day, all committees came together to plant 15 trees at Aaronson Park, where they

were featured on Fox 23, Channel 8, and News on 6. In combination with Riverfield's Spring Expo, this year-long study of trees culminated in a student-written and led mock trial at the courthouse with **Judge Christine Little**. Through combined efforts of multiple groups throughout the year, a website, social media presence, maps and brochures were created and continue to bring awareness to the Tulsa community about the Celebri-trees in their midst. Learn about Tulsa Celebri-Trees and find a map to take the tour on the student-created website, tinyurl.com/touroftulsacelebritrees, or on Instagram at [@tulsa_celebritrees](#).

Frog City



A tiny frog enjoying the previous year's project, Black Shadow River, was the jumping off point for the '22-23 2nd/3rd grade Creek and Lakes class's design doing project. It all started as they began exploring the class-made river and a little frog hopped out. That spark of inspiration led to the creation of Frog City. First, by watching footage of a nature cam, the students wanted to learn what critters did when humans were not around. Like the scientists they are, the class began collecting data.

In the Lower School, the question of what makes for a thriving community and happy citizens was a common thread. Students focused in on important concepts such as the basic needs for survival, the differences between residential and commercial properties, and the wants of a culturally vibrant community, such as schools and art. **Elina Uddin** and her best friend **Lily Krefft** were on the team to create characters and develop their stories, a "comfortable" task as these two have been writing "The Adventures of Ann & Coco," featuring them as pandas, since the 2nd grade at RCDS.



Lily Krefft & Elina Uddin

"Writing about frog life was a little different because we had to learn what they ate and what they liked to do," Elina said. Along with their classmates, they brought their characters to life with modeling clay. Johnny Boy was super buff, with big muscly arms.

Jimmy was an artist and his partner, Jade, ran a business from home. Lily's favorite character was Frogger-Williams who is

the local museum owner and lived in the hotel. "I just needed to create Frogger because he loves art like I do," Lily said.

This cast of characters needed spaces to enjoy life and the second semester kicked off the construction of Frog City, located on both sides of Black Shadow River just outside Lower School teacher **Terri Naifeh's** door. "These students put their academic and problem solving skills into practice as they built Frog City from the ground up," Mrs. Naifeh said. Learning from a City Planner in Bixby, they divided their city into zones, prioritized which buildings needed to be built first, and worked together to determine the best layout and location for each one, including an airport, museum, schools, and even a sushi restaurant.

Izzy Walker was partnered with **Hazel Haney** to create the Elementary school of Frog City. "We made it two stories tall to fit all the grades and our colors were Blue and Green," Izzy said. The Middle and Upper Schools represented the same colors, in honor of Riverfield. After building models with paper and laying out the city, construction using the Glow Forge, glue, and paint began. Frog City paired with a video, research materials, and books were on full display at the Spring Expo.



Izzy Walker

ART GALLERY



Savannah Walker, 5th



Sloane Ariana, 1st



Harris Miller, 4th

Roots & Shoots



Roots & Shoots students

Roots & Shoots students designed their own winter garden, planned a budget and received a grant from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Green Schools program to grow winter crops. Because of the location of the bed, students chose beets, carrots, spinach, kale, lettuce and broccoli. They found that the peacocks really enjoyed the broccoli seedlings so none of them survived to harvest, but the rest grew very well. The students celebrated on the last day of class with fresh-grown salads and a new appreciation



Henry Stacklin

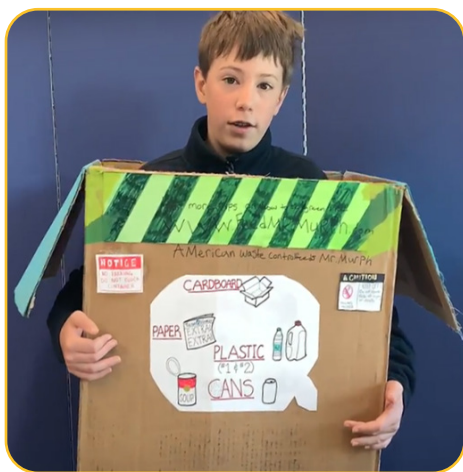
for just what it takes to make food to nourish our bodies and take care of our environment.

In addition to the garden, students were also able to seed lots of milkweed and native wildflower plants that have been added to pollinator gardens around the Middle School.

"The Roots & Shoots program is a great way to inspire students to make a positive difference in the world around them," Middle School teacher **Rachel Langley** said.



Green School of the Year Award



November 15 is National America Recycles Day, a day to celebrate contributions to recycling and the environment. The M.E.T., OK Green Schools program, and OK Recycling Association celebrated American Recycles Day Champions in the Tulsa area and honored Riverfield as the 2022 Green School of the Year. The Riverfield community is active and committed to positive environmental practices that make a meaningful impact on the school's footprint.

Middle School students take action in their everyday RCDS life through Roots & Shoots and coordinating student-led projects through a lens of environmental justice.

Evan McCartney, 7th grader, was recognized with the Environmental Student Award along with other eco-champs; Green Government, Green Project, and Green Non-Profit awards.

Congratulations to all America Recycles Day Champions:

Environmental Student: Evan McCartney
Green School:

Riverfield Country Day School
Green Non-Profit:

Cherokee Area Council Boy Scouts
Green Project of the Year:

Assistance League of Tulsa
Environmental Steward Award:

Graham Brannin
Green Government:
City of Broken Arrow



Evan McCartney encouraging others to recycle. OKRA rep with Jerry Bates, Tom Clark, Angie Novak, and Hornsby.



Theo Walker and Calving Carver explore the greys of winter.



Ian Busenburg and Leeland Widener play after winter's thaw.

From Winter to Spring: From little seeds grow mighty trees

Infants at Riverfield are invited to explore and investigate nature with each passing season. Like in nature, there is ongoing growth and changes. Our infants also grow, change, and develop with the space of time. "With this parallel concept of growth and change, we explored the winter and spring season's unique phenomena and embraced each of our infant's growth and development throughout the school year," Bird teacher **Rachel Richardson** said. The Bird Class studied the transition of the seasons using a variety of materials. The children held and shaped grey clay to represent grey, rainy days. Using paint and clumps of newly sprouted grass, the children experienced the different hues of greens found in the early spring. Using the light table, children placed fresh flowers, to see how the light shows through the petals.



Claire Hasbrook and Isabel Tinlin explore pretty petals of spring.



Isabel Tinlin and Claire Hasbrook show each other pieces of spring flowers with teacher Virginia Eddleman.

ART GALLERY



Squirrel Class



Squirrel Class



Squirrel Class

Bravo, Sky Class



Upon their return from Winter Break, Sky Class teachers **Aimee Martin** and **Ashleigh Sanchez** noticed a new curiosity among their kindergarten and first grade students around plays and performances. A small group of students particularly interested in *The Nutcracker* chose parts, designed costumes and invitations, selected a musical score and practiced dances before putting on a very special performance for the Woods Class. This stellar performance inspired the rest of the class to continue investigating, 'What makes a performance?'

