



Clinton Township School District

Michele Cone, Acting Superintendent
P.O. Box 6, Annandale, NJ 08801
(908) 268-5414

Dear Parents and Guardians

The district was a very busy place this summer preparing for the return of our students and staff. With the reorganization now complete and the buildings clean and ready for students and staff, there are many new beginnings and opportunities for all. On behalf of the administrative staff and myself, we welcome the Kindergarteners, 1st, 3rd and 6th graders, the staff and principals that moved along with their students, teachers and staff. We welcome new staff to the district and new students who have recently enrolled.

Along with our many building moves in the reorganization project, teachers were involved with curriculum writing over the summer. Planning for professional development also took place to continue to enhance instruction throughout the district. Principals and vice principals continued planning for the upcoming year including scheduling and programming.

With all of the welcomes, there are many thanks to be given. We thank the summer "team" that brings us into the new year each summer. This year, we would like to add a special thank you to all of the staff that made sure the building was clean, organized and ready for staff and students. All of us look forward to welcoming all of the students and staff back for a great school year.

And, personally, I look forward to saying hello to you at one of the upcoming district events.

Thank you,

Michele Cone

Michele Cone, MA
Acting Superintendent of Schools



ROUND VALLEY SCHOOL

123 Cokesbury Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833
Phone: 908.236.6341 Fax: 908-730-7744

www.ctsdnj.org

Principal, Mary Postma
Vice Principal, Thomas Connolly

Soaring to New Heights

August 2018

Dear RVS Families,

I hope your summer has been relaxing and enjoyable! The beginning of the school year is quickly approaching and we are very excited to begin a new year of learning. The entire RVS staff and I are looking forward to meeting our new students and seeing our returning students once again. We have been busy preparing the school for the new year. Schedules are made, class lists are complete, and the hallways and classrooms all sparkle!

We look forward to you visiting us on August 30. More details on this visitation and other important notes are listed below. You will also find an "Information at a Glance" document providing important contact and procedural information along with an automatic dismissal form attached to this summer packet.

Theme:

Our school-wide theme this year is, "RVS- Soaring to New Heights. Our goal is to help students develop academically, socially and emotionally throughout their time at Round Valley.

School Visitation: Visitation is scheduled for Thursday, August 30 between 12:30 and 1:30 pm. This visitation time will give you an opportunity to take a walk through the building, visit new classrooms and say a quick hello to teachers. Families of students entering 3rd Grade are welcome to take part in a guided tour and Q & A beginning at 1:30pm.

Drop-Off:

Morning arrivals start at 8:30 am. When dropping off students, please use the front parking lot of the school. Staff members will be available beginning at 8:30 am to ensure students' safety. For the safety of our students and parents who are crossing the lot, cars must yield to pedestrians. Please help us keep everyone safe by remaining in the car line. DO NOT pull around the other cars waiting in line, even if your child has exited your car. If you need to get out of the car, please park in the front lot and utilize the sidewalk.

Important Pick-Up and Dismissal Information:

On September 4 we will begin automatic dismissal, as indicated on this form: goo.gl/rPQ5JY

Please complete this form prior to September 4 at 9:00 am, at which time responses will no longer be collected.

Please use this form to indicate regularly occurring pick up days or Work Family days, thus eliminating the need to write a note each day. **The information on this form will take effect on Monday, September 4, 2018.** Dismissal begins at 3:15 pm.

Dismissal begins at 3:15 pm. When picking up students please use the SIDE LOT. Your child will be waiting for you under the supervision of staff members. A staff member will escort your child to your car. If your child is not waiting when you arrive, you may be asked to drive around the circle and rejoin the line.

If you need to pick up your child earlier than dismissal time for an unavoidable reason, please do so BEFORE 2:45 pm and pick up your child from the main office. Please be sure to send all changes in normal dismissal routines in writing to the office first thing in the morning. **Please do not email teachers with dismissal changes.** For safety reasons, we are unable to accept dismissal changes over the phone.

