



The View

School Information

Yearbooks are still for sale for \$65. Bring or send payment to B-57 to order your 2008-2009 yearbook. If we do not sell at least 450 yearbooks this year, we will not be able to have a yearbook next year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:

RV teachers, Lisa Ellis and Nicole Walker, will be two of 37 American teachers working with the Invisible Children Teacher Exchange in Gulu, Uganda June 15-July 27.

Invisible Children, Inc. is a non-profit organization and focuses on long-term goals that enable children to take responsibility for their future and the future of their country through programs that address the following areas: quality education, mentorships, redevelopment of schools, resettlement from the camps, and financial stability. One of its programs is a Teacher Exchange, where teachers from the United States travel to Uganda to work with a particular school and teacher for six weeks. The goal of this program is to enhance present educational models and to establish long-term learning opportunities for both American and Ugandan teachers, generating collaboration among teachers from around the world.

The cost of this trip is \$10,000. Invisible Children encourages participants to fundraise since we are teachers, and let's face it, teaching is not the biggest money making profession. We would greatly appreciate it if you would consider being a sponsor. The contribution is tax deductible as Invisible Children is a non-profit organization.

Please make checks payable to Invisible Children and send them along with your physical address to mail a receipt to Ridge View High School care of Nicole Walker at 4801 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia SC 29229. If you have any questions, you may contact Nicole at 803-699-2999 x 300 or nwalker@richland2.org.

RVHS art teacher, Kay Casey, is one of ten art teachers whose artwork is featured in the Third Annual Art Teachers' Invitational Show at Columbia College. Mrs. Casey's work includes a figurative ceramic sculpture, a mixed media portrait and a figurative watercolor. The artwork is exhibited in the Goodall Gallery in the Spears Music/Art Center from January 7-February 8. Gallery hours are Monday-Wednesday 10am-5pm, Thursday-Friday 10am-7pm, and Saturday-Sunday 1pm-5pm.

Jordan Stovall, RVHS senior, will be among 100 high school students from across the nation to participate in the 2nd annual Disney's Dreamers Academy with radio personality, Steve Harvey. Beginning February 12-15, Jordan will travel with a guardian to Walt Disney World Resort to take part in an innovative career inspiration program that includes interactive workshops, motivational talks, hands-on creative experiences and fun.

Alice Turner, RVHS math teacher, was accepted into the SMART Exemplary Educator Program. As an Exemplary Educator, Mrs. Turner will receive exclusive access to the SMART Exchange, an educator certificate, and a \$199 credit to put toward future SMART training offerings.

Sheneka White, RVHS senior, has been named a 2009 Finalist for the National Achievement Scholarship.

From Our School Nurse

Cold and Flu season will arrive soon. Please remind your children to cover their mouths when coughing and to wash their hands often. These two actions are the biggest factors in reducing the risk of colds, sore throat, flu, whooping cough (pertussis), and other highly contagious respiratory diseases. Please report any signs or symptoms that worsen or persist for an extended amount of time to your child's physician.

Performing Arts News

Congratulations to Christine Arroyo for making it in the All-State Orchestra. The All-State Orchestra concert will be held March 1st at Converse College.

A meeting for all students and parents going on the School for the Arts/Orchestra New York City trip will be held on March 24th at 6:30 pm in the auditorium.

Students attending the School for the Arts/Orchestra New York City Trip will have a MANDATORY meeting at lunch in the orchestra room on February 18th.

Rehearsals have begun for our spring musical, "Zombie Prom!" Students, join us for rehearsals on Mondays from 3:30-5:00. Parents, please contact Ms. Wimmer at extension 376 if you are interested in assisting.

Seniors in the School for the Arts will meet Wednesday, February 4th and Wednesday, February 18th at lunch in the dance room. Attendance is MANDATORY. Sophomores, your contracts are due NO LATER THAN Monday, February 2nd.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following band members for being selected to the 2009 South Carolina All State Band! They are Dillon Ashby, Morgan Bostick, Michelle Feggans, and Lindsay LeGrand. The clinic will be held at Furman University March 13-15.

