

# The **FLYER**



777 Ridge Road • Ellisville, MO 63021-5956 • (636) 207-2661 • A Missouri Gold Star School

August/ September 2009

With a change in administrative team, the most frequently posed question from students, parents and staff is, "What are you changing?" Recognizing the academic excellence, student pride for their school and the strength of the teaching staff, we will continue to value high expectations for students' academics, character and behavior as the focus of our decision making.

Using the information gathered from the May 2009 parents and staff survey, there are many traditions and achievements at Ridge Meadows that will **NOT** be changed, such as:

- ~ Staff commitment to high academic achievement
- ~ Kids For Character (K4C) and Caring School Community activities
- ~ Excellent parent involvement and family atmosphere
- ~ PE field trips and Pumpkin Run

Some welcomed changes and new suggestions that were mentioned on the survey and have already come to fruition at Ridge Meadows are:

- ~ Cafeteria Open Seating- students may sit at any table with their choice of 8 people
- ~ Block Scheduling- teachers are now effectively utilizing up to three hours for professional conversations throughout each week (increased from 30 minutes)
- ~ Dismissal Procedures- students are called by bus number as buses arrive
- ~ Broadcast- students will gather ideas, write scripts and report the morning broadcast
- ~ Rockin' Road Runner Carnival- Mark your Calendar for October 2<sup>nd</sup>!
- ~ Friday Folder- all school and district communication will come home each week in this folder

The enthusiasm level is high and our commitment to your child(ren) is unwavering! Together, we will work as a strong team for our kids! We are looking forward to continuing strong partnerships with you and your family!

With Roadrunner Pride,

## September Events:

- 1 3rd-5th Gr. Curriculum Night @ 7:00 p.m.
- 2 PTO Chairperson Mtg. 6:30 PTO Meeting 7pm Library
- 7 Labor Day—NO SCHOOL
- 11 4th Grade Team Building @ Babler State Park
- 15 Picture Day
- 16 Early Dismissal at 12:47 pm
- 18 Spirit Day  
Rockwood Family Night @ Busch Stadium
- 22 4th grade PE Demo—7 pm
- 25 5th Gr. Golf Field Trip
- 29 Papa John's Family Night
- 30 2nd grade PE Demo-7 pm

For more information, please visit our Web site at:

[www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ridgemeanows](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ridgemeanows)

# RIDGE MEADOWS

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



School Office	636-207-2661
FAX	636-207-2666
Attendance Line	636-207-2661 Prompt #1
RSD Central Office	636-938-2200
First Student	636-458-2044
Adventure Club	636-207-2661 Prompt #4
Early Childhood	636-861-7772
CCL	
• Primary	636-207-2551
• Intermediate	636-207-2579

## 2009-2010 Recess/Lunch Schedule

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Recess Time</u>	<u>Lunch Time</u>
1st	10:45-11:05	11:05-11:25
2nd	11:10-11:30	11:30-11:50
3rd	11:35-11:55	11:55-12:15
Kdg.	12:10-12:25	11:50-12:10
Adv. Club		12:10-12:40
4th	12:00-12:20	12:20-12:45
5th	12:30-12:50	12:50-1:10

## Staff Development/Early Dismissal Days for 2009-2010

Ridge Meadows will dismiss students early once a month to allow teachers to participate in staff development activities. Lunch will be provided at school on each early dismissal day, and all kindergarten students will attend in the morning. On early dismissal days, school will be in session from 9:02 a.m.—12:47 p.m. Please mark the following dates on your calendar:

Wednesday, September 16  
 Wednesday, October 14  
 Thursday, November 5  
 Wednesday, December 9  
 Friday, January 15  
 Friday, February 12  
 Wednesday March 3  
 Thursday, April 1  
 Wednesday, May 5

Adventure Club is available to all students on early dismissal days on a fee basis. Please register two weeks in advance to avoid a late fee.

## Communication

On-going, two-way communication is essential to ensure that we work together as a team. I have listed below a few ways that we will be communicating this school year.

