

# Rockville TelegRAM

## ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Published monthly, September-June  
70 Loveland Hill Road  
Vernon, Connecticut 06066-2304

## OCTOBER 2009

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept 29-Oct 14 PSAT Registration, Guidance Office, Fee \$23 (payable to RHS)
- October 1 Online registration deadline for November 7 SAT Administration
- October 1 RHS Open House, 6:00 p.m.
- October 8 First quarter midterm progress reports distributed to students
- October 8 Tri-Town College Fair, Ellington High School, 6:30 p.m.
- October 8 Project Graduation meeting, 7:00 p.m., Staff Lounge
- October 10 SAT Administration at RHS, 7:45 a.m.
- October 12 No School, Columbus Day
- October 13-17 Spirit Week & Food Drive
- October 13 Senior Lawn Photo, 12:30 p.m.
- October 15 Senior Bleacher Photo, 8:00 a.m.
- October 15 Spirit Rally, 6:00 p.m.
- October 16 Homecoming football game vs. Manchester HS, 6:30 p.m.
- October 17 PSAT Administration at RHS, 7:45 a.m.
- October 17 Homecoming Dance, 7:00 p.m.
- October 27 School Photo make-up session
- October 29 Parents' Ring Info Night, 6:00 p.m.
- October 30 Online registration deadline for December 5 SAT Administration
- November 10 First marking period ends
- November 18 Report cards distributed to students

### IMPORTANT 2009-2010 DATES

- Dec. 24-Jan. 1 Holiday Recess
- February 15-16 Winter Recess
- March 1-31 CAPT Administration at RHS
- April 8 College Planning Evening
- April 19-23 Spring Recess
- May 1 Class of 2011 Junior Prom
- May 20 Undergraduate Awards Evening
- May 21 Class of 2010 Senior Prom
- June 4 Class of 2010 Senior Outing
- June 10 Senior Awards Evening



### ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Rockville High School will host its annual Open House on Thursday, October 1, beginning at 6:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to see Rockville High School and to follow their student's academic schedule. We look forward to seeing all parents that evening.

### GRADE REPORTING NEWS

First quarter midterm progress reports will be distributed to students on Thursday, October 8. Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers and/or guidance counselor by phone or email with any questions or concerns.

### PHONING ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



The telephone number for Rockville High School is 860-870-6050.

Parents may reach all staff members through this number. Please call the school for emergencies, dismissals, to speak with a staff member, to report a student's absence, etc.

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Rockville High School | 870-6050 |
| Main Office Fax       | 870-6314 |
| Guidance Office Fax   | 870-6541 |

### CONTACTING RHS STAFF MEMBERS

Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers throughout the school year. All staff members may be reached by phone at 870-6050. Teachers, counselors, administrators and paraprofessional staff members may also be contacted by email (first name.last name@vernonct.org). A complete listing of staff members' email addresses can be found on the RHS website ([www.RockvilleHighSchool.org](http://www.RockvilleHighSchool.org)).

## H1N1 UPDATE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Welcome back to another exciting school year. We are happy that your child has joined us at Rockville High School. Last school year (2008-2009), we are sure that you heard about the novel H1N1 influenza strain. We wanted to update and remind you about some important information related to this issue. We know that the most effective way to protect people from the flu and other illnesses is to keep sick people away from healthy people. So if your child is sick, you must keep your child home. Staying home stops the spread of the flu and other illnesses and helps the sick person get well.

Check your child every morning before school. If your child has **both a fever (100 degrees F or higher) AND a sore throat or cough** -- these symptoms suggest influenza-like illness. Your child may have the flu. Other symptoms can include runny nose, body aches, vomiting and diarrhea. Your child must then remain at home until 24 hours after they are fever free, without the use of fever reducing medications. But, if your child has a **fever alone OR vomiting or diarrhea OR a sore throat or new cough with no fever** -- these symptoms do not suggest influenza-like illness, but they must be kept home from school until the symptoms are gone for 24 hours.

If your child comes to school with the symptoms of the flu, as described above, or if he/she develops these symptoms when they get to school, your child will be sent home for at least 24 hours after they are fever free, without the use of fever reducing medications.

The Vernon Public Schools will be monitoring for influenza-like illness in the school. This is our effort to assure you that we have the health and safety of your children as our number one priority. It would be helpful if you could inform us of your child's symptoms when you call in their absence. That will help us to determine the number of students affected at any one time.

