March 1 - 31, 2014

**Road Construction:** Mrs. Whalen has been providing us with website information on grants and scholarships for our students.

**Traffic Report:** The RTS program now has 27 students enrolled in the program. This is due to our first student, Parniery Minaya completing his courses and leaving the program.

**Yield:** We have purchased three flat screen TV’s for our students. We have received one Wii system and several programs that are the most interactive. We will be using the Wii Systems and games during PE and Social Time. We have ordered the rolling carts that the TV’s will be secured to. We will purchase two additional Wii Systems.

**Detour:** Mrs. Susan DePaola, Mr. Howard Gaber, Mr. Kyle Pitts and Mr. Michael Wenson joined our RTS family in the month of March. Mrs. DePaola is our paraprofessional that travels to all classes working with students on writing assignments, math problems or any other topic that they need assistance with. Mr. Gaber is teaching an elective: Film Survey. Mr. Pitts is teaching an elective Financial Literacy and Mr. Wenson will be working with us as a substitute teacher.

**Bridge Building:** The Simuel Whitfield Simmons Organization has provided 10 medical students to tutor our students in their math class. The students come to RTS every Tuesday for 90 minutes. The tutors work one to one with the same student each week to provide support and instruction in Math.

**Road Report:** Ms. Paciulli continues working with students in specific groups covering the following topics: Self-Esteem, Conflict Resolution, Improving Attendance, and Naviance for identifying career interests. Ms. Paciulli has also been working with students on SAT Prep and College Applications. Checkout our website! Ms. Paciulli is our web curator and has created our webpage for all the RTS information and updates!!

**Language Arts:** Ms. Francis Grades 7-8
- Viewed and analyzed media text — Movie, Desert Flower. Wrote "T" chart on evidence to support a central theme, selected a central Idea, and crafted a literary essay in support of the idea.
- Recited, listened and interpreted poems --"Mother to Son " by Langston Hughes and "Speech to the Young" by Gwendolyn Brooks.
**Math: Mr. Smith Grades 9-12**  
Mr. Smith provides a blended classroom of traditional instruction and the use of technology and digital curriculum to learn Geometry.

**Math: Mrs. Regan: Grades 7 and 8**  
RTS Middle School students are working on Algebraic Equations and expressions. They have begun to translate their application into real world applications like purchases at the mall or comparing the perimeter of a tennis court with a basketball court. In addition, the students are taking charge of their learning by becoming involved in the process of knowing their needs and learning to ask for them. This has lead to a different dynamic in the class whereby they are more engaged in the learning process and feel free to take charge of their education.

**Mr. Ramsey Grades 9 and 10**  
Students continue to complete their Algebra I class with the assistance of tutors and Mrs. Alka Sharma.

**History: Mr. Dobis- Grades 7-8**  
This month... my history class has been working on their studies of the various battles during the American Revolution. After our research is conducted, we are going to make flyers detailing the various aspects of these important events during the American Revolution. Together, our class will create a "Museum of Battles" that detail the significant events, people, and places within America's Revolution.

**Ms. BenNacef- Grades 9-12**  
World History  
US I History  
Students have flown through two units in the last two weeks. Students have worked both independently and collaboratively to discover the horrors of slavery and the compromises the United States attempted to enact to solve the North and South Conflict. After the fall of the Confederacy, students were asked to reflect on whether or not Abraham Lincoln was truly moral in emancipating slaves or if there were anterior motives. Students will be beginning Reconstruction on APEX this week while teacher works individually with each student to assess goals and direction for the next unit. Students will be doing a modern-day slavery through racism assessment at the end of Reconstruction in which they have to determine whether or not Reconstruction should have been ... well, more reconstructive!

**Spanish: Mrs. Pazmino**  
In Spanish class the students are learning about the Mexican Spanish artist Frida Kahlo. They are analyzing artwork through the Spanish culture and viewing a video about her life. Also, they are learning about the geography of the Central American
countries where the artist exposed her art. This month was full of culture and art!

**APEX:**
Mrs. Mitchell is the Site Coordinator for the APEX Digital Curriculum Program. She monitors student progress, completes progress reports and works with students on an individual basis towards course completion.

**School Activities: March Social Event:** Pizza Party. Mrs. Whalen and Mr. Levine held an attendance challenge for the students to improve attendance. Pizza, chips and drinks were provided to students and staff. THANK YOU MRS. WHALEN AND MR. LEVINE!!!