



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dr. Nelson McLeod, Principal

February, 2009

Richard Montgomery High School



RM Rocket Pride!

School Updates

Dear Richard Montgomery High School Community:

- When you see **Waleed Ovase, Zach Pine, Ben Cahill, Drew Gallagher,** and **Peter Radonic**, congratulate them on their participation in the Department of Energy's Science Bowl. They represented Richard Montgomery High School with lots of enthusiastic school spirit last month.
- Thursday, February 26 is the ASK MCPS Drop-In Coffee of the year hosted by the Department of Family and Community Partnerships. Parents are invited to stop in for coffee and conversation anytime between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 451 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, in Suite 508. It is a great opportunity to ask questions, find out about programs and services in the school system, and pick up tips on how to support learning at home. For more information, please call 301-279-3100.
- We would like to congratulate the many choral students who are performing in the auditioned honors choruses. In this year's Montgomery County Youth Chorus (10th -12th grade), were **Molly Brand, Jennifer Chaitin, Kevin Egan, Matty Golub, Elliott Kim, Elanna Newman, Mary Saffell,** and **Dennis Ting. Nora Elbayoumy, Ruthie Prillaman,** and **Zack Phillips** will be performing this semester in the Montgomery County Public Schools 9th grade honors chorus. A large number of students also were accepted into the Maryland All-state Choruses: **Kristy Choi, Kevin Egan, Matty Golub, Kazune Kitani, Ruthie Prillaman, Mary Saffell,** and **Ivy Zhou.**
- Congratulations to **Daniel Raeder** for his first published article in *The Washington Post*. His review of Blake's *Brigadoon* ran recently in the Montgomery Extra section. He's the fifth Richard Montgomery High School student to be chosen from throughout the metropolitan area for this distinction. He joins **Julie Cheng, Waleed Ovase, Allie Brooks,** and **Kristy Choi,** who were all published in the Post this season.
- The Richard Montgomery High School Shakespeare Club has been invited to perform at the *Secondary School Shakespeare Festival* at the Folger Shakespeare Library on Thursday, March 5, 2009. The students are scheduled to be on stage from 1:50 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.
- Our next Principal's coffee is Wednesday, March 11 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- A cybersafety workshop is scheduled on Thursday, March 12, at Julius West Middle School from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This Parent Academy workshop will offer help to parents in protecting their kids when they are online.
- 2009-2010 school year dates—first day of school for students will be Monday, August 31, 2009. The last day for students is scheduled for June 16, 2010. Winter break runs from December 24, 2009, through January 1, 2010. Spring break and Easter holidays are March 29 through April 5, 2010. The full calendar is available at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/calendars/future/.
- Reminder!! For the safety of our students, parents should not drop-off students in the bus area.

Thank you for your continued support of Richard Montgomery High School.

—Nelson McLeod, PhD
Principal

Important Upcoming Dates:

- 2/11-2/12: Club Pictures
- 2/12: MYP Personal Project Fair on Main Street, 5:30pm
- 2/12: Trip to Italy/Greece Meeting in room 217, 7:00 pm
- 2/14: MCPS Poms Competition
- 2/16: Holiday—Presidents Day
- 2/17: PTSA Meeting in the Media Center, 7:30pm
- 2/24: SGA Winter Spirit Week
- 2/27: SGA Winter Pep Rally
- 2/27: Early Dismissal, K-12
- 3/27: Third Marking Period Ends
- 3/30: Professional Day—No School for Students
- 4/6-4/9: Spring break—No school for students
- 4/10, 4/13: Easter holidays—No school for students

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IB MYP Personal Project Fair 2009

On Thursday, February 12th, MYP 10th graders held the MYP Personal Project Fair. The fair took place for the first time at Richard Montgomery High School, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Preceding fairs have taken place at our feeder middle school, Julius West. The fair is the occasion to showcase students' hard work. Students displayed their work on Main Street at Richard Montgomery and in select rooms.

The MYP personal project is an independent research project that constitutes a major requirement of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme. The personal project gives MYP students the opportunity to share with others what they have learned for the five years of the program. The Middle Years Programme starts in grade 6 at Julius West and ends in grade 10 at Richard Montgomery. The current MYP 10th graders started the

personal project process in March 2008, when they submitted their proposals detailing their topic and goals. After an initial meeting with their mentors in June 2008, students worked all summer and in the fall.

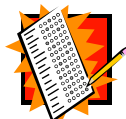
This year, students did a fabulous job from conducting DNA testing to discovering their origins; bringing joy to senior citizens by donating flowers to them; to writing a book. The final products include model rockets, PowerPoint presentations, videos, research papers, guitars, etc. Each student also wrote a culminating report of six to eight pages. At the end of this process, MYP students learn a lot about a particular topic. The most important benefit is what they learn about themselves as students, and people. Congratulate our students for all of their hard work and dedication.

