Dear Parents:

We've made it through our first month of school for the 2017-2018 school year. I hope you enjoyed the Open House held September 27th as you practiced "Walking A Night In Your Child's Shoes"! It's been exciting leading our RMS Families with the assistance and support of Dr. Douglas Kent (Grade 6) and Mr. Ryan Buterbaugh (Grade 7) Assistant Principals; and I am proud to be a part of such a self-motivated team.

This is certainly going to be another exciting year for RMS staff and more importantly for your child(ren). We will continue to provide the excellent academics, the social growth and “whole child” approach that has helped our school remain among the finest in the state. We were recently named the #2 Middle School in the state of Pennsylvania. Many "Thanks" goes to our teachers, staff, administrators, and You, our parents, for your continued support and assistance in making Radnor Middle School one of America's FINEST!!!
Below is the new staff that joined and returned to our RMS Community.

Welcome to:
Corina Segal – French/German  Joanna Eichenwald - Math
James Scott - Spanish  Douglas Pittman - Watershed
Kathleen Fallah – Reading Specialist  Jennifer Blischok – Math/Science
Stacie Luthultz - Technology

Welcome Back to:
Shauna Scharf – Language Arts  Maureen McConnell - FaCS
Cathie Mault – Language Arts  Jodi Sabra – Language Arts

October is the “Month of the Young Adolescent”, an annual international collaborative effort of education, health and youth-oriented organizations. Initiated by the Association for Middle Level Education, this brings together a wide range of organizations to focus on the needs of this important age range. (Ages 10 to 15).

Here at RMS, we have several ongoing activities which include:

7th/8th Grade Mixer – October 6, 2017 – 7:00-9:00pm

Red Ribbon Week – October 23rd thru 31st  - We will have both Spirit days and an Anti- Bullying or Anti- Drug/Alcohol Door Decorating Contest school wide.

RHS leads “LM Week” – October 31st (Look for more details to follow)
We've polished our Advisory period. Our efforts promote increased student-to-student and student-to-staff connectivity. Also, our After School Clubs and Activities begin this month and our sports are off and running. Please contact your child’s coach with any questions and view the RMS Website under the Activities and Athletics tab, then select overview.

I am looking forward to seeing you during these events and feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to lead our outstanding faculty and support staff in caring for your ‘children’. There will be many moving programs, initiatives and events that will help us to mold and shape your sons and daughters into what we envision and challenge them to become. Our School's Vision is: "From School to the World, Preparing the Hearts, Minds, and Spirits of All Students for Future Success".

Sincerely,

Esther M. Purnell
Principal
October

**DRUG & ALCOHOL AWARENESS!!** October is the month of the young adolescent. During this month, the counseling department will be taking time to examine different topics relating to adolescence, ending in the observance of Red Ribbon Week October 23rd-31st. This week reminds us of the importance of avoiding tobacco, drugs and alcohol. We encourage you to discuss those topics at home with your child. This year we will be focusing our educational information around the *opioid crisis* in our own community.

RMS counselors and administrators will be making presentations to all students regarding our Bully-Prevention Program and MSHOPE. MSHOPE is our student assistance team. We meet weekly to support student, parent or staff referrals of students who may be experiencing difficulty with their behavior, attendance, health, academics or engaging in at-risk behaviors. As part of our bully prevention initiative, parents and students can access our Bully Reporting Form online or in the guidance department. Children or parents can go to the RMS homepage and select the “Our School” tab, and below will appear the “Anti Bullying Program” choice. This provides for anonymous reporting of bullying concerns.

**NEW** Career Café coming this year to RMS!

In an effort to promote career awareness and education, RMS is looking for parents who would like to speak about their career with our middle schoolers during their lunch period. The parent session would be approximately 15 minutes. Students who want to learn more about a career being presented will take their lunch and join our guest parent speaker in a room close to the RMS cafeteria.

Student lunch times are as follows:

6th grade lunch: 12-12:30
7th grade lunch: 12:45-1:15

8th grade lunch: 11:10-11:40

If you have any interest in sharing what your career with our students, please contact your child’s counselor.

6th grade – Nicole.ottaviano@rtsd.org

7th grade – Clyde.Diehl@rtsd.org

8th grade- Lauren.Raines@rtsd.org

Check it out

The Parent Resource Library, housed in the waiting area outside of the guidance counselors' offices, contains approximately 100 books. The topics include: Adolescent Issues, Raising Boys and Girls, Learning Disabilities, ADHD, Homework and Organizational Tips, Strategies for Surviving the Teenage Years, and much, much more. Please stop by the Guidance Office the next time you are in the middle school. You can sign out any book that piques your interest.

Guidance Groups:

Counselors will be offering various groups during the 2017-2018 school year. We are fortunate to have the involvement of district psychologists and Caron Foundation staff for some groups. Plans are underway for groups in the areas of friendship, stress management, anger management, changing families, leadership for girls, social skills and youth at risk. Other topics will be considered and available as the year progresses. Please contact your child’s counselor if you are interested in a group experience for your child.

