

ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES



WWW.ROMECSD.ORG |



@ROMECSD |



FACEBOOK: @ROMECSDNY

2023-2024 CALENDAR



**CLASSES BEGIN
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023**

SCHOOL	OPENING	DISMISSAL
Strough	7:30	2:00
RFA.....	7:30	2:00
Clough (pre-k)	9:00	2:20
Clough (school age) ...	9:05	3:05
Bellamy	9:10	3:10
Denti	9:10	3:10
Gansevoort.....	9:10	3:10
John E. Joy.....	9:10	3:10
Ridge Mills	9:10	3:10
Stokes.....	9:10	3:10

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

The Rome City School District utilizes **ParentSquare** for school-to-home communication. This communications platform is designed to keep parents and guardians informed and encourage greater engagement and connection with the District. It provides a safe way for district administrators, school principals, teachers, staff, and parents to: Send and receive school and class information; Share pictures and files; See calendar items; Sign up to volunteer; and schedule parent-teacher conferences.

To sign up visit: Parentsquare.com

The District utilizes **Peachjar**, a digital flyer management system that makes it easy to manage eflyers. <https://app.peachjar.com/flyers/all/districts/32521/>

ATTENTION: To access the most current calendar listing, visit the RCSD website:

 www.romecsd.org

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES:

   @ROMECS D |  FACEBOOK: @ROMECS DNY

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members of the Rome Community:



On behalf of the employees of the Rome City School District and our Board of Education, welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! As a school community, we hope that the coming school year provides our children with enthusiasm for learning, a thirst for knowledge acquisition, and a love of our community. Throughout all grade levels in all buildings, our students have opportunities to engage in quality instruction and grow their minds in a fashion unlike many other locations. Our educators and support personnel are among the most dedicated and hardworking individuals in the field today. It is our goal that we provide the children of today with the skills, knowledge, and desire to be the

world leaders of tomorrow while providing a progressive and aggressive approach to learning.

In the wake of a successful 2022-2023 school year that saw two of our elementary schools be removed from the State list for needing improvement and a significant rise in our graduation rate, our team continues our commitment to provide students with opportunities and supports that will assist them in becoming the future leaders of our world. Each year, the Rome City School District expands upon our already premiere list of opportunities for our students and community, and this year is no different. As we move through the coming months together, I ask that you continue to be involved in our schools. We are committed as a district to improving our community and parental involvement. Together, we can provide the children of Rome with better and more opportunities than we could individually. It is my hope that you find communication to be the cornerstone of this partnership and encourage you to contact your child's school or teacher the moment you have a question, concern, or idea.

In closing, please use this calendar as a resource guide for the year. During the course of the year, changes can occur to our calendar, therefore, our website also has a vast number of resources for you with regard to our school district and I highly encourage you to become active members of social media. I am very proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff here in Rome and I look forward to the continued growth and success of our wonderful community. My best wishes for a safe and enjoyable school year!

Peter C. Blake
Superintendent of Schools

twitter.com/@pblake_RomeCSD

pblake@romecsd.org

leadingthroughlistening.blogspot.com/

AUGUST 2023

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

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<p>← Bellamy Kindergarten Screening - August 14 and 15 →</p>																																																																																																	
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>BOE Meeting District Office - 6 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>																																																																																											
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9TH GRADE ORIENTATION (LARGE AUDITORIUM) 9-10:30 AM (A-F) 12-1:30 PM (G-O) 3-4:30 PM (P-Z)</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>Full Moon</p> <p>30</p> <p>GANSEVOORT KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION 10:00 AM</p> <p>STROUGH FALL ORIENTATION 10:30 AM - 6 PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>PRE-K ORIENTATION 3 YR OLDS 9-10 A.M. 4 YR OLDS 10:30-11:30 A.M.</p>																																																																																													

HEALTH SERVICES

Please contact building nurse if you have additional questions

Should a student become ill/injured at school, he/she will be sent to the nurse to determine the action to be taken. If the injury/illness is significant in nature, you will receive a call/note home. **A Home/Cell and Emergency number must be available to the school nurse in case of injury, illness, or fever greater than or equal to 100.0.** Please be advised that due to Covid-19 you must be aware of how your child is feeling daily and monitor their temperature. If they have any signs and symptoms of being ill and/or have a temperature of 100.0 or greater they **CAN NOT** attend school/be allowed on the bus.

At this time please follow school guidelines for immunizations/registration as listed below.

Daily and as needed medications must be brought directly to the School Nurse, by an Adult, in its original container. Medications must be accompanied by a physician's order indicating the type of medication, dosage, and time of day it is to be given, prescription bottle is to match the order. Order forms are available in the nurse's office.

First aid supplies are available and will be used in treating students per the Rome City School District Medical Director's Guidelines. **IF parents choose to OPT OUT of the use of these products, then written notice must be provided to the building nurse as soon as possible. All building nurses' offices have a list available for view. Please indicate child's name, products you do not want used, the date and the parents/guardians name printed and signed on the note.**

Health Forms will be sent home asking for pertinent medical information/changes and phone numbers. Please fill these out to the best of your ability and send back to the school nurse promptly.

2023-24 GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR PHYSICALS AND SCREENINGS

HEALTH EXAM

Health Examination requirements: Grades PreK or K,1,3,5,7,9,11

Dental screening recommended as well but not required.

Vision and Hearing Screenings required within 6 months of entering school and in grades PreK or K,1,3,5,7,9,11

Scoliosis Screening are required for females in grades 5 and 7 and for males in grade 9

If your child has an abnormal screening result in any of the above areas your building nurse will notify you in writing with a referral for follow up with their primary physician. If you do not receive anything in writing, then your child's screenings were normal.

Please speak to your school nurse or family physician if you have any question regarding these requirements.

NYS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE/ATTENDANCE

Information has been sent out to parents/guardians of students who are entering grades requiring vaccinations. Immunizations must be up to date within the 14-day grace period that NYS allows from the start of your child's first day on RCSD School Campus. Students starting Fall Sports in August must be up to date on immunizations in order to be cleared for the start of sports in August. Those who are not up to date by the end of the NYS grace period will be excluded from school. As a reminder, Medical exemptions must be renewed yearly and NYS is no longer accepting Religious Exemptions for public and private institutions. Please do not hesitate to contact your school nurse with any questions or concerns.

