



Ralston Public Schools



@RalstonSchools

www.ralstonschools.org

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, sex, pregnancy, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Ralston Public Schools
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Ralston
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

20
23



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



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Members of the Ralston Public Schools community, thank you for your continued care, trust, and support of our schools, staff, students, and families. The Annual Report provides data and student highlights from the 2022-2023 school year. Also included is a current update on our much-needed bond projects. These have and will continue to positively impact our educational environments throughout every school in our District. We have changed the format of the Annual Report to include a 2024 spring activity calendar. Take a look and make plans to attend one or several events and help celebrate our students.

As a District, we always look at ways to improve and enhance our students' educational experience. Our staff consistently works to help our students achieve their fullest potential through purposeful, rigorous curriculum and instruction. We are committed to fostering a welcoming, collaborative culture where the students' well-being is at the heart of everything we do.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jason Buckingham
Superintendent
Mrs. Robin Richards
Board Of Education President

FUTURE READY RALSTON

In October 2021, Ralston residents supported the Future Ready Ralston Bond Initiative. Below is an update on our ongoing projects.



Ralston High School Multi-Sports Complex: New turf baseball and softball fields also include space for soccer, football, and youth sports. The complex also includes a new area for field events for track & field, press box, concession stand, restrooms, and batting cages.

Karen Western Elementary: Phase One of renovations is complete; a secured entrance into the office, classroom technology and audio enhancement system in every classroom, new ceilings, paint, fire/sprinkler system, security camera system, roof replacement (east half), front drive cement replacement, and HVAC system. The school's new flooring, Phase 2, will be installed during the summer of 2024.



Mockingbird Elementary: The NEW Mockingbird Elementary is set to open in the fall of 2024. Demolition will happen this summer on the old building, making way for a new parking lot and entrance.

Seymour Elementary: Interior renovations will begin at Seymour once school concludes in May of 2024. Highlights include office relocation, secure entrance vestibule and new main entrance on the west side of the school and similar upgrades as other district elementary schools.

Meadows Elementary, Wildewood, and Blumfield Elementary Schools: Each school received a complete interior renovation - permanent classroom walls, a secure front vestibule, flooring, ceiling, HVAC units, paint, an intercom system, and a technology and sound enhancement system in every classroom. Construction on Meadows and Wildewood was completed in 2023 and Blumfield will be ready in June of 2024.



Ralston Middle School: Interior renovations will happen in two phases. Phase 1 begins once school concludes in May 2024. Phase Two, will be ongoing throughout the 2024-2025 school year in a manner that will cause minimal classroom disruption.

Ralston High School: The high school will see its renovation projects take place during the 2025 and 2026 summer months.



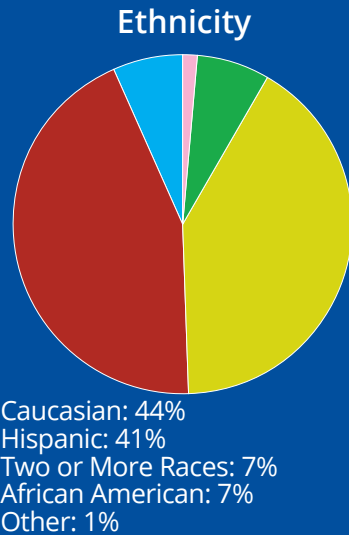
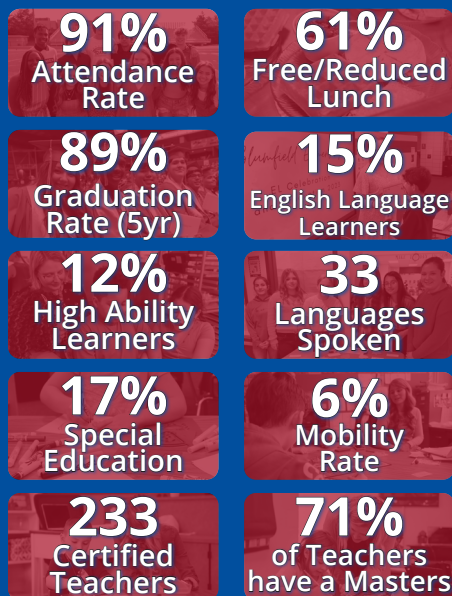
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Ralston Schools Foundation and Ralston Public Schools are proud to announce the Distinguished Alumni Award. This award will recognize the accomplishments of Ralston High School's most remarkable graduates.

