

# Rockville TelegRAM

## ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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

### JANUARY 2010

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- January 4      Holiday Recess ends  
                  Classes resume
- January 5      Financial Aid Evening, 6:00 p.m.,  
                  Auditorium (snow date Jan. 12)
- January 14     Student Council meeting, 8:10 a.m.
- January 14     Board of Education Budget  
                  Workshop, 7:00 p.m.,  
                  Administration Building
- January 15     No School, Furlough Day
- January 18     No School, Martin Luther King Day
- January 19     No School, Staff Development Day
- January 25     Cocoa & Cram for Freshmen,  
                  6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- January 28\*    Semester exams, Blocks 1 & 2
- January 29\*    Semester exams, Blocks 3 & 4
- February 1\*    Semester exams, Blocks 5 & 6
- February 2\*    Semester exams, Blocks 7 & 8
- February 3\*    Second quarter closes; full day,  
                  blocks 1-8 meet
- February 4\*    Third quarter begins
- February 4     Online registration deadline for  
                  March 13 SAT Administration
- February 4     Grade 8 Parent Orientation,  
                  6:00 p.m., Auditorium
- February 10\*   Second quarter report cards  
                  distributed to students

\*Dates subject to change as a result of school closings due to inclement weather

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- 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

#### 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](http://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.



#### BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET WORKSHOP INFORMATION

The Vernon Board of Education will be following the schedule of budget workshops listed below in conjunction with the development of its proposed budget for 2010-2011. All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the third floor Board Meeting Room of the Administration Building (30 Park Street). The meetings are open to the public and residents are given an opportunity to speak to the Board of Education at each workshop. Parents are encouraged to attend the workshops.

- Thu., January 14 – Rockville High, VCMS
- Tue., January 19 – Elementary schools
- Mon., February 8 – Finalize budget
- Thu., February 25 – Superintendent's Public  
Budget Presentation

## ATTENTION FRESHMEN!

Submitted by Mrs. Amy Begue, Link Crew Co-Coordinator  
Midyear exams are coming in January! Link Crew wants to help you get ready! Come to the second annual "Cocoa and Cram" study event on Monday, January 25, 2010 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at RHS. Link Leaders and teachers will be on hand to help with reviewing in all the major subject areas. Hot cocoa and snacks will be provided to keep your energy up through a massive study session. Bring a friend and get ready for exams! See any of the Link Leaders or Coordinators for more information.



## SCHEDULE FOR SEMESTER EXAMS

If students have their own transportation, they should report to school only for scheduled exams. Students who are unable to provide their own transportation and must arrive at school at a time when they do not have an exam must report to the Library.

Exams will be administered according to the following schedule:

### Thursday, January 28\*

Block 1 Exam 7:40 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.  
Block 2 Exam 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Friday, January 29\*

Block 3 Exam 7:40 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.  
Block 4 Exam 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Monday, February 1\*

Block 5 Exam 7:40 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.  
Block 6 Exam 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, February 2\*

Block 7 Exam 7:40 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.  
Block 8 Exam 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, February 3\* FULL DAY OF CLASSES

Blocks 1-8 will meet on a modified schedule. Information regarding times will be posted in teachers' classrooms.

\*These dates will change if school closings occur prior to or during the exam period.

# HAPPY 2010!

## SECOND QUARTER REPORT CARDS

The second marking period is scheduled to end on Wednesday, February 3. We expect to distribute report cards to students on Wednesday, February 10. Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers or guidance counselor with any questions or concerns regarding the report cards. If inclement weather causes school to be canceled prior to February 10, the distribution date will be moved to the next school day.

## PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

Grade 11 and Grade 12 students who have not met the Mathematics Performance Standard for Graduation, the Science Performance Standard for Graduation, and/or the Reading/Writing Performance Standard for Graduation may participate in a three-day Mathematics, Science, 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) for Mathematics, Reading, and Writing, or the Core Lab for Science 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:

### Science – Room 120

Tue., January 12 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., January 13 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., January 14 – Core Lab – 2:30-4:30 pm

### Writing – Room 150

Tue., February 2 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., February 3 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., February 4 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

### Mathematics – Room 138

Mon., February 9 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Tue., February 10 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., February 11 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

### Reading – Room 150

Tue., February 23 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Wed., February 24 – remediation – 2:30-4:30 pm  
Thu., February 25 – DPT – 2:30-4:30 pm

## DEADLINE LOOMS FOR YEARBOOK PURCHASES

Place your order online for a 2010 *Banner* yearbook before January 15! Visit [www.jostensyearbook.com](http://www.jostensyearbook.com) to order and customize your book. No extra books will be ordered for 2010.

