

Rockville TelegRAM

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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70 Loveland Hill Road

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www.RockvilleHighSchool.org

FEBRUARY 2012

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 1	Third quarter begins
February 2	Grade 8 Orientation Evening, 6:00 p.m., Auditorium
February 3	World Languages fundraiser, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium
February 6*	Second quarter report cards issued to students
February 8	Agricultural Education SAEP Fair and Cake, Pie & Fruit Basket Auction, 6:00 p.m.
February 10	Online registration deadline for March 10 SAT Administration
February 14	Mandatory Senior Seminar, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium
February 15	Class ring distribution during lunch waves
February 16	College Planning Evening, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
February 17	No School, Professional Development Day
February 20	No School, Presidents' Day
February 23	Four-hour session, 11:57 a.m. dismissal (Rockville High only)
February 24	Poetry Slam, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
February 28	Local Scholarship Program applications due to counselors
February 28	Advisor / Advisee meeting, 8:47-9:17 a.m.
February 28	Class of 2012 cap and gown measurements during lunch waves
March 4	Springfield National College Fair, Eastern States Exposition, MA, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
March 5-9	CAPT Administration at RHS

*If school is canceled prior to this date, the distribution date will be moved to the following school day.

GRADE REPORTING NEWS

Second quarter report cards will be distributed to students on Monday, February 6, 2012. Third quarter midterm progress reports will be distributed on March 6. Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers and/or counselor with any questions or concerns.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

If inclement weather forces school to be canceled, open late (two hour delay), or close early, announcements will be made on area radio (WTIC AM & FM, WRCH, WZMX) and television (WFSB 3, WVIT 30) stations. Parents may also access Vernon information online at www.ctweather.com and sign up for email or cell phone text notifications about delays and cancellations. If the opening of school is delayed, the schedule will continue in the usual rotation of an A day or a B day. If school is closed, the rotation will continue on the next school day. For example, if Monday is an A day, and school is closed on Tuesday, then it will be a B day when school reopens. The same policy applies for holidays and school vacations.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

Please review the Attendance Procedures with your student. They can be found on page 16 of the student/parent handbook or on our website.

Reporting Student Absences: Parents are expected to call the Attendance Office (860-870-6050, option 1) by 9:00 a.m. the day their student is absent. Voice mail is available 24 hours a day. If a call is not received before 9:00 a.m., an automated phone call will be placed to the parent or guardian of absent students. This call will be directed to the home phone number we have on file. If you would prefer the call to go to another number (cell, work, etc.), please contact Mrs. Courtois with the information (Rita.Courtois@vernonct.org or 860-870-6050 x400).

Late Arrival to School: Students arriving late to school must report to the Attendance Office to sign in to school and to receive a pass to their class. Tardies to school will only be excused if a note or phone call is received from the parent/guardian on the day the student is tardy. It is the student's responsibility to bring in a note or have a phone call made to the Attendance Office on the same day as the tardy.

Early Dismissal from School: Students should bring an early dismissal note to the Attendance Office before 7:27 a.m. Students will be issued a pass for their dismissal and they should then sign-out upon leaving and sign-in upon returning to school in the Attendance Office. Students leaving early must sign out in the Attendance Office prior to leaving the building for dismissal.

GRADE 8 ORIENTATION PLANNED

On Thursday, February 2, Rockville High School will hold its annual Grade 8 Orientation Evening, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. All students currently in the eighth grade and their parents are encouraged to attend. A presentation will introduce the RHS administration and review items about the high school such as course selection, school counseling services, and athletics and other extracurricular activities. Then parents and students will have an opportunity to tour the building and speak with representatives from all academic departments. Contact Director of School Counseling Kimberly Marinar (860-870-6050 x401 or Kimberly.Marinar@vernonct.org) for additional information about the evening's activities.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CAPT

The Connecticut Academic Performance Test will be administered between March 5 and March 9 for all Grade 10 students and some students in Grades 11 and 12. School will operate on a modified schedule to accommodate the testing. Grade 9 students will also be scheduled for CAPT simulation testing during this time period. All students will receive notification at home by mail in late February regarding testing times and room assignments for testing. The letter will also include information about the modified schedule for the testing days.

Parents and students may contact Ms. Marinar in the School Counseling Office with questions regarding the CAPT administration, the modified schedule, and testing locations.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS

State law requires that all Connecticut full-time or matriculating students provide proof of adequate immunization against measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) and varicella (chickenpox).