Communication: In the event of an emergency school closing or unexpected situation, parents will be notified via phone and email through the Clinton Township School District (CTSD) alert system. In addition, each week a newsletter will be sent to RVS families with upcoming events and important school/district news. Valuable information is shared on the CTSD website at www.ctsdnj.org Visit Round Valley's website pages for information specific to RVS.

Parent Portal: Is part of the district's PowerSchool student information system. Parent Portal allows parents/guardians to view their child's grades and attendance, submit updated contact information, and get in touch with teachers via email. To access the portal, use the following link: <https://ctsd.powerschool.com/public>

Please note that if you have not previously setup your guardian account, you will need the linking codes (Access ID and Access Password) unique to each student to link pupils to your login. These codes are sent out early in the school year. If you have not received your access code/information or are having difficulty accessing the site, please email: parenthelp@ctsdnj.org. More detailed instructions for using the Parent Portal may be found on our Parent Portal web page using the following link: http://ctsdnj.org/resources/parent_resources/parent_portal

Bus Information: You should be receiving information regarding your child's bus route. If you did not, please contact the transportation office. RVS buses are numbered. Please refer to the bus number when calling with any bus issues. If you have questions related to transportation, please first email Mrs. Carmella Shaw at transportation@ctsdnj.org. The transportation phone number is 908-236-7235: press 9, then ext 521.

- The drivers WILL NOT release children in Grade 3 at their bus stop unless a parent/guardian is present or a waiver is signed (attached).
- Students are not permitted to ride a different bus than assigned.
- Students are permitted to get off their own bus at a different stop, if we have a written note from both the sending and receiving parent/guardian. A bus pass will be delivered to students in their homeroom.

Attendance: One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing their academic success. Our school day begins at 8:50 am. At 8:30 am students begin to go to their classrooms and get ready for the school day.

Tardiness: Students who arrive to class after 8:50 a.m. are considered tardy. Students who are tardy miss the beginning of their morning classes and lose valuable instructional time. Tardiness can disrupt the attention of the teacher and the learning of fellow students. Please keep these thoughts in mind when bringing your child to school. We know there are times when tardiness cannot be avoided due to unexpected situations. Planning for an 8:30 a.m. arrival may help alleviate some of these stressful situations.

New RVS Staff:

Please join us in welcoming staff new to RVS:

Grade 3 Special Education Teacher- Ms. Tara Klamik

Grade 4 General Education Teacher- Ms. Kelsie Decker

Grade 4 General Education Teacher- Ms. Amanda Murphy

Grade 4 Special Education Teacher- Ms. Meghan Erb

General & Vocal Music Teacher- Ms. Erin Porter

Physical Education & Health Teacher- Mr. Jacob Wainwright

Instructional Models:

5th Grade will be utilizing the shared instruction model of teaching, which is considered to be a “best practice” in education. This model enables students to learn from a small team of teachers who are experts in the subjects they teach. This is a developmentally appropriate progression to the middle-school model at CTMS. Parents of students in fifth grade will note their child’s teacher for English Language Arts and for Math, Science, Social Studies in Powerschool. 4th Grade students will remain with their homeroom for ELA and Math, but will switch classes for Science and Social Studies.

Agendas & Take Home Folders:

All students will be supplied with a planning agenda and take home folder to help organize homework and correspondence.

Essential Arts:

Students will participate in a rich arts program, with all classes held throughout the school year. The schedule operates on an 8 day rotation, A-1 through A-4 and B-1 through B-4. Students will have a block of PE/Health and Spanish, each occurring every other day. They will have a secondary block each day consisting of one of the following: Art, Music, Library, Computer Science/STEM and School-Wide Enrichment. Students will be divided into eight groups per grade level to lower the class size for these two periods. More information will follow from your child’s teacher as to the daily assignments.

