

THE WEEKLY WILDCAT UPDATES 2017-2018
Week of October 9, 2017

Below are important reminders to help you stay involved and engaged with your student's upcoming events at Rocky Hill Middle School.

Follow us on <https://twitter.com/RockyHillPRIN> (daily updates Monday-Friday!)

The RHMS main office hours are 7:45am until 3:45pm. A reminder that the main office for our school closes at 3:45pm each day. The phones are not answered after this time and all messages left will be picked up the following morning at 7:45am.

Attendance: To report an absence for the day, please leave a voice message on the attendance phone line at 301-601-3195. Please include the full name and grade of your student. For questions about absence calls you may have received, please also call the attendance line (301-601-3195) and leave a message with your name, your student's name and your phone number. In the event that you have an unexpected early dismissal, please call 301-353-8282. (See link) http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ATTENDANCENOTE_rev%20Sept%202015.pdf

Early Dismissal/Absence Form: Parents wishing to pick up their children at any time, prior to the 3:00pm dismissal, must send in a note with their child to be processed in the main office at the beginning of the day. RHMS has prepared a form for your convenience. (See link) <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/EarlyDismissalAbsenceForm.pdf>

Our weekly Sunday evening email has three sections:

1. RHMS Events/Information and Calendar
2. RHMS Reminders
3. PTA News and Updates

1. ROCKY HILL EVENTS/INFORMATION:

IMPORTANT--- Please have your child memorize their address and write it in the front page of their agenda book. As we are trying to ensure students ride the correct school busses we are finding many students who do not know their home address.

After School Activity and Bus Information:

After-school activities are scheduled on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:00-4:25pm. Students hear about activities during morning announcements and during lunches. Activity buses are provided each day and leave school at 4:30pm. Please take this opportunity to discuss which route your child should take (activity bus stops on our website) to get home and have them write it in their agenda book—Bus 1, Bus 2 or Bus 3. Please review the route they should walk—as activity busses do not use the same routes as the regular school bus.

Additionally, for students who walk home, please review the route they should take. All students who are car riders need to be picked up NO LATER than 4:25pm. Please be on time.

Monday, Oct. 9- Periods 67123

- No after school activities
- Open House 8:15-2:00pm (see details below for our Open House)
- Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA section below for more details)
- Boys and Girls Club – Germantown Branch – CLOSED today

Tuesday, Oct. 10 - Periods 45671

- Archery (3:05-4:25pm) Grade 6 ONLY (Mr. Leck - Gym)
- Cross Country Meet vs. Hallie Wells (@ RHMS) (Coach: Mr. Sean Stevenson)
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Newspaper (3:05-4:25pm) (Mr. Conley - Room 167)
- Softball Game vs. Hallie Wells (Boys Home/Girls Away) (Coaches: Contact Mr. Brian Lucas-Girls Team & Mr. Gerry Delescavage-Boys Team)

Wednesday, Oct 11 – Periods 23456

- Archery (3:05-4:25pm) Grade 7 and Grade 8 ONLY (Mr. Leck – Gym)
- Chess Club (3:05-4:25pm) - (Room 140) (see October events section for details)
- CANCELLED Cross Country Practice
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Green Team (3:05-4:25pm) - (Ms. Evans - Room 260)
- PTA Meeting (6:30-7:00pm) and Presentation from State’s Attorney Office on Internet and Social Media Safety (7:00-8:00pm) – (Media Center)

Thursday, Oct. 12 - Periods 71234

- NO Archery CANCELLED
- Cross Country Meet @ Baker MS (Coach: Mr. Sean Stevenson)
- Drama Rehearsals (3:05-4:25pm) – Honk Jr. (Mr. Heinemann - Rm. 105)
- Softball vs. Baker (Girls Home/Boys Away) (Coaches: Contact Mr. Brian Lucas-Girls Team & Mr. Gerry Delescavage-Boys Team)
- Science Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Ms. Evans, Rm. 260)
- STEM Club (3:05-4:25pm) (Room 143) (see September events section for details)

Friday, Oct. 13 -Periods 56712

- No after school activities
- Have you signed up for the RHMS Color Fun Run yet? (see PTA section below for more details)

OCTOBER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Open House, Monday, October 9 (8:15am – 2:00pm)

- WHEN-- Come visit your child's classes on Monday, October 9!
- TIME-- Please stop by RHMS anytime between 8:15-2:00 pm. (We will welcome visitors to classes at 8:15 am-- so we can get students into their period 1 classes before visitors arrive.
- SIGN IN-- All open house visitors are required to sign in the main office for Open House before visiting any classes. Please bring your driver's license and follow normal sign in procedures.
- SCHEDULE-- This day is a period 6 day. To facilitate your visit, please ask your child to write down their schedule for you for periods 6, 7, 1, 2, & 3. (Teacher name and room number). Due to space issues we cannot accommodate all visitors in our cafeteria during lunchtime.

A few reminders for our Open House Day—it is a regular day of instruction so we want to keep our school day as normal as possible for our students.

- Please refrain from talking or using cell phones during instruction. Please do not take pictures in classrooms/hallways due to privacy concerns.
- Please note that Open House is for parents only, as we are unable to accommodate children who do not attend RHMS-- so instruction can continue without interruption during the day.
- Teachers will not be able to have individual conferences—we have parent teacher conferences in November or you can contact the teacher via email/phone call with questions.

myMCPS Portal is here!

myMCPS Portal is a central location for students and their parents, guardians, or other authorized adults to access academic and demographic information. See the links below for a comprehensive How-to-Guide to lead you through the steps of using this new resource that has taken the place of Edline. Use the Student Emergency Information link to the left to update your contact information. Please be patient with us as we all learn how to navigate its use.

