Knight Line

Rockwood Valley Middle School

A Missouri Gold Star School
A United States Blue Ribbon School

A NATIONAL SCHOOL of EXCELLENCE

A Letter from Dr. Loiterstein…

January, 2012

Dear Rockwood Valley Community:

Happy New Year! I sincerely hope that you've had a great winter vacation. What a great time to reflect on a year gone by, an outstanding semester at Rockwood Valley, and the opportunities that lie ahead.

Inside this issue of the *Knightline*, you will find a great deal of information regarding how your child(ren) and you can register for next year's classes. As has been the practice for the past few years, all registration should be done on-line through Infinite Campus. The registration link will be available Friday, January 20 through Tuesday, January 31. Students who do not have internet access at home can work with their counselors to register.

It is hard to imagine that we have already completed half of the school year. Time seems to pass more quickly each year! Second semester is always an exciting time at Rockwood Valley. Eighth graders are looking forward to high school, sixth graders have reached a comfort level in middle school, and seventh graders are rolling along. Each grade level's curriculum will offer interesting information and experiences throughout these next five months to keep kids engaged in their school work.

We also hope that they take advantage of the robust extracurricular and club activities that are offered after school. They are a great way for kids to stay 'connected' to the school and those around them – an important part of the middle school experience. Have a great second semester!

Sincerely,

Andrew Loiterstein
Principal

January 2012

Volume 19, Issue 6

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Dates to Remember

- Semester 1 Report Cards available on Infinite Campus—Friday, January 6, 2012
- Quarter 3 Progress Reports available on Infinite Campus—Thursday, February 2, 2012

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Around Rockwood Valley

The Word of the Month is COURAGE

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do."

~Eleanor Roosevelt

CORRECTION

In the December 2011 Knightline Anika Pulumati was inadvertently omitted from the 3.5 and above Honor roll list. We apologize for the error.

Spring MAP Testing at RVMS

Once again this spring RVMS students will participate in Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) testing. The testing window is Monday, April 2 through Friday, April 27. As always, your child's attendance on testing days is critical.

Sixth and seventh graders will take Math and Communication Arts subtests. Eighth graders will take Communication Arts, Math, and Science.

MAP scores are used for a variety of purposes, including Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) accreditation, curricular modifications and planning, instructional modifications and planning, and screening for program placements. The scores also provide parents with information about their child's academic progress.

Let's work together this spring so that, once again, students will do their best on the MAP test. More MAP information will be coming in future communications.

Paladin Knight Staff Award

Ingrid Klesh, RN

Notes from the Nurse

Health, fitness, and nutrition are important issues in middle school years as students grow toward being healthy adolescents and adults. Obesity awareness and future chronic illness prevention are increasingly in the media and being studied as potential factors influencing the health of our nation. Good websites for information about these issues include www.healthykidsmo.org, www.kidshealth.org, www.bam.gov, and www.cdc.com. Please continue to encourage your child to eat breakfast before attending school. Research shows that eating breakfast is a successful way to prevent obesity.

Regular physical check-ups by your pediatrician's office are important to monitor your child's health and fitness. The school nurse's office is another way. Weights, BMI calculations, and blood pressure monitoring are all available to students. Call Ingrid Klesh, RN if this is something you feel your child should have monitored and kept confidential.

Please also remember to keep students home from school if they are ill. Students with fevers of 100.5 (before an analgesic is given) or students with vomiting should stay home for 24 hours after these symptoms subside to assure that the illness is not spread to others. Please consult your child's physician's office or clinic if you suspect a respiratory flu or another infectious illness in your child. Please keep in mind that all over-the-counter medication given to your child at school requires a doctor's note and a note from his or her parent along with medication in the original container kept in the nurse's office.

Parents of 8th grade students should check the Lafayette High School website www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/lafayette for information regarding required physicals if their child plans to participate in a sport in high school. All physicals dated February 1, 2012 and after will be accepted as required for the entire next school year.

