



THE INSIDE VIEW

ISSUE 18 • AUGUST 2022



RGSD GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

Riverview Gardens School District is revved and ready for the 2022-2023 school year! The first day of school is Monday, August 22!

On Tuesday, Aug. 2, the District welcomed students, parents, staff and community members for the Back to School Bash. The District provided registration assistance and the opportunity for parents and scholars to meet their teachers and principals. RGSD collaborated with community partners to offer free backpacks, school supplies, haircuts and several additional services and resources.

Live entertainment was provided by a live DJ, a petting zoo, bouncy houses and more. Also, several food trucks provided tasty treats for attendees. The event featured the largest turnout in recent history.

Continued on Page 2

RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

- 8/20 BEAUTIFY RGSD DAY
ALL SCHOOLS | 7AM - 1:30PM
- 8/22 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 8/23 SAB MEETING | 7PM
- 9/05 LABOR DAY
DISTRICT CLOSED



“We are grateful to our scholars, parents and partners for helping to make the Back to School Bash a great success,” stated Tanya Patton, Ed.D., assistant superintendent of Student, School & Community Support. “The tremendous turnout shows that the RGSD community is ready for an amazing school year.”

The momentum from the Back to School Bash was carried over to the 2022-2023 Convocation event, held on Monday, Aug. 8 at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on the University of Missouri – St. Louis campus.

District employees came together as teachers and other (non 12-month) certified staff members reported back to work after summer vacation. Special Administrative Board President Veronica Morrow-Reel gave an impassioned speech, thanking staff for their dedication and commitment to the Riverview Gardens School District scholars and community.

Superintendent Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Ed.D., provided a state of the district address that informed, celebrated and motivated district staff. She highlighted the importance of bringing staff together on one accord to address the needs of RGSD scholars.

“We must celebrate our successes and leave behind the shortcomings of our past to reach the new view on the horizon,” Pruitt-Adams stated. “Our scholars deserve the best!”

The event also featured performances by the Gentlemen of Vision, the Riverview Gardens High School drumline, staff choir performances, a motivational speech from Darius Bass, a RGHS graduate, and more.



COMMUNITY INVITED TO HELP BEAUTIFY RGSD AUG. 20 & SEPT. 24



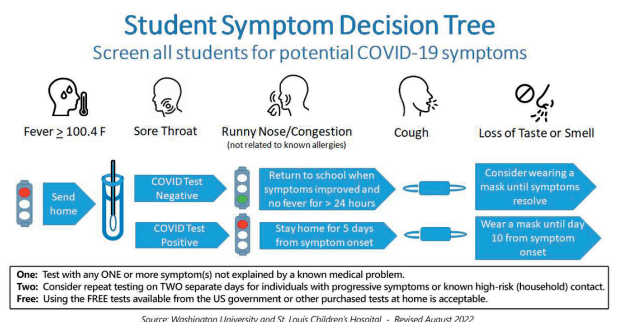
As RGSD continues to engage and partner with alumni and community groups, the District announced it will host Beautify RGSD days. On Saturday, Aug. 20, the District welcomes all stakeholders, including scholars, parents, staff, community members, community partners and others, to assist in beautifying the grounds of the campuses of all 13 schools and the district’s administration building. From 7:30 am - 1:00 pm, volunteers will gather to clean up trash, pull weeds, trim bushes, pour mulch, clean and care for the school campuses.

On Sept. 24, a second event will be held to continue the beautification process by planting perennials and conducting additional work to beautify the campuses. The District is providing all supplies and resources for the beautification efforts. However, all alumni, local municipalities, parents, scholars, teachers and other community partners are invited to donate the invaluable sweat equity to help instill scholar and community pride at all RGSD campuses.

RGSD MASK-OPTIONAL TO START SCHOOL YEAR

St. Louis County's Community Level is currently categorized as MEDIUM. Therefore RGSD will remain MASK-OPTIONAL within its facilities and on District transportation as we begin the 2022-2023 school year.

Please review the District's full [COVID-19 Plan & Guidelines](#)



BULLETIN BOARD

RIVERVIEW GARDENS

8/27 UCITY	9/3 GATEWAY	9/10 LAFAYETTE
9/15 JENNINGS	9/24 AFFTON	10/1 NORMANDY
10/8 CLAYTON	10/14 LADUE	10/22 HAZ. EAST

HOME AWAY

70 VARSITY FOOTBALL 72

\$2000 Signing Bonus!

Discover
A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

CAREER FAIR

Teaching, Administration, Clerical, Food Service, Maintenance, Electrician, HVAC, Security, Technology, Nursing, Coaching, Custodial & More

AUG. 25 | 4-7PM | 1370 NORTHUMBERLAND DR.

rgsdmo.org/jobs

Beautify RGSD

Community Cleanup
Saturday, Aug. 20
7:30am - 1:00pm
Location: ALL RGSD CAMPUSES

Riverview Gardens School District is inviting the RGSD Community to help Beautify RGSD!

Calling all volunteers, alumni, scholars, parents, community members, staff!

We will pick up trash, trim overgrown bushes, pull weeds & help prepare our buildings to welcome scholars for the 2022-23 school year!

RGSD will provide trash bags, lawn bags, mulch, water and snacks.

B.Y.O.Y.T (Bring Your Own Yard Tools!)

