

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Roughriders,

I hope this communication finds you well. With January now behind us, we are in full swing with our second semester. As parents, you begin to get a sense of how your students are performing in class, recognizing successes and areas for improvement. As always, we want to partner with our RHS families to ensure the most optimal success of our students. Please don't hesitate to reach out to teachers, counselors, or administration if you have questions or need support for your child. Of course, as students move through the years here at RHS, they begin to advocate for themselves more and more, and we will support whatever approach works for your family,

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we are gearing up for our 2023-24 school year registration process. The first event will be our **rescheduled Incoming Freshman Orientation on Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30pm**. The event will begin in our auditorium and then move to the main gymnasium with small groups at 6:50pm. All of our sports, programs, and clubs will be there. Even if you are not an incoming freshman but wish to speak to our sponsors and coaches, you are welcome to come. The counselors will now visit MMS and KQA on February 16th during the school day.

This week, I had the pleasure of attending the Board of Education meeting and heard from our students and staff who are involved with the Sources of Strength program. Listening to our students speak about our work to promote a healthy and safe culture with the theme of "We Belong" warmed everyone's heart. It was great to hear such support and acknowledgement from the Board of Education, articulating the need to create a school environment that makes everyone feel included. Kudos to the students and their sponsor, Ms. Murrin.

Another big event was the FBLA District Conference at UNC. There is no other way to say it. Our students dominated. We qualified students in multiple divisions throughout the day, resulting in 43 students attending the State FBLA in April. Kudos to the whole team and our sponsors Ms. Peterson, Mr. Joiner, and our parent volunteer, Ms. Hall.

As I am writing this, I have been made aware that our Dance team made the semi-finals of the National Championships in three categories of Game-Day, Poms, and Jazz. Our student-athletes are competing at Disneyworld throughout the weekend. Congratulations to them.

Lastly, we have been giving quite a few tours of the new high school to local groups and organizations from the Johnstown-Milliken community. The building is incredibly impressive, and it is difficult to walk away and not be thoroughly impressed. Thanks again to all who supported us through this process and those who had a "dream" of new buildings throughout the district. Speaking for the new RHS building, I can't imagine a nicer building in the state of Colorado, especially one that is such a fit for our community.

As always, have a safe and restful weekend. I wish good luck to our wrestling, swim, basketball and robotics teams who have competitions this weekend. I plan on stopping by and supporting our students as my schedule allows.

David Benson
RHS Principal