

The Falcon Gazette

Published by the Student, Teacher, Parent Committee (STPC)



Rincon Valley Middle School
4650 Badger Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95409
rinconvalleymiddleschool.com
(707) 890-3870

**Happy
November!**

Student, Teacher, Parent Committee (STPC) President's Message

This has been one crazy month I hope this finds everyone safe and ready for the kids to be back to their normal schedule. Thrilled that the 7th graders were able to get to participate in Sport-Rama which I heard was incredibly successful. 8th graders will begin their color team participation this month which runs through the end of the school year. Please stay on the lookout for continued updates on Family giving Campaign and more important dates as we get closer to the Thanksgiving and winter breaks.

Please consider joining the STPC at our next meeting, December 5th at 6:30 P.M. in the library. The STPC meetings are the best way to stay informed as they always include updates from Mr. Navarro on important activities happening around campus.

It has been a pleasure working with so many of you at events so far this school year, and I am looking forward to getting to know even more of you over the course of the year. Take care!

Jennifer Smits
President of the Student, Teacher, Parent Committee
smitsjen02@yahoo.com

P.S. The STPC board is looking for a Treasurer, Carnival Chair, and individuals to shadow roles for next year. Contact me if you are interested!



Nov. 11 (Mon.) -
No School
(Veterans Day)

Nov. 12 (Tues.) -
8th Grade Color Teams

Nov. 15 (Fri.) -
Open Enrollment Ends

Nov. 22 (Fri.) -
Nightmare on Puberty
Street Assembly (8th
grade)

Nov. 22 (Fri.) -
12:28 Release
Minimum Day

Nov. 22-25 -
No School
(Thanksgiving Break)

Dec. 20 (Fri.) -
End of 1st Semester

Dec. 20 (Fri.) -
No School (Teacher
Work Day)

Dec. 23-Jan. 3 -
Winter Break

Jan. 13 (Mon.) -
First day of Wrestling

From the Counseling Office and Registrar

Parent Portal Access

Only legal parent/guardians have access to parent portal. If you are a legal parent/guardian & have not accessed this, please email mkelly@srcs.k12.ca.us to get an access code. Access codes are individualized per person so be sure you use the one associated to your name and account. Moving forward, all registration and updates will happen thru your parent portal.

Open-Enrollment

Current 8th grade Parents, if you wish to attend a school that is not your school of residence for high school, you must apply through Open Enrollment. This also applies to families who applied to attend RVMS on an Intra-District transfer and wish to continue to Maria Carrillo High School (our feeder school). Open Enrollment is available through November 15th To initiate your Open Enrollment Request, please email mkelly@srcs.k12.ca.us the following information:

- Your full name
- Your email address
- Your phone number
- Your current physical address
- The school site name you are applying to
- The student's name for the application. (Use the legal name from the birth certificate, first, middle, and last)
- Student's birth date
- Student's grade for the 2020/2021 school year
- Student's gender
- If you have any other students in the district, please include their names
- Once received, the Open Enrollment Form will be attached to your Parent Portal Account. The registration form and required documents (Birth Certificate, Proof of Residency & Immunization Records) must be submitted by November 15th.

High School Applications

If you are applying to a specialized program such as Art Quest or applying to a private school, please direct any necessary documentation (ie: teacher recommendations, admin/counselor recommendations, transcripts, attendance/behavior reports, etc) to Mrs. Kelly in the counseling office. Please note, if you will be applying to a school outside of SRCS, we must have a signed release of information form from parent for proceeding. Most schools will include this in their necessary forms or packets. In cases that the information needs to come directly from the school, please include a pre-addressed envelope with postage.

VISIT THE WEBSITE

RVMS school website has all the information you need! Attendance, calendar, homework, Principal's messages, staff directory & more!

HOMEWORK CLUB

Tuesdays & Thursdays
3:10-4:10 in the library

ATTENDANCE OFFICE

To report an absence
call 890-3870 ext.
33110

High School Enrollment Information

Prospective Puma Night Tuesday 11/12 6:30-8 in the **Maria Carrillo High School** Arts Center
<http://mchs-santarosa-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1500178974088/1420875734988/4438073458621976611.pdf>

Santa Rosa High School Art Quest Shadowing
Available Oct 1 -Nov 15 by appointment. Sign up online: <http://www.artquestonline.org/shadowing.html>

JOIN THE CAUSE!

