



John Fote, Principal
Rocky Hill High School

50 Chapin Avenue, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 Tel: 860-258-7721 Fax: 860-258-7735 www.rockyhillps.com

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Welcome back to both our current and new RHHS students to another exciting academic year at Rocky Hill High School. I hope this letter finds you well and that you are having an incredible summer filled with much fun and relaxation.

We believe that Rocky Hill public schools are the pride of the community and our students' success is empowered by the loving community around them. At Rocky Hill High School, the faculty and staff believe our students deserve direct access to a great education and we work hard to deliver on that promise. As a member of the RHHS community, we expect our students to do what is right, do the best they can and treat others the way they like to be treated. **As we embark on the school year, please take some time to review the correspondence in this letter regarding the school's policies and procedures.**

Key Dates and Events:

- **Freshman Orientation:** [August 25, 2023] - A special day for the Class of 2027 to feel what it is like to be a Terrier and familiarize themselves with the building.
- **First Day of School:** [August 31, 2023] Classes will begin at 7:35am in the morning. Please ensure your child arrives on time. Doors open at 7:20am.
- **Open House:** [September 14, 2023] - An opportunity for parents to meet teachers, explore classrooms, and learn about the curriculum. More details to follow.

School Policies and Guidelines: To maintain a safe and conducive learning environment, we kindly request your cooperation in adhering to the following school policies:

- **Attendance:** Seat time = Learning time.
- **Absences:** Student absences reported no later than 7:35 am on the day your child is absent by completing the RHHS absence google form.
- **Tardiness:** Tardy to school on the 6th and subsequent occurrence in an academic quarter results in a 30 minute after school detention. Early is on time, on time is late!
- **Loss of Credit:** Students may not exceed 8 unexcused absences in .50 course or 16 in a 1.0 course.
- **Transportation:** Information available on the website; all school rules apply.
- **Powerschool:** Parent portal is highly recommended to review your child's grading and attendance.
- **Student ID:** Must be visible and worn around the neck; failure to have an ID is a \$5 fee each time.
- **Senior Privileges:** Late arrival/Early dismissal and Parking (seniors only apply)
- **Dress Code:** dress in a manner consistent with accepted standards of health, safety and decency
- **Cell phone:** Students can only text during passing times and common areas. Failure to comply results in confiscation of devices and possible discipline.

Communication: We believe open communication between the school and parents is vital for the success of our students. Throughout the year, we will keep you informed about your child's progress, upcoming events, and any important announcements via:

- **School website:** [www.rockyhillps.com]
- **Email:** [fotej@rockyhillps.com] [maliziae@rockyhillps.com] [horvathj@rockyhillps.com]
- **Phone:** [860-258-7721]
- **Newsletters and updates:** sent electronically
- **Parent Advisory Committee (PAC):** Once per month (Mondays) via a google meet invite

Wishing you all a fantastic year ahead! GO TERRIERS!





All my best, John Fote, Principal RHHS



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SUMMER NEWSLETTER INFORMATION.....

	<p>About Us We are the Rocky Hill High School Terriers, grades 9 thru 12 with approximately 720 students. The school address is 50 Chapin Avenue. We have over 130 staff in our building on a daily basis. We are proud of our commitment to learning and student achievement.</p>									
	<p>Administration</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 768 1498 995"> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 768 570 825">John Fote</td> <td data-bbox="570 768 1118 825">Principal</td> <td data-bbox="1118 768 1498 825">fotej@rockyhillps.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 825 570 909">Edward Malizia</td> <td data-bbox="570 825 1118 909">Assistant Principal</td> <td data-bbox="1118 825 1498 909">maliziae@rockyhillps.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 909 570 995">Joseph Horvath</td> <td data-bbox="570 909 1118 995">Athletic Director & Activities Coordinator</td> <td data-bbox="1118 909 1498 995">horvathj@rockyhillps.com</td> </tr> </table>	John Fote	Principal	fotej@rockyhillps.com	Edward Malizia	Assistant Principal	maliziae@rockyhillps.com	Joseph Horvath	Athletic Director & Activities Coordinator	horvathj@rockyhillps.com
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	<p>Attendance (Seat time = Learning Time) Attendance Matters! Students need to be in school to learn, to achieve, to obtain credit and earn a diploma. Invaluable educational experiences are available each day in each classroom. Attendance is recorded every period by teachers. School administration makes daily attendance a priority and reviews students' daily attendance as it impacts learning and potential credit loss. Report all student absences by accessing the Google link provided RHHS Absence Google Form</p>									
	<p>Athletics Registration for all sports seasons (fall, winter and spring) must be done prior to the start of the season. Please pay attention to the dates as certain sports begin earlier than others. Students need a current physical and parent permission form in order to participate. Fall athletics registration can be completed online by accessing the following link, https://secure.infosnap.com/family/ActionForms/Public/32153. Additionally, please review the athletic website, athletic handbook and the activities handbook for more pertinent information. Both handbooks are now available online on our school website. Students are reminded that participation in athletics and co-curricular activities is a privilege and carries with it high expectations for students as role models. Being involved will make the four year experience at RHHS meaningful. <i>Lastly, let us all remember that our athletes, their coaches, the referees, opposing teams, and their fans deserve nothing less than our respect and courtesy. This goes for not only our athletes, but also our parents and fans.</i></p>									



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	<p>Academic Honesty RHHS mission is to provide a quality learning experience. You get what you put into it! We have high expectations and we hold our students to this. As each individual is responsible for his or her own learning, each student is expected to complete and submit only his or her own work. Any violation of this standard is considered academic dishonesty and results in very serious academic and disciplinary consequences. More discussion will occur during an Advisory activity.</p>
	<p>Bullying Behavior The school system implements practices and programs that address the issue of bullying and encourage appropriate behavior. Any suspected reports of bullying behavior towards another student should be immediately directed toward school administration. Please refer to the Board of Education Policy Regulation on the Rocky Hill Public School website.</p>
	<p>Bus Information Families can access bus information via the school website.</p>
	<p>Cell Phone At RHHS, cell phones use is limited to texting only and is allowed in common areas only including hallways and study halls. Library and Guidance are NOT common areas. Students must have devices put away or placed in telephone pockets upon entry into the classroom. Students are permitted to use cell phones for calls outside of the school building before and after the school day. If a student needs to make a call during the school day, a phone is available for student use at the front desk in the Main Office.</p> <p>Cell phones, iPods, other music players, and their accessories (earbuds, earphones, etc.) may not be visible, activated, or in use in any other area of the building (classrooms, labs, locker rooms, bathrooms, hallways, during class time) unless authorized by a teacher or administrator for an educational purpose.</p> <p>Any student in possession of a cell phone, etc. that is visible, activated, or in use at an unauthorized time or in an unauthorized area will be subject to device confiscation and possible disciplinary action.</p> <p>Inappropriate use of electronics that disrupts the educational environment, involves threatening, harassment/bullying, sexting, academic dishonesty, or any violation of RHHS policy will, in addition to other school and law enforcement action, result in the immediate loss of privileges including confiscation of phone by RHHS administration.</p>
	<p>Chromebook All students will be provided a RHHS chromebook for the school year. Freshman students will obtain their Chromebook at Freshman Orientation. Student use of the Chromebook falls under the guidelines of the District's Acceptable Use Policy for technology (see District website) and the school level Chromebook discipline procedures. Access to the Internet is monitored through our school's content filtering software and all rules and expectations are applied to the use of the Chromebook. All applications, activity, and documents stored on the Chromebook are the property of Rocky Hill Schools and subject to regular review and monitoring.</p>



