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Achieving Excellence, Honoring Traditions, Building Community

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September 5, 2018

Greetings to the Roswell High School Community,

I hope that everybody had a great Labor Day weekend! Labor Day may signal the “unofficial” end of summer, but for the students, faculty and staff at Roswell High we have now been in school for a month.

A reminder that the first six-week progress report will be available in a couple of weeks. While these grades do not go on the student’s official transcript, this opportunity is provided so parents and students are aware of how they are doing in their classes. After the six-week report, Roswell will post progress reports every three weeks to assist parents and students with keeping track of their academic progress. A reminder that Home Access Center is always the best way for parents to have real-time information about their student’s attendance and academic progress.

If you have a question about a grade or a class, I would suggest that you start by directly contacting that teacher. While I am always open to hearing any concerns or questions you may have, the teacher is the best place to get accurate information and resolve any questions. I would also strongly encourage you to allow your student to start any conversations about their academic progress as we want to teach our students to learn how to advocate for themselves.

In other news, the District has now taken over the process of scheduling graduation ceremonies. We have learned that our *Commencement Ceremony for the Roswell High School Class of 2019 will be held at 2:30 PM on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheater.*

This is a change for our school and we are going to have to make some adjustments. I am sure there are a lot of questions and we will share logistical information, and the end of the year calendar, as soon as we have it completed.

September has been designated as the *National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month* and we have been planning a number of events to focus on mental health and wellbeing. The consensus was to not shy away from the topic of suicide but to talk more about ways to prevent it.

Thank you to the Roswell PTSA, the Roswell Student Services Office, and the Roswell Student Council for their help in planning our programming for the month. Some activities include: daily announcements, fun treats at dismissal at random days throughout the month, *Buzz* segments, parent education, staff education, staff treats and more. As always, thank you for your support as we try to take care of our kids and especially of their mental health.

In a recent email, I shared with the community that the District had made a change to the 18-19 School Calendar. More information is below:

Superintendent Jeff Rose recently recommended a change to the district's 2018-2019 School Year Calendar. At its August meeting, the Fulton County Board of Education voted to approve that recommendation.

*This school year, **November 6, 2018** has been changed from a regular school day, to a **teacher work day**. **March 8, 2019** has been changed from a teacher work day, to a **regular school day**.*

The decision alleviates safety concerns raised by some parents and staff, allows for additional staff training on safety protocols, and maintains instructional time for our students. Additionally, the Fulton County school board has expressed interest in addressing a long-term solution through the legislative process by removing schools as polling places.

The revised calendar is posted at [this link](#). In addition, the district is re-printing the calendar and distributing the new version to families to eliminate any confusion. We have asked each school to also post the calendar to their website and send reminders of these changes using our telephone calling system.

Sincerely,

Fulton County Schools

In the original school calendar, Roswell had been approved to take a local school Professional Development Day on March 7, 2018.

Based on the recent changes, Roswell has been approved to make the following changes:

- The local school Professional Development Day has been moved from March 7, 2019 to March 8, 2019 (this means students do not have school on March 8, 2019).
- March 7, 2019 will be a normal school day. However, if a parent has some documentation that tickets or other travel arrangements were made for March 7, please submit that information to the attendance office. With this documentation, students absent on March 7, 2019 will be marked as "excused" and it will *not* count against students for exam exemptions.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Football

Congratulations to the Varsity football team as they improved their season record to 2-0 with a 40-21 win over Centennial at home. (Fun Fact: We had to stop selling tickets because the stadium was packed!) It was also Youth Night as we welcomed students from our local feeder schools.

A big thank you to the many community leaders that came to the game, including Mayor of Roswell Lori Henry, Roswell City Councilmember Matt Judy, Fulton County School Board Representative Katha Stewart and Chief Academic Officer for the Fulton County School District, Cliff Jones.

For more details on the game, click [HERE](#).



The Hornets go on the road for the first time this season to play at West Forsyth next Friday evening. Hope to see you there!

Congratulations to the Junior Varsity football team on their 18-9 Labor Day win at Cherokee. Well done!