For a copy of the updated immunization requirements from the Department of Health, visit: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf>

REQUIRED BMI AND WEIGHT STATUS CATEGORY REPORTING

As part of the required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. Their numbers are used to figure out the students' body mass index or "BMI". The BMI helps the nurse or doctor know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or low. NYS education law requires that the BMI and weight status category be included as part the student's school health exam. These exams are required in Pre-K or K,1,3,5,7,9 and 11.

The law also directs the schools to report this information to the NYS Department of Health. Only summary information is sent to the DOH (total number divided by sex, grade and weight category). **NO IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT IS SENT.** However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this report.

This information is used by the NYS DOH to help improve and develop more programs to maintain/improve the health of our children.

If you do not wish for your child's weight status information to be included as part of the NYS Health Department Survey, please send in a note to your child's school nurse by September 30, 2021 with the following information:

Please do not include my child's weight status information in this year's school survey.

Print Child's Name: _____ Date: _____

Prints Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

SEPTEMBER 2023

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3	4 Labor Day SCHOOLS CLOSED	5 BELLAMY KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE GANSEVOORT, DENTI, RIDGE MILLS, STOKES OPEN HOUSES Superintendent's Conference Day SCHOOLS CLOSED	6 Last Quarter Moon OPEN HOUSE BELLAMY: 1-3 GRADE - 5-5:30 P.M. 4-6 GRADE - 6-6:30 P.M. JOHN JOY OPEN HOUSE CLOUGH SCHOOL AGE OPEN HOUSE - 6:00 P.M. Superintendent's Conference Day SCHOOLS CLOSED	7 STROUGH 7TH GRADE ONLY RFA FRESHMEN ONLY CLASSES BEGIN	8 RFA HOMECOMING VARSITY FOOTBALL GAME - 7 P.M. ALL RFA AND STROUGH STUDENTS REPORT TO SCHOOL	9																																																																																				
10	11	12	13 RFA PICTURE DAY	14 New Moon STROUGH BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT - 6-7 P.M. PRE-K PICTURE DAY RFA PICTURE DAY	15 JOHN JOY MOVIE NIGHT (RAIN DATE 9/17) GANSEVOORT WEAR GREEN AND GOLD PRE-K PICTURE DAY	16 RFA HOMECOMING DANCE 6:30-10:30 PM																																																																																				
← HOMECOMING SPIRIT WEEK AND STROUGH FALL BOOK FAIR > September 11-15, 2023 →																																																																																										
17	18 BOE Meeting District Office - 6 p.m.	19 REA OPEN HOUSE 5:30-7 P.M. STROUGH/STOKES PICTURE DAY	20 RIDGE MILLS PICTURE DAY	21 CLOUGH OPEN HOUSE 6-7 P.M.	22 First Quarter Moon	23																																																																																				
24	25 DENTI PICTURE DAY Professional Learning Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. HALF-DAY: PRE-K-12	26	27	28	29 Full Moon	30																																																																																				

TRANSPORTATION

FOR TRANSPORTATION
REQUESTS AND/OR CONCERNS

Email or call
Thomas Waldron
Transportation Supervisor

twaldron@romecsd.org
315-338-6550

VISIT the transportation website:

[https://www.romecsd.org/page/
operations-and-management-
transportation](https://www.romecsd.org/page/operations-and-management-transportation)



WHAT IS NOT PERMITTED ON THE SCHOOL BUS

- Guns (real or toy)
- Skis and Ski Poles (not allowed on regular routes)
- Sleds
- Fireworks
- Bicycles
- Spray Cans
- Skateboards and Scooters
- Matches, Lighters and Tobacco products of any kind, including e-cigarettes.
- Knives (real or toy)
- Saws or Axes
- Bags of Returnable Cans
- Animals (pets)

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES

The following information is useful for school bus riders and their parents.

RULES FOR GETTING ON THE BUS SAFELY:

1. Be at the bus stop on time. Never run to or from the bus.
2. Wait at the designated stop in a safe place well back from the side of the road.
3. Remember the danger zone around the bus. The danger zone is anywhere close enough to the bus to touch it. The bus driver cannot see you when you are in the danger zone.
4. If you cross the street to get on the bus: when the bus comes, wait until it has come to a complete stop. The bus driver will make sure all the traffic stops. The stop arm will be out and the red lights will be flashing. Watch the driver. When the driver knows it is safe, he or she will signal you to cross, but watch for traffic yourself. Walk, don't run.
5. Hold the hand rail as you get on the bus. Don't push or shove.

RULES FOR SAFE SCHOOL BUS RIDING:

1. Take your seat promptly and sit properly, facing forward at all times.
2. Hold bags and parcels in your lap. Do not stick your feet into the aisle; someone might trip.
3. Keep your head and arms-everything-inside the bus. Don't throw anything out the windows or around in the bus.
4. Talk quietly. The driver must concentrate to drive the bus safely.
5. Save snacks for snack time at school or till you get home. They may spill or you may choke if the bus goes over a big bump.
6. No fighting, shouting or playing in or around the bus.
7. Always follow the bus driver's instructions.
8. No spraying of perfumes, deodorants, hairspray, air fresheners, etc. is allowed on the bus.
9. No foul language or improper hand gestures toward students, bus driver or general public.
10. BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

RULES FOR LEAVING THE BUS SAFELY:

1. When you leave the bus, hold the handrail and take two large steps away from the bus.
2. To cross the street in front of the bus, walk ahead at least ten giant steps (three meters). Cross only when the driver gives a signal. Cross the street in single file.
3. If you drop something near the bus, don't pick it up. Tell the driver or other adult.
4. If everyone is getting off the bus, the people at the front leave first. Do not push.
5. Be familiar with the rules for emergencies.
6. Parents should meet children on the side of the street where the bus stops. Video cameras have been installed on all buses. Students may be filmed while on the bus. Violations of the Code of Student Conduct or any behavior, which substantially distracts the driver and causes, or has the potential to cause, a safety hazard on a moving bus, may be the basis for suspension from bus/school and/or expulsion from bus-riding privileges.

