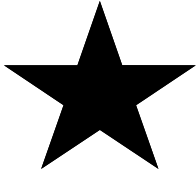




Knigh^t ♦ Line

Rockwood Valley Middle School



A Missouri Gold Star School
A United States Blue Ribbon School



A Letter from Mr. Loiterstein...

Dear Rockwood Valley Community:

November marks a very busy time each year at Rockwood Valley. First quarter is over (it was great to see so many of you at Conferences!), and students have fully settled into the school year. RVMS offers great extra-curricular activities in which students can participate, and the holidays are right around the corner. This is, of course, also a time of the year when we build character by focusing on those around us.

Veterans of Rockwood Valley know that the Turkey Smash assembly which is held the last day of school before Thanksgiving Break is one of the most memorable experiences our students have at Rockwood Valley. In addition to the great school spirit that will be displayed, our kids will be doing a great deal of good in the community related to this event. The PSO will once again sponsor the coin drive the week before Turkey Smash. Proceeds will benefit Circle of Concern and the Harvey Kornblum Food Pantry. We will also continue to adopt families in need within our student community to provide a fulfilling holiday season for them. Please look for additional information coming your way in the next few weeks.

On a different note, we are all cognizant of the benefits that the Internet provides, including for our kids. It also provides them a level of access to the world around them that can pose dangers. Teaching students how to "Surf Safe" is vital to maintaining their own online safety, and we will be presenting lessons to students about this topic in December. There will also be a presentation specifically for parents on December 5th at 9:30 am in the school library. We hope that you can join us. If you are not able to, our counselors can provide you with the materials from the presentation.

We hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration at the end of this month. The staff at Rockwood Valley is thankful that you share your children with us each day!

Sincerely,

Andrew Loiterstein
Principal

November 2011

Volume 19 Issue 4

Inside this issue:

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Dates to Remember

- Thanksgiving Break begins Wednesday, November 23.
- Last Day of Quarter 2 and Semester 1— Thursday, December 22.



Around Rockwood Valley



Rockwood

The Word of the Month is COOPERATION

"If you want to be incrementally better: Be competitive. If you want to be exponentially better: Be cooperative."

Inclement Weather Information

The Rockwood School District has clear plans about what to do in the event of inclement weather conditions. In such situations, the safety of our students and staff is the most important consideration.

All families need an inclement weather plan. Please develop a plan and inform your child of what it is, especially if inclement weather causes school to be dismissed early. We require all students to ride the bus home on inclement weather days.



Band and Choir Members Honor Veterans

On Monday, November 14 members of the eighth grade band and the seventh grade choir will perform for veterans at Gambrill Gardens. They will perform a variety of patriotic selections, present veterans with flags, and thank them for their service to our country.

Rockwood Middle School Swim Meet

The RSD Middle School Swim Meet will be held on Tuesday, November 15, from 5pm to 9pm at Lafayette High School. Entry forms are available from PE/Health teachers.



October Students of the Month

Cameron Wolk—6 Black
Jakob Molskness—6 Red
Logan Panchot — 7 Black
Emily Wescott—7 Red
Alyssa Goedeker—8 Black
Nathan Brooks—8 Red
Erin Carroll—6 Fine Arts
Zoe Moore—7 Fine Arts
Meredith Binnette—8 Fine Arts
Ty Prozorowski—6 Foreign Language
Marlo McElroy—7 Foreign Lanaguage
Luke Neise—8 Foreign Language
Jacob Listerman—6 Music
Mary Uebelein—7 Music
Alayna Martin—8 Music
Meghan Conroy—6 PE/Health
Emelie Orlando—7 PE/Health
Sarah Nicholson—8 PE/Health
Merry Gebel—6 Practical Arts
Weston Reeves—7 Practical Arts
Matthew Wahle—8 Practical Arts



Rockwood Valley Middle School

Dream It. Believe It. Achieve It.

Senior Dance

The Rockwood Valley Band Department hosted a Senior Citizens' Dance on Thursday, October 6. This event gave the senior citizens of our community a chance to visit our school, socialize, dance, and meet some of our students.

The following students volunteered to host this event:: Callahan McAndrew, Claire Kosola, Emma Broz, Harley Blackler, Jameson Smith, Laine Strobel, Erin Rose, Stephanie Herbers, Grace Breiten, Nathan Frederickson, Julia Romero, and Chris Foley. Way to go, students!