Thank You, FACS Helpers

A big thank you to the following parents that have assisted in the FACS classroom during the second quarter:

Shelley Eckert, Kelli Ruppert, Christine Utech, Kristen Bly, Patty Brisotti, Traci Jaggie, Jill Jozwiakowski, Jodi Treat, Laurie Charow, Keve Gialouris, Melissa McMurtrey, Mary Sims, Pam Panchot, Mary Weiss, Janice Williams, Amanda Erisgen, Sherri Hoyt, Tonia Stauss, Kiera Twombly, Saadia Raza, Patty Randazzo, and Paula Clark

Positive Office Referrals

Jake Zickrick, Lucy Warren, David Tuttle, Cierra Presson, Emily Alvarez, Annie Maloney, Ben Russell, Isabelle Snyder

A Reminder from the PE/Health Teachers

If your son/daughter cannot participate in class due to illness or injury, you may write a note specifying the limitations for class. However, the note is only good for two class days. After that, if the injury is still limiting participation in class, your child needs a doctor's note.

The doctor's note is kept on file with both the school nurse and PE teacher so that each knows what your child can/cannot physically do in class. The doctor's note must be on the doctor's office stationery, and should specifically list the restrictions and capabilities. The note should also have an end date for the restrictions in class.

Please note if your son/daughter is out of PE for an extended period of time, a written assignment may be given to your child.

Congrats to Cast and Crew Members

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the school play, *Cinderella* on wonderful performances on December 6 and 7. The cast and crew should feel proud of a job well done. Congratulations also to Mrs. Kranz and Ms. Surgener for their hard work and leadership.

8th Grade Farewell Dance

The annual 8th Grade Farewell Dance will be on Friday, May 4, from 7pm to 9pm. All RVMS 8th graders are invited to attend. Guests from other schools may **not** attend this event.

December Students of the Month

Laila Sauer—6 Black
Sydney Linsenbardt — 6 Fine Arts
Emma Grant—6 Music
Jaclyn Deters—6 PE/Health
Bessie Conner-Switzer—6 Practical Arts
Zach Naert—6 Red
Victoria Wuesthoff—6 World Languages
Garrett Mangels—7 Black
Megan Dill—7 Fine Arts
Nikki Morgenthaler—7 Music
Logan Coffman—7 PE/Health
Nicholas Fechter—7 Practical Arts
Julianna Lee—7 Red
Justin Houldsworth—7 World Languages
Abby Howard—8 Black
Caleigh Glazer—8 Fine Arts
Claire Kosola—8 Music
Taryn Griffey—8 PE/Health
Andrew Lefauve—8 Practical Arts
Christopher O'Connor—8 Red
Linnea Narducci—8 World Languages

Counselor Corner:
Important Enrollment Information for 2012-2013

In January, we will be enrolling students for the 2012-2013 school year. Students will receive a copy of the Course Description Guide and Course Selection Sheet, and we will have additional copies on the RVMS website. Parents are encouraged to discuss with their children the courses in which to enroll. Parents, when you have those conversations, please discuss the information in this article.

- Once the enrollment period ends, scheduling changes are not made. Therefore, please choose the courses carefully. There are several reasons why scheduling changes are not made, such as staffing decisions for next year are based on what students have chosen.
- Allowing students to drop and add classes throughout the year would cause some classes to be too small and others to be too large.
- Making a commitment to a decision is an important part of a middle school student's learning process.

Registration must be done in the student's -- not the parents'-- Infinite Campus account. The Infinite Campus Portal Registration link will open on Friday, January 20 at 7am and will close on Tuesday, January 31 at 4pm. If your child fails to register on time, your child may not be able to get into certain classes.

We try to make sure all students receive at least some of their first choices for encore classes. However, we cannot guarantee this. If your child signs up for a semester-long encore class, he/she must stay in the class all semester. If he/she signs up for a year-long class, he/she must stay in the class all year.

A parent signature is required on the Course Selection Form and indicates parent approval of a child's course selections.

