



ROCKLAND HIGH SCHOOL
COMMUNITY UPDATE
MAY 2020

As we continue remote learning for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, the RHS faculty is committed to providing high-quality education to each student. However, our priority remains the health, safety, and wellness of our students and families. We are mindful of equity concerns and we will work to reduce any negative impact resulting from disparities in access to or ability to adjust to remote learning activities by our students. We are committed to maintaining connections between school staff and students and helping all students continue their learning.

SPELLMAN CONTEST HELD VIRTUALLY:

During the month of April, the English Department under the leadership of Department Head Ms. Carol Cahill organized the first ever virtual Spellman Oratorical. Congratulations to all of the seniors who participated. Below is an article from *The Veritas* with more information.

<https://rhsveritas.wordpress.com/2020/04/26/spellman-oratorical-contest-winners-for-the-class-of-2020/>

Rockland High School English Department Coordinator, Carol Cahill has announced the winners of the 2020 Spellman Oratorical Contest.

They are:

1st place: Lara Glennon – \$1300

2nd place: Tyler Gambon – \$1100

Tied for 3rd & 4th: Sarah McLellan and Ashley Gallagher – \$750 each

Tied for 5th and 6th: Kerin Dalton & Neleh Dunn – \$300 each.

Ms. Cahill was happy to have been able to coordinate and continue the awarding of the Spellman scholarships under these unusual circumstances. The prize money is made available from a trust established by the late Francis Cardinal Spellman of Whitman in memory of his mother, Ellen Conway Spellman, who resided in Rockland. The judges of this year's contest, who also judged last year, were Laura Whitaker, Steve Waisgerber and Karen Bonn.

The topic for this year's contest was devised by AP Literature teacher, Chris Neal of the RHS English Department. It was "Monsters as a Reflection of the Human Experience." Students who participated discussed the question: "How do literature and other works of art depict monsters, real or imagined, and how do they serve as a reflection of human experience?" After students wrote their speeches and practiced them,

they then recorded them on YouTube. Public Speaking and Digital Media teacher Dave Cable-Murphy provided each student with instructions on how to do a good video speech and YouTube presentation.

After Ms. Cahill received and compiled the students' Youtube submissions, she sent them to each of the three judges. Next, the judges held a zoom meeting and deliberated the merits of each student's presentation. Speeches are judged on content, delivery, diction and poise.

In her video announcing the results, Ms. Cahill said, "I and the whole English Department were wowed by the results from the six students who entered the contest." She said that the essays were well written and well thought out and the videos were "fantastic." Addressing the students she said, "We couldn't be more proud of the work you have done under these very non-traditional circumstances."

First place winner, Lara Glennon explained her motivation for entering despite having to do it independently. "I always knew I wanted to compete in the Spellman Oratorical; doing it remotely didn't change that. I've always enjoyed writing and I feel that it's something I'm good at, so an essay contest was a perfect way to try for a scholarship."

She admitted that doing it remotely was difficult without being able to "bounce ideas off my classmates and teachers." But she said, "It was totally worth it." As far as the process she said, "The prompt was monsters as a reflection of the human experience and I had some ideas immediately after hearing the prompt, so it didn't take me too long to write the essay. Recording it was the hardest part."

But doing her speech on video also had an upside. "Since I had the opportunity to send in the perfect take, I didn't stop until I got it right." Lara will be attending Emerson in the fall where her scholarship will come in handy!

Tyler Gambon who placed second said, "Preparing and reciting my speech honestly didn't take that long and I'm glad I could be a part of continuing this valued tradition at RHS despite the circumstances."

Ashley Gallagher said that writing the speech was "really fun due to the interesting topic of monsters given this year. It took me one night to write and multiple hours of revision to bring it to my standards." She also said, "The recording portion took me at least 7 hours to bring the video close to my standards."

Ashley gave credit to her classmates. "Every submission this year was amazing and I am glad I got to compete with them all this year."

Kerin Dalton commented on the experience as well. "Spellman was definitely an interesting experience this year to say the least. The one nice thing about it was that if I messed up I could just stop the camera and start over. Of course that also turned a six minute speech into an hour and a half video shoot. But it was worth it."

She too enjoyed writing to the prompt. "English has always been my strong suit. It is usually required for AP students to take part, but since it became optional I knew I had a better chance of placing and earning some easy money, also inclining me to pursue the opportunity."

She says she is glad that she got to see the other seniors' speeches on YouTube.

VIRTUAL ART SHOW:

Kicking off Senior Art Week with these original digital paintings by senior Bryce Taylor. Bryce designed the cover for the Class of 2020 yearbook.