- All incoming freshmen are required to show proof of two doses of the MMR. The doses should be separated by at least 28 days with dose number one being given on or after the first birthday.
- All incoming freshmen are required to show proof of two doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. The doses should be separated by at least 28 days with dose number one being given after the first birthday.
- Parental or self-report of varicella disease is no longer considered acceptable evidence of immunity, as naturally occurring infection has declined dramatically and clinical illness has become more difficult to recognize.

In addition, seniors who plan to attend college within Connecticut and live in on-campus housing must be immunized against meningitis.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

Grade 11 and 12 students who have not met the Mathematics Performance Standard for Graduation and/or the Reading/Writing Performance Standard for Graduation may participate in a three-day Mathematics, Writing, and/or Reading DPT session. Each session will include two days of remediation followed by the administration of the District Performance Task (DPT) on the third day. **Students who wish to participate in any or all of these DPT sessions should sign up with their counselor.** The final DPT sessions for the school year are as follows:

Mathematics – Room 204

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 2, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday, February 3, 2012 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Writing – Room 135

Tuesday, February 7, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 9, 2012 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Reading – Room 232

Tuesday, February 14, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15, 2012 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 16, 2012 – DPY – 2:30-4:30 p.m.

SCHEDULING FOR 2012-2013

Scheduling for the 2012-2013 school year will begin during the month of February. Rockville High School will continue online scheduling this year. Students received information about selecting courses through iStudent during the January 24 Advisory meeting. Parents should have received an email through Naviance regarding the online scheduling process with iParent. Students and parents must complete their online scheduling requests between February 1 and February 10. Please contact Director of School Counseling Kimberly Marinaro if you encounter any issues with this process (860-870-6050 x401 or Kimberly.Marinaro@vernonct.org).

Students in Grades 9, 10, and 11 are required to elect a minimum of 6.50 credits. Grade 11 students must also elect Junior Seminar. Grade 12 students must elect at least 6.0 credits plus Senior Seminar.

Students should check all course options when finalizing their 2012-2013 schedules. Courses in Business, Computer Science, Art, Music, World Languages, Agricultural Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Technology Education all enable students to experience a well-rounded, comprehensive high school education.

STUDENTS AS EMPLOYEES

The Connecticut Department of Labor requires all 16- and 17-year-olds to obtain working papers in order to work within the state. A student must bring a written promise of employment from their employer to the Career Center (blue hall) to obtain this necessary document. New working papers must be obtained for each place of employment.

JUNIOR & SENIOR ATHLETES

Students who plan to participate in Division I or Division II intercollegiate athletics during their freshman year in college must complete an NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse form. Students should register at the end of their junior year after an informed judgment has been made as to their potential at the Division I or Division II level. Prospective student-athletes should access the registration materials online at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Click on "NCAA College-Bound Student-Athletes" and then click on the phone icon for registration information. Once the online registration is complete, the student must notify the School Counseling office so that their transcript will be mailed in June.

NOTE TO PARENTS: General level courses are no longer be acceptable as core courses by the NCAA Clearinghouse, making students ineligible for Division I or Division II athletic participation.

ATTENTION SENIORS!

College and scholarship applications, financial aid forms, college acceptance commitments, etc., all have deadlines that must be met.

Seniors are responsible for notifying the School Counseling Office if they would like their first semester grades sent to colleges.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

All Local Scholarship Program applications are available online through the Naviance program. A limited number of scholarship lists will also be available in the School Counseling Office. An explanation of the Local Scholarship Program was provided to all seniors during the January 24 Advisory meeting in the Auditorium. Completed applications must be returned to the student's counselor. Most have a due date of February 28.

The McCarthy-Miller Scholarship awards more money to seniors each year than any other local scholarship. The application requires copies of income tax returns for 2011 for the applicant and their parent(s). These applications are due to the student's counselor before April 11. Last year, \$119,000 was awarded to twenty-six members of the Class of 2011 and a similar amount will be awarded this year. Be certain to complete and turn in the application before the April 11 deadline.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

The 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) must be completed online by all seniors who are seeking financial aid. This form determines eligibility for all federal monies. The family completes this form, indicating the colleges to be informed of the results. After it is processed, the student receives a Student Aid Report (SAR). The FAFSA must be submitted online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

** Parents and students should visit the website in advance of filing the FAFSA to request a PIN because there is some "wait time" before the number is assigned. A separate PIN is required for parents and students. This PIN is necessary to electronically "sign" your application. Electronically signing the application allows you to save time in the filing process.

