

Global Read Aloud

Submitted by Brandon School Teacher Eric Bartelme

During the first semester of the 2020 school year, the third-grade students at Brandon School participated in the Global Read Aloud. The Global Read Aloud is organized by Pernille Ripp, an Oregon, Wisconsin, teacher, where 4K through high school classes from around the world sign up to read the same book at the same time. Connections among classes are made to bring about a sense of belonging in a global community.

The 3rd-5th grade book chosen for this year’s Global Read Aloud was *Indian No More* by Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell. It follows the trials and tribulations of a Northwest Coast Native American family in the 1950s when they were forced to leave their reservation in Oregon and relocate to Los Angeles. The family, along with the entire Umpqua people, “lost” their Native American identity when the United States government erased their assigned roll numbers that had previously been given to Native American citizens.

How did the third graders connect to the global community? First, our Brandon School class was paired up with a third-grade class in Shell Lake, Wisconsin. We utilized Padlet, similar to a virtual Post-It board, where teachers posted questions for students in both classrooms to answer about themselves, their school, and the book to promote discussion. Next, a fourth-grade teacher from Blackstock, Ontario, Canada, created and shared weekly Kahoots with over 250 classes around the world. Kahoot is a game-based learning platform where trivia quizzes can be created. Brandon students competed against classrooms located in the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and Sweden. And finally, a fifth-grade teacher from Altoona, Iowa, organized a postcard exchange. Our class illustrated and composed nearly 50 postcards for the classes who participated in the postcard exchange, the farthest from Brandon, WI, being Delhi, India, and Berkshire, United Kingdom.

This year’s book and the various activities connecting Brandon students to the greater world tied in nicely to our third-grade curriculum. The first Ready Gen module focuses on reading and writing realistic narratives. *Indian No More* was narrated by Regina, the daughter of the Petit family. Students identified language that made Regina a first-person narrator and vocabulary that made the book a realistic narrative. In social studies, our first unit focused on four Native American cultures. It wasn’t long before the class recognized the reservation was located within the Northwest Coast culture. Whenever a postcard arrives, rumblings are heard throughout the classroom speculating the origin of the postcard. Google Earth and a good old-fashioned wall map of the world have intrigued students to find locations of participating classes. Finally, diversity/inclusion and empathy were our first two social emotional learning themes in the fall. When a stereotype was presented or characters weren’t being accepted because of their differences, it was pointed out by the class.

In closing, this year’s Global Read Aloud was memorable to the Brandon School third grade students. Many personal and academic connections were made based on this year’s piece of literature.



Julian Ciesla, Everley Schmuhl, Reese Gillett, and Ally Redeker proudly hold postcards ready to be mailed to schools participating in the Global Read Aloud postcard exchange.



Alaina Charneski was a two-time top 50 scorer in the weekly Kahoot challenges. Reese Gillett (not pictured) placed in the top 100 in the final Kahoot challenge.

RI Soup Drive

Submitted by Pam Mumm

Rosendale Intermediate School’s student council sponsored a soup drive to collect chicken noodle soup for the Brandon Food Pantry in January. Each classroom collected several items, but nothing compared to the amount of food the eighth grade groups brought in: eighth graders collected a total of 2,442 items! During an eighth grade social-emotional learning lesson, students were invited to create a project to spread kindness. They decided to make a competition between the eighth grade groups to see which group could collect the most food for the student council food drive, understanding that these goods would stay in the community to help local families with food insecurity.



Ryland Basler, Kaydence Hiemstra, and Pallen Kloetzke stack hundreds of chicken noodle soup packets that their team brought in.



An eighth grade cohort proudly displays the chicken noodle soup they brought in.



A friendly competition between two eighth grade cohorts prompted thousands of items to be brought in to be donated to the Brandon Food Pantry.



Laconia FFA Strawberry Sale
Fresh from the Florida Farm Bureau

\$25 = 1 Flat or 8, 1-quart cartons
\$13 = ½ Flat or 4, 1-quart cartons
\$3.50 = 1, 1-quart cartons

Delivery of the week of March 8-12.
To order contact a Laconia FFA member
or call Linda Sattler (920)872-5373.

All order money due Friday, February 12th.



