

Rr Schools

YOUR SOURCE FOR ROCKY RIVER SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to the *Class of 2013*



Harry Konangi

Class of 2013 Valedictorian



Class of 2013 Salutatorian

Madison Connelly

On June 7, members of the Rocky River High School Class of 2013 received their diplomas during commencement ceremonies at Lakewood Civic Auditorium. We are proud to highlight some of the achievements of the Class of 2013 in this issue of the Rr Schools.



Board of Education member Scott Swartz addresses the Class of 2013 wearing a hard hat, complete with tassel, in recognition of the construction students experienced during the last two years at RRHS.

Summer Construction at RRHS

School is out for summer, but the renovations at Rocky River High School are in full swing. By the time school opens in the fall, the final wing of renovated classrooms will be finished with new paint, ceilings, HVAC, flooring and furniture. Hallways will be painted and have new ceilings. The auditorium will have a new sound system. The entire building will have wireless access.

The Detroit entrance will be paved over the summer and landscaping will be added. Work on the Wagar entrance has begun, and the result will be a student and athletic entrance with a larger vestibule, a ticket and spirit wear shop and a revamped Hall of Fame. All parking lots will be repaved and new trees planted.

The floor, bleachers, lights, HVAC, scoreboards and main court backboards in the main gym are being replaced. It will also be painted. Wagar gym is also getting a facelift. Upgrades to the pool are underway, too, including new bleachers, lights, diving board, lifeguard chairs, HVAC, paint and general sprucing up.

All of this continues to be financed by the Bond Issue that Rocky River voters passed in 2010. The bond funds are separate from general school funds, and by law can be used only for capital items.

Due to construction over the summer, there will be limited access to the high school. Please contact the high school at 356-6800 should you need assistance from June through August. Once construction is finished, the visitor entrance will be through the main Detroit Avenue entrance.

OCTOBER 1, 2013

RRHS Community Open House

5:00 - 7:00 PM

followed by

State of the Schools

7:00 PM

Tour the newly renovated high school from 5-7 PM, then get an update on the Rocky River City School District from Superintendent Michael G. Shoaf at 7 PM

Bike to School

Century Cycles' Bike to School Challenge concluded at Rocky River Middle School on May 23 with a school-wide celebration of the students' bicycling accomplishments by the city's mayor, school administrators and program organizers and sponsors.

RRMS had a lot to celebrate in a record-setting year for the popular program. In just three weeks of bicycling to school from May 6 through May 23, Rocky River Middle School students:

- Biked 14,618 miles – the equivalent of biking over halfway around the globe and a new BTS school record;
- Averaged 326 students biking per day – a new BTS record;
- An impressive 52.5% of the school arrived by bike each day, another new record (up 67% from 2010's 30% average and up 18% over last year's 44% average);
- Set a new high-ride day on May 9, when 377 RRMS students biked to school (61% of the enrollment);
- Took 4,568 round-trip bicycle rides to school;
- Burned an estimated 248,506 calories – or 1,775 cans of Coke;
- Prevented an estimated 16,079 pounds of heat-trapping carbon dioxide emissions from entering the environment;
- And saved their parents \$2,568 on gasoline, based on the current Ohio average gas price of \$3.76/gallon.



RRMS students McKenna Gillespie, Isabella LoParo, Julia McKeown, Alexandra Gluntz and Lauren Gifford model this year's Rocky River Bike to School Challenge t-shirt which was designed by 8th grade student Jillian Kinsley.

About Bike to School Challenge

Bike To School Challenge is an award-winning, three-week program that seeks to inspire over 4,000 students in Bay Village, Rocky River and Medina to bike to school as much as possible to improve their health, help the environment and have fun. The program is organized by Century Cycles bicycle store in conjunction with the schools. During it, students carry cards that are stamped for each bike-ride to school and can be redeemed for prizes. For more information about Bike To School Challenge and to see photos and videos, go to www.centurycycles.com/for/BTS.

AFS Host Families Needed



We are looking for host families for exchange students for the 2013-14 school year. There are many students to choose from and they are all highly recommended from their host countries. These students arrive in mid-August and will be here through the academic year, returning in June. Rocky River has a long-standing tradition of being a welcoming community to these students and we'd like to place 1-2 students at our high school this upcoming year. Interested families may contact Andrea Reynolds at reynolds.andrea@rrcs.org or Nancy Goette. at nagoette@yahoo.com.



