



Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology

Back-to-School Night
August 15, 2019

Communication

- ▶ School website
www.rvgs.k12.va.us
- ▶ School calendar (on website)
- ▶ Class websites
- ▶ Facebook
- ▶ Monthly RVGS Newsletter
- ▶ Emails from the director, counselor, and teachers
- ▶ **Verify your email address**
- ▶ Online gradebook access
- ▶ Parent-teacher conferences on Nov. 5 and February 17 (by appointment)
- ▶ Three interim grade reports per semester
- ▶ **Semester report cards**



Roanoke Valley Governor's School



Announcements

[Back to School Night Schedule](#)

- [Rising Algebra II Summer Assignment](#)
- [Rising Precalculus Summer Assignment](#)
- [Rising Calculus AB Summer Assignment](#)
- [Rising ALCALC Summer Assignment](#)
- [Rising AP Statistics Summer Assignment](#)

Quick Links

[2019-2020 School Year Calendar](#)[RVGS Weekly Technology Commitment Pledge](#)[RVGS Student Email](#)[Moodle](#)[PowerSchool](#)[Report Cheating](#)[Parent/Student/VUE](#)

RVGS News

- ▶ [Roanoke student getting full ride to Yale](#)
- ▶ [Education Notebook: Governor's school students capture awards at international science fair](#)
- ▶ [STEM students gather for state fair at Berglund Center](#)
- ▶ [Education Notebook: Roanoke Valley students dazzle at Governor's School science fair](#)
- ▶ [Education Notebook: Roanoke Valley Governor's School to host STEM Challenge](#)
- ▶ [Roanoke Valley school teams up with Salem Red Sox for math lesson](#)

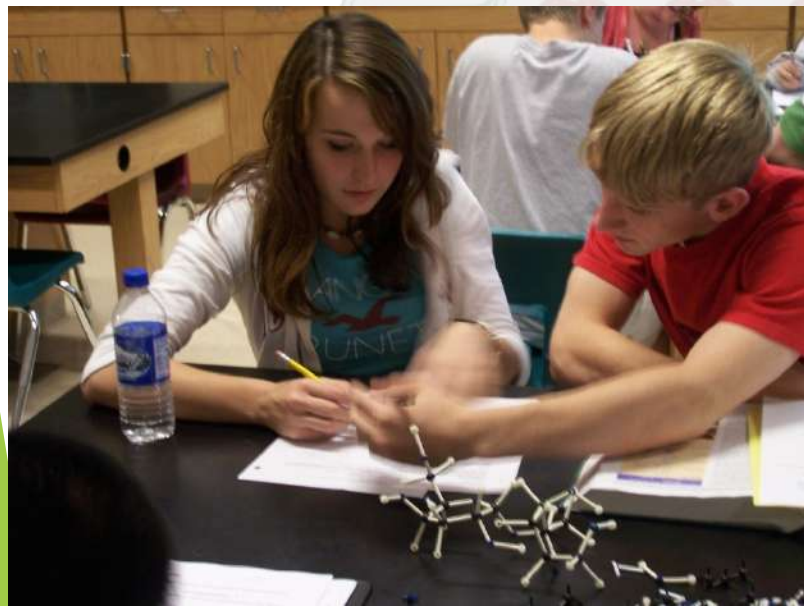
Upcoming Events

AUG Back to School Night**15****AUG** First Student Day**20**[VIEW CALENDAR](#)

RVGS Student Project Forum

❖ **Saturday, February 1, 2020** (inclement weather day February 8, 2020)

- ❑ Student participation is mandatory
- ❑ Important event showcasing the students' research efforts.
- ❑ A variety of other science fairs will occur throughout the year and information will be provided at the relevant times



School Forms

- ▶ Various forms will be sent home the first day of school and are due back the next day.
 - ▶ RVGS Student Handbook
 - ▶ RCPS Student Code of Conduct
 - ▶ RCPS Acceptable Use Policy Statement (technology)
 - ▶ Medical form
 - ▶ Media Release
 - ▶ T-shirt order form
 - ▶ Volunteer form
 - ▶ \$20 lab fee

A signed Media Release form is required for students to be listed in programs and awards.

