SUPERINTENDENT'S EDUCATION UPDATE

April 7, 2025

2024-2025 School Year

Teaching & Learning

April News

Mathematics Department

This March, communities everywhere came together to reimagine math. In honor of Pi Day (3.14), the acclaimed new documentary *Counted Out* kicks off Reimagine Math, a global initiative to celebrate math with 314 community screenings worldwide throughout the month.

Randolph High School is proud to participate in this movement that celebrates math as a tool for participation, understanding, and opportunity. Through screenings and conversations, we'll spark ideas and inspire action that resonates far beyond March.

On Monday, March 31st, RHS showcased *Counted Out* for students, staff and families. Thank you to Anajli Deshpande for her generous donation of bringing *Counted Out* to Randolph High School!





On March 27th, RCMS hosted a Math and Financial Literacy Night. Students presented on their knowledge of grade level math and financial literacy topics.

Thank you to Santander, iReady, Sheep Collections, and MIG Real Estate for coming to share with our community. Thank you to Zac's Pizza, Jersey Mikes, Sweet Piglet, and Sheep Collections for your donations for the night!

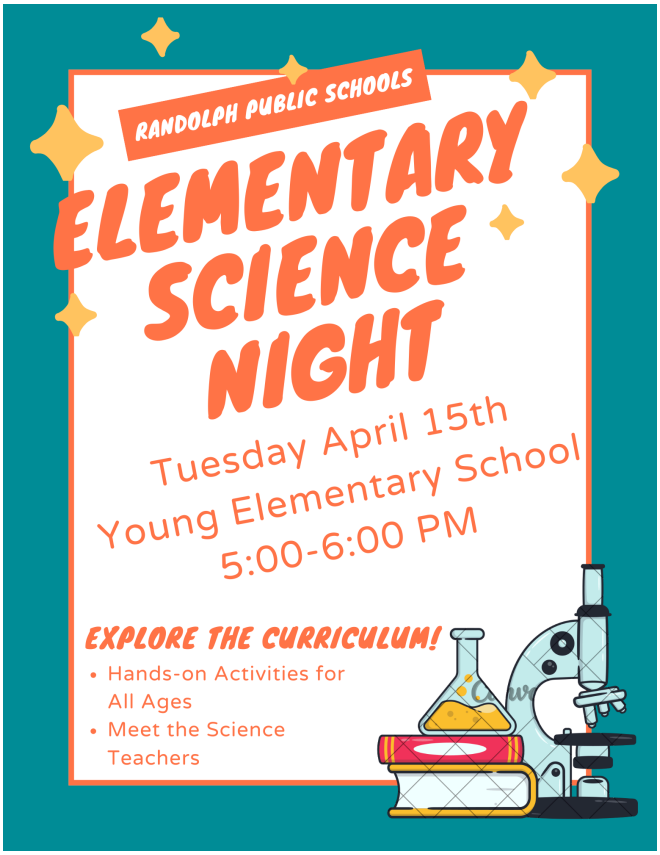






Science, Technology, and Engineering

Join us at Young Elementary School for our annual elementary science night!



Humanities Department







First grade students at each elementary school had the exciting opportunity to explore the fascinating world of owls, thanks to the Mass Audubon & Blue Hills Trailside Museum organizations. This cross-content lesson brought together various disciplines from their EL Education module, blending science and ELA in an engaging and hands-on way. Through interactive activities, students observed owl behaviors, examined owl anatomy, and shared their findings with peers. This experience showcased how deeply interconnected learning can be between content areas, fostering curiosity and reinforcing critical thinking in the young learners.

School Update

Donovan Elementary School (Donovan School)

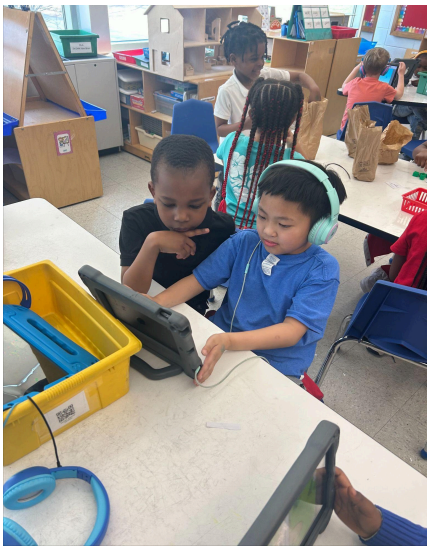
Our students and teachers combined forces across grade levels and collaborated for ST Math's "March Mathness." A fun time learning was had by all, all month long!