Lancer Marketplace

The Lafayette Lancers Regiment will soon host its Marketplace Craft Fair and Holiday Boutique.

December 3, 9am-4pm
December 4, 11am-4pm
Lafayette High School
17050 Clayton Road
Wildwood, MO 63011

The fair will feature over 100 artisans and vendors from Missouri and Illinois as well as events, entertainment, concessions, and a silent auction.

A Letter from Mrs. Klesh about Scoliosis Screening



Dear Parents,

The Rockwood School District will be conducting a scoliosis screening program for girls in grades 6 and 8 and boys in grade 8. Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine that may become more pronounced during the adolescent period of rapid growth. If detected early and appropriately treated, progressive spinal deformity can be prevented.

The procedure for screening is simple. A team of nurse screeners view the child's back in the standing position and in the forward bending position. Boys and girls are screened separately, and the students are screened privately. In order to properly assess each student's back, boys and girls are asked to remove their shirts. Girls should wear a swimsuit top, bra, or halter-top under their shirts the day of the screening. Please note the date.

School: Rockwood Valley Middle School
Date: **JANUARY 19 and 20, 2012** (during PE/Health class)

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this letter to the RVMS school nurse, Ingrid Klesh, RN, if you **do not wish** for your child to be screened for scoliosis.

I do not **want** _____ (_____) screened for scoliosis.
Student's Name Grade

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



Bus Information

If you have concerns or questions regarding bus transportation, please utilize the following contact information:

- VICC Office (Go Ahead buses)—314-721-8657
- First Student—phone 636-458-2044

Middle School Honors Orchestra Members

Congratulations to Jayme Henderson for her audition for the St. Louis Suburban Middle School Honors Orchestra. Congratulations also go to the following students who were chosen to perform in January with the St. Louis Suburban Middle School Honors Orchestra:

- Violinists—Wendy Han and Julia Romero
- Violist—Will Schatz
- Cellists—Sarah Nicholson, Meg Nicholson, and Maddie Mullen
- Bassist—Ethan Chapin

Congratulations also to Alyssa Hahn, Lina Qi, and Nina Ruan for being selected to the St. Louis Suburban 6th Grade Honors Orchestra. These students will be performing with other top sixth grade orchestra students in January.

Positive Office Referrals

Congratulations to the following students who received positive office referrals recently: Morgan Trost, Andrew Diazdeleon, Lili Petrowsky, Lina Qi, Paige Sanfelippo, Jessica Santosa, Weston Reeves, Myiah Hall, Jack Steele, and Michael Hui.



Notes from the Nurse

Cold and flu season has arrived. Pediatricians are recommending flu shots for all children over the age of 6 months to prevent the spread of influenza to people that are susceptible. Flu shots clinics will be offered throughout the Rockwood School District in October and November for our staff and students as well as for families in the community. Check the Rockwood School District website for more information.

RVMS students will continue to have PE classes outdoors during the Fall and Winter months if the weather and temperature will allow. Be sure your child has an extra sweatshirt and/or sweatpants to keep in their PE locker. Finally, remember that eating breakfast will go a long way in keeping your child healthy during these next cool months!

Band Concert

The Beginning, Cadet, and Concert Band members will perform at their Fall Band concert on Wednesday, November 16 at 7pm in the commons. The bands will perform a variety of musical styles from fanfares to marches. This concert is free and open to the Rockwood community.

SLSMEA Honor Band

Congratulations to the following students that auditioned for the St. Louis All Suburban Honor Band: Claire Kosola, Erin Rose, Garrett McBay, Ryan McCarthy, Sai Allu, and Natalie Elser.

Chloe Descher, Nick Holt, Kyle Murden, and Melissa Northem also auditioned and their scores earned them a seat in the St. Louis Suburban Honor Band.

Congratulations to all of these students.



Thank You, Local Merchants and Officer Widdis

Thank you to the following businesses for their contributions supporting Red Ribbon Week. Lunch table prizes were contributed by:

- Wildwood Dierbergs with a special thanks to Mr. Gerst
- Domino's Pizza in Chesterfield (Long Road)
- Mr. Goodcents in Chesterfield (Long Road)
- Widdis family

Individual prizes were contributed by:

- McDonalds in Ellisville
- Papa Johns in Chesterfield
- Chic-Fil-A in Chesterfield Valley
- Sports Fusion in Chesterfield (special thanks to Paula Congiu)
- The Infield in Ellisville
- Papa Johns
- West County Bowling Lanes

Thanks to SRO Widdis and his family and friends for giving individual contributions towards the success of Red Ribbon Week. Thanks also goes to Officer Widdis and Mr. Mullen who spent many hours organizing this event.



