

RIVER DELL NEWS



NEWS OF THE RIVER DELL SCHOOLS

SUMMER 2018

A Message From The Superintendent

Dear River Dell Community:

The school year concluded with graduation under beautiful skies on June 21. A wonderful group of young women and men are leaving River Dell for new adventures. We wish them and their families well.

As we head into summer, I ask you to continue a focus on safety in our schools. Safety will be a major theme for the 2018-19 school year. We continue to review our policies and procedures to ensure student safety and will be taking additional steps to secure the buildings over the summer. Some of the freedoms of an open campus may be affected by upcoming revisions. As a result, there may be some inconveniences such as limited access to the buildings that will require adjustments to our daily routines. I am sure that the improved safety will far outweigh any aggravations.

I again ask you to speak with your children about "vaping". I wrote to the community twice during the past year about this growing problem. Simply put, vaping is a dangerous activity that can pose an even greater risk for our children than cigarettes did. Vaping devices are significantly less expensive than traditional tobacco products, much more readily available, much harder for school officials and parents to detect and can be used as a delivery system for marijuana and other drugs. Students found using vaping or e-cigarette

device(s) are in violation of several district policies including the substance abuse policy, as well as Code of Conduct, both of which may lead to the involvement of local law enforcement.

Please be sure to talk to your son or daughter about vaping and e-cigarettes and continue to ensure that they are using social media appropriately. With your help, we can mitigate this trend in teen substance abuse.

Finally, I ask all parents to consider signing up for text messaging from our district. It is a fast and efficient way for the district to get out information. River Dell will only use it as a mechanism for emergency communication. If you have your mobile phone number registered in the parent portal, simply text "Yes" to 67587 from that phone. You will automatically activate the service. If you do not have your mobile number, please logon to the parent portal and enter the appropriate number. Once it is registered, repeat the steps above. If you have any questions, please e-mail the Help Desk at help@riverdell.org.

Have a safe and restful summer.

Patrick J. Fletcher
Superintendent of Schools

Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Class of 2018 Valedictorian Christopher Barkachi is a highly motivated and driven student who has been on the Principal's List every marking period during high school. He is intellectually curious and has a passion for learning. Chris is a member of the Math, Science, English and French Honor Societies and is the current President of the National Honor Society and the Treasurer of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He is a member of the Math Team and the Captain of this year's Debate Team. He also volunteers for WolfPAAK, a grass-roots organization focused on free and fair elections and has worked with autistic children through the Heart to Heart Program. He could realistically pursue any career of his choosing but is leaning towards computer science when he attends Princeton University in the fall.

Sean Burke, Class of 2018 Salutatorian, is an exceptionally bright, articulate and motivated student who has found a second home at River Dell. Beyond taking the most difficult courses we offer, Sean is known to his teachers as a person who loves to learn for its own sake and a person possessing great humility. He has been on the Principal's List every year since 9th grade and is a member of the National, Spanish, English and Science Honor Societies and President of the Math Honor Society. He volunteers his time tutoring students in math and science and has also volunteered as an Occupational Therapist Assistant at Cherry Hill School. Sean's greatest extra-curricular passion is sports. He is a member of the River Dell Spring Track team and the Captain of both the Varsity Football Team and the Wrestling Team. Sean will attend Columbia University next year where he plans to study chemistry.

Superintendent Recognized



The New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA) presented their Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to NJASA Past President Patrick Fletcher, Chief Education Officer, River Dell Regional School District. He was chosen as the 2018 DSA recipient for his outstanding service to education, to NJASA and for his dynamic leadership and service to children and youth of New Jersey. This is the highest honor ever conferred upon its members. Mr. Fletcher was recognized at the Spring Leadership Conference on May 17, 2018.

Sean Kee Makes River Dell History

As a member of the Class of 2018, Sean Kee has left his legacy by becoming the first student in the history of River Dell to receive an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Sean is not your average young man. His dream of serving in the armed forces began before he even entered high school, having attended his first Naval Sea Cadet program just before his 14th birthday. Over the years Sean developed an extensive resume attending various USNSCC trainings and academies, some of which were highly selected opportunities for which only the most devoted and recognized cadets were invited to participate. What makes Sean so unique is the amount of time and dedication he put into making his dream a reality. Each endeavor only enhancing Sean's desire to live a life of honor, respect, and devotion to duty. As someone who is well-versed in multiple languages and has interests in engineering and computer science, Sean Kee has proven he is destined for greatness. There is no doubt he will continue to make us proud with his service to our country.