Inspired by fairytales, students wrote and illustrated stories that incorporated components of Riverfield and its community. They shared their stories with one another and voted on their top creative favorites: *The Tale of the Three Little Peacocks and the Big Bad Mr. Bates*, *Puss in Boots*, *Silverree and the Three Birds*, and *The Tale of the Little Chick*. As they worked in committees throughout the semester to bring the four stories to life, students continued their research by attending a variety

of puppet shows, *La Cincineta*, Tulsa Opera, and the Lyric Theater's interactive *Oklahoma!*

Noticing that performances have a special way of bringing people together, the children wondered how they could create a space at Riverfield to do just that with their four shows. Their research turned toward stages as they designed, measured, and created blueprints of what a shared performance space could look like for the Riverfield community.

Working together with **Jerry Bates**, **Jack Maxey**, and **Katie Musick**, the stage they'd imagined became a reality! By Spring Expo, Sky Class students had assigned roles, practiced lines, chosen music, designed and created costumes, invitations, and a program. Parents, teachers and friends filled the audience as they debuted their original performances on their very own stage, now a permanent structure on the Riverfield grounds.

Bravo, Sky Class!

National Placement in Cyber News



National CyberStart Semi-finalists

In the National CyberStart America security challenge, students take on the role of a cyber detective intern working on cybersecurity tasks and simulations built by an expert team of professionals based on real-world scenarios.

Five RCDS students; **Xavier Messenger**, 9th, **Hogan Hulsey**, 10th, **Emma England**, 11th, **Alex Silman**, 11th, and **Ishan Patel**, 12th, were semi-finalists in the competition. Emma and Xavier were two of the top scoring finalists in the nation, advancing to apply for exclusive scholarships. Xavier advanced on to receive the National Cyber Scholar status from the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation, earning him access to free SANS training at the Cyber Foundations Academy, a \$3,000 value.

Riverfield, as a school, earned a Cyber Opportunity School digital Bronze Award.

eSports Takes Off

Upper School '22-23 Ravens represented as the first eSports class coached by **Paul Knight**, competing against OSSAA schools in Oklahoma. A four-person team chooses their gaming characters—such as Mario, Princess Peach, Donkey Kong, and Bowser—allowing players to virtually race around tracks in interactive spaces in Mario Kart.

Four teams used strategy and skill to smash the competitors in Smash Brothers. Outside of competitions, all teams scrimmaged against competitors across the nation.

Thanks to the generosity of the Hale Family Foundation, eSports had a great first year and will expand to include Middle School, competitions against teams in the Oklahoma eSports League, and additional PC games. The program will move into the new Center for Creativity next school year.



Inagural eSports Ravens Team

For the Love of Reading



Raven Reading Buddies

In March, Eugene Field Elementary School and Library received over 1,000 books thanks to Raven Reading Buddies, the 11th graders who took on a book drive earlier this year for their Design Doing class.

The books were distributed to students in the Eugene community, helping to build on their love of reading. Eugene Field Elementary posted on their Facebook, "It's amazing community support like this that makes all the difference for our kids."

Riverfield Family Association: A Year in Review



We had a busy '22-23 school year with the Riverfield Family Association. The RFA Bylaws were updated and the election for Board Officers was reinstituted in addition to holding RFA's annual fundraisers; *The Run for Riverfield* in the fall and *Sapphire Celebration* in the spring.

RFA members worked hard to ensure our teachers and staff felt extra special during Staff Appreciation Week and throughout the year.

All Riverfield families are members of RFA, and the board and working groups are made up of parents and family members who volunteer to support our school, staff, and community. We encourage you to join us as we are always looking for new faces and ideas to add to our teams. RFA meets once a month, the second Thursday of each month, at 8:30am in the Lower School conference room. As the new Center for Creativity opens, we plan to utilize the spaces for meetings and events and plan to hold evening meeting(s) to allow for more participation.

If you are interested in joining us and would like to be added to the email list, please email rfa@riverfield.org. Massive thanks to all our volunteers, their service to RFA supporting our Riverfield community is necessary and greatly appreciated.

The Elected '23-24 RFA Board of Officers:

President: Heather Ward; Vice President: Devon Nowicki; Recording Officer: Vicki Patterson; Treasurer: Christie Osborne; and Fundraising Representative: Randa Briggs.

Appointed support positions include:

Fall Fundraising Chair: Christie Osborne; Auction Chair: Whitney Mathews; Dine and Donate Coordinator: Heather Gower; Staff Appreciation Coordinator: Kristen Williams; Volunteer Coordinator: Suzie Wood; Family Representative Coordinator: Katie Murray; Infant-2's Family Rep: Casey Ridgeway; 3s to 5s Family Rep: Melissa Wayt; K/1 Family Rep: Lauren Avery; 2nd/3rd Family Rep: Somer Johnson; 4th/5th Family Rep: Tammy McCartney; and Middle School Family Rep: Gina Hasty.

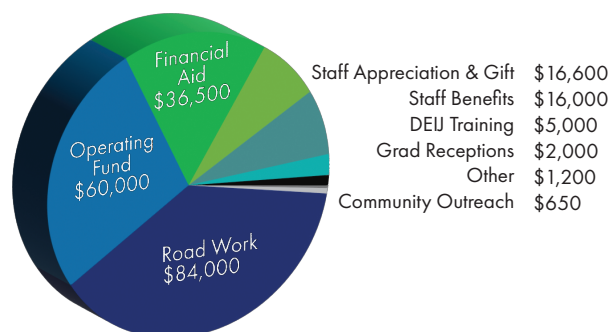
We are in need of an Upper School Family Rep and volunteers for our upcoming fundraisers, social activities, and staff appreciation events. Please reach out to me, any of our RFA leaders, or simply attend an RFA meeting to get plugged in.

Kindest regards,

RFA Board President

RFA Funds

Gross Raised: \$344,000
Total Distribution: \$221,950



RIVERFIELD RFA FAMILY ASSOCIATION

All parents and staff are members of the Riverfield Family Association (RFA), which encourages family participation and promotes educational programs, financial welfare, and service to the school community. Through the RFA, each student's education is enhanced by parent involvement.



The 2022 Run for Riverfield raised over \$120,000 in student fundraising alone, with an additional \$14,500 in sponsorships, surpassing the 2021 record as the most successful run to date! Pre-School and Lower School students enjoyed running in a party-like atmosphere while Middle and Upper School students participated in the annual Color Run. Donations were made from all 50 states resulting in Mr. Bates getting slimed. Several other administrators and teachers were also slimed as a result of various goals and challenges being met. The money raised will be used for a new road on campus. Save the date for this year's Run, September 21-29!



Clockwise from top left: Lower School students run their hearts out; Willow class gathers for a group photo, Lily Clark, Toby Clark, and Katie Smith are all smiles, and Middle and Upper School students wrap up the Color Run.

Night On BROADWAY

SAPPHIRE CELEBRATION



This year's Sapphire Celebration theme Night on Broadway resulted in a wide variety of amazing theatrical costumes. Held at River Spirit Casino and Resort, the event raised \$220,000 with \$36,500 going toward the Martha S. Clark Financial Aid Fund. The event featured a silent and live auction, dinner, and live music by HOOK.



SAPPHIRE CELEBRATION

March 2  2024

Pictured: Little Shop of Horror characters: Lauren Avery, Blake and Whitney Mathews, and Jamie Ariana; Liz Brillhart and Dr. Michael Burgland; Christian and Erica Barnard as Daddy Warbucks & Annie; Nick and Vicki Patterson from Grease with Sapphire Co-Chair, Natalie Williams.

Gathering Garden



Red and Rabbit classmates, siblings, and RCDS families working to create the Gathering Garden.