Thank you for helping us to keep the school environment as healthy as possible for all students and staff. If we follow the guidance provided we will all have a successful school year.

## PARKING PERMITS REQUIRED

All students who drive to school must obtain a lot-specific parking permit in the Main Office to ensure appropriate parking and to increase safety and security on school grounds.

## THE RHS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The name of each student's guidance counselor is printed on their schedule. A student may sign up to see their counselor in the Guidance Office located on the second floor and the counselor will contact the student to arrange a meeting. Parents are encouraged to contact their student's counselor by phone or by email.

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Guidance Office                  | 870-6050, Extension 400   |
| Ms. Kimberly Marinaran, Director | Extension 401<br><a href="mailto:Kimberly.Marinaran@vernonct.org">Kimberly.Marinaran@vernonct.org</a> |
| Mrs. Deborah Duarte              | Extension 403<br><a href="mailto:Deborah.Duarte@vernonct.org">Deborah.Duarte@vernonct.org</a>         |
| Mr. Michael Mas                  | Extension 404<br><a href="mailto:Michael.Mas@vernonct.org">Michael.Mas@vernonct.org</a>               |
| Mrs. Rhonda Morgan               | Extension 405<br><a href="mailto:Rhonda.Morgan@vernonct.org">Rhonda.Morgan@vernonct.org</a>           |
| Mr. David Rhoades                | Extension 406<br><a href="mailto:David.Rhoades@vernonct.org">David.Rhoades@vernonct.org</a>           |

## STUDENT INFORMATION CHANGES

Please be sure to contact RHS to report any changes in student or parent addresses and phone numbers. It is important that the school have the correct information in order for students and parents to receive newsletters and other important information by mail throughout the school year. Parents may call the Main Office (870-6050) with new information.

## REMINDERS FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

**Reporting Student Absences:** Parents are expected to call the Attendance Office (870-6050, option 1) by 9:00 a.m. the day their student is absent. Voice mail is available 24 hours a day. Students who have been out of school must submit to the Attendance Office a written, dated, medical or parent/guardian-signed note of explanation specifying the date of and the reason for the absence within five (5) days of returning to school. Students arriving late to school beyond 10 minutes must report to the Attendance Office to sign in to school and to receive a pass to their class.

**Student Visits to Colleges:** Juniors and seniors whose visits to colleges or other postsecondary programs cause them to miss classes at Rockville High School must submit written documentation from the college or program before the absence will be considered an excused absence.

## TRI-TOWN COLLEGE FAIR

The 34th annual Tri-Town College Fair will be held at Ellington High School on Thursday, October 8, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Many representatives from two- and four-year colleges and universities, one-year certificate programs, and the military branches will be present to answer questions and provide parents and students with valuable information regarding post-secondary opportunities. Juniors and seniors are encouraged to attend this event with their parents. All other students and parents are welcome to attend the Fair as well. Information will be available in the RHS Guidance Office prior to the event regarding the specific representatives scheduled to attend.

## COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS

Throughout the fall, representatives from college admissions offices will visit RHS with information about school. Each week a calendar listing the next week's visits will be distributed to all Grade 11 and Grade 12 English classes. The schedule will also be available on the Naviance website ([www.connection.naviance.com/rockvillect](http://www.connection.naviance.com/rockvillect)). Students who wish to attend a session should see their guidance counselor in advance of the visit for a pass to the Career Center to meet with the representative.

## VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Attention students! Are you 18? Will you celebrate your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before Election Day (November 3)? Have you registered to vote? Be ready and able to vote in the important local election in November - see Mrs. Courtois in the Guidance Office to register. You can even complete the paperwork prior to your birthday and it will become effective on your birthday. Voter registration must be completed at least seven days before the November election, so don't wait! Registering only takes five minutes - do your civic duty - register to vote!



## 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 to obtain this necessary document. New working papers must be obtained for each place of employment.

## SAT INFORMATION\*\*

The Scholastic Aptitude Test will be administered at Rockville High School on October 10. Students who have registered for the test and been assigned to RHS as their test center site should plan to arrive at RHS that day by 7:30 a.m. for testing. Students should bring their admission ticket, photo identification, No. 2 pencils, and their calculator. The SAT will also be administered at RHS on November 7 and December 5. Students should register online at [www.CollegeBoard.com](http://www.CollegeBoard.com). Registration for the SAT does not occur through RHS. The online registration deadline for the December test is October 30.

