

ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
7:00 PM • Thursday, January 20, 2011
Board Room • 21600 Center Ridge Road

AGENDA

*Guests and visitors are requested to sign the Visitors' Register. In accordance with **Bylaw 0169.1: Public Participation at Board Meetings**, those wishing to address the Board are required to complete the **Bylaw 0169.1 Form** and submit it to the Superintendent or President of the Board prior to the start of the meeting. Thank you.*

**Indicates items added to the agenda after 3:00 PM on the Friday prior to the Board Meeting.*

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Resolution to Adopt Agenda

5. Special Recognition

6. Reports

- a. Building Report
- b. Superintendent's Update
 - i. **Recognition of the Board of Education (Exhibit A)**

7. Oral and Written Communications

In accordance with Bylaw 0169.1 Public Participation at Board Meetings, residents, students, staff, and invited guests are welcomed by the President of the Board or the Superintendent to address the Board at this time.

8. Resolution to Approve Minutes of Preceding Meetings

- a. Board of Education Committee Meeting 12.8.10 (SS, KG, JR, JF)
- b. Board of Education Finance Meeting 12.16.10 (SS, KG, JR, JF)
- c. Board of Education Facilities Committee Meeting 12.15.10 (SS, JM, JF)
- d. Board of Education Meeting 12.16.10 (All)

9. Committee and Representative Reports

See "Highlights" of the Committee of the Whole Meeting available in the lobby and at www.rres.org.

- a. **Resolution to Participate in the Ohio Council of the International Reading Association 34th Annual Right to Read Week Celebration for the 2010-2011 school year (Exhibit B)**
- b. **Resolution to Recognize Sixth Annual Family Game Night (Exhibit C)**
- c. **Representative to the Rocky River Education Foundation - Dr. Fancher**
- d. **Representative to the Rocky River Parks and Recreation Commission - Ms. Goepfert**

10. Notification of First Reading of New and Revised Policies

Program

- Policy 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity
- Policy 2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability

Policy 2280 Preschool Program
 Policy 2370 Educational Options

Professional Staff

Policy 3122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
 Policy 3430.03 Call to Active Duty Leave

Classified Staff

Policy 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
 Policy 4430.03 Call to Active Duty Leave

Students

Policy 5111.01 Homeless Students
 Policy 5111.02 Educational Opportunity for Military Children
 Policy 5460 Graduation Requirements
 Policy 5517.01 Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior

Operations

Policy 8450 Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases

Relations

Policy 9160 Public Attendance at School Events

11. Treasurer's Report

- a. **Resolution to Approve Financial Statement and Intrafund Transfers for General Accounting – December, 2010 in the amount of \$38,515.34 ([Exhibit D](#))**
- b. **Resolution to Amend Appropriation for all funds as of December, 2010 in the amount of \$46,632,173 ([Exhibit E](#))**

12. Superintendent's Report

a. Resolution to Approve Retirements and Resignations

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Retirements:		
Cindy Bacon	Teacher	6/9/11
G. Michael Foley	Teacher	6/30/11
Elizabeth Heil	Teacher	6/9/11
Barbara McGrath	Teacher	6/30/11
Cathy Moore	Teacher	6/9/11
Catherine Voitlein	Teacher	6/30/11
Lynn Hower	Executive Secretary	7/31/11
Resignations:		
Colleen Arends	Transportation Aide	1/21/11

b. Resolution to Approve Appointments¹

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Classification</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>
Sarah Clare ²	PLUS Activity, MS Spring Theatre	Winter 10/11	\$1,044
Andrew DeCrane ²	Soccer, Asst., H.S.	Fall 10/11	\$3,950
Bill Dimateo ²	Baseball, H.S. Volunteer	Spring 10/11	0

Matthew England	PLUS Activity, Technology Club, M.S.	Winter 10/11	\$522
Joyce Lampp	Tutor-Home Instruction	2010/11	P.R. E, 1
Kim Lenahan ²	Fencing Club, Volunteer	Winter 10/11	0
Mike Moracz ²	Baseball, Asst., H.S.	Spring 10/11	\$3,447
Amanda Porter	Substitute Teacher	2010/11	\$75.00/day
Erik Pupillo	Substitute Teacher	2010/11	\$75.00/day
Kasey Rosendahl ²	Baseball, Asst., H.S.	Spring 10/11	\$3,447
Darryl Sanders ²	Baseball, Head, H.S.	Spring 10/11	\$6,660

1. *Employment conditional upon receipt of a negative drug test screening & a satisfactory criminal reference check.*
2. *No certified employees expressed an interest in these positions which are being filled by qualified individuals.*

c. Resolution to Approve Adjustments in Salary and Rate of Pay

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Adjusted Rate of Pay</u>
Dana Judson	additional semester hours	1/21/11	BA+9, Step 2
Melissa Liberatore	additional semester hours	1/21/11	MA+18, Step 3 (.75)
Jennifer Norman	additional semester hours	1/21/11	MA+45, Step 8
Jeff Smith	degree change	1/21/11	MA, Step 17

f. Resolution to Approve Appointment of Administrative Assistant for Construction Services

BE IT RESOLVED that, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District hereby employs Lynn Hower as the Administrative Assistant for Construction Services (.45 F.T.E.) effective August 1, 2011 at an annual salary of \$23,456 together with the employment benefits contained in the Personnel Practices for Executive Secretaries Handbook of the Rocky River City School District.

g. Resolution to Seek Delay of the Requirement to Provide All-Day, Every-Day Kindergarten for all Kindergarten Students for State Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 ([Exhibit F](#))

h. Resolution to Accept Design Development Documents for Kensington Elementary School and Rocky River High School ([Exhibit G](#))

i. Resolution to Revise Course Catalog ([Exhibit H](#))

j. Resolution to Authorize the Solicitation of Competitive Bids for Technology Systems for the Beach School Renovation ([Exhibit I](#))

k. Resolution to Accept Gifts to Schools

- Cuyahoga County Mayors' Secretaries & Assistants: A donation in the amount of \$300.00 to be used by RRHS River's Edge.
- Normandy Manor: A donation in the amount of \$50.00 to be used by RRHS River's Edge.
- Shirley Friend: A donation in the amount of \$10.00 to be used by RRHS Football and Wrestling Teams.
- OfficeMax: A donation to Goldwood of miscellaneous school supplies in connection with "A Day Made Better" national event.
- Target Grant: A donation in the amount of \$700.00 to be used for the Science River Field Trip.

- vi. Anonymous: A donation in the amount of \$40.00 for the Rocky River Angel Fund.
- vii. Anonymous: A donation in the amount of \$100.00 for the Rocky River Angel Fund.
- viii. Anonymous: A donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the Rocky River Angel Fund.
- ix. Anonymous: A donation in the amount of \$25.00 for the Rocky River Angel Fund.
- x. Anonymous: A donation of eight \$25.00 gift certificates to Honey Baked Ham, total value of \$200.00 for the Rocky River Angel Fund.

13. Other Business

a. Other

b. Resolution to Adjourn

RECOGNITION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Ohio School Board Association and the governor of Ohio have proclaimed January as School Board Recognition Month; and

The mission of the Rocky River City School District is: Globally Competitive • Exceptional Opportunities • Caring Environment • Successful Students; and

The Rocky River Board of Education sets the direction for the community's public schools by envisioning the community's education future; and

The school board sets policies and procedures to govern all aspects of the school district's operation while keeping attention focused on progress toward district goals and objectives; and

The school board serves a vital role in helping to maintain two-way communications with family, school and community; and

Serving on a school board requires an unselfish devotion of time and service to carry on the mission and business of the school district; and

The school board must respond on behalf of the community to the education needs of all students;

Thus our special thanks to the Rocky River Board of Education members Jon Fancher, Kathleen Goepfert, Jay Milano, Jean Rounds and Scott Swartz for their tireless dedication to the students and staff of the Rocky River School District.

**RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO COUNCIL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION 34TH
ANNUAL RIGHT TO READ WEEK CELEBRATION FOR THE
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, The Ohio Council of the International Reading Association, in cooperation with the Department of Education, OSBA and other education associations, is encouraging all schools to participate in Ohio's Right to Read Celebration;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District that the Rocky River City Schools participate in the Right to Read Celebration during the 2010-2011 school year.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE SIXTH ANNUAL FAMILY GAME WEEK

WHEREAS, the Rocky River Community Coalition for Youth Asset Development has announced the 6th annual Family Game Week will be held from February 6–12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition is encouraging families to unplug televisions, computers, video games and stereos and spend time together playing games and having fun as a family; and

WHEREAS, Family Game Night kicks off an entire week from February 6-12 when families are encouraged to spend time together; and

WHEREAS, Family Game Night and Week has been endorsed by community schools, churches, local organizations and merchants; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition is working in conjunction with Recovery Resources/ Community Challenge's vision of providing leadership and action to reduce youth substance abuse by supporting fun, safe and healthy activities for youth, adolescents and families in Rocky River;

WHEREAS, Carol Calladine, director of the Rocky River Senior Center is putting together a Youth/Senior Interactive Game event at the Senior Center on Saturday, February 5, from 11 AM to 1 PM to help kick off Family Game Week.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Rocky River Board of Education that February 6-12, 2011 be recognized as Family Game Week and that the Coalition be recognized for their efforts on behalf of the community.

ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOLS
 Financial Report by Fund
 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2010

Begin Balance	MTD Receipts	FYTD Receipts	MTD Expenditures	FYTD Expenditures	Current Fund Balance	Current Encumbrances	Unencumbered Fund Balance
TOTAL FOR Fund 001 - GENERAL:							
1,229,077.78	115,197.02	15,085,395.50	2,312,894.15	14,785,823.78	1,528,649.50	1,356,826.04	171,823.46
TOTAL FOR Fund 002 - BOND RETIREMENT:							
4,230,767.98	0.00	1,484,020.52	0.00	2,774,391.80	2,940,396.70	0.00	2,940,396.70
TOTAL FOR Fund 003 - PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT:							
60,474.96	12,955.11	77,764.38	15,804.57	156,727.49	18,488.15-	40,040.44	58,528.59-
TOTAL FOR Fund 004 - BUILDING:							
121.00	5,717.11	43,448,459.48	253,854.11	1,343,805.12	42,104,775.36	4,140,710.00	37,964,065.36
TOTAL FOR Fund 006 - FOOD SERVICE:							
99,356.76	33,997.58	187,424.01	42,619.40	194,308.50	92,472.27	70,892.23	21,580.04
TOTAL FOR Fund 007 - SPECIAL TRUST:							
77,811.12	3,022.63	6,032.19	406.99	34,776.29	49,067.02	0.00	49,067.02
TOTAL FOR Fund 009 - UNIFORM SCHOOL SUPPLIES:							
17,787.70	1,382.00	24,184.18	0.00	23,863.94	18,107.94	1,325.00	16,782.94
TOTAL FOR Fund 011 - ROTARY-SPECIAL SERVICES:							
169,277.85	12,264.66	198,595.09	12,296.77	194,339.57	173,533.37	39,285.82	134,247.55
TOTAL FOR Fund 018 - PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT:							
77,692.36	3,998.39	40,560.92	6,940.82	27,485.20	90,768.08	25,070.99	65,697.09
TOTAL FOR Fund 019 - OTHER GRANT:							
11,229.59	1,100.00	14,811.78	6,074.62	6,114.30	19,927.07	5,034.11	14,892.96
TOTAL FOR Fund 024 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SELF INS.:							
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 200 - STUDENT MANAGED ACTIVITY:							
115,269.42	13,526.38	73,427.18	7,373.32	52,509.19	136,187.41	33,333.69	102,853.72
TOTAL FOR Fund 300 - DISTRICT MANAGED ACTIVITY:							
5,860.89	39,873.60	184,218.37	58,254.78	220,903.30	30,824.04-	92,051.37	122,875.41-
TOTAL FOR Fund 401 - AUXILIARY SERVICES:							
149,754.82	161.47	701,892.60	13,655.62	309,788.77	541,858.65	122,146.33	419,712.32
TOTAL FOR Fund 432 - MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM							
4,247.07	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	4,261.75	985.32	0.00	985.32
TOTAL FOR Fund 440 - ENTRY YEAR PROGRAMS:							
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOLS
 Financial Report by Fund
 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2010

Begin Balance	MTD Receipts	FYTD Receipts	MTD Expenditures	FYTD Expenditures	Current Fund Balance	Current Encumbrances	Unencumbered Fund Balance	
TOTAL FOR Fund 450 - SCHOOLNET EQUIP/INFRASTRUCTUR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL FOR Fund 451 - DATA COMMUNICATION FUND:	5,145.30	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	5,145.30	0.00	5,145.30
TOTAL FOR Fund 452 - SCHOOLNET PROFESS. DEVELOPMEN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 459 - OHIO READS:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 499 - MISCELLANEOUS STATE GRANT FUN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 516 - IDEA PART B GRANTS:	88,084.20-	100,959.28	504,821.39	121,836.55	466,167.23	49,430.04-	307,967.48	357,397.52-
TOTAL FOR Fund 532 - FISCAL STABILIZATION FUND:	6,331.76	7,599.26	45,595.56	7,953.67	37,963.55	13,963.77	0.00	13,963.77
TOTAL FOR Fund 551 - LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY:	35.37	1,300.00	5,796.80	1,512.08	6,021.08	188.91-	347.62	536.53-
TOTAL FOR Fund 572 - TITLE I DISADVANTAGED CHILDRE	22,183.40	34,201.38	118,501.09	25,004.25	139,312.53	1,371.96	3,584.96	2,213.00-
TOTAL FOR Fund 573 - TITLE V INNOVATIVE EDUC PGM:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 584 - DRUG FREE SCHOOL GRANT FUND:	0.00	913.67	913.67	913.67	913.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FOR Fund 587 - IDEA PRESCHOOL-HANDICAPPED:	4,257.17-	1,902.57-	14,257.17	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	14,773.96	14,773.96-
TOTAL FOR Fund 590 - IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY:	9,102.01	15,308.81	28,798.03	16,368.10	53,746.94	15,846.90-	13,608.97	29,455.87-
TOTAL FOR Fund 599 - MISCELLANEOUS FED. GRANT FUND	0.00	138.26	345.78	0.00	580.36	234.58-	0.00	234.58-
GRAND TOTALS:	6,199,185.77	401,714.04	62,250,815.69	2,913,763.47	20,847,804.36	47,602,197.10	6,266,999.01	41,335,198.09

Rocky River City School District
 Appropriation Summary as of December 31, 2010 - All Funds
 With Certified Resources For FY 2011 To Date