The Gathering Gardens is a collaborative community space created by the Red and Rabbit classes for the entire Riverfield family to tend to and enjoy. With the help of their teachers and families, the children built the garden beds, filled them with soil, and planted seedlings. They held a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 8 officially opening the garden to all. To help the garden grow and thrive, the Red Class created the [Gathering Garden Agreements](#): a set of guidelines to keep the plants and humans safe, cultivating respect for our Earth, and inviting families to plant new plants and add flair to the landscape. RCDS families are invited to visit and plant in the garden any time the campus is open.

Gathering Garden Ribbon Cutting on May 8.

Another Year of Rock



Twelve bands, 6th-12th grades, performed to over 850 people at the legendary Cain's Ballroom on February 4. The crowd lost their minds as the bands played covers, ranging from the B52s to Muse. With a full slate of rehearsals behind them, nerves ensued as bandmates flanked the back stairs cheering on their fellow performers, waiting for their chance to take the stage.

On April 29, 4th/5th grade bands joined the lineup for the annual Llamapalooza, this year with two shows. Due to weather, the event was moved into the newly renovated Blue Gym, with an added bonus of a laser light show. Once again, the crowd lost their minds! Check out [Riverfield Rock's YouTube](#) channel for the latest videos featuring bands, The 918, Headless Chicken and more.

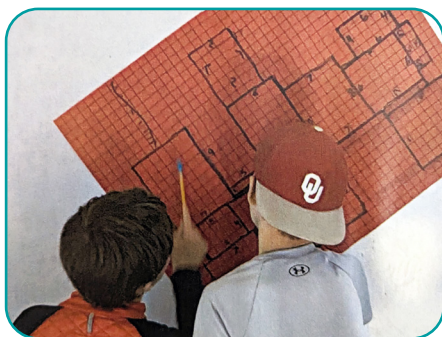
Utopian Society



Students work on designing their utopian society.

What makes a “happy” community? Grasslands, Lakes, and Meadow 2nd/3rd graders took a deep dive this year into the question, pooled their findings, and collaborated to create their own utopian society.

Students researched and presented on what makes certain areas of the world “happier” places to live than others. Costa Rica was ultimately chosen as the model country because of its temperate climate, lush rainforest, and laid-back way of living. Zooming in on the ideas Costa Rica inspired, students tracked their own day-to-day happiness with a ladder scaled “best to worst.” They recorded ideas that might help move them closer to the “best” rung, and repeated the process with their parents and families.



After pooling their data, students determined five distinct categories that affected ratings: entertainment, health, nature, relationships, and pets/animals. With these categories in mind, students began crafting a world zoned into commercial, agricultural, and residential areas, integrating math through the concepts of perimeter, area, measurement, and scale.

They also partnered with the Upper School yearbook class to create a digital photo essay documenting happiness in the Riverfield community, paired with a curated playlist of “happy music” from **Libby Sublett’s** class. The Happiness Project inspired students in the areas of research, critical thinking, math, literacy, science, civics, and social emotional learning. Certainly, the 2nd/3rd grade wing is a happy place!

Speech & Debate



This was another year of excellence for Ravens Speech and Debate. From November to April, 24 Upper School students competed in a competition schedule that included eight qualifying and three post-season tournaments. The team earned a school-record of 40 qualifying events for the Regional Tournament in March, took home the Regional Championship, then held off all challengers to win a sixth consecutive State Championship! “It all starts with having amazing, fierce students who are hard-working, creative, and resilient,” **Coach David Wright** said. Additionally, with a cumulative GPA of 3.94, this Raven squad was recognized as the 3A State Champion for



Distinguished Academic Achievement.

Following this record-breaking season, team members **Trey Pope**, **Holden Williams**, and **Jackson Baker** traveled to Phoenix, AZ in mid-June to represent RCDS and East Oklahoma at the NSDA National Speech and Debate Tournament. Holden’s father, **Dr. Dixon Williams** traveled with the Raven contingent and said, “Reportedly, this is the biggest academic tournament in the world. Our small (but beloved) team competed with giant schools from all over America. It truly was an amazing experience.”



Mery Muro casting a fly rod, students learning about the ecosystems, and releasing trout.

24 BLUEprint Summer 2023

The Advanced Environmental Science class, taught by the Upper School teacher **James Wilson**, has participated in the Trout in the Classroom program with Trout Unlimited for several years. "Each Halloween we receive around 300 rainbow trout eggs from a fish hatchery in Montana," Wilson said. "The students observe and care for the trout throughout their development. Each spring we release the mature fish into the Lower Illinois River with a group of volunteers." While on

their trout-releasing excursion, students also learn to tie flies, cast a fly rod, and identify macroinvertebrates in the stream. Class of '23 senior **Nya Barnard** enjoyed Wilson's Environmental Science class so much as a junior, she elected to continue learning with him in Anatomy her senior year. "I like Mr. Wilson's class because of his fun approach to teaching and the projects we complete. He is really fun and silly, so that makes it even more enjoyable," she said.



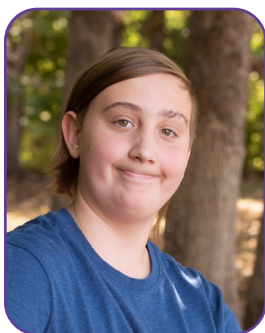
Giving dogs a bath at the Betsy Project Dog Wash

The Betsy Project

Riverfield's Betsy Project group is guided by Upper School students and Science teacher **Ivy Graham**. This year, students continued the partnership with Animal Aid of Tulsa to learn about their services and meet a momma dog named Sweetie. Thanks to generous donors and programs of Animal Aid, Sweetie, who had recently given birth to pups, was able to be treated and recovered from an injury.

The Betsy Project raised \$1,565 this school year to help dogs like Sweetie, and her pups, be cared for and adopted by their forever families. The Betsy Project is a student group that aims to provide education about responsible pet ownership, as well as raise funds for homeless animals with medical needs.

Games For Change Winner: The Peace Maker



Jace Vandy

Jace Vandy and others took on the Games 4 Change Social Impact competition at the encouragement of Technology and Innovation teacher **Penny Etris**. Representing Oklahoma at the regional competition, his game 'The Peace Maker' was selected as a finalist for the XR Innovation Challenge award category, putting him in the running to win the grand prize of a \$10,000 scholarship.

The national ceremony was held June 13, and Jace won the South Regional XR Innovation Award for outstanding games that were created for an

extended reality experience utilizing augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR). You can play Jace's game at gamesforchange.org.

Being a finalist for the national competition is a huge accomplishment and honor. "Jace's game is phenomenal and a true testament to his creativity and compassion. We are so blessed by Riverfield and all the amazing teachers that wholeheartedly encourage our children," parent **Kat Gardner-Vandy** said.



RIVERFIELD

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

FALL FAMILY

CAMP OUT

OCTOBER 2023



Football: A Beautiful Sport Inspires Learning



The World Cup of Soccer came to Riverfield during the months of November and December 2022. Fueled by **Coach Saunders'** passion for the beautiful game—as he lovingly calls it—each middle school student was randomly assigned one of the 32 countries participating in the World Cup to study and take to each of their subjects.

In Math, it was a numbers game applied to a card sorting game. In Science, students looked at biomes of their country. In Social Studies, they researched their nations and looked at the forms of government, economics, and history. In English, students had to deal with a randomly selected challenge or major event that would lead to a refugee influx or exodus from their selected country.

