

Student Handbook 2016 - 2017

**RYE
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

3 Parsons Street
Rye, New York
10580

Telephone: (914) 967-6100
Principal's Office - Ext. 2908
Assistant Principal's Office - Ext. 2918
Guidance Office - Ext. 2940

RYE MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK

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RYE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAMS FOR 2016-2017

Team 6R

Nick Apiscopa	Math
Mike Carey*	Social Studies
Julie Divi	Science
Abby Tuttle	Language Arts

Team 6M

William Ackerman	Social Studies
Mike Massett*	Language Arts
Michele McRedmond	Science
Alex Tejera	Math

Team 6S

Michael Johnson	Math
Carin Mehler	Social Studies
Katrina Smith*	Science
Leslie Webb	Language Arts

Team 7R

Patti Caponera	Math
David Ball	Social Studies
John Griffin	Science
John O'Donnell*	Language Arts

Team 7M

Simon Berk	Social Studies
Victoria Dosso	Math
Peter Gouveia*	Language Arts
Julianne Potoma Tamucci	Science

Team 7S

John Borchert	Science
Julianne Corbalis	Social Studies
April Colarusso	Language Arts
Aleksey Vodyanitskiy*	Math

Team 8R

Michele Haiken*	Language Arts
Lisa Irvine	Science
James Kennedy	Math
James Rinaldi	Social Studies

Team 8M

John Aguilar*	Math
Cody Blume	Social Studies
Debra Davis	Science
Noreen Kennedy	Language Arts

Team 8S

Suzanne Adams	Language Arts
Harold Brosowsky	Science
Quan Huynh	Math
Francesca Miller*	Social Studies

*Team Leader

RYE MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF
2016-2017

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Dr. Ann Edwards
Mrs. Lucille E. Yalcin, Assistant to the Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Mr. Joseph G. DiGiovanni
Mrs. Deborah Antonecchia, Office Management

GUIDANCE OFFICE

Mr. Robert Villanova, Guidance Counselor, Grade 6
Ms. Vanessa Caine, Guidance Counselor, Grade 7
Mrs. Dina Farewell, Guidance Counselor, Grade 8
Mrs. Dorothy Sorensen, Office Management

STUDENT SERVICES

Mr. Peter Green, Social Worker
Ms. Natalie Spina, Psychologist

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Mrs. Cristina Balsama	Mrs. Kristie Orlando
Mrs. Sheau-Yuann Huang	Ms. Marion Horgan
Mr. Andres Soltren	Ms. Xu Yang
Mr. Nicolas Reza Rastegar	Ms. Debra Aronson (ASL)
Mrs. Dawn King	
Ms. Maria M. Calaf	
Mr.. Mark McWilliams	

PHYSICAL/HEALTH EDUCATION

Mr. Michael Bruno	Mr. Randall McCumber
Mrs. Kelly Duffy	Mr. Josh Plaice
Ms. Mary Henwood	Mr. Tim Tolve

MUSIC

Mr. Todd Beaney	Mr. Donald Josuweit
Mr. Daniel Brown	Mr. Thomas Snowden
Mrs. Lynn Kraut	

ENGINEERING

Mr. Timothy Kohlbrenner
Mr. Brian Rodefelf

ELL

Mrs. Vanessa Kravitz

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

Charles Carman
Kristina Carofano
Lisa Marie Di Russo
Francesca N. Mount
Marissa Curcio
Lisa Mount
Michelle Usai
Meg Milano

HEALTH OFFICE

Mrs. Elizabeth Carty

ART

Mrs. Maggie Heinze
Ms. Kim Tamalonis
Mrs. Katrina Smith

MEDIA CENTER

Mr. Daniel Kenefick

COMPUTER AIDE

Mr. Michael LaBella

SECURITY

Mr. Rolf Koehler

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Rye Middle School. RMS will address the special learning and social needs you have as a young adolescent. We promote academic rigor and excellence and will help with your social and personal development.

Dr. Ann Edwards

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT & SERVICES

The guidance department consists of three counselors, one for each grade level. They function as a team, which often includes the school social worker and psychologist, on an open and informal basis whenever possible. They make every effort to be easily accessible to students and parents. Guidance counselors are available to assist you with achieving academic and social success. Parents are required to call for an appointment with their child's counselor.

Students are welcome to seek out their guidance counselor when necessary. Every effort will be made to avoid scheduling counseling sessions or appointments during core class periods. Students should always obtain permission from their teacher and come to the guidance office with a pass. A guidance counselor may also provide a pass. Lunch periods, elective periods and after school are the best times for students to meet with their counselor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Middle School students are required to be scheduled for all instructional periods of the school day. Each student will be enrolled in language arts, math, social studies, foreign language, science, and physical education. Sometimes, a student may need additional classes, such as math lab or literacy, to help them succeed in school. In such cases, the counselor will work with students to obtain the best possible schedule to accommodate individual needs. Students and parents should consult the RMS Program Of Studies on-line for a complete description of all programs offered.