Medication

- ▶ We follow the Roanoke City School Board policies regarding medications at school:
 - ▶ Prescription medications can be kept in the office for administration at appropriate times. They must be provided directly by the parent in the original container and written permission must be provided. Please contact Mrs. Buch to make these arrangements.
 - ▶ Self-administration of non-prescription medication is only permitted under the following conditions:
 - ▶ Written parental permission for self-administration of specified nonprescription
 - ▶ Medication is in the original container and appropriately labeled with the manufacturer's directions.
 - ▶ The student's name is affixed to the container.
 - ▶ **The student possesses only the amount of nonprescription medicine needed for one school day/activity.**

Student Parking

- ▶ Students from districts that provide transportation are generally expected to ride the bus. Exceptions may be made for students based on proximity.
- ▶ Eligible students may purchase a RVGS student parking sticker to park in the RVGS student parking lot (\$20).
- ▶ Patrick Henry students are not permitted to park in the RVGS lot.
- ▶ Students (except PH) can obtain a one-day parking pass if they need to drive on a particular day.
- ▶ Illegally-parked cars are subject to fines or towing.
- ▶ Students receive their parking passes from the main office

Student Drop Off

- ▶ Parents dropping off students in the morning are reminded the Patrick Henry parking lot is a high traffic area in the mornings.
- ▶ Please do not u-turn in the parking lot to leave.

Inclement Weather

- ▶ RVGS follows Roanoke City Public Schools regarding school closing
 - ▶ If school is delayed two hours then the morning session will not meet.
 - ▶ Students are not expected to come to school in unsafe situations or if busses are not running.

Schedule Differences NOT Related to Inclement Weather

- ▶ RVGS follows the Roanoke City Public Schools calendar. Students are expected to attend on days RVGS is open, even when their home school doesn't have classes.

Academic Integrity

- ▶ Cheating, plagiarism and other violations of academic integrity will be treated as serious offenses.
- ▶ There will be no ‘warnings’ given. Cheating will result in a zero and the home school will be notified (impacting honor society, etc). A second offense will initiate discussions for the student to return to their home school.
- ▶ Parents and students are reminded that the honor code at most universities calls for dismissal of students if they are in violation.
- ▶ Do not test how seriously this issue is handled.

Absences and Tardies

- ▶ Absences should be avoided whenever possible.
- ▶ A parent note is necessary or the absence will be considered skipping. Notes must be turned in within 5 days of an absence or a grade of zero is given.
- ▶ Procedural Change: Unexcused absences lasting 3 or more days will result in a 10% grade penalty to work from during the absence.
 - ▶ Excused: medical, school-related, court-related, religious observance
- ▶ Repeated tardies (more than 3) will result in penalty time served during lab day breaks.

Leaving School Early

- ▶ Either a hand-written parent note or parent sign-out in the office is required for early dismissal of a student.
- ▶ List the names of individuals who can pick up a student on the emergency card. Drivers license is needed for ID at the time of student pickup.
- ▶ **Early dismissal/absence for athletics or extracurricular activities require request from home school.**

Student Protests / Walk-outs

- ▶ RVGS recognizes student first amendment rights, but requires that they do not disrupt the educational environment.
- ▶ To ensure appropriate parental involvement and encourage discourse at home, a parent note is required at least one day in advance of a student's planned participation in any protest.