Counselors' Corner

Rockwood South Middle School in Fenton will be hosting the November Counselor Coffee. Please join us for "How to Talk to Your Kids about Hot Topics" on Wednesday, November 2. Two different presentations are available: 9 to 10:30am and 7 to 8:30pm.

The second Town Hall Meeting, "A Community Response to Heroin", at Rockwood Summit High School has been rescheduled to Tuesday, November 15 from 7-8:30pm. If you missed September's Town Hall Meeting at Marquette High School, please consider attending this event. For more information, call 314-962-3456.

Just a reminder, a copy of the Bullying Report Form can be picked up in the Welcome Center, the Counseling Center, or printed off the RVMS Guidance and Counseling website.

If you are interested in being an after-school tutor for an RVMS student, please contact the RVMS Counseling Center.

<http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rvalley/offices/guidance/Pages/default.asp>

Mrs. Jaime Finck
6th Grade and 8 Red Counselor

Mrs. Stacey Scott
7th Grade and 8 Black Counselor

A Reminder for Parents

If you are checking your student out early, please have your child bring a note to the office that morning for a pass to leave class early. Following this procedure reduces classroom disruption. Thank you for your help.

Rockwood Valley PSO Page

RVMS Adopt-a-Family Coin Drive

Students, start gathering up your loose change and help support our community with our annual coin drive. Once again, our teams from each grade level will be competing in a coin drive to help support the holiday Adopt-a-Family program, with excess proceeds donated to Circle of Concern and Harvey Kornbloom Jewish Food Pantry.

Mark your calendars for the following events:

- November 14—18: Coin Drive
- November 21—December 2: Gift Collection for Adopted Families
- November 22: Turkey Smash
- December 8: Gift Wrapping Party (after school)

Will your team be the winner of this year's coin drive and earn the most points towards RVMS Turkey Smash? Look for more details to come on the RVMS website, including adopted families' wish lists. Contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Jill Peate
2011 Adopt-a-Family Chairperson
us5peates@yahoo.com

Welcome Coffee Thank You

The PSO would like to thank all those that attended the Welcome Coffee for new parents. We had great conversation and traded names of hairstylists, doctors, and dance studios. If you were not able to attend and have questions about our RVMS community, please feel free to call any of the board members. We will be happy to help you. It is not too late to get involved in volunteer opportunities. Keep your eye on the PSO page for

committees looking for help. Welcome, and we hope you enjoy RVMS as much as we do.

Beth Bonney

Candy Collection

Too much candy? Donate a portion of your Halloween treats to children in need.

- Children's Advocacy center
- Weinmam Shelter & St. Martha's Hall
- Edgewood Children's Center
- Epworth Children & Family Services

To donate, put your candy in the Welcome Center drop box between November 1 and November 11, or bring it with you to afternoon pick-up on November 4. PSO members will be on the sidewalk so you don't even have to get out of your car. Questions? Contact Anita Higginbotham at 636-532-9970 or at higginba@aol.com. Thank you for supporting this effort.

*Adopt-a-Family
Coin Drive*



Rockwood Valley Middle School

<http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rvalley/Pages/default.aspx>

District News

November 2011

Board of Education Seeking Applicants

The Rockwood Board of Education is seeking applicants to fill the director's position recently vacated by Matthew Fitzpatrick, who resigned from the Board on Oct. 20.

Candidates must be citizens of the United States, residents of the Rockwood School District, residents of Missouri for at least one year preceding the appointment, and at least 24 years of age. The appointed member would serve until the April 2012 election.

Beginning Mon., Oct. 31, applications may be obtained from Kathy Chitwood, Board secretary, at the Rockwood Administrative Center, 111 East North Street, Eureka, Missouri, 63025 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Completed applications must be returned to the Board secretary no later than 4 p.m., Fri., Nov. 11, 2011. Board members plan to administer the oath of office to the new member on Dec. 1. For more information, contact Rockwood Communications at (636) 733-1140.

