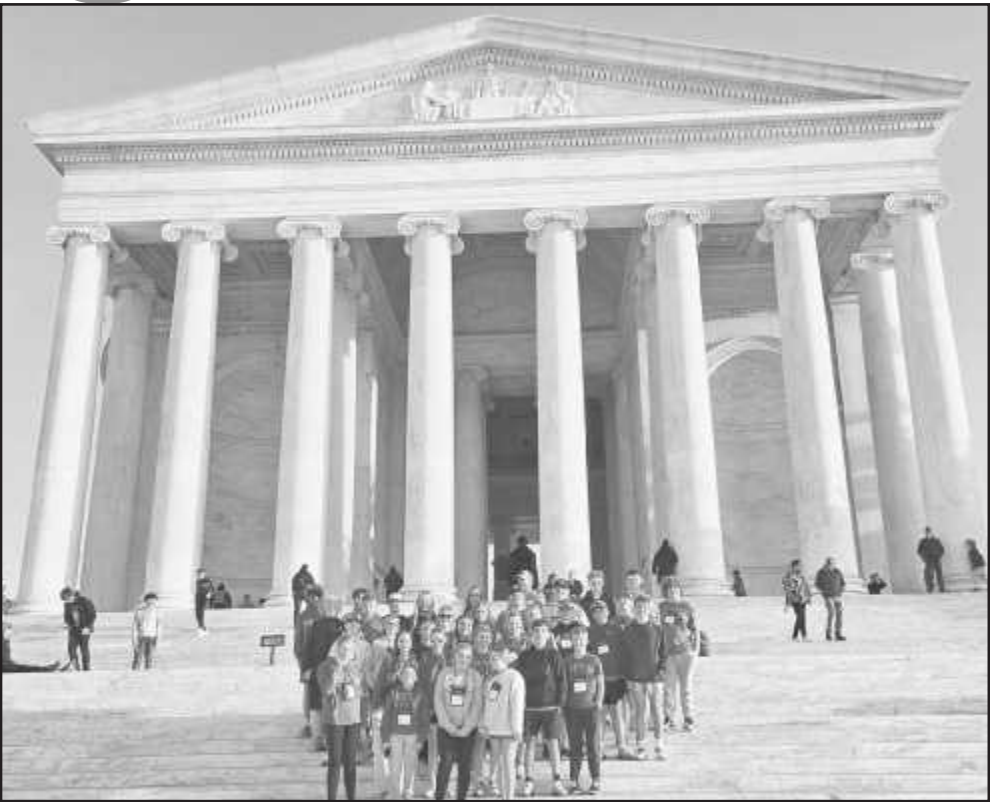


SCHOOL NEWS



# Kingsley-Pierson Panther News



At the Thomas Jefferson Memorial -- Front Row: Emerson Eickholt, Hadley Bauer, Lexi Book, Emmy Belding. Second Row: Reese Wilson, Elsie Wilcox, Rockell Smith, Blake Riemenschneider, Wesley Hannan. Third Row: Hudson Nissen, Easton Hanson, Karissa Gotto, Lillyann Hackett, Brantlee Smith. Fourth Row: Cayden Stickney, Braxton Eickholt, Haley Heimstra, Kinley Klaschen, Alexa Kennedy, Carson Jasperson, Cam Koch, Kayson Krieg, Finn Thompson. Back Row: Jaxon Beal, Ryland Kranz, Bo Bottorff, Allie Goeden, Simon Bottjen, Treyton Kincaid, Carter Jasperson, Noah Rolling, Eli Schroeder, Aydan Sistrunk (Photos submitted)



At the United States Capitol -- Front: Lexi Book, Karissa Gotto, Rockell Smith, Hadley Bauer, Lily Hackett, Emerson Eickholt, Emmy Belding. Second row: Wesley Hannan, Bo Bottorff, Easton Hanson, Alexa Kennedy, Brantlee Smith, Reese Wilson, Elsie Wilcox, Blake Riemenschneider, Carson Jasperson, Braden Reinking, Finn Thompson, Aydan Sistrunk. Third Row: Braxton Eickholt, Cayden Stickney, Jaxon Beal, Ryland Kranz, Hudson Nissen, Carter Jasperson, Simon Bottjen, Haley Heimstra, Allie Goeden, Cam Koch, Noah Rolling, Kayson Krieg, Eli Schroeder, Treyton Kincaid

## Kingsley-Pierson middle school students visit Washington, D.C.

By Mrs. Laura Boustead  
Kingsley-Pierson Middle School Social Studies

Students and parents from the Kingsley-Pierson community recently traveled to Washington, D.C., for a fun learning experience. The trip took place from April 15th - 18th, and the students saw some of the nation's greatest monuments and buildings over those days. In total, 34 K-P students and 19 adults traveled to D.C. under the direction of Laura Boustead and Val Sitzmann.

For the past two years, the middle school students have been fundraising to make this

trip possible. One of the most popular events is the KP to DC golf tournament that is held annually at Brookside Golf Course. A huge thank you goes out to the families, community members, and anonymous donors who make this trip possible year after year for our K-P students.