While visiting the College Board's website, students may also learn about different careers, try the question of the day, register for the SAT, search for colleges that meet their interests, estimate college costs, apply to colleges, look for scholarships, and more. Rockville High's code is 070645. The test center code is 07-615.

## PSAT INFORMATION FOR JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES\*\*

Grade 10 and Grade 11 students contemplating post-secondary educational pursuits should sign up for the PSATs (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) in the Guidance Office from September 29 through October 14. Checks for the \$23 fee should be made payable to "Rockville High School." The test will be administered on Saturday, October 17, at 7:45 a.m. This is excellent practice for the SATs. Information sheets regarding PSATs will be distributed to all Grade 10 and 11 students. Copies may also be obtained from a guidance counselor.

\*\*As a service to its students, Rockville High School is an official site for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). The examinations 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 Guidance Office (870-6050, ext. 401) or the College Board (866-756-7346) for further information.

## INFO FOR COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS

If you are planning to attend college within Connecticut and live in on-campus housing, Public Act 01-93 requires that you be immunized against meningitis. Contact your family's physician to be sure you receive this vaccination and have proof of its administration prior to the fall semester.

## CLASS OF 2010 NEWS

**COLLEGE APPLICATIONS:** When completed, college applications should be turned in to the student's counselor for processing at least ten school days before they need to be mailed. The target date for submission of all applications is December 4. This will allow time for all applications to be processed and mailed from RHS before the holiday recess. Applications must be accompanied by an envelope (9" x 12" size recommended) addressed to the college (with no return address) and four forty-four cent stamps.

Many colleges are now encouraging students to submit their applications online. Information must still be mailed directly from the school, including an official transcript and counselor and teacher recommendations. Students who submit their college applications online should contact their guidance counselor about having this information sent to the colleges and should provide the counselor with a stamped envelope addressed to the college.

**UCONN APPLICATIONS:** The University of Connecticut strongly recommends that students complete applications online. Those who wish to apply for Early Action must complete the application online by December 1. All supporting documents (recommendations, transcripts, etc.) must be postmarked prior to December 1. The Regular Admission deadline for the Storrs campus is February 1.

**SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID:** Scholarship and other financial aid information is posted in the Guidance Office and updated weekly. Updated information about the local scholarship program becomes available in early February.

**BINDING EARLY DECISION:** To qualify for Binding Early Decision, a student must: meet the projected academic profile; decide that the college applied to is the one they wish to attend; apply to only one college on an Early Decision status; and, if accepted, attend that college. Students should see their counselor as soon as possible if they are interested in pursuing this option.

## SEEKING NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for the submission of items for the next month's newsletter edition is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Send ideas to [Rita.Courtois@vernonct.org](mailto:Rita.Courtois@vernonct.org). Thank you for helping to keep the RHS community informed about upcoming events, fundraisers, good news, etc.

## PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

CAPT scores for students who completed the required testing in March 2009 were mailed to parents in early September. Grade 11 and Grade 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 in the specified area 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 guidance counselor.** The dates are as follows:

### Writing – Room 150

Tue., October 6 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., October 7 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., October 8 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

### Mathematics – Room 138

Tue., October 20 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., October 21 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., October 22 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

### Reading – Room 150

Tue., October 27 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., October 28 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., October 29 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

## 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.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net). From the home page, click on "Prospective Student-Athletes," which will link the user to the necessary information. Once the online registration is complete, the student must notify the Guidance secretary so that their transcript will be mailed in June.

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** Beginning with the Class of 2011 (current grade 11), general level courses will no longer be acceptable as core courses by the NCAA Clearinghouse, making students ineligible for Division I or Division II athletic participation.

## LITERARY ARTS NEWS

The Literary Arts Magazine Club is now meeting on Wednesdays in Miss Berg's room! Gather your poems, short stories, artwork, plays, essays, and photos to enter them into the 2009 magazine. Don't pass up the chance to get your work published – the 2009-2010 Literary Arts Magazine is under construction, so bring your entries to Room 232. All submissions are welcome! See Miss Berg if you would like more information or if you are interested in becoming part of the magazine staff.



## PEER ADVOCATE PROGRAM UPDATE

Contributed by Mrs. Kim McTighe, Peer Advocates Advisor  
The Peer Advocate Program, which is funded and staffed through the Vernon Youth Services Bureau, trains students in a variety of helping skills to provide services to Rockville High School students, elementary and middle school students, as well as those in the community. This year, there are forty-two active Peer Advocates and they are in the process of starting one-on-one sessions with other RHS students as well as mentoring, tutoring, community service activities and helping new students adjust to the high school. If you feel that your child could benefit from weekly meetings with a positive role model, contact your student's counselor or Kim McTighe (870-6050 x416).