PROGRAMS & PROGRAM CHANGES

Student requests for classes must be approved by their parents AND guidance counselor. Students may NOT drop or add courses once two full weeks of a school semester have elapsed unless there is a compelling reason. All requests for changes must have written approval of parents/guardians and a signed form from the teacher(s) involved. **It is the responsibility of the student to continue to attend the class until the request to drop the course has been approved by the principal.**

EXTRA HELP

Teachers will provide extra help to students who request it or who must make up work Monday through Thursday, between 2:37 and 3:00 p.m. Obligations to teachers take priority over attendance at an extracurricular activity. The school's Excellence Team has made the following statement regarding "X" period:

After many hours of thorough review of the x-period in its present format, the Rye Middle School Excellence Team - comprised of teachers, parents, students, and a community representative - unanimously affirms and endorses the value of the current x-period.

In our continued effort to communicate clearly with students and parents, all Rye Middle School teachers are available from 2:37 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. to provide assistance, academic support, additional instruction or consultation with students on their class and homework assignments. Parents are urged to encourage their children to take advantage of this time by asking teachers for clarification of assignments and to receive extra instruction. Students are to be advised that the x-period is a time when tests and quizzes may be made up. It is also time when a teacher may request to see a student in order to complete assignments or review academic material.

In order that the x-period be used successfully, the Rye Middle School Excellence Team requests the continued support of all parents by not scheduling activities between 2:32 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Students will therefore be available during this time period to take care of their academic responsibilities.

The Rye Middle School Excellence Team hopes that this affirmation and clarification of the x-period will foster the successful use of this valuable part of the school day. Some teachers provide extra help during the lunch period.



Board of Education

Katy Keohane Glassberg, President
Christopher Repetto, Vice President

Karen Belanger
Blake Jines-Storey
Nancy A. Pasquale
Kelly Smith-Powers
Jennifer Boyle

Superintendent of Schools

Frank R. Alvarez, Ed.D.

ACADEMIC REPORTING

PROGRESS REPORTING

Student progress is now available through the Parent Portal of Power School. Parents can access their child's grades by logging into Power School and using a password provided by the school. Keep in mind that grades are only as current as the latest teacher input.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents may make appointments for conferences with teachers or counselors by telephoning the Middle School Guidance Office 967-6100 Ext. 2940. In addition, Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for each grade: three for grade 6 and two for grades 7 and 8. It is not necessary for every parent to schedule a formal conference.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued in mid-November, early February, mid-April and the end of June for the purpose of reviewing academic progress.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Cheating and plagiarism on tests, research papers, homework, quizzes, labs, projects, etc. will not be tolerated. Students involved in such activity will be referred to the classroom teacher and the Assistant Principal for the appropriate consequence.

STUDENT RECORDS

Parents of a student under 18 have a right to review and inspect any and all official records and files, in accordance with the "**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.**"

Student records are confidential and may not be released or made available to persons other than parents or students without the written consent of such parents or students. Exceptions to this rule include "other school officials, teachers, and certain state and federal agencies, etc."

TRANSCRIPTS

Grades earned in Integrated Algebra, Earth Science, and 7th and 8th grade foreign language appear on the high school transcript. Students who successfully complete the foreign language middle school classes are granted high school credit.

PROMOTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADES 6, 7, & 8

Satisfactory completion of all required and elective courses is necessary for promotion. If a student fails a

core academic subject, he or she must attend a recognized summer school program. Promotion will be determined after successful completion of summer school and passing the school final. Any student failing three or more core academic classes will be retained.

ORGANIZATIONS, CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

CLUBS

The Middle School offers a full assortment of clubs and activities.

Participation in the co-curricular programs of the Middle School is a privilege. The same eligibility requirements essential for athletics are in effect for students participating in any school-sponsored club or activity. All clubs and activities will not meet before 3:00 p.m. so that all academic requirements may be met.

G.O.

The General Organization of the Rye Middle School is the student government. Meetings are held after school and are open to **all** middle schoolers. The success of the G.O. depends on student involvement. Students are always needed to work on committees and help with G.O. sponsored activities.

The G.O. is active in student life sponsoring activities such as assemblies, athletics, outings and dances; and provides financial support for other Middle School activities. It also provides an organization where student opinions can be expressed and then presented to the faculty, administration and community groups for the improvement of the schools.



SPORTS PROGRAMS

A wide range of boys' and girls' sports including field hockey, football, soccer, basketball, softball, wrestling, and lacrosse, is available. **To be eligible to play a sport, students must have a physical examination with the results on file in the health office.**

RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT **STANDARDS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETES**

Interscholastic sports are an important part of the total educational program of the Rye City School District. It is the overwhelming opinion of physical educators and coaches that athletes perform best when they follow intelligent training rules that include restrictions on the use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs. To this end, the following expectations have been established for students participating in interscholastic athletes.