Goldwood Time Capsule

At an assembly on May 28, students at Goldwood Primary School filled a time capsule with items that represent the school and education as they know it today: books, a staff directory, photos, music, art, and t-shirts to name a few. The time capsule will be buried in the Goldwood Garden later this summer. The current second grade class will be invited to open the time capsule at their 25th high school reunion in 2048.

Rocky River Board of Education Vice President Jean A. Rounds, who is also a retired Goldwood principal, worked with staff at the building and with the Rocky River Historical Society to assemble the time capsule.

CLASS OF 2013



Masar Ibrahim Abuheries • Ian Jae Adams • Marisa Nicole Arancibia • Annie Luise Artiste • Ahmad Ali Shafqat Ashiq • Alexandra Nicole Asimakis • Chaffy Noelle Assad • Lydia Francine Bednarski • Allison Elizabeth Beer • Phillip Charles Bero • Aaron Douglas Blossey • Megan Nicole Bobbitt • Keelan Boettcher • Cameron Hastings Bokas • Christopher Hogan Boker • Nikai Victoria Boyarko • Richard William Bremkamp • Vinka Brkovic • Paul Davis Buczynski • Skyler Vincent Burnett • Paige Nicole Cadwallader • Brendan Joseph Cain • Hope Catherine Camerino • Mario Vincent Campanalie • Stephen H. Carey, IV • Katelyn Nicole Cellura • Allen X. Chan • Jia Min Chen • Mina Anjanette Cheriki • Emese Hajdamar Chmielewski • William Austin Cioce • Kyle Cody Cobb • Katelyn Marie Connelly • Madison Rie Connelly • Madelyn Karman Cook • Matthew Hunter Cook • Caitlin Taylor Cox • Ryan Mark Dahler • Kevin Stuart Darragh • Steven Michael Darragh • Constance Nichole Davis • Brandon Pichaya DeLano • Emerald Rain Demor • Michael McNamara Dickey • Hannah Alexis Dunning • Enxhru Dushku • Cory Michael Dzurik • Anna Carolyn Eames • Bailee Griffin Echols • Charles Harlow Eichler • Anna Leigh Eversman • Braden Michael Eyeran • Alexandra Ruta Fedynsky • Martin Francis Finnegan • Amanda Deanne Fischback • Madeline Marie Fitzsimmons • Oriana Marie Fleming • Mark Jonathan Fletcher-Magda • Julia Ann Flynn • Alexander Artem Foley • Katherine Marie Fox • Ryan Patrick Freeman • David Magdy Gadelsayed • Thomas Price Garibaldi • Taylor Noel Gerrasch • Rachel Marie Gerrick • Matthew William Giorgi • Saida Gjinatori • Morgan Deborah Graham • Christopher Tyler Grant • Henry John Grierson • Elona Halili • Catherine Amanda Hall • Alexander Eric Hallal • Enli Hamzai • Jack Henry Harrington • Nathan William Harris • Xhuljo Harunaj • Anthony Christian Helleis • Robert Howard Hendricks • Kevin Patrick Hervey • Jonathan Christopher Hinson • Jayne Hallett Hoelzer • Sara Anne Holcomb • Kathryn Frances Hoots • Nicholas Michael Horvath • Jenna Adelyn Inks • Meghan Frances Ittu • Kejvi Janku • Emma Nelson Janosik • Matthew Richard Kadlec • Jonathan Nichol Keith • Bennett Jackson Kellogg • Austin Alexander Kelly • William James Kelly • Kathleen Ann Kimble • Terrence Michael Kimble • Jason Edward Koberg • Kaitlin Michele Kocher • Joshua Tyler Kolenick • Alex Victor Konangi • Harry Jayson Konangi • Kyle Jacob Kopechek • Joshua Paul Krampitz • Jillian Barbara Krapf • Martin Kratochvil (Cert. of Attend) • Olivia Katherine Krebs • Anjelica Kucinic • Katarina Kucinic • Emily Erin Kullman • Sierra Marie Kurtz • Megan Elizabeth Kurz • Amy Lam • Suela Ramadan Lamaj • Natalie Ann Lawson • Alexandra Marie Ledel • Abigail Thomas Lekstutis • David Spencer Maximillian Lenahan • Ellen Elizabeth Lesiak • Sarah Michelle Lesiecki • Amanda Marie Lichtenberger • Mallory McNamara Loftus • Kari Marie Lowe • Lucas Alan Lowery • Jason Nabeel Lucarelli II • Sarah Gray Lucas • Mark Calogero Manno • Jacen D. McCreery • Ryan Patrick McCrone • Hallie Marie McCue • Alison Louise McGannon • Samuel Patrick McIntyre • Shannon Elaine McLaughlin • Thomas Melville McNamara, Jr. • Klaudio Merizaj • Cara Larissa Mitchell • Christopher Spencer Moeller • Megan Ann Moore • Lily Marie Naymik • Ethan James Little Wolf Neuhaus • Jacob Patrick Nicholson • Adam Spencer Nickels • Patrick Kilbane O'Brien • Mary Ellen Orr • Robert William Osborn III • Brendan Connor Palker • Nikolina Ann Paulic • Andrew Joseph Paulin • Robert Clark Perez • Isabella Perry-Moore • Cassidy Kendall Pescatrice • Ellie Nina Peterson • Michael S. Poe • Lene Kristin Query • Hailey June Rafter • Nicholas Glenn Reynolds • Lauren Teresa Rhinehalt • Angelina Tatiana Eleni Rokakis • Ashley Marie Ruebensaal - Sinatra • Madeline Grace Russell • Tess Gabriella Ryan • Samira Abdulhamid Saab • Colleen Marie Saker • Hiba Samaan • Zephaniah Ashtalon Khan Sawyer • Alex Edward Schade • Anita Louise Schulz • Natalie Rose Schulz • Julia Marie Seifert • Samuel Richard Sheehan • Enea Shelgu • Lauren Marie Shirley • Bradley William Silvis • Lauren Kimberly Simon • Jesse Leeburn Singler • Adam Warren Smith • Tristan Conrad Smith • Kali Alexandra Snyder • Jared Matthew Sparks • Eric Michael Sperli • Claire Ellen Stemen • Ryan Stewart • Tyler Jenkins Stohr • Haley Jane Stone • Anne Miller Swartz • Ihsaan Elias Tayeh • Alec Scott Temes • Kevin To • Gabriel Paul Valencia • Jessica Nichole Valore • Scott Michael Vining • Asmaa Kamal Wadi • Christopher Jordan Wentling • Brent Mason Wilhelmy • Blake Christopher Williams • Ryan Matthew Williams • Tyler David Wodzisz • Jordan Christopher Wooley • Sarah Maria Yannie • Ashley Frances Zucker

