



# ROCKY HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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### STUDENT SCHEDULES

As students were notified last spring, they will not be able to make any changes to their schedule. In rare cases, a change may need to be made due to conflicts – administrative approval must be received in these cases. For all new registrations, please call the guidance department at 258-7724 to make an appointment once they have been cleared by Mr. Kennison, the district's Residency Coordinator.

### GRADE 9 INFORMATION

Welcome to the Class of 2024! In lieu of a Freshman Orientation, all incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders will receive a Freshman Handbook that will provide them with all all sorts of helpful information. Their class advisors, Ms. Conrad and Ms. Zadzilko, will also reach out to them.

### FIRST DAY: Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Students should report to their homerooms at 7:30 AM to receive important materials and information.

### STUDENT IDS

Students are required to wear their IDs while in school. New IDs will be provided at the start of school. Only new students and incoming freshman will receive lanyards. Everyone else will need to provide their own or bring in last year's.

### PASSWORD RESET

To ensure student account security, student accounts had their passwords changed on July 27<sup>th</sup>. An email was sent out to all high school students via School Messenger Secure Delivery on July 24<sup>th</sup> with a new temporary

password and instructions to log into our new self-service password portal. For your convenience, these will be sent out again later this week. If students have already reset their password and have access to their account, please disregard the second email.

### FACILITIES

In accordance with state recommendations, all hallways and stairwells will be one-way. Signage will be posted. Students will be reminded to follow proper hygiene protocols, including safe distancing and handwashing. Restrooms will be off limits during passing time. Teachers will allow students to go to the restroom during classtime. Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the building. The multipurpose room will serve as an extension of the cafeteria to provide safe distancing during lunch periods. The cafeteria will continue to serve lunch, however options will be more limited.

### PARENT PORTAL

Just a reminder – parents and students can easily access grades and email teachers with questions through our Parent Portal. Progress reports and report cards will not be mailed home, however we will send out email reminders throughout the year. You may monitor your student's progress by checking the Parent Portal regularly. If you have no access to the internet, you can contact your student's guidance counselor, who will provide you with a copy of the grades. If the external website is down, the Parent Portal is still accessible by using the following URL: <https://rockyhill.powerschool.com/public/>.

### **LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL**

For this year only, all students are eligible for late arrival/early dismissal with parent permission. If a student has no class scheduled for the first or last period of each day (Periods 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 9), they are allowed to leave campus. A completed late arrival/early dismissal form must be turned in to the main office before you can start this privilege. Until they receive approval from the main office, they are expected to attend all study halls.

### **STUDENT PARKING**

Parking at RHHS is a privilege. The student parking lot is located on the south side near the tennis courts. Student parking will be offered to senior students first, and then to junior students as space permits. Students are not permitted to park in the back of the building or in the teachers' parking lot. Students wishing to obtain parking privileges must register in the main office and obtain a current school year parking decal. After registration, students will be assigned a numbered parking space on a first come, first serve basis. Students parking without a permit or in unauthorized spaces will receive a school consequence and be sent home to return their vehicle. *Parking privileges are available to Seniors and Juniors with licenses, as long as they comply with all school rules, have a parent's written permission to drive to school, and space is available.*

### **STUDENT HANDBOOK & AGENDA**

We will once again provide each student with a *School Agenda and Planner*. This document will enable each student to record daily assignments and appointments. The agenda also contains helpful information on study skills, goal setting, the school calendar, as well as our Student Handbook, containing our rules and regulations. Students are to utilize the *School Agenda and Planner* to record daily homework assignments and other class requirements. Please review this document with your son or daughter and encourage its use on a daily basis.

### **HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

At this time, there are no plans to hold Open House. If you have specific questions for teachers, please email them.

### **CLASS DUES**

Class dues are \$160 for every student. Class dues, are used to help defray activity expenses such as class night and the senior picnic. Since dues are applied to senior activities all students regardless of when they enter RHHS are required to pay the full amount. All students are afforded the opportunity to fundraise to reduce these dues so as to avoid any financial burdens that may occur. All monies are placed in the Student Activity Fund, and receipts are issued upon payment of dues. Receipts are required as proof of payment. Information regarding collection of dues and each year's activities will be sent home by the class advisors during the first quarter.

Students will not be able to attend events such as class night and the senior picnic if their dues are not paid for by the end of Quarter 3 in their senior year. While class dues total \$160 for senior year activities, a payment plan of \$40 per year is required, students who are not up to date on their due payments cannot participate in certain class events such as running for a class office. Please note, dues will not be applied towards proms. There will be additional ticket costs to cover prom expenses.

### **GUIDANCE: Assignment of Counselors**

Counselor assignments are as follows:

#### Last Name

<u>Beginning With:</u>	<u>Counselor:</u>
A-D	Mrs. Notarangelo
E-K	Mrs. Carbutti
L-Rf	Mrs. Bikowski
Rg-Z	Mrs. Russell

If you have any questions, please feel welcome to contact the Guidance Department at 860-258-7724.