LEGAL NOTICE FROM THE ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE to Parents and Eligible Students (students over 18 years of age) of Rights Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

To: Parents and Eligible Students of the Rome City School District:

You are notified that you have the following rights in relation to student records:

1. The right to inspect and review student's education records within a reasonable time but not more than 45 days from the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.

Parents or eligible students may ask the Rome City School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of student's privacy rights. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

DISTRICT-PROVIDED INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

Regulation 8055: The District shall annually notify parent(s) of the availability of interpreters or other effective reasonable accommodations and of the time limitation for requesting the services. The Superintendent shall determine the means of such notification.

MILITARY RECRUITER DISCLOSURE

Parents of high school students have a right to request that the district not release the child's name, address and telephone number to military recruiters without prior written consent.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN TITLE 1 PROGRAMS, POLICY 1060

NOTICE: Parents of students in the following Title 1 schools: RFA, Strough, Bellamy, Denti, Gansevoort, and John Joy may request from the District certain information relating to qualifications of their student's teacher. A district receiving Title 1 funds must hold an annual Title 1 meeting.

NCLB TITLE 1 - ANNUAL PARENTAL NOTICE ON TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, this is to advise you that you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers. If you desire such information, please submit a written request for this information to the attention of: Theodore Love, Director of People Operations, Rome City School District, 409 Bell Road, Rome NY 13440. For more information visit the District website at www.romecsd.org.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The school district designates the following personally identifiable information contained in a student's education record as "directory information", and it will disclose the information without prior written consent.

1. Student's name
2. Student's address
3. Student's telephone number
4. Student's date of birth
5. Student's class designation (i.e. first grade, tenth grade, etc.)
6. Student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports
7. Student's achievement awards or honors
8. Student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
9. Dates of attendance
10. Student's photograph, video image; and
11. Most recent educational institution attended before the student enrolled in the school district.

You have two weeks from the date of this notice to advise the school district in writing, directed to the office of the Superintendent of Schools, of any and all items which you refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about the student.

NOVEMBER 2023

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	October 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	December 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 5 6 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3	4
Last Quarter Moon 5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6 Parent/Teacher Conference Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6	7 Parent/Teacher Conference Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6	8 Parent/Teacher Conference Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6	9 BELLAMY PICTURE RETAKE DAY Parent/Teacher Conference Pre-k Dismissal 12 p.m./ Elementary Dismissal 12:40 p.m. 9-12 Professional Learning RFA Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6/9-12	10 Veterans Day SCHOOLS CLOSED	11
12	13 New Moon	14	15 STROUGH WINTER CONCERT I (INSTRUMENTAL) 7 PM	16 GANSEVOORT FAMILY GAME NIGHT 5-6:30 PM	17	18
19	20 First Quarter Moon BOE Meeting District Office: 6 p.m.	21 JOHN JOY PICTURE RETAKE DAY GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN	22 Thanksgiving Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	23 Thanksgiving Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	24 Thanksgiving Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	25
26	27 Full Moon	28	29 GANSEVOORT PICTURE RETAKE DAY STROUGH WINTER CONCERT II (CHORAL) 7 PM	30		

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Entering Freshman Class	Local Diploma Requirements	Regents Diploma Requirements	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation Requirements
2009 & After*	For students granted an appeal for two required Regents exams and for students with disabilities using safety net/compensatory scores. Please see your guidance counselor for more information. See note below**	Passing 65 or higher on one Regents exam (or approved alternative exam) in math, science, English, and social studies. Also must pass one additional Regents exam or approved alternative exam in: CTE Pathway, math or science, (STEM Pathway) or Social Studies (Humanities Pathway). Earn 22 units of credit.	Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams or approved alternative exams. Earn 22 units of credit.

* Alternative pathways for graduation are open to students who entered ninth grade in 2011 or after. For more information on alternative pathways: www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/multiple-pathways

** Students with disabilities may be eligible for a local diploma.

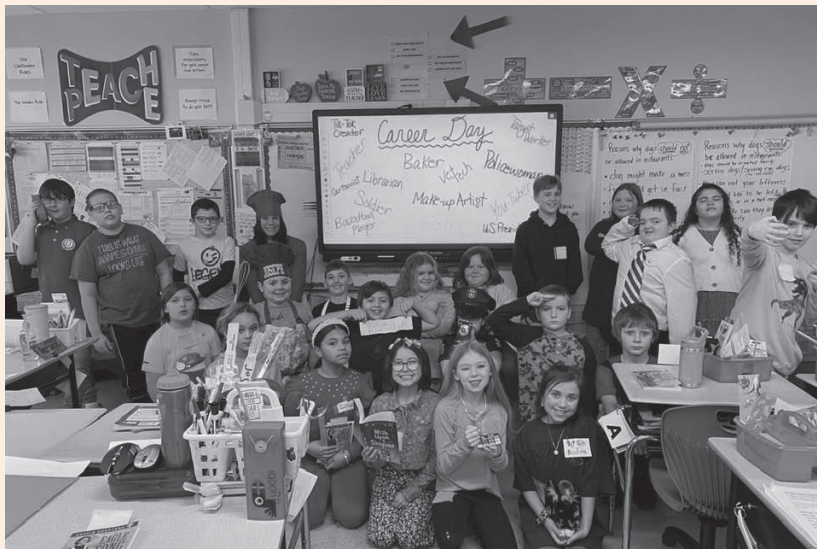
EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills at regular intervals are required by law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that everyone take note of these procedures for the safety of students and staff.

During the course of the year, our schools conduct multiple drills, including evacuations, lock downs, lock outs, and shelter-in-place drills. For more information on Emergency Response Guidelines, please visit our website at: www.romecsd.org and click on the link under 'Parents' tab.

STUDENT VALUABLES

Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money and electronic devices to school. Students are responsible for their own personal property.