Additional Current 5th Grade Information

- During January, current 5th grade students will be making their **elective** decisions for next year.
- Students who qualify for challenge classes will be notified of this option by the counselor once eligibility is determined. This is done in February and June.
- Parents of current 5th graders are invited to attend a parent meeting on Tuesday, January 10 at 7pm in the RVMS commons. Counselors will share information about RVMS, core, encore, and challenge classes, and registration for sixth grade classes.
- Also in January, RVMS counselors will visit the elementary schools to discuss registration with 5th grade students. Student will receive enrollment paperwork at this time. The visits are planned as follows: Pond – January 9, Babler on January 17, and Chesterfield on January 19.
- The Course Selection Sheet should be turned into the 5th grader's elementary school teacher no later than Wednesday February 1. However, should you have any questions, please contact one of the Middle School counselors.
- Please do not worry about putting electives into Infinite Campus. We will take care of this for you based on the selections you made on your enrollment form.

Additional Current 6th and 7th Grade Information

- 6th and 7th grade students will be making their **elective** decisions for next year.
- 6th and 7th grade students will receive a Course Description Guide and a Course Selection Sheet through Language Arts classes on Wednesday. January 11 or Thursday, January 12.
- Core classes, PE, Foreign Language (7th to 8th only), and for those students currently enrolled in them, music classes (band, orchestra, and choir), will be rolled over in Infinite Campus for the next year. Therefore, you do not have the liberty of dropping those and we will make that change in the computer.
- Students who may qualify for new challenge classes will be notified by a counselor once eligibility is determined. This is done in February and June.
- The Course Selection Sheet should be turned into the student's Language Arts teacher no later than Wednesday, February 1.
- Please call your child's current counselor if you have any questions.

Additional 8th Grade Information

- Current 8th grade students will be looking at all of their course selections.
- On Tuesday, January 10, Lafayette High School counselors will be at RVMS to talk to 8th graders about choosing classes for 9th grade; this will be done through Language Arts classes.
- On Wednesday, January 18, Lafayette High School will host Curriculum Night. Parents and students should plan on attending this event to learn more about the High School transition, scheduling, academic requirements, and the registration process.
- 8th grade students will need to turn in: 5-Year Plan of Study, Course Recommendation Sheet, Course Request Worksheet, and a Registration print-out from Infinite Campus. All of these should be signed by a parent; papers should be turned in to the student's current Language Arts teacher no later than Wednesday, February 1.
- Questions regarding high school enrollment should be directed to one of the High School counselors.

http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rvalley/offices/guidance/Pages/default.aspx

Mrs. Jaime Finck
6th Grade and Team 8-Red Counselor
finckjaime@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Mrs. Stacey Scott
7th Grade and Team 8-Black Counselor
scottstacey@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Eighth Grade Farewell Information

Eighth Grade Farewell meetings will occur during the Spring semester. Keep an eye on future communications for more information.

Eighth grade farewell activities this year will consist of an 8th grade dance (on May 4), two off-campus activities (on May 23 and 24), and the 8th Grade Farewell Ceremony (on May 23).

All eighth grade parents are invited to be on the committee. If you have questions, please contact Mr. McKenna, assistant principal, at 636-733-4270.

"You Earned It!" Field Trip

The annual seventh grade "You Earned It!" field trip to Chesterfield Sports Fusion has been scheduled for Friday, February 3. In order to participate in the trip, a seventh grader must do three things:

- Return the parent-signed contract letter on time.
- Return the parent-signed permission form with payment on time.
- Receive no office referrals for misbehavior from January 3 through February 3.

Last year about 90% of our students participated in the trip. We're hoping 100% participate this year!

A Letter from Mrs. Klesh about Scoliosis Screening

Dear Parents,

The Rockwood School District will be conducting a scoliosis screening program for girls in grades 6 and 8 and boys in grade 8. Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine that may become more pronounced during the adolescent period of rapid growth. If detected early and appropriately treated, progressive spinal deformity can be prevented.

The procedure for screening is simple. A team of nurse screeners view the child's back in the standing position and in the forward bending position. Boys and girls are screened separately and the students are screened privately. In order to properly assess each student's back, boys and girls are asked to remove their shirts. Girls should wear a swimsuit top, bra, or halter-top under their shirts the day of the screening. Please make a note of the date.