Naviance:

Naviance is a comprehensive college and career readiness solution for middle and high schools that helps to align student strengths and interests to possible post-secondary goals. All 6th grade students will be introduced to Naviance through their World Language rotation. This tool is then referred to and used through RMS and RHS. Ask your child to check out his/her survey results and see what interests he/she has as a 6th grader.
Art club meets on Mondays from 3:05-4:05 in the art rooms 211-209.

Arrange for a ride home as there are no activity buses.

All grades welcome !!!!!
Library News...

Reading Olympics @ Radnor Middle School -

It’s not too late to sign up.

Does your child like to read and talk about books? If so, encourage them to join an RMS Reading Olympics team. Teams will meet monthly during lunch to discuss the books each member has read. Collectively each team will read the 45 titles on the Middle School Reading Olympics list posted on the RMS Reading Olympics website. In early March, RMS teams will compete against other Delaware County middle school teams. Every team earns points for questions answered correctly. At the end of the evening each team is awarded a ribbon based on the number of questions they answered correctly. For more information please visit the webpage at http://rtsd.libguides.com/c.php?g=187338&p=1237665. If your child would like to sign up for Reading Olympics please fill out the permission slip and return to Mrs. Horan as soon as possible.
NOTES FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

➢ Absence Information and Procedures

If your student is absent, please call the Safe Arrival Line 610.688.0930. Fill out a Yellow Absence Excuse Card. It is a State requirement that students bring this note to the Attendance Office within 3 days of returning to school. If no note is received, the absence will remain unexcused in your child’s records. This policy will be strictly enforced.

When a student has missed three consecutive days of school, you may request any class/homework. You may leave your request on the Safe Arrival Line (610-688-0930) and work will be ready after 3:00 p.m. in the Attendance Office.

➢ Tardy/late notes are required

Only illness, family emergencies, or medical appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of the school day will be considered excused. Five unexcused tardies will result in lunch detentions following each subsequent lateness to school.

➢ Early dismissal

Students should bring a note signed by the parent/guardian and show this note to the teacher when they are ready to be dismissed. The student will be dismissed by that teacher and report to the Main Office for you to pick them up and sign them out.

Students must arrive at school by 11:30 in order to be considered present and be eligible to participate in sports or any extracurricular activity.

Please call the Attendance Office if you have any questions or concerns. 610.386.6300 ext 7506

➢ Forgotten Items

If a child forgets an item at home, parents should refrain as much as possible from bringing the item to school. If an item is brought in for a student, the STUDENT is expected to check in the Attendance Office. Classes are not interrupted to inform students that items have been delivered.
Pen Pals & Popcorn Club…

Halloween Haunted House & Abuelita's Empinadas will be waiting for you Monday, October 30th to support our sister school in Uganda. Join us from 5–8 pm in a Halloween-themed celebration. Abuelita's Empinadas will be served in the bus loop (pay for what you purchase at this amazing food truck); eat in the Cafeteria where there will be a sale of African handcrafts and jewelry, & a bake sale, then enter the haunted house for a $5 donation...if you dare!! Bring your friends and family and help make a difference in the lives of our friends in Uganda.

Contact Jodi.Sabra@rtsd.org for more details, or to help out.
From the Nurse...

Flu Clinic:

Health Hero will provide influenza vaccinations at RMS on Thurs., Nov. 9.

Consent forms were sent home the week of September 25th.

Deadline for completed consent forms is Wednesday November 1st.

Q: Older school age children and teens (age 9-18) require how many milligrams of calcium per day?

A: 1300mg per day. Higher level of calcium is especially important once children begin puberty (about 4 glasses of milk.)
Pennsylvania health law requires the following physical and dental exams for entry into school and continued attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Servings</th>
<th>Calcium Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk, whole or low-fat</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>300 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soy or Rice Milk</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>300 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White beans</td>
<td>1/2 cup</td>
<td>113 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instant Oatmeal</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli, cooked</td>
<td>1/2 cup</td>
<td>35 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli, raw</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>35 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheddar cheese</td>
<td>1.5 oz</td>
<td>300 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yogurt, low-fat</td>
<td>8 oz</td>
<td>300 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange juice, calcium fortified</td>
<td>1 cup</td>
<td>350 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange, medium</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40-50 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet potatoes, mashed</td>
<td>1/2 cup</td>
<td>44 mg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2017-2018 Physical, Dental and Immunization Requirements:**
Physical Exams (forms are available on-line and in the main office).

- Required for original entry into school (kindergarten or first grade), and again in grades 6 and 11
- Required for all students who transfer from outside Pennsylvania

Dental Exams (forms are available on-line and in the main office)

- Required for original entry into school (kindergarten or first grade), and again in grades 3 and 7
- Required for all students who transfer from outside Pennsylvania

Physical and dental exams must be completed within one year from the start of the school year and are to be submitted by the first day of school.