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	<p>Students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring your Chromebook fully charged to school everyday. • Keep your Chromebook with you or in a secured (locked) area at all times. • Report loss or theft immediately. • Remember that your Chromebook is for educational purposes. • Follow the RHBOE Acceptable Use Policy at all times. • Log into Chromebook with their school email address only. <p>Students should not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the Chromebook in any way other than instructed by teachers or administration. • Use another student's Chromebook. • Apply any permanent marks, decorations, or modifications to the Chromebook. • Log into Chromebook with a personal email address. • Use Chromebooks to charge other devices. <p>Failure to comply with these guidelines will be treated as failure to comply with the District's Acceptable Use Policy and will be dealt with as specified in the District's discipline code.</p>				
	<p>Class Dues</p> <p>Class dues are used to help defray the costs of senior events such as class picnic and class night. Class dues are applied to senior activities and thus the full amount must be paid. All monies are placed in the Student Activity Fund (SAF) and receipts are issued upon payment of dues. Students will not be able to attend any event if they are not current with the dues payment schedule. Dues will not be applied toward proms as this requires an additional cost to cover prom expenses.</p>				
	<p>Credit Loss (Attendance)</p> <p>RHHS cares about students being in school. We know that students learn more when they are in the classroom and the experiences learned in the classroom can never be replicated. Students will swipe into school every morning for general building attendance. In order for students to pass and earn credit they must be present. Students may lose credit for excessive absences.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 1255 1497 1367"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="381 1255 938 1310">Full Year Course (1.00)</th> <th data-bbox="938 1255 1497 1310">Half Year Course (.50)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 1310 938 1367">16 absences</td> <td data-bbox="938 1310 1497 1367">8 absences</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Full Year Course (1.00)	Half Year Course (.50)	16 absences	8 absences
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	<p>Discipline All decisions come down to making the right choices. When students make mistakes with their behaviors, there are consequences.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 415 1498 892"> <tr> <td>Office Detention</td> <td>30 minutes</td> <td>2:30 PM to 3:00 PM Room 1006</td> <td>M,T,R,F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extended Detention</td> <td>2 hours</td> <td>2:30 PM to 4:30 PM Room 1006</td> <td>Wednesday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday Detention</td> <td>4 hours</td> <td>8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Cafeteria</td> <td>Saturday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISS</td> <td>Internal School Suspension</td> <td>7:35 AM to 2:25 PM Room 1004</td> <td>M-F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ESS</td> <td>External School Suspension</td> <td>Not allowed in school, time determined by admin</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Office Detention	30 minutes	2:30 PM to 3:00 PM Room 1006	M,T,R,F	Extended Detention	2 hours	2:30 PM to 4:30 PM Room 1006	Wednesday	Saturday Detention	4 hours	8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Cafeteria	Saturday	ISS	Internal School Suspension	7:35 AM to 2:25 PM Room 1004	M-F	ESS	External School Suspension	Not allowed in school, time determined by admin	
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	<p>Dress Code Student dress should enhance the educational climate of the school and avoid disruption of the educational process. Students are required to dress in a manner consistent with generally accepted standards of health, safety and decency. The following may not be worn by any student at Rocky Hill High School:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carbon content, black soled, lug-type shoes and/or boots which can leave black marks on the floors or walls or any type of footwear which can damage school property. 2. Garments that expose the chest, midriff and/or buttocks. 3. All clothing, jewelry and tattoos shall be free of the following: profanity, violent images or weapons, sexually suggestive phrases or images, gang related symbols or colors, alcohol, drugs or advertisements of such products. 4. Hats, hoods and any other head coverings may not be worn or visible during the school day unless they fall under religious or medical exemptions. <p>Failure to comply may result in disciplinary consequences.</p>																				
	<p>Early Dismissal or Late Arrival Only Seniors are eligible for either privilege with parent permission and acceptable grades. Seniors may choose to arrive late to school (Late Arrival) or to leave school early (Early Dismissal) based on their schedule. <u>Students are not allowed to leave school grounds during any periods throughout the school day.</u> A completed Early Dismissal/Late Arrival form must be turned into the main office before you can begin your privilege. Until approval is granted, the student must attend his/her study hall. Excessive call outs by parents to come to school tardy or leave early could disqualify your child from these privileges. Forms are available in the main office and the school website.</p>																				