Many colleges also require that students file the PROFILE financial aid form in order to qualify for any financial aid at their school. Register for the PROFILE application at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>.

- Select the Fall 2012 / Spring 2013 PROFILE.
- Enter your collegeboard.com user name and password (or click "sign up" and provide the required information).
- Save your user name and password.
- Select the "Click Here Before You Begin" box.
- Print the Pre-Application Worksheet and Application Instructions before beginning to help you complete the PROFILE process.
- Complete the registration questions, select the colleges and programs to receive your PROFILE report, and pay the registration processing fee. Your registration information is not saved until these steps are completed.
- Register at least two weeks before the earliest priority filing date specified by your colleges and programs. Go to the PROFILE Online home page and click on "Participating Institutions" to check the priority filing date for each of your schools.

AG ED SENIORS

Out-of-town seniors in the Agricultural Education program may be eligible for scholarships offered by their hometown. Call your local high school to ask about any you may qualify for and complete the applications.

SAT INFORMATION

It is recommended that students register online for the SAT (www.collegeboard.com). By doing so, they receive immediate confirmation and test center assignment and can print and/or make corrections to their admission ticket. The high school code for RHS is 070645. The RHS test center code is 07-615. The deadline for online registration for the March 10 administration of the SAT is February 10. The testing fee is \$49 per student.

Most colleges and universities require that official SAT scores be reported to them directly by the College Board. Within the online registration process, students may choose up to four schools to receive their scores from The College Board at no cost. If this step is not completed during the registration process (or if scores are to be sent to more than four schools), an additional fee (\$10.50 per report) will be charged.

**As a service to its students, Rockville High School is an official site for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). The examination and the process of administration are the exclusive property of the College Board and any and all surveys such as the Student Search Service are not subject to any Federal Education Rights and Privacy (FERPA) regulations. Please feel free to contact the Rockville High School Counseling Office (860-870-6050, ext. 401) or the College Board (866-756-7346) for further information.

ACT INFORMATION

Rockville High School is a test center for the ACT on June 9, 2012. The registration fee for the ACT is \$34 (no writing) or \$49.50 for the ACT Plus Writing. The online registration deadline for the June 9 test administration is May 4, 2012. Visit <http://www.actstudent.org/index.html> for additional information about the ACT, registration, etc.

SAT VERBAL AND MATH REVIEW CLASSES

Due to the overwhelming response to the SAT review classes being offered in preparation for the March SAT administration, Vernon Continuing Education will offer another session in preparation for the May SAT. Verbal review classes will be offered on Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on March 22 & 29, April 19 & 26, and May 3. Math review classes will be offered on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on March 27, April 3, 17 & 24, and May 1. The cost for these review classes is \$70 which includes the cost of the textbook. Registration forms will be available on Monday, February 13, in the Adult Education Office (RHS green hall). Checks should be payable to Vernon Continuing Education. Enrollment is limited to fifteen (15) students. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Lois Gottlieb at 860-870-6060 (x10) or contact your student's school counselor.

NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

The National Association for College Admission Counseling will present the Springfield National College Fair at the Young Building of the Big E Fairgrounds on Sunday, March 4 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/ncf/Spring/Pages/SpringfieldNCF.aspx>, including the most current listing of institutions in attendance, location, workshop information, etc. A similar event will also be held at the Connecticut Expo Center in Hartford on April 3, 2012. Additional details about that event will be posted in the March newsletter.

“AS SCHOOLS MATCH WITS”

Submitted by Mr. Paul Courtois, Student Activities Director

On Saturday, December 3, RHS competed on the television show *As School's Match Wits*, a high school quiz show produced in partnership with Westfield State College and WGBY, the PBS affiliate in Springfield. Rockville fielded a team in the competition for the third time. The four students on the team earn points by correctly answering questions in six categories: Literature, Arts and Entertainment, Math and Science, World Events, Social Studies, and General Knowledge. The episode will be broadcast on March 10 on WGBY. This match against Windsor High School was extremely competitive.

