

I will be serving as the representative for Roguewood and will share meeting notes in this space as well as monthly PTO meetings. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Mary Hayes

October News

Election Issues

A Non-Homestead Renewal will be on the ballot this Tuesday. This mileage has been in place since 1994 and is required to be renewed every four years. The last time voters approved this mileage was in 2014.

In addition a second ballot proposal will be on the ballot to increase the funding from the current 17.1268 mils, to the full 18 mils available by law. The first proposal must pass for the second proposal to pass. In other words, one can't just choose the second proposal.

The funding resulting from the passage of these ballot issues is a significant part of the districts operating costs, at \$5.5 million, or 6.8% of operating costs. This is the equivalent to the salary and benefits of 50 teachers.

This is a non-homestead tax, meaning a homeowner's tax will not be affected. Only taxes on businesses, vacant land, rental property, and second homes fund this millage.

School Board Election

Three incumbents Bobbi Jo Blanton, Timothy Lewis, and Miles Postema are running for re-election. A fourth candidate, Dante Damore, is a recent graduate of RPS.

Security

Eric Bruner will begin work as a School Resource Officer, SRO, in January. He is currently a Kent County Sheriff Deputy and will spend part of his week in Rockford Public Schools. He will be present in uniform in the schools and will work to build relationships and increase security.

RPS 2017-18 Fourth Annual, State of Teaching and Learning Report

The report was just released and gives a snapshot of the 2017-18 school year. It provides data on a variety of topics k-12 and illustrates many of the district's accomplishments.

Retirement

Dr. Ryan Kelley will be retiring January 1st. He has served in many positions in the district over the course of his career, but most recently as superintendent of instruction. Interviews are in progress in the search for his replacement.

High School News

769 Advanced Placement tests were administered last year in 20 different subject areas. Resulting scores were high.

One RPS student was able to graduate from college in 4 years with a Masters in Mechanical Engineering degree, in large part due to her ability to take AP courses.