DECEMBER 2023

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	November 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1 RFA SENIOR PICTURES & SENIOR PARENT ADS DUE	2	
3	4	Last Quarter Moon RFA WINTER CONCERT I RFA @ 7 PM	5	6	7 RFA WINTER CONCERT 2 RFA @ 7 PM GANSEVOORT HOLIDAY FAMILY FESTIVAL 5-6:30 PM	8	9
← Gansevoort Scholastic Book Fair December 4-7, 2023 →							
10	11	New Moon DENTI WINTER CONCERT 5 & 6 STROUGH @ 6:30PM JOHN JOY WINTER CONCERT STROUGH @ 7:30PM	12	13 GANSEVOORT WINTER CONCERT 5 & 6 STROUGH @ 6:00PM BELLAMY WINTER CONCERT 5 & 6 RFA @ 6:00PM	14 RIDGE MILLS WINTER CONCERT STROUGH @ 6:00PM STOKES WINTER CONCERT STROUGH @ 7:30PM	15 GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN	16
17	18 BOE Meeting District Office: 6 p.m.	First Quarter Moon 19	20	21 STOKES SCHOOL-WIDE SING-A-LONG PAJAMA DAY	22 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	23	
← Gansevoort Holiday Spirit Week / Strough Student Council Spirit Week →							
24	25 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	Full Moon 26 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	27 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	28 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	29 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	30	
31 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED							

STUDENT BEHAVIOR CODES

PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING CODE OF CONDUCT RESPONSIBILITIES:

As a member of the school community, each student has a duty to:

- A. Accept responsibility for his/her actions
- B. Exercise self-control
- C. Develop habits of honesty, courtesy, and kindness
- D. Use his/her time and talents for worthwhile purposes
- E. Show consideration for the feelings, opinions, and abilities of others
- F. Participate in school events
- G. Encourage parents to participate in school activities

BASIC RULES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Each student is expected to:

- A. Attend school regularly and on time
- B. Take pride in his/her own property and respect the property of others
- C. Obey school and community rules of behavior
- D. Observe all safety regulations
- E. Obey school staff and other persons in authority

Each student has a right to expect the same behavior by members of the school community. (Parents receive a summary of the Code of Conduct inserted in this calendar). Complete copies of the Attendance Policy and Code of Conduct are available in all schools and the public library.



PHILOSOPHY

For a school system to function properly, the conduct of pupils must conform to conditions that are conducive to learning. Principals and teachers in New York State are charged with maintaining such order in school. The burden of maintaining order and dealing with the various forms of disorder falls primarily upon the shoulders of the classroom teachers, for they have a larger portion of contact hours with pupils than do other school personnel.

One of the goals of formal education is to enhance and to develop, on the part of children, a sense of inner directedness, or self-control, which, once attained, allows learning to transpire in a classroom setting and prepares children for the adjustments and demands of society. We desire that the achievement of this goal be accomplished within the confines of humanitarian principles and ideals, thereby insuring adherence to the basic rights and dignity of all concerned.

It must be recognized that the development of self-control begins with the process of socialization at a very early age within the family unit. In effect, the parents are the children's first "teachers." Children whose parents have established clear and consistent rules for behavior have little difficulty adjusting to a formal school environment. With this understanding, it is incumbent upon the parents to remain visible and support the school in efforts to maintain proper discipline.

THE NEW YORK STATE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

The Rome City School District is currently implementing new requirements to protect students and ensure a positive learning experience for your child. New York State signed into legislation a Dignity For All Students Act in September 2010. The goal of the Dignity For All Students Act is to create a safe and supportive school climate where students can learn and focus, rather than fear being discriminated against, harassed or bullied.

No student shall be subjected to discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex by another student or a school employee on school property or at a school function.

This year each school will be planning activities to raise student awareness related to bullying and positive student behaviors. Each school principal will serve as Dignity Act Coordinator for their respective school. For complete list visit: <https://www.romecsd.org/page/dignity-for-all-students-act> Should you wish to report an incident where you feel your child has been bullied, harassed or discriminated against, please contact the principal at your child's school. If you have questions regarding the equal opportunity and non-discrimination policy, please contact the District Compliance Officers: Director of People Operations, Theodore Love at 315-338-6531 or Amanda Jones at 315-338-6518.

JANUARY 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1 Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	2	Last Quarter Moon 3	4	5	6 RFA STUDENT AND ALUMNI CABARET RFA @ 7:30PM																																																																																											
7	8	9	10	New Moon 11	12	13																																																																																											
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (observed) SCHOOLS CLOSED	16	First Quarter Moon 17	18	19	20 SHOW CHOIR FESTIVAL DAY2 - RFA @ 7:30PM																																																																																											
21	22 BOE Meeting District Office: 6 p.m.	23	24	Full Moon 25	26 GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN STROUGH WINTER DANCE 7-9 PM	27																																																																																											
28	29	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;">← REGENTS EXAMS →</p>																																																																																													
				<p>December 2023</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p>February 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>5</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ELEMENTARY REQUIRED INSTRUCTION - Grades K-6

All students in grades K-6 participate in the physical education program twice a week. The time devoted to such programs is at least 120 minutes with a certified physical education teacher in each calendar week, exclusive of any intramural activities or playtime activities supervised by the classroom teacher.

SECONDARY REQUIRED INSTRUCTION - Grades 7-12

- 7-12 grade students earn 1/2 credit each year toward their two full credits for physical education as required by the Rome Board of Education.
- Grades 7-12 are scheduled for physical education every other day.

SNEAKER POLICY:

Acceptable sneakers must have tie strings or a velcro closure. Slip-on sneakers do not provide support and can come off too easily. Sneakers are not to have a heel or platform or large nubs that can "catch".

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS:

The Rome City School District conducts a comprehensive program of interscholastic athletics for boys and girls in grades 7-12, competing on the modified, 9th grade, junior varsity, and varsity levels.

On the interscholastic level, we are governed by NYSPHSAA and Section 3. We are affiliated with and hold memberships in the following leagues:
 Central New York Counties League (Associate Membership)
 Tri Valley League (Full Membership)
 Center State Conference League (Associate Membership)



INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC TEAMS

THE ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO OUR POLICY ON SPORTSMANSHIP:

- Be positive and direct all energies to encouraging your team.
- Demonstrate self-control and respect for others at all times.
- Respect the integrity and judgement of the officials and coaches.
- Do not use crude or abusive language with players, opponents, officials or spectators, (ethnic and/or racial comments).
- Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example.
- Approach competition as a healthy and constructive exercise, not as a life and death struggle that requires victory at any price.
- Recognize that the participants in individual or team sports are young men and women with human frailties and limitations who are capable of making mistakes.