When it came to the USA vs Wales game, everyone eagerly watched every kick while eating specially prepared Welsh cakes made by teacher **Matt DeWeese** and his culinary students.

After the last ball was kicked in the international tournament, students further developed their skills and projects throughout the second semester.

"Everything I learned about Spain was full of color and creativity. I would totally go to Spain," **Hailey Cox** said.

Costa Rica was the country **Scarlett Nowicki** was assigned and aside from the amazing food, she was surprised about the landscape of the country. "There is a magic forest in Costa Rica that is beautiful. I loved how the people respect the forest in their culture."

Coach Saunders and Mr. DeWeese were happy about the results of the World Cup inspired projects as they were able to harness the renewed enthusiasm for "football" at Riverfield. The afterschool practices and games had record numbers of students wanting to get in on the fun.



Stella Thomas, 8th

ART GALLERY

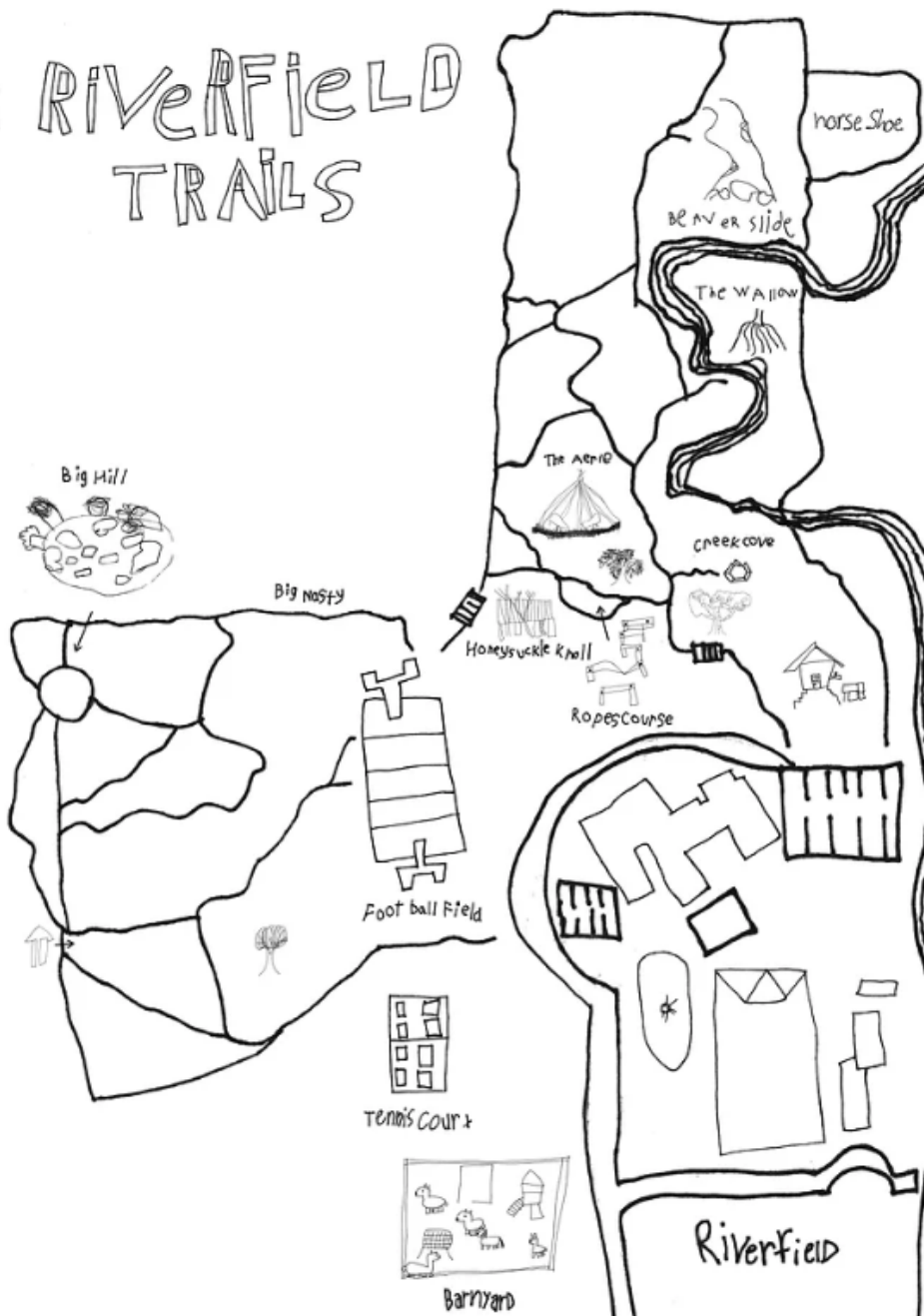


Charlotte Hooper, 11th



Harper Grace Walton, 8th

RIVERFIELD TRAILS



Hike Riverfield

Did you know that the campus is open to RCDS families to enjoy and hike the trails on evenings and weekends?

Now, you can choose your own adventure on the trails thanks to the student-created website, [Hike Riverfield!](#)

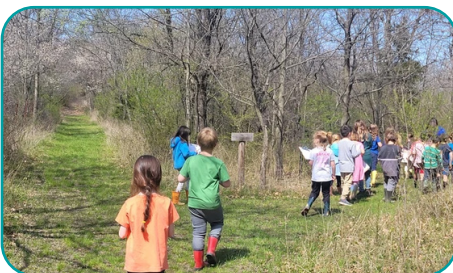
The Prairie Class created this site so everyone can enjoy an interactive and safe hiking experience. They even designed this handy Trail Map!

Before you head out at the trail head, click "Story Hike" at the top of the website. There you'll find an interactive "choose your own adventure" story you can follow as you walk through the woods. Students read several books with options to choose what happens next and they wanted to bring that excitement to real-life in this unique experience.

Check out the website to see their research, hiking safety tips, the wildlife you can expect to find at Riverfield, and so much more.



Note: The RCDS campus is open to RCDS families and not to the public. The campus is opened in the morning and closed at sundown with security on site.



We believe our campus provides a unique natural environment and time in nature can be an inspiration for learners of every type and age.

—Core Value supporting RCDS mission

Mission

**Ignite adventure, inspire inquiry,
and build excellence to empower students to
change their world.**

Commitment

**We are committed to school as a place of
research, valuing each individual within a safe,
respectful, learner-focused community that
bravely grows and evolves together as
*One Riverfield.***

Strategy

**Looking outside of ourselves and into the world,
we are dynamic, flexible, and agile as we
cultivate a culture of innovation,
sustainability, and advocacy.**

Approach

**We design robust environments, active learning
experiences, and integrated curriculum through
inquiry and problem/project based approaches
to creatively demonstrate progressions toward
mastery through feedback, iteration,
and application.**

Core Value

We believe students are innately intelligent and competent, and learner-centered inquiry is the underpinning of learning.

Statements of Belief

We believe in providing a safe, respectful, nurturing, and collaborative learning environment for all members of our community.

We believe one of our core strengths is our flexible, agile, passionate, highly qualified, and professional faculty, staff, and administration.

We believe all school community members have a responsibility to secure and steward abundant and appropriate resources and to promote a spirit of philanthropy.

We believe our campus provides a unique natural environment and time in nature can be an inspiration for learners of every type and age.