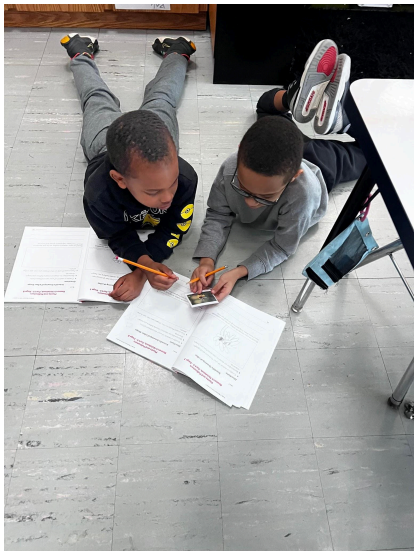
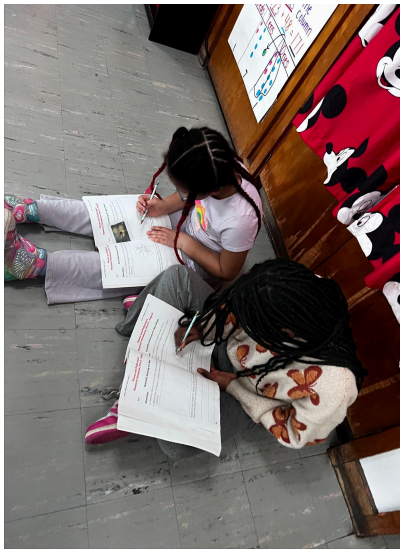
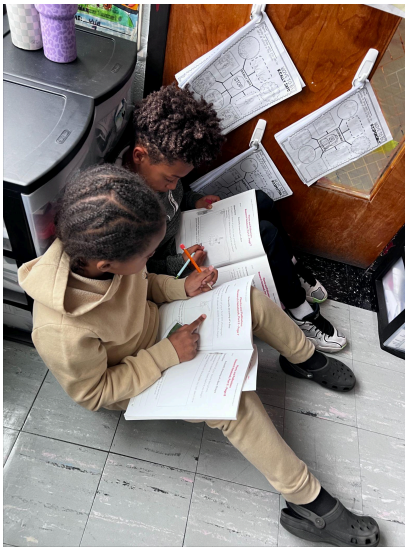


Second graders in Ms. Dugas's class helped K students with their ST math puzzles!





Students spent time doing partner work in EL, observing pictures of bees, discussing details that supported their learning of pollination, and completing scientific drawings of bees.



Our art teacher, Mr. Lescarte, guides our students in creating beautiful artwork with colored construction paper and creativity!



We ended the month with a spring dance hosted by our wonderful PTO!

















We were honored to host guests from Union County, Ohio, and BRYT (out of Brookline Center for Community Mental Health) District and School Support Specialists to share our BRYT support for students, "The Nest."



John F. Kennedy School (JFK School)

Dear Randolph Public Schools Community,

This month at John F. Kennedy Elementary School has been filled with engaging learning experiences, hands-on activities, and exciting community partnerships that have enriched our students' education. Here are some highlights from our school.

🌿 Neponset River Watershed Association Visit

We were thrilled to welcome the Neponset River Watershed Association to the JFK School, where they spoke with our students about conservation and stormwater management. Students learned about the importance of protecting our local waterways and even explored how small daily actions—like properly disposing of trash and limiting water

waste—can have a big impact on the environment. The interactive presentation left students eager to become young environmental stewards!

💙 Quarterly RISE Meeting for Families

Our quarterly RISE Meeting was a great opportunity for families of students with Autism to gain valuable information about available resources in the community. We remain committed to supporting our families with tools and strategies to help all students thrive both in and out of the classroom.

🚓 SOLD (Students Owning Life Decisions) Program for 5th Graders

We are excited to introduce SOLD (Students Owning Life Decisions), a new program led by the Randolph Police Department for our 5th-grade students. This initiative focuses on empowering students to make positive choices, build strong decision-making skills, and develop leadership qualities as they prepare for middle school and beyond. Through interactive discussions and activities, students are learning about responsibility, conflict resolution, and the impact of their choices on their future.

🦕 2nd Grade Paleontologists in Action

Our second graders wrapped up their fossil unit with an incredible Celebration of Learning! Students transformed into expert paleontologists, studying fossils, making discoveries, and sharing their knowledge with their classmates. Seeing their enthusiasm as they unearthed the past was truly inspiring!

🎨 Paint Night Fun!

Our school's Paint Night was a wonderful evening of creativity and fun! Students had the opportunity to paint a bunny sitting in a field, and the results were amazing. The event was a fantastic way for families to bond while supporting our students' artistic expression.