Fund Name	USAS Fund No.	Budget as of 11/30/10	Net Changes Dec 2010	Revised Budget as of 12/31/10	P/Y Encumbrances	Total Expendable as of 12/31/10	Certificate of Estimated Resources - Amendment #8	Resources Over/(Under) Revised Budget	Add/(Reduce) Amount of "Other Sources" on Amendment #8	Revised Est. Resources Amendment #9
General Fund	001	\$31,965,246	\$0	\$31,965,246	\$378,593	\$32,343,839	\$33,102,026	\$1,136,779		\$33,102,026
Bond Retirement	002	3,787,941	930,550	4,718,491	-	4,718,491	7,894,692	3,176,201		7,894,692
Permanent Improvement	003	200,516	0	200,516	45	200,561	216,092	15,575		216,092
Building	004	5,714,330	0	5,714,330	-	5,714,330	43,184,144	37,469,814		43,184,144
Food Service	006	488,833	0	488,833	423	489,256	592,784	103,951		592,784
Trust - Band Uniform Fund	007-9007	20,000	0	20,000	-	20,000	35,751	15,751		35,751
Trust - Scholarship	007-9008	30,000	0	30,000	-	30,000	43,017	13,017		43,017
Trust - Unclaimed Funds	007-9009	500	0	500	-	500	13,327	12,827		13,327
Trust - Rocky River Angel Fund	007-9907	2,000	0	2,000	-	2,000	6,975	4,975		6,975
Trust - Rocky River Angel Fund - Goldwood	007-9908	500	0	500	-	500	1,054	554		1,054
Trust - Technology Improvement Fund	007-9909	-	0	-	-	-	216	216		216
Trust - Herb Score Memorial Fund	007-9910	14,500	0	14,500	-	14,500	14,500	0		14,500
Uniform School Supply	009	25,050	0	25,050	-	25,050	44,838	19,788		44,838
Rotary Funds	011	272,666	0	272,666	10,546	283,212	393,907	121,241		393,907
School Support Funds	018	81,000	2,525	83,525	4,261	87,786	153,432	69,907		153,432
Private Source Grants	019	24,224	1,100	25,324	406	25,729	24,636	(688)	1,000	25,636
Self-Insurance Fund	024	-	0	-	-	-	-	0		-
Student Activities	200	192,660	0	192,660	20,150	212,810	286,822	94,162		286,822
Athletic and Co-Curricular	300	312,314	0	312,314	3,935	316,249	330,937	18,624		330,937
<i>State Grants:</i>										
Auxiliary Services (Private Schools)	401	852,483	1,781	854,264	28,256	882,520	1,412,025	557,760		1,412,025
EMIS	432	7,000	0	7,000	3,054	10,054	8,193	1,193		8,193
Entry Year Programs	440	-	0	-	-	-	-	0		-
Data Communications	451	4,000	0	4,000	4,000	8,000	5,145	1,145		5,145
School Net - Professional Dev.	452	-	0	-	-	-	-	0		-
Misc State Grants	499	-	0	-	-	-	-	0		-
<i>Federal Grants:</i>										
IDEA-B	516	1,214,807	0	1,214,807	46,457	1,261,264	1,214,807	0		1,214,807
School District Fiscal Stabilization	532	91,122	0	91,122	-	91,122	91,122	0		91,122
Title III - Limited English Proficiency	551	13,759	0	13,759	-	13,759	13,759	0		13,759
Title I	572	277,836	0	277,836	2,550	280,386	277,836	0		277,836
Title V	573	-	0	-	-	-	-	0		-
Drug-Free Schools	584	914	0	914	-	914	914	0		914
Preschool - Special Education	587	24,774	0	24,774	-	24,774	24,774	0		24,774
Title II-A	590	76,548	0	76,548	3,452	80,000	76,548	0		76,548
Misc. Federal Grants	599	693	0	693	-	693	693	0		693
Total All Funds		\$45,696,217	\$935,956	\$46,632,173	\$506,126	\$47,138,299	\$89,464,966	\$42,832,793	\$1,000	\$89,465,966

Amended appropriation passed at the 1/20/10 meeting of the Rocky River Board of Education
 Amended Certificate has been or will be requested from the County Budget Commission

**Resolution to Seek Delay of the Requirement to Provide All-Day, Every-Day Kindergarten
for all Kindergarten Students for State Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013**

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District sought and received a waiver from the Ohio Department of Education from the requirement to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten for state fiscal year 2011; and

WHEREAS the Rocky River City School District continues to suffer from substantial classroom space constraints that will not permit it to meet the obligation to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten for all kindergarten students under Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05 for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013 without undue hardship; and

WHEREAS the Rocky River City School District would need to add additional classroom space to meet the obligation to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten for all kindergarten students under Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05 for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013; and

WHEREAS the Rocky River City School District suffers from substantial financial constraints that will not permit it to meet obligation to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten for all kindergarten students under Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05 for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013 without undue hardship; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education requested the Superintendent of the Rocky River City School to develop a feasible plan to meet the obligation to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten under Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05 for state fiscal year 2014; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby determines that the Rocky River City School District suffers from substantial classroom space and financial constraints that will not permit it to provide all-day, every-day kindergarten for all kindergarten students under Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05 for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013 without undue hardship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby requests the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a waiver to delay the implementation of the Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05's all-day kindergarten requirement for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of the Rocky River City School District to file an immediate application with the Superintendent of Public Instruction seeking a waiver to delay the implementation of the

Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.05's all-day kindergarten requirement for state fiscal years 2012 and 2013 and to take such other actions as are necessary to implement the Board of Education's stated purposes as set forth in this Resolution.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DESIGN DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS FOR ROCKY RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the architect, Burt Hill, Inc., prepared and provided to the Board of Education the Design Development Documents for portions of the Rocky River City School District's Facilities Improvement Project relating to Rocky River High School dated December 17, 2010 ("Design Development Documents"); and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the Design Development Documents, Project and Construction Services, Inc. determined that the construction costs associated with the Design Development Documents do not exceed the Board-approved budget for portions of the Rocky River City School District's Facilities Improvement Project relating to Rocky River High School; further determined that the Design Development Documents are consistent with the Board-approved schedule for the subject portions of Project; and provided written notice of same to the Board of Education in a letter dated January 12 2011; and

WHEREAS, based upon the representations made by Burt Hill, Inc. and Project and Construction Services, Inc. with regard to this matter, the Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the Design Development Documents for portions of the Rocky River City School District's Facilities Improvement Project relating to Rocky River High School dated December 17, 2010 as sufficient and authorize the commencement of the Construction Documents phase of Burt Hill, Inc.'s services relating to Rocky River High School, pursuant to its agreement with the Board of Education.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Design Development Documents for portions of the Rocky River City School District's Facilities Improvement Project relating to Rocky River High School dated December 17, 2010 as sufficient and authorizes the immediate commencement of Construction Document phase of Burt Hill, Inc.'s services relating to Rocky River High School, pursuant to its agreement with the Board of Education.

RRMS COURSE CATALOG

2011-2012



ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ROCKY RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

1631 Lakeview Avenue
Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Mr. Samuel L. Gifford
Principal

Ms. Gweynn Hampel
Assistant Principal

Administration Office
(440) 356-6870

Ms. Peg Liberatore
Guidance Counselor

Guidance Office
(440) 356-6875



INTRODUCTION

This Course Catalog presents the course offerings that serve as the basis of the educational program of Rocky River Middle School. Courses and programs are designed to assist the middle school student to attain academic excellence, to provide a framework for emotional growth, and to provide opportunities for the development of positive social relationships. All programs and courses are a continuation of work completed in Grades K-5, and will provide skills necessary for success at the middle school.

During the registration process, the students and parents will receive information from teachers and counselors that will help them make realistic course selections. The student's past achievement record should be used to influence decisions. Parents will finalize the course selection process by signing the scheduling card.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The student day begins at 8:15 a.m. and concludes at 3:18 p.m. All students will be scheduled for nineteen twenty-minute mods (periods) of instruction including lunch. Sixth grade students are scheduled for three mods of instruction in mathematics, science, social studies, and language arts (60 minutes). Seventh and eighth grade students will be scheduled for three mods of instruction in mathematics and English (60 minutes). All other classes will be scheduled for two mods (40 minutes) and one mod will be scheduled for lunch (20 minutes).

THE HOUSE PLAN ORGANIZATION

Rocky River Middle School is organized under a Team Plan. This arrangement creates a school within-a-school in which the total enrollment is divided into smaller units for instructional purposes. The Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Learning Resources, and Unified Arts Houses are each under the leadership of a Co-coordinator of Instruction who assumes daily educational and administrative responsibilities. The Sixth Grade Team consists of two academic teams with honors, regular education and special education classes taught to students on both teams.

The academic teachers of each team have a common planning time each day to permit them to meet, plan and coordinate the activities for the instructional program. The frequent communication afforded by the Team Plan also enables staff to identify student academic and behavioral problems at the earliest possible time and to devise strategies for resolving the problems. The principal, assistant principal, counselor, LRS Coordinator, psychologist, and other support personnel frequently participate in team meetings.