We believe in being leaders in our educational approaches by utilizing complex environments, intelligent materials, and interesting experiences to provide an innovative and extraordinary educational experience and produce academic excellence.

We believe a student-centered and integrated curriculum embedded in interdisciplinary, problem/project based, experiential learning that produces academic excellence by cultivating knowledge, skills, mindsets, and dispositions is necessary for future success and life-long learning.

We believe family involvement and engagement are integral to our students' growth and development.

We believe in incorporating learning beyond the classroom into our curriculum to foster and nurture each student's unique cognitive, physical, behavioral, social, and emotional growth and development.

We believe in supporting and encouraging diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in all ways for the welcomed strength it brings to the education of all members of our community. We believe understanding and respecting differences inspires compassion and empathy and fosters intellectual curiosity and creativity.

Academic Honor Rolls

Fall 2022

Raven Roll (3.75-4.0 GPA)

Honor Roll (3.5-3.74 GPA)

Middle School

Upper School

Middle School

Upper School

Sam Ames
Remi Barnard
Avery Beuchat
Addy Coutant
Peyton Covey
Hailey Cox
Sophia Diaz
Cameron Eddleman
Charly Etris
Ben Fallis
Kara Flinton
Evie Fowler
Ian Gilliland
Alex Gund
Luke Hagedorn
Kristine Harbison
Archer Hargett
Adam Hasty
Emily Holloman
Xavier Hood
Zoe Jackson
Elizabeth Kilpatrick
Aaron Le
Sailor Lee
Katie Logsdon
Gus McKay
Senna Miller
Nicya Moore
Bennett Moren
Makayla Morgan
Bodhi Nicholas
Scarlett Nowicki
Maya O'Malley
Blake Orazetti
Grayson Pagel

Paige Peters
Harry Phariss
Mary Renner
David Roberts
Noah Sherrill
Estella Smolen
Hudson Stewart
Stella Thomas
Logan Thompson
Miles Tindell
Aiden Uddin
Kurtis Villafane
Harper Grace Walton
Piper Weece
Garrett Williams
Zander Williams

Hana Al-Alawneh
Tye Alderman
Amelia Anderson
Calla Andrews
Jackson Baker
Nya Barnard
Caroline Bates
Tucker Beech
Jake Bell
Jaydon Beuchat
Liv Bontrager
Circe Boston
Kolby Brent
Kaleb Cheshier
Lily Clark
Katy Coutant
Reese Covey
Annika Crader
Juno Crader
Kayla Dempsey
Alexa Deys
Catie Doerr
Vivian Doerr
Aidan Feeley
Abby Feken-Cole
Avery Flinton
Maddox Ford
Evan Gaines
Boas Gelfand
Johnson Hale
Anthony Harper
Chase Hill
Drew Holleyman
Charlotte Hooper
Channing Horten
Wyatt Horten

Brogan Hotz
Callum Hotz
Stella Hubler
Oliver Ihrig
Jenelle Jacobs
Katelyn Jenkins
Emily Kiker
Lawson Mack
Aislinn Manus
Baker Martin
Nathan McCormick
Zack McCormick
Xavier Messenger
Logan Moren
Micah Morice Brubaker
Yati Mota
Mery Muro
Macey Musick
Kennedy Patterson
Trey Pope
Charlie Ramirez
Cameron Rutterford
Eli Scoggins
Maureen Sellers
Katie Smith
Ruby Snyder
Leah Stallings
Quinn Steenson
Jack Thomas
Caleb Walton
Ibble Widdoes
Holden Williams
Mia Wolek

Hudson Bogle
Nash Chandler
Claire Cook
Sophia David
Wynn Dorwart
Isabella Dupus
Ryley Hester
Shadow Hofstrom
Grant Holsopple
Samantha Holsopple
Grant Horten
Hannah Martin
Evan McCartney
Parker Nicholas
Junuh Ridenour
Rafe Ridenour
Henry Stacklin
Aspen Thompson
Raleigh Thompson
Hailey Tucker
Jace Vandy
Cyra Walker
Hannah White
Rylyn Williams

Addy Angel
Gavin Bennett
Carter Burrage
Breyan Chan
Ethan Cheshier
Parker Corbin
Emma England
Sydney Feken-Cole
Lydia Hardcastle
Ella Holsopple
Hogan Hulsey
Memphis Lee
Colin Long
Deacon Martin
Os Pano
Ishan Patel
Cole Patterson
Sophie Phillips
Sophia Rapacki
Ellery Rettinger
Charlie Rotenberg
Sophia Roytman
Alex Silman
Kamden Snell
Brody Thomas
Aila Walker
Kenyon Williams
Kenyon Williams
Gigi Williamson

Spring 2023

Raven Roll (3.75-4.0 GPA)

Honor Roll (3.5-3.74 GPA)

Middle School

Upper School

Middle School

Upper School

Sam Ames
Remi Barnard
Avery Beuchat
Quinn Clouse
Peyton Covey
Hailey Cox
Sophia Diaz
Cameron Eddleman
Charly Etris
Ben Fallis
Kara Flinton
Evie Fowler
Ian Gilliland
Alex Gund
Luke Hagedorn
Kristine Harbison
Archer Hargett
Emily Holloman
Grant Horten
Zoe Jackson
Sailor Lee
Katie Logsdon
Hannah Martin
Gus McKay
Senna Miller
Nicya Moore
Bennett Moren
Makayla Morgan
Bodhi Nicholas
Scarlett Nowicki
Maya O'Malley
Sierra O'Malley
Grayson Pagel
Paige Peters
Harry Phariss
Mary Renner

Rafe Ridenour
David Roberts
Estella Smolen
Hudson Stewart
Miles Tindell
Aiden Uddin
Jace Vandy
Kurtis Villafane
Cyra Walker
Harper Grace Walton
Hannah White
Garrett Williams
Zander Williams
Rylyn Williams

Hana Al-Alawneh
Tye Alderman
Calla Andrews
Jackson Baker
Nya Barnard
Caroline Bates
Tucker Beech
Jake Bell
Jaydon Beuchat
Liv Bontrager
Circe Boston
Kolby Brent
Carter Burrage
Breyan Chan
Kaleb Cheshier
Lily Clark
Davieon Clinton
Parker Corbin
Katy Coutant
Reese Covey
Juno Crader
Annika Crader
Omega Dempsey
Alexa Deys
Vivian Doerr
Catie Doerr
Aidan Feeley
Syd Feken-Cole
Abby Feken-Cole
Avery Flinton
Abby Ford
Evan Gaines
Boas Gelfand
Lydia Hardcastle
Anthony Harper
Chase Hill
Drew Holleyman
Charlotte Hooper

Channing Horten
Wyatt Horten
Brogan Hotz
Stella Hubler
Oliver Ihrig
Jenelle Jacobs
Katelyn Jenkins
Charlie Jones
Emily Kiker
Violet Manus
Deacon Martin
Baker Martin
Nathan McCormick
Zack McCormick
Xavier Messenger
Logan Moren
Micah Morice
Yati Mota
Mery Muro
Macey Musick
Ishan Patel
Cole Patterson
Kennedy Patterson
Trey Pope
Charlie Ramirez
Charlie Rotenberg
Sophia Roytman
Cameron Rutterford
Eli Scoggins
Maureen Sellers
Ruby Snyder
Leah Stallings
Quinn Steenson
Jack Thomas
Mubashshira Uddin
Caleb Walton
Holden Williams
Mia Wolek