🦉 Mass Audubon Visits 1st Grade

Our first graders received a special visit from Mass Audubon as part of their unit on birds. The highlight of the visit? Meeting Whisper, a real-life screech owl! Students were fascinated to see how Whisper's head could turn almost all the way around and learned about bird habitats, adaptations, and conservation.

We are so proud of the engagement and curiosity our students continue to show each month! Thank you to our teachers, staff, families, and community partners for making these experiences possible.

We're looking forward to another month of growth, learning, and excitement at the JFK School!

North Randolph School (North Randolph)

March was a productive month for North Randolph. We started the month with an afternoon movie, showing Encanto, hosted by our PTO. Families attended with their students, watching the film and visiting our concession stands. It was a great afternoon!





Grade 2 Book EL Education Fun

The "doctors" of North Memorial Hospital saved the patient from a text feature emergency! Students had to dissect text features to save the day!

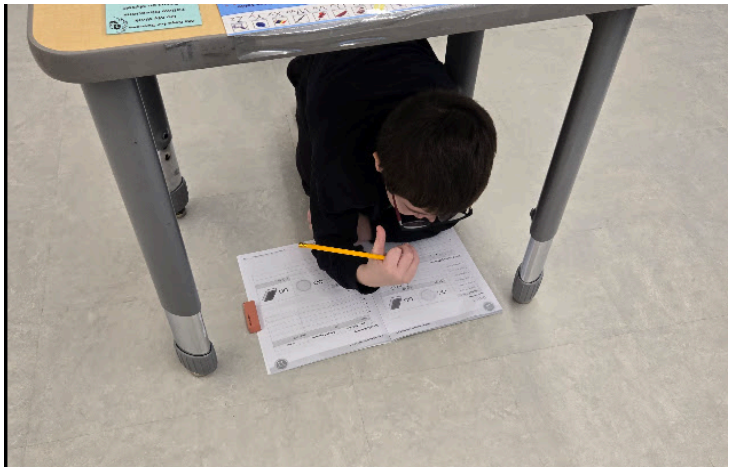


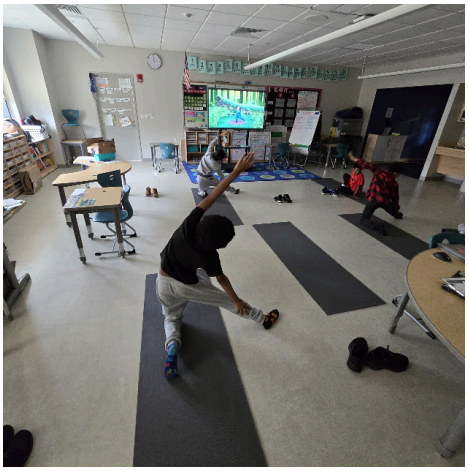
Celebrating our TLC Program

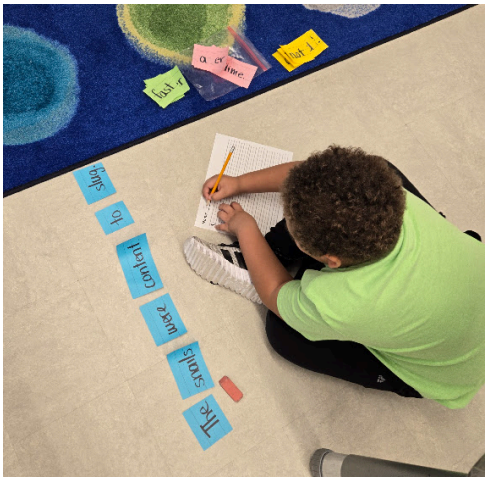
TLC 1 has been utilizing flexible seating strategies to keep students engaged in their learning. While it may seem unexpected, our students

enjoy getting out of their chairs and being able to spread out to complete assignments.

We are currently learning about fossils and the Earth's changes. We are focusing on what fossils are, what paleontologists do, and how characters in stories respond to different challenges. TLC 1 also focuses on mindfulness, participating in weekly yoga sessions to help students with their self-regulation skills.