## HOMEWORK HELPLINE

On September 14, Big Y Foods, Inc. marked the opening of the 18<sup>th</sup> year of their well-known program *Big Y's Homework Helpline*. This free service is available Monday through Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. by calling 1-800-866-2449 or online at [www.bigy.com/homework](http://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!

## FESTIVAL OF BANDS UPDATE

Thank you to all of the people who volunteered their time and talent to help make the Festival of Bands on September 12 a great success! The event is a huge undertaking and would not have been possible without everyone's help. The hard work of the Marching Band and Color Guard students and advisors was rewarded with a great performance. Congratulations!



## SPIRIT WEEK & HOMECOMING INFORMATION

Spirit Week: Plans are underway for Spirit Week (October 13 through October 17). All students and staff are invited and encouraged to participate in the week's activities to show their RHS spirit and pride!

Tuesday, October 13 – Twin Day  
Wednesday, October 14 – Tie Dye Day  
Thursday, October 15 – Blue & Gold Day  
Friday, October 16 – Class Day  
2013 – TBA  
2012 – TBA  
2011 – Super Heroes  
2010 – Toga Day

Food Drive: During the week of October 13, the Spirit Week Committee will hold a food drive to benefit the local food pantry. This year's goal is 2009 items. The Hockanum Valley Community Council is always extremely appreciative of the high school's large donation every October so please give generously.

Spirit Rally: The annual fall Spirit Rally will be held on Thursday, October 15, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the football field. **Admission to the evening's events is either a canned or nonperishable food item or \$2.00 per person (including fall athletes & Powder Puff participants).** All students, staff, parents, and alumni are invited to attend the festivities.

6:00 p.m. – Powder Puff Football Game  
7:00 p.m. – Spirit Rally  
8:00 p.m. – Bonfire

Homecoming Football Game: The Homecoming football game will take place on Friday, October 16. Kickoff is at 6:30 p.m. Our opponent that evening will be the Indians from Manchester High School.

Homecoming Dance: The annual Homecoming Dance will be held on Saturday, October 17, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Parents and faculty are welcome to chaperone. Tickets will be sold during lunch waves during the week before the dance. No tickets will be sold at the door. No students will be admitted to the dance after 7:30 p.m. For additional information, or to volunteer as a chaperone, please contact Student Council co-advisors Mr. Borofsky (Room 206) or Mr. Forte (Room 211) or by calling the Main Office at 870-6050.

## PROM DRESS COLLECTION

The high school prom is a rite of passage for many high school students. Over the last few years, there have been many requests for monetary donations and the donation of prom dresses to enable RHS students to attend their prom. Last year we collected about thirty-five dresses and many students benefited from the donations. Swiss Cleaners in Vernon donated their dry cleaning services to clean and bag the donated dresses. Please call Kim McTighe at 870-6050(x416) or email her at [Kimberly.McTighe@vernonct.org](mailto:Kimberly.McTighe@vernonct.org) for more details or to arrange a drop off.

## MATH MANIA

Submitted by Mrs. Patricia White, Math Department Chairperson  
Do you like Math? Or could you use a little extra help? Maybe you like to help, need some community service hours or are thinking about a career in teaching? Perhaps you are a person who just can't get enough math puzzles? If so, stop in at Math Mania in Room 205 on Wednesdays from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. There will be help available for all levels plus logic and math puzzles for all abilities. No need to sign up in advance...just stop in and stay as long as you like. Hope to see you there! (And by the way, refreshments will be served.)

## MATH TEAM NEWS

Do you enjoy competition and a challenge? Join the RHS Math Team. The team competes at statewide meets and transportation is provided. Practices are held every other Tuesday in Mrs. Leslie's room (138) from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. to review topics for the next competition. Meets are held once a month on Wednesdays from October through March with an opportunity to compete in the statewide CAML championship in March. It is a fun way to work on challenging and interesting math problems and meet new people statewide. Come join in the fun!

## NEWS FROM THE FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

Contributed by Mrs. Patricia Goff, Department Head

**Approved!** The Family and Consumer Sciences Department is proud to announce a renewed five-year Early Childhood Articulation Agreement with Manchester Community College. Rockville High School students completing the Child Development and the Childhood Education courses at RHS will also earn three college credits for Early Childhood Education 101 at MCC. We are excited to be recognized for our curriculum and quality of the programs!