CONGRATULATIONS to Dillon Ashby for being selected to the 2009 All State Jazz! The clinic will be held at Newberry College March 5-7.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following band members for being selected to the 2009 Region 3 Honor Band! They are Kennedy Allen, Timothy Altman, Zoe Angelac, Jacqueline Arvay, Ravan Austin, Jessica Blyden, Aaron Booker, Jordan Crosby, Zach Dance, Chris Davis, Jeremy Davis, John Drinkwater, Corbyn Field, Daniel Froelich, Chelsea Gibbons, Logan Gillespie, Katie Hafner, Cheyenne Hammond, John Jones, Danielle Marino, Patrick McClelland, Carla Mendoza, Tim Nord, Kristian Ortiz, Bobby Plunkett, Brad Pouncey, Rianne Richard, Kiara Roberts, Tracie Robinson, Bria Scales, Kayleigh Sims, Regan Varner, and Shatoya White. The clinic will be held at Fort Mill High School February 27-28.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following band members for being selected to the 2009 USC Band Clinic! They are Timothy Altman, Dillon Ashby, Aaron Booker, Morgan Bostick, John Drinkwater, Michelle Feggans, Corbyn Field, John Jones, Lindsay LeGrand, Tim Nord, Brad Pouncey, Rianne Richard, and Kayleigh Sims. The clinic will be held on the USC campus February 19-22.

Athletic News

RVHS Boys' Soccer Booster Club is having a fundraiser! You can purchase your 2009 Entertainment Books for \$25 or Sonic Cards for \$5. If you are interested, please contact bgiannelli@unum.com. You can also purchase windproof/waterproof hooded RVHS Parkas and Blankets for \$38.00 to keep warm this winter season! If you are interested in purchasing a parka or a blanket, please contact mbishop1@bellsouth.net.

Wrestling season is underway! Please come out and support the team! The State Dual Finals will be held at RVHS on February 14th.

Blazer Basketball has begun! The teams have a busy schedule and would love to see some friendly faces in the stands! The games this week are as follows:

Thursday, February 5th : B-Team Boys and JV Boys play Lancaster at home starting at 6:00 pm.

Friday, February 6th : JV Girls, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys play at Lancaster starting at 5:30 pm

Tryouts for RV Varsity baseball and Junior Varsity baseball will begin February 2nd at 4:00 on the RV baseball field. Any player trying out must have a completed physical and parent permission form. There is also a non-refundable \$25 tryout fee. Tryouts for RV "C" Team baseball will begin February 5th at 5:00 on the RV baseball field. Any player trying out must have a completed physical form, parent permission form and the non-refundable \$25 tryout fee. Seventh and eighth graders new to the program must also have a completed middle school participation form.

If you have questions please call Coach Hill at 699-2999 (x233) or Coach Hardy at 699-2999 (x369).

David Jennings, Nick Gladden, Jay Lynch, Joe Keitt and Sierra Henderson were named to the State Newspaper's All Area Cross Country team for AAAA. David Jennings has also been named as the Runner of the Year for AAAA!

From Our Guidance Office

RVHS will be hosting a Career Fair on February 10, 2009. Fifty exhibitors will be available to answer questions and provide information to our students about their career choices.

Would your child like a \$1,000 scholarship? Every month, South Carolina Student Loan will give a \$1,000 scholarship to one lucky winner. Visit www.scstudentloan.org.

RVHS' Financial Aid 101 Workshop will be held on Monday, February 9th at 6:30 pm in the Auditorium.

Graduating seniors that plan to attend an accredited university, trade school or college in the Fall of 2009 must have all essays postmarked on or before March 9, 2009 and must include the Essay Scholarship Contest application. *The essay topic is: How will higher learning enable you to enrich your community?* Applications are available in the College and Career Center.

Applications for the 2009 Young Women in Public Affairs are now available from the Zonta Club of Columbia by contacting Betty Jo Carson at 875 Pine Forest Trail, Columbia, SC 29210-4920 or email at bandbjcarson@juno.com. The amount of the award is \$1,500. If you have further questions, you can also call 803-798-7265.

Student Activities

RVHS will be celebrating Cominghome Week February 2nd-6th with the following events and activities:

Theme: Blazer TV

Monday: Discovery Channel

Dress Day: Nerd Day/ Tacky Day

Lunch Activity: Are you smarter than a 9th grader?