A Virtual Visit From Kenya
Brandon Fourth Grade Teacher Sandy Kuik

The fourth graders at Brandon School had the rare opportunity to experience a global perspective on the culture and community of Nairobi, Kenya, with the help of Brandon School instructional aide, Steve Hollenback. While taking time away from the comfort of the classroom to go on a mission trip that addressed the medical and spiritual needs of the children and locals there, “Mr. H” was able to open up a whole new world to some very inquisitive nine and ten-year olds through photos, stories, and virtual visits.

Making connections to what we were learning about in reading and social studies with life in Kenya was particularly engaging. Not only did the fourth graders miss Mr. H and were excited to see and talk to him, they were genuinely interested in what things were like so far away. The 4th graders had studied about how the Haudenosaunee social structure had a clan system with women being the head and learned from Mr. H that men are the most senior of the community in Kenya. He shared that religion there is very important, much like how the native people we were learning about were extremely spiritual.

Mrs. Kuik’s 4th graders pose for a class picture with Brandon School instructional aide Steve Hollenback as he visits with them virtually on a Google Meet all the way from Kenya where he was on a mission trip.

First Row: Billy Block, Jayda Rens, Violet Bushweiler, Pyper Witthun. Second Row: Finnley Frank, Cody Keating, Quinton Henning, Dawsen Whitehouse, Bennett Slager, Donovan Geisthardt, Mercedes Hendrickson, Mallory Parks, Myla Chitwood, Collin Lynch. Third Row: Cayden Shaver, Noah Riedeman, Izec Grade, Cole Arndt, Addison Grade, Annabelle Hull, Tori Rens. Fourth Row: Mrs. Kuik. Attending digitally: Mr. Hollenback, Eli Bohn, Alisabeth Perr.

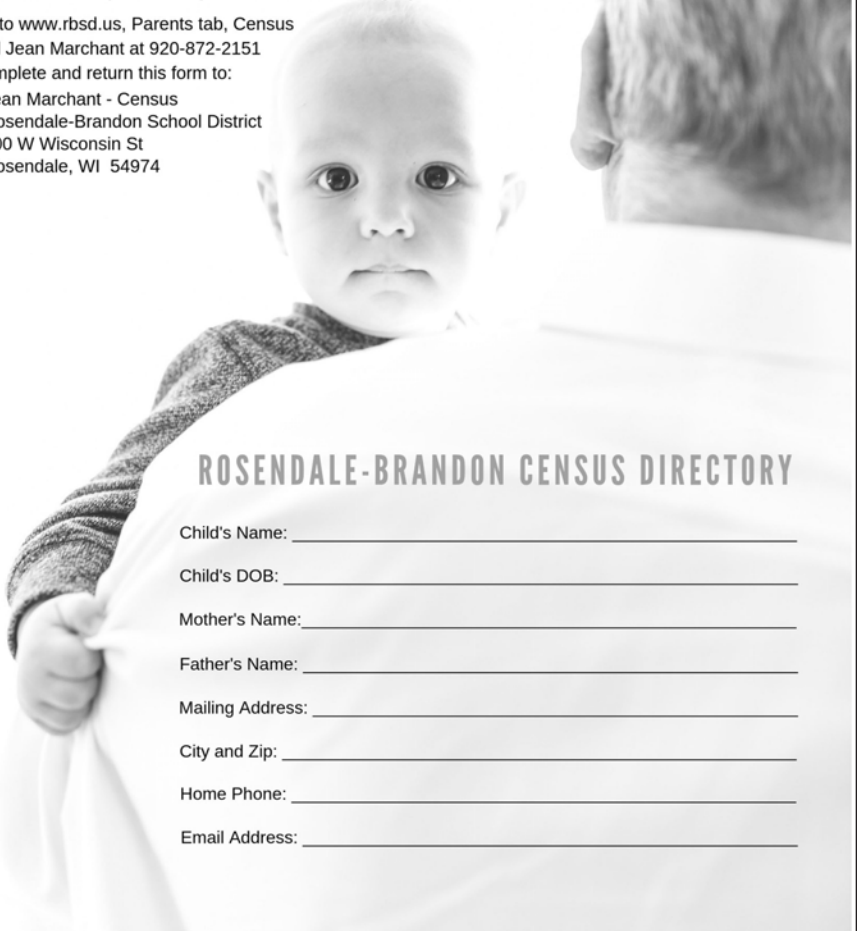


DID YOU RECENTLY HAVE A BABY?
IS YOUR YOUNG FAMILY NEW TO THE DISTRICT?