1. Student athletes are expected to follow all school regulations pertaining to the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs as outlined in the handbook.
2. Student athletes, under the direction of the coach and captains, will discuss the negative impact of the use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs on performance. Students will agree not to use these substances.
3. Student athletes must maintain the highest level of positive behavior in and out of the classroom. A student who cuts academic classes or is disruptive will not be permitted to participate until the situation is rectified with the Assistant Principal.
4. A student athlete who accumulates 4 or more after school detentions may be prohibited from practice or competition until detentions are served.
5. Athletes are expected to be at all practices and competitions unless excused by the coach.
6. A student athlete who is absent from school may not participate on any athletic team practice or competition that day.
7. A student athlete who arrives without authorization after 8:49 a.m. will not be allowed to participate that day unless approved by the Assistant Principal.

8. Athletes and parent/guardians must sign the Interscholastic Sports: Medical Clearance Card acknowledging these Standards for Interscholastic Athletes and the Consequences for Violations of Athletes' Standards.

Consequences for Violations of Interscholastic Athletes' Standards

For possession or use of any tobacco products (cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco), alcohol, or illegal drugs, the student athlete will suffer a two week suspension from competition in his/her sport. He/she will be required to practice with the team while on suspension. A second violation will result in removal from the team for the duration of the season. A third violation (if the athlete plays another sport in the next season or in a subsequent season) will result in removal from all interscholastic sports for the year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes the educational value of student participation in extra-curricular activities and strives to provide a well-balanced program of activities (athletic/clubs/organizations/theater) which will respond to a variety of student interests and needs.

The Board requires that the following three standards for eligibility be met by students in order for them to participate in extra-curricular activities:

1) Maintain a Full Schedule

A student is expected to carry a program of 5 classes (or the equivalent) plus physical education. The student is expected to be in regular attendance and to be doing regular course work in all of his or her classes for each marking period. The Superintendent shall develop regulations for Board approval.

2) Maintain Standards for Academic Performance

All middle and high school students must achieve a 70 average with no failures or a maximum of one failure with a plan to remediate that failure to be eligible to fully participate* in athletics, clubs, organizations, or theater. The Superintendent shall develop regulations for Board approval.

When an idea or section 504 student is in jeopardy of failing to meet minimum grade requirements for eligibility at the mid marking period, the Assistant Principal for guidance at the high school or the Assistant Principal at the middle school shall convene

a meeting of the "eligibility committee." This meeting will be held to determine if the failure is related to the student's disability or if it is a result of other factors unrelated to the disability. If the failure is related to the student's disability a referral shall be made to the committee on special education [CSE] for a program modification.

When marking period grades are issued, if a failure occurs that is not related to the student's disability, the standards for academic performance noted above shall be equitably applied.

The "eligibility committee" shall be made up of the administrator, the case manager, the student's guidance counselor, the teacher and the student's parents.

3) Maintain Standards for School Citizenship

Every student is expected to be a responsible school community member and help create an orderly and supportive learning environment. Citizenship standards are defined in the policies referenced, in school handbooks and in administrative regulations.

*Fully participate = practice and/or compete and/or take part in athletic competitions, practice and/or perform in theatrical performances or take part in other extra-curricular clubs/organizations.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Student social events are considered an integral part of the total educational program of the Rye Public Schools, and they are expected to further the students' social, intellectual, cultural and physical development. Most social events will involve the charging of a reasonable fee to each participant.

Student social events will normally not be planned during school holiday periods, on days set aside for religious observance, during major examination periods or at a time where they will conflict with other major school or community events.

Evening social events planned for Middle School students end no later than 10:30 p.m. Students leaving early must submit a note from parent(s) to the Principal or G.O. Advisor.

Social events are for Rye Middle School pupils ONLY.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

UNSCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSAL

If schools need to be dismissed earlier than the regularly scheduled time, every reasonable effort will be made to contact families. The news will be posted on the list serve and will be on the school switchboard.

Make sure your child knows how to get home on his own and what to do if no one will be home to greet him/her.

Delayed Opening/School Closing because of Inclement Weather

Information regarding a delay in the beginning of the school day or the closing of school is available through the following sources:

NOTIFICATION

1. District phone system, list serve, website.
2. Reverse 911 activated.

Please do not call either the Fire Department or the Police Department for this information.

THE LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Friday, 7:30a.m to 3:15p.m.

The Library Media Center (LMC) is a computerized learning center where students develop reading, listening, research, computer, and study skills, guided and assisted by the media specialist, staff, and teachers. Both print and non-print materials are provided for the use of students and staff.

Reference books are to be used in the LMC. With the permission of the library staff, some reference books may be borrowed at the end of the school day and returned by 8:00 the next morning. Magazines and newspapers do not circulate.

All other materials must be checked out for a three-week period and you may have them renewed. Any book that is lost or damaged must be paid for by the student who has signed it out.