Anytime • Anywhere • Unlimited

PAPER

FREE 24/7 Tutoring

What Paper Offers

- Homework help**
 - Chat with a tutor 24/7
 - Unlimited sessions
 - Every academic subject
- Writing feedback**
 - Grammar, structure & style review
 - Submit any written work
 - Unlimited submissions
- Study support**
 - Understand tough concepts
 - Prepare for exams
 - Get study tips and skills

About Paper's Tutors

From elementary English to AP physics, Paper's tutors help every student in exactly the way they need. Tutors speak English, Spanish, Mandarin and French. Each exceptional specialist is a carefully selected, rigorously trained employee — not a contractor. Tutor managers are trained in SafeTalk and can identify at-risk students.

Parent Information Night

Paper para padres representantes

Email parents@paper.co with questions or concerns

Log in at: app.paper.co

iSCORE and SLU SCHOOL OF EDUCATION PRESENT:

SATURDAY STEM CAMP

Time: 9:00 and to 3:30 pm

DATES:

- September 10th and 24th
- October 8th and 22nd
- November 05th and 19th
- December 3rd

\$250 REGISTRATION FEE

Grades 5th - 8th

For more information, please contact iSCORE@slu.edu

Fitzgerald Hall 3500 Lindell Blvd
St. Louis, Mo 63108

iSCORE PRESENTS:

KIDS SATURDAY STEM CAMP

For 1st-4th Grade

\$250 REGISTRATION FEE

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Fitzgerald Hall 3500 Lindell Blvd
St. Louis, Mo 63108

For more information, please contact iSCORE@slu.edu

Retired Teachers

WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

- Work as a permanent substitute teacher
- Earn 75% of pre-retirement salary
- Earn full benefits
- Keep your pension
- Continue educating children

rgsdmo.org/jobs

Riverview Gardens SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGISTER TODAY!

SCHOLARS WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED BEFORE AUG. 22 MUST WAIT TWO DAYS FROM COMPLETING THE REGISTRATION FORM TO BEGIN SCHOOL

ENROLL NOW

RGSD.K12.MO.US/REGISTER

Stay Connected

@RGSDSCHOOLS

A New View on the Horizon!

f [Twitter] [TikTok] [Instagram] [YouTube]

RETURN OF RGSD CONVOCATION

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\$2000 SIGNING BONUS TO JOIN RGSD

Riverview Gardens School District continues to seek qualified candidates to fill certified and non-certified positions in the district. The SAB recently approved a \$2000 signing bonus for new RGSD employees through Oct. 1, 2022. Also, current employees who refer successful candidates for higher will receive a \$1000 referral fee, if the candidate is hired and remains in good standing for the 2022-2023 school year.



The Special Administrative Board also recently approved the following salary increases for staff members for the new school year:

- \$15/hour minimum salary for support staff (revised Custodial, Food Service and Clerical Salary Schedule)
- One step movement for teachers (exception - longevity teachers will receive 3%) and all support staff (exceptions: Custodial, Food Service, and Clerical)
- 3% increase for administrators

Still, the district is seeking to fill more than 150 vacant certified and non-certified teaching, administrative and support staff positions. Thursday, Aug. 25, the District will host a hiring and career fair from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the administrative building, located at 1370 Northumberland Drive.

A NEW VIEW ON THE HORIZON

By Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams, Superintendent of Schools

Greetings RGSD Faculty, Students and Families,

Summer brought to a close what was possibly the most trying year for educators and families across the country. Yet it was a rewarding school year as well. We all felt the residual effects of COVID and the transition to full in-person teaching and learning. After almost two years of virtual/hybrid instruction, we were able to recognize and address the emotional strain on our scholars, faculty and staff through training in Restorative Justice Practices. We made it through multiple transitions at the Board and district leadership level.



We heard you when you said that a disconnect existed between Central Office and the buildings. We've worked hard to re-engage RGSD staff, alumni, partners and the community, at all levels of decision-making. We have made great progress in moving forward and making a more welcoming environment through our new mantra: A New View on the Horizon. Most importantly, we have started to chip away at the achievement gap and make strides to improve student academic performance.

While we still have a ways to go, we are committed to move towards true educational equity and excellence. Our Special Administrative Board has shown commitment and leadership to ensure all students get the best we have to offer each and every day. Our Board is also committed to letting our faculty and staff know that you are appreciated, as evidenced by not one but two pay increases across all classifications for the 2022-23 school year.



Now begins the work to develop and implement the Turnaround/Priority Schools process. This process is designed to improve student performance districtwide in ELA and Math, with our partners from Solution Tree. We will work aggressively to change the narrative about RGSD, making us a destination district for scholars and staff. We will roll up our sleeves to address the needs of our facilities and grounds in partnership with our feeder communities. Additionally, we will continue our journey to learn, train and implement restorative justice practices.

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As we move forward, the inclusion of student voice will give a conduit for student input across all levels of decision-making (curriculum, hiring, policies and procedures), giving students input in their educational future. One example of this commitment is the establishment of the Student Leaders Advisory.

Teacher, parent and stakeholder voice will help on our journey to regaining full accreditation. It will add in the accountability of the Turnaround/Priority work as well as the development and monitoring of the District's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP).

The 2022-2023 school year will usher in a full court press of changing the narrative and becoming the New View on the Horizon, cultivating a sense of community and family connection throughout our scholars' RGSD experience.

I want to again welcome everyone to what I believe is going to be an amazing school year for Riverview Gardens scholars, families, faculty and staff. Please join us in our journey of transformation.