### **PROMOTION STANDARDS & HOMEROOM**

Classes of **2021 & 2022** must obtain the following number of credits each year in order to successfully graduate in four years with 22 credits:

By the end of Year 1	-	5.5 credits
Year 2	-	11.0 credits
Year 3	-	16.5 credits
Year 4	-	22.0 credits

Classes of **2023 & beyond** must obtain the following number of credits each year in order to successfully graduate in four years with 25 credits.

By the end of Year 1 -	6.5 credits
Year 2 -	13.0 credits
Year 3 -	19.5 credits
Year 4 -	25.0 credits

Students will continue to remain in the same homeroom and Advisory Period for all high school years regardless of credit status.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

According to State Law, each local Board of Education shall specify the basic skills necessary for graduation and include a process to assess the student's level of competency in such skills. These are in addition to our standards for graduation as outlined in our *Program of Studies* booklet. The assessment criteria shall include, but shall not exclusively be based on, a score of four hundred or greater on the math and verbal sections of the PSAT, a score of four hundred or greater on the math and verbal sections of the SAT, or meet our school-wide academic expectations. Listed under each course description in our *Program of Studies* are the two expectations that will be measured and reported for that course. Academic expectations include Communicate Effectively in Writing, Communicate Effectively while Speaking, Solve Quantitative Problems Effectively, Solve Qualitative Problems Effectively, Use Research Skills Effectively, Demonstrate Effective Reading Skills, and Make Connections between Learning and Life.

### **PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Research indicates that parent involvement is a critical factor not only in the success of the individual student, but also in the overall success of the school. All parents are encouraged to become members of our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), which meets monthly. This year, our PAC meetings will be held virtually. Please email Mr. Almeida if you would like to join. Your support and input are always welcome.

### **PROJECT GRADUATION - 2021**

Senior parents – Project Graduation needs your assistance! The time, planning, and preparation required to ensure a successful Project Graduation

party for our seniors is overwhelming. We are sure that you share our commitment to a safe, substance-free celebration in June. Please make a decision to get involved and join the Project Graduation Planning Committee. This is your final opportunity to be involved in your child's school program.

### **LOCKERS**

Lockers are off limits this year. Students should plan accordingly and carry their belongings with them. Remember that with the new block schedule, students will only have a maximum of three classes per day. There is no need to carry all of their books with them. Additionally, athletic locker rooms are also off limits.

### **TARDINESS POLICY**

All students are expected to be in school on time. Students who arrive late to school must first report to the main office to receive a time-stamped pass. Students participating in remote learning are expected to log in to each class on time and remain an active participant for the duration of the class period.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

At RHHS we value each young person's education and hold students to high standards regarding academic honesty. As each individual is responsible for his or her own learning, each student is expected to complete and submit only his or her own work. Any violation of this standard is considered academic dishonesty and results in very serious academic and disciplinary consequences. At the end of this newsletter, please find our complete policy information which will help both students and parents fully understand our definition regarding academic dishonesty. We have found that some of our students come to us with an incomplete understanding of what is and what is not acceptable, especially with respect to citing sources. It is our hope that this information will be helpful to you both in your conversations prior to the start of school. Additional information can be found in the Student Handbook.

## **ATHLETICS & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Joe Horvath is the interim Director of Athletics and Student Activities. The athletic programs continue to be successful and continue to provide meaningful experiences for our young men and women. In addition to our comprehensive *Athletic Handbook*, we have a handbook for co-curricular activities. These handbooks contain valuable information on expectations, consequences, policies, and procedures. Parents and student participants will be expected to read the documents and abide by all that is contained within them. Athletic registrations for permission and emergencies will be done online via InfoSnap. The link can be found on our school website under the Athletics section.

In reference to the Athletic and Co-Curricular Handbooks, parents/guardians and students should note the language in the *Athletic Handbook* and the *Co-Curricular Handbook* regarding substance abuse. Both handbooks are now available online on our school website. Students are reminded that participation in athletics and co-curricular activities is a privilege and carries with it high expectations for students as role models. Currently, the CIAC is still working to finalize plans for the fall sports season. At the time of this mailing, all athletic practices are on hold.

*Let us all remember that our athletes, their coaches, the referees, opposing teams, and their fans deserve nothing less than our respect and courtesy. This goes not only for our athletes, but also our parents and fans.*

## **MEET OUR NEW FACULTY**

### **Mary Stewart – Science**

Mary joins RHHS after spending the last four years as a chemistry teacher at Farmington High School. She received her BS in Molecular and Cell Biology from UCONN, as well as her MS in Curriculum Instruction, also from UCONN. She loves the outdoors, including hiking and paddleboarding. She also loves pets, has a cat and three dogs.

### **Michael Tramontanis – Science**

Michael joins us after spending four years at Derby High School, where he taught chemistry and forensic science. He received his BS in Physics from UCONN, and his Masters in Curriculum Instruction and Science Education.

### **Richard Dance – Social Studies**

Rich is a graduate of RHHS, Class of 2003. He joins the high school after working at Glastonbury High School. He received his BA in History from CCSU, and his Masters in Education from the University of New Haven. Rich is also our head varsity football coach and enjoys all types of sports.