The House Plan recognizes the student as an individual and provides a unit within which the student can have a sense of belonging. In addition, the plan provides a transitional step for students as they progress from the classroom at the elementary school to the larger unit plan and departmentalized classrooms at the high school.

PLANNING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Even though High School graduation is a few years away, students need to be aware that graduation is dependent on requirements set forth by the Ohio Revised Code and the Rocky River Board of Education. Requirements currently include meeting the Ohio Graduation Test requirement and completing twenty-one (21) units of credit with a designated number of credits for each content area.

PLANNING FOR HIGH SCHOOL *(Continued)*

REQUIRED COURSES AT ROCKY RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

Graduating Classes: 2014 and Beyond

Course	Credit	Requirement
English	4	English 9, 10, 11, 12
Mathematics	4	Must include Algebra II
Science	3	* See Below
Health & Fitness	1	.5 Health and .5 Fitness (Each Fitness semester is .25)
Social Studies	3	World History, US History and US Government and Contemporary Issues
Required Electives	1	One or two half units of credit of Business Technology, Fine Arts and/or Foreign Language
Additional Electives	5	
TOTAL CREDITS	21	

*Science credits must include 1 credit of physical sciences, 1 credit of life sciences and 1 credit of advanced study in one more of the following sciences: chemistry, physics, or other physical science; advanced biology or other life science; or other earth or space science.

All students must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy during grades 10-12 and must complete at least two semesters of fine arts any time in grades 7-12. Students following a career-technical pathway are exempted from the fine arts requirement.

Note: Algebra and Foreign Language taught at the Middle School by a secondary certified teacher will be counted toward graduation.

At least five classes each semester must be scheduled.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

All students must enroll in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Reading or a World Language, Health/Fitness Education, and Unified Arts. World language students successfully completing the curriculum in a language should enroll in the second-year course in the ninth grade and thereby are able to complete a five-year program prior to graduation from high school. Unified Arts courses are: Art (6,7,8), Computer Technology (6), Exploring Technology (7), Technology Education (8) Elements of Music (6), Music Literature (8) and Career Readiness (7,8). Each is taught as a nine-week course. The student fees collected in the Fall are used to partially defray the cost of supplies and materials used in these classes.

LEARNING RESOURCE SERVICES

Services for all students are generally provided in the classroom so that the assistance can be directly related to instructional content covered by the classroom teacher.

Methods of delivering these services include tutorial, small-group academic coaching, team teaching, consultation, or enrichment. Also, LRS math and English courses are offered for special education students when recommended by the IEP team. These classes are based on the regular adopted courses of study with modifications according to individual needs.

A student may receive additional services based on individual needs. However, for more specific information concerning referral and eligibility for Special Education, refer to the Comprehensive Plan for Special Education Programs and Services. Copies are available in the school office or the Division of Learning Resource Services.

GIFTED/HONORS OPTIONS

Honors courses are offered to students identified as Gifted and to students who have demonstrated superior performance in the subject both in the classroom and on standardized tests and who are motivated to study. Program options include:

- Honors courses in Language Arts, and Mathematics at the 6th grade level.
- Honors courses in English and Mathematics at the 7th grade level.
- Honors courses in Science, Mathematics and English at the 8th grade level.

Placement in an honors course at the Middle School is a decision that needs to be made in the best interests of each child and based upon a variety of information and data. Some of this information is objective in nature and can easily be identified. Other information is more subjective and is generated based upon a teacher's perception for potential success given the amount and quality of student work observed in class.

Before determining placement into honors classes, the Kensington staff (for placement in classes for grade six) and the Middle School staff (for placement in classes for grades seven, eight, and nine) examine a number of criteria judged to be indicators of potential success in an honors course. Each child is evaluated according to the indicators listed below and recommendations are made.

1. Terra Nova test scores.
2. Consistent high passing scores on Ohio Achievements Assessments.
3. Strong understanding of how to identify nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs (Language Arts).
4. Strong organizational skills in writing and speaking.
5. Articulates ideas clearly in writing and speaking.
6. Effective speaking including strong vocabulary use.
7. Demonstrates skill in the application of math facts (Math).
8. High ability score.
9. More A's than B's in current Math or Language Arts courses.
10. Teacher recommendation.
- 11. Strong work ethic.**
- 12. Consistently turns in homework assignments and projects on time.**

Perhaps one of the most important indicators for success would be a strong work ethic. If a student does not choose to perform in the classroom and does not consistently complete homework, success in any class will be unlikely. In the eighth grade, a student's final grade in Algebra 1, EPE (8th grade science for high school credit), Spanish 1 or French 1 will be calculated as a high school credit. Dropping one of these classes because of poor performance is discouraged based on scheduling issues.

Placement decisions need to be made based upon the needs of the individual, not because of what may be perceived as a more socially acceptable choice. Please evaluate a student according to the above criteria and make decisions based upon his/her individual abilities and needs.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Guidance is a total school concern and involves administrators, teachers, and specialized staff members who become part of a guidance team. The objective is to know each student personally so that individual needs can be recognized and met.

Parents may call the guidance department (356-6875) for assistance in securing specialized school services such as scheduling parent-teacher conferences, evaluation of learning problems, assistance from the Learning Resource Center, course selection, interpretation of test scores, homebound tutoring during an extended illness, speech and hearing therapy, and referral to community agencies.

The guidance counselor meets with each Team every Tuesday. Parents may request updates on their child's performance by contacting the **guidance counselor**. Please be sure to check Progress Book before making any contacts regarding progress. Sometimes your questions can be answered by checking online.

GRADING

Grades are quantitative statements reflecting a professional judgment of a student's performance. They represent the degree of mastery of the prescribed curriculum of a given content area or course by the student at a given time in his/her educational development. This measurement of a student's performance provides a vehicle for the educator to communicate with not only the parent but also the student. Grades indicate the academic achievement of a student, not the student's ability.

Evaluation must be a daily function so that feedback, both written and verbal, is continual to the students. Grades reflect a student's actual academic performance in class. Parameters will include: assessments, tests, homework, and class participation. Teachers will follow additional guidelines in the appropriate courses of study when calculating and determining a student's grade.

The student will receive grades of A, B, C, D, or F. An "I" grade designates that the work required for the class has not been completed, while an "EX" grade is given when a student has been excused from taking the class. Scholastic grades are interpreted as follows:

A+	=	98% - 100% (or more)	D+	=	67% - 69.9%
A	=	93% - 97.9%	D	=	63% - 66.9%
A-	=	90% - 92.9%	D-	=	60% - 62.9%
B+	=	87% - 89.9%	F	=	00% - 59.9%
B	=	83% - 86.9%	I	=	Incomplete (must be changed within 2 weeks after the grading period ends)
B-	=	80% - 82.9%	P	=	Passing (discretion of teacher with administrative approval)
C+	=	77% - 79.9%	EX	=	Excused from taking the class
C	=	73% - 76.9%			
C-	=	70% - 72.9%			

A "P" passing grade may be used, upon the approval of the principal, for a student demonstrating satisfactory progress for ability, but who has not mastered minimum skills required for earning a grade of "D" or higher in the course.

Interim reports will be mailed home during the fifth week of each quarter for those students performing below expectations or ability. Report cards will be sent home with the students approximately one week after the conclusion of the first three quarters. The fourth quarter report card will be mailed home approximately one week after the last day of school.

Mid-term and final exams are given in those courses, which are equivalent to high school courses (Algebra 1, EPE, Spanish I, French I). These courses will count toward the 21 credits required for graduation from high school. Midterm and final grades are averaged with quarter grades to determine final course grades for the year. **World Language** taken in 8th grade for high school credit may count as

one of the three required years of language needed to earn an honors diploma. Letter grades containing plusses and minuses will be calculated and reported on all transcripts sent to high school.

