

October 31, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians of Eighth Grade Students,

November is usually the time when we receive many requests from parents and students for information about secondary schools. This letter will explain information and procedures for moving on to high school.

Students can pursue their secondary education in:

- Public high schools
 - Career and technical education
 - Magnet high schools
 - Private high schools
- ex. Rocky Hill High School (RHHS)
ex. Vinal Technical High School or
Agricultural Science and Technology
Education (Middletown High School)
ex. Greater Hartford Academy of Math
& Science (GHAMAS), Greater Hartford
Academy of Arts (GHAA), or Sports &
Medical Sciences Academy
ex. Mercy, Xavier, Kingswood-Oxford

These options are choices that families study with care before making their decisions. During the months of November and December, it is traditional for private schools to have “open house” opportunities, followed by dates when entrance exams are taken. Private schools typically require extensive applications and testing for admission. It is the responsibility of the parents to obtain the necessary information from these institutions. We will assist you by completing the sections of the application related to us. Recommendations completed by teachers, counselors, and/or administrators are mailed directly to the respective schools.

The career and technical schools require applications, and hold open houses in October or November. These applications are available to the students in the guidance office or, for some schools, online.

The magnet schools require parent and student meetings or attendance at an open house, and online applications. The openings for these schools are limited and students are chosen by lottery. For more information on magnet school choices and open house dates, please visit <http://www.crec.org/schools/magnet.php>

RHHS will host an 8th Grade Parent Orientation on January 26 (snow date - January 30) from 5:00-7:00 PM. Parents who want to learn more about core and elective course offerings, will start this program in the Multi-purpose room at 5:00 pm. Important course information will be highlighted and Department supervisors will be present to answer any questions you have. At 6:00 PM, parents will transition to the Auditorium for a brief presentation from the Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, and Head of Guidance. Graduation requirements will be reviewed and programs, policies, and extra-curricular activities will be highlighted. 8th grade students will attend a similar program on January 17 or 18 at RHHS during the school day.

In addition to the advanced placement classes and the many other opportunities RHHS students presently enjoy, a program called Project Lead the Way (PLTW) has also been established. PLTW is geared toward students who have an interest in engineering and allows them to earn college credits for some of the courses. You will receive information regarding the orientation in the mail. For more information about RHHS please visit <https://rhhs.rockyhillps.com/>

If there are questions or concerns you have as your children move on to the next level in their education, please contact your child's school counselor, Mrs. Lentini for the Royal Team and Mrs. Brockel for the Blue Team. We will do our best to provide you with the answers you need.

Sincerely,

Rosemary F. Lentini
School Counselor

Lisa Brockel
School Counselor