- Parent Newsletter: The Flyer will be e-mailed to parents each month. All newsletter will be sent by our school's newsletter editor, Mrs. Jackie Bruening. Mrs. Bruening's e-mail address is: brueningjacqueline@rockwood.k12.mo.us. The newsletter will also be posted on the Ridge Meadows website.
- Friday Folder: All communication from the office will come home in a Friday Folder. To conserve paper, we will send most items home—one per family. **Those items will be placed in the folder of the oldest or only child.** We will also post the contents of the What's Happening on a special section of our website. This will enable non-custodial parents to access school information or provide you with an extra copy if yours becomes lost. **In an effort to cut back on the number of papers you receive from the office, we will not be sending home multiple copies of similar flyers.**
- Ridge Meadows website: A variety of district, school and Classroom information may be located on our School website. I encourage you to bookmark our site and refer to it often for you school-related questions. If there is something you would like to see on the website—please let us know!
- PTO Newsletter: This newsletter provides families with a wealth of information regarding the events and activities sponsored by our Parent/Teacher Organization. The newsletter is sent out monthly.
- Automated Phone Chain: We use this to communicate with our families throughout the school year. We send reminders messages regarding upcoming events and also to inform families in the event of an early school closure.
- Calendar of Events: We have a web-based school parent calendar on the Ridge Meadows website.
- Voice-Mail and E-Mail: All staff members have a voicemail box and an e-mail address. Please see the communication information sheet posted on our website for specific voice mail box numbers and e-mail addresses for each staff member.



Ridge Meadows Website  
[www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ridgemeadows](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ridgemeadows)

- ✓ School Supply Lists
- ✓ School Calendars
- ✓ Parent Handbook
- ✓ Grade Level Information
- ✓ Accelerated Reader
- ✓ Breakfast and Lunch Menus
- ✓ Transportation



**Cafeteria Information:** Please take advantage of the online method for depositing funds into student accounts:

[www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/childnutrition/index .htm](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/childnutrition/index.htm)

Special yellow deposit envelopes are provided by the Food Service Department. Lunch payment envelopes may be given to teachers. Only meal account deposits should be in the envelope, so money for the other school needs should be sent separately. If one payment is made to cover siblings, please write on the envelope the amount to be deposited in each student's account; otherwise, the deposit will be divided evenly among siblings.

Overdraft notices are sent home as needed via backpack mail. Please routinely check online or with your child for account balance information. Elementary students attending the CCL should turn in meal deposits at Ridge Meadows. A free/reduced lunch application is available if needed, all students received an application on the first day of school.

#### 2009-2010 Cafeteria Prices

Student Breakfast	\$1.45
Student Lunch	\$2.30
Student Super Lunch	\$2.45
Chef Salad	\$2.45
Milk, Juice, Bottled Water	.50

**Outdoor Recess Guidelines:** The Rockwood School District has developed guidelines for outdoor recess during extreme temperatures. It is important for all students to dress appropriately during warm and/or humid weather. The following guidelines have been developed by factoring in the wind chill and heat index:

Below 20 degrees	Stay inside
20-95 degrees	Normal time outside
Above 95 degrees	Stay inside

#### **Morning Drop Off:**

We have successfully completed the first week of school, and now want to encourage our parents to allow the children to gain their independence. Please begin making small steps to allow your child to get to class without a parent's assistance. The hallways are fully supervised, and adults will assist your child if necessary. If you have been walking your child all the way to the classroom, please begin dropping your child off at the foyer with a quick hug. A few days later, say your good-byes at the entrance of the school. By mid-September, you and your child will hopefully both feel comfortable dropping off at the car in the drop-off lane. Thank you for encouraging your child to gain independence and responsibility by starting their day with independent successes.



**Dismissal During School Hours:** Parents are required to sign their students out at the front window if it is necessary for them to be dismissed during the school day. Students may not be called out of class after 3:30 p.m. on any day since it is disruptive to the classroom dismissal procedures after that time. We ask for your cooperation with our arrival and dismissal procedures to ensure that safety of the students.

#### **Transportation Information:** First Student 636-458-2044

The e-link web address: <http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/transportation/index.htm>

Each time a child does not ride the bus or walk home; parents are required to send a note. The office must be notified in writing or by telephone of any changes in a student's usual transportation arrangements. **Except in the case of emergency, we ask that these arrangements be made prior to 3:30 p.m. so that we can make sure that your child is notified of the change.** If your child is a walker, the office will need notification if he/she is not to walk home on a specific day. Also, if your child is eligible for transportation services, but you choose to have him/her walk to school, please notify the office in writing of your intentions or it will be assumed that your child should ride the bus.

**Policies, Regulations, Procedures and Consequences Manual:** Families have received a copy of the district's manual on policies and regulations. Please discuss with your child the high expectations we have at Ridge Meadows of appropriate behavior at school. Your help for us to maintain a safe and orderly school climate, conducive to learning, is greatly appreciated. We strive to focus on a positive school climate.