If you have not yet received your parent myMCPS access code through the US mail, please contact laurie_a_abita-gramatges@mcpsmd.org via email for a copy of your access code.

- [myMCPS website](#)
- [myMCPS Parent Brochure](#)

Men Organized to Raise Engagement (MORE)

M.O.R.E. meets every other week—Next meeting is Wednesday, October 18th at RHMS right after school. For more information please contact: Sullivan Phillips at msulli_33@yahoo.com

Chess/STEM Clubs:

Chess/STEM Clubs: It's not too late to join the Chess or STEM club. Please see the PTA website for registration and payment forms (<https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>) or register online at <http://www.letusteachyou.org/> For more information please contact: Craig Harris at charris@letusteachyou.org

FLES:

Foreign Language classes being offered in French or Spanish for 6th graders after school beginning October 19th. Registration deadline is Tuesday, October 17th. If there is not enough interest by this date

classes will be cancelled for the year. Please see the PTA website for registration and payment form <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> For more information please contact: Urdouina Mbanaso at murumbanaso4@gmail.com or call Big Learning at 301-592-0861.

Intramurals:

Because of the large amount of participants attending Archery Intramurals during the first week, Mr. Leck has decided to make the following changes: TUESDAYS: 6th GRADERS ONLY; WEDNESDAYS: 7th & 8th GRADERS ONLY; THURSDAYS: All grade levels may attend. This is to allow the maximum amount of participation and for students to have more chances to shoot. Please make sure your child has an Intramural Permission slip signed and turned in to Ms. Brouillard, as well as know how they are getting home after school.

2. Reminders:

PE Uniforms:

PE uniforms will continue to be sold until sizes sell out. Cold weather is coming so get your hoodie and sweatpants before we run out! Online purchases can be made at:

<https://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/BVModules/CategoryTemplates/Detailed%20List%20with%20Properties/Category.aspx?categoryid=BY372>

You can also send your son/daughter in with a check made payable to RHMS or cash. They should bring it to their PE teacher who will take care of their purchase! Thank you for supporting your RHMS PE department where every cent goes back into equipment purchases for our students!

Parent/Student School Checklist:

A checklist has been created to minimize forgotten items. We encourage the use of this checklist, as it will help cut down on class interruptions. As staff, teachers, and parents we are committed to assuring that instruction is not disturbed due to classroom interruptions. (See link)

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ParentStudentChecklist\(1\).pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/rockyhillms/news/homeroom/ParentStudentChecklist(1).pdf)

Yearbook Sales:

Leftover 2016-2017 Yearbooks are available for \$15. Cash and checks made out to RHMS will be accepted until supplies run out. Contact Ms. Belman – [Lisabeth S Belman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisabeth_S_Belman@mcpsmd.org).

Common Sense Media Program:

Common Sense Media Lessons Coming Soon! Digital citizenship, the practice of being safe, smart and ethical while online, has become an area of focus for educators and families as the 24/7 digital lifestyle becomes increasingly pervasive at school and home. The curriculum, which covers issues such as privacy, cyberbullying, internet safety and other digital dilemmas will be taught across math, world studies, English, science and health classes to all Rocky Hill students during the 2017-2018 school year.

Click this link to access more information about the Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship program: <https://www.common sense.org/education/digital-citizenship>

Use this link to access the Family Tip Sheets provided by Common Sense Media: <https://www.common sensemedia.org/educators/lessons/family-tip-sheets/en>

If you have any questions, please to contact [Laurie A Abita-Gramtages@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Laurie_A_Abita-Gramtages@mcpsmd.org)

3. PTA Notes:

PTA Meeting: On Wednesday, October 11, 2017 from 6:30-8:00pm. Membership sales will start at 6:15pm and the meeting will start promptly at 6:30pm. At 7:00pm we will have a speaker from the State's Attorney Office to share with us about Internet and Social Media safety. Agenda for this meeting and a draft of September's minutes can be found at <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/pta-meetings>

Color Fun Run: Registration ends on Monday, October 16th to guarantee a t-shirt and sunglasses for the event. Annual Color Fun Run on Saturday, November 4th. Registration forms can be found in the main office or on the PTA website <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>. We are also seeking sponsors, if you have a business, for our Color Run please see our website for the sponsor packet <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>

Directory: All PTA members receive a copy of our Directory in November. If you have a business and would like to purchase ad space please download the form here from our PTA flyers page "Directory Ad - PDF" <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> or contact Noreen Kilby noreen.kilby@gmail.com if you have questions

Spirit Wear: Spirit Wear sales are happening from Thursday, October 5th - Wednesday, October 18th. To access the online store please use this link <https://www.selectspiritwear.com/shop4/pc/viewcategories.asp?idcategory=806>. Items will arrive in time for pick up at parent conferences. We also have other items on sale with the "Be You" theme. Please see the paper form on our website at <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms> These items are on sale while supplies last.

PTA Updates:

- **Birthday Announcements are Back!** Please download the flyer from our web site (<https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>) and send in \$15 to recognize your student's birthday in scrolling lights on the electronic sign along route 355
- **Wildcats Care Food and Personal Hygiene Drive:** Please see tab "Wildcats Care" on the PTA website <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/wildcats-care>. Items can be sent in any time to the main office clearly labeled "Wildcats Care".
- **PTA Membership Form:** It's never too late to join! We still have both tumblers and car magnets to offer with each membership. <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>
- **Sign-Up Genius Link:** Looking for a way to help, please check out our Sign-Up Genius for all PTA activities and events. We are still in need of a Black History Event Chair. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4aaba92da64-rhms1>