Lunch and Recess:

The student lunch and recess periods will be 25 minutes each. Recess will occur prior to lunch each day. On early dismissal days, lunch is not served. You may want to send in a larger than usual snack on these days.

Mark Your Calendars

August 27	BOE Meeting @ CTMS, 7:30 pm
August 30	School Visitation Day CTMS: 11:30-12:30 pm RVS: 12:30-1:30 pm 3rd Gr. Family Tour- 1:30-2:00 pm PMG: 2:00-3:00 pm SRS: 12:00-12:30 pm
September 3	Labor Day- School Closed
September 4	First Day for Students!
September 13	RVS Back to School Night (times to follow)
September 14	PTA Welcome Pizza Night @ RVS, 5:30-7:00 pm
September 14	Super Spirit Day: Crazy Hair Day!
September 19	School Closed: Yom Kippur Observance
September 24	School Photo Day
September 24	BOE Meeting @ CTMS, 7:30 pm




If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call us. We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the school year. Please be sure to enjoy what is left of your summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Mary Postma, Principal

Thomas Connolly, Vice Principal

RVS School Info-at-a-Glance
2018-2019

<p><u>Contacting Us</u></p> <p>All email addresses are staff members' first name initial and full last name followed by ctsdnj.org</p> <p>The main office phone number is: 908.236.6341</p> <p>The main office fax number is: 908.236. 2847</p> <p>District Website: www.ctsdnj.org</p>	<p><u>Our Office Staff</u></p> <p>Mrs. Annette Guenther Secretary ext. 9304</p> <p>Mrs. Cindy Christopher Secretary ext. 9303</p> <p>Mrs. Melissa Shannon Secretary ext. 9326</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Postma Principal 9301</p> <p>Mr. Thomas Connolly Vice Principal 9302</p>	<p><u>Health and Guidance</u></p> <p>School Nurse Full Time- Mrs. Susan Straight Part Time - Mrs. Lisa Seifert Ext. 9305</p> <p>Guidance Gr. 3-4- Mrs Carole Frey Ext. 9320</p> <p>Gr. 4-5- Mrs. Christina Giordano Ext. 9246</p>	 <p>Meet our school mascot, an eagle, <i>to be named by our students</i></p> <p>Our school colors are Red, White & Gray</p>
<p><u>Grade 3</u></p> <p>Mr. Barton & Ms. Klamik Mr. Cosgrave Mrs. Hill & Mrs. McRae Mrs. Kirk Mrs. Mooney Mrs. Shea</p>	<p><u>Grade 4</u></p> <p>Ms. Black & Mrs. Erb Ms. Decker Mrs. Jordan Ms. Murphy Mrs. Marinelli & Mrs. Topping Mrs. Selbo & Mrs. Caruso</p>	<p><u>Grade 5</u></p> <p>Mr. Friedel Mrs. Johnson Mrs. Major & Mrs. Kilroy Mrs. Rivers & Ms. Tepper Mrs. Rockafellow Mrs. Rolak & Mrs. Nish</p>	<p><u>Child Study Team & Related Services:</u></p> <p>Mrs. Flanigan- OT Mrs. MacFadden- Speech/Lang. Mrs. Menzie- Psychologist Ms. Ottens- PT Mrs. Shearer- LDTC Ms. Vona- Speech/Language</p>
<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>The Clinton Township School District, in partnership with the community, achieves excellence for each child by ensuring a meaningful and challenging educational experience in a supportive environment, developing lifelong learners who are responsible and productive citizens.</p> 	<p><u>School Hours</u></p> <p>Regular Hours- 8:50 am-3:15 pm(students arrival begins 8:30am)</p> <p>Early Dismissal- 8:50 am -12:50 pm Delayed Opening- 10:50 am-3:15 pm</p> <p>Students may be dropped off beginning at 8:30 am</p> <p>Students need to be picked up by 3:25 pm.</p>	<p><u>Buses</u></p> <p>Please know the number of your child's bus.</p> <p>Transportation Coordinator: Carmella Shaw, 908.236.7235 ext. 9521</p> <p>Please use this number for transportation concerns before 8:00 am or after 3:30 pm.</p> 	<p>Essential Arts Teachers:</p> <p>Art: Mr. Pat Gugliandolo Library: Mrs. Sue Ehler Music: Ms. Erin Porter Physical Education and Health: Ms. Aly Bills Mr. Brent Ruge Mr. Jacob Wainwright Technology: Mrs. Jessica Heuer Spanish: Sra Lisa Beatrice Sra Susy Correia School-Wide Enrichment: Mrs. Jennifer Sandorse</p> <p>Support Teachers:</p> <p>Literacy Support: Mrs. Jennie Forman Mrs. Jennifer Paccione Mrs. Lori Zockoff Math Support: Mrs. Melissa Hoffman Mrs. Stephanie Yager</p>
<p><u>Morning Drop-Off and Parking</u></p> <p>Drop offs are in the front lot only, beginning at 8:30 am when staff members are present. In order to keep the car line flowing, and to keep everyone safe, please do not get out of cars. Staff members will be available to assist students as they exit from cars. If you do need to get out of the car, please park and utilize the sidewalk.</p>		<p><u>Afternoon Pick-Up and Dismissal</u></p> <p>Dismissal begins at 3:15 pm Please remain in your car and join the car line. A side building door will open and students will be individually escorted to cars. Please have identification with you. All pick-ups should be completed by 3:25 pm.</p> <p>On the occasion that you need to pick your child up early, please send in a note and indicate a time before 2:45 pm. We will add your child's name to the early pick-up list. Early pick-ups are facilitated in the main office. After 2:45 pm, all pickups will occur via the car line.</p>	