To access library information at home, log on to the RMS website and click on the library link on the left sidebar. The library website includes access to our online catalog; a short description of our policies; useful government, subject area, and library links; and the heart of the site: access to all of our subscription databases, allowing you access to our library 24/7.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Parents of all new students must complete a pre-admittance application. Copies are available at the Central Administration Building and on the school district's website, <http://ryeschools.org>.

HEALTH OFFICE

The Health Office is open from 8 am – 3 pm on school days for any health needs that arise.

The New York State Education Law requires each student to have certain health forms on file at the Health Office. Required forms can be obtained from the Health Office or its webpage.

Students may not go to the Health Office without a pass from the classroom teacher.

All students will be screened for scoliosis. In addition, new students and 7th graders will be screened for vision and hearing.

Students participating in interscholastic sports (7th and 8th graders only) are required to have a physical exam each year. This exam is good for one year. There is also a separate Sports Clearance Packet that the parent/Guardian completes **before each sport season**. Look/listen for announcements regarding due dates.

Medications, including over the counter medicine can be given by the school nurse only with written authorization from both physician and parent/guardian.

RMS Health Office contact information:

carty.elizabeth@ryeschools.org

Health Services webpage – follow link from RMS webpage at www.ryeschools.org
(914) 967-6100 Ext. 2930
(914) 921-1316 (FAX)

DAILY ATTENDANCE RULES

School starts at 8 am. Drop off zones are clearly designated on Parsons Street. Students should follow the directions of the crossing guards. Crossing assistance is available each morning from 7:30 am to 8:00 am. Cars are NOT permitted in the parking lot during that time.

School ends at 2:32 pm and X-Period ends at 3 pm. Parents may enter the drive-way and should proceed around the circle to pick up students. Caution should be used at all times and parents should not wait in idling cars and block others who are pulling out of spaces.

The Rye Board of Education has an established policy requiring pupils to be in attendance when school is in session and on time for all scheduled instructional periods. Parents are expected to support this policy, and the Board and staff will hold parents AND their children responsible for regular school attendance.

Students must arrive at school in time to go to their lockers, if necessary, and be seated in their first scheduled class **when it begins**. Any student arriving after the first scheduled class must sign in and obtain an admit slip to school. **Legal tardiness to school must be verified by a written excuse from a parent or guardian**. Students who are tardy without a written excuse are required to serve a detention. Excessive tardiness will result in a parent conference.

Parents are asked to call the Assistant Principal Office at 967-6100 Ext. 2910 no later than 9:00 a.m. to advise the school whenever their child is absent. **Students who have been absent for more than three (3) days can request homework assignments**. Please call the Guidance Office, Ext. 2940.

When a student has been absent from school, the pupil must return to school with an absence note signed by a parent or guardian. This written excuse should contain the reason and exact dates for the absence and brought to the Assistant Principal's Office.

The Board recognizes the following as legal excuses for student absence, each of which must be verified by the student's parent/guardian or school personnel, where applicable:

1. Personal illness
2. Death in the immediate family
3. Religious observance
4. Required attendance in course
5. Approved school-sponsored activities, including field trips, interscholastic athletics, musical and other competitions
6. Directed or authorized presence at the Administrative Offices or Nurse's Office
7. Quarantine
8. Emergency dental and medical appointments
9. Military obligations
10. Approved cooperative/work study programs
11. College visitations (only for juniors and seniors), with the prior knowledge and approval of parents and counselors, so long as it does not exceed 4 days in a school year.
12. Unsafe travel conditions

Family vacations are not recognized as excused absences. The middle school does not schedule early finals for students leaving before the end of school for camp, family vacations, etc. If a student misses a final due to an excused absence, a make-up will be scheduled through the principal's office.

SIGNING OUT

If you must leave school before the end of the day's scheduled classes, you must:

- Present a written request from a parent or guardian to the Assistant Principal's Office **BEFORE** the first class of the day. An Early Dismissal Slip will be issued to you.
- Show the slip to your teacher when you leave.
- Bring your slip to the security guard at the front door and sign out there.

Emergency health related sign-outs are handled by the Health Office.

CLASS CUTTING

Teachers will report a class cut to the Assistant Principal who will, in turn, notify the student's parents, confer with the student and take whatever disciplinary action is required by the **Code of Conduct**.

STUDENT RULES OF CONDUCT

Students at the Rye Middle School are expected to show respect for each other, for teachers and all school personnel, school property, and personal property. Students are expected to adhere to a high standard of personal behavior and to share in the responsibility of seeing that school rules are followed consistently.

CELL PHONE USE

Students may not use cell phones during the day. They may use the cell phone outside the building after 2:32PM. They may not use the cell phone at lunch. Cell phones must be turned off.

Teachers may continue to use smart phones during instructions while making allowances for those who do not own a phone. Parents should not text or call their students during the school day.



