



# Superintendent's Bulletin

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## Dear RCSD Families,

This is the second *Superintendent's Bulletin* which I have sent. Each day I continue to learn new things about this outstanding school district. (Although, some days I feel as if I have been here forever.)

One impression that continues to be reinforced is that Rye offers a rich array of opportunities to students. Now that clubs and activities are in full swing, we see literally thousands of students involved after school. The fall seasons are drawing to a close and our athletic teams have been successful on many levels, both during the regular season and the playoffs. I have had a chance to see our student singers and musicians working, and we are in for a treat as our concerts begin. The High School put on an outstanding production of *Romeo & Juliet*. I hope many of you got a chance to see it. In addition to the high quality of the performances, I was especially impressed in the fact that our underclassmen, who read the play as part of the curriculum, were a perfect audience during the entire production. Shakespeare is not easy and it is a tribute to them (and perhaps to you parents) that they were respectful and fully attentive.

All of this involvement is good for the students and good for the District. Research clearly shows that students that connect with their schools beyond the classroom do better in school and enjoy it more. It is not surprising that our students are so strong academically. In fact, at the October Board of Education meeting it was a pleasure honor such a large group of seniors for their outstanding performance in the National Merit program.

We can always improve. At the first November Board of Education meeting our administrative team will be presenting an analysis of our standardized test scores from the previous year. We'll also post the presentation on our website. In it you will see many areas in which our students have done extremely well. You will also see areas in which I believe we can do better. We will be outlining strategies to make that happen. As we do so, we are especially aware that this community values the wide range of experiences we offer to our students. We are not prepared to throw away all of that to "teach to the test." But there are areas in which we can do better and I believe we will.

Finally, thanks to the many residents that I have met at school and community events who have made me feel so welcome. I have especially enjoyed getting to know our PTO and PO members and getting to attend the amazing events they organize to support and complement District programs.

The next one of these newsletters will come after Thanksgiving, so I wish you well as you spend that wonderful holiday with your families.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Monahan

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- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
- National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists and Commended Students
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*Amanda Cadenhead (left) and Sorcha McCrohan light the Candle of Service while National Honor Society Advisor Dann Kenefick looks on*

## **RHS National Honor Society Inducts 141 New Members**

On October 13th, 141 students from the class of 2017 were inducted into the National Honor Society at a candlelighting ceremony at the High School Performing Arts Center. The RHS National Honor Society requires students have a cumulative GPA of 3.750 and perform a certain number of volunteer hours to be eligible for membership. The Rye High School faculty nominated students who they believe embody the ideals the NHS celebrates: Keaton Mueller for scholarship, Ellen Scully for leadership, Amanda Cadenhead for service, and Christopher Kovacs for character. These four students then selected classmates who they believe represent the same qualities: Nicolas Lepore for scholarship, Caroline Neave for leadership, Sorcha McCrohan for service, and Cameron Kamer for character. The students lit candles to represent these qualities, and all joined in repeating the pledge of induction. Congratulations to the new members of the NHS! ■

### **Commendations**

Senior Nathalie Rodilosso was named the First Singles 2016 girls regular tennis season all-star by a panel of five local high school tennis coaches. Ninth grader Jocelyn Stone and Senior Isabel Abt were named 3rd Doubles all-stars by the same panel

The RHS Sailing Team placed second in the fleet qualifiers over the September 24-25th weekend ■

### **Kaitlyn Sassone Becomes Director of Technology**

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Sassone who was named the RCSD's Director of Technology at Superintendent's Conference Day on October 11 and officially appointed by the Board of Education at the October 18 Board of Education meeting. Kaitlyn is a familiar face in the District, having served for the past two years as the Technology Coordinator and as Instructional Technology Specialist for two years prior to that. She is known for both her tech-savviness and her helpful, can-do attitude. Congratulations, Kaitlyn! ■



## **NYSSMA Perfect Scores and All-State**

At the September 27th Board of Education meeting, fourteen elementary, middle and high school students were recognized for achieving perfect scores on their NYSSMA performances. Three students were also recognized for their selection to All-State Orchestra and Bands. Congratulations to the students, their teachers and their parents. ■



*NYSSMA perfect score and All-State musicians and teachers with Superintendent Brian Monahan and Board of Education President Katy Keohane Glassberg*

## LOOKING AHEAD:

10/28  
School Halloween  
celebrations

10/29  
Osborn School Scare Fair  
Fundraiser  
10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Osborn School

11/1  
Board of Education  
Meeting  
8:00 p.m.  
RMS Multipurpose Room

11/4 and 11/5  
RMS Fall Musical  
"Seussical Jr." 7:30 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center

11/8  
Superintendent's  
Conference Day  
(Schools Closed)

11/11  
Veteran's Day  
(Schools Closed)

11/23  
Early Dismissal for  
Thanksgiving Recess  
(12:00 p.m. dismissal)

11/24-5  
Thanksgiving Recess  
(Schools Closed)



*National Merit® Semifinalists and Commended Students with High School Principal Pat Taylor, Superintendent Brian Monahan and Board President Katy Keohane Glassberg*

## National Merit Scholar Semifinalists and Commended Students

16 Rye High School seniors were named National Merit® Commended Students in September. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of the more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the PSATs during their junior year.

Rye High School also has 6 National Merit® Scholar Semifinalists who appeared in last month's *Superintendent's Bulletin*. The Semifinalists and Commended Students were both recognized for their achievements at the October 18 Board of Education Meeting. Congratulations to the students, their families and teachers. ■

## Varsity Soccer on FIOS1

The Rye High School girls varsity soccer team was interviewed by "Fitness Friday" reporter Lorin Richardson from FIOS1 news for a segment on sports nutrition. The girls met local nutritionist Ilyse Shapiro and learned the healthiest and best pre-practice snack options and spoke a little bit about their choices. The segment aired on Friday, October 14 on FIOS1. View the segment by clicking on this link

<http://www.fios1news.com/lowerhudsonvalley/fitness-friday-nutrition-advice-for-teen-athletes#.WAjWzeUrK1s> or cutting and pasting it into your browser. ■



*The RHS girls varsity soccer team and Coach Rich Savage with FIOS1 reporter Lorin Richardson, left, and nutritionist Ilyse Shapiro, at right*