

Rossford Junior-Senior High School Monthly Newsletter

January 2025

AT A	 January 6 - Classes Resume January 14-16 - First Semester Exams
AT A GLANCE	 January 14-16 - First Semester Exams January 16 - Quarter 2/First Semester Ends January 17 - No School- Teacher Records Day
	 January 20 - MLK Holiday - No School

• January 23 - DECA District Competition



Dr Nick

Neiderhouse Principal

A Message from Dr. Neiderhouse, Principal

Happy New Year Bulldog families,

We are excited to welcome students back after the winter break! Hopefully, there was time for rest, hanging out with family and friends, and celebrations over the holidays. The month of January is sure to go quickly as we wrap up the first semester next week. This also means exams will be taking place for our high school students and there will different schedules Jan. 14-16. Please read page two carefully to be informed of the schedule changes and events taking place. I do want to stress to all of our high school students that your semester exams are important as they count towards earning credits for the ultimate goal of graduation.

There were close to 200 responses on our family survey that was sent out in December to solicit feedback about how we can improve and continue to meet students and parents' needs as we plan out the second semester and start the planning process for next school year. If you added your name to be entered into the drawing for completing the survey, you were a part of the random selection for the three gift cards from Danny's, Rossford Nutrition, and Fricker's. The three winners were the parents of Rileigh C., Brandon H., and Maverick M. These will be handed out on Monday, Jan. 6.

The last day of break, Dec. 20, gave students an opportunity to earn a reward for being on time to class/school and for attending school regularly from Nov. 18 to Dec. 20. We had over 80% of our students earn this reward as they chose to play games in the gyms/classrooms or watch a holiday movie. We will continue to incentivize being READY for school and class each day during the second semester as you can read on page three, every minute counts!

I hope that you had a chance to listen and watch either our Jr. High or High School band and choir students in December singing or playing their holiday songs. These excellent sounds, coupled with our art designs in the gallery by our art classes, made for a wonderful display! Our winter athletic teams are mid-season at this point so take some time this month to cheer on our competing Bulldogs.

A new challenge rolling out this month for students from our PBIS committee is the gold coin challenge. Each grade level will have the opportunity to earn replica gold coins from displaying positive behaviors on the bus, in the hallways, in the cafeteria, or other non-classroom areas. The grade level that earns the most coins for both Jr. High and High School will earn a grade level reward. This program will be revealed to students during class meetings taking place over exam week. Other topics will include:

- Review of 3 Rs, attendance and tardy goals, accountability/hall passes
- Rude, Mean, Bullying training
- What it means to be connected to school: locker magnets for those involved in extracurricular activities

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Mr. Matt Beakas Assistant Principal



Mr. Bryan Skrzyniecki Assistant Principal



Mr. Bryan Smith Athletic Director

First Semester Exam Schedule

EXAM #1	7:45-9:05 (80 minutes)
BREAK	9:05-9:20
EXAM #2	9:20-10:40 (80 minutes)
LUNCH/Extended	CORE/JH and HS meetings (see below)
EXAM #3	1:11-2:39 until end of day (88 minutes)

Exam Days

Tuesday - January 14	Wednesday - January 15	Thursday - January 16
Period 1	Period 4	Period 7
Period 2	Period 5	Period 8
Period 3	Period 6	*Make-ups (If Needed)

*All high school teachers must give an exam or final project to be completed on the <u>assigned date and time</u>. <u>No exceptions</u>. This prevents students from not having to attend school because they have "already taken" an exam(s).

*If there is an individual student who has a <u>completed</u> Personal Convenience form for any of the exam days, it is their responsibility to arrange a date and time to take their exam. Again, this is not to allow students to take an exam early just so they do not have to attend on a specific day.

*High School students will be allowed to leave Thursday at 10:40 if they have an exam early release form signed. Early release forms are to be collected in their 8th period class. Early release forms are available in the office.

<u>****Attention Jr. High Parents***</u>

Jr. High students on Thursday, Jan. 16 from approximately 12-2pm (after lunches) will tour the "R" (multi-use complex) and engage in a variety of field games, walking, or learning about drones activities. If you do not want your student traveling to the "R", please call the school office prior to 11am on January 16. Jr. High students not going will be in a supervised study hall in the afternoon.

The Importance of Attendance

Dear Families,

We wanted to thank everyone for continuing to encourage a routine for showing up to school while supporting students and families.