PROMOTION

A student in the seventh or eighth grade must pass four of the five core academic subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Reading or a World Language) in order to be promoted to the next grade. A student in the sixth grade must pass three of the four core academic subjects (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) in order to be promoted to the next grade. A student may be placed in another grade or be assigned to an alternative schedule or program if it is judged that mitigating factors warrant such action.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Since we are a small school, it is not always easy to make schedule changes after the start of the school year. Before any change to a student-initiated request can be made to drop an elective, the student must:

1. Obtain a drop form from the counselor.
2. Obtain signatures from the parent, teacher, and counselor.

After the first two weeks of school, a student may drop an elective (choir and band) only at the conclusion of each nine-week grading period. The grade earned will be recorded on the report card.

Students scheduled for a **World Language** who choose to drop this class during the school year will be scheduled into a reading class or study hall. After the first quarter, students who drop a World Language, honors class or class for high school credit will have to do so WF (withdrawn failing), which will be noted on their report card.

PLEASE MAKE SURE BEFORE SIGNING UP FOR AN ELECTIVE THAT YOUR CHILD INTENDS TO REMAIN IN THE CLASS FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.

GRADE SIX REQUIRED CURRICULUM

The content of each course is reviewed periodically by the Curriculum Development Committee. Changes in course content and/or title may occur.

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

Course Title: LANGUAGE ARTS 6 (English and Reading)

Length: 1 year

Language units include grammar, spelling, usage, structure, mechanics, and oral presentation. Knowledge of these skills is needed for development of sentences, paragraphs, themes, and speaking skills. This course also promotes developing and continuing independence and widening interest in reading. Reading skills will be enhanced through the use of short stories, novels, and vocabulary enrichment. Comprehension, critical thinking, and reference skills will be emphasized. Independent study is encouraged.

Course Title: HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS (English and Reading)

Length: 1 year

The honors language arts course is offered to students identified as Gifted/Honors. These students have demonstrated superior performance in the subject both in the classroom and on standardized tests and are motivated to study. Study includes language/grammar, vocabulary, speech, literature, and composition. Opportunities for independent study are also provided. Reading skills will be enhanced through the use of short stories, novels and vocabulary enrichment. Comprehension, critical thinking, and reference skills will be emphasized. Independent study is encouraged.

Course Title: SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Length: 1 year

The course is a survey of Eastern and Western Hemisphere countries. Geography, government, citizenship, economics, sociology, and modern history are covered. Emphasis is on developing social studies skills within each area. Cultural areas studied include an emphasis on important people, government, religions, and customs from these regions.

Course Title: MATHEMATICS 6

Length: 1 year

This course emphasizes proficient computation with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, ratios, percentages, and the application of these skills to solving real world problems. Also, included in this course are units designed to extend the students understanding of number sense and operations, geometry, measurements, patterns, algebraic relationships, data analysis and probability.

Course Title: MATHEMATICS 6 HONORS

Length: 1 year

Mathematics 6 Honors is designed for students that have demonstrated superior ability in the subject of mathematics both in the classroom and on standardized tests and are motivated to study. The course will cover the concepts and skills in Mathematics 6. An emphasis is placed on ratios, patterns, data analysis, integers and algebraic relationships. Some basic pre-algebra is introduced to the students.

Course Title: SCIENCE 6

Length: 1 year

Sixth-grade science covers material in earth, physical and life sciences. Content of the course includes observation and problem-solving skills, proper use of science equipment, measurement, chemistry, geology, energy resources, cellular structure, and heredity.

HEALTH/FITNESS EDUCATION

Course Title: HEALTH 6

Length:

4 - 3 week sessions

Health 6 is a basic introductory course in health topics appropriate for sixth-grade students. Content of the course includes human relationships, personal health, nutrition and fitness, safety and first aid, disease, and substance use and abuse.

HEALTH/FITNESS EDUCATION (*Continued*)

Course Title: **FITNESS EDUCATION 6**

Length: 4 - 6 week sessions

Fitness Education 6 is organized to include group games, individual and team sports activities. Motor skill development, lower game skills, and promotion of positive socialization will be the major objectives. The instructional program in sports may include soccer, volleyball, handball/speedball, softball, and tennis. Instruction is also provided in tumbling, physical fitness, dance and group games. Each student is required to have a gym uniform.

UNIFIED ARTS

Unified Arts is a required course for sixth-grade students. A student will be enrolled in each of the following courses: Art, **Elements of Music**, **Computer Technology**, and a 9-week study hall that may be used for skill development. Each year, all Unified Arts courses are under review for possible changes.

Course Title: **ART 6**

Length: 1 quarter

This exploratory course actively involves students in four units of study: drawing, painting, color theory, two-dimensional and three-dimensional design and sculpture. The activities will introduce and reinforce the basic elements of art (line, shape, form, color, space, texture and value) and the principals of design.

Course Title: **ELEMENTS OF MUSIC 6**

Length: 1 quarter

Students will study music through listening, critiquing, reading and performing music. A variety of music from world cultures will be explored in terms of the elements of music-tone color, melody, rhythm, harmony, form and expression.

Course Title: **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 6**

Length: 1 quarter

Computer Technology is a nine-week course that focuses on the understanding and use of computer applications and processes. During this course, students will gain an understanding of the basic parts that make up a computer and how they work together to complete tasks. Students will also be exposed to software that produces documents, spreadsheets, and presentations which they will use to create and present different projects. Students will finish the course by exploring information literacy and how it plays a factor in their studies and everyday lives.

GRADE SIX MUSIC COURSES

Course Title: **BAND 6**

Length: 1 year

The sixth-grade band provides a continuation of the beginning instrumental music program for sixth-grade students who have had at least one-year previous experience or have completed Beginning Band 6. Focus is on the individual development of the fundamental skills and an introduction to large ensemble performance skills. Each student in the Sixth Grade Band will have up to four sectional and full band rehearsals each week with frequency of rehearsals depending on membership in choir and other schedule considerations. Prerequisite is participation in the fifth-grade instrumental music program or audition with the director.

Course Title: **CHOIR 6**

Length: 1 year

This course is a performance class designed to further develop choral skills introduced at the elementary level. Unison and two-part voicing will be the primary focus. Students will receive training in sight singing, proper posture, vowel placement, breath control, diction, pitch-matching, hearing and creating harmony, rhythmic accuracy, basic choreography and other performance techniques. Students will work to develop skills in self-discipline, listening and critiquing of their own performances as well as the performances of others. Students will perform at three major concerts. Each student will have choir 2 or 3 times per week.

Course Title: **BEGINNING BAND-INSTRUMENT 6**

Length: 1 year

This class is designed to provide an opportunity for those students who have had no previous musical experience with a band instrument. It is open to all sixth-grade students. Each student is evaluated individually to determine the student's suitability for the instrument of his/her choice. Focus is on the individual development of the fundamental skills involved in playing a concert band instrument. Each

student will have up to four rehearsals per week. Beginning band is scheduled during the student's regular Unified Arts rotation for the first semester (2 nine weeks). Students in beginning band will be scheduled for nine weeks of art and nine weeks of computer technology in the second semester.

GRADE SEVEN REQUIRED CURRICULUM

The Curriculum Development Committee reviews the content of each course periodically. Any changes in course content and/or title may occur.

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

Course Title: ENGLISH 7

Length: 1 year

English Grade 7 is required for all seventh students. Reading units center on short stories, drama, poetry, articles, graphs, and charts. Language units include grammar and composition, vocabulary, spelling, usage, and mechanics. Novel studies are included. Oral work is emphasized by use of group discussions, class work, and reports.

Course Title: ENGLISH 7 HONORS

Length: 1 year

English 7 Honors is offered to students identified as Gifted/Talented and to students that demonstrate superior performance in the subject. Short stories, drama, poetry, novel study, biography/autobiography, fiction, and non-fiction will be some of the genres studied. Language units will include grammar mechanics and its usage, vocabulary, spelling, formal and informal speaking, and listening. Written work will explore the areas of exposition, character analysis, analytical themes, varied book report forms, poetry, and newspaper study.