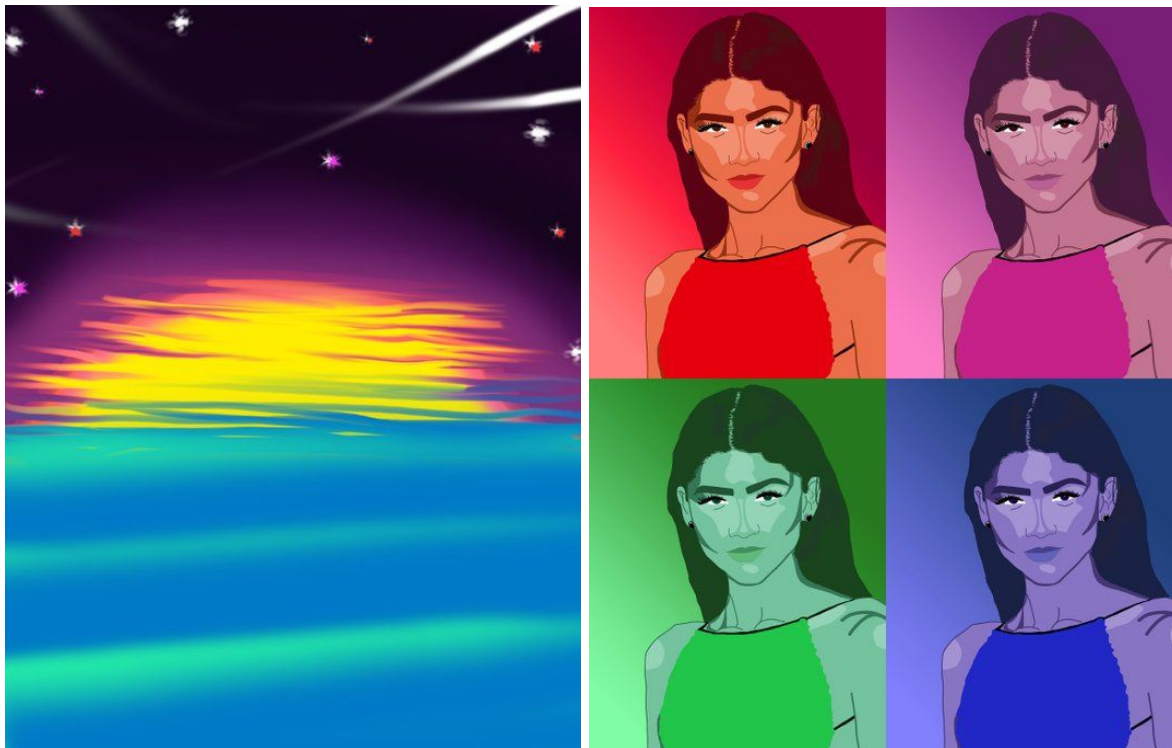
Senior Erin Kearns created these Pop Art inspired digital paintings and animal mash up collages in Digital Art. Great job Erin!



Senior Haley Nee's animal mash up collage, mandala painting and Pop Art inspired digital paintings of Harry Styles. Great job Haley!



Senior Tiana Bruno's digital paintings. Great job Tiana!



Z. WEBB TAKES PHOTOS THROUGH TELESCOPE:

Senior Zach Webb has been learning how to take photographs through his telescope. Check out this photo of the moon he took with his phone. So cool I had to share!

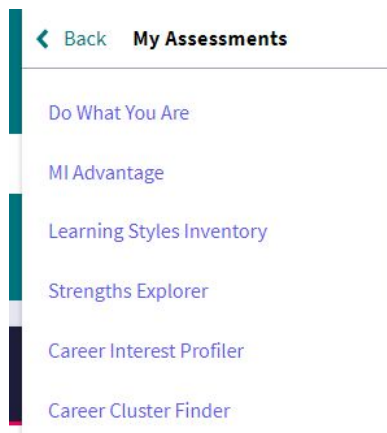


GUIDANCE:**SAT Test Prep**

[Khan Academy](#) offers free, personalized SAT prep based on your PSAT results. Inspira also offers SAT Prep and is now donating 10,000 SAT/ACT one-week online classes to students across the state - details are available [here](#).

Use all the resources in Naviance

Update your resume, research colleges, take virtual tours. You can also go into the About Me Tab, click on my assessments, and take assessments or review those you have already taken.






**College Essay**

Start brainstorming and writing! [Here](#) are the 2020-2021 Common App Essay Prompts and [here](#) are some tips for writing a great essay.

Are you considering other post-high school options? Check out the resources in this [future planning resource guide](#).

AP

2020 AP® At-Home Exam Details

 <p>45 MINUTE OPEN BOOK EXAMS</p>	 <p>EXAMS GIVEN MAY 11 - 22 OR JUNE 1 - 5</p>	
 <p>Students can take online or hand-write and submit a photograph</p>	 <p>Confidence that colleges will continue to award credit for qualifying scores</p>	 <p>Students and teachers can request tech resources</p>

2020 JACK SCANLAN ADVISOR AWARD:

Congratulations to History & Social Science Teacher and Student Government Council Advisor Mr. Greg Rowe who was recognized with the Jack Scanlan Advisor Award.

JACK SCANLAN, a Student Council Hero, Friend, Mentor and Role Model, passed away on March 24, 2014. Jack will long be remembered for his ability to bring out the best in everyone. His boundless enthusiasm and generosity invited those around him to share his joyful optimistic view of life. Students and Advisors who had a chance to learn and grow from his wisdom are lucky and blessed because of it. Jack was a teacher at Quincy Public Schools for 34 years and Student Council Advisor for 20 years. He actively participated in all facets of NASC, MASC and SEMASC - always embracing Warm Fuzzies and Brown Squirrel. For ten years, Jack dedicated his energies to assisting Marshfield High School Student Council and Youth and Government. His inspiration ignited passion, courage, faith, compassion, integrity and pride within all who knew him. This voice of encouragement and beloved "heart-to-heart" storyteller knew when to be humorous, and knew when to be serious, and knew when to be a little of both. Yet, Jack' messages were always the same, "I believe in YOU." This year, it is with honor and pride that the SEMASC Executive Board sponsors a Jack Scanlan Advisor Award presented to a Special "I believe in you" ADVISOR HERO among us, Greg Rowe from Rockland High School.



SENIOR YARD SIGN DROP-OFFS:

On April 9th, RHS staff delivered lawn signs to our seniors. Below is an article published in *the Veritas*. <https://rhsveritas.wordpress.com/2020/04/09/rhs-teachers-and-staff-deliver-grad-signs-to-seniors/>

More than 35 RHS staff delivered lawn signs to members of the Class of 2020 this morning. In pairs and maintaining safe social distancing faculty and staff members set up lawn signs that read: “Proud Home of a 2020 R.H.S. Senior Bulldog.” Needless to say it was a labor of love for RHS staff; many seniors and their parents also expressed thanks and appreciation from their doorways for the surprise visits from their teachers.



ROCK GARDEN:

Class of 2020

Legacy Rock Garden

leave your Legacy Rock at RHS



Prep/decorate your rock

Wash your rock with soap and water and dry it off.

start **planning your design** or quote you can do a base coat to make it 'pop', then layer on designs or words, but **make sure you let the rock dry thoroughly between each coat**

Scan the QR code on the right for a quick video tutorial



Inspiration

use your rock to tell your **future plans** (school, career, military, etc)!

honor your **favorite varsity/pro team!**

do a fun **geometric design!!**

leave a little **inspirational quote** on your rock!

scan the QR code below for more ideas!



Materials

Rock (or two)

Soap and water

Acrylic Paint + paintbrush

and/or **sharpie markers**

and/or **paint pens** (posca and ooly

are highly rated and widely

available)



Return your rock

When you're all done and your design is fully dry, **leave your initials** somewhere on the rock (paint or sharpie is fine!), put it back in the baggie, and **return your rock to the High School** in the bin for complete rocks Your rock will then be sealed and displayed!



Questions?

Need help or supplies? **Need a kit delivered or picked up?** Reach out

to any of your SGC officers or Ms

Shaughnessy

(mshaughnessy@rocklandschools.org)

OWEN SHEA RECOGNIZED AS “MOST INTERESTING MAN.”

The Patriot Ledger published a story on senior Owen Shea calling him Rockland’s “Most Interesting Man.”

Check out the story by reading this article below:

<https://www.enterpriseneews.com/sports/20200420/owen-shea-is-rocklands-most-interesting-man>



By Matt Cunha / The Patriot Ledger

The RHS senior is a man of many talents.

He won Rockland High’s first sectional title in wrestling in around 10 years. He was a captain on the football team. His efforts in school won him an academic achievement award in engineering. The people find him hilarious. He once taught himself how to play three instruments.

He is the most interesting man in Rockland.

He is Rockland senior Owen Shea.

“He likes to hold court. He’s like the mayor,” said Shea’s offensive line coach and assistant wrestling coach Pete Harrison. “He’s always got a group of kids around him and he is telling stories, telling jokes.”

Harrison has been by Shea’s side for nine years. Shea prides himself on being a man of many talents.

“I just think everyone should not focus on one thing, be able to do a couple of things,” said Shea. “I focus on schoolwork. And my athletics especially and my schoolwork. I make sure that I’m nice to everyone. I just like to be a good person.”

Shea’s most recent achievement came on the wrestling mat, winning Rockland’s first sectional title in 10 years.

“Made my coaches proud, my dad and parents and everything,” said Shea, “And it was an accomplishment to myself.”

Shea emerged out of the 220-pound division in the Div. 3 South sectionals after finishing as the runner-up a year ago. He kept a cool demeanor despite what was on the line for Rockland. He finished his wrestling career with three league all-star nods and a career record of 92-21.

“I feel the pressure but ... I treat every match like it would be a sectional title,” said Shea. “Every match built up to then. It’s like the pressure is not even there on me anymore. Every match, I treat it like it was the most important match. By then, there wasn’t too much pressure. I was kind of used to it.”

Shea has also been Rockland’s High’s biggest wrestling advocate, trying to pull in many football players to the co-op squad with Abington said Harrison.

“It was huge not only for Owen, but just for the program in general, kind of get us back to where we used to be,” said Harrison.

Rockland High’s wrestling team was a perennial contender in the early 2000s, but in recent years has struggled recruiting kids to the sport. In the past year, the numbers have increased from 14 to almost 30 wrestlers.

“I can’t say enough about Owen, just the amount he’s done recruiting, being a great leader on the team,” said Harrison. “He’s been all in. He’s been great.”

Shea volunteers for a newly developed youth program in Rockland working with fifth through eighth graders to get them interested in wrestling.

On the football field, Shea was a captain who used his wrestling skills to help him as a defensive end and on the offensive line.

“Offensively, he’s got some speed, he’s got good size to him,” said Rockland football coach Nick Liquori. “His wrestling background obviously helps him out a lot on the offensive line.

“Defensively, even more so,” added Liquori. “It’s always important to have two good bookends for our defense and so forth. He did a really good job of always lining up to the strong side, but using a lot of his wrestling technique to our advantage.”

Last year, Shea won the Academic Achievement Achiever Award for engineering and robotics. A member of both of those classes at Rockland, Shea will be heading to Buzzards Bay in the fall to study Marine Engineering at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. He said he loves engineering like he loves sports.

“I think that not a lot of high school football players might understand easily, just situational football,” said Liquori. “I think Owen did a pretty good job of using that knowledge that way just because of his book smart and athletic senses are two of the same.

“Not only that, but being the leader that he was, to be able to communicate that to his teammates in certain situations, which is good to have in a captain or a leader anywhere.”

Shea looks forward to being able to go onboard Mass. Maritime’s T.S. Kennedy that takes an annual trip throughout the world.

Shea is also quite the musician. He taught himself how to play the guitar, harmonica and the piano. A lover of music, he got into playing instruments thanks to family in North Carolina.