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM

Submitted by Mrs. Melissa Adduci, Career Center Facilitator

What is Allied Health?

It is a two-year program designed for students who may be interested in health occupations. Allied Health I is an introduction to health care careers, taken in the first semester of the junior year. It includes job shadowing at Rockville General Hospital, Manchester Memorial Hospital, and Manchester Community College. Students receive three (3) MCC credits upon successful completion of the class. Allied Health II is a full year Anatomy and Physiology class taken during the senior year. Job shadowing opportunities are included and students receive four (4) MCC credits upon successful completion of this class

Applicants must:

1. Be sophomores;
2. Have successfully completed Algebra I and Biology (or higher) with a 75 or better by the end of their sophomore year;
3. Commit to the two years of the program;
4. Complete an application (deadline February 24, 2012);
5. Attend an informational meeting on Friday, March 2, 2011 from 1:15-1:54 p.m. in the Career Center. See Mrs. Adduci for a pass. Look for her at the table outside the cafeteria February 1-3 to sign up for the meeting or come to the Career Center.
6. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would still like to apply, applications are available in the School Counseling Office or in the Career Center.

Interviews will be scheduled based upon meeting the above criteria as well as acceptable attendance and discipline records.

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Patricia Goff, Family & Consumer Sciences Department Head

In coordination with two high school courses (Child Development and Childhood Education), a nursery school program is available to the community. The primary purpose of this program is for the high school students to learn about the development of young children through a truly hands-on experience in working with and planning for their development. However, they are not the only ones learning as the RHS Nursery School accepts forty preschool-aged children who attend a three morning per week program from November through May. Nursery school meets Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The cost for the program is \$160. Transportation must be provided by the parent or caregiver. Applications for and additional information about the Nursery School program are available by calling 860-870-6050 x126. Children must be three years old by December 2012 to be considered for acceptance.

HOMework HELPLINE

Big Y's *Homework Helpline* is now in its 19th year of providing homework assistance for students. This free service is available Monday through Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. by calling 800-866-2449 or online at www.bigy.com/homework. The *Homework Helpline* is staffed by certified teachers with a variety of classroom experience in many subjects. Through the years, many parents, students, and teachers have found the program to be an excellent resource. Check it out!

POETRY SLAM PLANNED

Submitted by Victoria Nordlund, English Department Chairperson

Rockville High School will host the Sixth Annual Poetry Slam on Friday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Some of Rockville's finest performance poets will compete for ultimate poet glory. Tickets are \$5 per person and will be available at the door. Contact Mrs. Nordlund (Room 224 or Victoria.Nordlund@vernonct.org) for additional information about the Poetry Slam.

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED!

Several corporations with locations in our area have programs in place that will provide funding or equipment to Rockville High School based on their customers' purchases or use of services:

- STOP & SHOP's A+ Bonus Bucks Program will donate cash to Rockville High for educational needs based on the amount of points earned by shoppers (beginning October 7) who register their Stop & Shop card at www.stopandshop.com/aplus. Rockville High's ID code is #06103. You can also call 877-275-2758 to register your card by phone. The program runs through March 29, 2012. Even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register it this year for RHS to receive credit.
- TARGET will donate money to RHS based on your purchases using your Target Visa or Target guest card. Connect to target.com/tcoe or call 800-316-6142 to register your Target Visa or Target Card. RHS' ID number is 39284.
- Register your PRICE CHOPPER AdvantEdge Card for their Tools for Schools Program at www.pricechopper.com. Rockville High's code is 35929. This will automatically earn credit for RHS every time you use your card.



6th ANNUAL OVERNIGHT VOLLEYBALL LOCK-IN PLANNED



The Vernon Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council, along with the SSNAP (Students Seeking New Achievements Positively) and Peer Advocate Groups, will be sponsoring the sixth annual overnight Volleyball Lock-In from 10:00 p.m. on March 16 through 6:00 a.m. on March 17. The purpose of this event is to provide a safe, fun, and substance-free weekend event for RHS students. Tickets are \$10.00 each and will be sold during lunch waves from March 1 to March 7. Students are encouraged to put together teams of six to eight players and come up with a creative name and team uniform. The entire team's ticket money and completed permission forms are required to register the team and students should be aware that tickets sell out quickly. The first thirty-four (34) completed teams to sign up will be allowed to play and all others will be placed on a waiting list. There will be refreshments all night and prizes for the winning team, best spirit, best uniform, and more! Students are expected to stay for the entire event and parents will be notified if any registered students do not attend. We are requesting monetary donations and donations of food, drinks, and prizes. Please contact Kim McTighe at 860-870-6050 x416 or Kimberly.McTighe@vernonct.org for more information.