	BOYS	
FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Football (V, JV, Modified)	Basketball (V, JV, 9th, Mod) Volleyball (Varsity)	Baseball (V, JV, 9th, Mod)
Cross Country (V, Mod)	Bowling (Varsity)	Golf (Varsity)
Soccer (V, JV, Mod)	Ice Hockey (Varsity)	Lacrosse (V, JV, Mod)
Indoor Track (Varsity)	Track/Field (V, Mod)	Tennis (Varsity)
Swimming (V, Mod)	Wrestling (V, JV, Mod)	
	GIRLS	
FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cross Country (V, Mod)	Basketball (V, JV, Mod)	Golf (Varsity)
Field Hockey (V, JV, Mod)	Bowling (Varsity)	Softball (V, JV, Mod)
Gymnastics (Varsity)	Indoor Track (Varsity)	Track/Field (V, Mod)
Soccer (V, JV, Mod)	Cheering (Varsity)	Lacrosse (V, JV, Mod)
Swimming (V, Mod)	Volleyball (Mod)	
Tennis (Varsity)	Volleyball (V, JV)	
Cheering (Varsity)	Alpine Skiing (Varsity)	

FEBRUARY 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	January 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1	Last Quarter Moon 2 STROUGH SPIRIT DAY (NATIONAL WEAR RED)	3 A CAPPELLA COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL RFA @ 7:30PM
4	5	6	7	8	New Moon 9	10
11	12	13	14	15	First Quarter Moon 16 STROUGH SPIRIT DAY KNIGHT PRIDE (WEAR BLACK AND ORANGE) GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN	17
18	19 Mid-Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	20 Mid-Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	21 Mid-Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	22 Mid-Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	23 Mid-Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	24 Full Moon
25	26 BOE Meeting District Office 6 p.m.	27	28 ALL-CITY BAND FESTIVAL RFA - 7 PM	29		

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

Each Board of Education in the State of New York must appoint a Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) in accordance with the provisions of Education Law, Section 4402. The district must locate and identify all children with disabilities from birth to 21 years of age who reside in the district. The purpose of the CSE and CPSE is to determine whether a child has a disability that impairs or affects his/her learning; to ascertain the particular needs of the child with disabilities; and to recommend the appropriate educational program and/or services to meet those needs. Parents of children presented for consideration to the Committee on Special Education are notified of such presentation and are invited to attend the meeting.

If you are concerned that your child has a learning, visual, hearing, motor, and/or social problem and you wish to have him/her presented to the district's Committee, please contact the Director of Supported Learning at 315-338-6581 or call your child's school and speak to the school psychologist.



SUPPORTED LEARNING

The Rome City School District provides a comprehensive program for students requiring special education that meets both the mandates and the spirit of State and Federal legislation. The Rome City School District Board of Education has demonstrated a strong commitment to the special needs of students with disabilities as demonstrated in the exemplary level of services offered to our students in striving toward the least restrictive environment.

From birth through age 21 children with special needs have an opportunity to achieve their fullest potential through programs available within the district or through various agencies. Preschoolers 2 1/2 to four years of age are eligible for a multidisciplinary team assessment through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). There is no cost to families for this service. If you suspect your child might be delayed in speech, language, intellect, motor skills or social-emotional skills, call 315-338-6507 for more information or a referral.

Students age five and older who might have a disability are assessed by building level assessment and that evaluation is reviewed at a CSE meeting. The CSE is an interdisciplinary team composed of district staff and other required members. If you wish to refer a student, please notify his/her teacher/principal. Academic Intervention Services are the first step in this process.

The district offers a full continuum of services ranging from related therapy services, resource room, co-taught classes and small special education classrooms. The support service staff includes teachers, teaching assistants, speech/language therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, psychologists, school counselors, nurses, social workers, interpreters, teachers of the blind and deaf as well as administrative and secretarial personnel. The district provides services based on the individual needs of each student determined at the Committee on Special Education. Educational achievement, social development, physical development and management needs are all considered when recommending services, program modifications and/or test accommodations.

The policy of the Board of Education ensures that students with disabilities, ages 3-21, have the opportunity to participate in school district programs, including extracurricular programs and activities, which are available to all other pupils enrolled in the public schools of the district. Utilizing appropriate accommodations, modifications, instructional techniques and materials enhances access to the full range of programs and services of the district that are appropriate to the student's special educational needs. The district supports placement of students in the least restrictive environment.

MARCH 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>February 2024</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>April 2024</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30</p>				<p>1</p> <p>ALL-CITY BAND FESTIVAL RFA - 7 PM (SNOWDATE)</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Last Quarter Moon</p> <p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>RFA POPS CONCERT 1 RFA @ 7PM</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>RFA POPS CONCERT 2 RFA @ 7PM</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>← Strough Student Council Spirit Week →</p>						
<p>New Moon</p> <p>10</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>GANSEVOORT SPIRIT DISNEY PIXAR DAY STROUGH SHAMROCK DANCE 7-9 PM</p> <p>Professional Learning Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. PRE-K-12 HALF-DAY</p>	<p>15</p> <p>← Jr. High All-County Festival - Whitesboro -7-9 →</p> <p>Superintendent's Conference Day</p> <p>SCHOOLS CLOSED</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>First Quarter Moon</p> <p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>BOE Meeting District Office 6 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>STROUGH SPIRIT DAY KNIGHT PRIDE (WEAR BLACK AND ORANGE)</p> <p>GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>Full Moon</p> <p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>SCHOOLS CLOSED</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p>						

BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The Board of Education takes a broad view of its required functions. It sees them as:

1. LEGISLATIVE OR POLICYMAKING

The Board is responsible for the development of policy and for the employment of a superintendent who shall carry out its policy through the development and implementation of regulations.

2. JUDICIAL

The Board is responsible for designating one or more of its members to conduct any hearing in connection with any responsibility of the Board and to make a report on this hearing for Board determination.

3. APPRAISAL

The Board is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.

4. EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

The Board is responsible for requiring and acquiring reliable information from responsible sources, which will enable it and the staff to work toward the continuing improvement of the educational program.