If you answered “Yes” to either of these questions, we’d love to include your child in our school district census directory so that, at the appropriate times, we are able to invite you to our 3-year old R-BEL classes, our 3-year old Development Screening and our 4 and 5-year old Kindergarten Registration Day!

To ensure your child doesn’t miss out on these opportunities, join our Census by choosing one of the following options.

- Go to www.rbsd.us, Parents tab, Census
- Call Jean Marchant at 920-872-2151
- Complete and return this form to:
Jean Marchant - Census
Rosendale-Brandon School District
300 W Wisconsin St
Rosendale, WI 54974



ROSENDALE-BRANDON CENSUS DIRECTORY

Child’s Name: _____

Child’s DOB: _____

Mother’s Name: _____

Father’s Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City and Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Some things that all of the cultures, early and present-day, had in common were the way that they faced challenges, relied heavily on each other to make their community strong, and used natural resources for their survival. When Mr. H joined our Google Meets, there was never a shortage of questions for him. Some of the more memorable ones include: What do you eat? What are the schools like? Are you sleeping in an orphanage? And, of course...When are you coming back?

On a daily basis my students would ask if Mr. H had emailed and sent more pictures. There was a lot of excitement when he had. My students were soaking up information about a new culture and had more questions than I could answer. As an extra challenge, Mr. H sent math problems for my class to solve that included real-life situations about the children and locals he was with.

By sharing this life enriching experience, Mr. Hollenback was able to bring to life a world that is vastly different from any my students have known while also helping them learn about the culture, beliefs, and lifestyle of a community so far away. Seeing the pictures, he sent, hearing the many stories he shared, and being able to ask questions of him definitely expanded their world as they experienced Kenya through his eyes.

Upcoming Sports Seasons High School and Middle School

(All schedules are subject to change)

High School Sports Upcoming Seasons

Dance/Cheer	February 1 - March 3
Volleyball	February 22 - April 12
Football	March 8 - May 3
Baseball	April 19 - July 1
Softball	April 19 - June 28
Golf	April 19 - June 17
Track	April 19 - June 28

Middle School Sports Upcoming Seasons

Volleyball	February 2 - May 18
Wrestling	February 22 - March 16
Football	March 1 - April 9 <i>(Middle School ADs discussing if flag football or tackle)</i>
Track	April 12 - May 10

Rosendale Brandon School District Employment Opportunities

Rosendale-Brandon School District is currently seeking applicants for the following positions. Please see our Employment Opportunities listing on www.rbsd.us for more information regarding these positions.

**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT
TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT
SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIANS
SUBSTITUTE LUNCH SERVERS
VAN DRIVERS**

Tom King, 300 Wins

Submitted by Jeff Thomas

It was far from easy, but Tom King notched his 300th victory as the head coach at Laconia last week with a 75-71 double overtime triumph over Kewaskum. Now in his 19th season as the head coach of the Spartans, King owns a 300-131 mark at the Wisconsin Flyway Conference school. King has spent 29 years coaching Laconia Spartans in basketball, counting both his assistant coach and head coach years. The 1973 Laconia graduate has led the program to seven conference championships and six WIAA regional crowns during his tenure.



4K AND 5K REGISTRATION

CONTACT YOUR BUILDING SECRETARY TO RECEIVE A MAILED PACKET

Children who will be 4 or 5 years old
by September 1st are invited to register for school!