## CONTACTING RHS STAFF MEMBERS



Parents are encouraged to contact their student's teachers and counselor throughout the school year. All staff members may be reached by phone at 860-870-6050. Staff members may also be contacted by email ([first name.last name@vernonct.org](mailto: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)).

## RHS – HVCC CONNECTION

Submitted by Mr. Paul Courtois, Student Activities Director Rockville High School, along with four other area high schools, is teaming with the Hockanum Valley Community Council to help stock their new food pantry. The program asks each participating school to collect a certain type of food each month.



The schools collect a different food each month. RHS is responsible for the collection of CEREAL in January. HVCC recently moved into a much larger facility that will allow them to service a larger number of needy families. However, this calls for a larger donation from the community. Please consider donating a box of cereal during January. Donations can be turned into the Main Office, Room 150 or the Guidance Office. We hope that the donation will grow with each passing month. Stay tuned for February's "food of the month"!

## SCHEDULING FOR 2010-2011

Scheduling for the 2010-2011 school year will begin in early February. Parents are asked to review the Program of Studies booklet with their student to plan the student's course selections for next year. Once the scheduling form has been completed, it will require a parent's signature. If you do not receive one of these forms for your signature by February 5, please contact your son's or daughter's counselor by phone or email. Parents may also arrange for a conference about their student's course selections for next year.

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 selecting their schedules. Courses in Business, Art, Music, World Languages, Agricultural Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Technology Education all enable students to experience a well-rounded, comprehensive secondary school education.

## FINANCIAL AID EVENING

On January 5, 2010, the Guidance Department will host its annual Financial Aid Evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. Parents of seniors will receive a flyer about the event in the mail.

## SAT INFORMATION

It is recommended that students register online for the SAT ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)). By registering online, 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 13 administration of the SAT is February 4. The testing fee is \$45 per student.

Note: 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 (\$9.50 per report) will be charged. SAT and ACT scores are not reported on the high school transcript.

\*\*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 Guidance Office (860-870-6050 x401) or the College Board (866-756-7346) for further information.

## GRADE 8 ORIENTATION PLANNED

On Thursday, February 4, Rockville High School will hold its annual Grade 8 Orientation Evening, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the RHS Auditorium. All students currently in the eighth grade and their parents are encouraged to attend. A presentation will be made in the Auditorium to introduce the RHS administration and to review items about the high school such as course selection, school counseling services, and athletics and other extracurricular activities. Following this presentation, parents and students will have an opportunity to tour the building and speak with representatives from all academic departments who will be available to answer questions and provide information regarding the variety of course offerings at RHS. Contact Director of School Counseling Kimberly Marinar (860-870-6050 x401 or [Kimberly.Marinar@vernonct.org](mailto:Kimberly.Marinar@vernonct.org)) for additional information about the evening's activities.

## **GUIDANCE NEWS FOR SENIORS**

**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.

Applications must be accompanied by an envelope (9" x 12" size) addressed to the college (with no return address) and four 44-cent stamps.

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

**Local Scholarships:** All local scholarship applications will be available online in early February through the Naviance program. A limited number of scholarship lists will also be available in the Guidance Office. An explanation of the Local Scholarship Program will be provided to all seniors by the counselors in their English 12 classes. Many seniors will be eligible for the McCarthy-Miller Scholarship that awards more money to seniors each year than any other local scholarship. The application (due April 9) requires copies of income tax returns for 2009 for the applicant and their parent(s).

The application for the State of Connecticut Capitol Scholarship is available online at [www.ctdhe.org](http://www.ctdhe.org) or from a counselor. Seniors who rank in the top 20% of the Class of 2010 or have scored an 1800 on one sitting of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (or 27 on the ACT) are eligible. The application deadline is February 15, 2010. The FAFSA must also be filed by this date in order to be eligible for the Capitol Scholarship. Visit [www.ctdhe.org](http://www.ctdhe.org) for additional information about this scholarship program.