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Class of 2013 earned in excess of \$8.6 million in scholarships to help them pursue college and university degrees.

- The **Rocky River High School Alumni Association** awarded scholarships to Katelyn Connelly, Christopher Grant and Caitlin Cox.
- The **Danny Scherry Memorial Scholarship** was awarded to Lucas Lowery.
- Cara Mitchell and Julia Seifert were awarded scholarships by the **Rocky River Teachers Association**.
- The **Ohio Association of Public School Employees #381** awarded scholarships to Klaudio Merizaj and Tyler Wodzisz.
- The **Rocky River Middle School September 11th Memorial Fund** presented Samuel Sheehan with a \$500 scholarship.
- Megan Kurz was the recipient of the **Medical Mutual of Ohio Scholarship**.
- Harry Konangi and Alec Temes are **National Merit Finalists**.
- Ian Adams, Lydia Bednarski, Allison Beer, Madison Connelly, Anna Eames, Anna Eversman, Alexandra Fedynsky, Robert Hendricks, Olivia Krebs and Zephaniah Sawyer are **National Merit Scholarship Corporation Commended Students**.
- Allison Beer, William Spallino and Alec Temes received **Perfect Scores on the ACT**.

For a complete list of awards, go to: http://www.rrcs.org/rockyriverhighschool_home.aspx



Rocky River Education Foundation Scholarship Program

Ian Adams, Aaron Blosssey, Megan Bobbitt, Keelan Boettcher, Brendan Cain, Emese Chmielewski, Madison Connelly, Madelyn Cook, Anna Eames, Bailee Echols, Alexandra Fedynsky, Madeline Fitzsimmons, Henry Grierson, Catherine Hall, Nathan Harris, Robert Hendricks, Jenna Inks, Emma Janosik, Matthew Kadlec, Olivia Krebs, Katarina Kucinic, Anjelica Kucinic, Amy Lam, Suela Lamaj, Natalie Lawson, David Lenahan, Sarah Lesiecki, Hallie McCue, Christopher Moeller, Adam Nickels, Eric Sperli, Claire Stemen, Alec Temes, Kevin To, Gabriel Valencia, Mason Wilhelmy, Sarah Yannic



Hall of Fame Inductees

Harry Konangi and Alec Temes: National Merit Finalists
Madison Connelly: All-Ohio Girls' Cross Country-Academic All-Ohio