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	<p>First Day of School The first day of school is August 31, 2023. The school start time is 7:35 AM to 2:25 PM. Tardy to school students will have to sign in late. We are resuming the traditional nine (9) period schedule. It is expected that students must wear their RHHS ID everyday.</p>
	<p>Grade 9 Information Ninth Grade Counts! I want to be clear that ninth grade sets the tone for your four years and credit requirements to graduate is 25. It is important to start off strong. We have many supports for 9th graders and the importance of remaining on track is critical in having a successful freshman year academically. The simple formula for being on track is making sure you are doing well with your attendance, behavior and grades.</p>
	<p>Graduation Graduation takes place every year and for all students that are able to satisfy all RHBOE requirements over the duration of their high school career. In order to meet graduation requirements, students should fulfill recommended credit requirements and fulfill the community service requirement. The hours for community service are as follows: YOG 2024 = 37.5 hours YOG 2025 = 50 hours YOG 2026 = 50 hours YOG 2027 = 50 hours</p>
	<p>Handbook On the first day of school, the teacher will take time during Homeroom to review the handbook highlights and emphasis for the school year. Keep in mind the handbook will be electronic this school year. Therefore, planners will not be distributed to students. The student handbook is an important document to review with your child about the rules and regulations at RHHS. The parent/student sign-off form must be given back to your child's homeroom teacher within the first 10 days of school.</p>
	<p>Health Office Rocky Hill High School maintains a health office in the school building. Renee Garrahy, our school nurse, is responsible for maximizing the health and well-being of our school-aged children and adolescents. Nurses provide routine and emergency health care for students and maintain student health records while ensuring compliance with regulations regarding immunizations, physical assessments, screenings, record keeping, and privacy mandates. School nurses also oversee the administration and documentation of prescribed medications and participate in the health education curriculum at our schools. Nurses discuss health concerns with students and parents, consult with physicians of students who have health concerns, and make home visits to students when needed. All student health information is kept confidential.</p>



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	<p>Lockers All freshmen are assigned a locker at the beginning of the school year and this will be their school locker for all four years of high school. Sharing a locker or giving your locker combination out to other students is strongly discouraged.</p>
	<p>Makeup Work Students are allowed to make up all work missed due to class or school absence unless the absence is the result of class cutting or truancy. The general rule is to allow one day for every day missed unless there are special circumstances which require a longer period of time. Long-term assignments are exempt from this regulation.</p>
	<p>Morning (A.M.) Student Drop Off The student drop-off area is located on the school side of Chapin Avenue and is one way only. Parents dropping off students in the morning should travel south on Chapin Avenue from Parsonage Street in order to keep traffic flowing smoothly. We know parents are in a hurry in the morning, but students must be dropped off in this location. Please do not drop off students on the opposite side of the street and have them cross oncoming traffic. Also, parents should not enter the parking lots before the start of the school day or enter through the rear bus entrance. Please remember, the rear of the school is strictly for buses only. It is critical for the safety of our students that we separate bus drop off in the rear of the building and student drop off in the front.</p>
	<p>Parent Portal (Powerschool) The PowerSchool portal is an online application that provides students and parents access to student grades and attendance information and also serves to house school forms for completion. Access to the portal can be found at https://rockyhill.powerschool.com/public/. Also, since most of the school communication is technology-based, it is strongly recommended parents subscribe. Other features include unlimited access to grades, attendance, progress reports and communication with teachers.</p>
	<p>Parent Advisory (PAC) PAC meetings are open to ALL parents. Meetings provide a forum for parents to collaborate and discover news and information about the high school. Whether you are the parent of a high school student for the first time or have had several children graduate from RHHS, we highly encourage your participation. Meetings are once each month during the school year and will be conducted via Google Meets. Look for more information in the monthly Principal's Newsletter. If you would like to be part of the PAC then email me at fotej@rockyhillps.com and I will gladly include you in the PAC invite email.</p>
	<p>Parking Parking is a SENIOR privilege. This is available to seniors on a first come, first serve basis. Students wishing to obtain parking privileges must obtain a parking application from the main office and obtain a current school year parking decal. After registration, students will be assigned a parking spot. Students attempting to park without a permit or in unauthorized space will receive a school consequence and jeopardize parking privileges. Students with these privileges must comply with all school rules (grades, behavior, etc) and parents' written permission to drive to school. Student parking is located on the south side near the tennis courts.</p>