Course Title: SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Length: 1 year

Social Studies 7 focuses on the study of ancient people and their times. The history, geography, economics, culture, and belief systems of ancient peoples are studied. Comparisons and contrasts are made with modern societies. The time period covered in the seventh grade is from man's beginning through the Middle Ages.

Course Title: MATHEMATICS 7

Length: 1 year

Mathematics 7 addresses the areas of pre-algebra and geometry. Pre-algebra topics include a review of computation skills in whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. Integers, percent, and graphing are introduced. The areas of geometry include both metric and non-metric topics.

Course Title: MATHEMATICS 7 HONORS

Length: 1 year

This course is offered to students identified as Gifted/Talented and to students that demonstrate superior performance in the subject both in the classroom and on standardized tests and are motivated to study. The course work is presented through enrichment activities, as well as through traditional classroom experiences. Topics from the academic program are covered at a more rapid pace and in greater depth. Problem-solving skills are emphasized, logic strategies are explored, irrational numbers are introduced, and mathematical properties and vocabulary are stressed.

Course Title: SCIENCE 7

Length: 1 year

Seventh grade science covers material in earth, physical and life sciences. Content of the course includes the scientific method, weather, ecology, classification, dissection, energy types and transfer.

UNIFIED ARTS

Unified Arts is a required course for all seventh-grade students. A student will enroll in each of the following areas for a period of nine weeks: Art, **Exploring Technology**, Applied Communications and a 9-week study hall that may be used for skill development. Each year, all Unified Arts courses are under review for possible changes.

Course Title: **ART 7**

Length: 1 quarter

This nine-week exploratory course actively involves the students in fundamental skills, principles, and elements of art and design. The units of study will include drawing (contour and technical/perspective), painting (color theory and techniques), two dimensional design (printmaking), and three-dimensional design (such as ceramics or sculpture techniques).

Course Title: **EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY**

Length 1 quarter

Exploring Technology is a nine-week course that continues to build upon the information literacy skills presented in sixth grade, investigates alternative energy, and explores the five major areas of technology that are constantly changing around us: biotechnology, communication, construction, engineering and transportation. Students will be introduced to Google's online collaboration suite, Google Docs, and will learn how to effectively collaborate in and out of the classroom using programs similar to Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Course Title: **APPLIED COMMUNICATIONS 7**

Length 1 quarter

This course will acquaint students with persuasive techniques along with activities that will help improve speaking and reading fluency. Students participate in a media literacy / advertising program in which they develop a product, produce an advertisement for their product and present their work. In Readers' Theater (a strategy for increasing reading fluency and speaking) students read a variety of plays aloud. As a culminating activity, student groups plan, write and present Readers' Theater type plays they create themselves.

HEALTH/FITNESS EDUCATION

Course Title: **HEALTH 7**

Length: 4 - 3 week sessions

Health Education 7 provides students with information and experiences designed to develop understanding of human growth and development, appropriate health practices, family living, and health responsibilities in order that they apply sound health practices in daily living. Units covered include fitness and nutrition, social relationships, disease, personal health practices, consumerism, and substance use and abuse.

Course Title: **FITNESS EDUCATION 7**

Length: 4 - 6 week sessions

Fitness Education 7 is organized around individual and team sports and activities. Skill development is a major objective focusing on a non-competitive environment. The instructional program in sports may include touch football, soccer, volleyball, floor hockey, badminton, tennis, and track and field. Instruction is also provided in such activities as tumbling, gymnastics, physical fitness, dance, and group games. Each student is required to have a gym uniform.

GRADE SEVEN ELECTIVES

French 7, Spanish 7, and Reading are offered to seventh-grade students. Students must elect either a foreign language or reading. It is highly recommended that a student demonstrate an 80 percent mastery of sixth-grade objectives at the time of course selections when considering a World Language. Successful completion of the eighth grade world language course for high school credit would make the

student eligible to enroll in Level II of the language upon entering the ninth grade. Any student not enrolled in a world language will be scheduled for Reading. Staffing of **World Language** and reading classes is done based upon enrollment, therefore dropping and adding courses after the school year begins is not easily accomplished. Taking time to select electives that are meaningful is encouraged.

GRADE SEVEN ELECTIVES (*Continued*)

Students originally scheduled for a **World Language** who choose to drop this class during the school year will be scheduled into a reading class, if space is available; otherwise the student will be assigned to a study hall.

Course Title: **FRENCH 7**

Length: 1 year

This class is designed to help students understand the nature of the French language and the connection to our English language. It helps students understand and appreciate the French speaking world, the unique ways of living and behavior patterns, as well as their contributions to humankind. This course will incorporate the appropriate use of multimedia technology to facilitate learning for all students.

Course Title: **SPANISH 7**

Length: 1 year

This class is designed to help students understand the nature of the Spanish language and the connection to our English language. It helps students understand and appreciate the Spanish speaking world, the unique ways of living and behavior patterns, as well as their contributions to humankind. This course will incorporate the appropriate use of multimedia technology to facilitate learning for all students.

Course Title: **READING 7**

Length: 1 year

This course reinforces and broadens previous reading instruction and promotes continued development of reading skills. Diagnostic reading tests will be administered to determine a student's current reading level and ability and will identify deficiencies in fluency, comprehension, word attack, and other skills. Specific interventions will be provided based on existing levels of skill and developmental needs. A record of growth will be maintained for each student. Reading is required for all seventh grade students not enrolled in a foreign language.

GRADE SEVEN MUSIC COURSES

Students may elect to take both choir and band, choir only, or band only. A study hall will be assigned if no electives are selected or on days when band or choir do not meet.

Course Title: **CHOIR 7**

Length: 1 year

This course is designed to introduce choral skills needed for advancement in the choral program. Two and three-part voicing will be the primary focus of this group. Students will receive training in sight singing, vocal production, diction, hearing and creating harmony, rhythmic accuracy, basic choreography and performance skills. Students will work to develop skills in self-discipline, listening and critiquing of their own performances as well as the performances of others. The students will perform at three major concerts. In addition, students will have the opportunity to participate in the District IV Solo & Ensemble Contest and Choir Festival field trip to Cedar Point. Each student will have choir class two or three days per week.

Course Title: **BAND 7**

Length: 1 year

The seventh grade band offers students experience in large ensemble performances. Focus is on the development of fundamental skills of large group performance through a variety of concert band experiences. Participation in seventh grade band provides a student the opportunity to understand and enjoy music through performance. Each student in seventh grade band will have up to four sectional and full band rehearsals each week with frequency of rehearsal depending on membership in choir and other schedule considerations. A prerequisite is participation in the sixth grade instrumental music program or an audition with the director. Each fall the seventh and eighth grade band members learn several music selections that are performed at a Rocky River High School football game.

GRADE EIGHT REQUIRED CURRICULUM

The Curriculum Development Committee reviews the content of each course periodically. Any changes in course content and/or title may occur.

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

Course Title: ENGLISH 8

Length: 1 year

English Grade 8 integrates the study of spelling and vocabulary, grammar and composition, poetry, selected novels and short stories, drama, and oral communication to address the language components of word use in literary and informational text. A research paper is also required.

Course Title: ENGLISH 8 HONORS

Length: 1 year

English 8 Honors is offered to students identified as Gifted/Talented and to students who have demonstrated superior performance in the subject both in the classroom and on standardized tests and are motivated to study. In addition to emphasizing spelling, grammar, reading and writing, novel studies, research papers and essays, formal speeches and independent study are also covered. For enrichment, American history may be correlated to novel studies, projects and independent studies.

Course Title: AMERICAN HISTORY 8

Length: 1 year

This course is an overview of our American heritage. Colonization of the New World, and the American Revolution are reviewed. The establishment of the government and the U.S. Constitution are studied. The Civil War and Reconstruction periods are researched and evaluated. As the nation develops industrially, its emergence as a world power is identified and discussed. The study of the democratic processes and society as well as citizenship, are major themes.