School Safety and Security

- ▶ We work hard to make RVGS a safe environment for our students.
- ▶ That said - it is right and prudent to stay vigilant and place appropriate priority on student safety
- ▶ Where parents can help:
 - ▶ Entrance: Buzzing in, no 'tail-gating', etc.
 - ▶ Communicate concerns to us
 - ▶ Talk to your students about supporting school procedures

Student Re-evaluation Policy

- ▶ Students are required to maintain at least a B average in math and science classes
- ▶ If a student receives a “C” at the end of the year, they are placed on academic probation.
- ▶ At the beginning of a probation year a “plan of action” is developed by student, teachers, counselor, and parents.
- ▶ Extra monitoring of student grades during the probation year
- ▶ Student must have a “B” end-of-year average in math and science courses to stay at RVGS

Counseling

- ❑ RVGS students have access to a school counselor who is able to assist them with a wide range of needs.
 - ❑ **Kathy Sebolt**
 - ❑ **540-853-2116**
 - ❑ **ksebolt@rvgs.k12.va.us**
- ❑ Self-care, mental health, and getting enough sleep are areas to be watchful of. Alert us if you have concerns at home.



Time Management

- ❑ First year students are transitioning to academically challenging classes at RVGS and home school
- ❑ Students may experience lower grades initially than they are accustomed to. This should lead to determination, not panic. The first semester is a long time to bounce back from early difficulties.
- ❑ Students should reach out to mentor, teachers, Mrs. Sebolt, and Mr. Levy for support when having difficulty.

Time Management

- ❑ Make good use of time in school
- ❑ Efficient study time outside of school
 - ❑ Distraction free location, scheduled time, etc
- ❑ Be vigilant regarding time wasting activities!
- ❑ It's difficult to catch up after getting behind
- ❑ Reasonable extracurricular activities
 - ❑ Make choices, one cannot do everything
 - ❑ Control time at jobs
- ❑ Time to relax
- ❑ Sleep is important
- ❑ Homework time targets ~ 30-45 min; shouldn't work more than an hour on a "normal" homework
- ❑ "I don't have any homework" ... minimum suggested time per class of 15 minutes for study and review of new/old material

RVGS **DETERMINED**



- Our faculty, school counselor, and director truly want to assist and support our students.
- Students are encouraged to ask for help when needed and ask questions during class.
- We know this is a challenging school. No one is expected to have all the answers.
- The “RVGS Determined” is designed to reinforce health mindsets, encourage goal-setting, and help students develop as well-rounded individuals.

Parent Volunteers and Fundraising

- ▶ We need your help in order to maintain a high-quality program at RVGS
- ▶ Please complete the form indicating activities that you can participate in.
- ▶ Please sign up to be a member of the RVGS Foundation, which serves as our parent organization.
- ▶ In the winter you will receive information about our Annual Appeal and Silent Auction
- ▶ In the meantime, please sign up with our Kroger's and Amazon Smile donation accounts.

Cell phones

- ▶ Students may use their cell phones in the hallway and student center between classes and during breaks unless otherwise specified by the teacher.
- ▶ Students will turn off (or mute) all electronic devices including cell phones when entering the classroom and place them in the designated cell phone caddy.
- ▶ If parents need to contact a student during class, they should call the RVGS office (853-2116).



Fundamentals of Research

- ▶ 1st year students take the FOR elective
- ▶ The course was altered last year to better meet the long-range needs of students
 - ▶ Exposure to a range of scientific procedures and tools
 - ▶ Experience in several disciplines of research
 - ▶ Strong foundation in statistics analysis

Technology Use

- ▶ Students must agree to the Acceptable Use Policy to access RVGS computers. Realize this prohibits:
 - ▶ Logging personal devices into the school network (Mr. Divers can log in laptops for the students)
 - ▶ Attempting to bypass the internet filter
 - ▶ Attempt to alter the hardware or software on any computer for any reason
 - ▶ Attempt to copy licensed software from RVGS
 - ▶ Use technology in class in ways not allowed by the teacher such as playing games, surfing the web, etc.

Call, Write, and Visit

- n School phone: 540.853.2116
- n Mark Levy, mlevy@rvgs.k12.va.us
- n Kathy Sebolt, ksebolt@rvgs.k12.va.us
- n Website: www.rvgs.k12.va.us

