



Rocky River
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Rocky River High School

PIRATE NEWSLETTER

August 2022 | Issue 1

20951 Detroit Rd., Rocky River OH, 44116
 440-356-6000
 www.rrcs.org

Rob Winton, Principal
Brian Gergely & Miranda Lobas, Assistant Principals
Mark Wagner, Director of Athletics & Activities

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Rocky River High School would like to welcome all new and returning students for the 2022-2023 school year. This communication outlines important dates and changes that you may encounter as the year begins.

Sincerely,
Rob Winton, RRHS Principal

Communications at RRHS

Email

The best way to contact any staff member, administrator, or employee at RRHS is through email. All email addresses can be found on the [high school website](#).

Twitter

Updates, announcements, students highlights and general information are communicated through Twitter. Please follow the below individuals to get the most up-to-date information:

Rob Winton (Principal):	@robertdwinton
Mark Wagner (Athletic Director):	@rrcsactivities
Greg Murphy (Communications):	@rrcityschools

Daily Announcements

Daily morning video announcements can be found on the high school website by clicking the 'Announcement' tab.

High School Website (www.rrcs.org)

Important forms and links, including the high school handbook, can be found by visiting this [link](#).

Newsletters

The Rocky River High School parent newsletter is sent monthly and highlights general events and announcements. The newsletter is sent via email.

Emergency Notifications

Any major updates (snow days, emergencies, etc.) will be communicated through email and phone. If you are not on this call list, please contact Amber Easler (easler.amber@rrcs.org).

Recommendations for Parents

Who to Contact

The high school administration consists of Mr. Rob Winton (principal), Ms. Miranda Lobas (assistant principal for students with last names A-K), Mr. Brian Gergely (assistant principal for students with last names L-Z), and Mr. Mark Wagner (director of athletics and activities). There are three Counselors at RRHS. Mr. Jeff Petrusis (department chair) works with students with last names A-G. Ms. Sarah Blatnik works with students' last names H-O. Mrs. Candace McMahon works with students' last names P-Z.

RRHS School Supply List

The recommended school supply list is linked [here](#).

Schedules at RRHS

Rocky River High School operates on a 7 (seven) period day and school begins at 7:55 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. For security purposes, no entrance doors will be unlocked until they are staffed by RRCS employees. The Wagar Entrance doors open at 7:15 a.m. and the Main Office Entrance doors will open daily at 7:30 a.m.

Each Wednesday, RRHS operates on a 1-hour delayed start schedule, meaning school begins at 8:55 a.m. The reason for this delayed start is to provide collaboration time for staff development. This is known as Professional Learning Communities (PLC). Teachers meet during this hour each week to interpret data, work on curriculum initiatives and to discuss student achievement.

What is a Student PLC?

Oftentimes, class meetings are held for students on Wednesday mornings. An example of this would be the 'RRHS PLC for Seniors' on September 1st. This means that all 12th graders need to attend a mandatory meeting in the auditorium beginning at 7:55 a.m. Throughout the course of the year, meetings will be held for different grade levels to cover specific topics. Attendance at student PLC meetings is mandatory unless otherwise stated. Attendance is taken and not showing up to a PLC is treated the same as not showing up for class.

What is the Option Program at RRHS?

Junior and senior students are eligible for the privilege of Option. Option means that students who have a 1st or 7th period study hall may start their day late or end their day early. Students are not permitted to have both 1st and 7th period Option. Lunch Option allows junior and senior students to leave the school building during their lunch period. Option is only available for junior and senior students who submit all appropriate paperwork and who maintain good attendance, behavior and academic records. If you have questions about the Option Program, please contact your child's assistant principal. To complete the Option permission slip form, please complete it through Final Forms.

Search for Children With Disabilities Underway

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) of 2004, The Rocky River City School District is participating in Child Find efforts to locate, evaluate, and identify all children from birth through 21 years of age with disabilities, regardless of their situations, who have significant, individual needs and require intensive interventions through special education and related services.

A disability, in this instance, means such conditions as autism, deaf/blindness, multiple disabilities, deafness/hearing impairment, orthopedic impairment, visual impairment/blindness, specific learning disabilities, preschoolers with a disability, emotional disturbance, cognitive disabilities, speech and language impairments, orthopedic and other health impairments or traumatic brain injury.

Although many school aged disabled children are identified and currently being served by the Rocky River City School District, preschool children ages 3-5 with disabilities may be unidentified because parents may not be aware that programs and services are now available through the public school. Community members can help us with this important effort. If you know of a child in our district with a disability that is not presently attending school or receiving services from another agency, please contact Jennifer Norman, Executive Director of Pupil Services at 440.356.6006.