TLC EL Presentations

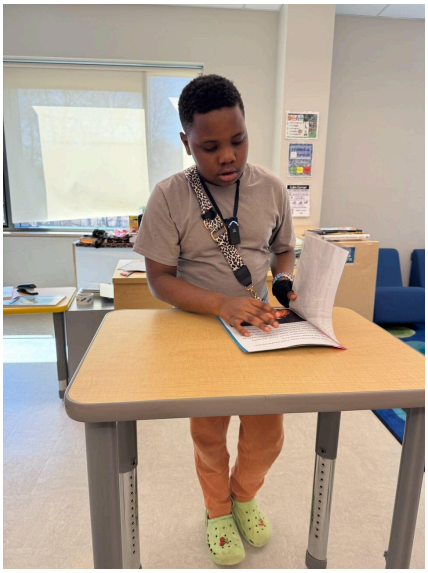
TLC 2 and 3 both wrapped up their EL Modules on Frogs and Animal Adaptations by presenting their Performance Tasks to their classes. Third grade students became experts on various "freaky" frogs—frogs that have unusual adaptations that help them to survive in extreme environments throughout the world. Students built their reading, research, writing, and collaborative discussion skills through studying their expert frog. For their final project, they wrote an informational essay to amaze their readers with the unique, sometimes freaky, adaptations of a particular frog of their choosing, and then made posters to match. Additionally, they presented their posters.

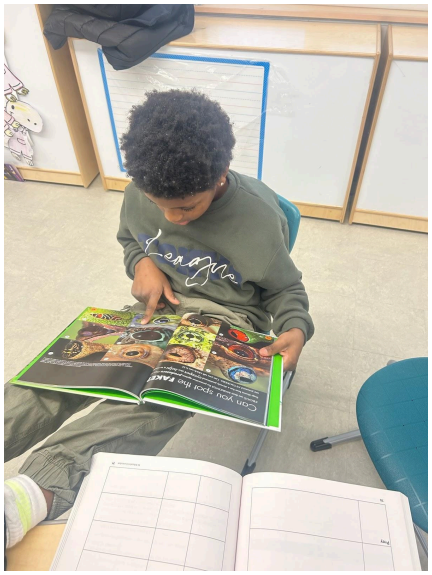
Fourth Grade students used their research about a specific animal as the basis for a choose-your-own-adventure story. The narrative opens with a short informational piece describing the student's animal and its defense mechanisms. Then students wrote a narrative in which their animal is featured as the main character facing a dangerous predator, thus having to use a defense mechanism. The choose-your-own-adventure format lets students envision and write two different variations of the plot, with each variation featuring the use of a different defense mechanism.

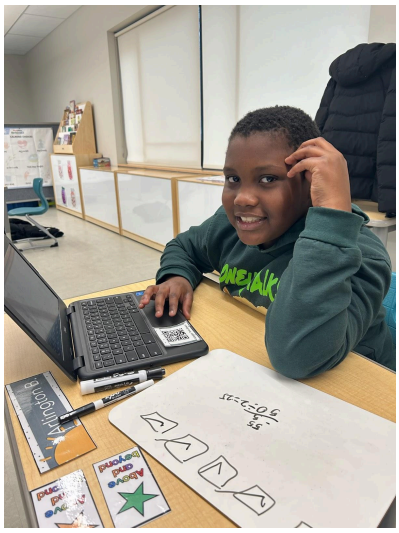
Students developed their speaking and listening skills by presenting projects to their classmates and actively engaging as an audience for others' presentations. When presenting, students practice speaking clearly, using appropriate volume, and organizing their ideas in a logical sequence to effectively communicate their thoughts. They may use visuals or notes to support their presentation and enhance understanding. As listeners, they demonstrate comprehension by

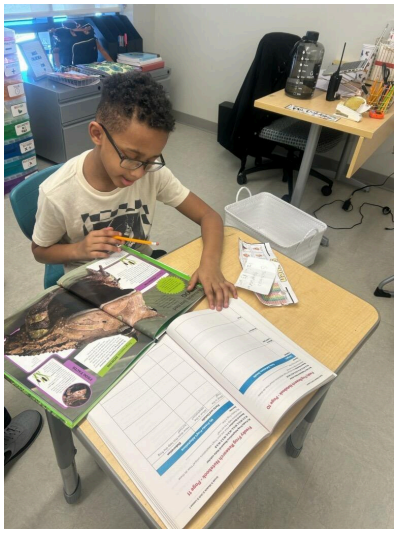
maintaining eye contact, showing attentiveness, and responding appropriately with questions or comments. This interactive process helps students build confidence, improve their ability to express ideas, and develop critical listening skills essential for academic and social success.







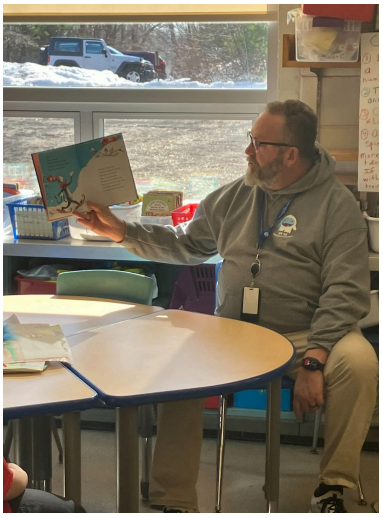






Young Elementary School (Young School)

On Wednesday, March 2nd, we celebrated Read Across America Day. This day, also known as Dr. Seuss Day, is an annual event that celebrates children's literature. Students had ample time to enjoy books as well as heart read alouds from their teachers and other staff members. I was lucky enough to read The Cat in the Hat Comes Back to our second graders.