5. PROVISION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Board has major responsibilities for the adoption of a budget which will provide the wherewithal - in terms of buildings, staff, materials, and equipment - which will enable the school system to carry out its policies.

6. INTERPRETATION

The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local citizenry informed about the schools and for keeping itself and the school staff informed about the wishes of the public.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The nine members of the Board, with the President serving as chairperson, shall constitute a Committee of the Whole. Five Board members present at all regularly scheduled and special meetings shall constitute a quorum.



APRIL 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Last Quarter Moon 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	New Moon 8	9	10 Professional Learning Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. PRE-K-8 HALF-DAY	11 Professional Learning Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. PRE-K-8 HALF-DAY	12 RFA MUSICAL @ RFA	13
14	First Quarter Moon 15	16 BOE Meeting District Office 6 p.m.* BOCES Vote	17	18 STROUGH SPIRIT DAY KNIGHT PRIDE (WEAR BLACK AND ORANGE)	19 Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	20
21	22 Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	23 Full Moon Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	24 Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	25 Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	26 Spring Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED	27
28	29	30		March 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATIONS

Preschoolers two and one-half to four years of age are eligible for multidisciplinary team assessment through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) within the Rome City School District. There is no cost to families for this service. The focus of the evaluation is to determine whether a youngster may be showing signs of developmental delay sufficient enough to warrant special education intervention. A specially-trained team that includes a speech/language therapist, school psychologist, occupational therapist, and counselor evaluates the children. The format of the assessment has been specifically designed to be child and parent friendly.

Parents are encouraged to contact the CPSE office at 315-338-6507 if they suspect their child might be delayed in the areas of speech, language, intellectual, motor, adaptive behavior, and/or social/emotional skills. A referral process is then initiated that must provide parents with due process information related to evaluation requirements, the CPSE process, and child/family rights under New York State Education Law. There is no cost for an evaluation.



PUBLIC NOTICE: ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Federal Regulations require that schools be inspected for the presence of asbestos, a toxic material that has been used in the construction industry for a number of years. (All buildings in the Rome City School District have been inspected for asbestos-containing materials and the results of the inspections are contained in the Asbestos Management Plan). This plan has been sent to the State Authority in charge of asbestos abatement and has been accepted.

The Asbestos Management Plan includes the results of all the inspections conducted on all the school buildings. It also contains the results of the materials samples, which were taken during the inspections and the plans for abatement.

The Asbestos Management Plan is available for review during regular working hours at the school office. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan will be made, upon request, for a nominal fee of \$.25 per sheet to cover the cost of copying and handling. Each plan contains between 600 and 900 pages.

Recent scientific and medical evidence has shown that asbestos containing material can be harmful to the human body. The Asbestos Management Plan shows the amount of asbestos present in these school buildings as well as the specific locations of the asbestos. Our local Education Authority has decided to undertake a series of actions to reduce the amount of asbestos and the propensity for contact. These actions will significantly reduce the impact that asbestos-containing materials can have and thus continue to maintain the standard of safety that is expected of this institution.

For more information, contact the Buildings and Grounds Department at 315-334-7265.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The Rome City School District follows mandated Integrated Pest Management practices in order to reduce the use of pesticides in and around the District's buildings and grounds. Despite the best practices, it may still be necessary to use pesticides periodically during the year to maintain a safe and healthy environment within the schools.

New York State law requires that all schools maintain a list of any staff members or parents who wish to receive written notice forty-eight (48) hours prior to a pesticide application at their school facility. If you wish to be included on this notification list or would like further information on the Rome City School District Pesticide Program, please contact the Buildings & Grounds Department at 315-334-7265 or via post at 255 Brookley Road, Rome, NY 13441.

MAY 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<p>April 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>8</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					<p>June 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>4</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								Last Quarter Moon 1	2	3	4
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	TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK: May 6-10																																																																																																
	NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY	Professional Learning Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. PRE-K-8 HALF-DAY	STROUGH SPRING CONCERT 1 INSTRUMENTAL 7 PM Professional Learning Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m. Secondary Dismissal: 11:10 a.m. PRE-K-12 HALF-DAY		STROUGH SEMI FORMAL 7-9 PM	Junior Prom																																																																																											
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Mother's Day	Spring BOGO Book Fair - Strough																																																																																																
	Scholastic Book Fair - Gansevoort																																																																																																
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	BOE Meeting District Office 6 p.m.	JOY (5/6) SPRING CONCERT STROUGH @ 6PM DENTI (5/6) SPRING CONCERT STROUGH @ 7:30PM  SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE	BELLAMY SPRING CONCERT (5/6) RFA @ 6PM GANSEVOORT SPRING CONCERT (5/6) STROUGH @ 6PM BOE Meeting** District Office 6 p.m. **Budget vote only	Full Moon STOKES SPRING CONCERT (5/6) STROUGH @ 6PM RIDGE MILLS SPRING CONCERT (5/6) STROUGH @ 7:30PM	STROUGH SPIRIT DAY (RED, WHITE AND BLUE)																																																																																												
26	27	28	29	Last Quarter Moon 30	31																																																																																												
	Memorial Day SCHOOLS CLOSED				GANSEVOORT STAR CITIZEN (APRIL AND MAY NOMINATIONS)																																																																																												

HELPING YOUR CHILDREN

- Join the parent group at your child's school. This is not just for parents of young children, but also at Strough and RFA.
- Read to your child. As your child grows, let her/him see you reading. Make sure your child has a library card.
- Visit your child's school. You are welcome and encouraged to visit school during the school day. Please call ahead for arrangements. Attend the school's Open House or Parent Night in the fall.
- If your child must take medication during school hours, the school nurse will be happy to work with you and the physician. A written request from both the parent and the physician is required. The medication cannot be carried to school by the child.
- Be sure your child has very good attendance.
- Again for this year, the District will still be participating in CEP (Community Eligibility Program). This means that every child, regardless of income, may have their first meal free for breakfast and for lunch. It also means that we will not be collecting or distributing any applications for this year.

