

SIDE NOTES

STUDENTS INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPING EXCELLENCE

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What's Inside?

What is SIDE? Take a look at what went into the development of the class and what the focus is now.

Who are the teachers? Learn about who developed this group and what their roles are here at Riverside.

What are we doing now? Learn more about the projects that have been developed and are currently in the works

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WHAT IS SIDE?

SIDE STANDS FOR STUDENTS INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPING EXCELLENCE

This acronym illustrates the emphasis placed on student leadership and involvement in this class. Originally founded as a club to help bridge the gap between the eighth graders and upperclassman on campus, SIDE has held true to their founding principles while also developing into a daytime class focused on developing upperclassmen's leadership, service, and entrepreneurship skills. The class is split into two main groups of first and second year students. First year students focus on Entrepreneurship and second year students move into service, while everyone enhances their leadership skills.





FIRST YEARS: LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The first year students work alongside Mr. Eckles focusing on developing their leadership and entrepreneurial skills. Although the students complete many tasks to assist in further developing their skills during the first semester, the three core areas are their entrepreneurship project, eighth grade advisory, and reading "Who Owns the Ice House" by Clifton Taulbert and Gary Schoeniger.

The main focus of the entrepreneurship project during the first semester is to identify a real world problem and develop a creative solution to it. Students do this in groups with their first year classmates and then present to one another. As they work on these, they also read the novel, "Who Owns the Ice House" with literacy coordinator, Mr. Schmidt. The novel follows Pulitzer nominee, Clifton Taulbert, & his story about having an entrepreneurial mindset and how it provided him with unlimited opportunities. Reading this book introduces students to the eight key principles of entrepreneurship; choice, opportunity, action, knowledge, wealth, brand, community and persistence.

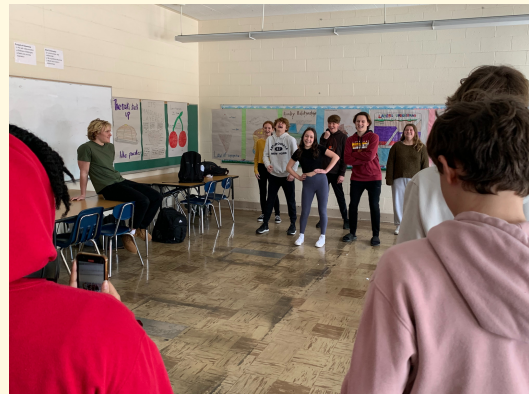
As we move into the second semester, students begin to put these new entrepreneurial skills to work as they build out their original projects or begin new ventures. More details on these projects will be coming soon!

SECOND YEARS: LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

The second year students work alongside Senior Advisor, Mrs. McIntyre developing their leadership and service skills. Year twos have already completed their entrepreneurship projects and have the skills and knowledge they need to get right to work. The service portion of this class emphasizes finding way to help better our community through projects with focuses on volunteer work, fundraising, or problem solving. Some examples of year two projects include the Recognizing RHS Podcast, Ready Routes, and the Care Closet just to name a few.

EIGHTH GRADE ADVISORY

As previously mentioned, SIDE was originally developed to bridge the gap between eighth grade students and the upperclassmen on campus. A unique quality of Riverside is the fact that all students, 8-12th grade, are on the high school campus. As upperclassmen, we are able to reflect and think back to the time when we were in eighth grade. It was a difficult adjustment, it was uncomfortable, and it was scary. The difference between a 14 year old and an 18 year old is a big one. SIDE wanted to find students that were willing to put in a little extra work to make this gap seem a little smaller. This principle was not lost when the club transitioned into a curriculum based class. All students enrolled in SIDE, first and second year, are put into groups of 3-5 students and assigned an eighth grade advisory class. In these groups they develop activities and games geared towards a class of fourteen year olds. These games focus on creativity, communication, and problem solving skills to help connect the SIDE members and eighth grade students. The activities help the younger students feel more comfortable and involved at school while also bonding them to members of their groups.



These pictures are from various advisories. The students visit their classes every Gold Friday (about every other week) with a few games and activities for them to complete together.

Meet the Teachers

Mr. Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt is the district literacy coordinator as well as a co-teacher for SIDE.

