

The Rutland Middle School

F.Y.I.*

(*For Your Information)

September, 2008

Welcome to the FYI!

'For Your Information' is the official RMS Parent Newsletter. It comes out 5-6 times every year with the latest updates on school events. It also highlights activities that you can get involved in at school. Take advantage of these opportunities so you can have a more active role in your child's education. We also look forward to your suggestions or comments. Listed below are important phone numbers and an explanation of our email addresses to contact whenever you may have questions or concerns about our school.

Contact by Phone: The main school number is 773-1960. The following are important school extensions:

Principal Wil Cunningham – ext. 221

Assistant Principal Bill Olsen – ext. 205

Grade 8 Counselor Tom Chamberlain – ext. 224

Grade 7 Counselor Amy Nalette – ext. 202

Grade 7/8 Counselor – Kristen Kirchoff – ext. 325

School Nurse Michelle Benoit – ext. 309

Team Leaders

Gr. 8 Evolution, Laura Foley – ext. 515

Gr. 7 Synergy, Laurie MacLeod – ext. 318

Gr. 8 Explorer, Bianca McKeen – ext. 330

Gr. 8 Omega, Ted Lindgren – ext. 304

Unified Arts, Ernie Clerihew – ext. 236

You can find all school phone numbers in the RMS Student Planner/Family Handbook.

Contact by email: Once you know the teacher you wish to reach, just use that teacher's first initial, last name and the Rutland email address of rutlandhs.k12.vt.us. Some samples are listed:

Principal Wil Cunningham – wcunningham@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us

Assistant Principal Bill Olsen – bolsen@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us

Grade 7 Counselor Tom Chamberlain – tchamberlain@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us

- You can also learn more about all of Rutland City's schools by going to the district website at www.rutlandcitypublicschools.org.

Open House is Thursday, September 11 at 6 p.m.!

This is your chance to meet your child's teachers and learn about their hopes and expectations for the school year. Please join Principal Cunningham and Assistant Principal Olsen at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria on September 11 for a discussion about K-12 Planet, our new Rutland Middle School Philosophy and to get your input on a new PTC for RMS! From there you will get the chance to meet your child's teachers and learn about their plans for the school year. **We look forward to seeing you!**

Messages at School

While we hope that parents keep messages to a minimum, there may be times when you need to contact your child at school. Your message will be placed, in a confidential manner, on the Message Board in front of the Main Office. The school will announce the names of students with messages during the school day.

Over please

The first RMS Dance is Friday, September 26!

Each year the Rutland Middle School sponsors Friday night dances for their students. These popular events offer RMS students reasonably priced entertainment (\$5.00) that is well supervised by members of the RMS faculty and administration. Dances are held in the school cafeteria and go from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Before attending a school dance students must review, sign (and have you sign) and return a Dance Contract. These will be due by Monday, September 22 for those who wish to attend the September 26 dance. Parents are encouraged to help with these functions. The first dance of the year will be sponsored by the 8th grade Explorer Team. Explorer Parent Volunteers interested in helping out should contact Mrs. Bianca McKeen by e-mail or by phone at 786-1894. Thanks for your help!

Shelter Evacuation

Our annual shelter evacuation will take place on Tuesday, September 23. The entire RMS student body and staff will walk to the Calvary Bible Church on Grove St. This drill will take about an hour and is completed in coordination with the Rutland Intermediate School and local law enforcement agencies. Many thanks to the congregation at the Calvary Bible Church for allowing us to use their facility as our evacuation site.

RMS Attendance

We have listed some basic attendance reminders for your convenience. For more detailed information, please check the RMS Student Planner/Family Handbook, pages 12-14.

- If your child is absent or late to school: call the Attendance Office (773-1960 ext. 222) and leave a message including your name and your child's name and the reason for the absence or tardiness. Have your child bring a note to the Main Office, explaining the absence, when he/she returns.
- If your child comes to school late: go directly to the Main Office when he/she arrives at school. Have your child bring a note explaining the absence.
- If you need to dismiss your child from school early: have your child bring a note to the Main Office as soon as he/she arrives at school. The note should state the time and reason for the early dismissal. Your child will receive a pass to be dismissed from class at the appropriate time.
- Vacation Absences: Please make every effort to plan family vacations or visits for times other than school days. If such a trip must be taken during school time, contact the attendance office (773-1960 ext. 222) at least two weeks ahead of your planned absence so that teachers can prepare work in advance.

Other Upcoming Events

Thursday, 10/2: First Term Progress Reports mailed home
Monday - Friday, 10/13 - 10/17: NECAP tests in Reading, Mathematics and Writing
Tuesday & Wednesday, 10/21 & 22: Parent-Teacher Conferences

RMS Parent – Teacher Collaborative

We're very eager to revitalize the RMS Parent -Teacher Collaborative and welcome your opinions and suggestions. Please consider completing the enclosed form and have your child bring it to the Main Office or bring it with you to the Open House on September 11.