The U.S. Department of Education has announced that scholarships will be available under the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program for the 2010-2011 academic year. Byrd Scholarships are awarded to selected high school seniors for full-time study at colleges located within the United States. Students must rank within the top 2% of their class during junior year or have a combined score of 2100 or better on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or a composite score of 32 or better on the ACT. Additional information about and applications for the Byrd Scholarship Program are available online at [www.ctdhe.org](http://www.ctdhe.org). The deadline for submission of the application is April 1, 2010.

The 2010-2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) must be completed 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 completed online after January 1, 2010 at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

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

**Grants and Scholarships:** Many national and state level scholarships are becoming available. Information is in the School Counseling Office. Check the board often.

**Additional Financial Aid Information:** Many colleges require that students file the PROFILE financial aid form in order to qualify for any financial aid at their school. Register for your customized PROFILE application at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

- Click on CSS/PROFILE under "Pay for College" on the student's home page.
- Click on the 2010-2011 PROFILE.
- Enter your [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) user name and password (or click "sign up" and provide the required information).
- Save your user name and password.
- Click on "Register for PROFILE."
- 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.

## “COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY” PROGRAM

Connecticut's second College Goal Sunday will take place on Sunday, January 31, 2010 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at thirteen sites throughout the state: Capital Community College, Central High School (Bridgeport), Eastern Connecticut State University, Gateway Community College, Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, Norwalk Community College, Norwich Free Academy, Post University, Ridley-Lowell Business & Technology Institute (New London), Sacred Heart University, Science & Technology Magnet High School (New London), and Western Connecticut State University. The program is designed to assist prospective college students and their parents in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition to receiving assistance in filling out the FAFSA, participants will receive general information regarding state and federal financial aid programs. The Connecticut College Goal Sunday program is an effort to make sure that the process of applying for college financial aid does not become an obstacle that would keep any person from pursuing an education beyond high school. By attending the College Goal Sunday event, participants will receive free, hands-on assistance in completing the FAFSA and will walk away from the event with a completed financial aid application. To register for College Goal Sunday, visit [www.collegegoalsundayct.org](http://www.collegegoalsundayct.org) and click on the “Registration Form” tab to select a specific location.



## 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 eleven), 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.

## 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.



## BEAR COLLECTION UPDATE

For the eighth consecutive year, RHS staff members collected teddy bears of all shapes, colors, and sizes for a holiday donation to benefit needy children in the local area. The collection provided a growing and happy display in the Main Office for several weeks before being delivered, along with other toys collected by the National Honor Society, to the Cornerstone Shelter's Christmas Party. Many thanks are extended to everyone who donated a bear and/or toy (or more) and to the National Honor Society students and advisors Mary Leslie and Jacqueline Markel for providing the transportation for the 118 beautiful teddy bears!



## MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Rockville High School Music Department is pleased to announce that ten Rockville High School students were selected to perform in the Eastern Region High School Music Festival to be held at the University of Connecticut on January 8 and January 9, 2010. They will join other talented musicians from eastern Connecticut in rehearsals and the performance of a concert on Saturday, January 9. Congratulations are extended to: Michael Lee, Elizabeth Nutt, and Anne Whitehead (Band) and Megan Bebrin, Erin Connolly, Patrick Connolly, Jamie Ehrenfeld, Dominic Pescosolido, Jeffrey Stone, and Eric Thepsiri (Chorus). Best wishes for a successful concert!



## STUDENT BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Parents are reminded to contact the Main Office (860-870-6050) with any new information regarding their student(s). It is important that the school have the most up-to-date information for each student including home address and phone number and parent work and cell phone numbers.

## COMING FEBRUARY 18, 2010: GROUNDHOG JOB SHADOW DAY

Attention students! Are you unsure of what you'd like to do after high school? Are you a sophomore or junior? Are you reliable and responsible? Are you interested in seeing a career of interest firsthand? Do you have an available means of transportation?

