



The View

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

While the comments I am making to you in this issue have been made many times to the students, I think it is important for you to read them as well.

Students entering the ninth grade have difficulty seeing the end of a distant four years. This is normal. However, it is very important to realize that the transcript of academic performance begins immediately upon entering the ninth grade. The transcript included in an application for college admission includes the student's performance only through the junior year because colleges ask for applications to be submitted during the fall of the senior year. Students must "do the math." A poor academic performance during the freshman year represents one-third of the grade point ratio that will be sent to the colleges. To "catch up" during the sophomore and junior years is very difficult. To offset a year of poor academic performance demands extremely high performance the following two years if the low performing year is the freshman year. If it is later years, obviously less time is available. The key is consistency each year.

It is also important to be aware that many colleges separate core subject performance (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) from other content areas to determine student acceptance. This means a student cannot simply rely upon favorite electives with high grades to make up the difference for low performance in the core subjects.

Does the senior year mean nothing? Certainly not! Most colleges request an updated transcript after both the first and second semesters of the senior year. I have seen colleges rescind acceptance or withdraw scholarships because of a decline in student performance their senior year. So it is very important that students stay the course of strong performance all the way to the end of their senior year.

I hope these comments are helpful. Where mistakes have already been made no student should ever conclude that a future college education is impossible. It just means that the route may be different than what is ideally desired.

Parent attention to student performance during the high school years is equally important, as is that same attention during the elementary school years. So, please don't back off! I wish you great success!

Sincerely,
Marty Martin

School Information

Yearbooks are still for sale for \$55 (the same price as the last 3 years). Bring or send payment to B-57 to order your 2008-2009 yearbook. There is still room for senior ads. If you want to purchase an ad, please call Mrs. Robinson at ext. 357 to discuss prices.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Sixteen more RVHS Seniors have received college acceptance letters: Janece Gough-Oglethorpe; Jessica Durant-Midlands Tech; Aunjelique Eatmon-Emporia State University; Tiana Butler-Francis Marion; Thomas Forman-North Greenville; Tyronda Gaskins-Queens University and Columbia College; Joseph Stogner-North Greenville; Candra Chaisson-Newberry College; Jordan Whitehead-Spartanburg Methodist College; Delesa Whitehead-Savannah State University; Nadine Luedicke-Clemson University; Brandi Quattlebaum-Clark Atlanta University; Kate Wilson-University of Alabama and Jordan Welch-Spartanburg Methodist College.

RVHS Senior Baseball player, Tony Price, has signed to play baseball for Anderson University. Tony is a two year starter for the Ridge View Baseball team.

Academic News

RVHS offers tutoring for all students. The tutoring schedule is as follows: On Mondays from 7:30 -8:30 am Science tutoring is offered in D-77. On Tuesdays, from 7:30-8:30 am English tutoring in P-15 and from 3:35-4:35 pm Spanish tutoring in A-23, Math in B-31, and English in A-6. On Thursdays, from 7:30-8:30 am English tutoring in P-15 and from 3:35-4:35 pm Math tutoring in B-31 and English in A-6. On Fridays from 7:30-8:30 am, Science tutoring in D-77. Please encourage your child to attend these free sessions if they are having trouble in any of these subject areas.

RVHS BioHealth Magnet students are sponsoring a fundraiser! Clemson and Carolina cups are amongst many of the teams available in 12 oz. hard plastic heliographic cups. You can get a set of 4 for \$12.00. If you are interested please call Kathy at 714-8311 or Diana at 736-4985. All proceeds directly benefit the BioHealth Magnet Program.

Performing Arts News

Dr. Martin was awarded the SC Dance Advocacy Award at the annual South Carolina Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance convention in Myrtle Beach on November 15th. Dr. Martin's commitment to advancing dance in our school and district have made him a valuable asset!

Upcoming Performance Dates in RVHS Auditorium:

RVHS' Dance classes' Winter Concert: Thursday, December 4, 2008 at 7:00 pm (Admission is one canned good to be donated Harvest Hope Food Bank)

Richland School District Two Orchestra Performance: Saturday, December 6, 2008

RVHS' One Act Plays: Monday, December 8' 2008 at 7:00 pm

RVHS' Musical Theatre Class presents a "Dessert Theatre": Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 7:00 pm

RVHS' Band Concert: December 11, 2008 at 7:00 pm

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 first match is on December 3rd at RVHS at 6:00 pm.