STUDENT RULES OF CONDUCT

INFRACTION	POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES
1. Class Cutting A. 1st offense B. 2nd offense C. Subsequent offenses	A. Parent contact and a detention will be assigned. B. Parent conference and in-school suspension. C. Parent conference and out-of-school suspension.
2. Unexcused Tardiness	Students who are tardy without a written excuse are required to serve detention; un-served detentions may result in suspension from school.
3. Truancy from School A. 1st offense B. 2nd offense C. Subsequent offenses	A. Parent contact and 2 days in-school suspension. B. Parent conference and 2 days in-school suspension. C. Out-of-school suspension and parent conference.
4. Smoking A. 1st offense B. Subsequent offenses	A. Parent contact and in-school suspension. B. Out-of school suspension and parent conference.
5. Use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol and misuse of prescribed or over-the-counter medication	Out-of-school suspension for a minimum of three days. Return only after a parent conference. The police and Superintendent will be notified. Further consequences may result.
6. Theft	Out-of-school suspension and parent conference. The police will be notified. Restitution must be made.
7. Vandalism	Parent conference & in-school suspension. Student will be held responsible for repair/replacement cost.
8. Fighting	Fighting is not tolerated. Fighting will result in an out-of-school suspension and parent conference.
9. Tardiness to class	A detention is assigned by teacher after the third tardy and a discipline referral will be issued.
10. Cheating and Plagiarism	Student(s) will be referred to classroom teacher for the appropriate consequence, (See Academic Misconduct p. 3) with counsel from the Assistant Principal.
11. Inappropriate behavior in class	Detention assigned by teacher and a discipline referral will be issued.
12. Inappropriate behavior in cafeteria	Detention assigned. If applicable, student will be required to clean up. Students with repeated offenses will be referred to the Assistant Principal's office. Continued problems will result in student being removed from the cafeteria.
13. Disruption of Class where student is sent to office A. 1st offense B. Subsequent offense	A. Detention will be assigned. B. Reoccurring Offenses will result in an in-school suspension and parent conference.
14. Disrespect Towards Authority A. 1st offense B. 2nd offense C. Subsequent infractions	A. School detention assigned and parent notified. B. In-school suspension AND parent conference. C. In-school or out-of-school suspension.
15. Inappropriate Behavior at Sporting Events, Concerts/Shows & Field Trips	Detention/possible loss of attendance privileges at future events and parent notified.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Students at the Rye Middle School are expected to show respect for each other, for teachers and all school personnel, school property, and personal property. Students are expected to adhere to a high standard of personal behavior and to share in the responsibility of seeing that school rules are consistently followed.

HALLWAYS

RMS students show responsible behavior in the halls during class passing to promote safety, promptness to class, and uninterrupted classroom activity. To demonstrate this responsibility they:

1. Keep to the right of the hall to help flow of traffic. Enter and leave stairwells on the right;
2. Walk, and never run, push, trip, punch, shove or fool around;
3. Do not loiter in the corridors or stairwell;
4. Discard trash in waste baskets;
5. Keep the hallways clean by picking up paper and litter found on the floors.

Students are expected to be respectful and courteous at all times. Students should not be in the hallway during classes, unless they have been excused from their room by a teacher and given a pass. When excused from a class and given the proper pass, students must go directly to their destination using the shortest route possible. While in the hallways, students must remain quiet so as not to disturb classes that are in session.

LATENESS

It is important to be on time to classes and to school. Lateness disrupts the teacher and interferes with the active learning of other students. Students have four minutes to get from one class to the other. Students are expected to report on time to all scheduled classes. If a teacher has detained a student, he/she should secure a pass. Excessive unexcused tardies will result in absences or loss of credit.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM

School pride puts a value on integrity. Personal integrity is the accepted standard for each student at RMS. Cheating in any form, such as giving or receiving actual test questions and/or answers, copying homework, tests, quizzes or plagiarizing work or information from the Internet, is an unacceptable practice and will result in disciplinary

action and/or a reduction in the grade of the student cheating and the student providing the information.

CITIZENSHIP

Students of Rye Middle School are expected to accept responsibility for their behavior and to conduct themselves in an intelligent and socially acceptable manner. Good citizenship is measured primarily in terms of maturity. The mature student not only cooperates with those in authority, but is trustworthy and respects the rights of others. Citizenship is expected both in school and outside school. Likewise, students should display good citizenship when using their computers when working on school projects or for personal use. Good citizenship requires students to report to their teachers, guidance counselor, or RMS administrators any information they have concerning a situation that could harm fellow schoolmates, RMS staff or citizens in the community. Students are requested to cooperate with both their fellow students and faculty in promoting good citizenship. They are urged to participate as active learners in school supervised activities to develop school pride. Students can demonstrate good citizenship by being thoughtful and courteous in school, as well as out of school.

TOLERANCE/RESPECT

Tolerance toward others with regard to race, religion and ethnic background is expected of all RMS students. Students are expected to be respectful to all other students and adults. Disrespectful jokes, comments, slurs or inappropriate behavior is not permitted and is subject to disciplinary consequences including suspension from school.

TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTERS, INTERNET AND "NETIQUETTE"

Students are expected to be responsible when using RMS computers. Only school related work should be done on computers in school. RMS students are advised to exercise caution when using the Internet at home for personal use. Students should never communicate with strangers on the Internet. Netiquette is the unofficial code on online conduct, or the basics of being a good cyber-citizen.

- Do NOT release any personal information about yourself, or establish contact with anyone who is not known to you.
- Do NOT use profane language or sarcasm and do not engage in personal attacks on anyone for any reason whether in school or out of school.
- Beware of hoaxes – Check web information and be aware of viruses!
- Write and spell well – Do the readers the courtesy of writing in whole words and complete sentences. Fix mistakes before you send a message.
- Don't SHOUT – use capital letters sparingly.

To view the Regulations for Rye Middle/High School Student Computer Use and Internet Safety, go to www.ryeschools.org. Click on the "Students" tab for the most recent policy.

DRESS CODE

All Students are expected to dress appropriately and give proper attention to personal cleanliness for school and school functions. The district requires students to attend school in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and maintains an environment focused on learning success. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and other District personnel are responsible for enforcing this dress code and will promote student understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance shall:

1. Include appropriate protective gear in certain classes (e.g. science, technology, physical education)
2. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
3. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other violent activities.
4. Recognize that see-through or otherwise revealing garments are not appropriate. Undergarments should be covered with outer clothing.
5. Not include the wearing of headgear in the classroom except for a medical or religious purpose.
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or denigrate others on account of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender (including gender identity and expression) or any other characteristic protected by law.

The Building Principal or his/her designee shall have the authority to require a student to change his/her attire should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Responsible students take pride in not condoning or allowing illegal drugs at RMS because they believe that the use of drugs and alcohol is dangerous to the health and safety of both the user and those exposed to a person using drugs. Anyone found to be possessing, using, giving or selling illegal drugs or alcohol will be suspended from school. Parents will be notified. Any other legal and reasonable action deemed necessary will be taken by the school administration.

SMOKING

Smoking (including cigarettes, e-cigarettes or any other smoking devices) is prohibited in the school building and on the campus.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

No student shall have in his or her possession upon school premises any rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, other firearm, knife, box cutter, dangerous chemicals, explosives, or any object which is not necessary for school activities and which could be used as a weapon. A weapon is defined as any instrument capable of firing a projectile, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a firearm muffler or silencer, any explosive device, or any other instrument capable of inflicting bodily harm.

The police will be notified of any student found in possession of a dangerous weapon. A serious infraction will result in school suspension and possible expulsion.

In accordance with the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994, if after a hearing has been provided pursuant to Section 214 of the Education Law, a student is found guilty of bringing a firearm (as defined in Federal Law) onto school property, such student will be subject to at least a one-year suspension from school.

THEFT, VANDALISM & HARASSMENT

Any student, teacher, or staff member discovering evidence of, having knowledge of, or experiencing vandalism, theft, harassment and/or assault, is to report the incident immediately to the assistant principal's office. In case of vandalism or theft, standard report forms on file with high school security should be completed and returned there as quickly as possible. In cases involving major theft or vandalism, the police may be called.

Teasing, name calling, put downs, or other forms of verbal abuse will not be tolerated. Any student experiencing verbal harassment should report it to the assistant principal. The assistant principal will meet with the offending student; and, if necessary, the parent will be notified and the incident will be reported to the district's DASA officer.

Penalties

FIREWORKS

Fireworks and other explosive devices are prohibited by law in the State of New York. Any student bringing such a device to the campus or into the building will immediately be subject to a suspension from school and possible expulsion. The police will be notified.

FIELD TRIPS/School-Related Activities

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in exclusion from a field trip and further disciplinary action. The Code of Conduct applies to all school – related activities and field trips.

SEX DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Rye City District not to discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by the Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments.

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to the Title IX compliance officer. The Title IX officers for the district are Dr. Ann Edwards (RMS principal) and Mr. Torrance Walley (Osborn assistant principal).

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties, whether alone or in combination. Student discipline is progressive, thus a student's first violation may merit a lighter penalty or action than subsequent violations; however, depending upon the nature of the violation, any one of these penalties/actions can be implemented. The following penalties and/or actions may be implemented, either alone or in combination, for violation of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Oral warning
- Written warning
- Notification to parents
- Reprimand
- Detention
- Teacher conference
- Parent conference
- Referral to legal action, police
- Suspension from transportation
- Exclusion from a particular class
- Suspension from after school or extracurricular activities such as newspaper, athletics, drama, music, etc.
- In-school suspension
- Suspension

To read the full Code of Conduct go to www.ryeschools.org

GUIDELINES FOR INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL JUNIOR SOCIETY

Academic Eligibility – Students must maintain an average of 90% or above for their entire seventh grade year and a GPA of 90% or above for the first three quarters of their eighth grade year.

