

RIVER DELL NEWS



NEWS OF THE RIVER DELL SCHOOLS

WINTER 2020

A Message From The Superintendent

Dear River Dell Community:

Over the last two years, I reviewed the efforts we are making to improve the safety net we have in place for students and their families. We are focused on physical safety, as well as the safety derived from good mental health. Last school year, we asked all students and parents to participate in a survey so that we could better understand if our efforts are having an impact.

The data collected provided some valuable insights. However, it is just a baseline. In order to build our capacity and collect comparable information, we will repeat the survey in February so that we can begin to develop comparable data to better understand if these efforts are contributing to a better school and community environment. We will once again use the consulting firm named YouthTruth to conduct the survey. We will be asking questions in the following areas:

- * Student engagement
- * Academic rigor

- * Relationships with teachers
- * Relationships with peers
- * School culture
- * College and career readiness
- * Academic support services
- * Strengths and areas for improvement

We will share the results as they become available. I am hoping that we will gain critical insight into improving the school experience for those we serve. I thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Fletcher
Superintendent of Schools

UPCOMING EVENTS AT RIVER DELL

FEBRUARY

- 3 BOE Meeting, H/S Media Center, 8:00pm
- 10-14 M/S Book Fair, M/S Media Center
- 12 One-session Day for students, PD for staff
- 17-18 Schools Closed, Winter Recess
- 21 Semi Formal Dance, M/S Gymnasium, 6:00pm
- 25 PTO Meeting, H/S Media Center, 7:00pm

MARCH

- 2 BOE Meeting, H/S Media Center, 8:00pm
- 5 Marching Band Fashion Show, Seasons, 7:00pm
- 11 One-session day for students, PD for staff

- 16 BOE Meeting, H/S Media Center, 8:00pm
- 26 Drama Club Performance, M/S Auditorium, 7:00pm
- 27 Spring Musical, "Into the Woods," H/S Auditorium, 7:00pm
- 28 Spring Musical, H/S Auditorium, 2:00pm and 7:30pm
- 29 Spring Musical, H/S Auditorium, 2:00pm

APRIL

- 2 Senior Citizen's Prom, H/S Cafeteria, 5:00pm
- 4 ACT Testing at H/S, 7:30am
- 6-10 Schools Closed, Spring Recess
- 22 BOE Meeting, H/S Media Center, 8:00pm
- 28 PTO Meeting, H/S Media Center, 7:00pm

our kids working together for a good cause

River Dell High School Cross Country hosted the 3rd annual Run for a Cause cross country meet with the support of the River Dell Athletic Director, Denis Nelson. On October 10, 2019 twelve Bergen County middle schools came together to compete, but more significantly to give back to their community. Approximately 800 athletes collected and donated much needed food items to The Office of Concern Food Pantry in Englewood.

All items collected were distributed to local families in need throughout Bergen County. This year's coveted Invitational trophy went to Allendale Middle School for generously donating the most food, with a close second place by River Dell MS and Garfield MS in third! This annual event was started by Shannon Gorla (RDHS Class of 2018) as her Girl Scout Gold Award. The River Dell XC team is determined to sustain Shannon's vision; so each year a senior girl steps up to organize this event as well as the giveback. This year's leader, Amanda Newman, spearheaded the invitational with full support from the RDHS XS boys and girls teams.



The RDMS Spanish Honor Society has been busy this year completing their service projects. As part of their Ambassadorship Project, the students collected clothing and soft goods for flood victims in Apartadó, Colombia. The October flood affected approximately 10,000 residents, some of whom lost everything. Over 500 pieces of clothing and soft goods were collected. The students also sold "alfajores," traditional South American cookies, to help raise funds for the cause.

The RDHS Spanish Honor Society joined forces with RDMS and held a fundraiser at Chipotle to cover the cost of shipping the boxes. RDMS and RDHS advisors are very proud of our students and the great work that they are doing in our schools, community and globally.

A Note From Our Nurses



FAMILY HEALTH CHECKLIST: WHAT CAUSES SORE THROATS?

VIRUSES:

This is the most likely cause of a sore throat. Especially in teens. Viral illnesses like the flu, colds and mono, can all be at fault. A runny nose and teary eyes with a sore throat is most likely a virus.

