

The



NEVERMORE

Newsletter

A note from our principal Ms. Nelson:

Greetings Rocky River High School Community:

As we move towards our fifth graduating class at Rocky River High School, it has caused me to reflect on how far we have come since our opening in 2010. We have graduated more than 1,140 students, maintained an average graduation rate of 91 percent, met or exceeded student achievement growth according to the state assessments, and made double-digit gains in our proficiency scores since the adoption of Common Core Standards by the state and district.

Beyond the classroom, our Ravens athletic programs boast playoff bids in men's and women's basketball and football. We have over 21 student clubs for students, ranging from the American Sign Language Club to Key Club and Rugby. Our Student Government provides school-wide activities and pep rallies as well as creates school policies and procedures in conjunction with our school's administration. We have built partnerships with four different organizations to provide mentorship to our students weekly.

As we started this academic year, we set goals for our school improvement. They included:

- **Graduation Rate:** To increase graduation rate in 12th grade by 2.1% from 88.9% in 2013-2014 to 91% in 2014-2015.
- **Promotion Rate:** To increase promotion rate in 9th grade by 3.2% from 86.8% in 2013-2014 to 90% in 2014-2015. To increase promotion rate in 10th grade by 4.4% from 85.6% in 2013-2014 to 90% in 2014-2015. To increase the promotion rate in 11th grade by 1.5% from 95.5% in 2013-2014 to 97% in 2014-2015.
- **Student Achievement:** To increase our overall school proficiency rate on the Math I, Biology, and English II state tests from 34.11% to 42.5% (an increase of 8.39%). **(Fall: 34.27)**
 - ◊ Math I from 18.68% in 2013-2014 to 28.68% proficient in 2014-2015 **(Fall: 25.45)**
 - ◊ Biology from 39.26% in 2013-2014 to 47.26% proficient in 2014-2015 **(Fall: 25.70)**
 - ◊ English II from 42.56% in 2013-2014 to 50.56% proficient in 2014-2015 **(Fall: 54.29)**
- **Discipline & Culture:** Provide a positive school climate, under CMS regulation JICK-R, by promoting a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassing behaviors.

A note from our principal Ms. Nelson continued..

Our school's success thus far gives me confidence to believe that we will achieve these goals. We are definitely on our way. Below are just a few accolades that have been featured in our local newspapers!

- Freshman Kenya Livingston is currently ranked #1 in North Carolina and in the top 5 in the Nation for the High Jump. She will compete at the State Games in Winston Salem, NC where she has a chance to move up in her National Ranking. Kenya has also qualified for the High School Nationals track event in New York in the High Jump and the 400 Meter Dash. Sophomore Jazzmone Boyd will compete at the State Games in the 1000 Meter Run. She currently is ranked in the Top 20. Jazzmone's other ranked event is the 500 Meter Run. Freshman Mariah Atwater is ranked in the Top 25 for the 300 Meter Dash as well as the 500 Meter Run. She has qualified for the Nationals in the 400 Meter Dash and the 4x4 Relay. Sophomore Aureilya Harris will join these 3 track stars in the 4x4 Relay at the State Games. This relay team ranks 6th in the State and hope to move up to 3rd place during this competition.
- Sidney Kaylan Love will compete at the State Track Meet for a championship in the 300 Meter Dash as well as the 500 Meter Dash. He is currently ranked 3rd in the state for the 300 Dash and 5th for the 5000 Dash. He is ranked in the Top 15 Nationally. Coach Antoine Sidberry has worked diligently with these athletes.
- Rocky River staff takes great pride in their students' who exhibit good behavior. We have great things happening each week to honor those who model good behavior. I continue to do Raven Buck drawings each Friday awarding those students who model the Rocky River student code of Respect, Responsibility, Honor and Service. Congratulations to those students who are nominated each week!
- The 9th grade team has implemented a new incentive plan called the Raven Referral. Every day teachers nominate students who have done great things in their classrooms. Students are called down to receive a small prize as well as a call home to let their parents in on the good news!
- Rocky River's JROTC and ASL (American Sign Language) clubs joined together to collect books for Child's Heaven library in Ghana, West Africa. The students collected 27 boxes of books that will be shipped this spring to children in Ghana who lack reading materials. Last year, the ASL club collected 36 boxes of books that were shipped to the Two Villages library in Ghana. One of our teacher's, Ms. Ellie Mends sponsored this event.
- Rocky River would also like to congratulate Senior David Fee who has been awarded 3 Regional Scholastic Gold Keys for his 3D Art Installations: Roadkill Rendering, Unthing, and The Original Blues Machine. His Roadkill Rendering piece also won the Mid Carolina American Vision Award. Rachel Walker was also awarded a Gold Key for her Surrealist Collage Digital Art piece as well as an honorable mention for her Woven Couple Photography. David and Rachel's artwork is currently on display at Spirit Square in Charlotte. On March 16th, the Scholastic "Best in Show" and national awards will be announced. Those pieces will go to the National Scholastic competition. Art teacher Kelsey Eller and photography instructor Andrew Vinson worked with these students.