## CLASS OF 2010 NEWS

The Class of 2010 Lawn Photo will be taken on Tuesday, October 13 at 12:30 p.m. and the Bleacher Photo will be Thursday, October 15 at 8:00 a.m. Seniors will be notified via the intercom about when (and where) to report for the photos.

**Earn FREE tickets!** The RHS senior class will hold their first major fundraiser of the year this month, selling Yankee Candles from September 21 through October 13. All seniors are encouraged to participate in this aromatic and lucrative fundraiser to supplement the class treasury which will help defray the costs of upcoming events such as the Senior Prom and Class Day. Seniors will have the opportunity to earn FREE tickets to the Prom and Class Day through their active participation in this fundraiser. All orders must be turned in to Mr. Courtois in Room 150 by October 13. Orders will arrive in time for the holidays. Payment is due at the time the orders are placed. Anyone interested in participating should see Mr. Courtois for an order kit. Anyone interested in ordering should contact a senior or class advisor Mr. Courtois ([Paul.Courtois@vernonct.org](mailto:Paul.Courtois@vernonct.org) or 870-6050, x150) prior to the deadline. Thank you, in advance, for supporting the Class of 2010!



**Save the date!** The Class of 2010 will present the annual Mr. RHS Pageant on Friday, November 20. Senior guys, start planning your acts and lining up your sponsor and escorts. Senior girls, encourage your male friends to participate and help them plan their talent, etc. It's sure to be another awesome and hilarious evening so save the date!

## CLASS OF 2013 NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Rita Courtois and Mr. Michael Mas,  
Class of 2013 Advisors



The Class of 2013 will begin its fundraising efforts this month with a pie sale in conjunction with the sophomores from October 5 through October 16. The frozen pies will be delivered in time for Thanksgiving. Details will be included with the sales packet but all payments must be collected at the time of the sale. This fundraiser has been very successful for several years at RHS and we hope to have similar results. Sale packets will be available from Mrs. Courtois or Mr. Mas in the Guidance Office. Freshmen should listen for morning announcements regarding the fundraiser. All proceeds from freshman sales will benefit the Class of 2013's treasury. Thank you, in advance, for your generous support of the Class of 2013.

## CLASS OF 2012 NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Rhonda Morgan and Mrs. Diane Madore,  
Class of 2012 Advisors

The Class of 2012 fundraisers have begun! Entertainment Books will be on sale at Open House on October 1. Please look for the Class of 2012 table. If you are unable to attend the Open House program, you can purchase a book through Mrs. Madore in House C or speak to Class President Katie Ashmead or Class Vice President Jenny Mears. The cost is \$30.00.

The class will also be holding a pie sale along with the freshman class from October 5 to October 16. Order forms will be available outside of Mrs. Madore's office in House C. You may also see Katie Ashmead or Jenny Mears for an order form.

### IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR CLASS RINGS!

A representative from Josten's will host a parent night on Thursday, October 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please attend for more details. A student assembly will be held on Tuesday, October 20 during the last block of the day.

Mark Homecoming on your calendars! Spirit Week is October 13 through October 17. Sophomore volunteers will be needed to help with King and Queen nominations. Listen to the morning announcements for more details.

## RHS WELCOMES THREE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Rockville High School is pleased to host three foreign exchange students for the 2009-2010 school year. Anders Seistrup is from Solroed, Denmark. Claude-Alexander Ziehbrunner is from Zurich, Switzerland, and Sarah Hamann is from Hainichen, Germany. Anders and Claude are living with the Burriss family for the year and are in the United States through the Youth for Understanding program. Sarah is being hosted by the Kurban family and is a participant in the German American Partnership Program (GAPP) exchange. Welcome to the United States and to Rockville High School!

## SELECTIVE SERVICE REMINDER

A reminder for male students: federal law requires that you register with Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday. When you register, you stay eligible for federal student loans, federal job training, and federal jobs. See Mrs. Courtois in the Guidance Office with your Social Security number to complete the registration process that takes about five minutes.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Victoria Nordlund, English Department Head  
Senior Jordyn Woodtke is one of the winners of the Hartford Stage Write-On Playwriting Competition. Every year, student playwrights are invited to develop their own ten-minute plays at the Hartford Stage. Winners of the Write-On Annual Young Playwrights' Competition work with a professional playwright to polish their scripts and see professional actors perform their play as part of Hartford Stage's Brand:NEW Fall Festival of New Work on October 20. Congratulations, Jordyn!