March was a busy and exciting month at the Young School. On March 13th, our third grade students celebrated Frog Fest. Frog Fest was the culminating event for their annual research project on frogs. Students worked in teams to research different species of frogs and created projects together in class. These projects were shared with families and other classes throughout the day. Classrooms were set up like frog museums and students spoke about their frogs with visitors. It was a wonderful event.





On March 16th, our first graders in Mrs. Kelly's class worked diligently to create leprechaun traps. We were all certain that through all of their hard work and creativity, this would be the year they got one. Unfortunately, we were all outsmarted again by our yearly visitors. We'd like to give our students a great shout out for trying.



MCAS also began this month. Grade five students led us off on March 24th with the ELA test. Grade four followed and grade three is currently working on their ELA tests. Math begins at the end of April for all students and finally our Grade five students take the Science and Technology exam in May. We know our students are working hard and will have great results.

Randolph High School (RHS)

Meet the Class of 2025!



This panoramic photo of our 12th graders will be going into the RHS 2025 yearbook. This is of course an exciting time of year for our 12th graders. We are now in the final stretch of their journey at Randolph High School.

Upcoming Events for our Seniors...

- ★ April 4th - Internships start for senior interns
- ★ May 9th - Seal of Biliteracy Celebration for awardees
- ★ May 14th - Scholarship Awards Nights
- ★ May 28th - Six Flags trip for seniors
- ★ May 30th - Last day of school for seniors
- ★ June 3rd - Graduation rehearsal & Senior Barbecue
- ★ June 5th - Senior Prom
- ★ June 7th - RHS Graduation (rain date of June 8th)

Our RHS "Post-Grad" students engaged in exciting activities designed to help them shift smoothly from high school to adulthood as part of the Transition program.

In March, post-graduate students Rachel, Jeff, Chris, and Ronica embarked on an exciting trip to the Museum of Science in Boston. With the guidance of their teacher, they navigated public transportation together, supporting one another along the way. They took the BAT bus to Ashmont Station, rode the Red Line to Park Street, and then hopped on the Green Line to Science Park in Cambridge. This hands-on travel training experience is a key part of the Transition Program, and it was amazing to see the students working as a team and applying their skills in a real-world setting!





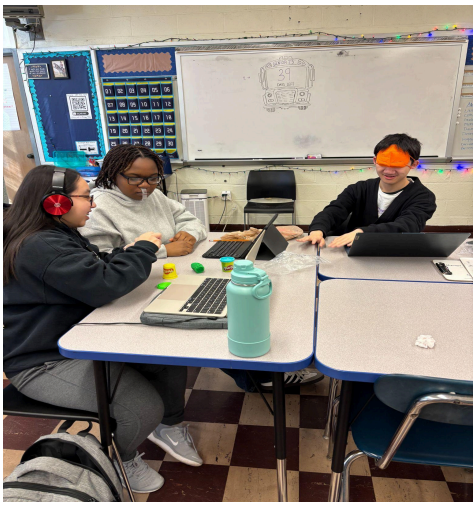
For the second year in a row, Jersey Mike's in Randolph warmly welcomed the Transition Program into their store. Each March, Jersey Mike's partners with the Doug Flutie Foundation for their Month of Giving, creating meaningful opportunities for community engagement.

This year, Isaiah had the unique opportunity to go behind the scenes and learn firsthand how restaurant dishwashing operations work, gaining valuable hands-on experience that made the visit both educational and rewarding!



Peer Leadership Students Led Activities with 9th Graders

Mrs. Dearborn's Peer Leadership students engaged in a workshop called the "Blind, Deaf, and Mute Challenge" with their class. This challenge is part of their lesson on Toxic Relationships that they will deliver to ninth graders before April Break. The challenge is designed to highlight the importance of communication in relationships by having students attempt to collaborate to build different things out of Play-Doh in an environment that manufactures poor communication.







RHS Athletics Update

South Shore Scholar Athlete Night: On March 18th the South Shore League gathered to honor each school's scholar-athlete of the year. Randolph's Scholar Athletes were Knyia White and Lucas Duarte from the class of 2025. Knyia White is a 3-sport athlete in cheerleading, girls basketball, and track and field. She is the school record holder for the women's shot put and discus. She will be attending the University of New Haven and majoring in Pre-med. Our boys recipient was Lucas

Duarte, another multisport athlete who was the captain of the soccer team and boys volleyball team. Lucas will be attending Bridgewater State where he will be playing soccer and majoring in early education with a focus in history. Congratulations to both of our award recipients!