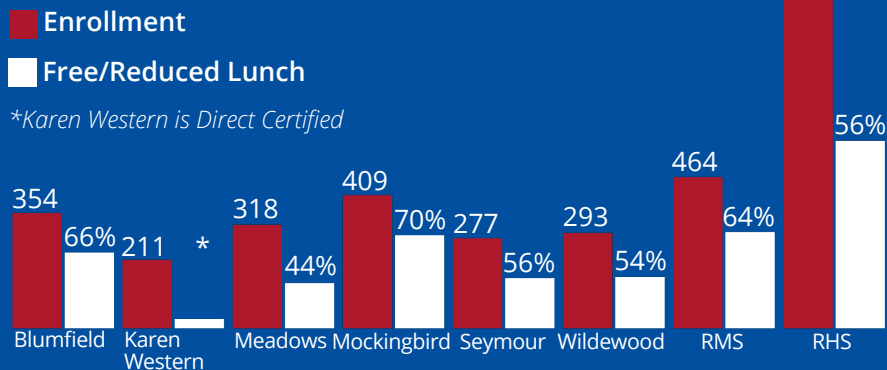


Scan the QR Code to nominate a distinguished alum.

DISTRICT PROFILE



Total Enrollment: 3,352 Students



Student / Teacher Ratio

19:1
Elementary

22:1
Secondary

Achievement: % Proficient

Math

54% NSCAS
15% ACT

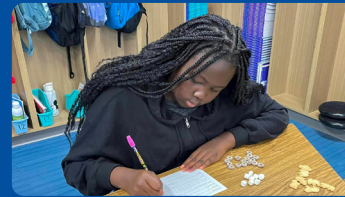
Science

65% NSCAS
25% ACT

ELA

48% NSCAS
23% ACT

ACADEMICS



At the heart of RPS educational philosophy lies a firm belief in the potential of every child. We hold high expectations for all students, regardless of background or ability, and we are committed to providing them with the support and resources they need to thrive academically and personally.

Through rigorous classroom instruction, targeted interventions, personalized learning plans, and a nurturing classroom environment, we empower our students to surpass their own expectations and reach new heights of achievement.

Ralston Public Schools is committed to advancing student achievement, with a particular emphasis on enhancing reading proficiency. We recognize that literacy is the cornerstone of academic success; therefore, we have embarked on a comprehensive overhaul of our English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum for students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Through engaging texts, interactive activities, and differentiated instruction, our goal is to have all students become proficient readers and effective communicators.



At the high school, teachers are currently piloting a new research-based English curriculum, aimed at further refining language skills and preparing students for the challenges of higher education and the workforce. This pilot program integrates contemporary literature,

multimedia resources, and advanced writing assignments to cultivate analytical thinking and literary appreciation among our high schoolers. Additionally, other English courses will go through an audit review process focusing on rigor and text complexity, aligned with our state standards.



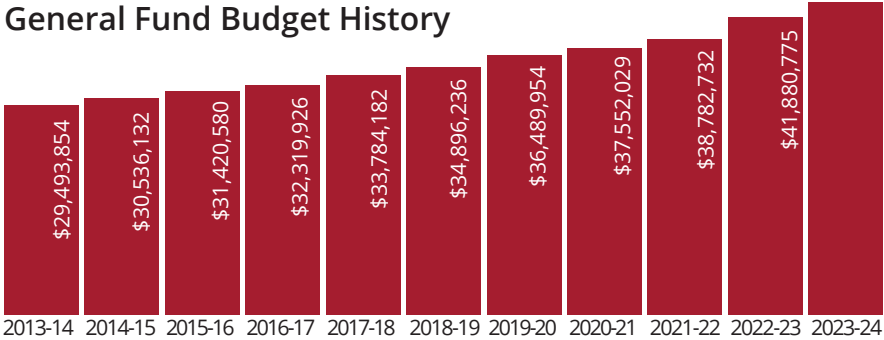
To view Ralston's State testing data, you can visit the Nebraska Department of Education's website at nep.education.ne.gov.

