

Weekly Wildcat Update
Week of September 3, 2018

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We are looking forward to seeing all of our RHMS students on Tuesday, September 4! There are no after-school activities the first week of school. Our main office hours are 7:45 am-3:30 pm.

Bell Times

Please note the school times: school begins at 8:15 am and ends at 3:00 pm. Students may enter the school building each day at 7:50 am. The first bell rings at 8:10 and class starts at 8:15 am. PLEASE do not drop your child off any earlier than 7:50 am since there is no adult supervision before 7:50 am.

Arrival the First Day of School

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 is the first day of school. All grades will meet for an extended homeroom during the first 3 days of school. Student agenda books will be available for purchase during homeroom. Students should bring \$6.00 (exact cash or check payable to RHMS) for a student agenda book, which can be purchased during homeroom ONLY. (Can be paid by credit card on line.)

Staff will assist students in finding their way around our building and outside learning areas. Student schedules will be distributed on the first day of school. On the first day of school, students will report to the following areas:

- **SIXTH GRADE:** Tuesday: Cafeteria and then Wednesday & Thursday: report directly to homeroom.
- **SEVENTH GRADE:** Tuesday: 7th grade hall (homerooms)-- to locate homeroom assignments, charts will be posted in the halls for students. Starting on Wednesday, September 5, and each day after, the 7th grade students report directly to the auxiliary gym, "Wildcat Gym," upon arrival to socialize with friends or get a pass to go see a specific teacher for assistance.
- **EIGHTH GRADE:** Tuesday: 8th grade hall (homerooms)-- to locate homeroom assignments, charts will be posted in the halls for students. Starting on Wednesday, September 5, and each day after, the 8th grade students report directly to the cafeteria, "Wildcat Den," upon arrival to socialize with friends or get a pass to go see a specific teacher for assistance.

MCPS Bus transportation, bus routes, car riders and walker/bike riders

- **Bus riders:** If your child will ride an MCPS bus, please go on the RHMS website "Back to School Information" quick link (left side of webpage) and then click on "2018-2019 Bus Routes" as soon as possible to confirm your bus stop, route and times.
- **Morning Car Riders:** Staff start assisting the car rider line at 7:50, which is the time that students can be dropped off at school (cars start lining up early and wait to drop off).

Our morning car rider line is long, so please make sure you follow our car rider line guidelines to help everyone move through the line safely. Please follow all directions of school staff and pull up as far as you can in the car rider circle. PLEASE do not drive through the parking lanes or around other cars in the car rider line. Safety is our main priority in our car rider line. Please help us as we work together to ensure the safety of all of our students.

- **Afternoon Car Riders:** Please be at RHMS in the car rider line to pick up your child at 3:00 pm when students are released. Please be on time.
- **Walkers:** Please only cross the street at designated crosswalk areas.
- **Bike Riders:** Please secure your bike on the front bike rack.

Back to School Night

Teachers look forward to meeting you in the classrooms at Back to School Night which will be on September 11th at 7:00 pm.

myMCPS Parent & Student Portal

Letters with directions on activating parent portal accounts were mailed to any parent who has not activated an account starting the week of July 23rd. Features include announcements, calendars, assignments, quick access, academic records and other resources. The Emergency Card Updates in Parent Portal will be available through October 5th for parents to update their contact information.

Maryland Green School and Website use

RHMS is a Maryland Green School! Our school has demonstrated a continuous effort to integrate sustainable best management practices and an environmental education curriculum into our daily operations. Our school has made a commitment to developing stewards of the earth and reducing the environmental impact of our school. ALL of our updates, weekly electronic handouts and forms are on our website. Please bookmark our school website:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rockyhillms/>

All of the items that are Back to School hot topics are on our website at the “Back to School Information” quick link (left side of page): transportation information, student forms, PE uniform information, recommended supply list, MCPS important dates, bell schedule, PTA membership information, immunization requirements for incoming students and other MCPS announcements.

PE Uniforms!!!

Welcome back!!!! The new uniform logo and upgraded brand of clothing was a huge hit at Wildcat Welcome! We are temporarily out of some sizes, but please feel free to order online using the link below, if you would like to pay by credit card:

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

The new order will be in as soon as possible, hopefully within the next two weeks. The PE department will give the clothing to your son/daughter as soon as it arrives. If you would like to pay by cash or check (payable to Rocky Hill MS), your son/daughter can bring the payment to Ms. Tippet, who will be taking orders. Again, as soon as the clothing arrives, she will give it to your son/daughter. Thank you so much for your support of your Rocky Hill Physical Education program, as all profits go right back to our students in the form of new equipment!

Athletics

Attention 7th & 8th graders:

Tryouts for Boys & Girls Softball and Co-Ed Cross Country will be held on Tuesday, September 11th – Thursday, September 13th from 3-4:25pm (Activity buses will be available each day). Athletes should plan to attend ALL 3 DAYS OF TRYOUTS!! All students planning on trying out will need to make sure they have an up-to-date physical (dated within the last 2 years) and a parent permission slip turned in to Ms. Brouillard by lunch time September 11th. Permission slips and Health Inventory Forms (physicals) can be downloaded from the website or picked up from the Girls PE Office. See Ms. Brouillard if you have any questions.

PTA Notes from PTA President, Ms. Le

Welcome back RHMS parents. We need your help, and so do your children. We are in need of growth and are seeking volunteers to continue re-establishing the organization. We have planned some exciting events this year in hopes to get more parents involved in their children's education. Please come and join us by signing up or contacting the PTA (rhmsptapresident@gmail.com). We also need someone for VP Education and VP Fundraising. I promise to you help you in these two roles; I won't leave you stranded. Lastly we are in need of volunteers to help with our annual Fun Run event. The 1st PTA meeting of the year is on Tuesday, September 11th from 6:30-7pm in the cafeteria. Please come to meet the Board of Directors and vote on this year's budget. Arrive at 6:15pm and visit the PTA tables to see what we have planned for this year.

Want to get involved? Please join the PTA and become a member of a Committee or Committee Chair. Check out the links below.

PTA Membership Form: <https://sites.google.com/a/mcpsmd.net/rhms-pta/forms>

Sign-Up Genius Link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4aaba92da64-rhms1>