Hall of Fame Inductees

Aaron Blosssey, Bennett Kellogg, Michael Poe, Michael Dickey, Robert Perez and (Not pictured: Tyler Daugstrup and Michael Henry): All-Ohio Boys' Lacrosse (2012)
Hallie McCue: All-Ohio Swimming & Diving

AND AWARDS



Awards of Distinction

Madelyn Cook and Robert Hendricks: *"Best It Can Be" Award*
Brendan Cain: *Distinguished Service Award*
Lauren Rhinehalt and Madeline Fitzsimmons: *Principal's Leadership Award*
Anna Eversman: *All-Ohio Academic Team Recognition*



Medical Mutual Scholarship

Megan Kurz is presented the Medical Mutual Scholarship by RRHS Athletic Director Mark Wagner.



Scholarship Recipients

Klaudio Merizaj, Tyler Wodzisz, Marisa Arancibia, Lydia Bednarski, Anna Eames, and Austin Cioce



Athletic Recognition

Blake Williams: *OHSAA State Farm Insurance Scholar/Athlete Award*
Anne Swartz: *"Goody" Marcks Sportsmanship Award*
Jacob Nicholson: *NFHS/OHSAA State Award for Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity*
Anna Eversman: *OHSAA Courageous Student Award*



Meta Kramer Scholarship

Sierra Kurtz, Kathleen Kimble, Kali Snyder and Jonathan Hinson

Any errors or omissions are unintentional.



Rocky River Education Foundation Funds \$43K in Scholarships

Rock River Education Foundation's mission is to further enhance the quality of the educational experience of Rocky River students. We accomplish this mission by funding grants primarily from teachers and student groups and administering individually designated scholarship funds awarded to Rocky River High School graduating seniors. RREF is directed by a volunteer Board of Trustees consisting of parents, teachers and community leaders.

RREF helps the students and teachers of the Rocky River Schools acquire the necessary tools and experiences to adapt to the ever-changing landscape of education. From iPads to SMART Boards, a visit from a published author or a Model United Nations conference, RREF works with Rocky River's schools and community to support the educational vision of its students and teachers.

Since its inception in 1984, RREF has awarded nearly \$500,000 in grant funds and over \$500,000 in scholarship funds.

This spring RREF funded \$43,000 in scholarships to graduating RRHS seniors. This amount includes thirty-eight individual scholarships.

In addition, RREF funded just under \$35,000 in grants to teachers during the 2012-2013 school year, supporting departments ranging from science and Spanish, to special education and music. RREF is also proudly sponsoring a visit from James L. Swanson, author of *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*, who will address both RRHS students and the Rocky River community this October.

RREF's largest fundraiser, its annual dinner/auction, will be held Saturday, March 22, 2014, at Westwood Country Club.

For information about this event or for information on how to support RREF's mission, visit www.rredfoundation.org.

A Message from the Rocky River Campus Foundation

On behalf of the Rocky River Campus Foundation Inc., we would like to thank everyone who has participated in the paver project to be installed at the new/old Wagar and Detroit entrance. It has been a huge success as we are nearly sold out! Contributions have come in from all over the country and span nearly a century from a Class of 1941 graduate to a future Class of 2029 graduate.

However, this is just the first of many things we want to accomplish. The mission of the Campus Foundation is to enhance/enrich the campus setting of ALL Rocky River City School District buildings, not just the High School. The High School is the first project with all of the major renovations and additions. We have sold several naming rights to various landscaping plots around the High School but we still have more available at various price points. If you would like to contribute a lesser amount, we will also be planting numerous trees throughout the campus.

The Campus Foundation also plans to continue on in perpetuity. We will be paying for maintenance of the beds, sprinkler systems, fall clean up, etc. We urge you to consider naming the Rocky River Campus Foundation, Inc. for a small portion in your estate planning.

To those that have purchased pavers, we thank you! We also encourage you to give more. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact one of the Board Members listed below.

David W. Furry (440) 333-8118

dfurry@northernitle.com

Rob Jurs (440) 953-1567

rjurs@ggengineers.com

Gregg Mylett (216) 325-0407

gmylett@corporateunited.com



Rocky River Middle School Principal's Award Reception

The following students were recognized in June for having earned straight As on their report cards for seven or more quarters during their three years in middle school: Thomas Anderton, Nicole Auvil, Laura Banks, Martina Blazevic, Anna Brandt, Allison Brugh, Margo Bush, Kaumin Chen, Aleksandra Dunjic, Andrew Gluntz, Briar Golladay, Grace Janosik, William Kelly, Madison Kearns, Brennen Kneubel, Aaron Kosmerl, Madeline Liberatore, Olivia Loparo, Sophie Manoloff, Hannah Mazzei, Nora McKeown, Katharine Mediate, Alison Murphy, Emily Naeem, Audrey Peters, Dimitri Simcox, Kimberly Taylor, Anna Vergon, Maeve Walsh, Siwei Wang, Dana Way, Jessica Zelinski, Victoria Zelinski and Matthew Zenko.