DISTRICT FINANCIALS

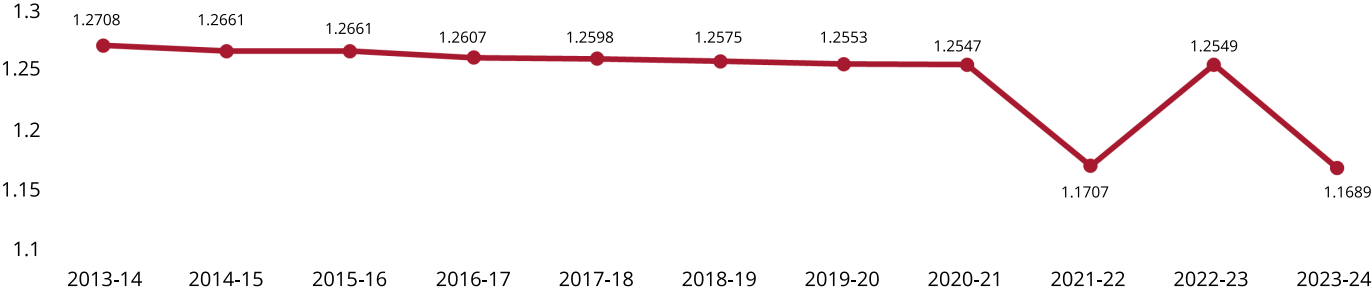
Our Board of Education prides itself on a continued commitment to sound financial policy and practice. Dollars raised through property taxes are carefully monitored and allocated in order to most effectively staff buildings and keep facilities and operations functioning efficiently.



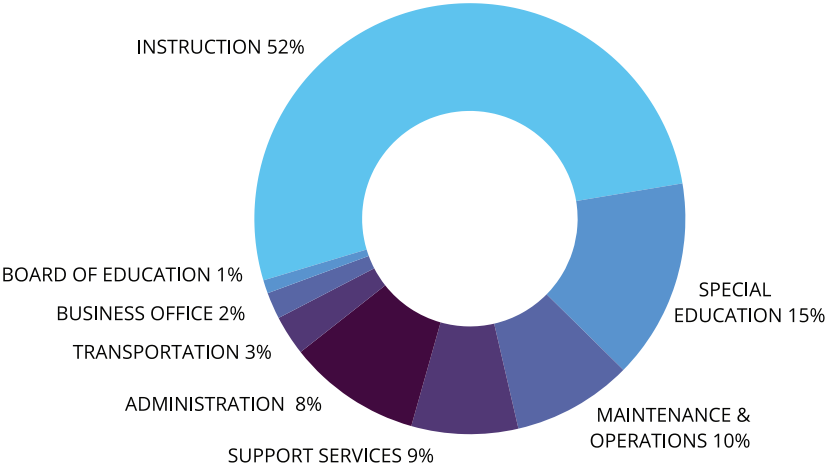
General Fund Budget History



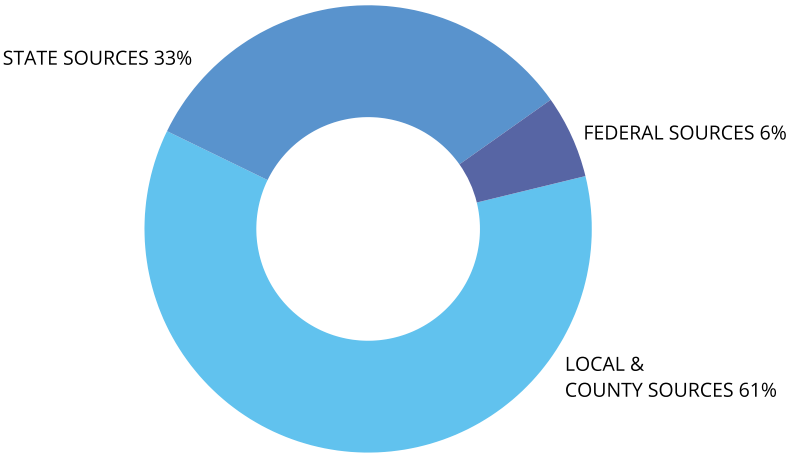
LEVY HISTORY



2023-2024 Expenditures



2022-2023 General Fund Revenue



STUDENT LIFE



State Journalism Awards: The Ralston High School Yearbook staff celebrated an outstanding year with two state champions and many others who finished in the top five at the NSAA Journalism State Championships. Pamela Castaneda Martinez (left) was a state champion in Feature Photography, and Andrew Creek (right) was a state champion in Yearbook Layout.



First Girls Wrestling State Champion: Ralston High School junior Dylen Ritchey captured the first-ever RHS Girls Wrestling State Championship in 2023 with a triple overtime victory at 135 pounds. Dylen was the first wrestling state champion at Ralston in the last ten years.

Ralston FFA Recognized at State Convention: The Ralston High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter was presented with two awards at the State FFA Convention. The Rams received the Governor's Award of Excellence and the Connecting Chapters Award.