School: Rockwood Valley Middle School
Date: **JANUARY 19 and 20, 2012** (during PE/Health class)

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this letter to the RVMS school nurse, Ingrid Klesh, RN, if you ***do not wish*** *for your child to be screened for scoliosis.*

I **do not want** _____ (_____) screened for scoliosis.
Student's Name Grade

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Rockwood Valley PSO Page

2011 Adopt-a-family

We had another successful year with our annual RVMS Adopt-a-family service project. Our very generous school provided holiday gifts for six families in need from our own Rockwood School District community and donated over $5,000 to Circle of Concern and Harvey Kornblum food pantries. Our students also had a blast, while donating their time at a festive student-oriented wrapping party for the adopted families. This was all accomplished with truly amazing support from our RVMS families, staff members, many caring and dedicated PSO volunteers, and our wonderful middle school students.

Special thanks are extended to Pam Brown for chairing the coin drive, our Team Gift Coordinators (Thomasine Slater, Michele Ray, Susan Wintermute, Tracy McElroy, Kristen Emms, Tammy Moore, Cynthia Mercer, and Michol Mullen) as well as Lisa Russell, Jessica Schoenfelder, Brigitte Underwood, Lisa Hahn, Lisa Schone, Sherry Uebelein, Carrie Bunch, Ruth Busch, Rose Conroy, India Branch, Dania Catalano, and Mary Parris. Thanks also to our very helpful staff including Pat Bartels and many teachers, But especially the Team Leader Teachers (Irene Salazar, Christina Nicoletti, Rene Lewis-Smith, Jennifer Ham, Allen Luensmann, and Amy Hall), and our school counselors Jaime Finck and Stacey Scott. It has been a pleasure to be a part of Adopt-a-Family and witness the generosity at RVMS!

Thank you,
Jill Peate
2011 Adopt-a-Family Chair

The PSO Says "Thank You"

- Thank you to Jill Peate for chairing Adopt-a-Family. What a successful outcome!
- Thank you to Angie Staehling for the painting around the door at the school store. If you haven't seen it yet, check it out next time you are up at school!

Congratulations go to…

- The PSO Board would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Loiterstein on receiving his doctorate on Saturday, December 10. We are all so proud to have you as our principal! Way to go, Dr. Loiterstein!
- The PSO Board would also like to wish all of the RVMS families, students, staff and teachers a wonderful holiday season and a

"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear — not absence of fear."
~Mark Twain

A Letter from Lafayette High School to 8th Grade Parents...

Dear 8th grade students and parents:

We are very excited to begin our preparation for the Class of 2016 to join us this fall. We would like to help make the transition from middle school to high school as simple as possible.

The selection of courses is critical for success in high school. The Lafayette counselors will meet with 8th grade students in their classrooms in order to hand out materials and give general directions for course selection. They will be at Rockwood Valley on January 10th, Wildwood on January 12th, and Crestview on January 13th. Students can enroll for classes via Infinite Campus beginning at 7:00 am on January 20th. Enrollment will end at 4:00 pm on January 31st. Counselors will return to the middle schools in February and March to meet with individual students as needed.

In order to provide some valuable information about our academic and activity/athletic programs, we invite you to attend **LHS Curriculum Night** on January 18, 2012.

The schedule below outlines activities planned for Curriculum Night:

7:00 – 7:30 pm (Theater)	* Welcome to Lafayette High School * Graduation Requirements * Introduction to Counselors * 4-Year Plans * High School Schedule * Registration Process * College and Career
7:30 – 9:00 pm	* Visit Curricular Programs – Commons * Activity/Athletic Booths – Gym * Meet with LHS Counselors (optional) – Library

In addition to Curriculum Night, the Counseling Department is offering an opportunity for parents to learn more about the registration process. Please view the Parent Registration informational video available on the Counseling Department's website. We look forward to seeing you on January 18th.