Tuesday: MTV Day

Dress Day: MTV day (wear lyrics on your shirt, music related symbols, dress like your favorite music icon)

Lunch Activity: All Star Basketball Challenge

Evening Activity: 3 point contest and free throw contest at basketball games (halftimes)

Wednesday: HBO Day

Dress Days: Bum Day

Lunch Activity: So you think you can dance

Thursday: ESPN

Lunch Activity: Fake an injury day

Lunchtime Activity: Rock Wall, Jousting

Friday:

Dress Day: Blazer Pride Day (9th= white, 10th= black, 11th= silver, 12th= purple)

Lunchtime Activity: Don't forget the lyrics

7th period pep rally

Our service project is Souper Bowl of Caring. We would like each employee and student to donate \$1 during the week.

From Our Literacy Coach

Ridge View High School Summer Reading Program 2009

Program Overview

- All students are required to select and read **one** title from one of the thematic summer reading lists and to participate in a school-wide celebration on September 23, 2009.
- Books may be purchased through the school on selected dates throughout the spring. (Throughout the summer students can check out titles from the Richland County Public Library or purchase them at Books a Million in the Sandhills Shopping Center.)
- To facilitate discussion and prepare for written assessment, students are encouraged to purchase their own copies of their selected book or to take notes on the following: major characters, conflicts, themes, and significant quotations.
- Students may be assigned summer reading requirements by individual teachers. These requirements may not be used to complete the school-wide summer reading initiative requirements.
- For more information, please contact the Literacy Coach, Nicole Walker at nwalker@rvh.richland2.org or the Media Specialist, Sonny Williams at swilliams@rvh.richland2.org.

What the Experts Say

Educational research for the past several decades indicates...

- students are more motivated to read when they are given a **choice** of titles that may interest them.
- if students enjoy what they read, their **skills** and their **confidence** for reading will improve, thus making them more likely to challenge themselves with a more difficult text.
- students improve their reading skills when they are encouraged to **interact** with what they read and **make connections**. Making connections helps students make meaning of a book, comprehend it, and remember it. The titles for Ridge View High School's 2009 summer reading plan are arranged thematically to make it easier for students to make connections to books that might interest them.
- to improve their comprehension, students can **make connections** as they read by relating and comparing:
 1. their book to another book
 2. their book to their own lives
 3. their book to something in the world/society around them

Frequently Asked Questions

Why doesn't the summer reading list include more rigorous titles?

The list of books was compiled by suggestions from teachers, students, the school's library staff, and the school's literacy coach with the intention of encouraging reading for pleasure over the summer. Most people would agree that a book is not pleasurable if it is too difficult to understand.

What kind of books should students in pre-AP and Advanced Placement classes read?

Since those classes allow the possibility of college credit, the teachers of those classes will provide separate lists related to that curriculum.

Why won't students have a test on the books they read? Some individuals believe that students won't read unless they are given a test.

Regardless of what teachers and parents may believe, a student cannot be forced to read. So many other options exist today for students to learn about a book without having to read it. Giving students a test just to assess whether or not they have read is a poor education practice. Students will read when they are genuinely interested in a topic. Therefore, it is our goal that by offering students a wide variety of choices, allowing them to experience a guest speaker and involving them in a small group discussion about the books, that students will be more motivated readers.

A Special Note to Parents

Guiding Your Student's Choices

Just as parents give guidance to their teenager concerning television, movies, and music, they should also talk with their teenager about the type of books that he/she reads for pleasure. If parents disagree with the content of a particular book, it is suggested that parents and their teen agree on what an appropriate alternative is based on their family values and interests.

Arranging Books by Grade Level or Age

Titles are not arranged by grade levels or age appropriateness because books vary greatly by subject matter and difficulty of text. Therefore, every student should find a wide range of possible choices to read.

Other Options for More Summer Reading

If students STILL want to read more, try these options:

Search these **Reading Lists** through Ridge View's media center or the public library:

- **SC Young Adult Book Awards**—The purposes of the South Carolina book awards are to encourage students to read good quality contemporary literature and to honor the authors of the books chosen annually as the favorites by student vote. Twenty titles are nominated annually by a committee. Students reading 3 or more books from the list are eligible to vote for their favorite title.
- **SC Reads**—The suggested titles reflect the quality and complexity of the types of material high school students should be reading both at school and outside of class. This list contains contemporary titles to create a more comprehensive list for expanding options for classroom teachers, librarians, students, and parents.

