



A note from our principal Ms. Nelson:

January/February 2016

Dear Rocky River High School Families,

It has been a great start to the opening of school! This month we will end our first semester for the 2015-2016 school year and we have made significant progress in our priorities for the year. Below is a snapshot of our priorities:

- Increasing student academic success analyzing our data,
- Increasing the amount of time our students are engaged in rigorous academic content,
- Increasing our positive and safe school culture, and
- Celebrating our staff.

Over the course of January and February, we will continue to focus on increasing our positive and safe school culture. Our staff has also been trained around using data to drive instruction. In November and December we focused on celebrating our students and staff, adjusting our strategies when our students are struggling with content, and preparing for our semester exams. We are still supporting our Rocky River High School Student Code (RRHS Code) below:

- **Respect** – Taking yourself, others, your education and our school property seriously.
- **Responsibility** – Taking ownership and doing what is right.
- **Honor** – Exhibiting strong moral character, even when no one is looking.
- **Service** – Positively contribute to our RRHS community.

Each week, any student that exhibits these characteristics is entered into a drawing and every Friday, we draw several student names and they win a prize. We have seen a great difference in the positive interactions with them. We always could use cool prizes for our students (gift cards, electronics, etc). Please bring donated prizes to the main office and speak to Ms. Crawford.

A note from our principal Ms. Nelson continued...

We are also providing interventions for students that are struggling in their studies. We are in need of tutors in Math, English and Science. If you are interested in helping us tutor, please feel free to call the main office at (980) 344-0409.

Starting January 7, all A-day/B-day classes will take midterm exams for their course. Starting January 13, we will begin exams for the first semester courses. We are in need of test proctors for several state exams on January 13, January 14, January 15, January 19 and January 21. Please feel free to call our offices (980-344-0409) or reach out to our Instructional Accountability Facilitator, Maribeth Grzesiak via email (maribeth.grzesiak@cms.k12.nc.us). Thank you in advance for your help!

As we continue the accomplishments we have garnered this past year, my pledge to you is that we will also continue to create a culture of excellence, leadership, and pride throughout our school community. I look forward to seeing you sometime soon.

All my best,

Brandy Nelson

Principal, Rocky River High School

The Rocky River High School PTSA will be holding a general meeting on **Thursday January 14th from 6:30 pm—7:30 pm in the library (2nd floor).**

The goal of this year's PTSA is improved communication and participation from our parents, teachers and students! After all, that's what the Parent Teacher Student Association is all about! If we all work together, we can give our students the best and most successful experience possible!

We encourage all parents, student and staff to join. Membership forms can be found on page 11, completed forms and dues can be mailed or returned to the office to be placed in the PTSA mailbox or you may pay online via our website <http://rockyriverptso.jimdo.com/join/>

We are always looking for new ideas, so please consider attending a meeting. Everyone is ALWAYS welcome!!

During this meeting we will be discussing and planning our events for the rest of the school year.

Please come out and support your PTSA!



Proctor's Needed



We are in need of Testing Proctors for our 1st Semester Final Exams.

Exams will be held January 13-19 starting at 7:00am. If you are available and willing to help us out, please contact Maribeth Grzesizk directly at maribeth.grzesiak@cms.k12.nc.us or by calling Rocky River at 980 343-0409.

Student's Corner

Bank of America is looking for motivated juniors and seniors who want to spend 8 weeks next summer giving back to the Charlotte community and growing as leaders. Student Leaders will spend the majority of the summer in a paid internship at a local non-profit organization. An additional week will be spent at an all expense paid trip to Washington, DC for a leadership summit. We are looking for students with a diverse range of experiences and backgrounds. Please pass the below information on to students in your networks and encourage them to apply.

For information and application, visit <http://tinyurl.com/jocen72>

Legacy Literary Book Club

Do you like to read? Do you like to discuss the books that you have read? Do you like to discover new books and authors?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should join Rocky River's newest club: The Legacy Literary Book Club.

This club meets once a month, on the third or fourth Monday, to discuss the book that has been selected for that meeting. We have read: Paper Towns by John Green as well as The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie. Next up: Hidden Talents by David Lubar and Catching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson.

The club is a community collaboration between the Mint Hill Public Library and Rocky River's Media Center. Members include RR teachers and staff, students, as well as directors from the public library. We are always looking for additional parents, teachers, and students to join our club.

Our next meeting is January 25 at 2:20.