As you can see, we have lots of great things happening at Rocky River High School. From sports to academics we are shining in all areas. I look forward to finishing out this school year with an abundance of great news to share.

Sincerely,

Brandy Nelson
Principal

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

Remember to ask family, friends and co-workers to also link their cards to help support Rocky River,. You can also email your name and card number to rrhptsa@gmail.com

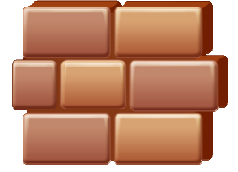
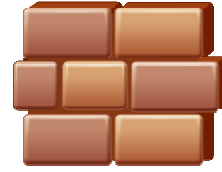
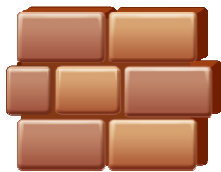
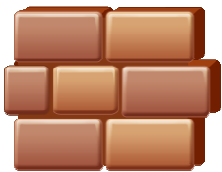
Leave your mark at the "ROCK"

Bricks are available in 2 sizes and make a great graduation gift.

4x8 bricks \$35.00 3 lines, 18 characters per line

8x8 bricks \$75.00 3 lines, 18 characters per line

For more information go to: <https://www.bricksrus.com/order/rrhs/>



PTSA General Meeting

When: Thursday March 19th from 6:30 pm—7:30 pm.

Where: At the RRHS library (2nd floor)

Why: Topics will include Staff EOY Luncheon and Board Members for the next school year.





CPCC Summer Bridge Program

The purpose of the Summer Bridge Program at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) is to give students an opportunity to successfully transition from high school to college in a closed, structured and supervised environment. The goal of this program is to make students more aware of what is expected of them in college and what will be expected of them in the real world. There is an Information Session on **Wednesday, March 18, 2015 from 6pm – 8pm** at the Cato Campus in Cato 1, room 140.

Please RSVP with Armah Shiancoe at armah.shiancoe@cpcc.edu

More information can be found at <https://www.cpcc.edu/outreach-recruitment/for-high-school-students/summer-bridge-program>



The Rocky River Orchestra and Bands will be performing a concert on

Wednesday March 11, 2015.

The concert starts at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium. The performing groups are celebrating Music in our Schools Month.

The concert is free and open to the public.



RRHS Theatre brings Shakespeare to the stage for the first time in school history! Come see Shakespeare's master work of love, betrayal and magic set on a deserted island.

Shakespeare's The Tempest

April 22, 23 and 24 at 7:00 pm in the RRHS Auditorium.

Cost is \$5 for Students/Seniors and \$8 for Adults.

In The News

On February 11th, The Raven Adapted Players, Rocky River's inclusion theater group, performed at Metro School. The group performed different folk tales and short stories including *The Three Sillies*, *Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*. There were three performances for the students - one for K-5th grade, one for middle school grades, and one for high school/transition grades.



On February 25, the Rocky River High School Jazz Band made a visit to J.H. Gunn Elementary School to honor J.H. "Jimmie" Gunn, the school's namesake. RRHS students played two classic jazz songs, "Some Juice for Bruce" and "Time Out," alongside recorded jazz classics that were heard by the students. Over 200 fourth- and fifth-graders listened to selected jazz pieces, including trombone and trumpet solos performed by RHHS students.