Sincerely,

Mandy Lewis
Ninth Grade Principal
Lafayette High School

Outstanding ROCKWOOD ALUMNI

Alumni Celebration Gala

ROCKWOOD SCHOOLS FOUNDATION Alumni

THE ROCKWOOD SCHOOLS FOUNDATION INVITES YOU TO HONOR THE HALL OF FAME ALUMNI

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012

6 p.m. Cocktail Reception
7 p.m. Dinner
8 p.m. Awards Presentation
9 p.m. Music & Dancing by:
Griffin and the Gargoyles

THE MAGIC HOUSE, ST. LOUIS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

516 South Kirkwood Road
Saint Louis, Missouri 63122

$75 per person (tables seat 10)
Semi-formal attire

RSVP by January 16, 2012

2012 HALL OF FAME ALUMNI RECOGNITION

Mr. Craig Caddigan .....Lafayette High School '72
Mr. Cristopher Cristea.....Lafayette High School '89
Mr. Clifford Frazier .....Lafayette High School '71
Mr. David Freese .....Lafayette High School '01
Mr. Larry Jensen.....Lafayette High School '67
Mr. Matt Helbig ..... Rockwood Summit High School '98
Mr. Ryan Howard .....Lafayette High School '98
Dr. Art McCoy .....Lafayette High School '95
Ms. Charlotte Miller.....Lafayette High School '75
Mr. Travis Mossotti .....Marquette High School '98
Ms. Kelly Stables Patino.....Lafayette High School '96
Dr. Brent Underwood .....Lafayette High School '76
Mr. Rick Viehland .....Eureka High School '69

RSVP BY MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2012

❒ Please reserve a table of 10 for $750.

❒ Please reserve _____ ticket(s) for $75 per person.

I look forward to attending the Alumni Gala. Here is my additional tax-deductible contribution of $_____.

I am unable to attend the Alumni Gala but would like to contribute a tax-deductible gift to the Foundation in the amount of $_____.

I desire to pay a pledge in ____ installments of $_____.

_____
Authorized signature

Return to: Rockwood Schools Foundation
1955-A Shepard Rd
Wildwood, MO 63038

Please Print:

_____
Name

_____
Address

_____
City State Zip

_____
E-mail

_____
Phone
Confirmation and tickets will be sent via e-mail.

❒ Check enclosed (Payable to Rockwood Schools Foundation)

Please charge my ❒ Mastercard ❒ Visa
❒ American Express

_____
Account Number Exp. Date

_____
Signature

District News

January 2012

Alumni Hall of Fame

The Rockwood Schools Foundation recognizes the accomplishments made by Rockwood alumni. The inaugural Outstanding Rockwood Alumni Celebration Gala is being held in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the first Rockwood graduating class.

ROCKWOOD SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Providing Innovative Opportunities for Kids

Date: January 28, 2012
Time: Reception at 6 p.m. followed by a formal dinner, an awards presentation, music and dancing
Location: Magic House in St. Louis
Tickets are available for $75 through Jan. 16. Contact Debbie Fluchel at 636-207-6800 for more information.

To view a list of the inductees and download a ticket reservation form, visit **www.rockwoodfoundation.org.**

Dream Catcher Scholarships

The Rockwood Schools Foundation is proud to continue the Dream Catchers scholarship program to help students explore their educational potential.

All students in grades 4-11 are invited to review the requirements and submit an application to their counselor's office for this exciting program.

Students can apply for this scholarship through Jan. 31, 2012.

Learn more about Dream Catchers: **www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/schoolsfoundation**

2012 ROSE Awards

ROSE

Recognizing Those Who Make A Difference in Education

The **ROSE Award** stands for Rockwood Outstanding Service in Education.

This is one of Rockwood's highest honors and is given to individuals who show excellence of character, leadership, performance and service. Anyone can nominate an outstanding teacher, parent, administrator, community member or support staff member for this exclusive award.

Look for ROSE Award nomination forms in all Rockwood buildings beginning Jan. 3. The deadline for completing nominations is Jan. 27.

You can also nominate online: **www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rose.**

Board of Education Candidates

Rockwood residents who wish to file as candidates for the Board of Education should do so in person before Tuesday, Jan. 17. Candidates may file Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Rockwood's Administrative Center located at 111 E. North St. in Eureka.

Applicants need to submit a written statement of candidacy addressed to the secretary of the board of education. Candidates must be citizens of the United States, residents of the Rockwood School District, residents of Missouri for at least one year preceding the election and at least 24 years of age.

Two board director positions on the Rockwood School Board will be decided on the April 3 ballot.