## GSA UP & RUNNING AGAIN

Submitted by Mrs. Patricia Bengtson, Club Advisor  
The RHS Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) is in its third year of meeting together. The GSA is a proactive student-run club which, with the faculty advisors (Mr. Gorky, Ms. Turchi, Mrs. Bengtson and Ms. Freedman), provides a safe environment for students to meet to talk about issues related to sexual orientation. An executive board consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer who plan and run meetings. Our goal is to bring together *all students and staff* and to promote tolerance within our school community about gender identity issues. The group meets the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 2:30 p.m. in Room 118. For more information, visit, call, or email one of the advisors.

Mrs. Bengtson – Room 118 – voice mail 118

[Patricia.Bengtson@vernonct.org](mailto:Patricia.Bengtson@vernonct.org)

Ms. Freedman – Room 229 – voice mail 229

[Bernice.Freedman@vernonct.org](mailto:Bernice.Freedman@vernonct.org)

Mr. Gorky – Room 202 – voice mail 202

[Jonathan.Gorky@vernonct.org](mailto:Jonathan.Gorky@vernonct.org)

Ms. Turchi – House C – voice mail 410

[Maria.Turchi@vernonct.org](mailto:Maria.Turchi@vernonct.org)



## BIG Y "EDUCATION EXPRESS" PROGRAM RETURNS

The Big Y Education Express program continues! Help Rockville High School acquire needed equipment and supplies (such as computers, Math & Science tools, books and more) through this program simply by registering your Express Savings Club card for the program and designating RHS as the beneficiary of your normal, everyday grocery spending. Visit [www.bigy.com](http://www.bigy.com) and click on the "Education Express" link to register your card. Rockville High School's code is 5771. If you were registered for the program in previous years, you must resubmit your request for participation in this cycle of the program. For more information about the program, call 1-800-599-9017 or email [questions@bigyeducationexpress.com](mailto:questions@bigyeducationexpress.com).

## YOUR ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED!



The *SBC Community Connections Program* will donate 5% of your SBC long distance calls (land lines only) to RHS. Please call 1-800-635-7638 to enroll. The RHS code is #3030.

TARGET will donate money to RHS based on your purchases using your Target Visa or Target guest card. Connect to [www.target.com](http://www.target.com) and click on "Take Charge of Education." RHS' ID number is 39284. You can also register at 1-800-316-6142.

## CAREER CENTER SERVICES

Submitted by Mrs. Rebecca Brodersen, Career Center Facilitator  
The Career Center at Rockville High School exists to support students in making a successful transition from high school to the world beyond. Some of the services provided include:

- Career Counseling
- Job Shadowing— A work site experience during which a student spends time with an employee, observing structured activities and asking questions about the job and workplace
- Employment Opportunities
- Interview Preparation/Mock Interviews
- Application, Resume and Cover Letter Support
- Working Papers
- Information regarding visits from military recruiters
- Career Speakers -- Members of the business community share career experiences and expectations with students
- Access to a comprehensive database that offers: interest inventories, college searching, resume templates and career research
- Employability skills

Stay tuned for special job shadowing days this year! If you are a junior or senior, are able to arrange transportation to and from the shadow site, and have been recommended by a teacher, you are eligible to participate. Start thinking now about your career interests!

## WHAT IS A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER?

Contributed by Officer Earl Middleton

The School Resource Officer (SRO) program is a nationally accepted program involving the placement of certified law enforcement officers within the educational environment. This partnership between the school district and the police department allows the SRO to work closely with the school administration to provide a safe learning environment, law related education, and the expertise of a trained law enforcement officer on campus.

As the SRO of Rockville High School, I will be a visible and proactive figure on campus. My main goal will be safety. According to the National School Safety and Security Services website, during the 2008-2009 school year, seven students/faculty were killed in school related violence and an additional twenty-seven separate incidents occurred where students and staff were injured from being shot, nearly shot, stabbed or assaulted. Although these numbers were down from last year, these statistics are still too high. These figures concern the members of the school district, the police department, the community and me. As member of the Vernon Police Department, I have been given all the tools and training needed to respond and react to any and all school safety issue.

For the parents who don't know me, I have been a police officer for the past twelve years. I have been involved with high school aged children for over twenty years throughout the inner cities, suburbs and abroad. I am thrilled to be a member of the great staff at Rockville High School and will aid as a positive figure and resource to all students through the coming years.