Please contact Dianne Stokes, if you are interested in joining. dianne.stokes@cms.k12.nc.us



The RRHS PTSA pleased to offer a \$500.00 scholarships to a senior who will be attending an accredited college, university, community college, trade or technical school in the fall. To receive consideration for this scholarship **the student must be a current year member of the PTSA before March 31, 2016.** Membership forms can be found on page 9, completed forms and dues can be mailed or returned to the office to be placed in the PTSA mailbox or you may pay online via our website <http://rockyriverptso.jimdo.com/join/>

News from the Guidance Department

<http://rrhsstudentservices.cmswiki.wikispaces.net/>

Students are alphabetically assigned to a counselor based upon the first letter of their last name.

A - De 9th-12th Ms. Cruz
miriamy.cruz@cms.k12.nc.us

Di - I 9th-12th Ms. Cleveland
carrief.cleveland@cms.k12.nc.us

J - O 9h-12th Ms. Allen
jilla.allen@cms.k12.nc.us

P - Ri 9h-12th Ms. Forges
errine.forges@cms.k12.nc.us

Ro - Z 9th -12th Ms. Roche
briennem.roche@cms.k12.nc.us

Mrs. Friar, Career Development Coordinator, has a quick parent survey regarding your child's career plans. Please click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KZFFRWV>

Feel free to email elaine.friar@cms.k12.nc.us regarding the Career Center services.

SAT Registration and Test Dates

<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
February 5, 2016	March 5, 2016
April 8, 2016	May 7, 2016
May 5, 2016	June 4, 2016

****Late registration available; visit sat.collegeboard.org for more information****

ACT Registration and Test Dates

<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
January 8, 2016	February 6, 2016
March 4, 2016	April 9, 2016
May 6, 2016	June 11, 2016

****Late registration available; visit www.actstudent.org for more information****

Save Time and Money! Graduate from High School and Save Up to

\$30,000 in College Tuition

WHAT: CMS Middle College High School Program

WHO: Students graduate from high school and earn an associate's degree, up to two years of transferable college credit and/or industrial/technical certification from CPCC free of charge!!

WHERE: Cato Middle College High School
Middle College High School
at Harper
Middle College High School
at Levine

WHY: Save up to \$30,000.00 in tuition costs

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

Entrance Requirements

- Rising 11th or 12th graders – residents of Mecklenburg County
- GPA: 2.5 or higher un-weighted
- Complete select courses by the end of 10th grade (see website for details)
- Meet qualifying scores on one of the following assessments:
 - PLAN
 - PSAT
 - ACT
 - SAT
 - CPCC Accuplacer

Please attend one of the following Middle College High School information sessions

Cato Middle College High School
CPCC Cato Campus
8120 Grier Road,
Charlotte, NC 28215
Cato Auditorium

Tuesday, January 19, 2016
(CT 020) Bottom Floor, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 20, 2016
(CT 020) Bottom Floor, 2:00 p.m.

Harper Middle College High School
CPCC Harper Campus
315 W. Hebron Street
Charlotte, NC 28273
Harper Auditorium

Monday, November 16, 2015
(HP 108) Bottom Floor, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 10, 2015
(HP 108) Bottom Floor, 6:30 pm

Monday, January 11, 2016
(HP 108) Bottom Floor, 6:30 pm

Levine Middle College High School
CPCC Levine Campus
2800 Campus Ridge Road,
Matthews, NC 28105
Levine I Building

Monday, December 14, 2015
(LV 2150) 2nd floor, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 14, 2016
(LV 2150) 2nd floor, 6:30 p.m.

WHY WAIT- APPLY DECEMBER 4, 2015!

Visit the Cato website for steps to apply at Cato:

<http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/catoHS/Pages/Admissions.aspx>

Visit the Levine website for steps to apply at Levine/Harper:

<http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/levineHS/Pages/Admissions.aspx>


Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Every Child. Every Day. For a Better Tomorrow.



**Work-Based Learning Program
Industry Exploration Groups
Spring 2016**

What?	Come learn about a variety of career opportunities within the professions of law, engineering, health sciences and hospitality & tourism.
Who?	10th – 12th Grade
When?	Each group will meet one day per week 3:30 pm– 5:00 pm Law: Tuesday (Feb 3 rd – Apr 27 th) Engineering: Tuesday (Feb 2 nd – Mar 1 st) Health Science: Wednesday (Feb 3 rd – Mar 2 nd) Hospitality and Tourism: Thursday (Feb 4 th – Mar 3 rd)
Where?	Various Sites (Please see Group application)
Application Deadline:	Friday, January 22, 2016

Requirements for Participation

- ❖ Submit a complete WBL program group application by deadline (See your Career Development Coordinator for the application)
- ❖ Students must turn in the signed Parent/Guardian/Student Agreement, Permission and Release form to your CDC before the first session.
- ❖ Professional dress is required. (No jeans or t-shirts)
- ❖ Reliable transportation to and from the sessions. Student must be able to attend each session.

Apply today as space is limited.

