

Dear Roughriders,

I hope this communication finds you well. We have concluded our final week before Spring Break, and hopefully we all have set aside time to relax and enjoy an adventure or two during the week off. When we return, it will be April as we make the push to wrap up the year.

As I mentioned last week, I had the pleasure of joining the Superintendent Search Committee this past Saturday. I was joined by my fellow Principals and some district office personnel. The process included the finalists meeting with multiple groups: one composed of teaching staff, one of parents and students, and one made up of our Board of Education members. After communicating our notes on each candidate, the decision will be in the hands of the Board Of Education. It was a long day, but I feel we will end up with a great candidate to lead our district. I wanted to also add how impressed our candidates were, as was I, with our RHS student ambassadors, who gave them a brief tour and spoke eloquently about our school and programs.

Our work this week continues with preparing for our PSAT, SAT and CMAS Assessments. In addition, we are finalizing staffing and course selections and building our schedule. I will also be attending the UNC Job Fair on Thursday and Friday. It is always exciting to talk to college graduates, and see if we would be a match for each other.

STATE CHAMPS!!!!! This is certainly becoming a habit at RHS. The Girls Basketball team captured the State title the Saturday before last by beating Windsor 54-44 for the 5A title game held at the Denver Coliseum. A huge turnout of raucous students and families watched our girls rally from a 5 point halftime deficit. The Roughriders stuck with their game plan of constant pressure and wearing down their opponent. The game was a nail biter from the beginning with both teams answering the other with a score or a huge defensive play. Congratulations to Coach Miller, Coach Butcher, Coach Lahr and Coach Fajardo for their work all season especially noting that this is their first year as a unit coaching here at RHS. Congratulations to Kenli Kern, Paige Wright, Payton Terry, Kinsey Trujillo, Ryanne Bahnsen-Price, Kyla Hollier, Brook Meza, Brynn Price, Maddie Moyers, Hailey Lopez, Sienna Siskowski, and Haiden Chambers.

The RHS Color Guard started their state competition with a first place at their Regionals held at Denver University this past Saturday. They will continue on with the next level of Winterguard competition at Dakota Ridge this upcoming weekend. Good luck to you all. We will be waiting to hear how you do this weekend and at the state level on April 8th.

RHS Prom will be held the evening of April 8. The theme this year is a "masquerade ball". Please check with Mr. Walker if you have concerns about eligibility to attend prom. Eligibility is centered around attendance, behavior and grades. Thanks to Student Council and Ms. Mauch for organizing.

This Friday, we have a home soccer game for the girls, so please come out and cheer on the team if you can. We also have track and All-State Band as well. As a reminder, we do not have school on Friday, March 24, and we will return on Monday, April 3rd.

Have a safe and restful week off. Please contact me if you have any questions.

David Benson RHS Principal