



# Superintendent's Bulletin

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## Dear RCSD Community Member,

I hope you all had a relaxing winter break. January has been a busy month in the District. So far, Mother Nature has been kind to us by bringing snow on the weekend and we've not had to use any snow days. I'd like to remind all parents and guardians to update your SchoolMessenger account if any of your contact information has changed, or if you prefer to be contacted in a different way. SchoolMessenger is the emergency contact system used by the District to notify parents and guardians of school delays or cancellations. It has parent-controlled, password-protected accounts and the District cannot update it for you. To access your account, use the url: <https://contactme.schoolmessenger.com>, or access it via the RCSD website: [www.ryeschools.org](http://www.ryeschools.org). From the home page, under the "Community" tab, go to "Update SchoolMessenger Account." Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

We've received several inquiries from parents with regard to the 2016-17 RCSD Calendar. The District is usually able to make this available to parents in December; however, we are still waiting on several critical dates from the New York State Education Department. We are hoping to hear from the State soon so we may finalize the calendar. We share your frustration at the delay.

At Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, High School Principal Pat Taylor and Director of Guidance Jim O'Hara presented an early look at the Class of 2016's college application process. Our 227 seniors have submitted over 1,800 applications to 318 different colleges. 78% of our seniors applied Early Decision or Early Action; and decisions are coming in now, with students accepted to colleges in 16 different states and abroad. Good luck to the class of 2016 as they continue to hear good news on into in the spring.

Sincerely,

Frank Alvarez

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*The NYSPHSAA Award*

## **Rye High School Named School of Distinction by NYSPHSAA**

RHS was named a Scholar Athlete School of Distinction for the 2014-2015 school year by NYSPHSAA, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. The award recognizes the fact that every single athletic team for last year's fall, winter and spring seasons was a Scholar Athlete team with a certain percentage of students possessing a 90% or greater average. The award now resides in Principal Pat Taylor's office, along with two others from prior years. All of Rye High School's fall 2015 teams have already been named Scholar Athlete teams. Mrs. Taylor would very much like another trophy; so keep up the good work, RHS student athletes! ■

## **Senior Madeline "Maddy" Eck Named Con Ed Athlete of the Week**

Congratulations to Maddy Eck, RHS basketball player, for being named the Con Ed Scholar Athlete for the week of December 12th. Maddy and her coach, Dennis Hurlie, were interviewed on WHUD-FM radio, and her photo and an article on her appeared in the Journal News. Congratulations to Maddy and Coach Hurlie. ■

## **Milton's Japan Festival**



*Milton's Japan Festival*

Milton's 3rd Graders were recently treated to a Festival designed to introduce them to Japanese Culture. The Japan Festival has been taking place at Milton for over 16 years. Students enjoyed a performance on a stringed instrument called a shan-sin, learned about traditional Japanese toys, had a chance to try on traditional Japanese clothing and sampled some Japanese cuisine including edamame and the ever-popular Japanese soda. This year's festival was organized by third grade teacher Jeannette Hughes with the assistance of Milton parent volunteers. ■



*Pictured top: Varsity Field Hockey, Dr. Alvarez, Katie Laverty, Pat Taylor and Katy Keohane Glassberg;  
Pictured bottom: Varsity Football*

## LOOKING AHEAD:

**February 3**  
**Winter Jazz Night**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**RMS**  
**Multipurpose Room**

**February 9**  
**Board of Education**  
**Meeting**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**RMS**  
**Multipurpose Room**

**February 15-19**  
**Mid-Winter Recess**

## Rye Recognition of Excellence Awards

On January 26th, Dr. Alvarez and the Board of Education presented Rye Recognition of Excellence Awards to 89 High and Middle School students in recognition of outstanding athletic achievement during the fall season. Among the honorees were the 2015 Garnets Football team, the 2015 Varsity Field Hockey team, and Diver Katie Laverty. Congratulations to the students and their coaches on a terrific fall season. ■

## Osborn Students Meet Mount Rushmore's Chief Carver



*Lou Del Bianco at Osborn*

Osborn's 4th and 5th graders had a chance to meet Mount Rushmore's Chief Carver, Luigi Del Bianco, as portrayed by his grandson, Lou Del Bianco. Luigi Del Bianco, a Port Chester sculptor, was the chief carver of the Presidents' faces on Mount Rushmore. Students learned about the Presidents represented on the monument, the history of the massive public works project, and how the faces were carved into the rock face. ■

## Midland's STEAM Museum



*Pedal Power at Midland's STEAM Museum*

On January 14th and 15th, Midland students paid a visit to the STEAM Museum – in Midland's own gym. The traveling museum is designed to introduce students to concepts of physics, engineering and art through interactive stations and displays. The students met a humanoid robot who led them through some tai chi movements, explored a gigantic plasma ball, saw a 3-D printer at work, and pedaled a bike to create electricity, to name just a few of the many STEAM-related experiences. Kudos to teacher Carrie Hughes for discovering and organizing the STEAM Museum and to the parents who helped man the many exploration stations. ■



*Miss Ring's Students Explore the Giant Plasma Ball*