## \*\*\* For Your Information \*\*\*

### Center for Creative Learning (CCL)

Ridge Meadows students will attend the Center on Mondays beginning Monday, August 24. Students may ride the bus or parents may drive them. The bus will leave Ridge Meadows at approximately 9:10 a.m. and returns between 4:30-4:45 p.m.

Intermediate Campus 9:30 a.m.—4:10 p.m.

Primary Campus 9:35 a.m. - 4:20 p.m.

Please note that it does take the CCL bus a few weeks to get into a regular schedule at the end of the day due to traffic and changes in the number of students who are dropped off. We ask that you arrive at Ridge Meadows around 4:25 for the first couple of weeks until a regular time is established. We **will not** have supervision after school, so if you are not here to pick up your child from the CCL bus, they are to report to Adventure Club so that they can be supervised until you arrive. You will be charged a fee for the time they spend in Adv. Club. Please review these procedures with your child so that they know what to do in the event that you are late to pick them up.

### School Safety Procedures

We ask for your cooperation in following specific safety measures in our school. All outside doors will be locked during school hours. With a camera monitor located in the school office, we will be able to identify and admit visitors in to our building, thus making it more difficult for unauthorized individuals to enter our school. All visitors during school hours will press the buzzer, wait to be identified by one of our staff, and then be admitted to the school office. Before and after school hours, please drop off and pick up Adventure Club students using the Cafeteria entrance door.

All visitors to the building will be required to sign in at the office and wear a "visitor" badge in the building.. This includes all parent volunteers. If you are dropping off forgotten items, please bring them to the office instead of walking to your child's class. Staff members will be wearing identification at all times and have been instructed to ask all parents to sign in at the office.

### **RIDGE MEADOWS ELEMENTARY**

#### **2009-2010 PTO Officers**

Jennifer Bausinger, President  
Dorothy Henricks, Vice President  
Kathy Larocco, VP Communications  
Angela Weaver, VP Fundraising  
Nancy Sher, VP School Events  
Kathy Bumeter, VP School Support  
Angie Nichols, Secretary  
Karen Kessler, Co-Treasurer  
Leslie Bauman, Co-Treasurer

### Student Attendance

Daily student attendance is important for successful learning. We ask for your help in this area by scheduling doctor and dentist appointments for after-school hours, non-attendance days or during afternoons of our early dismissal days. Please also ensure that your child does not miss valuable instruction by being tardy or checked out early. Our instructional time begins at 9:02 a.m. and concludes at 3:52 p.m.

Please call the school office at 636-207-2662 before 10:00 a.m. if your child will be late or absent. This will assist us in accounting for the safety of each student.

The attendance line also may be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling 636-207-2662 prompt #1.

**Instruction begins at  
9:02 a.m. and  
ends at 3:52 p.m.**

### **Census/FERPA Forms**

Family census and emergency contact information currently recorded in the Infinite Campus system will appear on the form you receive to be reviewed and /or revised. You also will receive a Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) form. Please return both forms to the school office by August 28.

## Medical Information

Missouri state law requires that all children have up-to-date immunization records on file at school prior to the entering class on August 18.

If your child will be taking prescription medication at school, remember that it cannot be the first dose of the medication and it must be in the original prescription container with accurate dosage directions. A signed permission form is legally necessary from the parent for the nurse to administer medication at school. No prescription medication may be given at school unless it is in the labeled prescription container. All over-the-counter medications must be accompanied by a doctor's note and a signed permission form from the parent giving details about time and dosage. Over-the-counter medications also must be in the manufacturer's container.

## Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

Per district policy, elementary school students are not permitted to possess or use beepers, pagers, portable communication devices (which include cell phones), or laser pointers on school property or at school-related activities away from district premises during regular school hours. The ONLY exception to an elementary student having a phone at school is if prearranged through the principal with the student's parent. In such cases, the cell phone will be kept in the office during the school day.

## Dressing for Success

Ridge Meadows is fully air-conditioned and students are expected to dress appropriately for school at all times. Any clothing that may cause distraction from the teaching and learning process is not allowed, including "short" shorts/skirts, "sagging" pants, halter tops, spaghetti strap tops, t-shirts with inappropriate printing, or clothing that does not cover the midriff. Children will need tennis shoes daily for PE class. Thank you for your support of our school environment.

## HEART Award

Parents, students and staff members recognize what an honor it is to receive a HEART Award for accomplishing a home and school goal. This year, students that reach a personal and school goal will be honored on the morning broadcast. Teachers will communicate with the parent in the event you should choose to watch the broadcast from the television in the foyer.