The Board of Education meets on the first and third Thursday of most months during the year. Meetings are held at Crestview Middle School, located at 16025 Clayton Road in Ellisville. Meetings are open to the public.

The Rockwood Advantage

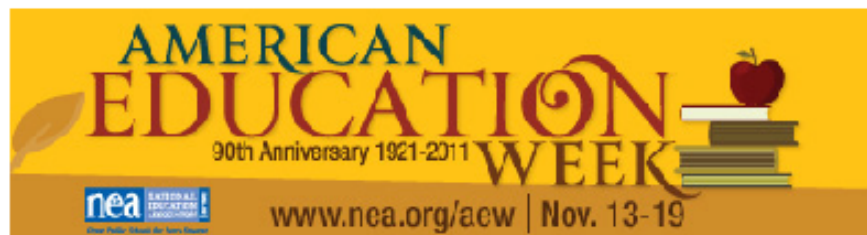
Rockwood is one of only six school districts in the state accredited through **AdvancED**, the world's largest education community.

A rating of **Distinction in Performance with High Achievement** provides Rockwood with the highest accreditation possible from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Rockwood received a **perfect score on the Annual Performance Report** from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The district receives top marks for providing a high return on investment. Rockwood's conservative financial management has been recognized with a **Moody's bond rating of AA2** and a **Standard and Poor's rating of AAA**, making Rockwood one of only 68 school districts nationwide to hold such a high, outstanding rating.

Find out more: www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rockwoodadvantage



American Education Week spotlights the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education from kindergarten through college, and the need for everyone to do his or her part to make public schools great.

The National Education Association supports the annual tag line: **Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility**. These words reflect the Association's calling upon America to provide students with quality public schools so that they can grow and prosper in the 21st century.

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



**Rockwood Valley Middle School
1220 Babler Park Drive
Glencoe, Missouri 63038**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER 2011



1—SAT 10 for 6th Gr
2—SAT 10 for 6th Gr
3—6th Gr Camp (Red Team only)
4—6th Gr Camp (Red Team only);
7th Gr Hearing Screening
6—Daylight Savings Time Ends
7—PSO Meeting, 9:30am; SAT 10 for
6th Gr
8-9—6th Gr Camp (Black Team only)
10—PD Day; Dismissal at 11:15am
11—No School
12—American Education Week
15—RSD MS Swim Meet, 5pm-9pm,
LHS
16—Band Concert, 7pm, gym; Educa-
tion Support Professional Day; Get
Real Lunch-Bags Out
17—7 Red Field Trip; Get Real
Lunch-Raffle Drawing
18—Q2 Merlin Lunch; Q2 Progress
Reports on Parent Portal; Student of
the Month Breakfast, 7:35am
21—Adopt-a-Family Collection Be-
gins

22—No After School Activities; Tur-
key Smash Assembly, 1pm-2:22pm,
gym
23-25—No School
28—RSD MS Non-Competitive Bowl-
ing, 3pm-4:45pm, West County Lanes
30—LHS Middle School Orchestra
Tour; RSD Competitive Bowling, 6th
Gr, 3pm-4:45pm, West County Lanes

DECEMBER 2011



1—MS Non-Competitive
Bowling, Grades 7/8, 3pm-
4:45pm
2—Adopt-A-Family Gift Collection
Ends
5—Safe Surf Parent Presentation,
9:30am-10:30am, Library; PSO Meet-
ing, 9:30am; Rec-Plex Contract Let-
ters out to 7th Gr
6—Play, 7pm, commons;

7—PD Day, Dismissal at 11:15am
8—Adopt-A-Family Gift Wrap, com-
mons; MIOS RVMS Band Concert at
LHS, 7pm
9—RVMS Music Tour to Babler and
Chesterfield Elem, 9am-2pm
12-13—7th Gr Rex-Plex Contract
Letters due Back
15—Last day of SI activities; Vocal
Music Concert, 7pm, commons
16—Student of the Month Breakfast,
7:35am
20-22—No After School Activities
until January 10, 2012
22—Last Day of Q2/S1; Staff and
Students “Dress Your Best” for the
Holidays; Winter Concert Assembly
for students, 7:45am, gym; Early Dis-
missal for Students, 11:15am
23-31—No School; Winter Break