Please contact me (OFC Middleton) with any questions or concerns at 870-6050 (x317) or by email at [earl.middleton@vernonct.org](mailto:earl.middleton@vernonct.org).

## SCHOOL NEWSPAPER NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Caitlin Hoffman, Newspaper Advisor

Calling all writers! Interested in contributing to Rockville High School's newspaper? The RHS Rampage is looking for enthusiastic students who want to experience what it's like to be a journalist. Try your hand at writing school news stories, movie reviews or sports recaps. Or, learn how to design a newspaper and create a final printed product. If you would like to participate, please see Mrs. Hoffman (Room 228) for more information. Club meeting dates and times will be announced. Enrollment in the Journalism course is not required.

## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Student-athletes and parents should check out the Athletic Department's website at [www.vernonschools.com](http://www.vernonschools.com). The site contains RHS sports schedules (linked to the CIAC website) with accurate, up-to-date information about days, times, locations and directions for each sporting event. All paperwork that athletes are required to submit to their coaches is also available in addition to contact information for the coaches, the Student-Athlete Handbook, and Travel Release forms.

### OCTOBER SPORTING EVENTS

- Oct. 2 (3:45) – Boys' Soccer vs. RHAM (home)
- Oct. 2 (3:45) – Girls' Soccer at RHAM
- Oct. 2 (5:00) – Volleyball at HPHS  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 3 (2:00) – Football at E.O. Smith (UConn)
- Oct. 5 (3:45) – JV Football at E.O. Smith
- Oct. 5 (3:45) – Varsity Boys' Soccer vs. HPHS (home)
- Oct. 5 (3:45) – Varsity Girls' Soccer at HPHS
- Oct. 5 (3:45) – JV Girls' Soccer vs. Berlin (home)
- Oct. 5 (5:00) – Volleyball at Fermi  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 6 (3:45) – B & G Cross Country at Simsbury
- Oct. 7 (6:30) – Boys' Soccer at Fermi  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 7 (6:30) – Girls' Soccer vs. Fermi (home)  
JV plays at 4:30
- Oct. 7 (5:00) – Volleyball at Rocky Hill  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 8 (3:45) – Fr. Football vs. Fermi (home)
- Oct. 8 (3:45) – JV Girls' Soccer vs. Tolland (home)
- Oct. 9 (3:45) – Boys' Soccer at Manchester
- Oct. 9 (3:45) – Varsity Girls' Soccer vs. Windsor (home)
- Oct. 9 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. Wethersfield (home)  
JV & Freshman teams play at 4:00
- Oct. 9 (6:30) – Football vs. Fermi (home)  
Youth Night
- Oct. 10 (9:00) – JV Football vs. Fermi (home)
- Oct. 13 (3:45) – B & G Cross Country vs. Fermi (home)
- Oct. 13 (3:45) – Girls' Soccer vs. Rocky Hill (home)
- Oct. 13 (7:00) – Boys' Soccer at Rocky Hill  
JV plays at 5:00
- Oct. 13 (4:00) – Volleyball at E.O. Smith  
JV & Freshman teams play at 4:00
- Oct. 15 (3:45) – Fr. Football vs. Manchester (home)
- Oct. 16 (3:45) – Boys' Soccer at E.O. Smith
- Oct. 16 (3:45) – Girls' Soccer vs. E.O. Smith (home)
- Oct. 16 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. Berlin (home)  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 16 (6:30) – Football vs. Manchester (home)  
Homecoming
- Oct. 17 (9:00) – JV Football vs. Manchester (home)
- Oct. 19 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. Bloomfield (home)  
JV & Freshman teams play at 4:00
- Oct. 20 (6:30) – Boys' Soccer vs. Bloomfield (home)  
Senior Night
- Oct. 20 (3:45) – Girls' Soccer at Bloomfield