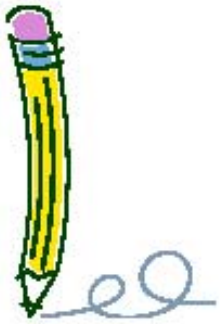
For more information, contact the Superintendent's office at 636.733.2005 or visit the Board online at **www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/boardofeducation.**

Rockwood Mission: We do whatever it takes to ensure all students realize their potential.

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATTENTION PARENTS

SAVE YOUR MAGAZINE ORDERS FOR OUR FALL FUNDRAISER!



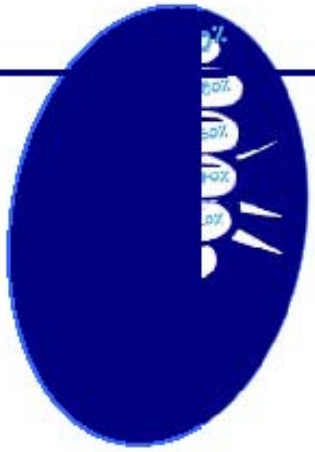
Dear Parents & Friends of Rockwood Valley Middle School,

This spring, we will be kicking-off our *magazine subscription fundraiser* to benefit our students. The success of the program depends on your participation.

Please save your magazine subscription purchases and renewals for our sale. It is only when you purchase directly through our program that our school receives 40% profit from your order.

You can support us today. Just shop on-line!
It's easy . . . visit www.qsp.com . . . click on 'Just Shopping' . . . enter school code **# 1080095** and make your selections. It's that simple!

QSP INC
A TIME INC COMPANY



- Consider giving magazine subscriptions as gifts this year!
- Purchase subscriptions for the school!
- Let friends and family know about our fundraiser and ask them to save their orders for our program in February!

ation!

Rockwood Valley Middle School
1220 Babler Park Drive
Glencoe, Missouri 63038

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY 2012

2—No School, Winter Break
3—School Resumes; Second Semester Begins; No After School Activities; 7th Gr "No Referral" Window Opens for Sports Fusion
4—No After School Activities
5—No After School Activities
6—S1 Report Cards on Parent Portal
9—PSO Meeting, 9:30am
10—After School Activities Resume; HS Counselors Meet with 8th Gr Students for HS Registration; Incoming 5th Gr Parent Night, 7pm, commons
13—PD Day, 11:15am dismissal
16—No School-MLK Day
17/18 – Sports Fusion Permission Forms Out
17—Get Real Forms Due
18—RVMS Geo Bee, 2:35pm; 9th grade Planning Night at LHS, 7pm
19—RMS/LHS Jazz Concert at LHS, 7pm; Scoliosis Screening
20—IC Enrollment Portal Opens; Scoliosis Screening; SoM Breakfast
21—RSD MS Volleyball Tourney; RSHS; 8am-4:30pm
25—Get Real Bags Out; RVMS Spelling Bee, 2:35pm, commons; Sports Fusion forms Due
26—Get Real Lunch and Drawing
27—Merlin Lunch
31—IC Enrollment Portal Closes

FEBRUARY 2012

1—CHAD's Parent Presentations, 9:30am and pm
2—Q3 Progress Reports on parent portal
3—HS Planning Date for 8th Grade Students (Cancelled); 7th Grade Sports Fusion Field Trip
6—National School Counseling Week; PSO Meeting 9:30am, Upstairs Conference Room
7—No After School Activities; PT Conferences, 3:30-7pm
8—CHAD's Presentations in 8th Grade PE/Health
9—6th Grade Orchestra Concert, 7pm; CHAD's Presentations in 8th Gr PE/Health
13-14—CHAD's Presentations in 7th Gr PE/Health
15—No After School Activities; PT Conferences, 3:30-7pm
17—PD Day-Dismissal 11:15am; SoM Breakfast
20—No School-President's Day
21-22—CHAD's Presentations in 7th Gr PE/Health
23—KORT Rehearsal, 1:30pm, commons; KORT Ceremony, 7pm, commons
24—KORT Breakfasts (8am-8th gr, 9:15am-7th gr), commons