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article11157092.html>



Testing Information

SAT Registration and Test Dates

<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
April 6, 2015	May 2, 2015
May 8, 2015	June 6, 2015

RRHS SAT CODE = 342640



ACT Registration and Test Dates

<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
March 13, 2015	April 18, 2015
May 8, 2015	June 13, 2015

RRHS ACT CODE = 324640



The Triumph College Admissions Online Study Guide for SAT and the TCA Online Study Guide for ACT are **free online tools available to help you prepare for taking the PSAT, SAT, or ACT**. You may use these study guides at any time. Use the study guides to learn more about the test, review specific skills, take practice quizzes, and track your progress.

Within the Triumph Online Study Guide, you will also find **FinalPrep for the SAT and ACT, online sessions designed for preparation the week before the test**. **FinalPrep** helps you to review the structure, format, skills, and test-taking tips you need before you take the test.

Accessing the Triumph Online Study Guide

Step 1: Visit the following website

<http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/Pages/testprep.aspx>

Step 2: Click the link for Rocky River High School (on the left)

Step 3: Log into the Student Study Guide Homepage -Enter your Student ID # as the username (Note: If you don't know your Student ID #, go to your school's office and ask them to look it up for you.) -Enter your birth date (YYYYMMDD) as the password -Click the "login" button

Step 4: Select a Test Preparation Option

SAT Study Guide

PSAT Study Guide

ACT Study Guide

FinalPrep for the SAT

FinalPrep for the ACT

Step 5: Once you are in your selected test preparation option, begin with the overview and complete the steps as directed.

You do not have to complete the programs in one sitting. Break up the work and pace yourself.



Upcoming Events:

March 2 - Baseball at Vance - 4:30 pm

March 3 - Soccer at Olympic - 5:30 pm

March 4 - Baseball at South Meck - 4:30 pm

March 4 - Softball at South Meck - 5:00 pm

March 4 - Soccer at South Meck - 6:00 pm

March 5 - Soccer at Marvin Ridge - 5:30 pm

March 6 - Baseball at HOME (Myers Park) - 4:30 pm

March 6 - Softball at HOME (Myers Park) - 5:00 pm

March 8 - Daylight Saving Time begins -set your clocks ahead one hour

March 9 - Baseball at Central Cabarrus - 4:00 pm

March 10 - Baseball at Garinger - 4:30 pm

March 10 - Softball at Garinger - 5:00 pm

March 11 - Track at AL Brown - 3:30 pm

March 11 - Soccer at HOME (Mallard Creek) - 5:30 pm

March 11 - Music in Our Schools Concert - 7:00 pm (see page 3)

March 12 - Snow make-up day

March 13 - Baseball at HOME (East Meck) - 4:00 pm

March 13 - Softball at HOME (East Meck) - 5:00 pm

March 13 - Soccer at HOME (East Meck) - 5:30 pm

March 13 - Snow make-up day

March 17 - Baseball at Butler - 4:00 pm

March 17 - Softball at Butler - 5:00 pm

March 17 - Soccer at Butler - 5:30 pm



Upcoming Events continued:

March 18 - Track at HOME - 3:00 pm

March 19 - PTSA Meeting - 6:30 pm

March 19 - Rising 9th Grade Open House - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

March 19 - Baseball at Cox Mill - 4:00 pm

March 19 - Softball at Mallard Creek - 5:00 pm

March 19 - Soccer at HOME (Forest Hills) - 5:30 pm

March 23 - Baseball at North Stanley - 4:00 pm

March 24 - Baseball at Independence - 4:00 pm

March 24 - Softball at Independence - 5:00 pm

March 24 - Soccer at Independence - 5:30 pm

March 25 - Track at Olympic - 3:0 pm

March 25 - Soccer at HOME (Concord) - 5:30 pm

March 27 - Baseball at HOME (Porter Ridge) - 4:00 pm

March 27 - Softball at Porter Ridge - 5:00 pm

March 27 - Soccer at HOME (Porter Ridge) - 5:30 pm

March 31 - Baseball at Myers Park - 4:00 pm

March 31 - Softball at Myers Park - 5:00 pm

March 31 - Soccer at Myers park - 5:30 pm

March 31 - 3rd Quarter Ends

April 1 - Track at HOME - 3:00 pm

April 2 - Baseball at HOME (Vance) - 4:00 pm

April 3-10 - Spring Break - No School



This newsletter is brought to you by the Rocky River High School PTSA.