Class Officers for the Class of 2022

Congratulations to the officers of the Class of 2022!!!

President: Sadie Zeigler

Vice-President: Armani Dill

Secretary: Claire Mulkey

Treasurer: Janae Beckley

President's Volunteer Service Award

Congratulations to Roswell Senior Tina Alhani who received a letter from President Trump announcing that she was a recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award! Tina was required to volunteer for 100 hours but ended up reporting over 130 hours of service to the community. Congratulations to Tina (and thanks to Mrs. Boyd for sharing this news.)

The District has asked that we share a couple of items with our communities, including some information about the West Nile Virus and the recent 18-19 District Calendar Change (which I already addressed above).

Don't forget that Open House is September 13, 2018.

Again, thank you for all your help and support. Please always feel free to let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert

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Principal
Roswell High School

West Nile Virus Health Alert

We want to share information with our school communities about the West Nile Virus (WNV). We are in the peak of mosquito season, which starts in the summer and continues through fall. Our local health officials are concerned about the West Nile virus and other illnesses spread by mosquitos because we are already seeing an increased number of cases that have been reported across the state. According to health officials, as a result of the heavy rain we have had this year, it has created a lot of standing water and thus the number of mosquitos have increased. Additionally, the Fulton County Board of Health has detected high mosquito activity through their mosquito surveillance and control program. In light of these concerns, we are sharing the following information to stress the importance of protecting yourself and your family against West Nile, especially those at greater risk for serious illness such as the elderly; those with compromised immune systems; people with certain medical conditions, such as cancer, diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease; and people who have received organ transplants.

West Nile is a virus most commonly spread to people by infected mosquito bites. There are no vaccines to prevent or medications to treat WNV in people. Fortunately, most people infected with WNV do not have symptoms. However, 1 in 5 people who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms. West Nile virus can cause febrile illness, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord).

You can reduce your risk of WNV by adhering to the following preventive measures:

1. **Drain** – containers after every rain, get rid of unnecessary containers. Help reduce the number of mosquitoes by utilizing the Tip-N-Toss principles on all standing water: empty standing water from containers such as flower pots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, cans and bottles, discarded/old tires, children's toys, tarps, gutters and birdbaths.
2. **DEET**- use the appropriate mosquito/insect repellent when you go outdoors which includes repellents containing DEET that are EPA-registered with 20%-30% DEET.
3. **Dress** - wear light-weight long sleeves, pants and socks during the day when many mosquitoes are most active especially if you work or will be outside for long periods of time. Mosquitos tend to bite during the day.
4. **Doors, windows and screens** – make sure doors, windows and screens are in good condition and fit tightly to prevent mosquitos from coming inside and keep doors closed.
5. **Use Mosquito Dunks** (a larvicide used to kill mosquito larvae) to control mosquitos in areas with standing water and in containers that cannot be dumped.
6. **Treatment and care** – if you think a family member might have West Nile virus disease, please consult a healthcare provider for evaluation and diagnosis immediately.

Fulton County Residents may call Fulton County's Board of Health MOSQUITO HOTLINE at 404-613- 1303 to report mosquito-related issues to the Environmental Health Department.

Additionally, public health will be focusing on preventing mosquito-transmitted infections by spraying, applying larvicide, mosquito trapping and surveillance in targeted areas and will be initiating a door-to-door educational campaign in some surrounding neighborhoods.

Remember, the most effective way to avoid West Nile virus is to prevent mosquito bites: protect yourself by avoiding mosquitos and using the Tip-N-Toss principles.

Our goal is to help keep students and the school communities healthy by sharing important health information. To learn more about West Nile virus, visit the Centers for Disease Control Prevention website on West Nile virus: <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html>.

Resources:

Centers for Disease Control Prevention: West Nile Virus Update

Fulton County Board of Health – West Nile Update

Fulton County Schools – Student Health Services

Mosquito Control

Tips: <http://www.fultonschools.org/en/divisions/ops/security/Pages/Student-Health-Services.aspx>



2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR CHANGE

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