NJHS Faculty Council Review – Students must also meet standards based on character, leadership and service, which are then evaluated by the NJHS Faculty Council. Once applications are collected, the NJHS Faculty Council, which consists of middle school teachers and support staff, will review each application and make a final decision.

Students must meet high standards of character and leadership. It is said that a person of character:

- Accepts constructive criticism and accepts recommendations for improvement
- Exemplifies positive qualities of behavior
- Is honest and fair
- Cooperates by following school regulations

An individual shows leadership through the demonstration of these qualities.

- Resourceful in problem solving
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- Exercising a positive influence on peers
- Able to delegate responsibilities
- Exemplifies positive attitudes
- Inspires positive behavior in others
- Demonstrates academic initiative
- Successful in holding positions of responsibility
- Demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Shows leadership in the classroom, at work, or in other school or community activities
- Is dependable in any accepted responsibility

Community Service – To meet the standards for the service component, students must also have completed 20 hours or more of community service sometime within their eighth grade year - 5 hours specifically for the Rye City School District. Community service forms are located online, and must be filled out and signed by an advisor or adult supervising the child's service (not a parent). If a student is unsure as to how to get started with the community service requirements, his/her guidance counselor can review various placements available in the community. Community service is not a required part of middle school, but must be completed by those students who are inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

Application – Eligible students are required to complete the RMS National Junior Honor Society application that is available online. Both the application and forms for community service hours must be handed in together in May, 2017. All applications are to be typed. For more information about NJHS, you can visit www.nhs.us.

FIRE DRILLS

During fire drills students are to follow the directions of the teacher, who will lead the students to the exit designated for the room. When students leave the building, they must cross driveways and/or parking areas so that fire equipment, if necessary, may be driven right up to the building. **All entrance ways must be kept clear during a fire drill.** Books must NOT be carried out of the building. Students should move in a **quiet and orderly manner** both upon leaving and reentering the building. No talking is permitted. Teachers will check attendance once outside.

NOTES

Rye Middle School Bullying Policy
Possible Consequences

Behavior	1st Time	2nd Time	3rd Time	Additional Times
Physical Bullying	Discipline Report Documentation/ Warning Detention/possible ISS DASA Report filed Participate in Peer Mediation	Discipline Report Documentation/ Student Calls Parent ISS DASA Report filed	Discipline Report Documentation/ Guidance Referral/ Parent Conference OSS Suspension Police Notification DASA Report filed	Discipline Report Documentation/ Out of School Suspension Police Notification/ Mandated Re-admission Parent Conference/ Possible Superintendent Hearing
Verbal Bullying	Discipline Report Documentation/ Warning/ Detention DASA Report filed Participate in Peer Mediation	Discipline Report Documentation/ Student Calls Parent/ Guidance Referral ISS DASA Report filed	Discipline Report Documentation/ Parent Notification/ Conference with Title IX Officer OSS DASA Report filed	Discipline Report Documentation OSS Meet with Counselor
Relational Bullying (Exclusion)	Discipline Report Documentation/ Warning/ Detention DASA Report filed Participate in Peer Mediation	Discipline Report Documentation/ Guidance Referral DASA Report filed ISS	Discipline Report Documentation/ Student Calls Parent OSS	Discipline Report Documentation/ Parent Conference/ Exclusion from School-sponsored Activity ISS
Severe Types of Bullying: Any of the above that is severe and/or has escalated over time	Discipline Report Documentation/Disciplinary Action based on recommendations of the Child Study Team			

DASA

It is the mission of the Rye City School District to provide a safe and supportive school environment for all our students. If you or another student is a target of harassment, bullying, threats to safety, intimidation or discrimination on school property or at a school function, we urge you to contact your school's Dignity Act Coordinator:

Mr. Peter Green
(914) 967-6100 Ext. 2212
green.peter@ryeschools.org

Any report of harassment or intimidation will be investigated, and the school will provide appropriate interventions and plans to help the target feel safe in school. We will also take steps to help the aggressor learn appropriate behavior. In addition, the school can, at its discretion, impose a number of disciplinary consequences including, but not limited to: discipline reports, detention, parent notification, suspension and police notification.

New York State enacted the Dignity of All Students Act in 2012. The Dignity Act includes, but it is not limited to, acts of discrimination, harassment and intimidation based on a student's race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (defined to include gender identify or expression), or sex.

The law requires the school to investigate any reported incident. When an investigation reveals any such verified harassment, bullying or discrimination, the school is required to take prompt actions reasonably calculated to end the bullying, eliminate any hostile environment, prevent recurrence of the behavior, and ensure the safety of the student or students against whom the behavior was directed.

The laws also prohibit retaliation against any individual who, in good faith, reports, or assists in the investigation of, harassment, bullying or discrimination.