GIVE to the RVMS STPC Family Giving Campaign to support the students, staff and many, many RVMS programs.

We recommend \$300 per student – please give what you can.

Can you give \$10 per month? \$15 per month? \$25 per month? Try an installment plan within PayPal. Simply click the link below and follow the steps to set up an installment plan that work for your family.

Our goal is 100% family participation. Please give today!

[DONATE](#) with PayPal

COMPANY MATCHING PROGRAMS - EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!

Please remember to ask your company if they offer a matching program. Keysight, Wells Fargo, Kaiser, PG&E and Medtronic have matching programs.

Use the [DONOR FORM](#) to indicate that you will be making your donation along with your company match donation.

Click on the links and donate today!

THANK YOU!

RVMS Drop Off & Pick Up Suggestions:

When dropping off or picking up your students, please be patient. There are over 1000 students coming to and going from the RVMS and SRACS campuses within a 30 minute window. Some rules to follow:

- Do not double park on Middle Rincon Road
- Do not block access to handicapped parking
- Pull up as far forward as possible. When cars leave ahead of you, move your vehicle forward
- Do not flip a U-turn in the middle of the road
- Obey all posted traffic signs and laws
- Traffic is much lighter by 3:15 — arrange a slightly later pick up time
- Arrange an offsite pick up location
- Have your child walk home in a group
- Be safe, respectful, and responsible

Renaissance Field Trip Information

Renaissance Field Trips is now only for 8th graders! We will still be having Renaissance Rallies throughout the school year on campus that 7th and 8th graders can participate in if they are a part of the Renaissance Club. Renaissance Club is for students who have earned a 3.0 or higher GPA the quarter prior to the field trip and/or rally.

Our field trips are valuable in giving students a first taste of what a college campus is. They are intended to allow students to take in the atmosphere and environment of the college campus so in high school, when they are making decisions about where to apply, they already have some exposure to nearby campuses. Our hope from these field trips is to plant a seed. When students are in high school and applying to colleges, we hope they think “I went to UC Davis in 8th grade and really liked the campus. Now I’m going to do more research because I am already interested in going there”. High school is the time when more in-depth research is done about what majors are offered, the time to make appointments to meet with department chairs, and when reservations to take an official campus tour are made. Middle school is the time for students to first get acquainted with a campus, to start envisioning themselves there, to start dreaming! Our hope is that these students will then take these dreams and continue to work hard to attain them.

Field trips are self-guided walking tours. Students must stay in groups of 3 or more at all times and are free to roam the campus as they wish. It is up to the students to make their experience. If students want to be bold and go into an unoccupied class, take a seat and imagine what a college course would be like, we want them to go for it. If students want to spend their day in the student union drinking a smoothie and pretending to wait for their next college class, we’re cool with that. If students want to go to the admissions office and ask questions, way to be ahead of the game. These field trips are all about having an experience.

Before every field trip there will be a mandatory RFT club meeting (usually in the gym or café) where I will explain our upcoming field trip, take role, and distribute permission slips. If students do not attend the mandatory club meeting, they will not be able to submit a permission slip or attend the trip. I will make morning announcements a couple days in advance to help students remember our mandatory meetings. On every permission slip there will be a cover page detailing the field trip, hopefully answering all of the frequently asked questions. Students can also check the RFT bulletin board (located outside the counseling office) anytime throughout the year for important announcements.

This year we are planning on going to:

- UC Davis **RESCHEDULED TO 2nd SEMESTER**
- Dominican University (*this location/trip is still TBD) during 2nd semester
- Epicenter End of Year Party in May (for both 7th & 8th graders)

Questions?

Contact Kendall Loggins:
kloggins@srcs.k12.ca.us

The Beat on Band

Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Orchestra held their Fall Concert on October 22nd. All of the music groups played wonderfully! Next concert is Below are a sampling of photos from the event.