BACTERIAL INFECTION:

Bacteria like "Streptococcus Pyogenes", also known as "strep", can cause a red, painful throat. The best diagnosis for strep is a throat swab performed by a health professional. Other signs that support the diagnosis is that the pain comes on suddenly and it hurts to swallow. Tonsils may be red, swollen and may be covered with white spots. The glands in the neck and jaw may be swollen and tender. And lastly, a fever, can be present.

ENVIRONMENT:

Allergies, pollution and climate (heated classrooms) can dry out and irritate the throat.

Your school nurses often screen students with sore throats and ask several questions and make suggestions.

Parents are advised to follow up accordingly.

WHEN TO SEE YOUR DOCTOR:

- *If there is difficulty swallowing or breathing.
- *Swollen glands of neck and/or jaw
- *Persistent fever
- *Conservative treatment has not been effective

Francesca Puleo RN - Middle School Nurse and Kathryn Kreger RN - High School Nurse

We Celebrate the Arts

We are proud to announce that the following River Dell Middle School students have been accepted into the Bergen County Middle School Band and Chorus.

2019 Bergen County Band
 Matthew D. Kim - Clarinet, 3rd chair
 Christopher (Seunghyun) Oh - Trumpet

2019 Bergen County Chorus
 James Chen
 Hana Chong
 Adam Chu
 Jack Courain
 Erin Fong
 Timothy Hwang
 Heehyun Kwen
 Clare Park
 Sarisha Somashekar
 Eunice Son
 Andrew Vaccaro
 Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan
 Owen Windram
 Christopher Yi

Congratulations to our high school photography students!

Noelle Kee (2021)
 Lauren Velazquez (2022)

Their photographs were selected to be included in the 2019 Drexel University High School Contest Exhibition at Drexel University opening February 8, 2020.

The North Jersey School Music Association held auditions for their honors ensembles. The following high school students auditioned, and were accepted into the following ensembles:

Kate Choi (2021) - Treble Chorus
 Yuna Chung (2020) - Mixed Chorus
 Olivia Dunleavy (2020) - Mixed Chorus
 Paul Jeong (2021) - Orchestra: Violin 1, 5th chair
 Myra Cui (2022) - Orchestra: Violin 1, 1st chair

Myra was the top auditionee for all of North Jersey on violin, and will serve as Concertmaster for the ensemble, which is a huge accomplishment, especially for a high school sophomore.

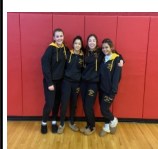
The NJ All State Chorus and Orchestra festival is held in Atlantic City. Each year, thousands of students from all over the state take part in an extremely competitive audition process to be a part of these ensembles. This year, senior Yuna Chung was a part of the chorus, and junior Paul Jeong was a part of the orchestra. They began their rehearsal process with the other participants. Each rehearsed for at least ten hours a day, over the course of the three day event. The concerts took place at the Boardwalk Hall and NJPAC.

Please join us in congratulating Yuna and Paul on this extremely prestigious distinction.

AND THE CURTAIN RISES

River Dell High School Drama Department will present the musical *Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim March 26-28 at 7pm and March 29 at 2pm. Tickets will be \$12 for students and seniors, \$15 for adults. More ticket information will be posted in the middle of February. Many high school students will be featured as actors in the show. Along with over 30 actors, there will be more than 70 students serving on stage crew, lighting and sound crew, costume and prop crew and pit orchestra.

SPORTS CORNER

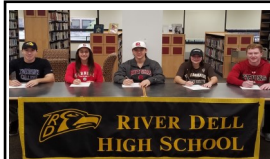


On Sunday January 5, 2020, history was made in Bergen County. The first ever BCW-CA Girls' Wrestling Championships were held. River Dell sent three girls to compete at this tournament. Amelia Woelfel came away with 2nd place, Caleigh Minnich took 4th place and Miranda Peralta Hiraldo took 5th place.

Congratulations to the Wrestling team and Head Coach Nick Baranello for winning the Group C title at the Bergen County Tournament.



Congratulations to sophomore wrestler Taisei Kurachi for winning the Bergen County title at 106 lbs.



The River Dell Athletic Department congratulates our student-athletes pictured and listed below for their intercollegiate commitments next year.