Nash Chandler
Parker Belford
Hudson Bogle
Claire Cook
Addy Coutant
Sophia David
Wynn Dorwart
Adam Hasty
Samantha Holsopple
Xavier Hood
Elizabeth Kilpatrick
Aaron Le
Evan McCartney
Parker Nicholas
Blake Orazetti
Junuh Ridenour
Noah Sherrill
Henry Stacklin
Stella Thomas
Raleigh Thompson
Logan Thompson

Amelia Anderson
Gavin Bennett
Max Carson-Harper
Ethan Cheshier
Braeden Clinton
Caleb Dalton
Everett Hanson
Ella Holsopple
Callum Hotz
Hogan Hulsey
Memphis Lee
Colin Long
Lawson Mack
Os Pano
Sophie Phillips
Ellery Rettinger
Alex Silman
Katie Smith
Kamden Snell
Brody Thomas
Aila Walker
Ibble Widdoes
Kenyon Williams
Gigi Williamson
Stella Wright

Staff Excellence

Looking outside of ourselves and into the world, we are dynamic, flexible, and agile as we cultivate a culture of innovation, sustainability, and advocacy.



Representing Riverfield's approach to learning in Pre-School, Jen Kessler, Pre-School Division Head, and Whitney Dickinson, Pre-School Coordinator, presented on the topic of Children in Nature at the World Forum Foundation in May. The annual conference hosted more than 500 Early Childhood Educators from 50 countries. It is an honor that the work of Riverfield was featured and continues to inspire other educators to learn from the Reggio-Amelia approach in early childhood.

Rachel Langley, Middle School Science teacher, explored the greater limits at the Space Exploration NASA Educators Conference in February. She was also accepted into the Smithsonian Teacher Innovator Institute summer program in Washington, DC. This program selects 30 teachers from the hundreds that apply from across the United States.



Katie Musick, Lower School Division Head, completed her Master of Education- Education Administration, Curriculum, and Supervision, at the University of Oklahoma in December 2022.

The Lucy Calkins Writing Institute at Columbia University has accepted two Riverfield teachers to attend workshops this summer in New York. Lisa Robinson will attend two Lower school-aged focused workshops in Reading and Writing. Brandi Thomas will attend an Upper and Middle school-aged focused workshop on Writing. Both teachers are excited to learn directly from the founder of the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia and bring back what they learn to apply in their classrooms at RCDS.



**Thank you
to all who have
supported
The Raven Fund
this past year.**

**The Raven Fund
fills the gap
to fund the
operations of
our school.**



**Your gift
supports our
mission and
impacts each
of our students!**

To make a one-time or recurring contribution, scan the QR code or visit riverfield.org.

Patti Grice
Director of Giving
pgrice@riverfield.org
918.446.3553

We believe one of our core strengths is flexible, agile, passionate, highly qualified, and professional faculty, staff, and administration.

—Core Value supporting RCDS mission

Potluck Tradition Returns and You're Invited

Potlucks are a well-loved tradition at Riverfield with the first potluck taking place even before the school was opened. Families gathered together with Marty and Tom Clark to dream, plan, and develop what was to become Riverfield Country Day School.

The potluck tradition is a favorite as our parents, faculty, and staff gather at homes in our community, sharing their best dishes—or the KFC they picked up coming straight from work—where all food is welcomed. Strong friendships have been forged as parents meet the parents of their children's friends. It is fun to see the "aha moments" when people make the connection about who is related to whom and begin to share stories. Parents and faculty get to know each other, building stronger relationships and a more connected community to help our students navigate their school years.

These potlucks are filled with laughter, good food, and great conversations. I love them and appreciate how our families open up their homes to members of the RCDS community. Each gathering is unique and special. Head of School Jerry Bates attends all of the potlucks and last year we held 22 gatherings.

I have gone to hundreds of these special gatherings over my 17 years at Riverfield and hate when I have to miss one. Part of the charm is hearing the tributes to the school. I can't count the number of times, parents have said, "We love Riverfield!" They often share heartfelt stories of their child's adventures, challenges, and successes. It is fun to connect and reconnect with our families as well as faculty and staff—and, of course, there is the wonderful food!

When you have the opportunity to attend or host a Riverfield potluck, I urge you to do so. You might just meet your new best friend or at least make some great connections as part of the RCDS community. It would be a treat to bring together alumni parents who shared this tradition for years. If you are interested in hosting a gathering for current parents—or for alumni parents—please let us know.

Cheers,



Patti Grice, CFRE
Director of Giving
Alumni Parent

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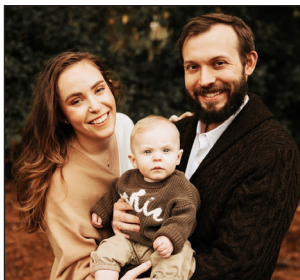
The '23-24 student body will expand their learning and expression in the new, state-of-the-art Center for Creativity—featuring a black box theater, recording and film studios, visual arts studios, maker's spaces, and the Riverfield Rocks program.

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ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

Zachary “Moose” Alred ('11) and Erica Alred ('09) are expecting their second child in September. Moose has been a part of running security teams for Cain’s Ballroom, Tulsa Theater, and Rocklahoma. He also works security in bars where he is starting to train, schedule, and staff security teams as well.

Jeff May ('12) earned a Bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry from Hendrix College in Arkansas and medical degree from University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he matched into residency in Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery at University of Tennessee, and he and his wife Hannah moved to Memphis. He is currently finishing up his third year and is scheduled to finish in June 2025. Hannah and Jeff welcomed their first son, James Archer May, into the world last April. They have both thoroughly enjoyed the journey of becoming parents over the past year. In his free time, Jeff enjoys working on cars and spending time outside with his family.



Brandon Miller ('12) pursued a dual degree in Creative Advertising and Business Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado. After

graduating, he started a career as a graphic and web designer, and worked at advertising and marketing agencies in Boulder, Washington, DC, and Kansas City. In 2019, he and his partner Lauren relocated to Wellington, New Zealand. Brandon established his own freelance company, specializing in web design and development. In 2021, he accepted an exciting opportunity as the Head of Creative at Psychoactive Studios. Brandon and Lauren actively contribute to the community by volunteering for

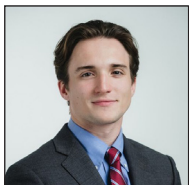


the Blind Foundation. They dedicated time to raising and training a certified guide dog for the blind. In 2022, Miller achieved permanent residency in New Zealand.

James Adams ('14) is currently running a studio in Oklahoma City called Get Technical Productions. He has worked with various artists but primarily works with hip-hop and rap musicians as an Audio Engineer.



Chris Bogle ('15) graduated from OU with a degree in Finance and works at United Talent Agency (UTA), a leading global talent and entertainment company. For the last two years, Chris has worked as a member of the agency’s Independent Film Group which specializes in global film finance, distribution, and marketing for independent feature films. Chris works with some of the world’s most acclaimed independent filmmakers at national and international film festivals like Sundance, TIFF, and Cannes. He is based in Los Angeles, where there is a growing RCDS alumni community.



