



ROSEVILLE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Raider's Den

THE HEARTBEAT OF 623

News for January 9, 2017

Principal's Message: A New Year

Happy New Year! I am excited about what 2017 will bring. I received the message below from one of the RAMS teachers and thought it was worthy of sharing with you:

I hope the New Year is off to a great start for you and your family. Living where we live, it always strikes me as encouraging that the New Year comes during a dark and cold season. It gives me hope for fresh starts as the days get longer and reminds me that spring and warmer weather really will come eventually!

This is an excellent time to check in with your child and encourage him/her to take advantage of a fresh start. Please take a moment one evening or over the weekend to sit down and check grades. Celebrate successes first! Look for missing assignments and make a plan for getting them done.

Additionally, many students need to refresh and/ or organize supplies and other materials. Check to see if your student needs more pens or pencils. Do they have paper, etc? Is his/her binder organized? Take a few minutes to gather what's needed and/or get organized.

Lastly, a fresh start can increase motivation and improve outlook dramatically! Let's all take advantage of this opportunity.

Thank you, as always, for all you do to support and encourage your child! - Michelle Hager



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Brain Development in Young Adolescents

The "Visible" Brain

A clue to the degree of change taking place in the teen brain came from studies in which scientists did brain scans of children as they grew from early childhood through age 20. The scans revealed unexpectedly late changes in the volume of gray matter, which forms the thin, folding outer layer or cortex of the brain. The cortex is where the processes of thought and memory are based. Over the course of childhood, the volume of gray matter in the cortex increases and then declines. A decline in volume is normal at this age and is, in fact, a necessary part of maturation.

The assumption for many years had been that the volume of gray matter was highest in very early childhood, and gradually fell as a child grew. The more recent scans, however, revealed that the high point of the volume of gray matter occurs during early adolescence.

While the details behind the changes in volume on scans are not completely clear, the results push the timeline of brain maturation into adolescence and young adulthood. Regarding the volume of gray matter seen in brain images, the brain does not begin to resemble that of an adult until the early 20s.

The scans also suggest that different parts of the cortex mature at different rates. Areas involved in more basic functions mature first: those involved, for example, in the processing of information from the senses, and in controlling movement. The parts of the brain responsible for more "top-down" control, controlling impulses, and planning ahead—the hallmarks of adult behavior—are among the last to mature.

Roseville Area High School Hosts Registration and Curriculum Fair

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Roseville Area High School will host its annual Registration and Curriculum Fair January 10, 2017. The Registration and Curriculum Fair is available for all families that are planning next year's course selections. It is designed to provide families with the necessary information for course selection and planning. Student Support Staff will be presenting information in the school auditorium regarding registration to incoming 9th-grade students and their families. They will also be providing information regarding the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO), Advanced Placement program (AP) and College in the Schools (CIS).

Faculty will be available from each department to answer questions regarding curriculum and course selection from all grades in the upper gym.

9th-grade registration meeting for incoming 9th-grade students and parents/guardians

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM Incoming 9th-grade student registration materials available

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Students with last names that begin with A-L (suggested)

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM Students with last names that begin with M - Z (suggested)

Curriculum Fair

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Faculty available in Cafeteria and Upper Gym

AP, PSEO and CIS meeting

6:15 PM - 7:00 PM Advanced Placement (AP), Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) and College in the Schools (CIS) meeting for all grades will be presented in the Auditorium.



January 9- PTA Meeting: 7:00 (Media Center)

January 16 - No School - MLK Observance Day

January 19 - AVID Family Night: 5:30 -7:00 (Cafe. Media Center)

January 26- Parent-Teacher Conferences: 3:30 -8:00(Cafe, Media Center)

January 27- No School for Students- Parent-Teacher Conferences: 8:00-12:00(Classrooms)

January 27 - No School for Students - Professional Development Day: 1:00 - 3:30

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For more information about Roseville Area Middle School and the Raider's Den, contact Dr. Brookins, Principal at tyrone.brookins@isd623.org or 651.482.5280.

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