+ + + Additional Information About Math + + +

MathCounts Announcement: Love math?! Join MathCounts and discover the joys of meeting other students and finding new and creative ways to solve math problems. Explore topics not covered in school. Develop team cooperation and leadership skills. All students are invited to join the fun. We meet in room 24 on Fridays from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

Standards for Mathematical Practices (SMP): It sounds like just another education buzzword, but it's so much more. When it comes to the Common Core State Standards, standards for mathematical practice describe the very foundation of what CCSS are all about: helping students achieve at a higher level. There are a total of eight standards for mathematical practice. Take a look at the **SECOND** one and talk to your student about how they strategize their thinking and learning. **SMP 2 - Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others:** When constructing arguments, students should consult definitions, theorems, and previously established results. They will need to justify their conclusions by building a logical progression of claims and using examples. It's also important that they be able to distinguish correct reasoning from that which is flawed.

Supply Donations: If you are looking to donate, your math teachers will happily accept kleenex and Clorox wipes. It's germ season folks! And we want to keep your kids in school by keeping our surfaces germ-free. We clean our classrooms daily so your kids have a healthy and happy space to learn.

RVMS Athletics

Winter Sports

Boys basketball and girls volley ball are in full swing for the next couple of months. Check out their schedule below and drop by a game to cheer them on. If you have any questions or concerns about our athletic teams, please reach out to Mrs. Myers at kmyers@sres.k12.ca.us. Wrestling will begin in January.



Intramural Lunchtime Sports

All students are welcome to join the RVMS intramural sports program. Intramurals are fun sports played at lunch by teams made up of RVMS students. Fourth period classes form teams to compete in a school-wide tournament in the following sprints: 2nd quarter, basketball; 3rd quarter, tennis; 4th quarter, flag football. Students who do not have enough interested participants within their own 4th period class can be added to another team.

Athletic Schedule

11/14 - Boys
basketball @ Rincon

11/14 - Girls volleyball

@ Lawrence Jones

11/21 - Boys basketball @ Santa Rosa

11/21 - Girls volleyball @ Rincon

12/3 - Boys basketball @ Rincon

12/3 - Girls volleyball @ Kenilworth

12/5 - Boys basketball @ Petaluma

12/5 - Girls volleyball @ Rincon

12/10 - Boys basketball @ Rincon

12/10 - Girls volleyball @ Slater

12/12 - Boys basketball @ Windsor

12/12 - Girls volleyball @ Rincon

12/17 - Boys basketball @ Lawrence Jones

RVMS LOVES OUR FIRST RESPONDERS!

During the school closure last month due to the Kincade Fire, a few RVMS students and alumni participated in a large-scale art project to show appreciation to fire fighters. The 16 middle school and high school kids, many RVMS students or alumni, participated from Tuesday to Sunday. Some painted 9 hours every day for 4 days. It was presented to firefighters in Windsor on November 3rd. Their work was featured in the Press Democrat article below. We are so grateful to be part of a community that is guided by service and gratitude!

<https://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/10251093-181/thousands-of-windsor-residents-gather?artslide=3>



CONGRATULATIONS TO LAUREL VARNBUHLER, CLMS TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

Ms. VarnBuhler, an 8th grade science teacher at Rincon Valley Middle School, has been nominated as a California League of Middle Schools Teacher of the Year. She will be honored at a ceremony on December 13th. The Educator of the Year award is given annually to California educators who exemplify educational excellence. Each region has up to 10 finalists. The nominee selected to represent each region will subsequently be honored at a CLS Conference, at which one of the nominees will be announced as CLS State Educator of the Year. Congratulations Laurel, and good luck with the next phase!

**Sis cum bah, sis cum bah,
Sport-a-rama, Sport-a-rama,
Rah, rah, rah!**

This year's RVMS fun-filled as ever. The their prowess on an Dizzy Basketball, Skin handful of other wild The parents in the encouraged the friendly but earnest Everyone showed and sportsmanship. By the end of the night the two top teams were only 1 point apart, and the other two teams were also only separated by 1 point. Every team took home shirts, ribbons, and pins, but only Team Teal took home the honor of coming in first place! Way to go!



Sport-a-Rama was as four teams tested obstacle course, Izzy the Snake, and a and crazy events. cheering section kids in high-energy, competition. great determination



Your Voice Matters!

The STPC serves as a bridge between the school and parent community.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact us!

You can email STPC President Jennifer Smits at smitsjen02@yahoo.com

For newsletter inquiries, submissions, and suggestions,
contact Jamie Moessing at jasmoeessing@gmail.com