USTA Tennis in the Parks Program: Join Randolph Athletics and the US Tennis Association for 8 weeks of Tennis in the Parks. Participants will learn fundamental skills of tennis from certified USTA coaches and receive equipment through the program. Registration is open, but space is limited to 10 participants per grade level. The program costs $60.00 and will run Saturday morning May 10th - June 14.

Registration link:
https://students.arbitersports.com/randolph-hs/usta-tennis-in-the-parks-youth-clinic

Randolph Winter Guard - NESBA 2025 Novice Class Champions!

The Randolph Winter Guard has had an incredible return to the competitive circuit this year! After several seasons away, the team has come back stronger than ever, placing 1st in their division at their very first two competitions of the season. The students have dedicated countless hours to perfecting their routines, focusing on precision, expression, and teamwork as they brought their show to life each week. Their performances continued to improve with every outing, culminating in a stunning final performance at the New England Scholastic Band Association (NESBA) Finals on Saturday, March 29th. We are thrilled to share that the Randolph Winter Guard was named the **2025 NESBA Novice Class Champions**!

This season has been a testament to the students' passion, growth, and resilience. We are so proud of all they have accomplished and grateful to the staff, parents, and volunteers who made this journey possible.



Highlights from our 12th Grade Medical Assistant Career Pathway Course

Here at Codman Square Randolph, we are proud to join forces with Randolph High School to create a career pathway for Medical Assistant (MA). Medical Assistant daily duties stem from a strong work ethic. Their most valued qualities include, providing compassionate patient care needs to documenting patient histories, while exercising HIPAA compliance.

As our MA interns demonstrate their effective team-oriented skills. It goes without saying that they are the key players that bridge the communication gap between the clinical team. MA's are professionals with a bond that results in exceptional patient care experiences.

You rock MA Interns!





Music Department Update

Students in grades 8-12 participated in a **Step Up Concert**, which invites our 8th grade students to play and sing alongside our high school musicians. This collaboration is an excellent opportunity for our soon-to-be high schoolers to get acquainted with Randolph High School (RHS) facilities and teachers and to create lasting friendships while making beautiful music.



Congratulations to Our SEMSBA Senior Festival Musicians!

A huge congratulations to our talented students who participated in the SEMSBA Senior Festival on March 14th and 15th! Representing Randolph with excellence were:

🎶 Mason Chacon & AnDinh Tran - Band
🎻 Khoi Chu & Lilly Huynh - Orchestra
🎤 Sofia Monteiro & Neo Cardona - Chorus

We are so proud of their hard work, dedication, and musicianship. Performing alongside some of the best student musicians in the region is a tremendous achievement—way to go, everyone!

Mr. Condakes directed the Randolph Community Middle School (RCMS) Jr. Musical, Finding Nemo. This is the first time that RCMS has put on a musical performance since 2019!



Randolph Winter Percussion & Winter Guard - Season Update

The Randolph Winter Percussion Ensemble has had an incredible return to the competitive circuit this year! After several seasons away, the group has come back stronger than ever, placing 1st in their division at their very first competition of the season. The students have put in countless hours of hard work, perfecting both their music and movement while learning how to efficiently set up and break down their show in under 10 minutes.

The Randolph Winter Guard has also made an impressive comeback, placing first in their first two competitions. Their performances have continued to improve each week. On Saturday, March 29th, they took the floor for one final time this season.

As the season comes to a close, the Winter Percussion Ensemble is preparing for Finals on April 5th, where they will compete against top groups from across the region. The dedication and commitment of these students, combined with the support of our staff, parents, and volunteers, has made this season a true success.

We are so proud of all they have accomplished and look forward to exciting final performances from both groups! Thank you to everyone who has helped make this season possible!





RCMS & RHS Bands to Perform at MICCA Concert Festival

The Randolph High School Concert Band and Randolph Community Middle School 7th/8th Grade Band will be performing at the MICCA Concert Festival at King Philip High School this week! The RHS Concert Band took the stage on Thursday, April 4th, at 3:00 PM. The RCMS 7th/8th Grade Band will take the stage on Friday, April 5th, at 11:30 AM.

This marks the first time RCMS has participated in the festival under the direction of Mr. Martins, making this a special milestone for our young musicians. We are incredibly proud of all the students' hard work in preparing for this event and look forward to showcasing their progress.

We encourage families, friends, and community members to come out and support these talented students as they take on this exciting performance opportunity!