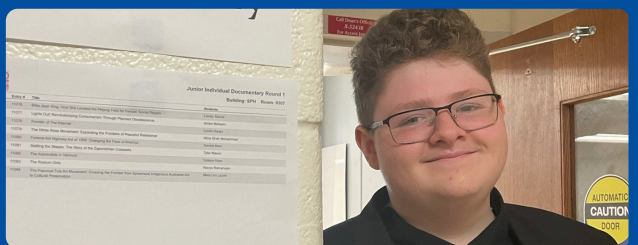


RMS LEGO League State Qualifiers: At their regional competition, the Ralston Middle School ElectREX FIRST LEGO League team took first place and qualified to compete for the Nebraska Innovation Award at the State Competition. Team members included Ragan Rieves, Erik Jaimes Rodriguez, Chase Willits, Hadley Cobb, Cameron Harder, Dia Oma, Reiley Conaway, and Guy Penly.

Ralston High School Construction Crew: Ralston High School was awarded a \$20,000 Makers Grant through the Stanley Black and Decker Empower Makers Global Impact Challenge. It will help fund the equipment necessary to begin the RHS Construction Crew class at Ralston High School. The first Construction Crew class will start in the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year. The new class will be a capstone CTE course that allows students to participate in work-based learning in the Ralston community. Students will complete residential construction projects under the guidance and supervision of Mr. Becklun.



Inaugural Vehicle Day: For the first time, every first-grade student had the chance to attend Vehicle Day. The day provided over 250 students a chance to hear, see, and touch vehicles used in a wide variety of careers. Local businesses showcased their vehicles, shared a little about their job, and how they utilize a specific vehicle to help others in the community. It was a huge success and will become a yearly event for our students.



Ralston Students Compete in National Competitions: Cillian Kerrigan, Individual Website, (Top Left) and Garrett Main, Individual Documentary, (Top Right) earned a trip to Washington D.C. to represent Ram Nation at the National History Day competition.

Ralston High School students competed at the National Educators Rising Conference in Orlando, Florida. (Bottom Row) The competitive event showcased multiple skill areas and provided students with a chance to attend sessions on many educational topics. Both the high school and middle school students represented Ram Nation very well on the national stage.



Let's Go Rams!



Show your support for RHS Athletics.
Scan the QR Code for a full list of Spring Activities.



SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
March					1 No School	2
3	4	5	6	7 7 pm: District Vocal Music Festival	8 No School	9
10	11 No School	12 7 pm: District Band Festival	13	14 7 pm: Boys Soccer 7 pm: Show Choir Concert	15	16
17	18 7 pm: Boys Soccer	19 4:30 pm: Baseball 7 pm: Girls Soccer	20	21	22 6 pm & 8 pm: Cabaret Night	23 6 pm & 8 pm: Cabaret Night
24 31	25 3 pm: Girls Tennis 4:30 pm: Baseball 7 pm: Boys Soccer	26 4 pm: Girls Tennis 5 pm: Boys Soccer	27	28 4:30 pm: Baseball 7 pm: Girls Soccer	29 No School 4:30 pm: Baseball 7 pm: Girls Soccer	30 10:30 am: Boys & Girls Track Invitational

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
April	1 4 pm: Girls Tennis	2 4 pm: Girls Tennis 5 pm: Baseball	3 Spring Break April 1-5	4 7 pm: Boys Soccer 9 am: Boys Golf	5 6:30 pm: Baseball	6 12 pm: Baseball 12 pm: Girls Soccer
7	8	9 9:30 am: Boys Golf 3:00 pm: Girls Tennis 7:00 pm: Girls Soccer	10	11 5:30 pm: Boys Soccer	12	13 RHS Prom
14	15	16	17	18 6:30 pm Baseball 7:30 pm: Boys Soccer	19	20
21	22	23 6:30 pm: Baseball	24	25 7:30 pm: Spring Play	26 7:30 pm: Spring Play	27 10 am - 2 pm: Ralston Auto Show 7:30 pm: Spring Play
28 2 pm: Spring Play	29 7 pm: RHS Band Concert	30				

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
May			1	2 7 pm: Spring Choir Concert	3 1 pm: RMS Conference Track Meet at RHS	4
5	6	7	8	9 9 am: Elementary Track and Field Day at RHS 4:00 pm: Girls Tennis	10	11
12	13	14	15 6:30 pm: RHS Senior Honors Night	16	17	18
19 2 pm: RHS Graduation	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	