- Oct. 21 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. Tolland (home)  
JV & Freshman teams play at 4:00
- Oct. 22 (3:45) – Fr. Football at RHAM
- Oct. 23 (6:30) – Girls' Soccer vs. Tolland (home)  
JV plays at 4:30
- Oct. 23 (5:00) – Volleyball at RHAM  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 23 (3:45) – Boys' soccer at Tolland
- Oct. 24 (2:00) – Football at RHAM
- Oct. 26 (3:45) – JV Football at RHAM
- Oct. 26 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. HPHS (home)  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 27 (3:45) – Boys' Soccer at RHAM
- Oct. 27 (6:30) – Girls' Soccer vs. RHAM (home)  
JV plays at 4:30
- Oct. 28 (5:00) – Volleyball vs. Fermi (home)  
JV plays at 4:00
- Oct. 29 (3:45) – Fr. Football vs. Bloomfield (home)
- Oct. 30 (3:45) – JV Girls' Soccer at Tolland
- Oct. 30 (3:45) – Boys' Soccer at HPHS
- Oct. 30 (3:45) – Girls' Soccer vs. HPHS (home)
- Oct. 30 (6:00) – Volleyball at South Windsor  
JV and Freshman teams play at 5:00
- Oct. 30 (6:30) – Football vs. Bloomfield (home)
- Oct. 31 (9:00) – JV football vs. Bloomfield (home)

### PROJECT GRADUATION 2010

It's time for the Project Graduation committees to begin meeting and planning for the 2010 celebration. The party is FREE for all graduating seniors but we need volunteers from parents of students from all grades. It is a huge undertaking and help is needed from as many people as possible to make it a success. Parents of seniors are not allowed to work the night of the party so they are strongly encouraged to work during the year to help organize the party for their graduate.

The first fundraiser is Saturday, November 14 from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Feast at an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast at Applebee's in Manchester for only \$5. See the attached flyer for more info. We are looking for juniors and seniors to serve as waitstaff that morning. For tickets and more information, please contact Jeri at 872-9601.

One of the most popular fundraisers is the bus trip to New York City. This year the trip is on Saturday, December 5. See the attached flyer for all the information you need to do some holiday shopping, visit a museum or see a show.

The first Project Graduation committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the RHS Staff Lounge (blue hall). We hope to see many new and returning faces at the meeting!

# OCTOBER 2009

| Sun  | Mon                          | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat  |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|
| PSAT Registration in Guidance Office, Sept. 29-Oct. 1 \$23 per student |                              | Spirit Week Food Drive October 13-17                                     |  | <b>B day</b> 1<br>Open House, 6:00 p.m.<br>Online registration deadline for Nov. 7 SAT   | <b>A day</b> 2  | 3  |
| 4  | <b>B day</b> 5               | <b>A day</b> 6   | <b>B day</b> 7                             | <b>A day</b> 8<br>Q1 progress reports distributed to students<br>Tri-Town College Fair, Ellington HS, 6:30 p.m.<br>Project Graduation meeting, 7:00 p.m. | <b>B day</b> 9  | 10<br>SAT Administration at RHS, 7:45 a.m.                                 |
| 11   | 12<br>No School Columbus Day | <b>A day</b> 13<br>Spirit Week TWIN DAY<br>Senior Lawn Photo, 12:30 p.m. | <b>B day</b> 14<br>Spirit Week Tie Dye Day | <b>A day</b> 15<br>Spirit Week BLUE & GOLD DAY<br>Senior Bleacher Photo, 8:00 a.m.<br>Spirit Rally, 6:00 p.m.  | <b>B day</b> 16<br>Spirit Week CLASS DAY<br>Homecoming football game, 6:30 p.m. | 17<br>PSAT Administration at RHS, 7:45 a.m.<br>Homecoming Dance, 7:00 p.m. |
| 18   | <b>A day</b> 19              | <b>B day</b> 20  | <b>A day</b> 21                            | <b>B day</b> 22  | <b>A day</b> 23   | 24   |
| 25   | <b>B day</b> 26              | <b>A day</b> 27<br>School Photo Make-up Session                          | <b>B day</b> 28                            | <b>A day</b> 29<br>Parents' Ring Info Night, 6:00 p.m.   | <b>B day</b> 30<br>Online registration deadline for Dec. 5 SAT                  | 31   |

# NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP Saturday, Dec. 6, 2008



Leave Vernon 7:00 AM - from Hartford Tpke. Commuter Lot  
(across from YMCA/Center 375)

Arrive New York 10:00

Bus will deliver you to your choice of:  
Metropolitan Museum of Art  
Trump Plaza  
Rockefeller Square  
Times Square

Leave New York 7:00 PM - Bus driver will indicate point of departure

Arrive Vernon 10:00 PM

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Payment holds reservation. Reservation guaranteed once bus is filled.  
Seats on the bus are on a first come, first served basis.

All proceeds benefit **Rockville High School Project Graduation.**

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For reservations, call by November 20th  
Sue Zylberman-875-8680

Mail check (payable to RHS Project Graduation) to:  
Sue Zylberman, 12 Rollingview Drive, Vernon, CT 06066