“Certain things pique my interest. I love music,” said Shea. “I went down to my cousin’s house in North Carolina and they have a big instrumental family ... I was picking it up pretty fast. And they knew I couldn’t get one so they sent me (a guitar) for my birthday last year.”

He put his musical talents on display during Rockland’s annual Mr. Rockland talent show this year, delivering a performance to Billy Joel’s “Piano Man.”

Shea, the youngest of three brothers, has grown up a lot during the past few years. His brothers, along with his dad, all were captains on the Rockland football team along with being Enterprise All-Scholastics.

“He’s done a really good job of just expanding himself,” said Liquori.

It has helped Shea become a valuable leader.

“(He is) really outgoing,” said Liquori, “which is obviously what you have and need when looking for leadership.”

Shea’s sense of humor, not only helps his resume for “the most interesting man in the Rockland,; but it also helps him as a leader.

“He’s just been a pleasure to coach,” said Harrison.

Shea will bring his humor and versatility in a tough marine engineering program at MMA next year. Liquori is not worried.

“The great thing about Owen is that he’s been able to adapt to pretty much anything,” said Liquori. “I am really confident he is going to be able to succeed.”

MR. TOLAN RECOGNIZED:

Congratulations to longtime Rockland Public Schools employee and RHS superfan Mr. Tolan for being recognized in the Enterprise as the “True Rockland Bulldog.” Below is the story.

<https://www.enterpriseneews.com/sports/20200424/peter-tolan-is-true-rockland-bulldog>



The Rockland High custodian is known for repping the Bulldogs at major sporting events across the country.

For the past 16 years, Rockland High School custodian Peter Tolan has given the boys basketball team a fiery pre-game speech about pride and overcoming adversity just before the MIAA postseason. Following the speech, he takes a half-court shot to rile the boys up.

This year's attempt went in on the first try.

His memorable annual ritual is just one of the ways Tolan shows his pride for sports, especially for his hometown Rockland.

“Pete’s a great guy and he bleeds Rockland blue through and through,” said Rockland boys basketball coach Fred Damon. “He is very dedicated to all the sports teams and anything Rockland, Pete is about. He is world renowned for going to every sporting event there is and always wears Rockland attire.”

When Damon took over as head coach of the boys team in the 2004-2005 season, he began the tradition of having Tolan give the team a pep talk followed by making a half-court shot as a tournament sendoff for the team. Damon said over the years, it’s taken him a few more tries than the year before, but he drained it on his first try this year, two days before Rockland defeated Martha’s Vineyard, 63-38, in the quarterfinals of the Div. 3 South Sectional.

“If you look up, as far as the most dedicated person to Rockland and everything about Rockland, Pete Tolan’s picture would be in the dictionary, no doubt about it,” said Damon. “He’s a giving person, a great and kind soul, and he’s always about the kids and Rockland Athletics.”

Damon also noted there is an ongoing joke at Rockland High School that Tolan, no matter what event he’s at, will find people from Rockland there. For example, a group of Rockland natives went to see the Patriots play the Miami Dolphins in Florida several years ago. Even amidst a 65,000-seat stadium, Tolan was right there to stop and say hello to his fellow Bulldogs.

Humble and hardworking by nature, Tolan has always dedicated his spare time to supporting the school’s athletics program. He graduated as a Bulldog in 1982 after transferring from Watertown in his junior year. He started working part-time at Rockland as a custodian in 1992, graduated to full-time in 1995 and has been working there ever since.

“I like what I do and I take pride in what I do,” said Tolan. “Sometimes I like to give motivational pep talks and do some of the behind-the-scenes stuff.”

Tolan doesn’t let his day job take up all of his time, however. He also works with the school’s hockey team as the timekeeper at Rockland Ice Rink, has worked as a referee for Patriot League boys and girls basketball and has appeared in countless other Rockland outings.

“I can’t say more good things about Peter Tolan,” said Rockland’s varsity football and assistant varsity basketball coach Nick Liquori. “He’s the ultimate fan, travels the sports world, and is extremely great at motivating the kids in all sports.”

However, his love for sports goes beyond just his hometown. Tolan has also worked with the Red Sox since 1991 as a ticket taker and has seen all four World Series championships in person. He was in attendance for the first New England Patriots Super Bowl win in 2002 in New Orleans against the then St. Louis Rams and worked for the Patriots from 1991-1993.

In addition he worked at Boston College football games from 1991-1995, watched the Boston Celtics win the NBA Finals in 2008, and even attended three different Stanley Cup finals, unfortunately not with the Boston Bruins in them. Tolan has attended NCAA tournaments since 1988 and went to both men and women’s Final Fours in a variety of sports including basketball. He has also gone to the U.S. Open, the Ryder Cup, and several other professional golf tournaments, just showing his love for sports has no bounds.

More recently, Tolan attended the MIAA Div. 3 state semifinals at the TD Garden in early March featuring the Lady Bulldogs. Even though Rockland lost to St. Mary’s, Tolan said it was a great experience nevertheless.

No matter what the future holds for high school and professional sports, you can bet Peter Tolan will be waiting close by to cheer on his fellow Bulldogs.

TOP DOGS:

RHS TOP DOG CLUB

**Lara
Glennon**



**Class
Of
2020**

In Recognition of:

- Excelling academically, recipient of the Academic Achievement Award for English in Grade 11 and the Academic Achievement Award for Digital Media/Communication in Grade 9
- Earning first place in the Spellman Oratorical; recipient of \$1,300 prize
- Excelling as a theater crew member and as an actress in *Marcus is Walking*
- Participating actively in Student Government Council

Plans to:

- Lara plans to attend Emerson College to major in Media Arts Production.