Blazer Basketball has begun! Our first game is on December 1st at RVHS when our B-team boys take on Fairfield Central. The game begins at 6:00 pm. Our Varsity Boys and Girls have their first games on December 2nd at home against Dutch Fork High School. The games start at 6:00 pm for the girls and 7:30 pm for the boys.

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.

From Our Guidance Office

Once again, we are pleased to offer students the opportunity to apply for the McKelvey Foundation Entrepreneurial Scholarship Award. The scholarship is available to all high school seniors who have demonstrated entrepreneurial spirit by owning and operating their own business while in high school. We offer up to \$10,000 per academic year for four years to any US college. The application must be submitted by January 25, 2009. Please visit the College and Career Lab for more details.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will open its application on January 1st. Now is the time to apply for the pin that both parents and students will need to complete the application. Please visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to apply for the student and parent pin.

The Richland Two Gifted and Talented Foundation is excited to provide a \$1,000 scholarship to one graduating senior for the class of 2009. To be eligible for our Julie Long Scholarship, the applicant must have been a student in the ALERT program at one time. In addition, we are asking applicants to write in an essay in support of their reasons on how ALERT has made an impact on their education.

RVHS will be hosting a Career Fair on February 10, 2009. If you are interested in being an exhibitor and sharing information about your business or career with our students, please contact our Career Specialists—Ann Holland at ext. 426 and Heather Kelly at ext. 426---for more information.

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.

Student Activities

RVHS Winter Wishes Service Learning Projects began on November 10th and will culminate with a school-wide assembly on December 17th. Students will be taking part in numerous service learning projects in order to give back to the community. Please show your support for each of the following events:

- Canned Food Drive to benefit God's Storehouse. Goal: To collect 15,000 non-perishable goods.
- Foster Child Sponsorship to benefit the Department of Social Services. A Foster Child Party will also be held on December 17th for the children to receive their gifts and dinner. Goal: To sponsor 75 children.
- Giving Bowl to benefit the Harvest Hope Food Bank. Student Council and Fine Arts collaborate to create a soup kitchen style dinner. Tickets are sold for the dinner; each ticket sold allows the participant to choose a "bowl" that has been created by students taking Visual Arts. Goal: To raise \$1500. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in Student Activities.
- 2nd Annual Soldier Carnival on December 12th from 6:00-9:00 pm in the large and small gyms. This event is for the families of deployed soldiers to come and participate in a festival-like party.
- Clothing Drive to benefit Midtown Fellowship. We will be collecting items for the homeless: coats, jeans, shirts, blankets, new socks, and new underwear. Goal: To collect 500 items.

If you are interested in giving your time or support to help us reach our goals, please contact Lisa Ellis, Student Activities Director, at lellis@rvh.richland2.org.

From Our Literacy Coach

What Good Readers Do

- Use existing knowledge to make sense of new information.
- Ask questions about the text before, during, and after reading.
 - Draw inferences from text.
 - Monitor their comprehension.
- Use "fix-up" strategies when meaning breaks down.
 - Determine what is important in the text.
- Synthesize information to create new thinking.

Please encourage your children to be good readers and to read often. The more they read, the better at reading they will become.

-Nicole Walker

Community Involvement

The next School Improvement Council meeting with will be **held Monday, December 1, 2008 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 School District Two Holiday Open House for Teaching Candidates---Teaching in Two will kick off the 2009-2010 school year with an open house to be held on December 20 and 22 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm in the Community Room at the Village of Sandhills located across from Village Bistro. Certified teachers interested in coming to teach in Richland Two are encouraged to drop in. Interviews will be available. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to come and join the Richland Two team! For more information, please call Richland School District Two Human Resources at 738-3303.

Important Dates

November 26-28: Thanksgiving Holiday

December 6: SAT administered at RVHS

December 12: Solider Carnival from 6:00-9:00 pm in large and small gyms

December 16: Interims Distributed

December 17: Winter Wishes Assembly

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