If you answered "yes" to the above questions, you should consider participating in this exciting event. On Thursday, February 18, 2010, RHS students will be placed in a variety of job sites to shadow a professional in a career of interest. We have many excited job shadow hosts this year. HURRY! SLOTS ARE FILLING QUICKLY! Some of the available sites include:

- Electrician
- State of CT Archaeologist
- Human Services (school psychologist, social worker)
- Rockbestos Cable Company (factory)
- Public Defender (Vernon and Enfield)
- Alstom Company (chemical and mechanical engineering, human resources, drafting)
- Real Estate Lawyer
- Athletic Trainer
- YMCA Children's Program
- Teachers (music, art, gym, elementary)
- Financial Planning
- Hair Salon
- Air National Guard
- The Reminder
- Architecture
- Hometown Buffet
- Law Enforcement
- Dentist
- Physical Therapy (Adult and Pediatric)
- Ambulance Service of Manchester (EMT's and Paramedics)
- Mayor of Vernon
- Manchester Fire Department
- Rockville Bank (marketing, security, loans, front office)
- Automotive (Scranton Motors - sales, finance, tech, service, office staff, accounting, mechanics, detailing, painting, estimates)
- Rockville Public Library

Please see Mrs. Brodersen or Ms. O'Sullivan in the Career Center no later than Friday, January 8 if you are interested. Once we receive the names, we will meet with each student to determine an appropriate placement.

## REMINDER FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

**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. 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.

### "ARCTIC SPLASH" A SUCCESS!

The Vernon Parks and Recreation Department and the Rockville High School Student Council sponsored an "Arctic Splash" fundraiser on Saturday, December 12. Approximately thirty-five students were joined by Student Council advisors Brian Forte and Peter Borofsky and Bruce Dinnie and Bruce Watt from Vernon Parks & Recreation in their plunge into the frigid, ice-covered waters of the Community Pool at Center 375. With an outdoor temperature of only about thirty degrees, these brave participants made quick work of their dip in the pool. Their efforts raised more than \$2000 for the Send-a-Kid-to-Camp program and for substance abuse awareness programs in Vernon. Thanks to everyone who braved the "Arctic Splash" as well as their supporters, the RHS Pep Band led by Mr. Darcy Davis, and Mrs. Patty Bengtson and her art students for their publicity artwork. Everyone had a great time and finally got the feeling back into their feet by Monday morning!

### SEEKING 3 & 4 YEAR OLDS

The Vernon Public School District is looking for three- and four-year old children who are residents of Vernon and would be interested in attending the Vernon Public School Preschool Collaborative for the 2010-2011 school year. For more information, please call Jennifer Dennin at 860-870-6000 (x137).



## EARLY CHILDHOOD CAREER CLUSTER

Submitted by Mrs. Patricia Goff, FCS Department Chair  
The RHS Early Childhood Career Cluster provides students the option of focusing elective courses toward a career path in Early Childhood Education. Upon successful completion of the selected courses, job shadowing, and portfolio preparation, the students will have the tools needed either to enter into the workforce in an entry-level position in their field or continue their studies in a post-secondary institution. Interested students can find additional information in the Program of Studies book or through their school counselor, Mrs. Goff (Room 126) or Mrs. Reilly (Room 172).

## CLASS OF 2010 NEWS

Submitted by Mr. Paul Courtois, Class of 2010 Advisor



Cap and gown measurements will be completed on Thursday, February 25. All seniors must be measured for and purchase a cap and gown at this time. The cost will be \$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 2010 will hold its Senior Prom on Friday, May 21 at the Farmington Marriott. The Senior Class Day outing is also planned for Friday, June 4 at High Meadow in Granby. Additional information will be included in future newsletters.

## CLASS OF 2012 UPDATE

Submitted By Mrs. Diane Madore, Class of 2012 Co-Advisor

As the sophomore class wrapped up all of our fall activities, we are already giving thought to the spring months because those winter months are just so busy. We will be organizing a fundraiser in March so watch the TelegRAM next month for details. This will be an important fundraiser, helping us raise money for our class treasury and thus helping to keep the cost of class activities like proms and Class Day down. Please encourage your sophomore to get involved. Also coming up is the arrival of class rings! Details of the delivery will follow but students who ordered rings will also get a letter from Jostens prior to the delivery date. There is still time to place an order as well. Contact Mrs. Madore at 860-870-6050 (x409) or by email at [Diane.Madore@vernonct.org](mailto:Diane.Madore@vernonct.org) if you need a ring information packet. You can also order class rings online at [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com).