Campbell Boulanger ('15) and Erica Kelley ('17) recently got engaged in Portugal. They both live in North Carolina, where Erica is pursuing her Doctorate of Physical Therapy and is set to graduate in April of 2024. In her free time, she has become an avid runner, completing her first marathon and winning a recent 5K. Campbell works within the automotive marketing industry in Charlotte and enjoys all things photography and automotive-related. They are planning to get married next summer in South Carolina and are looking forward to starting their lives together.



Oliver Jordan ('15) moved to Pleasanton, California, in January 2022. He has since adopted two cats, Reese and Peanut Butter (one is a polydactyl!) and was married in December 2022 to his husband Dylan in San Francisco. Oliver works in radiology as a scheduler and he and his husband spend their free time enjoying all California has to offer.

Hanna Chomosh ('16) and Parker Walker ('16) got engaged in December of 2020 and recently held their engagement photo

shoot on campus. The two met at Riverfield and have been dating since. After graduating, Hanna earned her Bachelors in Psychology and Masters in Community Counseling at Rogers State University. Parker works at Globe X-Ray Services where he is being trained on the job to become a radiographer. The couple will get married on their nine year anniversary in November.



Tyler Violett ('16) is currently a Pharmacy Technician at St. Francis Hospital. He graduated a year and a half ago from Fort Lewis College with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Design. He plans to spend time on his bike on the river trails this summer.



Luke Smolen ('17) and Grace Smolen (former student) were married in June of 2022. Luke is a Lance Corporal in the US Marine Corps and serves as a military police officer in Camp Lejeune. Grace will start a Master of Public Health through Indiana University this fall. Grace and Luke have a lab named Obi, a cat named Binx, and enjoy going to the beach and exploring North Carolina!



Tara Fritts ('21) is currently an art student at OCU where she has also studied tap dancing for two years. She has taken tap lessons for the last three years with Broadway Actress Jonalyn Saxer (*Back to the Future*) and hopes to continue her study of tap in New York. She also interned with Kristin Chenoweth's Broadway Bootcamp assisting Kristin and Kenny Ortega with their camp programming.



Adaira Reid ('18) graduated Summa Cum Laude with her Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 2022. She has completed her first year of medical school at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.



Adam Andrews ('22) was inducted to the Murphy's Scholar Program to pursue interests in literature and language through mentorship, dedicated funding, and Oxford-style tutorial courses. Adam is majoring in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology and Philosophy at Hendrix College.



Hana Saad ('18) will be attending Arizona State University in the fall to pursue a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing. Only the top 3 percent of applicants are accepted to this three-year program. She will be focusing specifically on poetry while also teaching English classes at the university. Hana plans on pursuing publication with her writing, and possibly teaching.

John Goodenberger ('19) has been a concrete mixer driver for the last two and a half years. After getting his CDL in February of 2021, he immediately went to work for Dolese Bros. Co. delivering concrete and hasn't looked back once. He says it has been an incredible experience getting to be a part of the growth of Oklahoma. Today he is a driver trainer and the 2nd-most senior driver at the Mohawk plant, just around the corner from the zoo. It is hard work and very long hours but he wouldn't trade it for anything. John says, "It may not be glorious work, and it certainly wasn't what I had planned, but I am so glad life took me in this direction. This job has turned me into a clean freak, so if you ever see a mixer truck on the road that is particularly shiny, chances are I'm in the driver's seat!"



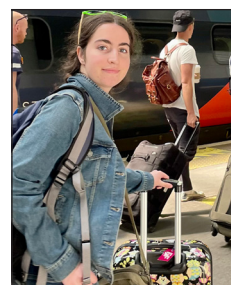
Elizabeth (Lizzie) Williamson ('22) is spending her summer working at an internship with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. She will do stream work including fish surveys, tracking what fish are in the area, their populations, age, and what they are eating. When she returns to school this fall, she will be working on two research projects: one project will study the rate of change of isotopes in white shrimp in the St. John's River; the second project will try to determine the best coating to use on shark tags to deter biofouling (organisms that grow on objects.) It is important to reduce biofouling since it can grow up and bend the wire, which can prevent a signal from being transmitted.



There were many students who attended Riverfield before the Middle or Upper School existed. We still consider these students as "alumni" and welcome their news as such.



Cliff Frates ('99) was part of the second 8th grade class to graduate from Riverfield. He started at Riverfield in the old post office building and remembers his time here fondly. There are so many wonderful memories he has of Riverfield and he is grateful to all the people who gave him the opportunity to attend - not in the least Tom and Marty Clark and Cliff's parents Dale and Janie Frates. Cliff currently lives in Tulsa with his lovely wife Mackenzie and their boys Clyde and Ford.



Ava Fritts ('20) serves as a volunteer at summer camps that focus on technology and cyber landscapes. Recently, she was hired to work on two research projects using Virtual Reality technology for the University of Tulsa. She is also a member of Pathfinders, a social group for neurodivergent/socially anxious people, and serves as an ambassador and peer mentor.



Let's Get Together

Watch for an announcement for an all-alumni get together this fall in the new Center for Creativity.

Stay Connected

Keep an eye out for the new Alumni Newsletter and make sure to join our alums-only Facebook group @rcdsalums.

Tell Us Your Story

We love hearing from alumni! Please let us know what's new at riverfield.org/alumni.

From Board Chair Jennifer Schumacher

When my daughter Jenelle ('24) began as an infant just two days a week, I inquired about getting involved with this unique school. Little did I know that would grow to include a wide range of volunteer opportunities, and ultimately leadership roles.

As I reflect over the last few years, one of my favorite quotes is from our school's founder, Mrs. Clark, to our current Head of School, Mr. Bates, "Keep Calm and Carry On!" That encompasses what has guided Riverfield for many years.

It was wonderful to get back to all the in-person traditions again, including potlucks, to foster that connection of community we all need. Great accomplishments occurred this past year from the amazing students to the extremely generous families, to the fantastic teachers and staff, on to our outstanding Leadership Team. It was a successful group effort! We were excited to watch the iNSPiRED Campaign buildings being built and all the gracious donors that helped make that dream happen.

As a Board, one of the most difficult decisions each year involves reviewing tuition rates. We must balance the increasing costs of running the school with providing salary increases to our well-



deserving faculty and staff, while keeping tuition rates achievable for our diverse family base. As a result, we rely on the Raven Fund annual campaign and RFA fundraising activities to provide additional funding. This edition of

the *BLUEprint* celebrates the families and friends of Riverfield who assist in closing that gap, as well as those who contributed to our iNSPiRED Campaign. On behalf of the Board, I wish to extend our most grateful appreciation for each gift. Thank you. Thank You. THANK YOU!

On a personal note, the completion of this year brings to a close my four years as the Chair of the Board of Trustees. A lot has changed during my tenure—we weathered a global pandemic with precautions and grace; we defined "ONE RIVERFIELD" through Strategic Planning, and accomplished needed resources of the Clark Gymnasium Expansion and the building of the new Center for Creativity. Together, we have raised amazing young people and the landscape of education in Tulsa has been changed for the better. While a lot has been achieved, there is still work to be done. The new Chair of the Board is a familiar face around campus—Michelle Anderson. Under her capable leadership, I look forward to seeing the

opening of our campus additions and setting of new goals. It has been an honor to serve Riverfield and I ask for your continued spirit of generosity as Riverfield continues to inspire future students.

