



**ROMEO
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS**

GOOD NEWS ACROSS 'R' DISTRICT

January 27, 2025

Solving a real world problem

The client had a problem and needed help. She was planning a nonprofit fair and wanted to create a floor plan of the gym to determine the best layout for the 65 community organizations and nonprofits signed up to attend.

The “client” was Jennifer Raicevich, coach for The Academies at Romeo Middle School. She was copying a floor plan she had made for the Nonprofit Exploration Fair on February 6 when RMS STEM teacher Kristin Byrne noticed it wasn't to scale and offered a way to help. Mrs. Byrne challenged the eighth graders in her Green Architecture elective to make scaled drawings of the gym with a layout accommodating the number of tables and other arrangements needed.



After Mrs. Raicevich met with the class to explain the problem and answer questions, the students measured the gym entrance and exits. Next, they created scaled drawings on paper. Finally, after learning how to use a software for creating floor plans, they will transfer their paper drawings to 3D digital models.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

316 North Main Street • Romeo, Michigan 48065 | www.romeok12.org | (586) 752-0225 • Fax (586) 752-0228

Mrs. Byrne will select the best floor plans to present to Mrs. Raicevich, who will choose the plan best suited for the fair.

Preparations for the fair are underway in other respects as well. Students will prepare questions to ask two of the nonprofit organizations during R Time (formerly Advisory) and will have follow-up assignments in World Geography (6th grade), Ancient History (7th grade) and American History (8th grade).

The Nonprofit Exploration Fair is part of the first year of the transformation to the Academies at Romeo Middle School in partnership with Ford Next Generation Learning (NGL) and the Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE). At the fair, students will have the opportunity to explore their interests and engage with community-based organizations. These organizations fall into five broad categories: human support services, environment and community improvement, children and families, and arts education and culture.

“The concept of a nonprofit exploration fair began with our staff imagining a new way to support our students,” said RMS Principal Brad Martz. “The event ties into our school’s core values of teaching students to be accepting, responsible and engaged. We are excited to invite leaders in the nonprofit sector to our school to share their vision for a better way to prepare young people for the future.”



Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Byrne and the eighth graders in her Green Architecture class, Mrs. Raicevich will have the assurance of knowing there will be space to accommodate the special guests at this inaugural event.

“Having our students experience these real-world connections is a part of our academy vision and for Mrs. Byrne to help create this lesson, in real time, generating a high level of engagement for all of her students, we see our vision starting to come to life,” Mrs. Raicevich said. “I am excited for the opportunities that will come from our work and to see our students be a part of something extraordinary here at RMS. I’m even more excited for Mrs. Byrne’s students to see their hard work pay off on the day of the fair!”

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT