



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dr. Nelson McLeod, Principal

October, 2008

Richard Montgomery High School



RM Rocket Pride!

## School Updates - Part 1

Dear Richard Montgomery High School Community:

Thank you for a very successful Back-To-School Night. Our Jazz Ensemble, Art Gallery exhibit, and Information Fair enhanced the evening. With the start of October, let me update you on the following:

- Our October Parent Coffees will be held on Monday, October 13, at 7:00 p.m., and Tuesday, October 28, at 7:30 a.m. We hope you will attend!
- Outstanding students....**Rosanna Kim** came in 5th in the nation for a personal essay she submitted to the Kaplan/*Newsweek* "My Turn" essay contest. There were 9,000 submissions; **Jeremy Blair** and **Sara Bloem** both won the National Council of Teachers of English Writing Contest for 2008. Only 16 students from the state of Maryland were selected.
- Congratulations to the Richard Montgomery High School International Space Settlement Design (ISSD) team who won first place in the 2008 summer competition at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The Richard Montgomery team, participated with two other high schools, Durango High School (Durango, Colorado) and Apeejay High School (India). The competition involved preparing a proposal for a settlement to orbit the Earth, holding 18,000 permanent residents, and was judged according to stringent guidelines. Richard Montgomery team members included 12th graders: **Aziz Nawrozie, Eric Kim, Sara Bloem, Weili Shi, Wint-nie Aung, Eddie Lee,** and **Sophia Chang**; and former students: Takashi Katani, Nick Shawen, Mona Zhang, and Crystal Wang.

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

—Nelson McLeod, PhD

## Edline Information

Edline is an excellent tool for communication between parents and teachers. It enables parents to monitor their student's progress frequently. Edline is updated every evening. In addition to displaying student's grades, Edline also has other unique features. The features include a combined calendar, class pages, and communication link between parents and teachers.

Parents and students have access to a combined calendar that displays in-

formation from all seven classes that the student is enrolled in. The combined calendar option allows parents and students to have all of the information they need in one location.

Each individual class has its own page on Edline. Teachers are required to include the following information on their individual class pages:

- Course Syllabus

### Important Upcoming Dates:

- 10/2: Interims Mailed
- 10/6: Picture Make-Up Day
- 10/9: Yom Kipper—No School for Students
- 10/13-10/16: SGA Fall Spirit Week
- 10/15: PSAT Administered
- 10/18: Homecoming Dance, 8:00-11:00pm
- 10/21: PTSA Meeting, Cafeteria, 7:30pm
- 10/23 and 10/24: Senior Pictures Make-up
- 10/25: ACT Administered
- 10/29: Fall Choral Concert, Auditorium, 7:30pm
- 10/31: First Marking Period Ends
- 11/3: Professional Day—No School for Students
- 11/4: General Election—Schools and Offices Closed
- 11/5: Second Marking Period Begins
- 11/7: SGA Canned Food Drive Begins (Ends 11/12)
- 11/11: Report Card Distribution
- 11/14-11/22: Fall Drama Production
- 11/17-11/26: Digital Arts Show, Art Gallery

### Included in this Issue:

♦ Edline Information	1
♦ School Updates	1
♦ Stadium Event Reminders	2
♦ Parent Workshop	2
♦ PSAT Parent Letter	3
♦ School Updates-Part 2	4

# Edline Information

(Continued from page 1)

- Grading Policy
- Major due dates of assignments and assessments
- Calendar updates for each course
- Grades updated *at least every two weeks* in Pinnacle
- Post announcements/updates for assignments or assessments requiring additional grading time



Through Edline, teachers can send emails to both parents and students, provided that parents and students have entered their email address in the Edline profile during the activation process. Likewise, parents and students can also email the teachers. Teacher email information is provided on the Edline page.

How do I sign up for Edline? If you would like to sign up for Edline, or you have signed up and have forgotten your screen name and/or password, send an email to Mr. Awono. His email address is:

Parfait\_Awono@mcpsmd.org.

# Stadium Event Reminders

The support of the Richard Montgomery High School athletic program is key to the success of our athletes and school community. Please come to all events and show your positive support of the teams.

Some points to remember for stadium events:

- Sportsmanship is our primary mission
- Varsity football games have a student section; also there is a band/chorus section
- Appropriate conduct and dress are required

- Admission charges for all events is:
  - Adults.....\$5.00
  - Students.....\$3.00
  - Child (age 7-11).....\$1.00
  - Age 6 and under....Free
  - Age 62 and over.....Free
- MCPS rules are:
  - No bikes
  - No skateboards
  - No animals



# Parent Workshop

The PTSA and the Richard Montgomery counseling office sponsor a series of meetings designed to present topics of interest to parents of high school students. It is also an opportunity for parents of high school students to dialog with other parents. The meetings start one hour before the regular monthly PTSA meetings.

On Tuesday, October 21, 2008, there will be a parent workshop at 6:30pm. The topic will be "Everything You *Should* Know About High School." Discussion will include attendance policy, graduation requirements, how to help with homework, parameters of parental involvement, school resources for help, role of school counselor, and when to get outside help for your child. Presenters will include John Randall, resource counselor, teachers, and parents.