BIRTH CERTIFICATES AND IMMUNIZATION RECORDS ARE NEEDED FOR REGISTRATION

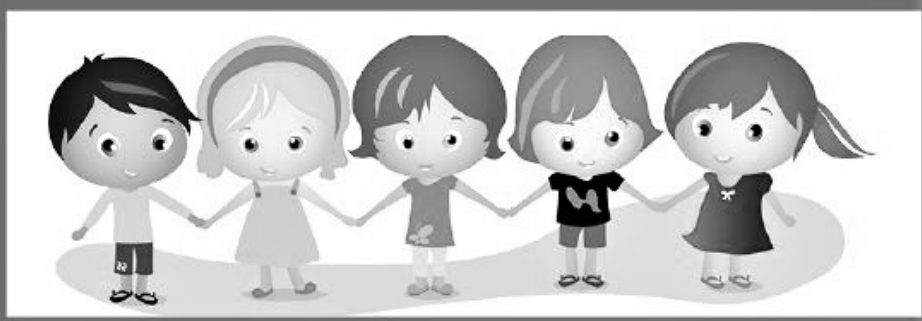
BRANDON SCHOOL

Contact Dawn Balsitis at 920-346-2915 or balsdaw@rbsd.k12.wi.us

ROSENDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Contact Jean Marchant at 920-872-2151 or marcjea@rbsd.k12.wi.us

REGISTER VIA MAILED PACKET



Community Section

Little League Season is fast approaching!

On-line registration for the 2021 Laconia Little League season will be open February 15 – March 1.

Please watch your email for the sign up information.

League fees will be collected on-line at time of registration.

We are in need of some new committee members. This is a way to ensure future seasons for our youth. Board meetings are usually held once a month.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9th at 6:00 pm at Generations Lanes.

If you are interested, please attend the meeting or email laconialittleleague2018@gmail.com.

Without volunteers, we would not exist!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Submitted by Co-Coordinator Pat Abbs and Marcie Kunkle:

We had a great turnout and want to say a most sincere thank you to all of the people who came to donate blood at our January blood drive at Peace Lutheran Church, Rosendale. We are excited to say we exceeded our goal!

The next Rosendale blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2021.

The next Brandon blood drive is in March 2021. Watch for detailed information.

Adventure Club at Bethel Church, Brandon

Mondays, February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

5:30-7:00 p.m. for students 4K-5th grades
Students will be asked to wear masks,
and temps will be taken upon arrival.

Brandon Tanagers 4-H Fun

Submitted by Brandon Tanagers 4H Reporter Landen Yunto



At the December meeting during the Christmas party, 4-H members made blanket to hand out to veterans. These members included Jessica Merkel, Megan Merkel, Cole Arndt, Kylie Merkel, Lena Arndt, Angela Arndt, and Matilda Arndt.



Enjoying the 4-H tubing trip in January are front: Noah Riedeman and Eyon Yunto; back: Will Riedeman and Luke Riedeman.

Teacher Features

Cindy Bailey

What inspired you to become a teacher?

I didn't initially go to college to become a teacher, but as plans often do, mine changed along the way. I had gone to college as a pre-med major. Part way through my junior year, I decided that I didn't want to be in school for the rest of my life. (How ironic, huh?) Since I had an abundance of science credits, my advisor suggested I become a science teacher. As I thought about this, I realized I had some incredible science teachers in my life that had guided me and that this job was the perfect fit for me.



What's the most challenging part of your job?

As a science teacher, my most challenging part was time. Preparing for science labs takes a lot of time that just isn't available during the regular school day. This was hard when I was first teaching and trying to start a family. That work-life balance almost made me leave teaching all together.

What's the most rewarding part of your job?

Fortunately, I found a passion in this growing area called technology. As I became more interested in technology, the field of library media became more interesting to me. I headed back to school and switched to a library media specialist position within our district. The most rewarding part of my current position is that every day is different. Each day I come to work, I never know what I will encounter. Being a problem-solver and life-long learner is so rewarding! (My colleagues and students aren't so bad either.) I am so lucky to work in this district that hires only the best and has a community that is so supportive of education.

What's the most memorable moment you've had in the classroom?

While not always known in the classroom, my most memorable moments have come years later when I see a former student out in the community or returning as a parent of one of my students and we can reminisce about something they learned from me or how I made them feel as a student. These moments are priceless and are good reminders of the impact we make on students even on our most frustrating days. Our motto this year is to focus on what good happened each day rather than what might not have gone right. Students acknowledging my "good" for them years later are some of my best moments in education.

What's your favorite subject/class to teach and why?