## CLASS OF 2013 NEWS

Submitted By Mrs. Rita Courtois & Mr. Michael Mas,  
Class of 2013 Co-Advisors

Freshman students signed nearly 300 holiday cards that were sent along with candy canes to a group of American servicemen and women deployed overseas during this holiday season. The cards were sent to a Morale, Welfare and Recreation coordinator at FOB Sykes in Iraq for distribution through the Adopt-a-Platoon organization's Operation Holiday Eagle campaign. Hopefully the cards and candy brought some smiles to the faces of our soldiers as they faced the holidays so far from their families. The class looks forward to additional service projects in the near future and to a Munson's candy sale in late February for delivery prior to Easter. Stay tuned for more information!

## PROM DRESS COLLECTION

The high school prom is a rite of passage for many high school students. Last year we received many requests for donations and/or prom dresses to enable RHS students to attend their prom. Vernon Youth Services is still collecting "gently used" prom dresses to assist these students with their upcoming proms.





Swiss Cleaners in Vernon has graciously agreed to dry clean and bag all of the donated dresses. Please call Kim McTighe at 860-870-6050 x416 for more details or to arrange a drop off.

## YOUTH SERVICES / PEER ADVOCATE PROGRAM NEWS

The Peer Advocate Program, 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, younger students, and the community. This year, there are forty active Peer Advocates and about twenty of these students are mentoring younger children in each of the town's elementary schools. They are also involved in one-on-one sessions with other RHS students as well as tutoring, community service activities and helping new students adjust to RHS. If you feel that your child could benefit from weekly meetings with a positive role model, contact your student's guidance counselor or Kim McTighe (860-870-6050 x416). Applications to become involved with the Peer Advocate program will be available in April. All freshman and sophomore students are encouraged to apply. Contact Mrs. McTighe ([Kimberly.Mctighe@vernonct.org](mailto:Kimberly.Mctighe@vernonct.org) or Room 235) for additional information about the program or the application process.

## 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:

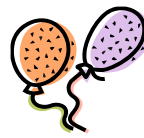
- STOP & SHOP's A+ Bonus Bucks Program will donate cash to Rockville High for educational needs based on the amount of points earned by shoppers who register their Stop & Shop card online at [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus). Rockville High's ID code is #06103. You can also call 877-275-2758 to register your card by phone. The program runs through March 25, 2010. Even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register it this year for RHS to receive credit.
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- The Big Y Education Express program will provide RHS with needed equipment and supplies. Customers should register their Express Savings Club card for the program and designate RHS as the beneficiary of their normal, everyday grocery spending. Visit [www.bigy.com](http://www.bigy.com) and click on the "Education Express" link to register.
- 
- 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 800-316-6142.

## ROBOTICS TEAM NEWS

Submitted by Bryan Wright and Ray Frost, Advisors  
The New Year is fast approaching and so is the new FIRST Robotics season. The new game will be announced on January 9 via a NASA broadcast at Farmington High School. The fun begins with the design and build of an all-new robot along with the making of a new animation. The team is looking forward to a great season. In 2010, R.A.G.E. (Robotics and Gadget Engineering) will be competing in the Baltimore (Maryland) and Hartford Regional competitions. The team will be building the robot in the RHS machine shop and the practice facility in East Hartford in the evenings beginning at the end of January. Stop in to see what it's all about; the team is always looking for new members!

## PROJECT GRADUATION NEWS

Submitted by Mrs. Daryl Gottier, Project Graduation



Welcome to 2010! With the new year under way, we are working hard to make sure the graduation celebration for the Class of 2010 is the biggest and best ever. The Project

Graduation celebration is free to all graduating seniors so support from parents of students of all ages is important. We're moving 2010 meetings to a different night of the week to allow more people to attend. The first meeting of the new calendar year will be on Wednesday, January 13 at Beth Waggoner's house. RSVP to Beth (860-871-8422) if you plan to attend and to get directions.

Letters will be going out soon to RHS families in hopes that we will receive donations of time and/or money to help with this event. We are planning ahead for the festivities and one important part is the food. If you own or work at a restaurant or food store and would like to donate food for the graduates, please give us a call. Some of the favorites include wings, tacos, pizza, snack foods, water bottles, and soda. Please call Sandra at 860-872-6649 if you can help.