## Important Phone Numbers—RMHS

<b>RMHS—Main Office</b>	<b>301-610-8000</b>
<b>Counseling Office:</b>	<b>301-610-8050</b>
<b>Registrar:</b>	<b>301-610-8055</b>
<b>Athletic Director:</b>	<b>301-610-8075</b>
<b>Career Center:</b>	<b>301-610-8064</b>
<b>Business Manager:</b>	<b>301-610-8011</b>
<b>Financial Office:</b>	<b>301-610-8012</b>
<b>Attendance Office:</b>	<b>301-610-8010</b>

# PSAT Parent Letter

September 30, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Wednesday, October 15, 2008, the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) will be administered to Richard Montgomery High School students in grades 9, 10 and 11 from 7:30 a.m.-10:50 a.m. Since there are a variety of opportunities that become available for students who take the PSAT's, Richard Montgomery is committed to obtaining 100% attendance and participation on this day.

Some of the benefits include:

- Preparing students for the SAT's
- Creating possibilities for earning scholarships and academic recognition through the National Merit Program
- Students who take the PSAT, receive FREE online access to "My College QuickStart" at [www.collegeboard.com/quickstart](http://www.collegeboard.com/quickstart)
- Providing feedback in regards to student strengths for possible higher level courses that would be more challenging
- Opening the door and beginning the process for college searches

**Ninth Graders:** A practice version of the PSAT will be administered to all ninth graders **at no cost**. Most freshmen will be experiencing the PSAT test-taking format for the first time, and they will not necessarily understand the significance of this test nor be academically prepared to take the test. Therefore, we advise that parents encourage their ninth grader, and remind them of the importance of *just participating* in the test-taking process.

**Tenth Graders:** The formal PSAT test will be administered to all students in grade 10, and **at no cost**. It is mandatory for all tenth grade students to take the PSAT on the October 15 test date. Each student will receive a PSAT/NBSQT Student Bulletin from their English teacher. Please review this bulletin with your son/daughter prior to the test date. PSAT test results will be sent to us in December, at which time guidance counselors will review results with students.

**Eleventh Graders:** The official PSAT test will be administered to all students in grade 11, and **at no cost**. It is expected that all eleventh grade students take the PSAT on the October 15 test date. Each student will receive a PSAT/NBSQT Student Bulletin from their English teacher. Please review this bulletin with your son/daughter prior to the test date. PSAT test results will be sent to us in December, at which time guidance counselors will review results with students.

We wish your child a positive testing experience. If you have any questions regarding the PSAT testing process, please feel free to contact Nicole Sosik, assistant principal, by email at [Nicole\\_Sosik@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Nicole_Sosik@mcpsmd.org) or by phone at (301) 610-8000.

Sincerely,

*Nelson McLeod*

Nelson McLeod, PhD

Principal

## School Updates - Part 2

- Congratulations to Amy Weaver, ceramics teacher, who was one of seven teachers selected nationally to participate in an international program in Denmark for 5 weeks beginning in January, 2009. "Project Network" is a program that helps create a network and a dialogue within the same generation of ceramic artists at the International Ceramic Research Center, Guldagergaard. At the end of the program there will be an exhibition catalogue and one exhibition which will include all of the participants for "Project Network" 2008-2009. This is a great opportunity for Ms. Weaver, as well as the Richard Montgomery High School students, who will be able to see the various ceramics that are created and displayed in Denmark as well as all the countries represented in the program.
- I am pleased to inform you that Nicole Sosik, former Assistant School Administrator, has been selected as our new assistant principal at Richard Montgomery High School. We have conducted interviews for the assistant school administrator position. Also, we extend warm wishes to Marlene Kenny, Assistant Principal, regarding her new assignment as Principal, Carl Sandburg Learning Center. Her last day was September 30, 2008.
- We welcome Marti Gray, Administrative Assistant to the Principal. Mrs. Gray was Administrative Secretary to the Chief of Staff for Montgomery County Public Schools. Ann Moldenhauer is now Administrative Assistant to the Principal at Watkins Mill High School. We extend Mrs. Moldenhauer best wishes!
- Regarding the solar photovoltaic installation, completion is now expected by April, 2009. A preconstruction meeting will be held prior to the start of construction to outline the installation process. It is expected that work will begin January, 2009. Richard Montgomery is one three schools selected for this project.
- The Division of Food and Nutrition Services is excited to announce myLunchMoney.com, a new online service offered which allows parents to make prepayments to their child's cafeteria account with a credit card or debit card via the Internet. Once the myLunchMoney.com account is established, parents can check account balances, view the child's purchases, set up recurring payments, and receive low balance notifications.

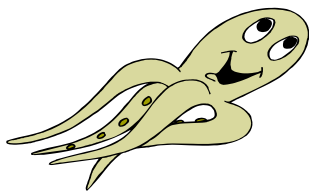
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### *RICHARD MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL'S*

### *BLACK MASKERS DRAMA PROGRAM*

*proudly presents*

## **THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER**



*Richard Montgomery HS*  
*Auditorium*

TICKETS AT THE DOOR  
ADULTS: \$10  
STUDENTS: \$5

### *EVENING PERFORMANCES*

at 7:30 PM

Friday, November 14th  
Saturday, November 15th  
Friday, November 21st  
Saturday, November 22nd  
& *A MATINEE* at 2:00 PM