Brendan Gillies – Emerson – Lacrosse
 Alexandra Quiana – Cornell – Gymnastics
 Anthony Liggio – Rutgers Newark – Baseball
 Jayne Manzelli – St. Bonaventure – Lacrosse
 Gunnar Nystedt – Stevens – Lacrosse

Congratulations to all and best of luck!

Go Hawks!



FALL ATHLETIC HONOR ROLL 2019

CROSS COUNTRY

BOYS – (6-4)

All Division - 2nd Team All-Division: Max Emelo (So.),
Jack Murray (So.)

Honorable Mention: Aidan McElroy (Jr.)

GIRLS – (6-3)

All Division - 1st Team All-Division: Amanda Newman (Sr.),
Margaret Mircovich (Jr.)

2nd Team All-Division: Anya Halecky (Sr.),
Amanda Mircovich (Jr.), Alex Grivas (So.)

Honorable Mention: Sarah Cookson (Fr.)

All County - 2nd Team All-County: Margaret Mircovich (Jr.)

GIRLS SOCCER - (8-8-2), NJSIAA Qualifier

All Division - 1st Team All-Division: Emma McKeon (Sr.),

Elaina Grenz (So.), Sarah Vanderbeck (So.)

2nd Team All-Division: Amanda Lubben (Sr.),

Adriana Scipioni (Sr.)

Honorable Mention: Elizabeth Puentes (Fr.)

GIRLS TENNIS - (10-9), NJSIAA Qualifier

All Division - 2nd Team All-Division: Kellie Woo (Sr.)

Honorable Mention: Kaylee Pak (Sr.)

BOYS SOCCER - (10-7-3), NJSIAA Qualifier

All Division - 1st Team All-Division: Colin Concannon (Sr.),

John Tracy (Sr.)

2nd Team All-Division: Jeremy Vidaic (Sr.)

Honorable Mention: Ian Breslin (Sr.)

All County - 2nd Team All-County: Colin Concannon (Sr.)
3rd Team All-County: John Tracy (Sr.)

VOLLEYBALL - (11-10)

All Division - 1st Team All-Division: Logan Grebla (Sr.),
Emily Newman (Jr.)

2nd Team All-Division: Charley Paul (Sr.), Davan McHale
(So.) Honorable Mention: Sophia Firmeno (So.)

All County - 3rd Team All-County: Logan Grebla (Sr.)

FIELD HOCKEY - (5-13-2), NJSIAA Qualifier

All Division - 2nd Team All-Division: Kaitlyn Wilhelm (Sr.),
Katie Gallagher (Sr.)

Honorable Mention: Morgan Kiely (Jr.)

All County - 1st Team All-County: Katie Gallagher (Sr.)

2nd Team All-County: Kaitlyn Wilhelm (Sr.),

Kiera McGinty (Jr.)

Honorable Mention: Noelle Sarafian (Jr.)

FOOTBALL - (7-4), NJSIAA Qualifier

All Division - 1st Team All-Division: Mike Sirico (Sr.),

Joseph Mellett (Sr.), Ryan MacDonald (Sr.),

Jack Gillies (Sr.),

Brendan Walker (Jr.), Ethan Kupfer (Jr.), Liam Horodnik (Jr.)

2nd Team All-Division: Josh Lyonsi (Sr.), Brett DiMasso (Jr.),

Matthew Tibus (Jr.), Michael Mellett (Jr.), Christian Hay (Jr.)

Honorable Mention: Shane Quinn (Sr.), Alex Grisham (Sr.)

All County - 1st Team All-County: Michael Sirico (Sr.),

Joseph Mellett (Sr.)

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

**RIVER DELL REGIONAL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
230 WOODLAND AVENUE
RIVER EDGE, NJ 07661**



Board of Education
President
Albert Graef (Oradell)
Vice President
Joseph P. Manzelli, Jr. (River Edge)
Tracey-Ellen Ehalt (River Edge)
Alan Feigenson (Oradell)
Stephanie Hartman (River Edge)
Barbara Kuchar (Oradell)
Douglas Kupfer (River Edge)
Claudia O'Neill (River Edge)
John Samuel (Oradell)

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools
Thomas Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PARAMUS, NJ 07652
Permit No. 325**

POSTAL PATRON