



Rochester Community Schools

Dear RCS Families,

Memorial Day honors the men and women who have died so bravely for the freedom and security of our nation. My thoughts remain with my fallen comrades, as well as the countless other Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who have made the ultimate sacrifice. They will not be forgotten.

Memorial Day is also a time to remember the family members who have suffered personally from the loss of their loved one. During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln wrote a sincere letter of condolence to comfort a grieving mother. We have shared this communication with our community in the past, but its message remains just as impactful.

“Dear Madam, I have been shown ... that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming, but I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic that they died to save. I ... leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.” –Abraham Lincoln

The strength of our nation is a result of our brave men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces. Although Memorial Day honors the fallen, please keep those who are struggling with mental health issues in your prayers so they can get the help they need.

The following includes additional information and community updates, along with a weekly summary of our district COVID-19 trends.

- **MHSAA guidance.** Weekly testing for in-season, spring sports continues to be required through the end of the spring season for teams and individuals under the June 1 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) epidemic order. Participants are not required to be tested during indoor and outdoor out-of-season summer workouts, conditioning, and other activities allowed by Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). For all summer out-of-season indoor activity, face masks are required for all non-vaccinated individuals at all times. Face masks are not required for any outdoor activity. There are no longer limits on outdoor crowds and gatherings as of June 1.
- **Broadband services.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is initiating an Emergency Broadband Benefit Program that offers consumer discounts on broadband services and equipment like computers and tablets. For more information about the [program](#), or to obtain a [list of broadband providers](#), visit the FCC website.

- **Graduation updates.** With new event guidance from the MDHSS, we are pleased to share that each graduate will now be allowed up to 10 guests for commencement ceremonies at the DTE Energy Music Theatre. With increased ticket volume and traffic throughout the venue, we have adjusted the start times to better accommodate our families. The commencement start times for June 12 are: Stoney Creek High School at 11 a.m.; Adams High School at 3 p.m.; and Rochester High School at 7 p.m. Doors will open one hour before each ceremony.
- **City of Rochester Hills celebrates RCS students.** On Thursday June 3, from 4-6 p.m., the city will host the Art on Auburn open house at 1551 E. Auburn Rd, where 25 pieces of art made by Rochester Hills students will be placed in the Auburn Road corridor. On Wednesday, June 9, at 12 p.m. in the same location, the city will cut the ribbon for its new splash pad. As students celebrate the last day of school, they'll be able to visit the area to cool off and enjoy the beginning of the summer season.
- **Administration building citizens committee.** Thank you to those who offered to serve on the citizens committee and make thoughtful recommendations about the future of the property located at 501 W. University Drive. We are currently compiling the information to ensure that an adequate sampling of community stakeholders are represented. We will share additional information as it becomes available.
- **Strategic planning 2025.** The strategic plan serves as a roadmap for our organization, providing a clear vision for the future. It's about big-picture thinking with a continual focus on our students. Over the past few years, we have made significant advancements in the areas of social-emotional wellness, global awareness, and diversity, equity and belonging, while maintaining our expectations for high academic achievement. We will continue to build upon these past accomplishments as we prepare our children for the future. Additional information will be coming in the next few months that will offer opportunities to get involved.
- **Weekly RCS COVID-19 reporting.** The following COVID-19 information is from May 27, 2021, at 12 p.m. As a reminder, this chart is reflective of a single point in time and may change at a moment's notice due to the current public health environment. The total percentage of quarantine and isolated students across all grade levels is 0.26%, reflecting a downward trend in all areas.

In-person COVID-19 Reporting – May 27, 2021, at 12 p.m.				
STUDENTS	Positive and symptomatic cases	Percent of active cases per student population	Quarantine (For those exposed)	Percent of quarantine cases per student population
Grades 0 – 5	15	0.27%	7	0.12%
Grades 6 – 8	3	0.10%	1	0.03%
Grades 9 – 12 and post-high	5	0.11%	3	0.07%
STAFF	Positive and symptomatic cases	Percent of active cases per staff population	Quarantine (For those exposed)	Percent of quarantine cases per staff population
Grades 0 – 5	1	0.14%	1	0.14%

Grades 6 – 8	1	0.41%	0	0.00%
Grades 9 – 12 and post-high	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Other*	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

*Other includes: administration, transportation, food services, custodial, and facility operations center

As you embrace opportunities to celebrate the Memorial Day holiday, please take a moment to solemnly remember those who have made our way of life possible. Have a safe, healthy and enjoyable weekend!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Robert Shaner
Superintendent

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