- **Best Books for YA**—This book list, recommended for ages 12-18 by the Young Adult Library Services Association (a division of the American Library Association), meets the criteria of both good quality literature and reading appeal for teens.
- **What Do I Read Next?**—This site is a readers' advisory resource for recommended fiction and nonfiction. It includes recommendation on 100,000+ book titles for children, young adults, and adults as well as plot summaries, author information, and award lists. Users can find recommended books by series, subject, reading level, genre, setting, etc.
- **Outstanding Books for the College Bound**—The books on this list offer opportunities to discover new ideas and provide an introduction to the fascinating variety of subjects within an academic discipline. Students may use it to round out their reading as they prepare for college entrance exams and courses, to strengthen their knowledge in a variety of subject areas and enhance appreciation for different cultures and times.

The format of this summer reading plan is based on research from the published works of the following educators who are respected and accomplished on the subject of adolescent reading.

- Dr. Janet Allen
- Dr. Dick Allington
- Carol Jago
- Dr. Kylee Beers
- Dr. Louise M. Rosenblatt

For questions about Ridge View High School's 2009 Summer Reading plan, contact:

Mrs. Nicole Walker, Literacy Coach
699-2999 x 300
nwalker@rvh.richland2.org

Mr. Sonny Williams
699-2999 x 250
swilliams@rvh.richland2.org

Summer Reading Committee

Brooke Bedenbaugh, Physical Education
Candace Blakely, Special Services
Fatima Bucheli, World Language
Jennifer Bull, Fine Arts
Kathy Carroll, Media Center
Iris Carter, Special Services
Bob Crowley, Social Studies
Janet DeForrest, English
Linda DeSpain, Special Services
Nichole Guess, Fine Arts
Keely Hitchings, English
Heather Kelly, College and Career Center
Robin McCants, English
Diane Melton, CATE
Susie Neal, SLC Grant Administrator
Chris Nostrant, Fine Arts
Deborah Robinson, English
Tracy Skinner, English
Laura Smith, English
Brad Tillman, Math



Ridge View High School Summer Reading 2009 Book Descriptions

Connections of the Heart

1. *Copper Sun* by Draper
2. *Hit the Road* by Cooney
3. *Street Love* by Myers
4. *Dreamland* by Dessen
5. *The Mailbox* by Shafer

The Games We Play

1. *One Good Punch* by Wallace
2. *On the Devil's Court* by Deuker
3. *No Excuses* by Maynard
4. *Quiet Strength* by Dungy
5. *Blindsided: Evolution of a Game* by Lewis

Out of This World

1. *The Snakecharm* by Atwater-Rhodes
2. *Feed* by Anderson
3. *2001: A Space Odyssey* by Clarke
4. *I Am the Messenger* by Zusak
5. *The Host* by Meyer

Reality Reads

1. *Christopher Killer* by Ferguson
2. *Rules of Survival* by Werlin
3. *Dreams of My Father* by Obama
4. *Crossing the Wire* by Hobbs
5. *Life as We Knew It* by Pfeffer

Teen Talk

1. *What Happened to Cass McBride* by Giles
2. *Notes from a Midnight Driver* by Sonnenblick
3. *Freaky Green Eyes* by Oates
4. *Prom Anonymous* by Nelson
5. *Dairy Queen* by Murdock

Community Involvement

The next School Improvement Council meeting will be **held Monday, March 2, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the RVHS Media Center**. The SIC is a group of parents, students, community members, teachers and administrators who help advise the principal and actively seek ways to improve the school. We're looking for fresh, new ideas and energetic volunteers. SIC meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. To join or get more information on the SIC, please contact Vikki Kinsey at 803-699-2999 ext. 207.

Richland Two has partnered with the Richland County Sheriffs Department to support Student Crimestoppers. The program uses the same Crimestoppers network and phone number (1-888-CRIME-SC) to allow students to anonymously report school-based crimes and to be rewarded for their tips. When a student's tip has led to an arrest or disciplinary action, the student will be instructed on where to pick up their reward. Some of the types of crimes that would be eligible are: gang activity (\$25 - \$100 depending on seriousness), fighting (\$25), weapons on persons (\$25 - \$100 depending on weapon & intent), guns on school grounds (even if the gun isn't found on a student - \$100), and drugs on person (\$25 - \$100 depending on type and amount). The district views this program as another tool to help provide a safe learning environment for our students.

Important Dates

February 2-6: Cominghome Week
February 3: Open House 6pm-8pm
February 7: Gospel Fest from 6pm-8pm
February 12: Interims Distributed
February 16: Holiday: No School

*****Note: This bulletin will be sent bi-weekly to our Blazer family.*****