Parents are encouraged to take their children to their family physician and dentist for examinations to provide continuity of care. Your family physician/dentist is familiar with your child and is better able to detect any changes in your child’s health status.

If financial need is demonstrated, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) offers low-cost medical insurance. If requested by parents, the school physician, Dr. Walker, may perform the required physical examination. Please contact the school nurse for further information.
Halloween Safety

It’s Trick or Treat time again. Here are some tips for a safe and fun Halloween:

- Use costumes with reflective strips/tape and have children carry a flashlight with fresh batteries.
- Use face paints instead of masks so vision is not obstructed.
- If older children are going out alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.
- Always stay in groups and communicate where they will be going.
- Carry a cell phone for quick communication.
- Children should always visit homes in well-lit areas and have their outside lights turned on.
- Children should never go inside any house.
- Purchase wigs and accessories that are clearly labeled flame resistant.
- A good meal prior to trick-or-treating will discourage children from frequent Halloween snacking.
- Wait until children are home to sort and check treats.
- Closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.
- Ration treats for the days following Halloween.
Great News!
The **Drop-In Writing Center** Is Back, But With Added Features

This year the **Drop-In Writing Center** will be in **Room 407 during Advisory**

Another room you can use computers/printers for your assignments.
Work on current and future writing assignments.
Get help starting a new document.
Get help with punctuation, spelling, and grammar.
Learn how to type a document in a particular format.

**Added Feature - Study Skills Tips**

Learn tips on how to do better on your tests.

Learn how to take notes.

Learn time management.

Learn memorization techniques.

Before coming, please check in and obtain a pass from your advisory teacher. Bring the pass to Room 407 during Advisory. You must be working on something for class.
Assessments Count!

Radnor Middle School takes pride in our achievement, and our assessment practices direct us in setting and reaching high expectations for all students. We are measured by many standards, both social and academic, and as Radnor parents you play a significant role in the development and growth of our building. Thank you for your continuous dedication and support of all that we do and remembering that assessments count.

Welcome Back to a NEW YEAR of BEST BUDDIES CLUB!

We are excited to announce that RMS BEST BUDDIES is about to begin there second year at Radnor Middle School. BEST BUDDIES is a club which creates buddy pairs between students with and without disabilities. It helps to create one-to one friendships and an inclusive school climate for students early on in their educational development.

When students join BEST BUDDIES, they will become part of a growing movement of people with and without disabilities to help foster friendships in and outside of the school day. There will be a general meeting during advisory in the LGI on October 5th for any student who would like to participate. The club run during advisories from 8:00-8:35am. If you have any question please contact Karen Shoulberg ext. 7408 or Karen.shoulberg@rtsd.org
Connected?

**Home Access Center (HAC)** - is an online portal for students and parents/guardians with school related information such as class schedules, attendance, grades and report cards. Teachers publish information in HAC at least every two weeks.

**Schoology** – is our online learning management system that enables students, parents/guardians, and teachers to engage and interact with learning materials and their school beyond the traditional walls of a classroom. Using Schoology, students can submit assignments, access course content and keep informed of upcoming assignments.

The following chart provides a summary of general features Schoology and HAC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Schoology</th>
<th>HAC - Home Access Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework assignments</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upcoming assignments, projects and calendar</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning resources and documents</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment scores</td>
<td>Yes (varies by teacher)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades (Official)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class schedule</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Cards</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to HAC and Schoology are available through the RTSD Homepage under the Parents & Students tab or by going to [http://www.rtsd.org/domain/60](http://www.rtsd.org/domain/60). Password resend/reset features are available for HAC. If you need a Schoology account or to have your password reset, please go to [http://www.rtsd.org/domain/1128](http://www.rtsd.org/domain/1128) for additional information or [rmsschoologyhelp@rtsd.org](mailto:rmsschoologyhelp@rtsd.org). Both HAC and Schoology are available as an App for your mobile device.
No Place for Hate:

Radnor Middle School will be launching our 2017-2018 No Place for Hate initiative the week of October 2nd. Our students will sign the No Place for Hate pledge in their social studies classes. RMS has been recognized as a No Place for Hate school for four school years. For more information please visit the Anti-Defamation League website http://philadelphia.adl.org/

Hurricane Relief: Students Helping Students:

Radnor Middle School has identified two schools, one in Texas and one in Florida, to raise money for the students impacted by the recent hurricanes. Additionally, we are looking to identify a school in Puerto Rico that needs assistance as well. Stay tuned for more information to follow.

Villanova Student Athletes Visits:

For our third consecutive year we are hosting student athletes from Villanova University. Our guests speak to classes for 15 – 20 minutes on topics such as: the importance of academics, time management, work ethic, resiliency, teamwork, etc. Our students enjoy these opportunities. The Villanova students join us four times throughout the school year.
Happy Halloween!