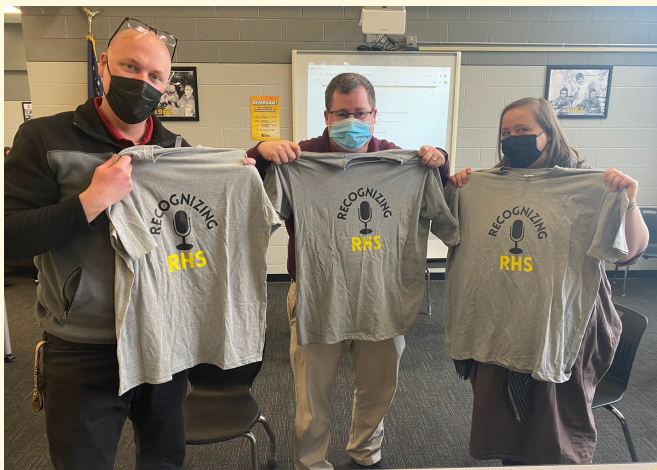
He interacts with all the students on the campus and often visits English classes to see what everyone is working on.

Mr. Eckles

Mr. Eckles is the 9th grade world history teacher, a co-teacher for SIDE, a Kirtland football coach, and the Mock Trial advisor.

Mrs. McIntyre

McIntyre teaches English and SIDE while advising Student Council and the senior class. She is in charge of planning prom and graduation for the senior class.



Meet the Founder



Baker Brainard

A 2017 Riverside graduate, Baker held an officer's position each year in Student Council and was class president from eighth through eleventh grades. He also was a member of National Honor Society for three years.

One of Baker's missions as a student at RHS was to provide the students with more opportunity and acceptance. Working with Crossroads, Baker and a group of students began early morning meetings in 2015 to prep for advisory sessions that were produced through gym and health classes.

In 2018, Baker's concept moved from club to class, allowing for an advisory period to be added and for students to receive academic credit.

Currently, Baker holds a degree in Architecture from The University of Cincinnati and is Junior Architect at ODP Architecture and Design in Florida.



Helping Halloween

Before Halloween this year, second year students partnered up with Girl Scout Troop 70290 for a project to provide elementary students with a costume of their choice. They received donations and were able to deliver costumes to Melridge elementary school. Students also participated in making halloween cards that were then donated to local nursing home residents to help spread some holiday spirit!

Day of Caring 2021

The Day of Caring fundraiser is a donation based fundraiser that took place from 11/29-12/7. Donations were managed and collected by second year students Zack Everts, Ethan Bartlett, and Henry Busch. The donations went towards buying presents for local families in need this holiday season.

Broadmoor

Adriana Vitanza and Emma McPeck worked with Broadmoor to set up visits with the preschool classrooms. They were able to spend time reading to the children and playing with the classes. They were also able to give each kid a sweet gift.

Tour of Lake County

Tour of Lake County is a podcast ran by second year students Alex Mlakar, Raegan McNellie, and Lexie Wade. They will be touring local high schools in the area this semester to give them a platform where they will be able to share their highlights and accomplishments. You can follow along with their progress on twitter @TOLC_Riverside.



Ready Routes



Created by seniors Bryce Weber and Sophia Chokshi, Ready Routes is a website that provides runners with local routes. The website has routes located in Painesville, Mentor, Concord, and more! Each route has a terrain description, difficulty level, map image, and listed length! The website is very informative and easy to follow with their provided key. You can visit their website at readyroutes.net or follow them on twitter @ReadyRoutes !

<https://www.readyroutes.net>





Fall Food Drive

Food donations were collected this past fall at the campus and managed by a group of second year students. These donations included canned and nonperishable goods. Three carloads of good weres collected and transported over to St. Gabe's Food Pantry to help local families in need.



Sub Zero Mission

SIDE students partnered with the Sub Zero Mission to help collect donations from the community in order to help supply the local homeless with warm winter accessories. They were able to collect donations at school as well as at varsity football games with their "stuff the bus" events.

The Care Closet

The purpose of the Care Closet is to have accessible products and goods on campus for those that need them. Items that can be found in the Care Closet include food, deodorant, clothing, hygiene products, shoes, winter accessories, and more. If you or someone you know needs anything from the Care Closet stop in the media center or 123M and let them know!



Recognizing RHS Podcast

Ran by seniors Raegan McNellie, Alex Mlakar, and Lexie Wade, Recognizing RHS is a student run podcast dedicated to highlighting and recognizing the accomplishments of the students and staff at Riverside High School. Their mission is to spread positivity, promote inclusivity, and enhance school pride. Originally started as a way to bridge the gap between online and in school learners, the podcast has developed into a main source of recognition for the high school and continues to release their 15-20 minute episodes every Monday and is now presented by Smoothie King!



Each episode has a weekly rundown of all sports, clubs, classes, and activities, a student & staff shout out, and a student & staff interview! Episodes can be found on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or PodBean @ Recognizing RHS or you can follow them on twitter or Instagram @RecognizingRHS