Middle School Students Help Their Peers



The River Dell Middle School Ambassadors hosted a fundraiser to help the therapy dogs at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The dogs are part of the Animal Assisted Therapy Program at the Broward County (Parkland) Humane Society. Loose change was collected at lunch and tie-dye socks with paw prints were sold. Hunny the Therapy Dog visited our middle school on May 31st! A grand total of \$873.13 will be donated to the Broward County Humane Society!

A fundraiser to benefit The East Brook Middle School, thanks to Mrs. Walker's period 6/7 English class who hosted a bake-sale, raised a grand total of \$281.26! They have given the school a \$100 gift card to Michael's crafts, and the remaining \$181.26 was donated to their Student Activities Account!

HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Forensic Science students attended a demonstration of firearms and ballistics at the River Edge Police shooting range. Students were shown how different types of ammunition and firearms make different impacts on various surfaces. The demo is followed up with a lesson in the classroom as to the evidentiary value of the projectiles recovered at the scene, the science of reading the markings, and the weapons associated with them. Thank you Sgt. Joseph Starost, REPD!

River Dell Teachers: Ms. Bartelloni, Ms. Silverman, Ms. Faunde, Ms. Astarita, and Ms. Zintel organized River Dell's participation in the 43rd Bergen County Teen Arts Festival on May 18th, 2018. Seventy two students from TV media, chorus, art and creative writing participated showcasing their talents and attending a variety of workshops. One note of excellence is Mina Chung, who was selected by the Teen Arts Committee to be part of a special exhibit, which opened June 20th.

Mrs. Rivas' 11th grade U.S. History class was awarded a grant from AT&T that covered the transportation expenses to Franklin D. Roosevelt's Presidential Library and Museum. It was a perfect way to complement their study of the Great Depression, WWII and the Roosevelt family.



Congratulations to Advanced Photography students who have been chosen to exhibit their photographs at Bergen Community College's *Gallery Bergen* -- Emily Beattie, Gabriela Lisboano, Kaitlin McCorry, Lauren Fox, Michael Vigneron, Nicole Capuano, Teresa Scalanga and Rebecca Reynolds.



Ms. Haemmerle's honors geometry students participated in a modified classroom version of the national Construction competition as a culminating activity for their surface area and volume unit. Working in groups, students designed 3-D structures that would be built out of food cans. Each group submitted a design, then one was chosen to actually construct. Thanks to student and faculty donations, SGO support and a discount from the Shop Rite in Rochelle Park, students constructed a model of the Dr. Seuss character, The Lorax. Upon completion, the 156 cans required to build the structure were donated to the local food pantry in River Edge.

Athletic News

2017-2018 TRIPLE CROWN AWARD

Sean Burke
Football, Wrestling, Track

Julia DiBenedetto
Cheering, Indoor Track, Track

David Estevez
Football, Basketball, Baseball

Emma Gallagher
Soccer, Indoor Track, Track

Katelyn Gillies
Soccer, Basketball, Track

Kelly Gorla
Field Hockey, Swimming, Softball

Shannon Gorla
Cross Country, Indoor Track, Track

Hailey Grupenhof
Field Hockey, Basketball, Softball

Mary Lombardi
Cross Country, Swimming, Track

Julie McGovern
Soccer, Basketball, Golf

Michael Nobile
Football, Indoor Track, Track

Connor Olski
Cross Country, Swimming, Track

Sofia Poznansky
Volleyball, Indoor Track, Track

Laura Rizik
Cheering, Indoor Track, Track

Michael Rizik
Football, Indoor Track, Track

Eve Schoenberg
Cross Country, Indoor Track, Track

Ryan Scully
Cross Country, Indoor Track, Track

John Wapelhorst
Soccer, Basketball, Lacrosse

Gary Wilhelm
Cross Country, Indoor Track, Track

Kyle Ziegler
Football, Indoor Track, Track

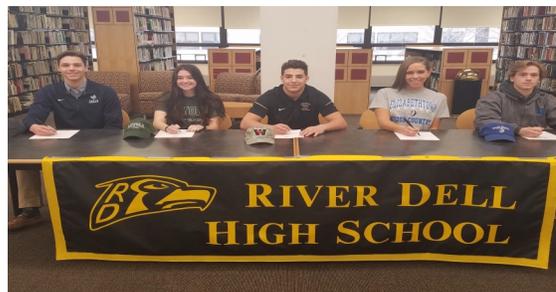
CHAMPIONSHIPS

Boys Track: Big North Patriot Division

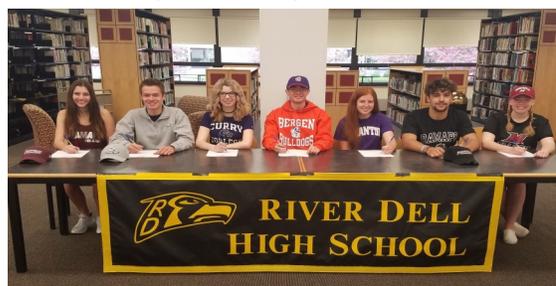
Girls Track: State Sectional, Big North Patriot Division

COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC SIGNING DAYS

Congratulations to the senior student-athletes who have committed to competing in intercollegiate athletics next year.



Aidan Tucker – Tufts – Baseball
Eve Schoenberg – Loyola – XC & Track
David Estevez – Wesleyan – Football
Mary Lombardi – Elizabethtown – XC & Track
Rich Gneiding – Salve Regina – Lacrosse



Megan Wilhelm – Ramapo – Field Hockey
Gary Wilhelm – Stockton – XC and Track & Field
Faith Herity – Curry – Volleyball
Ryan Scully – Bergen CC – XC and Track & Field
Jaclyn McCusker – Scranton – Lacrosse
Mike Rizik – Ramapo – Track & Field
Erika Starost – Manhattanville – Field Hockey
Not pictured:
Jeanmarie Harvey – Stockton – Track & Field



CONGRATULATIONS



Ryan Scully – Recipient of The Record's Charlie McGill Scholarship Award

David Estevez – The Record's Male Athlete of the Year, The Record's Football Offensive Player of the Year, and YMCA of Greater Bergen County High School Student-Athlete Award

Shannon Gorla – YMCA of Greater Bergen County High School Student-Athlete Award

Sue Keitel, Boys Tennis coach – Big North Patriot Coach of the Year

Brandon Flanagan, Baseball coach – BCCA Baldwin/Hunt Service Award recipient

Mike Garibell, Softball coach – Career Victory #200 on 4/24/18

Congratulations to all student-athletes and coaches for winning the Big North Conference, Patriot Division All-Sports banner in 2017-2018. The ALL-Sports banner is awarded to the school that accumulates the most points through the course of the school year by order of place in the Big North Conference, Patriot Division sponsored sports.

Summer no contact period for River Dell Athletics will be July 28, 2018 thru August 5, 2018.

IMPORTANT DATES



AUGUST

- 29 RDMS101- MS Auditorium, 10:30am - 12noon
(Advanced Registration Required)
Students will learn about life at River Dell Middle School.
7th Grade BBQ, 12noon - 1:30pm
No registration is necessary

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Freshman Orientation at HS, 1:00 - 3:00pm
6 First Day of School
7 Picture Day at the Middle School
10-11 Schools Closed - Rosh Hashanah
13 Back-to-School Night at the Middle School
One Session Day for MS students only
19 School Closed - Yom Kippur
27 Back-to-School Night at the High School
One Session Day for HS students only

OCTOBER

- 8 One Session Day - Professional Day for Staff



SUN SAFETY



The sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays can damage skin in as little as 15 minutes. Follow these recommendations to help protect yourself and your family.

***Shade:** You can reduce your risk of skin damage and skin cancer by staying in the shade. Also wear sunscreen and use protective clothing when you are outside - even when in the shade.

***Clothing:** When possible wear long sleeved shirts and long pants to provide protection from UV rays. When at the beach or pool, at least wear a T shirt or cover-up.

***Hat:** For the most protection, a hat with a brim all the way around will be the most helpful.

***Sunglasses:** Sunglasses that block UV and UVB rays are the best.

***Sunscreen:** Apply broad spectrum sunscreen with at least SPF 15 before you go outside, every day. Reapplication is necessary and check the expiration date.

Enjoy your summer and be safe!

Your School Nurses-
Francesca Puleo RN and Kathy Kreger RN

Want to be a Substitute Nurse?

Requirements: NJ School Nurse certificate or substitute certification and NJ RN license
If interested, call Mrs. Mormino at 201-599-7205

Watch RDTV
Cablevision Channel 77 in River Edge or 116 in Oradell
Verizon Fios Channel 40 in both communities

DUE TO PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS, WE ARE UNABLE TO PUBLISH ANY PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION ABOUT A STUDENT WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT FROM THE STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN.

River Dell's Web Site: www.riverdell.org

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