Everyone is asked to continue to avoid taking extra time off before and after the holiday season. **As long as your child is healthy**, they should still be in attendance as teachers work hard to wrap up the second quarter / first semester of the school year. Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as to connect to their peers and teachers.

We want to thank:

- Our students and their families who do their best to show up daily even when it isn't easy.
- Our teachers who go above and beyond to make school a welcoming and safe place for all students to learn.
- Our administrators who help us work together to ensure we create a physically and emotionally safe and engaging learning environment.
- Our many healers and helpers the support staff and community volunteers who provide the extra hands and attention our children need.

If your child or family needs support, please reach out to one of our counseling offices at one of the numbers below. Please see the table below for a reference of the long-term impacts of missing school.

Long-Term Impacts of Missing School

If your student misses	This equals	Which is	Over school career
1 day per quarter	4 days per year	Approx. 1 week per year	30% of 1 school year
1 day per month	10 days per year	2 weeks per year	Nearly 3/4 of one year
4 days per quarter	16 days per year	3 weeks per year	Just over one year
1 day per week	36 days per year	Over 7 weeks per year	Just over 2.6 years
2 days per week	72 days per year	14 weeks per year	Just over 5.3 years

1 or 2 absences a week doesn't seem like much, but this is what it can lead to...

Being late to class doesn't seem like a big deal, but this is what it can lead to ...

If your student misses	This equals	Which is	Over school career
40 minutes per month	10 minutes per week	Approx. 1 day per year	13 days
			Approx. 36% of 1 school
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	1 week per year	year
	1 hour 40 minutes per		
20 minutes per day	week	2 weeks per year	Nearly 3/4 of one year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	3 weeks per year	Just over 1 year
1 hour per day	Approx. 1 day per week	7 weeks per year	Just over 2.5 years

Counseling Corner

A valuable resource for parents and guardians aiming to help children stay alcohol- and drug-free is the *Start Talking* campaign, initiated by the Ohio Department of Education. To receive monthly updates, parents and guardians can subscribe at <u>starttalking.ohio.gov</u>.

Exams are right around the corner, and the counseling office wanted to share the benefits of praising the effort. Despite how the semester has gone, we don't want to instill hopelessness. We want our students to run towards challenge, not away from it. Research has shown that praising effort, versus general intelligence, increases enjoyment in challenging tasks. As we approach exams, give some extra praise for getting assignments caught up, asking for help the first time, and/or completing their exams. You may not see the benefits right away, but consistent positivity can have a huge impact over time.

Class of 2025 Graduation - Save the Date!

The Class of 2025 Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 31, 2025 at the Stranahan Theater at 7:00 pm. More information will be shared in the coming months.

Volunteers Needed

Our Junior-Senior High PBIS team is in need of 8 volunteers to chaperone a Semester 1 Rewards event on Thursday, January 30th from 7:45 am to noon. If you are already registered as a volunteer and wish to help, please contact Shari Meyers, School Psychologist at <u>smeyers@rossfordschools.org</u>. If you wish to help, but are not a registered volunteer, you will need to go through the <u>New Volunteer Screening System</u>.



Attendance

Please report all student absences, late arrivals, and early departures through SafeArrival/SchoolMessenger

With SafeArrival/SchoolMessenger, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of the 3 convenient methods listed below. Parents/guardians will be contacted by phone and email via SafeArrival if student absences have not been reported by 8:45.

 Using your mobile device: download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The icon for the app looks like the below image. The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance -> Report an Absence

This is what the app looks like



- PowerSchool Parent Portal: Use the SafeArrival website via the SchoolMessenger link in PowerSchool Parent Portal online. Log into the PowerSchool Parent portal then scroll down and click on the SchoolMessenger link on the left.
- 3. **Toll-free number**: Call the toll-free number **1-844-867-6066** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These three options are all available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



NORTHWEST OHIO TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL MARCH 15, 2025 ROSSFORD JR/SR HIGH



9:00 AM - 3:30 PM Questions? Email us at info@nwoteenbookfest.com

Bus Details: https://nwoteenbookfest.com/getting-here/







Financial Aid Workshops

Thursday, Jan. 16 and Monday, Jan. 27 4-6 p.m. • Carlson Library 1005

Receive personalized assistance from financial aid staff with completing the 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and applying for UToledo donor scholarships.

The event is open to prospective and current students.

Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome.



To register for a workshop, visit utoledo.edu/financialaid/events or scan the QR code.



Rocket Solution Central Rocket Hall Room 1200 419.530.8700 rsc@utoledo.edu