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	<p>School Counseling Office Counselors names and assignments are as follows. Any question please contact the school counseling department at 860-258-7724</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 415 1498 699"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="381 415 938 470">Last Name Beginning with:</th> <th data-bbox="938 415 1498 470">School Counselor</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 470 938 527">A-D</td> <td data-bbox="938 470 1498 527">Mrs. Notarangelo</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 527 938 583">E-K</td> <td data-bbox="938 527 1498 583">Mrs. Carbutti</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 583 938 640">L-Rf</td> <td data-bbox="938 583 1498 640">Mrs. Bikowski</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="381 640 938 699">Rg-Z</td> <td data-bbox="938 640 1498 699">Mrs. Russell</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Last Name Beginning with:	School Counselor	A-D	Mrs. Notarangelo	E-K	Mrs. Carbutti	L-Rf	Mrs. Bikowski	Rg-Z	Mrs. Russell
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	<p>Student ID's Students are required to wear his/her student ID around their neck at all times while in the building except in classes where a teacher instructs students to remove the ID for safety reasons. In the event a student does not have his/her ID the student must obtain a replacement ID in order for the student to enter the building. The student ID will be made by the main office staff and a \$5 accountability fee will be imposed at the time the ID is made or as an indebtedness. The loss of a student ID should be reported immediately to the main office. Students not wearing the school ID are subject to consequences and discipline per school administration. Keep in mind the student ID is used for lunch, checking out materials from the library, computer labs, identification at sporting events, identification for class activities, bus identification, admission to school, detentions and use of hallways. Students refusing to identify themselves or found wearing a false ID will be referred to the main office/school administration.</p>										
	<p>Student Schedules Student schedules were determined in the Spring by students and school counselors and are final. If students have incomplete or partial schedules then please contact the school counseling office at 860-258-7724.</p>										
	<p>Summer Reading Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. As you are aware from recent communications, students are required to complete the summer reading and accompanying form. The form is a graded assignment for your child's English class which will be submitted during an Advisory Homeroom in September.</p> <p>2023 Summer Reading Packet</p>										
	<p>Tardiness Being early is on time. Being on time is late. Tardy to school means the student is late to Period 1 and in this case, the student will be sent back to the main office for a tardy to school (period 1) slip. On the sixth (6th) and subsequent occurrence in a quarter the student is assigned a 30 minute office detention after school from 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM. Failure to serve is an automatic 2 hour extended detention from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. If a student misses more than fifteen (15) minutes from class, they will be marked tardy long (TL) which is equivalent to an absence.</p>										



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June 1, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On behalf of the RHHS mathematics department, I want to share with you our excitement for having the opportunity to work with your children over the next four years and help them reach their potential as students and members of the community. As technological fluency becomes more vital for success in school and in the workforce, I would like to say a word about the significance of graphing calculators throughout the RHHS mathematics curriculum.

All students enrolled in a math class are advised to purchase a *Texas Instruments* graphing calculator for use in class and at home. Students should choose the *TI-84 Plus* model which has superior functionality. You can purchase these calculators at Staples, Target, and Walmart, or from online sites such as Amazon, among others. Be on the lookout for discounts/rebates over the summer. Occasionally, eBay will have a good deal on used TI-84 graphing calculators as well.

A benefit to your child owning his/her own graphing calculator is that he/she can use it on the entire math section of the SAT. Unfortunately, students who are not proficient with a graphing calculator will be at a disadvantage on the SAT or a math AP exam. Moreover, many colleges are now requiring the use of a graphing calculator for their math courses. So, students should hone their graphing calculator skills as soon and as frequently as possible to better prepare them for the rigor of higher education.

Each math classroom is stocked with about 10 *TI-84 Plus* graphing calculators for use during class (however, students may not take these calculators home). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by calling the school (860-258-7721, Ext. 3017) or by emailing me at gracab@rockyhillps.com. Best wishes to your children on a successful academic career here at RHHS.

Sincerely,
Brian Graca

Brian Graca, Ed.D.
Mathematics Program Supervisor
Math Team Coach
Rocky Hill High School