<p>Absences If your child is absent or tardy, please call and leave a message on our early alert line. Please share the following: Your name Child's name Reason for absence or Anticipated time of arrival (for tardy students) 908.236.6341 press 1 We are required to verify each absence, so if you do not leave a message on early alert, you will receive a phone call from the office.</p>	<p>Allergies RVS has a number of students with life-threatening food allergies. In order to maintain a safe environment for everyone, all classrooms are peanut and tree nut free for snacks. Some classrooms may have additional restrictions. This restriction is only for classroom snacks. Students are permitted to bring any type of lunch to the cafeteria.</p>	<p>Notes from Home Please direct all notes to your child's homeroom teacher and always include the date, teacher's name and your child's name. If you go away without your children, please notify the office in writing of the name of the person who will be in charge of your child. We will not release children to anyone not on your emergency contact sheet, including grandparents and siblings unless we have written permission from parents.</p>	<p>Emergency Closings Emergency Broadcasts will be sent via phone, text, and/or email, depending on the nature of the message. Contact information is pulled from PowerSchool, so it is very important to keep your information up to date. Closing information can also be found on the district website and www.wfmz.com</p>					
<p>District Offices</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mrs. Michele Cone Acting Superintendent 908.236.7235</td> <td>Mrs. Joanne Hinkle Acting Director of Special Projects 908.236.6341</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Alexa Ingram Director of Special Services 908.735.7916</td> <td>TBD Supv. Inst. Data & Assessment 908.236.6341</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr. Richard Kilpatrick Business Administrator 908.236.7235</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Mrs. Michele Cone Acting Superintendent 908.236.7235	Mrs. Joanne Hinkle Acting Director of Special Projects 908.236.6341	Ms. Alexa Ingram Director of Special Services 908.735.7916	TBD Supv. Inst. Data & Assessment 908.236.6341	Mr. Richard Kilpatrick Business Administrator 908.236.7235		<p>Assessments</p> <p>Renaissance STAR Fall, Winter & Spring</p> <p>PARCC 3-5th grade, April-May</p> <p>Teachers progress monitor throughout the year with a variety of formative and summative assessments.</p>	<p>Parties Classroom celebrations are held for Fall/Halloween, Winter and Read Across America. Parents may volunteer to assist with parties. Homeroom parents are selected in September, and manage the coordination of parties. Siblings are NOT able to attend parties.</p>
Mrs. Michele Cone Acting Superintendent 908.236.7235	Mrs. Joanne Hinkle Acting Director of Special Projects 908.236.6341							
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<p>Birthday Celebrations Birthdays are celebrated at RVS in the following ways: *Student names are announced on the PA system *Students may share a "Birthday Bag" that consists of items that tell the story of their lives. Parents are invited to assist in this sharing activity, but students may select to share independently. *Students visit the office to receive a Birthday Pencil! Our focus is on our children and their importance as part of the RVS community. We want the children to be the main attraction; we ask that you NOT send in any food or party favors as part of the celebration.</p>	<p>Progress Reporting Conferences are held at the conclusion of the first marking period for all students. At this time, progress will be documented on a conference report form for students in grades 3 and students in grades 4 & 5 will receive grades through Powerschool. At the conclusion of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th marking periods, grades are posted in the Parent Portal of Power School for all students. In addition to any number or descriptor grades, teachers write comments, specific to each child. These can be found by clicking on the dash "-" under the homeroom box for each marking period. If at any other time you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact his/her teacher.</p>							
<p>RVS- Soaring to New Heights Our school-wide theme is "Soaring to New Heights", and will be centered around our Eagle, yet to be named, this year. We promote our school rules of:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Take Care of Yourself Take Care of Others Take Care of our School Environment</i></p> <p>From time to time students have difficulty navigating these expectations as they are developing, not only academically, but also socially and emotionally. If your child is ever having difficulty that they need help with, please contact your child's teacher or guidance counselor. We will work hard to resolve conflicts, friendship issues or any other problems that may occur.</p> 	<p>Words of the Month</p> <p>September ~ Friendship October ~ Respect November ~ Responsibility December ~ Generosity January ~ Perseverance February ~ Kindness March ~ Sportsmanship April ~ Honesty May ~ Compassion June ~ Citizenship</p> <p>Teachers nominate students to win monthly Soaring to New Heights Awards based on demonstrating the characteristics of the Word of the Month. Those selected receive a certificate and have their name announced during morning announcements. Students are also recognized for random acts demonstrating good character throughout the year.</p>							