COMMUNICATING DELAYS CANCELLATIONS AND EARLY DISMISSALS

PARENTSQUARE for school-to-home communication.
To sign up visit: parentsquare.com

TV STATIONS:
Ch. 2 • Ch. 3 • Ch. 9 • Ch. 10 • Ch. 11

ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE:
www.romecsd.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:
www.facebook.com/Romecsdny
twitter.com/RomeCSD
twitter.com/@pblake_RomeCSD

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

Poor weather and/or other conditions occasionally necessitate the closing of schools. In the event of an emergency closing, parents/guardians and students are notified by means of announcements on local radio, television stations and an automated phone calling system. The decision to close is based upon several criteria - wind speed in combination with temperature, present and predicted precipitation, and overall road conditions.

Announcements of school closings/delays are made through the news media and automated phone calling system, generally beginning at 6 a.m. In some instances, it may be necessary to make announcements as late as 6:30 a.m. Since decisions on closing have to be made very early in the morning and weather conditions sometimes change drastically before students actually begin traveling to school, the ultimate decision on safety of travel conditions for students rests with the parent/guardian.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We encourage parental visits to schools. Visitations to classrooms should be arranged through the teacher and the building principal. All visitors must report to the main office. Parents picking up students for appointments are requested to report to the office where the child is to be signed out.



JUNE 2024

CREATING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<p><i>*Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Its name stems from June 19, 1865, when Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger in Galveston, Texas, issued General Order No. 3, which announced that in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation, "all slaves are free."</i></p>	<p>May 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>July 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							1
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		<p>← REGENTS EXAMS →</p> <p>RFA SPRING CONCERT 1 RFA @ 7PM</p>	<p>STROUGH AWARDS CEREMONY - 6PM</p>	<p>New Moon</p> <p>6TH GRADE PARENTS NIGHT STROUGH - 6PM</p> <p>RFA SPRING CONCERT 2 RFA @ 7PM</p>	<p>STROUGH SPIRIT DAY KNIGHT PRIDE (WEAR BLACK AND ORANGE)</p>																																																																																					
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			<p>STOKES FUN DAY</p>	<p>STOKES FUN DAY (RAIN DATE)</p>	<p>First Quarter Moon</p> <p>FLAG DAY</p> <p>GANSEVOORT OLD GLORY RUN</p> <p>← REGENTS EXAMS →</p> <p>Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m.</p> <p>ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6</p>																																																																																					
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<p>Father's Day</p>	<p>← REGENTS EXAMS →</p> <p>BOE Meeting District Office 6 p.m.</p>	<p>First Day of Summer</p>	<p>Juneteenth*</p> <p>SCHOOLS CLOSED</p>	<p>← REGENTS EXAMS →</p>	<p>Full Moon</p> <p>Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m.</p> <p>ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6</p>																																																																																					
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		<p>Last Day of School</p> <p>SENIOR AWARDS 6 PM - RFA AUD.</p> <p>Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m. Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m.</p> <p>ELEMENTARY HALF-DAY: PRE-K-6</p>	<p>← RATING DAY →</p>		<p>Last Quarter Moon</p> <p>RFA GRADUATION REHEARSAL 9 A.M.</p>	<p>RFA GRADUATION 10 A.M. </p>																																																																																				
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THE DRUG-FREE SCHOOL – YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The law requires that the Rome City School District make you aware of the dangers of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Drug and alcohol use can:

1. Interfere with how your brain takes in and sorts information. That makes it difficult to learn and causes failure at school.
2. Distort what you see, hear and even feel. When that happens, users aren't fully in control of their actions. They may harm themselves or others, or they may make it impossible for those around them to learn.
3. Make users feel they are performing at their best, when actual performance is poor or less than their best.
4. Cause crime at school, including assault or theft of personal property to finance someone's drug habit.
5. Leave a user or seller with a criminal record, spoiling his or her chances for the future.

The law requires the Rome City School District to outlaw the possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol by students and school employees on school property or during school activities. It also requires us to explain the risks that tobacco, drug and alcohol use pose to your health.

Specific substances such as marijuana, cocaine, crack, steroids, heroin and hallucinogens (PCP, LSD) are illegal. A drug such as alcohol is not illegal, but is illegal for minors. Taking prescription drugs without a prescription is illegal and can be extremely dangerous. The use of inhalants to "sniff" or "huff" such as glue, aerosols, butane, dry cleaning fluids, gasoline, etc., are extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death.

If illegal drugs are found on school property and there is evidence that a certain individual is responsible, this evidence can be used in a court of law.

If illegal drugs are found, this evidence could be used in court against the individual who had them. If alcohol or any other substance outlawed on school property is found, action may be taken right up to suspension or expulsion, even if the substance is legal outside school.



Under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, you have certain rights and responsibilities:

- We have to tell you that you can't bring in, use or distribute illegal drugs or alcohol on school premises or as part of any school activity - and that's a mandatory policy.
- We have to explain that drug and alcohol use is wrong, harmful and what the health risks are.
- We have to tell you what help is available in combating drug or alcohol problems.
- We have to explain what disciplinary actions will be taken for drug and alcohol violations. The law says discipline can include prosecution for illegal acts, as well as expulsion for students and loss of job for school employees.
- Finally, we have to give you, both students and employees, and the parents of our students, a written copy of our drug-free school policy, including standards of conduct and disciplinary actions for violations.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires us to tell you of any help that's available for dealing with drug or alcohol problems. You can voluntarily make use of this help at any time. The district implemented a School Resource Officer Program. This program provides a full-time Rome Police Officer to implement school programs to address drug and alcohol awareness and prevent incidents of student violence. The School Resource Officer is an additional person who can assist you when needed. You can find out what's available from your building principal, guidance counselors, nurses or health teachers. At each school there are School Partnership for Youth workers. Your family doctor or one of the school physicians can also be of assistance. You can also check your phone directory under alcohol or drug treatment programs, local hospitals, social service agencies, or local "Hotline" service.

By law, the Rome City School District must be totally free of unlawful drugs and alcohol. No one is allowed to have, use or distribute such drugs or alcohol while they're here or while they take part in school activities.

There is help available through the Rome City School District for persons with drug or drug-related problems. Remember that keeping our schools drug-free and alcohol-free is not just good sense anymore — it's the law.

JULY 2024

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AUGUST 2024

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ROME CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT OFFICE

LOCATED AT:
409 Bell Road
Rome, NY 13440
315-338-6500

TITLE IX

In compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, the Rome City School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the recruitment and appointment of employees, employment pay and benefits, counseling services for students, access by students to educational programs, course offerings, and student activities.