Before the trip, students spent time in their Middle School Social Studies class with Mrs. Boustead learning about the Washington D.C. monuments, museums, and famous sites. This learning included some of our well-known Founding Fathers and their role in establishing the

United States of America. They also learned about the setup of the national government and how it affects them and their families.

The first day of the trip included a chartered bus ride to Omaha's Eppley Airfield with an early morning flight out. For some students, this was their first time flying. After arriving in DC, the students had the opportunity to stretch their legs with a tour through Arlington National Cemetery. Students saw many famous memorials, but the highlight of that tour was watching the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. To round out

that day, the students stopped at the Iwo Jima Memorial, the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, and the Jefferson Memorial.

The second day of the trip kicked off with a morning tour of the beautiful National Cathedral. After lunch, the students enjoyed a quick stop at the Smithsonian National Zoo, where they had a chance to see the two giant panda bears from China playing outside. From there, the trip continued with a White House picture stop, the Smithsonian Museum of American History, Ford's Theater, the Peterson House, FDR Memorial, and MLK Memorial.

The third day included a tour of the Capitol building. Students had the chance to see the Rotunda and Statuary Hall, in which they found the Iowa statue of Norman E. Borlaug. Next, students spent time in the Library of Congress, and a picture stop was made at the Supreme Court building. The rest of the day included the Einstein statue, the World War II monument, the Holocaust Museum, the Vietnam Wall, the Women's Vietnam statue, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Korean Memorial.

The final day of the trip started with a bus ride out to George Washington's Mount

Vernon. Students were able to tour his mansion, see his and Martha Washington's tomb, the Potomac River, and learn about his 16 sided barn. Before heading to the airport for an evening flight, the group rounded out the trip with a stop at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

The group averaged 7-9 miles per day, with each day starting around 7 AM and arriving back at the hotel around 8 PM. The group went through the World Strides organization to help with the planning of the trip. A K-P to DC 2027 trip is already in the works!



# River Valley Wolverines

## River Valley board discusses baseball

By BRIAN JOHNSON

A student & parent addressed the River Valley School Board at their April 22 board meeting with questions about the possibility of a baseball team.

Later during Board Member Reports, the board members discussed baseball participants, eligibility, possible injuries, coaching staff availability with proper licensing requirements, and pitching requirements. The board asked students to sign-up right away when sign up sheets are put in the office or announced to have time to build a proper schedule, obtain officials, and coaches.

The board also discussed the 2x2 board meeting held with Kingsley-Pierson. They would like to continue to discuss all sharing possibilities,

sports, teachers, operational sharing, and would like to continue to have monthly meetings to get this accomplished. River Valley's school board also had a 2x2 meeting with Woodbury Central and do not feel they are ready to share sports at this time due to classifications and this would move the districts up a class if they were to share.

RV will continue to seek sharing opportunities to reach the maximum of 25 set by the state.

In other business, the second FY2026 school budget hearing was held, but no comments were received. The board also approved a senior class trip to the Omaha Zoo, and an agreement allowing students to take concurrent enrollment courses through Western Iowa Tech.

## Senior Spotlight: Cory Jepsen

Cory Jepsen is the son of Jered Jepsen and Marlo Mathers. His siblings are Trey Mathers, Jacie Pyle, Lauren Jepsen, Madelyn Jepsen. His goats are Wanda, Alice, 8 Ball, Buddy, Oreo, Princess Papi

**Activities during high school:** Speech, FFA, Baseball, Your River Valley Fuller Digital Broadcaster

**His senior year in 3 words:** Very, Very Long

**Who or what was most helpful or influential to you in your high school career, both in school and outside of school?** The weekends were the most helpful. They were

always there to support me after a tough week.

**Favorite school subject:** any subject that's 8th period. That's the last period of the day.

**What do you feel was your greatest contribution to your school/community?** Coming to school every day with a positive attitude knowing that the end of class is near.

**If you could start school over again, what would you do differently?** I would choose to be involved in more things when I was younger. Whether that was doing the little things in school or being involved in more extracurricular events.



**What is your farewell message to your underclassmen at school?** Sleep well; it is tiring.

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years?** In a yacht off the coast of Miami living like Jordan Belfort.



# Maple Valley Anthon-Oto

## Senior Spotlight: William Sorensen

**Full name:** William Matthew Sorensen

**Nickname:** William

**Parents:** Matthew and Deanna Sorensen

**Activities at MVAOCOU:** Football (11, 12)

**What will you miss most about being a Ram:** The football games and friends

**A favorite memory from high school:** The locker room after a football game we won

**Accomplishment you are most proud of:** Deciding to play football in Junior and Senior year

**3 words that describe yourself:** Relaxed, friendly,

open

**Plans after graduation:** Work as a mechanic, find a house or apartment

**Hobbies:** Football  
**Favorite food:** Cheeseburger

**What kind of vehicle do you drive?** 2002 Chevy Impala that used to be a cop car

**What advice would you give to younger students?** Don't mess around and do your work

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? I would probably want to go to Germany and the countries around it



**When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up?** I wanted to be a firefighter



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