RHS TOP DOG CLUB

**Stephanie
Beatrice**



**Class
Of
2020**

In Recognition of:

- Excelling academically as a National Honor Society student
- Participating actively in Student Government Council; helping with the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk & Project Pumpkin
- Competing athletically on the varsity soccer, swim, and tennis teams
- Working part-time at Starland as a concession stand worker; working as camp counselor at Weymouth Club

Plans to:

- Attend Regis College
- Pursue studies in nursing

RHS TOP DOG CLUB

**Alyssa
Patten**



**Class
Of
2020**

In Recognition of:

- Excelling academically as a National Honor Society student
- Competing athletically on the track, cheerleading, and basketball teams; recipient of three state championships
- Volunteering on service learning trip to Guatemala
- Participating in Travel Club experiences to Japan & Europe
- Working part-time as a Barista at Mary Lou's

Plans to:

- Attend John Jay College of Criminal Justice to major in forensic psychology and double minor in Spanish and law.

RHS TOP DOG CLUB

**Taylor
Anzivino**



**Class
Of
2020**

In Recognition of:

- Volunteering for the Special Olympics, assisting in the planning of Project Pumpkin, and participating in the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk
- Participating as a mentor for freshmen and bulldog buddies
- Competing athletically on the varsity soccer, basketball, and track & field teams; helping the basketball team make a postseason run to the Division 3 State Semi Finals at the TD Garden
- Working part-time as a South Shore Soccer League Referee

Plans to:

- Attend 4 year college

HANNAH AND TYLER RECOGNIZED AS SCHOLAR ATHLETES:

Congratulations to our South Shore League Scholar Athletes Hannah Wyllie and Tyler Johnson! Although the banquet was canceled we want to recognize them. Hannah will attend Colby College and major in Environmental Science. Tyler is attending Northeastern University and will major in Finance. Best of luck to both of them!



The girls lacrosse team put together this very pretty cool sign to recognize senior lacrosse captain Maddie Gear!



SCHOOL BASED SERVICES:

Telehealth



In response to COVID-19, High Point continues to support students by offering telehealth services. During this unprecedented time, we understand more than ever the importance of therapeutic care. Intakes will be conducted remotely from the safety of your own home. Telehealth is a service accepted by insurance and is compatible with most smart phones or computers. Encrypted usernames and passwords comply with HIPAA regulations to ensure that sessions are private and confidential.

OFFERING TELEHEALTH AND OUTPATIENT SERVICES

- STUDENTS ARE SEEN AT SCHOOL OR VIA TELEHEALTH BY A MASTERS LEVEL OR LICENSED CLINICIAN
- STUDENTS ARE SEEN WEEKLY OR BI-WEEKLY DEPENDENT ON LEVEL OF CARE NEEDED
- CLINICIANS COLLABORATE EXTENSIVELY WITH TEACHERS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION
- MOST COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE INSURANCES ACCEPTED
- REFERRALS TO ADDITIONAL SERVICES SUCH AS MEDICATION MANAGEMENT, IN-HOME THERAPY, FAMILY THERAPY AND MORE
- SERVICES CONTINUED THROUGHOUT SCHOOL VACATIONS AND SUMMER VACATION

WHO WE SERVE



Students age 5-18 struggling with:

- Anxiety, depression, ADHD, school refusal, difficulty with social interaction, spectrum disorder, substance use, decreased academic performance and much more
- Clinicians remain in direct contact with parents/guardians throughout treatment

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is School based therapy confidential?
 Yes. Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), all health information is protected and safeguarded.

What will my child be doing in therapy?
 A formal intake evaluation obtains your child's emotional and medical history in order to create an individualized plan with goals and desired outcome of therapy. Clinicians utilize play therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectic behavioral therapy and more.

How long will my child be out of class?
 Therapy usually lasts between 30 and 45 minutes. Therapy times rotate weekly to reduce any potential for missed assignments.

Will I be notified if my child is in crisis?
 Yes. High Point clinicians are mandated reporters. Along with a duty to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect, children and adolescents are screened for suicidality, self harm or harm towards others.

Who will the clinicians talk to about my child?
 Clinicians remain in contact with school staff and school administrators in order to provide wrap-around care. Clinicians utilize discretion in terms of communication in order to protect the therapeutic fidelity and rapport with students.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Referrals for telehealth services are being accepted.

You can place a referral for your child by contacting our referral line: 774-271-4868

Below is information that was sent last week to all students and families regarding the RHS Remote Learning & School Closure Plan.

ACADEMICS

Academic Work Expected During School Closure For Remainder of School Year

Each teacher has a unique situation so every teacher will be handling academic work expectations differently. Keep in mind many of your teachers are taking care of their own health and safety as well as fulfilling their caretaking responsibilities. Each teacher will assign academic work for you to complete. Your teachers will communicate this to you in some capacity (email, google classroom, etc.) and will check in with you regularly. Teachers will respond to your questions promptly during the work week and will do their best to assist students with any questions on academic work.

Students are expected to:

1. Complete academic work to the best of their ability. Learning is more than just a letter grade; students are encouraged to complete all assignments so that they are able to demonstrate proficiency in the curriculum standards so they are best prepared for the next grade level.
2. Students who are not able to complete academic work during the school closure should be communicating with their teachers and/or their guidance counselor. If there is a special circumstance prohibiting the student from completing academic work, we want to be able to best support all students during this very challenging time.