Course Title: MATHEMATICS 8

Length: 1 year

Topics in Mathematics 8 (pre-algebra) include geometry, measurement, spatial sense, linear and non-linear relationships, data analysis and probability. Review includes numbers, number sense and operations.

Course Title: ALGEBRA 1 (HONORS)

Length: 1 year

First year algebra is the course generally offered to ninth-grade students but can be scheduled for high performing mathematics students in the eighth grade. Emphasis is placed on development of the real number system, set notation, varieties of equation solving, exponents, factoring and graphing of polynomials, inequalities, radical functions, word problems, and graphing. Introduction to proofs involving algebraic phrases and statements is also included. Algebra 1 introduces the foundation for more advanced mathematics, and provides the student with the basic understanding of our number system. Students recommended for Algebra 1 should have earned at least a grade of "B" in Mathematics 7 Honors and should be recommended by the seventh grade honors mathematics teacher.

Careful consideration for enrollment in Algebra 1 should be given by the student and parent because the credit and grade earned will be counted on the High School Transcript. The grade earned will be weighted as an honors course on the high school transcript.

Course Title: SCIENCE 8

Length: 1 year

This course consists of introductory content in physics, earth science and biology. The core content of the course centers specifically around areas of science associated with the scientific method of problem solving. Topics of study include scientific inquiry, the nature of science, ethical practices, earth systems, space sciences, technology, force, motion, technological design, waves, sound, light, heredity and evolutionary theory.

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES (*Continued*)

Course Title: **SCIENCE EPE**

Length: 1 year

Earth Science and the Physical Environment is an activity-oriented course intended for the high school freshman student. This course provides a foundation in Chemistry and Physics with a continued study of Earth and Space Science. Topics include: the composition and behavior of matter, the periodic table, nuclear chemistry, forces and motion, energy, astronomy, and the dynamic forces acting on and within the Earth. Students are recommended by the seventh grade science teachers for honors science based on the following criteria:

1. Superior academic performance
 - Expected final average of A in Science 7
 - A or B average in English 7 Honors or A average in English 7
 - A or B average in Mathematics 7 Honors or A average in Mathematics 7
2. Strong sustained interest in Science
3. Strong work ethic
4. Self-directed independent study skills

Careful consideration for enrollment in Science EPE should be given by the student and parent because the credit and grade earned will be counted on the high school transcript. The grade earned will be weighted as an honors course on the high school transcript.

UNIFIED ARTS

Unified Arts is a required course for all eighth-grade students. A student will spend nine weeks in each of the following areas: **Technology Education**, Art, **Music Literature**, and **Applied Communications**. Each year, all Unified Arts courses are under review for possible changes.

Course Title: **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Length 1 quarter

Technology Education is a nine-week course designed to build upon previous knowledge as well as introduce new technological tools. Students will be using web-based tools to not only complete activities, but to present, collaborate, and build an online portfolio to showcase their hard work. Students will be introduced to web etiquette and safety, building websites, designing in three-dimension, and researching possible careers in the technology field. This course is designed to be hands-on and differentiated depending on students' level of experience using technology.

Course Title: **ART 8**

Length: 1 quarter

This nine-week exploratory course actively involves the students in fundamental skills, principles and elements of art and design. The units of study will include drawing (contour and technical/perspective), painting (color theory and techniques), two dimensional design and three dimensional design (such as ceramics or sculpture techniques).

Course Title: **MUSIC LITERATURE 8**

Length: 1 quarter

Music Literature incorporates an extension of Elements of Music 6 as students review the basic elements of music and go further in depth to apply them to the different historical periods of Western European and North American music history. While this is not a performance-based class, emphasis will be placed on

the ability to read, follow, listen and appreciate different styles of music. Students will receive a solid foundation in the ability to critique musical performances and be exemplary audience members. This 9-week class culminates in a student-directed project which allows the student to explore different types of music and related performance arts.

UNIFIED ARTS (*Continued*)

Course Title: **APPLIED COMMUNICATIONS 8**

Length 1 quarter

This course will acquaint students with persuasive techniques along with activities that will help improve speaking and reading fluency. Students participate in a media literacy / advertising program in which they develop a product, produce an advertisement for their product and present their work. In Readers' Theater (a strategy for increasing reading fluency and speaking) students read a variety of plays aloud. As a culminating activity, student groups plan, write and present Readers' Theater type plays they create themselves.

HEALTH/FITNESS EDUCATION

Course Title: **HEALTH 8**

Length: 4 - 3 week sessions

Health Education 8 provides students with information and experiences designed to develop understanding of human growth and development, appropriate health practices, family living, and health responsibilities in order that they apply sound health practices in daily living. Units covered include studies of the human body, social relationships, sexually transmitted diseases, personal health practices, fitness, nutrition and substance use and abuse.

Course Title: **FITNESS EDUCATION 8**

Length: 4 - 6 week sessions

Fitness Education 8 is organized around individual and team sports and activities. Skill development is a major objective focusing on a non-competitive environment. The instructional program may include: flag football, volleyball, basketball, softball, tennis, and golf. Instruction is also provided in such activities as tumbling, gymnastics, physical fitness, and weight training. Each student is required to have a gym uniform.

GRADE EIGHT ELECTIVES

Successful completion of Spanish I or French I would make the student eligible for enrollment in Level II of the same language upon entering the ninth grade. Careful consideration for enrollment in French I or Spanish I should be given by the student and parent because the credit and grade earned for these courses will be counted on the High School transcript. Students not enrolled in Spanish I or French I may be scheduled in Spanish 8, French 8, Reading or a study hall.

Course Title: **French 8**

Length: 1 year

This class encourages active learning by balancing culturally appropriate aspects of the French language and connections with English. It will enable student to perform real-life tasks, and to pursue language learning at the high school and for personal enjoyment. Students are guided to understand the nature of the Spanish language system and to appreciate the French culture

Course Title: **Spanish 8**

Length: 1 year

This class encourages active learning by balancing culturally appropriate aspects of the Spanish language and connections with English. It will enable student to perform real-life tasks, and to pursue language learning at the high school and for personal enjoyment. Students are guided to understand the nature of the Spanish language system and to appreciate the Spanish culture.

GRADE EIGHT ELECTIVES (*continued*)

Course Title: **French I - H.S.** (*Successful completion of French 7 recommended*)

Length: 1 year

Basic skills will be introduced progressively. Listening and speaking will be emphasized, with practice in conversation, question-answer drill, and simple sentence constructions. Simple vocabulary dealing with home, school, work, clothing, and recreation is stressed. Students will be introduced to the concept of expressing time in different tenses. Aspects of culture will be introduced. There may be costs involved for purchase of necessary supplemental materials.

Careful consideration for enrollment in French I should be given by the student and parent because the credit and grade earned will be counted on the high school transcript.

Course Title: **Spanish I - H.S.** (*Successful completion of Spanish 7 recommended*)

Length: 1 year

Basic skills will be introduced progressively. Listening and speaking will be emphasized, with practice in conversation, question-answer drill, and simple sentence constructions. Simple vocabulary dealing with home, school, work, clothing, and recreation is stressed. Students will be introduced to the concept of expressing time in different tenses. Aspects of culture will be introduced. There may be costs involved for purchase of necessary supplemental materials.

Careful consideration for enrollment in Spanish I should be given by the student and parent because the credit and grade earned will be counted on the high school transcript.

Course Title: **READING 8**

Length: 1 year

This course reinforces and broadens previous reading instruction and promotes continued development of reading skills. Diagnostic reading tests will be administered to determine a student's current reading level and ability and will identify deficiencies in fluency, comprehension, word attack, and other skills. Specific interventions will be provided based on existing levels of skill and developmental needs. A record of growth will be maintained for each student. Reading is required for all eighth-graders not enrolled in foreign language.

GRADE EIGHT MUSIC COURSES

Students may elect to take both choir and band, choir only, or band only. A study hall will be assigned if no electives are selected or on days when band or choir do not meet.

