



March 03, 2017

Dear Parents and Friends,

Enclosed please find mid-quarter progress reports for the third term of the 2016-2017 school year. Please review these grades with your son or daughter and contact individual teachers or guidance counselors with questions or concerns.

Parent-Student Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, March 15 (3:30 PM – 5:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM) and Thursday, March 16 (8:00 AM – 12:00 PM). Conferences last 10 minutes with each teacher. **We encourage you to bring your child to conferences** as we help our students continue to develop a sense of ownership for their learning. Also, a reminder that there are no classes scheduled for Friday, March 17, due to a district professional development training.

RHS uses the web-based software *PickaTime* to schedule conferences. That program will be available on **Monday, March 6**. Please refer to the enclosed directions.

VTGIN Conference

We are very pleased to announce that Rutland High School will again host the statewide Vermont Global Issues Network Conference (VTGIN) on April 6, 2017. GIN is a worldwide educational movement that teaches students about pressing issues that affect the world today, providing an opportunity for students to address those issues globally and locally. There are eight GIN conferences worldwide in the winter and spring of 2017. The others are in Seattle, South Korea, Hawaii, Panama, Johannesburg, Luxembourg, and Hong Kong. This is a learning venue for our students that is rare and extremely unique. To learn more about the GIN concept, go to: <http://globalissuesnetwork.org/>

This fifth VTGIN Conference will involve the entire school, as well as students from across Vermont and beyond. On April 6, we will have a modified schedule for the day. Students will have the choice of attending conference sessions or doing community service related to a global/ local issue.

The conference will involve the entire RHS community, running from 8:00 AM - 3:11 PM. Vermont Health Commissioner Harry Chen will be our keynote speaker. There will be break-out sessions about global issues, and student groups will discuss how to take action on global issues in their local communities. We continue to emphasize students as leaders. Throughout the school year, a student group has planned the conference implementation. Students will be facilitating the sessions during the day. We also feature a large number of student presenters, in

particular some of our upperclassmen presenting on their Capstone projects. As a special event that evening, we will collaborate with the Rutland Regional Medical Center to study health issues, here and globally.

And speaking of the website, the VTGIN Global Issues Network Conference website will serve as the main platform for more information. If you want to learn more about the day, see the topics, learn about the community service options, discover who the presenters are, or see video clips and photos of the conference afterwards, please check out the website at:

<http://globalissuesnetwork.org/ginrutland17/>

Quick Facts on VTGIN:

- Date: Thursday, April 6, 2017 (8:00 AM - 3:11 PM)
- Location: Rutland High School
- Theme of the Day: *ContaGIN*
- Audience: GIN Conference is for RHS students and students from Vermont high schools

- Date: Thursday, April 6, 2017 (6:00-8:00 PM)
- Location: at Rutland High School, in collaboration with Rutland Regional Medical Center
- Event: Issues of Health in Vermont and Abroad
- Audience: open to the public

Global Studies/ STEM Fair

Our other big event coming very soon is our Global Studies/ STEM Fair. This takes place on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

That night, we invite parents and the community to visit with RHS students as they present on their Global Studies and STEM work. All 9th grade students will be presenting a STEM project, and all 10th grade students will be presenting on a Global Studies project. Some Capstone students and other classes will also present. Finally, some of our music and drama groups will add their talents to the night.

This evening represents a hybrid of Open House and a curricular fair. We invite you all to circulate throughout the school and hear from students about what they are learning and doing.

Quick Facts on the Global Studies/ STEM Fair:

- Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2017
- Time: Evening, 6:00-8:00 PM
- Location: Rutland High School
- Focus of the Event: Project presentation for grades 9 and 10, Capstone, Clubs, and others.
- Audience: open to parents and the community.

These events are opportunities for students to learn from each other, to share the work they are doing in and outside of class, and to consider ways that they can take meaningful steps to tackle the issues facing Rutland, Vermont, the United States, and the world.

Our district vision statement is our goal: *RCPS cultivates a passionate, diverse, and resilient community of critical thinkers who learn with purpose, create innovative and responsible solutions, and lead lives of integrity.*

Bill Olsen, Principal