Revised Term Grades & Final Grade Calculations

Since school will be closed for the remainder of the school year, we will now use the following final grade calculation formula:

T1 45 days	T2 45 days	Midterms	T3 1/23-6/12 (31 school days + school closure)
30%	30%	10%	30%

*For seniors, term 3 will still end on Wednesday, May 20th. Term 3 and final grades for seniors will be available Friday, May 22nd.

Make-Up & Term 3 Academic Grading

Any additional academic work completed during the school closure will only help the student's term 3 and overall grade. Students will earn their term 3 grade as of Friday, March 13th, the last day of school prior to the extended school closure, unless additional work is completed that will help their term 3 grade, overall grade, and cumulative Grade Point Average. Students with a cumulative failing grade as of March 13th will fail the course unless they complete the necessary work to pass for the school year. In some cases, the students may not be able to pass for the school year if their term 1 and term 2 averages were too low. Students should work directly with their teachers to determine their grades as of March 13th.

Please note the following:

1. Students are able to make up any work assigned prior to March 9th *at the teacher's discretion.*

2. Teachers will exercise flexibility, allowing students to make-up *any work* assigned during the final week prior to the closure, from March 9th through March 13th given the heightened stress and a high number of student absences.
3. Any academic work completed from March 16th through June 8th will only help the student's term 3 grade. Term 3 academic work needs to be submitted to teachers no later than Monday, June 8th as term 3 and final grades will be available on Friday, June 12th at 3 PM. The week of June 8th through June 12th will be used for teachers to assess student learning and provide feedback to students. Students are expected to be accessible from June 8th through June 12th to review teacher feedback and make any needed revisions.

What happens if students cannot complete academic work during school closure?

Students would earn their term 3 grade *as of March 13th* if the student did not do any work during the school closure.

Work completed during the school closure will *only help* the student's term 3 and overall grade.

For the students who had a very high term 3 average as of March 13th through the first 31 days of the term, the student may feel there is little motivation to try to improve his or her term 3 grade. I acknowledge this feeling that students may be inclined to not put forth their best effort, however, remember the following:

1. The academic work assigned during the closure is related to the curriculum standards that allow each student to demonstrate proficiency in the course. For instance, if a student does not complete the remaining Algebra II work assigned during the school closure, the student may struggle in Precalculus next year.
2. By doing the academic work, you have a chance to improve your term 3 average, and your overall final grade. This overall grade will impact the student's grade point average.
3. With limited opportunities during the school closure to interact socially with peers and staff members, completing academic work during the school closure is a great way to remain connected to the Rockland community. These connections are so important to the social and emotional well-being of our students.

Final Exams

As a reminder, there will be no final exams for students this year, including seniors. The final exam column in a teacher's grade book will be left blank.

Student Failures and Summer School

All students (including seniors) should be provided every opportunity to make-up work and improve their grades to pass for the year. Students with cumulative grades greater than 50% and below 65% who fail to complete academic work during the school closure to improve their final grades to pass for the year will have the opportunity to recover academic credit in an online summer school from June 18 through July 21st. Guidance counselors will call and/or email students and families the week from June 15th through June 17th to communicate that the student may participate in summer school. Any students (including seniors) who have an overall failing grade below 50% will need to retake the academic course the following year to earn the credits.

Credit Loss & Recovery For Attendance

Our student handbook requires any student who has 7 or more unexcused absences in a semester and 14 or more unexcused absences in a full-year course to lose academic credit. For the 2019-2020 school year,

students will not lose academic credit due to excessive unexcused absences. For any student who has already lost credit this year, the student will not be required to make up the hours for excessive absences. This decision is being made to ease the stress of the students who have lost credit since they now have a very limited window to make up the hours they were assigned.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

MCAS Testing

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education with the support of the state legislature waived the MCAS testing requirement for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. As a result, MCAS testing is canceled for the remainder of this school year. It remains unclear whether Grade 9 students will need to pass the Science MCAS test to graduate from high school and whether the Grade 10 students will need to pass the Math MCAS and English MCAS to fulfill the state graduation requirements. Once we learn more about how the state plans to handle this, we will let you know.

AP Testing

On March 20, 2020, the College Board, the organization which administers the Advanced Placement (AP) Exams, communicated to schools that they would not be providing the traditional face-to-face paper-based exams. Instead, students will take a 45-minute online exam at home. For each AP Subject, there will be two testing dates provided where students can choose which date they would like to take the test. In preparation for this change, the College Board is providing [free remote learning resources](#).

Rockland High School staff realize this modified testing structure and shortened window of time to cover the curriculum standards creates an adverse learning environment for our students. In response, the College Board is allowing any student the option to receive a full refund should a student wish not to take the test. For any student wishing to receive a full refund, students should communicate this request to Guidance Director Margie Black (mblack@rocklandschools.org). Lastly, any student who opts out of taking the AP Exam and requests a refund will still have AP denoted on their transcript.

While the standards of the Advanced Placement assessment will be modified this year, I am confident the academic experience each student has with our dedicated teachers throughout the year is what defines the success of our Advanced Placement Program.

June SAT

The College Board recently canceled the June SAT testing date. Eligible students will be able to take the exam with a fee waiver. Students who were registered for the June SAT date and those in the high school class of 2021 who do not have SAT scores will have early access to registration for the October 3rd test which will be administered at RHS.

LOCKER CLEANOUT

We request that students hold-off on gathering belongings from lockers, classrooms, and locker rooms while the school building is closed. If there is something that is essential and needed from a locker, please email Principal Harrison (jharrison@rocklandschools.org) and he can arrange a time for you to gather these items as we will bring them to your car. Once the building reopens we will set-up times for students to gather any outstanding items from their lockers. Seniors will have an opportunity to gather their belongings prior to graduation as well.