National Lincoln Exhibit Makes Stop at RRHS

A major traveling exhibit is making a stop at the Rocky River High School library in October. The exhibit, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, focuses on the way Abraham Lincoln experienced the Civil War and what it meant for his governance of our country.

While the exhibit is stopping at locations all over the country, the Rocky River High School library is one of only two high school libraries to host it. The exhibit opened in 2009, and the rest of the sites have been public libraries, academic libraries, or historical societies.

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War was organized by the National Constitution Center (in Philadelphia) in partnership with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. Support came in the form of a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Lincoln: the Constitution and the Civil War is based on an exhibition of the same name developed by the National Constitution Center.

The large-scale, visual exhibit is divided into three pods: Secession, Slavery, and Dissent. Each pod explores the questions the Civil War raised in relation to the Constitution. So the Dissent pod, for example, examines what the Constitution has to say about civil liberties, like free press and habeas corpus, and the ways those liberties were challenged during the Civil War.

The media center staff at RRHS has teamed up with Rocky River Public Library, Rocky River Historical Society, and the Rocky River Education Foundation to provide programming for the exhibit. In addition, the historical societies of Fairview Park, Lakewood, West Park and Western Reserve are involved.

A TRAVELING EXHIBITION TO AMERICAN LIBRARIES

LINCOLN

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CIVIL WAR

With the election of Abraham Lincoln as the nation's 16th president in 1860,

AMERICA faced
its greatest
CONSTITUTIONAL
TEST.

Funded by
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Presented by
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER ALA American Library Association

DIVIDED *Are We A Single Nation?*

BOUND *Can Slavery Be Uprooted?*

DISSENT *Must Civil Liberties Give Way?*

Information about activities and events for the community will be available in August on the Rocky River City School District website: www.rrcs.org.

LINCOLN: THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CIVIL WAR

OPENING PROGRAM FOR THE COMMUNITY

10/8/13 from 7:00-9:00 PM
Rocky River High School



ECRWSS Local Residential Customer

Rocky River Board of Education

1st row: Jon Fancher (President) and Jean A. Rounds (Vice President)
2nd row: Scott Swartz, Kathleen Goepfert and Jay Milano

Important Dates 2013-2014

August 22/23.....New Teacher Orientation	January 6.....School Resumes
August 26.....Teacher Professional Day	January 20.....Martin Luther King Day
August 27.....First Day of School	January 27.....Teacher Record Day
September 2.....Labor Day	February 17.....Presidents' Day
September 3.....First Day of Preschool	April 18.....Spring Vacation Begins
October 18.....NEOEA Day	April 28.....School Resumes
November 14.....Parent Conference Day	May 26.....Memorial Day
November 15.....Teacher Professional Day	June 5.....Last Day of Preschool
November 27-29.....Thanksgiving Vacation	June 11.....Last Day of School
December 23.....Winter Vacation Begins	June 12.....Teacher Record Day

Search for Children with Disabilities

The Rocky River School District, along with districts across the state, is participating in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children from birth to age 21 who may have a disability. A disability is a condition such as speech or language impairments, hearing impairments, visual impairments, learning disabilities, behavioral, multiple or severe handicaps, mental retardation, or other health impairments. If you have a concern about a child, please contact the Division of Pupil Services at 356-6006.

Grants

Each year the school district receives federal and state money through several grants. The yearly focus of the district's grant projects is developed with input from parents, staff and community members. If you would like to provide input for Title VI-B, Preschool Children with Disability, and/or Title III, Limited English Proficient, please contact the Division of Pupil Services at 356-6006. If you would like to provide input for Title I, Title II-A Professional Development Program or eTech/Ohio, please contact the Assistant Superintendent at 356-6001.

River Schools Ranked 2nd!

For the second year in a row, the Rocky River City School District is ranked second in Cleveland Magazine's June issue, Rating the Suburbs. Rankings for education are awarded based on the total scores in each category such as national and state test scores, attendance, graduation rate and course offerings. Individual school districts and the Ohio Department of Education 2011-2012 Local Report Card district data files provide the information used.