CLASS OF 2012 NEWS

Cap and gown measurements will be completed on Tuesday, February 28 during the lunch waves in the Senior Lounge area. All seniors must be measured for and pay for a cap and gown at this time. Seniors will not be able to participate in the June Commencement ceremony without a cap and gown. The cost is \$35 per student. Extra tassels will also be available that day for \$5 (cash & carry). Listen for announcements as the date approaches for more information!



The Class of 2012 will hold its Senior Prom on Friday, May 18 at The Farmington Club in Farmington, Connecticut. The Senior Class Day outing is planned for Friday, June 1 at High Meadow in Granby. Additional information will be included in future newsletters.

CLASS of 2013 NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Rita Courtois and Mr. Michael Mas, Sophomore Co-Advisors

The Class of 2013 Junior Prom will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2012 (6:00 to 11:00 p.m.) at the Sheraton Bradley Hotel in Windsor Locks. Now is the time to start booking transportation, looking for dresses, and making appointments for hair and nails. Additional information will be included in the March newsletter as we narrow down the dinner choices and set the ticket price and sale dates for mid-April.

On Friday, March 30, the junior class will present "Steve Wronker's Funny Business," a comedy hypnosis show that is sure to leave you laughing and be a lot of fun. Steve is making a repeat appearance at RHS – his show last spring was a successful fundraiser and we are hoping to pack the house for 2012. The show will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the RHS Auditorium. Tickets will be \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. It is always a family friendly show and everyone is welcome!

CLASS OF 2014 NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Elizabeth Barr and Ms. Tracy Perun, Sophomore Co-Advisors

Class Rings will be distributed on February 15 outside the cafeteria during lunch waves. Final payment must be made to Jostens by that day. If your student is unable to pick up their ring that day, please contact Mrs. Barr at 860-870-6050 x124 or Ms. Perun at x120 to make alternative arrangements.

The Class of 2014 will hold their first major fundraiser of the year from January 24 through February 17. We will be selling plant bulbs! The bulbs are 100% satisfaction guaranteed and will be delivered right to the customer's house starting in late March. This is just in time to start your spring planting. Orders of \$40 or more will receive special free bulbs in their package. We hope this will be a great success as we are in the process of narrowing down both Junior and Senior Prom locations and need to make deposits for the sites soon. We hope the entire Class of 2014 will get involved. We are offering incentives to the top sellers including tickets to Six Flags and Buckland Hills Mall gift cards! We are also running our year-long bottle and can drive to help raise money for the Prom. We will have a major drive on Saturday, February 11 at Rockville High School. This is a time when you can bring all your bottles and cans to the high school and all money raised will go right to the Class of 2014. The drive will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. so swing by and drop off your recyclables!

CLASS OF 2015 NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Caitlin Hoffman and Ms. Stephanie Davidson, Class of 2015 Co-Advisors

The first freshman fundraiser is coming up soon! The class will be selling Yankee Candles and all proceeds will go directly to the Class of 2015. Listen to upcoming announcements for dates of the sale and when sales packets and information will be available. Please see Mrs. Hoffman (room 228), or Ms. Davidson (room 218) if you have any questions.

ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT NEWS

Spring sports begin on Monday, March 19 (baseball pitchers & catchers on Monday, March 12). Physicals and permission forms are required in order to try out. If students have participated in either a fall or a winter sport, they only need a permission form and their Nurse's card from the School Nurse. Students who have not yet participated in a sport this year need to have a physical form completed by their doctor. Physicals must be dated after May 1, 2011. Students can pick up the necessary forms in the Athletic Office.

FUNDRAISER FOR ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS

The Cheerleading Booster Club will sponsor a fundraiser at Friendly's in Vernon on Thursday, February 23, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you present the certificate prior to ordering your dinner or ice cream, Friendly's will donate 20% of your check to the Cheerleading Booster Club. Certificates are available from any cheerleader or can also be picked up at the Athletic Office. Please come and support the cheerleaders. It's a fun evening!