Save the Dates:

April 8 - All Chorus Concert 6:30 PM @ RHS
May 2 and 3 - Legally Blonde the Musical @ RHS

Special Education Update

April is World Autism Month!

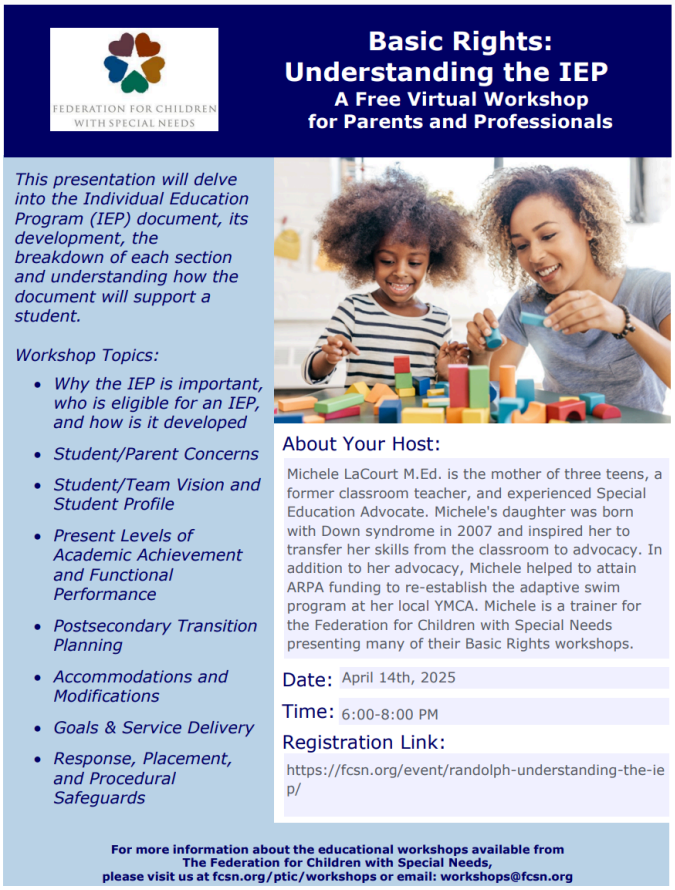
Every April, "Light it Up Blue" is a global movement for understanding, acceptance, and lasting changes for those diagnosed with Autism. It is important to recognize that Autism is more than a diagnosis- it is identity, community, and lived experience with both challenges and triumphs.



SEPAC is hosting a family information webinar April 14, 2025 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Register at the following link:

https://fcsn.org/event/randolph-understanding-the-iep/



MassAbility

MassAbility, formally MRC, empowers people with disabilities to live life on their own terms. Their programs and services expand possibilities in careers and training, home and community life, and legal rights and benefits- including disability determination for federal programs.
Click on the following link to learn more about MassAbility, find services, apply for services and/or determine disability benefits:
https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massability

Pre-K News

March was very busy in the PreK. We had fun learning about Transportation. The boys and girls participated in several activities working with graphs and grids. Our robotic frog Frog-E helped us know we can have fun and learn at the same time!





Registration Update

Now that Kindergarten registration is complete, I want to inform you that registration for all incoming Grades 1-12+ will begin on May 1st. We are still finalizing the process for re-registering incoming Grade 6 and Grade 9 students, so stay tuned for updates on how this will be implemented.

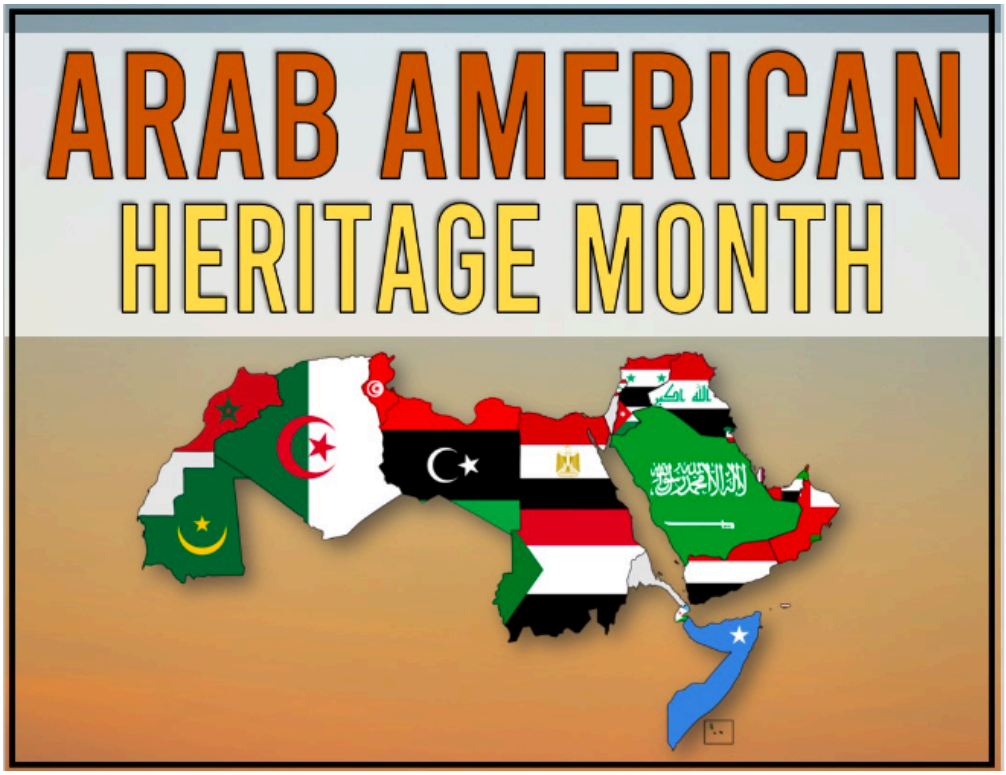
For now, mark your calendars for the start of registration for SY 2025-2026!