Jennifer Schumacher

2022-23 Board Members

Executive Committee

Jennifer Schumacher, *Chair*
Michelle Anderson, *Vice-Chair*
Taylor Stevak, *Treasurer*
Heather Ward, *RFA President & Recording Officer*
Lisa Rhynes, *Advisory Board Liaison*
Jerry Bates, *Head of School*
Jim Gotwals, *Legal Counsel*

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Thomas Keeter
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Sheryl Tucker

Use the QR code to view a complete list of supporters.



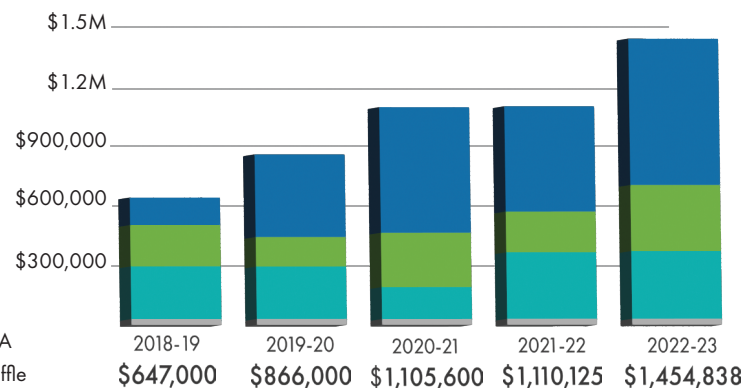
SAPPHIRE CELEBRATION

Giving History

Fiscal Year Comparison

Giving and fundraising continues to grow, breaking the million-dollar mark for three consecutive years.

iNSPiRED RFA
Raven Fund Raffle



Annual Report of Giving

From Director of Giving Patti Grice

When we started the year without the mask mandates and restrictions from COVID, I thought this was going to be an ordinary year, at last. But it wasn't ordinary, it was extraordinary! Our students, guided by our amazing faculty, accomplished great things in and out of the classroom. As I observed the culminating events, I was so impressed with our students' inquisitive nature and struck by the innovative spirit that permeates the campus.



This year, I have also been awed by the incredible generosity of our families and friends who help to make it possible for our students to have an outstanding educational experience and who have contributed to our almost completed iNSPiRED construction projects.

Thank you to all our donors who have made it possible to turn our dream into reality with the expansion of the Clark Gym and the construction of the Center for Creativity. And to all those who recognize the critical need to support the Raven Fund to providing general operating funds which helps to address our growing needs as our campus facilities expand. Thanks, too, to everyone who has supported the school through RFAs Run for Riverfield and Sapphire Celebration. I am so grateful to everyone in the RCDS community whose actions bring our mission to life!

This *BLUEprint* is a reflection of the impact of our community support – our students, faculty, staff, families, alumni, volunteers, RFA Board and Board of Trustees. We appreciate every supporter and we are recognizing them in our online Annual Report. Scan the QR code to see our list of donors, sponsors, and supporters.

For the first time, we are recognizing donors who have given 20 years or more to the Raven Fund (previously known as Annual Giving) with the creation of the Emerald Society. This level of commitment is impressive and deserves to be celebrated. These members will be recognized at our Ravens Club event where our \$1,000+ donors are celebrated as well.

Patti

By the Numbers

Breakdown of 2022-23 Gifts

810 Active donors for the 2022-23 school year	\$1.4M Total funds* raised for the 2022-23 school year	3,291 Total number of gifts received	\$407 Average amount of gifts received	4 Average number of gifts per donor
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*Funds include money raised outside of gifts, such as raffles, RFA fundraisers, etc.

Donor Demographics Who Gives to Raven Fund

Raven Fund donors are primarily current families and staff with many others also contributing regularly.



Annual Donors Repeat Giving

How many years our 2022-23 Raven Fund donors have been contributing.



63 new donors in the last 2 years



iNSPiRED

Finishing Touches

As the finishing touches are placed on the Center for Creativity and the Clark Gymnasium awaits its new bleachers, we would like to take a moment to thank all of the generous supporters of the iNSPiRED Campaign. A project many years in the making, it took each of you to make it happen.



the maker space, as well as cheer on the Ravens basketball team from the new bleachers in the renovated Blue Gym.

The Center for Creativity and updated Clark Gymnasium will provide Riverfield so many fun opportunities to come together and grow as a community. I couldn't be more excited to kick off the '23-24 school year with our new buildings full of smiling, talented students ready to be iNSPiRED!

Laura Smolen

iNSPiRED Campaign Chair

We hope your family is just as excited as ours to take in a show in the new black box theater, experiment with a variety of instruments in the music atelier, or bring an idea to life in

Thank you to the iNSPiRED campaign cabinet:

Laura & Dan Smolen

Chairs

Vicki Patterson

Donor Cultivation

Ryan Harper

Building

Molly Jarvis

Publicity

Randa Briggs

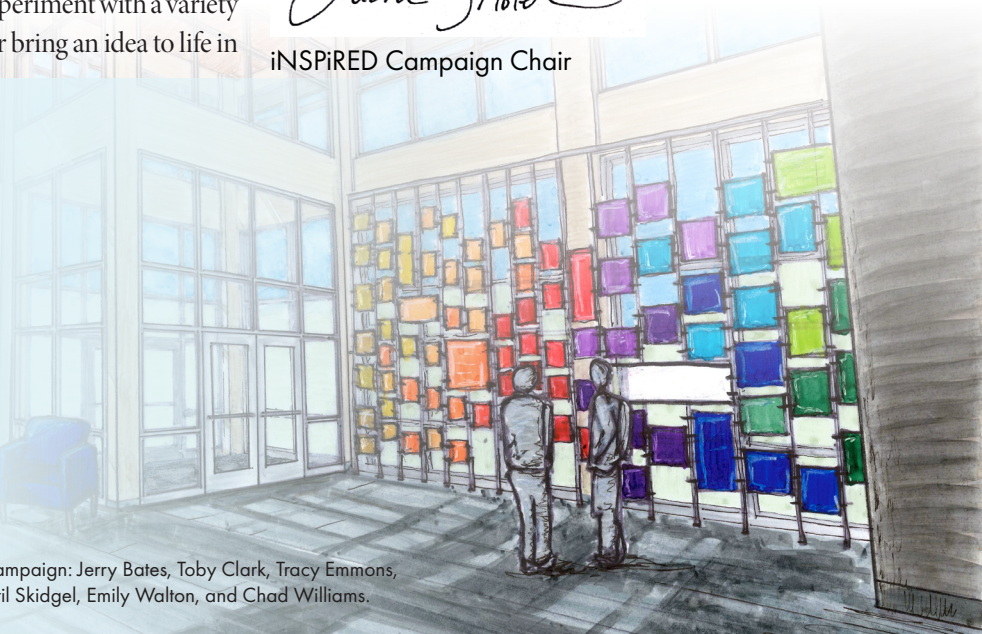
Events

Gena Dupus &

Jennifer Long

Recognition

Thank you to the staff who helped during the campaign: Jerry Bates, Toby Clark, Tracy Emmons, Patti Grice, Lauren Holloman, Wes Rowell, April Skidgel, Emily Walton, and Chad Williams.





Thank you

to our generous donors

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\$350,000

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Paula Marshall, Colleen McCarty, & Jacob Chapman with the Scissortail Family Foundation
\$150,000

\$100,000

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The William S. & Ann Atherton Foundation

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Thank you to our generous donors

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In Kind

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Laura Hailey^

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View from the upper visitor area.

Trophy case & concessions in the entry way, lower floor gym access.

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