Testing Information

The next SAT administration will be Saturday, March 14, 2009. Students should be registering now for this testing session. Any student in need of assistance should see Mrs. Hull, career information coordinator, or a guidance counselor.

Seniors in need of still fulfilling the HSA Graduation Requirement should begin to work on Bridge Projects. Any student needing information regarding their status for the HSA graduation requirement should make an appointment with his/her guidance counselor.

There are English, Algebra, and Government HSA/Bridge Workshops held every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Room 161. Students needing assistance with Biology can report to Room 356 after school on Tuesdays. The next HSA Test will be administered April 20, 21, 22, and 23 to seniors only.



Graduation Updates

The next Senior Parent meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Parents need to attend only one Senior Parent meeting to receive the information regarding graduation, senior activities and other information important to this special event. The last Senior Parent meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. The meetings will last about one hour. We are updating the website as information becomes available. Please check the website under "Students" and click on "Graduation" to see all the information.

The commencement is Monday, June 8, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. at Constitution Hall in Washington, DC. The Graduation Coordinator, Ms. Amy Weaver, together with the 12th Grade Administrator, Mrs. Matthewson, are working diligently to make this a grand event!

Richard Montgomery HS — Important Phone Numbers

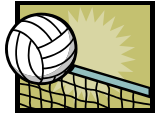
RMHS—Main Office	301-610-8000
Counseling Office:	301-610-8050
Registrar:	301-610-8055
Athletic Director:	301-610-8075

Career Center:	301-610-8064
Business Manager:	301-610-8011
Financial Office:	301-610-8012
Attendance Office:	301-610-8010

Richard Montgomery Teams and Athletic Updates

Spring sports has officially begun at Richard Montgomery High School. The Spring sports include:

- Boys/Coed Volleyball
- Boys Tennis
- JV/Varsity Baseball
- JV/Varsity Softball
- Boys/Girls Lacrosse
- Boys/Girls Outdoor Track
- Girls Gymnastics

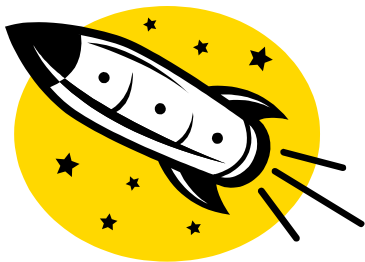


The boys and girls Basketball teams continue to have positive seasons. Both teams have winning records and are working towards a high seeding in the State tournament.

The Indoor Track team recently competed at the Virginia Tech Invitational. The boys and girls teams are currently practicing for the upcoming state regional competition.

Richie the Rocket Debut

“Richie the Rocket” , the new Richard Montgomery mascot, made his debut last month and was a big success. Richie attends all basketball games so come out and be a part of the Rocket Riot.



Wrestler Jose Romero has been nominated as Richard Montgomery High School’s Athlete of the Month. Jose continues to dominate in his weight class.

Congratulations to the Swim and Dive team members for their excellent season. The boy’s team won and the girl’s finished fourth in the divisional meet last weekend. The Swim team members are gearing up for the big county meet. The boys Swim team has only lost one duel meet this season.

The Montgomery County Poms competition will be held at Richard Montgomery High School on Saturday, February 14. This county wide event will feature all 25 Montgomery County Public School high schools. The RMHS Poms took first place at the Northwest Invitational competition on Feb. 7th. They also received first place in both the Captain’s Award and for choreography.

The Richard Montgomery High School Athletic Department will be sponsoring several summer camps this year. The following camps are in planning stages: basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, athletic speed camp, and football. More information will follow.

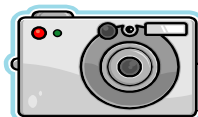
Student Registrations

February is the month we register students for classes in September. It is the time for students to reassess their performance, goals, career plans, and future education. Students should consult with their teachers and counselors so that they can select the best courses for next year. It is important that parents assist students with this important process. Counselors recently distributed registration material to all students and collected the registration cards starting Monday, February 9. Staffing decisions will be based upon the courses students select so please encourage your children to make wise choices.

Digital Art Show

The 2009 Richard Montgomery High School Digital Art Show is in our Art Gallery. The exhibit showcases over 50 original works which were created by students in Mr. McDermott’s Digital Art Class. A sampling of student work from this year’s Digital Art Class as well as some from last year’s class [2007-08] is included in this year’s show.

Students used the Adobe program Photoshop to create a wide variety of the digital imagery included in this year’s exhibit. The show is open for viewing now through Friday, February 20, 2009.



*Richard Montgomery High School's
Black Maskers Drama Program
PROUDLY PRESENTS*

Stephen Schwartz's

The Baker's Wife

SHOW TIMES:

Friday, March 13th at 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 14th at 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 15th at 2:00 pm

Friday, March 20th at 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 21st at 7:00 pm

TICKETS AT THE DOOR

Adults \$10

Students \$5

\$12 for reserved seating—call (301)-610-8087

*Richard Montgomery HS Auditorium
250 Richard Montgomery Drive—Rockville*