**GRIFFIN
MASONRY**

Hiring now! Part/full time

www.griffinmasonry.com Apply online!

Located in Mint Hill



**GRIFFIN
MASONRY**

Career & College Promise

Fall CPCC Classes

**Students will receive
information about
the Career and
College Promise
program in late
February. Students
will submit their
applications in
March.**

<http://cpcc.edu/hsprograms>

<http://rhscdc.weebly.com/>

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW....

In The News

Festaplalooza

On Friday, December 18th, Rocky River High School hosted our 5th annual Festaplalooza!

The following schools were in attendance:

Rocky River High School

Mallard Creek High School

Garinger High School

Metro School

Harding High School

Myers Park High School

Hough High School

Olympics High School

Independence High School

West Mecklenburg High School

East Mecklenburg High School

There were over 300 EC students and staff that attended. The day began with an inclusive theater production and after lunch concluded with Special Olympics basketball scrimmages between 3-on-3, 5-on-5, and unified teams.

JROTC

-- **CMS Annual Orienteering Competition:** The JROTC Orienteering Team competed on December 12, 2015 against twenty other CMS JROTC programs. The team consisting of John Maturan, Jose Bonilla, Joari Suarez and Ricardo Cervantes finished fourth overall with a time of 1 hour and 6 minutes.

-- **2015-2016 JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl (JLAB):** The Rocky River JROTC JLAB Academic Team recently completed Level I and advanced to Level II of the competition. The team is comprised of Cadets Lucky Kai, Caleb Roberson, Alondra Salinas, Carina Martinez, Yoselin and Laila Miranda. On February 5, 2016, the team will compete in Level II and the right to move onto Level III in Washington, D.C.

-- **JROTC Book Drive:** The JROTC Book Study Team is conducting a book drive to support their Service Learning initiative - **LITERACY**. The team has collected over 400 books exceeding their goal of 300 books. Cadets will distribute the books to elementary schools within the Rocky River High School area. The goal is to assist with the Family Reading Every Day (FRED) program.

One Access

Rocky River High School students helped CMS and the CM Public Library reach their goal of having 100,000 students signed up for ONE ACCESS. ONE ACCESS is a collaboration between CMS and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Libraries. Once students have registered, they have unlimited access to all the resources that the public libraries have available such as eBooks, print books, tutoring, videos, online resources, courses, etc.

Dr. Clark set a goal of having 100,000 students signed up before the Winter Break. Rocky River's Media Science and Helpdesk students presented information about the program to numerous classes which helped us reach our goal.

To access the program, go to: <https://cmlibrary.org/>

PROM 2016

Prom will be held on April 30, 2016 at Extravaganza from 8-midnight.

Tickets will be \$70. Tickets go on sale February 24, 2016 during all lunches in Room C105.

In The News

Save the Date

Parents and guardians are strongly encourage to attend the speaking engagement of international bestselling author **Barbara Coloroso** on **January 21, 2016 at 7PM** at St Alban's in Davidson. Ms. Coloroso will present *Parenting with Wit and Wisdom: Helping Children Become Self-Disciplined, Compassionate, Responsible, Resourceful and Resilient Human Beings*.

Barbara will present the keynote address at *Fresh Take: Strategies for Student Success* education conference at Community School of Davidson on January 22 but first she will share her wisdom and insights with parents of children of any age. Tickets are free to the community. The lecture will be held at St Alban's, 301 Cadwell Lane, Davidson, NC. Doors open at 6:45 for general seating.

Barbara has penned *The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander: From Preschool to High School--How Parents and Teachers Can Help Break the Cycle*, *Kids Are Worth It! : Giving Your Child The Gift Of Inner Discipline, Just Because It Isn't Wrong Doesn't Make it Right: Teaching Kids to Think and Act Ethically*, *Parenting Through Crisis: Helping Kids in Times of Loss, Grief, and Change* and others.

The evening will be packed with solid practical advice for parents of children from toddlers to teenagers, that shows how to utilize the very stuff of family life—chores, mealtime, sibling rivalry, toilet training, bedtime, allowances and more—to create a home environment in which children can become self-disciplined, compassionate, responsible, resourceful, resilient human beings who can act in their own best interest, stand up for themselves and exercise their own rights while respecting the rights and legitimate needs of others. Barbara will discuss the keys to good parenting: treating kids with respect; giving them a sense of positive power in their own lives; giving them opportunities to make decisions, take responsibility for their actions and learn from their successes and mistakes.