Our next meeting is Thursday March 19th.

RISING 9TH GRADE

OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015

5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

- **Meet English, Math, Science, History, World Language, Health/PE, Fine Arts/Music and CTE Teachers, JROTC**
- **Meet the EC Department**
- **Meet the Administrative Team**
- **Meet the Counseling Team**
- **Sign up for Sports and Clubs**
- **PTSA and Booster Club Information**
- **Meet JROTC Staff and School Tours by the Cadets**

**Rocky River HS
10505 Clear Creek Commerce Dr.
Mint Hill, NC 28227
980-344-0409**

**Thursday, March 19:
5:30 pm-7:00 pm**

**For more information Contact:
Ms. Cruz at 980-344-0409**

**Rocky River High School
HOME OF THE RAVENS!**



North Carolina
Library Association

Student Library Ambassador Program

Win a free trip to Washington, DC by showing your support for libraries!

We're sending six student ambassadors (and one parent or guardian each) from two elementary, two middle, and two high schools in North Carolina on a free trip to advocate for libraries during National Library Legislative Day in Washington, DC on Monday May 4th and Tuesday May 5, 2015.



2014 NCLA Student Ambassadors with ALA President Barbara Stripling in Washington, D.C.

To enter, all you have to do is show how much you love libraries and what effect it's had on your life, any way you want—essay, song, video, poem, interpretive dance, etc.—and submit your entry by mail or email by **March 16, 2015**.

Your submission should address three questions by **March 16, 2015**:

1. Why are libraries important to you and your classmates?
2. How have libraries impacted you personally?
3. How are libraries important for the future of North Carolina?

[View 2014 Winners](#)

Please submit your entry along with your name, grade, school, telephone, and mailing address to:

NCLA Student Library Ambassadors Program
North Carolina Library Association
1841 Capital Boulevard
Raleigh, NC, 27604-2144
Phone: (919) 839-6252
Fax: (919) 839-6253
Email: nclaonline@gmail.com

National Library Legislative Day will be held on May 4th and May 5, 2014. State library leaders and advocates along with 6 student ambassadors (and one parent or guardian) will travel to Washington D.C. on May 4th as a group, spend the evening site seeing in D.C., and spend the night at hotel. The following day, we will break into four teams and meet with North Carolina's state leaders in both the House of Representatives and Senate telling them why libraries are important to all of us and the future well-being of North Carolina.

[Event sponsored by the North Carolina Library Association \(NCLA\)](#)

KOHL'S Cares. | SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NOMINATE A YOUNG
VOLUNTEER FOR UP TO
\$10,000
IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Go to Kohlskids.com January 30-March 13, 2015, to nominate a young volunteer, age 6 to 18, for up to \$10,000 in scholarships.

STORE WINNERS
will each receive a

\$50

Kohl's Gift Card

REGIONAL WINNERS
will each receive a

\$1,000
scholarship
for higher education

NATIONAL WINNERS
will each receive a

\$10,000
scholarship
for higher education

Plus, Kohl's will donate \$1,000 to a nonprofit of the student's choice.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Students must be between the ages of 6 and 18 as of March 13, 2015, and not yet a high-school graduate. • The student's volunteer actions should be described in detail on the nomination. • Volunteer efforts must have occurred in the last year, and must have benefited people not related to the student. • Winners will be chosen based on the benefits and outcomes of their volunteer service. • Nominators must be 21 or older.

Go to Kohlskids.com for official rules or to nominate.





Rocky River High School PTSA Membership Form

Here are some of the benefits you may receive for joining the PTSA for the 2014-2015 school year.

For Parents:

- Opportunities during the year to attend special meet and greets with the principal, Ms. Nelson
- Raffle entries for exciting prizes throughout the year
- Option to purchase Exam packs for students during EOCs
- 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

For RRHS Staff:

- Raffle entries for exciting prizes throughout the year
- Lunch and food truck socials

Dues for the 2014-2015 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: _____

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