Rye City School District Calendar 2016-2017

August	22-26 29-31	Administrators' Retreat New Teacher Orientation
September	5 6 7 15 21	Labor Day – Schools Closed Superintendent's Conference Day Opening Day for Students Back to School Night – Grade 6 Back to School Night – Grades 7 & 8
October	3,4 10 11 12 19 26	Rosh Hashanah – Schools Closed Columbus Day – Schools Closed Superintendent's Conference Day Yom Kippur – Schools Closed Grade 6 th & 7 th P/T Conferences Grade 8 th P/T Conferences
November	8 11 23 24-25	Superintendent's Conference Day Veteran's Day – Schools Closed Early Dismissal – 12:00 noon Thanksgiving Recess - Schools Closed
December	7 14 22 23-30	Grade 6 P/T Conferences Grade 7 P/T Conferences Early Dismissal – 12:00 noon Winter Recess - Schools Closed
January	2 16 18	Winter Recess Cont'd – Schools Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Schools Closed Grade 8 P/T Conferences
February	1 TBD 20-24	Grade 6 P/T Conferences 5 th Grade Parent Orientation Mid-Winter Recess – Schools Closed
April	10-14	Spring Break
May	29	Memorial Day Recess - Schools Closed
June	22 22 23	Final Day for Students 8 th Grade Moving Up Ceremony Superintendent's Conference Day

There are three snow/emergency days built into the school calendar:

-If no snow/emergency days are used, schools will close on Monday, April 17th, Friday, May 26th, and Tuesday, May 30th.

-If only one snow/emergency day is used, schools will close on Monday, April 17th, and Friday, May 26th.

-If two snow/emergency days are used, schools will close on Friday, May 26th.

ONE HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

<u>Period</u>	<u>Time</u>
1	9:00 - 9:34
2	9:38 - 10:12
3	10:16 - 10:50
4	10:54 - 11:27
5	11:31 - 12:04
6	12:08 - 12:41
7	12:45 - 1:18
8	1:22 - 1:55
9	1:59 - 2:32

TWO HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

<u>Period</u>	<u>Time</u>
1	10:00 - 10:27
2	10:31 - 10:58
3	11:02 - 11:29
4	11:33 - 12:00
5	12:04 - 12:31
6	12:35 - 1:02
7	1:06 - 1:32
8	1:36 - 2:02
9	2:06 - 2:32

**RYE MIDDLE SCHOOL
967-6100
PARENT TO SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**

RMS PARENT

Contact your child's

TEACHER

for information
about your child's
academic work
and performance

following up a
Progress Report

Contact your child's
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

for
academic guidance
high school planning
(8th grade)
personal & family
guidance & counseling
standardized test
interpretation
placement questions

Grade 6
Mr. Villanova, Ext. 2943

Grade 7
Ms. Caine, Ext. 2942

Grade 8
Mrs. Farewell, Ext. 2941

Contact your child's

TEAM LEADER

regarding ...
team policy
academic programs
homework
discipline

parent conference
Team 6R – Mr. Carey
Team 6M – Mr. Massett
Team 6S – Mrs. Smith

Team 7R – Mr. O'Donnell
Team 7M – Mr. Gouveia
Team 7S – Mr. Vodyanitskiy

Team 8R – Dr. Haiken
Team 8M - Mr. Aguilar
Team 8S - Ms. Miller

Other Contacts

for
CRISIS INTERVENTION
Mr. Green, Ext. 2212

**INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETICS**
Mr. Arias Ext. 1543

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Ms. Chung Ext. 1988

ATTENDANCE
Mrs. Antonecchia, Ext. 2910

MAIN OFFICE
Mrs. Yalcin, Ext. 2901

GUIDANCE OFFICE
Mrs. Sorensen Ext. 2940

MEDICAL
Mrs. Carty, Ext. 2930

ADMINISTRATION
Dr. Edwards – Ext. 2908
Mr. Di Giovanni - Ext. 2918

DAILY TIME SCHEDULE 2016-2017

Grade/ Period	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	8:00-8:40	8:44-9:24	9:28-10:08	10:12-10:52	10:56-11:36	11:40-12:20	12:24-1:04	1:08-1:48	1:52-2:32
6	Core Subjects	Core Subjects		Chorus Orchestra Band	LUNCH	Core Subjects	Core Subjects		
	8:00-8:40	8:44-9:24	9:28-10:08	10:12-10:52	10:56-11:36	11:40-12:20	12:24-1:04	1:08-1:48	1:52-2:32
7	Core Subjects	Core Subjects	Chorus Orchestra Band			LUNCH	Core Subjects	Core Subjects	
	8:00-8:40	8:44-9:24	9:28-10:08	10:12- 10:52	10:56-11:36	11:40-12:20	12:24-1:04	1:08-1:48	1:52-2:32
8		Band Orchestra	Chorus	Core Subjects	Core Subjects		LUNCH	Core Subjects	Core Subjects

7:30 a.m. – Supervision for students in Multipurpose Room

7:45 a.m. – Students allowed to go to their lockers

8:00 a.m. – Classes begin

2:32 p.m. – End of Classes

2:32 p.m. – 3:00 pm. X Period.

3:00 p.m. – Multipurpose Room closed – After School Activities begin