Topics

- Positive home climate
- Simple rules to help stop trouble before it starts
- Power struggles—what, how, why and when not to engage
- Six critical life messages
- Discipline and punishment—why one works and the other only appears to work
- RSVP—reasonable, simple, valuable, practical consequences
- Mistakes, mischief and mayhem
- Three kinds of families—brick wall, jellyfish and backbone
- Keeping your cool without putting your feelings on ice
- Buffering children from sexual promiscuity, drug abuse and suicide

Upcoming Events:



January 10 - General PTSA Meeting

January 15 - Track - 3:00 pm

January 15 - Basketball at HOME (Independence) - 6:00 pm

January 18 - MLK Holiday - No School

January 19 - Basketball at Porter Ridge - 6:30 pm

January 20 - Early Release Day/End of 2nd Quarter

January 22 - Basketball at HOME (Myers Park) - 6:00 pm

January 25 - Teacher Workday - No School

January 26 - Basketball at Garinger - 6:00 pm

January 28 - Bojangles Share Night - 5 pm - 8 pm

January 29 - Basketball at HOME (East Meck) - 6:00 pm

February 3 - Basketball at Butler - 6:00 pm

February 3 - Mid-Year Graduation

February 3 - Report Cards Distributed

February 9 - Basketball at Independence - 6:00 pm

February 11 - JROTC Academic Bowl (MGLA)

February 12 - Basketball at HOME (Porter Ridge) - 6:00 pm

February 15 - Teacher Workday - No School

February 20 - JROTC Military Ball (Shriner Temple)

February 22 - JROTC Book Study Competition at Butler

March 1 - Early Release Day



Rocky River High School PTSA Membership Form

Here are some of the benefits you may receive for joining the PTSA for the 2015-2016 school year.

For Parents:

Raffle entries for exciting prizes throughout the year
Option to buy lunch for a teacher during teacher appreciation week in May

For Students:

Raffle entries for exciting prizes throughout the year
4th block socials

Seniors can apply for a \$500 scholarship

For RRHS Staff:

Raffle entries for exciting prizes throughout the year
4th block socials

Dues for the 2015-2016 school year are only \$8 per adult (parent, teacher, staff) and \$5 per student

Member Name(s): _____

Circle One:

Member 1: _____

Parent / Student / RRHS Staff

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Students Grade Level and Homeroom Teacher (if known) _____

Member 2: _____

Parent / Student / RRHS Staff

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Member 3: _____

Parent / Student / RRHS Staff

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Member 4: _____

Parent / Student / RRHS Staff

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Total Memberships: # _____

Total Memberships: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Rocky River PTSA

Return this completed form to the RRHS main office or mail to:
RRHS PTSA, 10505 Clear Creek Commerce Drive, Mint Hill, NC 28227

OR: log onto the PTSA website and pay online at

www.rockyriverptso.jimdo.com



Don't forget to link your grocery card to RRHS!

Linking is fast and easy.



To link your Harris Teeter card online go to:
http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx
RRHS PTSA = 8527



To link your BI-LO card online go to:
<http://www.hometowneducationalrewards.com/>
Rocky River High School = 55789

Or you can email your name and card number to rrhptsa@gmail.com
Remember to ask family and friends to sign up their cards also.



Through Publix Partners, all purchases at Publix will help earn money for our school. For every \$37,500 spent cumulatively by our school's participants, Publix will award RRHS \$250. You can pick up your Publix Partners Card during any PTSA meeting or contact us at rrhptsa@gmail.com to receive a card. These cards are linked directly to Rocky River and are not a discount/savings card.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

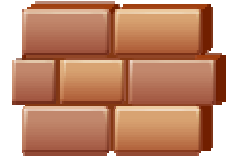
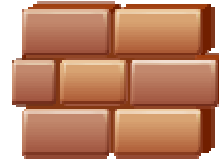
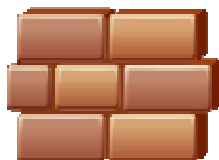
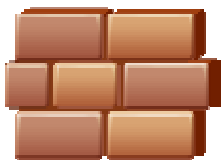
RAVEN'S ROW IS COMING TO RRHS.

Celebrate your last (or first) year at RRHS with a BRICK!
For only \$75 you can get an 8X8 brick or for \$35 you can get a 4X8 brick.

Add a symbol for an additional \$8.

Order yours TODAY!

Details at: <https://www.bricksrus.com/order/rrhs/>



Don't like to cook?

Come out to our share night at Bojangles (Albemarle Rd near HWY 51)

On January 28th from 5 pm - 8 pm.



**A portion of all sales come
back to RRHS!**



This newsletter is brought to you by the Rocky River High School PTSA.
10505 Clear Creek Commerce Drive, Mint Hill, NC 28227

<http://rockyriverptso.jimdo.com/>

The PTSA meets on the 2nd Thursday of every other month from 6:30 pm—7:30 pm.

Upcoming meetings are January 14th and March 10th.