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

409 Bell Road • Rome, NY 13440

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

PETER C. BLAKE

Office: 315-338-6521 • E-Mail: pblake@romecsd.org

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

ROBERT MEZZA, JR.

Office: 315-334-7265 • rmezza@romecsd.org

Director of People Operations.....	Theodore Love.....	315-338-6531
Director of Business and Finance.....	David Dreidel.....	315-338-6541
Treasurer.....	Kim Seifert.....	315-338-6561
Director of Athletics,		
Health & Physical Education	Michael Stamboly	315-338-6571
Director of Supported Learning.....	Cristin Checchia.....	315-338-6581
Assistant Director of Supported Learning	Kimberly Van Duren	315-338-6584
Director of Information Technology.....	Patrick Sullivan.....	315-334-7290
Director of Counseling Services.....	Amanda S. Jones.....	315-338-6515
Director of Elementary Programs.....	Dana Benzo.....	315-334-1250
Director of Secondary Programs.....	Jennifer DePerno.....	315-338-6512
Transportation Manager.....	Thomas Waldron.....	315-338-6550
Director of Food Services.....	Christopher Whitmore.....	315-338-6555
Director of Buildings & Grounds.....	Alex Rodriguez.....	315-334-7265
Compliance Officers for Non-Discrimination:		
Director of People Operations.....	Theodore Love.....	315-338-6531
Director of Counseling Services.....	Amanda Jones.....	315-338-6515
Public Relations.....	Jill Pekarski.....	315-338-6529

SCHOOLS

ROME FREE ACADEMY • 95 DART CIRCLE, ROME, NY 13441

Brian LeBaron	Principal	315-334-7202
Kristin Frawley	Assistant Principal.....	315-334-7224
Kristie Boisen	Assistant Principal.....	315.334.7204
Daniel Murphy	Assistant Principal.....	315-334-7204

STROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL • 801 LAUREL STREET

Tracy O'Rourke	Principal	315-338-5202
Anna Burke	Assistant Principal	315-338-5206
Tonia Davis	Assistant Principal	315-338-5206

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Bellamy Elementary • 7118 Brennon Ave.	Jodi Marchoine, Principal.....	315-338-5261
	TBD Assistant Principal	315-338-5266
Denti Elementary • 1001 Ruby St.	Sherry Lubey, Principal	315-338-5371
	Kimberly Mursch,	
	Assistant Principal	315-338-5365
Gansevoort Elementary • 758 West Liberty St.	Jennifer Pouliot, Principal	315-334-5181
John E. Joy Elementary • 8194 Bielby Rd.	James Daino, Principal	315-334-1261
Ridge Mills Elementary • 7841 Ridge Mills Rd.	Michael Flagg, Principal.....	315-334-1281
Stokes Elementary • 9095 Turin Rd.	Wendy Hutchings, Principal ...	315-334-1221
Clough School • 409 Bell Rd.	Molly Mytych, Principal	315-334-1250



LUNCH BREAK

From the Desk of Chris Whitmore, School Lunch Manager

The Food Services Department hopes that you are enjoying a wonderful summer and are getting out to the local parks and playgrounds. All signs point to another great school year and as we start to move closer to September, here are some important reminders for you.

The Rome City School District will again be participating in CEP (Community Eligibility Program). This means that every child, regardless of income, may have their first meal free for breakfast and for lunch. It is encouraged that you still complete a CEP income application so that we are able to help with other programs throughout the year.

At the Elementary Schools, Breakfast will be available "after the bell". Students can pick up a bagged breakfast at their School designated areas and take it back to his/her classroom to enjoy breakfast at the start of the school day. Breakfast at Strough and RFA will still be available in the cafeteria before the start of the first period classes.

Keep in mind...the no-charge CEP is for one full breakfast and one full lunch everyday. If your child would like to purchase snacks, ice cream, a "double lunch" or an extra entree, "MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM" will still be available to add funds to your child's account. You can log on to your computer at home or use your phone to check your child's lunch account and put money on your child's lunch account with a credit card. There is a slight fee MYSCHOOLBUCKS charges for paying with a credit card. However, this is not the only option; you can still pay with cash or check at the register. Each child in the Rome City School District will have an account that can be accessed on "myschoolbucks.com". You can check the balance of their account and add money to the account whenever you need to. We can save you 10% if you put \$50 on your child's account...by check, by cash, or on "myschoolbucks.com". You will get \$5 free for every \$50 you put on your child's account...as long as your child's account is debt free.

The Rome City School District Website (www.romecsd.org) always has information about our food services programs. You can find menus, programs, policies, links, and other fun "stuff". The Lunch Office is located at Rome Free Academy, 95 Dart Circle. If you need to stop in, please sign in at the Security Office, and someone will come down to assist you. If additional information is needed, please contact me at 315-338-6555. Thank you...we look forward to another great year!

ROME BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rome City School District
409 Bell Road
Rome, NY 13440

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Utica, NY
Permit No. 566

“The Rome City School District is an equal opportunity employer and an equal educational institution.”
Compliance Officers for Non-Discrimination: Theodore Love: 315-338-6531 and Amanda Jones: 315-338-6515.

Superintendent of Schools

Peter C. Blake

Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Management

Robert Mezza, Jr.

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2023-2024

Cassie Knutti
President
Term Expires: 2025
Phone: 315-271-5283

Elena Reddick
Term Expires: 2024
Phone: 678-760-3856

Sue Carvelli
Term Expires: 2026
Phone: 315-292-3738

Danielle Lubbecki
Vice-President
Term Expires: 2024
Phone: 315-335-0193

Kelly Carinci
Term Expires: 2025
Phone: 315-256-2957

Jeff DeMatteis
Term Expires: 2026
Phone: 315-240-6215

Kirstin Safin
Clerk
Term Expires: 2024
Phone: 315-534-2020

Jon Maggiolino
Term Expires: 2025
Phone: 315-263-4192

Paula Witt
Term Expires: 2026
Phone: 315-225-9763

Isabella Posselt
Student Rep.



2023 - 2024
CALENDAR