DEIB Update

April is Arab American Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the rich history, culture, and contributions of Arab Americans in the United States. This month recognizes the diverse traditions, languages, and stories of Arab American communities, who have shaped our nation in countless ways—from advancements in science and arts to strengthening the fabric of our society through their resilience and spirit. It's a wonderful opportunity for families to explore Arab heritage through food, music, literature, or local events, fostering understanding and appreciation for this vibrant part of our shared American tapestry. Happy Arab American Heritage Month!

Check out the slideshow below created by **Christine Miley-Letournea** to learn more about Arab American Heritage.



Sincerely,

Alpha Sanford, M.Ed CAGS, Director of Special Education and Student Services

Danielle Galvin, Assistant Director of Special Education

Dr. Jennifer Herring, Assistant Director of Student Services

Kait Zanzerkia, Assistant Director of Multilingual Learners and World Language

Renée Downes-Gilkes, Early Childhood Coordinator

Regina Federle, Registrar

Food Services Update

Randolph Public Schools Nutrition Newsletter

April 2025

Sustainable Eating to Celebrate Earth Day and Stop Food Waste Day!

- **Choose Seasonal & Local Produce –** Supporting local farmers reduces transportation emissions. April harvests in MA include chives, mushrooms, pea shoots, thyme, and watercress.
- **Reduce Food Waste –** Nearly 40% of U.S. food goes to waste. Planning meals, using leftovers, and storing food properly can help to change that!
- **Eat More Plant-Based Meals –** Incorporating plant-based proteins like beans, lentils, and tofu helps lower carbon footprints and conserves resources like water and land.
- **Watch the Packaging –** Buying in bulk, and using reusable bags and containers helps to reduce waste!

Recent Programs at RPS!

Plant Power at Young and Donovan Elementary



Fifth grade students got involved in making a roasted red bell pepper hummus, learned about the nutritional benefits, and sampled the dish!

National School Breakfast Week



Project Bread donated stickers, pencils, and pencil bags as give aways during National School Breakfast Week! These were distributed to students in grades K-5 with breakfast on March 5!

UP NEXT:



This month's Discovery Kitchen theme, **Be a Waste Warrior**, presents interactive, impactful activities to connect with today's students. With environment-friendly festivities including Earth Day and Stop Food Waste Day throughout the month of April, we'll celebrate with featured foods and programs that highlight the many ways students and the community can make a difference in reducing food waste and protect the environment. Enjoy a taste of discovery kitchen at RHS and RCMS on April 30!

Discovery Kitchen Events:
NRES Café, April 8
JFK Café, April 29



Potatoes are April's Harvest of the Month! Packed with carbohydrates and potassium, they provide energy and support heart health. On average, Americans eat 124 pounds of potatoes per year! Whether baked, mashed, or roasted, they're a delicious and nutritious addition to any meal. Encourage students to enjoy potatoes at school this April!

KELSEY LOCKHEAD, RD, LDN. LOCKHEADK@RANDOLPH.K12.MA.US

* Tanpri souple kontakte lyezon pou fanmi ki pale Kreyòl Ayisyen yo nan 781-807-0081. * Para ayuda en Español, por favor llame al 339-209-2539. * Para auxílio em Português, por favor ligue para o número 339-204-5505. * N ế u quý vị có câu hỏi nào khác, làm ơn liên hệ phiên dịch viên ti ế ng Việt, tại 339-216-2400.