I absolutely love training staff on new technology software. While it's true that teachers can be the worst students (myself included), the joy that is felt when they realize how much easier this training is going to make their life is so satisfying for me. The same applies to students that I teach video-editing software. Initially, their level of frustration can be quite high, but once they are able to make the video do what they want to, their whole demeanor changes and they keep exploring to learn more. That is my goal for education, to encourage my "students" to want to dig deeper.

Background information:

Years at the school: 26

Hometown: Waupun, WI

Education: Bachelor's (UW-Madison: Secondary Education - Biology and Natural Science, minor in Health); Master's (UW-Oshkosh: Educational Leadership); 902 initial library certification (UW-Oshkosh); 902 professional library certification (Cardinal Stritch).

Family: married for 29 years to my high school sweetheart, Wayne Bailey (an '89 graduate of Laconia); three children Kathryn (23), Abby (21) and Ryan (16) ...two Laconia grads and one current student.

Hannah Hokenson

What inspired you to become a teacher?

My sister, Klara, was my inspiration when it came to what I wanted to do in my life, which is work with children with special needs. Three of my four parents are educators, so being a teacher kind of runs in my blood, I think.



What's the most challenging part of your job?

It's always hard for me to watch my students struggle while our team works to find the best way to help them learn.

What's the most rewarding part of your job?

When students show pride in themselves for how hard they've worked to understand a concept or make progress in their abilities. Also, I work with the same students for up to 6 years while they are at RP, so being able to see their growth over that time is amazing.

What's the most memorable moment you've had in the classroom?

Working in special education provides too many memorable moments to count! Just this year, though, a student of mine was struggling to adjust to wearing a mask. One day, he decided to try wearing the mask to gym class and his classmates became his biggest cheerleaders. They told everyone they saw for the rest of the day how proud they were of him. He's been wearing the mask with no issues ever since. It makes my heart soar when kids step up and support their peers, especially those whose challenges they might not completely understand.

What's your favorite subject/class to teach and why?

Reading is my passion in and outside of the classroom. Books have always provided me with a safe space to escape to when I'm feeling overwhelmed or discouraged. I want to instill my love of reading in my students.

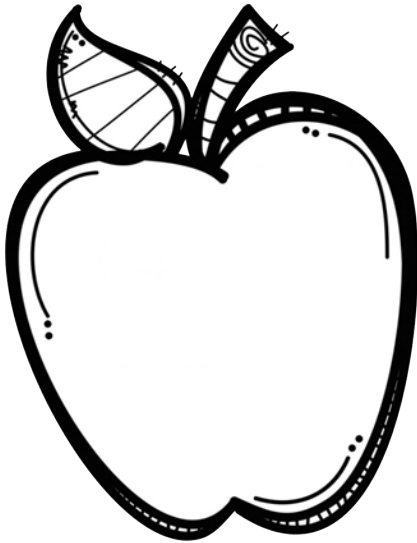
Background information:

Years at the school: This is my 7th year in the Rosendale-Brandon School District. I've taught at Rosendale Primary, Brandon Elementary, and Brandon Middle Schools over that time.

Hometown: I was born in Milwaukee and moved to the Rosendale/Brandon area when I was 8 years old.

Education: Both my undergraduate and graduate degrees are from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. My undergraduate degree is actually in Therapeutic Recreation, but my graduate degree is in Reading Education. I earned my teaching certification through CESA 6's RITE program.

Family: I live in Oshkosh with my 5-year-old shar-pei mix, Nyla.



THE SPARTAN SENTINEL

Is published monthly during the school year by the
Rosendale-Brandon School District
300 West Wisconsin Street
Rosendale, WI 54974

Spartan Sentinel Staff
Editor: Danielle Olejniczak
Layout: Laconia High School publications class

Vol. 40 No.6, February 12, 2021

Watch your mailbox! The next edition
of *The Spartan Sentinel* will reach your
mailbox on Mar 12.

Email submissions to Danielle
Olejniczak (publications@rbsd.k12.
wi.us) by Thursday, February 25, 2021.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Rosendale-Brandon School District, in accordance with state and federal law, does not discriminate because of the person's sex, race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, creed, disability, military or veteran status, political affiliation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or hardship, or other basis prohibited under state and federal law, in its employment and educational policies and practices, including those for career and Technical Education courses.