TEXTBOOKS & CHROMEBOOKS

As we get closer to June 12th, we will send out more information on the best way to return textbooks and Chromebooks prior to the start of the summer vacation as long as it is safe to do so.

ATHLETICS

Since school is closed for the remainder of the school year, there will be no spring sports season. We apologize to our student-athletes, especially, our seniors, who were very much looking for these memorable experiences. Seniors who did not compete in a fall or winter sport but participated previously in a spring sport their junior year can receive their senior sweatshirt. Please email Mr. Graziano and he will work to get you your sweatshirt.

Any spring athlete that paid a user fee by check, they have not and will not be deposited. We will return by mail to your home address. If you paid online, the funds will be reimbursed to you electronically.

SENIOR INFORMATION

Below are the new dates for the senior activities and celebratory events, including graduation. [Here](#) is a checklist for seniors which has all the information you will need as we head to graduation!

Wednesday 7/29	Thursday 7/30	Friday 7/31	Saturday 8/1	Sunday 8/2
<p>9 AM Senior Class Meeting & Graduation Practice <i>Meet in RHS Gym</i></p> <p>11:30 AM Caps and Gowns Distributed [All senior obligations must be paid prior to receiving cap & gown]</p> <p>5:15 PM Junior & Senior Prom <i>Meet in RHS Gym</i> 5:45 PM Senior Grand March 6 PM Juniors Arrive for Buses 6:15 PM Buses depart to Prom 7 PM Junior & Senior Prom</p> <p>[<i>Formal Dress and Ticket Required</i>]</p>	<p>7 PM National Honor Society Induction Ceremony</p> <p>6 PM Dinner for students & sponsors <i>Cafeteria</i></p> <p>7 PM NHS Ceremony <i>RHS Auditorium</i></p> <p>[<i>Formal Dress Required</i>]</p>	<p>9 AM Senior Class Meeting & Graduation Practice <i>Meet in RHS Gym</i></p> <p>11:30 AM Senior BBQ <i>Veterans Stadium</i></p> <p>7 PM RHS Senior Academic & Athletic Banquet</p> <p>6 PM Student Dinner <i>Cafeteria</i> <i>Yearbooks will be distributed</i></p> <p>7 PM Awards [for Students & Families] <i>RHS Auditorium</i></p> <p>[<i>Formal Dress Required</i>]</p>	<p>7 PM Graduation <i>Meet in RHS Gym at 6 PM</i></p> <p>[<i>Formal Dress Required</i>]</p>	<p>11 AM <i>Rain Date For</i> Graduation [if needed]</p>

JUNIOR PROM TICKET INFORMATION

The date for the Junior and Senior Prom is July 29th. Below is information for juniors on how they can purchase tickets. Seniors will purchase tickets at the same dates and times that are listed below.

Tuesday, June 2nd	<p><i>[Juniors Last Names A-B 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Juniors, Last names A-B, to:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).</p>
Wednesday, June 3rd	<p><i>[Juniors Last Names C-G 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Juniors, Last names C-G, to:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).</p>
Thursday, June 4th	<p><i>[Juniors Last Names H-N 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Juniors, Last names H-N, to:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).</p>
Friday, June 5th	<p><i>[Juniors Last Names O-Z 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Juniors, Last names O-Z, to:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Purchase of prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).</p>

UNDERCLASSMEN AWARD CEREMONY

The Underclassmen Award Ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, June 3rd will be postponed to Wednesday, September 16th at 7 PM in the RHS Auditorium. Celebrating the academic achievements of our underclassmen will be a great way to begin the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Below is information that was sent last week to all senior students and families regarding a revised senior timeline with important dates.

SENIOR CLASS OF 2020 CHECKLIST:

We really appreciate everyone's understanding and support as we have been working to reschedule many of these special end of the year, celebratory events. On April 27th, the RHS School Committee approved [this calendar](#) for the RHS Senior Class of 2020 Senior Activities, including Graduation. I hope you can all attend these events and I know the RHS staff is eager to celebrate with you. You deserve it. Below is an informational "checklist" for seniors to make sure seniors do not miss any deadlines and events. Please read this information closely and ask questions.

RHS SENIOR CLASS OF 2020 CHECKLIST	
Week of	Event/Task
Thursday, April 30th	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Harrison will schedule individual meetings with each senior (and parents/guardians should they desire to participate) to take place beginning on May 4th. Seniors should respond to Dr. Harrison's invitation sent to the senior's school email via google calendar. If the senior cannot attend this brief 5-10 minute meeting at the scheduled time, please decline and suggest an alternative time by emailing Dr. Harrison.</p>