## PARKING PERMITS REQUIRED

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

## HOMEWORK HELPLINE

Big Y's *Homework Helpline* is now in its 18<sup>th</sup> 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](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!



## NEWS FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Visit the Athletic Department's website at [www.vernonschools.com](http://www.vernonschools.com) for up-to-date schedules for all winter sports teams and directions to other school locations. For your convenience, you can also download the physical form, permission slip, Travel Release Form, and sign-off sheet from the Student-Athlete Handbook.

### JANUARY SPORTING EVENTS

- Jan. 2 (10:00) – Wrestling Rockville Duals (home)
- Jan. 2 -- Boys' Basketball at East Hartford  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 2 – Girls' Basketball at East Catholic  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 2 (4:00) – Hockey at Wethersfield  
(Trinity College Rink)
- Jan. 4 – Boys' Basketball vs. E.O. Smith (home)  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 4 – Girls' Basketball at E.O. Smith  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 6 (6:00) – Wrestling at Rocky Hill
- Jan. 7 (4:00) – Hockey vs. East Catholic (home)
- Jan. 7 – Boys' Basketball at Bloomfield  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 7 -- Girls' Basketball vs. Bloomfield (home)  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 7 (6:30) – Gymnastics at Wethersfield  
(Silas Deane Middle School)
- Jan. 9 (10:00) – Wrestling at Amity & Ledyard  
(Ledyard High School)
- Jan. 9 (9:00) – Boys' & Girls' Indoor Track at  
Hartford Invitational (Wesleyan University)
- Jan. 9 (9:00) – Boys' & Girls' JV Indoor Track at  
Glastonbury JV Co-Ed Relays
- Jan. 9 (10:00) – Gymnastics at Pomperaug  
Invitational
- Jan. 9 (7:30) – Hockey at Northwest Catholic  
(Newington Arena)
- Jan. 11 -- Boys' Basketball vs. Tolland (home)  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 11 -- Girls' Basketball at Tolland  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 12 (5:30) – Gymnastics at Conard  
(Duffy Elementary School)
- Jan. 13 (6:00) -- Wrestling at Fermi
- Jan. 14 (4:00) – Hockey vs. South Windsor (home)
- Jan. 14 – Boys' Basketball vs. RHAM (home)  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 14 – Girls' Basketball at RHAM  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 16 (9:00) – Wrestling at New Britain, Branford,  
Wolcott Tech, Wilton (New Britain HS)
- Jan. 16 (1:00) – Hockey at Hall-Southington  
(Veteran's Memorial Rink)
- Jan. 18 (4:00) – Hockey vs. Newington-Berlin (H)

- Jan. 19 – Boys' Basketball at Hartford Public  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 19 – Girls' Basketball vs. Hartford Public (H)  
JV 3:45; V 5:00
- Jan. 20 (6:00) – Wrestling at Weaver
- Jan. 21 – Boys' Basketball at Fermi  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 21 – Girls' Basketball vs. Fermi (home)  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 23 (9:00) – Boys' & Girls' Indoor Track at  
SCC Coaches Invite (Hillhouse High Sch)
- Jan. 23 (10:00) – Wrestling at Eagle Classic
- Jan. 23 (8:10) – Hockey at East Catholic  
(Champions Skating Rink, Cromwell)
- Jan. 26 – Boys' Basketball at Newington  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 26 – Girls' Basketball vs. Southington (home)  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 27 (6:00) – Wrestling vs. E.O. Smith (home)
- Jan. 28 (4:00) – Hockey vs. Farmington (home)
- Jan. 28 (5:00) – Boys' Indoor Track at Glastonbury  
Invitational (Glastonbury High School)
- Jan. 29 – Boys' Basketball at Rocky Hill  
Fr 3:45; JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 29 – Girls' Basketball vs. Rocky Hill (home)  
JV 5:30; V 7:00
- Jan. 29 (6:00) – Gymnastics vs. Southington (H)  
(meet held at South Windsor High School)
- Jan. 30 (7:40) – Hockey vs. Rocky Hill-RHAM-  
Middletown (home)
- Jan. 30 (10:00) – Wrestling John Williams Duals (H)
- Jan. 30 (10:00) – Boys' & Girls' Indoor Track at  
CCC Championship Meet (Hillhouse HS)



*Good luck, Rams!*