## Communicating with Teachers

Before and after school, teachers are preparing for the school day. If you need to communicate with a teacher, please do so by sending an email or calling the teacher, not by visiting the classroom unannounced. The teacher will respond to you within 24 hours and then have ample time to address your message. Your cooperation is appreciated!

## I Forgot.....

Students often forget items at school that are required for homework or studying for an upcoming test at home. It is too difficult for the custodial staff to complete their job duties and unlock classroom doors to allow students to retrieve a forgotten item. Please encourage your child to use the time given in the classroom to gather ALL of the necessary materials for homework..

## Cafeteria Seating

You have probably heard the BUZZ of excitement about the new Cafeteria procedures. If you choose to visit for a very special occasion, your child will be expected to share the Cafeteria expectations with you. We welcome you to eat with your child, but also would like to honor the time the students get to sit with friends outside of their classroom, so please be sure that it is not a frequent occurrence.

- Upon arrival into the Cafeteria, get your lunch out of the basket or line up to purchase lunch
- Everyone can sit at the table of their choice, but seats may not be saved
- If a student wants to sit with you, or asks to sit with you- the answer is always YES!
- Once you choose a seat, you may not move
- Maximum 8 people sit at a table, which includes adult guests
- No sharing food
- When your Classroom teacher arrives at the Cafeteria door, line up in the designated Class location

2009-2010  
**RIDGE MEADOWS CONNECTONS**  
**TELEPHONE # 636-207-2661**  
**FAX # 636-207-2666**



<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Grade/Position</b>	<b>Room #</b>	<b>V/Mail #</b>
Acker	Katie	3	18	354
Alwood	Kim	1	6	344
Anderson	Sarah	4	27	357
Bell	Julie	Adv. Club	10	338
Brim	Steve	2	7	346
Bruening	Jackie	Secretary	Office	222
Chicoli	Laurie	Secretary	Office	233
Compton	Mickie	CSS	16B	350
Constantin	Susan	5	32	365
Cramer	Nicole	Strings	23	370
Dauster	Merilee	PE/Health	Gym	329
Digman	Amy	Principal	Office	323
Flick	Lisa	SSD	4	339
Golden	Heather	SSD	17	352
Gibbon	Julie	1	13	345
Griese	Michelle	K	3	336
Hall	Dawn	Music	24	351
Harrick	Kim	Admin. Intern	Office	424
Hensley	Anne	5	34	367
Hicks	Laura	Cafeteria	Cafeteria	330
Hoemann	Marilyn	Nurse	Office	325
Huensch	Rebecca	SSD	17	408
Hunter	Janna	2	14	347
Jensen	Julie	4	21	360
Lauck	Polly	3	17	356
Lazarus	Caryl	K	1	334
Levels	Cornelia	5	31	364
Lewis	Ellen	SSD	11	311
Maher	Keri	Reading	28	359
Mangelsdorf	Sue	2	15	349
McGowen	Lynn	Adv. Club	10	338
McGrath	Chris	3	25	353
McNair	Linda	Strings	30	363
McNown	Katie	3	26	355
Menard	Lisa	K	2	335
Miller	Paula	Librarian	Library	368
Mintert	Tammy	SSD	17	371
Noonan	Kelly	4	29	361
Olde	Janel	5	33	366
Pennycuick	Ali	2	8	348
Reuss	Katie	PE/Health	Gym	405
Ryan-Jones	Maureen	4	22	362
Sachs	Linda	Art	9	337
Schoedel	Joe	PE/Health	Gym	403
Shelnutt	Pam	Counselor	32A	378
Sinn	Meredith	1	12	343
Templeton	Jeremy	Custodian		369
Trupka	Meckie	Secretary	Office	221
Vordtriede	Cari	4	20	358
Wetzel	Diane	1	5	342
Wheeler	Kathy	Counselor	32A	340
Winter	Denise	Reading	28	410

# ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL CALENDAR 2009-10

New Teacher Orientation	Friday, August 7 through Tuesday, August 11
Regular Teacher Orientation	Wednesday, August 12 through Monday, August 17
First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, August 18
No School - Labor Day	Monday, September 7
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	
Group A	Tuesday, September 15
Group B	Wednesday, September 16
Group C	Thursday, September 17
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	
Group A	Tuesday, October 13
Group B	Wednesday, October 14
Group C	Thursday, October 15
No School	Friday, October 30
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	Thursday, November 5
No School - State Teacher’s Conference (Teachers on Duty)	Friday, November 6
No School – (only <b>teachers new</b> to RSD on duty)	Wednesday, November 25
No School - Thanksgiving Holidays	Thursday, November 26 through Friday, November 27
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	
Group A	Tuesday, December 8
Group B	Wednesday, December 9
Group C	Thursday, December 10
Early Dismissal – Elementary / Middle Schools	Wednesday, December 23
No School - Winter Break	Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1
School Resumes; Second Semester Begins	Monday, January 4
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	Friday, January 15
No School - Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday Holiday	Monday, January 18
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	Friday, February 12
No School - Presidents’ Day Holiday	Monday, February 15
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	
Group A	Tuesday, March 2
Group B	Wednesday, March 3
Group C	Thursday, March 4
No School	Friday, March 12
No School - Spring Recess	Monday, March 15 through Friday, March 19
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	Thursday, April 1
No School - Spring Holiday	Friday, April 2
No School – (only <b>teachers new</b> to RSD on duty)	Monday, April 5
Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal	
Group A	Tuesday, May 4
Group B	Wednesday, May 5
Group C	Thursday, May 6
Last day for Seniors	Thursday, May 20
Last Day for Students	Thursday, May 27
Records Day (Teachers on Duty)	Friday, May 28
Memorial Day	Monday, May 31

\*\*\* In regards to the Rockwood District Calendar  
Ridge Meadows is a Group B school. \*\*\*

# Nondiscrimination Statement

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It is the policy of the Rockwood School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex or disabilities in its education programs, activities or employment practices. Inquiries by students, parents, or employees regarding Rockwood School District's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the compliance coordinators listed below:

Anthony Taylor, Compliance Coordinator for Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended (race discrimination issues),

*Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation  
Rockwood Summit High School  
1780 Hawkins Road  
Fenton, Missouri 63026  
636.861.7715*

Dr. Scott Spurgeon, Compliance Coordinator for P.L. 93-112, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and P.L. 94-142, Education for all Disabled Children Act (disability discrimination issues),

*Rockwood Administrative Center  
111 East North Street  
Eureka, Missouri 63025  
636.938.2211*

Dr. Kelvin McMillin, Compliance Coordinator for P.L. 92-318, Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX (sex discrimination issues),

*Rockwood Administrative Center  
111 East North Street  
Eureka, Missouri 63025  
636.938.2235*



## Health and Safety: H1N1 Flu Update

Protect your child and family from getting sick with the flu with the following three steps:

- 1) Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- 2) Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder, not into your hands.
- 3) Stay home if you or your child is sick for at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever or signs of a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine).

Health officials are predicting an increase in the virus during the coming months. For more information about H1N1 flu and what steps the school district is following to keep students safe, visit [www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/parent/student\\_health](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/parent/student_health).

## Bond Issue Funds at Work

Progress continues on schedule and on budget to complete the 2008 voter-approved improvements to Rockwood schools:

- heating and air conditioning system upgrades
- technology updates
- roof repairs
- classroom additions
- bathroom renovations
- and more.



View the entire list of the school improvements provided by the 2008 bond issue on the Rockwood Web site: [www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/Prop3](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/Prop3).

## Community Forum for the Rockwood Superintendent Search

Superintendent Craig Larson has announced his retirement effective at the end of this school year. The Rockwood Board of Education has hired an executive search firm, Ray and Associates, Inc., to conduct a national search for the next leader of the Rockwood School District.

The public is invited to a community forum. This meeting will allow our parents and patrons to provide input into a leadership profile for our new superintendent.

**Date: Wed., Sept. 9**

**Time: 7 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Location: LaSalle Springs Middle School**

**Address: 3300 Highway 109 in Wildwood**

Please join us for this important discussion. In addition, the community may provide input via an online survey that will be posted on the Rockwood Web site in early September.

Find more information at [www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/community/boe/suptsearch](http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/community/boe/suptsearch).

**Rockwood Mission: We do whatever it takes to ensure all students realize their potential.**





# September 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 3rd-5th Grade Curriculum Night 7 pm	2 PTO Chairperson Meeting 6:30 & General Meeting 7pm- Library	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day No School	8	9	10	11 4th Grade Team Building	12
13	14	15 Picture Day	16 Early Dismissal	17	18 Spirit Day	19
20	21	22 4th Grade PE Demo 7pm- Gym	23	24	25 5th Grade Golf	26
27	28	29 Papa John's Family Night	30 2nd Grade PE Demo 7 pm			