Course Title: **CHOIR 8**

Length: 1 year

This course is designed to prepare students for the advanced skill levels required for performance at the high school level. Two, three and four-part choral music will be the primary focus of this group. Students will receive intensive training in sight singing, vocal production, diction, harmonization, rhythmic accuracy and performance skills. Students will perform at three major concerts. In addition, students will have the opportunity to participate in the District IV Solo & Ensemble Contest, District IV Honors Choir auditions and a Choir Festival field trip to Cedar Point. Each student will have choir class two or three days per week.

GRADE EIGHT MUSIC COURSES (*continued*)

Course Title: **BAND 8**

Length: 1 year

The Eighth Grade Band is the most advanced band at Rocky River Middle School. Emphasis is placed on the performance aspects of music through a varied repertoire of concert band literature. Essentials of good musicianship and the development of technique are stressed. Participation in Eighth Grade Band provides a student an opportunity to understand and enjoy music through performance. Each student in the Eighth Grade Band will have up to four sectional and full band rehearsals each week with frequency of rehearsal depending on membership in choir and other schedule considerations. A prerequisite is participation in the seventh grade band or instrumental music program or an audition with the director. Each fall the Seventh and Eighth Grade band members learn several music selections that are performed at a Rocky River High School football game.



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2011/12 HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

CHANGES:

Page 37

#1928

Course Name Change from “Athletic Training” to “**Exercise Science**”

TO REPLACE CURRENT ATHLETIC TRAINING COURSE

EXERCISE SCIENCE

This course is available to students with a strong interest in anatomy and physiology with specific application to exercise, sports, and recreational leisure activities. Concepts will include the study of acute and chronic adaptations to exercise and the means by which exercise may prevent injuries or illnesses. Students will evaluate health behaviors, risk factors, and motivations for modifying negative health habits. Students will acquire basic knowledge and skills in the areas of human anatomy and physiology, exercise and conditioning, nutrition, pharmacology, and professional health care responsibilities. Interested students may pursue this course for information to enhance his/her overall health and well-being or in preparation for possible careers in: exercise science/physiology, pre-medicine, athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, nursing, personal trainer, research, biomechanics, etc. Basic first aid and CPR will be included in the course.

Page 38

Add New Course #0128

FRESHMAN MENTORING

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: .50

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisites: Application Process

Fee: None

FRESHMAN MENTORING

Freshman Mentoring is a course that engages selected junior and senior students in mentoring incoming freshmen. Mentoring occurs daily during a structured, 24 minute class period. The goals of the program are for freshmen to establish a solid academic foundation, develop and experience academic success, as well as life skills and to make a positive social adjustment to Rocky River High School.

Page 39

#1728

Course Name Change from “Parenting” to “**Child Development**”

TO REPLACE CURRENT PARENTING COURSE

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Child Development is designed to help students learn the responsibilities of raising and nurturing children. The course will focus on learning about children from birth to four years of age. Topics included in this course will be readiness for parenthood, parenting roles and responsibilities, planning a future family, prenatal development, birth, how children grow and learn and building positive parent-child relationships. The course will also explore careers involving the care and education of children. The course will include the planning and operation of a play school designed for three and four year olds.

Page 39

#1725

Replace Course Description for “Service Learning”

SERVICE LEARNING

Service Learning is designed to help students explore local and global issues about which they are concerned and discover ways some of these issues may be addressed. Service Learning will provide students with hands-on experience in the real world through student-directed service learning projects that will fill a need in the school and/or the community. Through reflection activities students will be given the opportunity to understand what was learned and experienced and how the community was benefited. Service Learning is dedicated to developing civic responsibility through active community involvement.

Page 42

Add New Course #1245

INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIATED CALCULUS AND STATISTICS

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1.00

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus

Fee: None

INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIATED CALCULUS AND STATISTICS

Introduction to Differentiated Calculus and Statistics is for the student that has completed Pre-Calculus, but does not feel ready to make the commitment into an Advanced Placement Calculus course. This course will prepare students for the courses they may take their first year of college. The topics included are limits, differentiation, probability and statistics.

Page 48

#1511

CONCERT CHOIR

Add fee of \$30.00

*Request for fee is due to uniforms and transportation.

Page 48

#1512

CHORALE

Add fee of \$30.00

*Request for fee is due to uniforms and transportation.

Page 49

#1518

DELETE SHOW CHOIR (River's Edge)

Page 49

Add Course #1513

CHORALE/SHOW CHOIR

Grade Level:

Credit: 1.00

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Audition

Fee: **\$45.00 – \$75.00**

*Fee is for uniforms and transportation (fee will vary from \$45.00 - \$75.00)

CHORALE/SHOW CHOIR

This is an entertainment-oriented ensemble that performs musical programs for school, community and civic groups, as well as festivals and competitions. Members are encouraged to actively participate in the staging and showmanship of this organization. Private vocal instruction is strongly encouraged.

The instrumentalists accompanying this group must be members of one of the high school instrumental ensembles and should be a member of one of the vocal ensembles (i.e., Chorale or Concert Choir).

The crew members of this group must be members of one of the vocal ensembles (i.e., Chorale or Concert Choir).

Page 49

Add New Course #1520

TREBLE ENSEMBLE

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.00

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Audition

Fee: None

TREBLE ENSEMBLE

Treble Ensemble is a soprano/alto ensemble that meets daily. This choir is open to students in grades 10, 11 or 12 by audition only. Members are chosen on the basis of musicianship, vocal quality, and a desire to achieve high performance standards. Students who are members of Chorale do not need to audition for this group, and may participate in both Treble Ensemble and Chorale. Students will study advanced vocal techniques and perform music from all periods with special emphasis being placed on the more difficult choral literature. Members perform at all school concerts and adjudicated events to complete the requirements of this course.

Page 53

#1325

PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY/COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

Increase fee from \$40.00 to \$50.00

*The Principles of Biology I/College Partnership lab fee has been increased to meet the increased cost of laboratory activities in order to satisfy Cuyahoga Community College's lab requirements for the course

Page 55

#1125

Course Name Change from “United States Government and Contemporary Issues” to “**United States Government/Personal Finance & Contemporary Issues.**”

Page 56

Add New Course #1129

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.00

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation

Fee: None

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

AP United States Government/Personal Finance is a yearlong examination of government in America, from the national to the state to the local levels. This course leads to the Advanced Placement test in May, which is strongly recommended for high achieving students. It offers the most comprehensive study of U.S. Government and politics available in a high school curriculum, including a full look at the operation of the three branches of the federal government, a comparison with other governmental systems, and an investigation of the Constitution (especially through court decisions). Cooperation between national and regional levels is explored, as are the forms and functions of the state systems. In addition, the course examines the ways in which American cities are governed and looks at some of the special problems that face our large metropolitan areas.

EXHIBIT I
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2011

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SOLICITATION OF
COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS FOR THE BEACH
SCHOOL RENOVATION**

On the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District, having received the written recommendations of its construction manager, Project and Construction Services, Inc., and architect, Burt Hill Inc., in favor of same, hereby: (1) approves the bid and construction documents described in the Instructions to Bidders dated January 20, 2011 for certain renovations to Beach School relating to technology cabling, the sound system, security and miscellaneous equipment (“Project”), which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; (2) authorizes the Superintendent of Schools or his designee to solicit competitive bids and publish a Notice to Bidders for the Project under O.R.C. 3313.46, other applicable law, and Board Policy; and (3) authorizes the Superintendent of Schools or his designee to coordinate the opening of the bids received in compliance with the Instructions to Bidders and the investigation and evaluation of the bidders under applicable law and Board Policy; and (4) directs the Superintendent of Schools or his designee to prepare and submit to the Board of Education at a subsequent meeting a recommendation regarding the award and/or rejection of any or all bids and the acceptance or rejection of alternates within any bid package, in accordance with applicable law and Board Policy.