	<p><i>The purpose of these brief meetings is to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review your senior biography form. 2. Review your name pronunciation on graduation day. 3. Confirm your intent to participate in senior festivities, including graduation. 4. Check-on academic progress and concerns that may exist. 5. Answer any questions you or your family may have.
Friday, May 1st	<input type="checkbox"/> RHS Senior Exit Survey needs to be completed.
Friday, May 1st	<input type="checkbox"/> RHS Senior Biography Form needs to be completed. If you are not sure of your future plans, please indicate “undecided” and we can change it later as we get closer to the graduate date.
Monday, May 4th	<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in the RHS Class of 2020 Legacy Rock Project .
Tuesday, May 5th	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior teachers will notify students and families if the student is at-risk to fail academic courses for the school year. Please keep in mind, a senior’s academic coursework during the school closure will only help the student’s term 3 and overall grade. Seniors are strongly encouraged to use the additional term 3 time to improve their overall grade.
Friday, May 8th	<input type="checkbox"/> Last day to submit Senior Slideshow pictures to seniors2020bulldogs@gmail.com . We are looking for any pictures from the following time periods: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baby Pictures 2. Elementary School Pictures 3. Middle School Pictures 4. High School Pictures
Wednesday, May 13th	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service forms due to Ms. Ryan (kryan@rocklandschools.org). RHS Seniors only need to complete 20 hours of community service as 5 hours have been waived this year. If there has been a hardship preventing the senior from completing this reduced community service requirement, please reach out to Ms. Ryan or your guidance counselor.
Monday, May 18th	<input type="checkbox"/> The Graduation Survey & RHS Guidance Senior Exit Survey both need to be completed in Naviance. These surveys are available in Naviance starting May 1st. Students must complete these surveys prior to receiving their cumulative folder which contains academic records and medical information.
Wednesday, May 20th	<input type="checkbox"/> The last day of senior remote learning classes.
Friday, May 22nd	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior grades for term 3 and final grades will be available in the late afternoon.
Thursday, May 28th	<p>7 PM Senior Slideshow Virtual Showing <i>[Details will be released as we get closer to the event]</i></p>

Tuesday, June 2nd	<p><i>[Senior Last Names A-B 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Seniors, Last names A-B, to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up Guidance folders with medical information and cumulative records. <input type="checkbox"/> Pay outstanding balances for senior obligation (<i>Lost Textbooks Balances, Food Service Balances, Library Book Balances, etc.</i>). <input type="checkbox"/> Return textbooks, Chromebooks, and other school supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> The signing of the Graduation Protocol. <input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).
Wednesday, June 3rd	<p><i>[Senior Last Names C-G 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Seniors, Last names C-G, to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up Guidance folders with medical information and cumulative records. <input type="checkbox"/> Pay outstanding balances for senior obligation (<i>Chromebooks, Community Service, Book Balances, Food Service Balances, Library Book Balances, etc.</i>). <input type="checkbox"/> Return textbooks, Chromebooks, and other school supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> The signing of the Graduation Protocol. <input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).
Thursday, June 4th	<p><i>[Senior Last Names H-N 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Seniors, Last names H-N, to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up Guidance folders with medical information and cumulative records. <input type="checkbox"/> Pay outstanding balances for senior obligation (<i>Chromebooks, Community Service, Book Balances, Food Service Balances, Library Book Balances, etc.</i>). <input type="checkbox"/> Return textbooks, Chromebooks, and other school supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> The signing of the Graduation Protocol. <input type="checkbox"/> The purchase of a prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).
Friday, June 5th	<p><i>[Senior Last Names O-Z 9 AM-1 PM]</i></p> <p><i>Drive-by Pick up to RHS Entrance for Seniors, Last names O-Z, to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up Guidance folders with medical information and cumulative records. <input type="checkbox"/> Pay outstanding balances for senior obligation (<i>Chromebooks, Community Service, Book Balances, Food Service Balances, Library Book Balances, etc.</i>). <input type="checkbox"/> Return textbooks, Chromebooks, and other school supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase of prom ticket (\$70 check payable to <i>Town of Rockland</i>).
Monday, June 15th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors will be notified if they have received a scholarship that the senior applied for through the school.
Thursday, June 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Annual senior graduation mailing will be sent to seniors and families. This mailing includes the Final Events Calendar, School-Sponsored/Supervised Event Information, Graduation Protocol Contract, Safety Expectations Memo, Pre/Post Dance Procedure Memo.
Monday, June 29th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Invitations to any senior who will be recognized at the Senior Academic &

	<p>Athletic Banquet will be mailed out. All seniors and families, regardless if the senior is recognized at the banquet, are welcome to attend the Senior Academic & Athletic Banquet, including the dinner. Yearbooks will be distributed at the dinner.</p>
Wednesday, July 29th	<p style="text-align: center;">9 AM Senior Class Meeting & Graduation Practice <i>RHS Gym</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30 AM Caps and Gowns Distributed [All senior obligations must be paid prior to receiving Cap & Gown]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:15 PM Junior & Senior Prom <i>RHS Gym</i> 5:45 PM Senior Grand March 6 PM Juniors Arrive for Buses 6:15 PM Buses depart to Prom 7 PM Junior & Senior Prom</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>[Formal Dress and Ticket Required]</i></p>
Thursday, July 30th	<p style="text-align: center;">7 PM National Honor Society Induction Ceremony <i>[Formal Dress Required]</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 PM Dinner for Students & Sponsors <i>Cafeteria</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 PM NHS Ceremony <i>RHS Auditorium</i></p>
Friday, July 31st	<p style="text-align: center;">9 AM Senior Class Meeting & Graduation Practice <i>RHS Gym</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:30 AM Senior BBQ <i>Veterans Stadium</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 PM RHS Senior Academic & Athletic Banquet <i>[Formal Dress Required]</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 PM Student Dinner <i>Cafeteria</i> <i>Yearbooks will be distributed</i></p>

	<p><i>[for Seniors Only]</i></p> <p>7 PM Awards <i>RHS Auditorium</i> [for Students & Families]</p>
Saturday, August 1st	<p>7 PM Graduation <i>[Formal Dress Required]</i></p> <p>6 PM Meet in Gym to Prepare</p> <p>7 PM Ceremony Begins</p>
Sunday, August 2nd	<p>11 AM <i>Rain Date For</i> Graduation [if needed]</p>