Round Valley School 2018-2019

Important Pick-up & Dismissal Information



Please complete the Automatic Dismissal Form using this link:

The directions indicated for us to follow through your completion of this form will take effect on our first day of school, Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

goo.gl/rPQ5JY

If we do not receive the completed form, your child will be sent home on the bus each day, unless a daily dismissal note is sent in to indicate a change.

Please be sure to send any and all changes in normal dismissal routines in writing via your child's backpack, which will be forwarded to the main office first thing in the morning. Please do not email teachers regarding dismissal.

If your child will be attending WFC, be sure to notify BOTH the school and WFC regarding any changes in dismissal. For safety reasons, we are unable to accept dismissal changes over the phone.

Always be prepared to show ID when picking up your child.

2018-2019 Grade 3 Bus Waiver

Round Valley School



Dear Parents/Guardians of Third Grade Students Only,

The district has a practice of bringing students back to the school if a parent or guardian is not at the bus stop to meet them (K-Gr. 3). To ensure the safety of students we will be continuing this practice for the 2018-2019 school year. If you would like to give consent for your child to be dropped off without an adult present, please complete the following form in its entirety. Please return the form to your child's teacher by Friday, September 7. We then need time to compile lists for drivers. Please continue to be present at the bus stop through Friday, September 14. This permission will go into effect on Monday, September 17, 2018.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mary Postma & Thomas Connolly

Student Name _____ Teacher Name _____

Please sign below to give permission for your child to get off at his/her assigned bus stop WITHOUT an adult present:

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Please Print Your Name: _____

Bus Number: _____