In addition and in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment of 2008, Rocky River City School District is participating in Child Find efforts to locate, evaluate and identify all children with a disability. In this instance, a student with a disability who has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity because of disability, needs or is believed to need special education, related services or aids or accommodations/modifications. If a parent or guardian suspects that a child may be eligible under this federal definition, please contact Jennifer Norman, District Compliance Officer.

Attendance

Consistent attendance is essential for academic success and will be a focus at RRHS for the coming school year. With the implementation of House Bill 410, attendance tracking changed from days to hours. Due to this change, RRHS will be tracking period attendance each and every day to ensure we are meeting state guidelines. The focus of HB 410 is to improve students' attendance at schools and to work with families to provide solutions when students are not attending on a regular basis.

Arrival/Dismissal

Drop-off and pick-up times can cause congested parking lots. Please be aware that if you pick up your child in the Wagar lot, there is one lane for pick-up and one lane for exiting the premises. Students can also be dropped off and picked up in the Detroit Road parking lot. Utilizing both parking lots helps create a smoother arrival and dismissal process.

Social Media

Social media can be an excellent tool when utilized correctly. Please keep an eye on your child's social media accounts and continue to have open discussions with them about what they post online. Many colleges and employers look into individual's social media histories prior to admitting or hiring them.

Questions/Comments/Concerns

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns as the year begins please feel free to reach out to any members of the high school administrative or counseling teams.

Important Dates for August/September

August 19: New Student Orientation

New student orientation is for any student/parent who is new to the district and will be entering grades 10-12. This event takes place from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the high school Commons.

August 19: Freshman Orientation

This event is for freshman students only and is led by the student Mentors along with RRHS teachers. This is a fun morning where incoming freshmen participate in ice-breaker activities, get to know one another and tour the building. Freshman orientation starts at 8:00 a.m. and concludes at 10:00 a.m. All individuals will meet in the high school gymnasium.

August 23: First Day of School

School begins promptly at 7:55 a.m. The warning bell rings at 7:45 a.m.

August 25: Freshman PLC

All freshmen are required to attend a PLC on Wednesday, August 24th at 7:55 a.m. in the high school auditorium. This PLC will focus on welcoming freshmen to the high school along with reviewing safety protocols.

August 26: Picture Day

RRHS picture day is provided by Ripcho Studios. Students will be photographed during their English classes.

August 31: Senior PLC

All seniors are required to attend a PLC on Wednesday, August 31st at 7:55 a.m. in the high school auditorium. This PLC will focus on college and career planning.

August 31: Open House

The annual RRHS Open House will begin at 7:00 p.m. Parents will follow their child's bell schedule. Parents will need to have access to their child(ren)'s schedules.

September 5: Labor Day

No school

September 8: Sophomore PLC

All sophomores are required to attend a PLC on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:55 a.m. in the high school auditorium. This PLC will include a presentation from Jostens.

September 21: Freshman PLC

All freshmen are required to attend a PLC on Wednesday, September 21st at 7:55 a.m. in the high school auditorium. This PLC will focus on social media safety.

PLC Dates 2022-2023

Time: 7:55 a.m.

Dates and Times are Subject to Change

Date	Subject	Location	Mandatory/Optional
Freshman PLC Dates			
August 24	Intro to RRHS; Active Shooter Training	Auditorium	Mandatory
September 21	Social Media Safety	Auditorium	Mandatory
Sophomore PLC Dates			
September 7	Jostens Presentation	Auditorium	Mandatory
January 11	College/Career Planning & West Shore	Auditorium	Mandatory
Junior PLC Dates			
November 2	College/Career Planning	Auditorium	Mandatory
March 22	Distracted Driving Program & Thomas and Thomas Photography	Auditorium	Mandatory
May 24	Spring Recognition Practice	Auditorium	Mandatory by Invite Only
Senior PLC Dates			
August 31	College/Career Planning	Auditorium	Mandatory
September 7	College Essay Writing Workshop	Room 2074	Optional
October 19	Selective College Alumni Interviewing	Room 2074	Optional
October 26	Josten's Presentation	Auditorium	Mandatory
February 8	Senior Long Shot Photo	Gymnasium	Mandatory
March 8	Prom Fashion Show Practice	Commons	Mandatory by Invite Only
April 5	College Success 101	Auditorium	Mandatory
May 24	Spring Recognition Practice	Auditorium	Mandatory by Invite Only