



**Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy
10th & 11th Grade Parent Meeting
September 21st, 2023**

WHO WE ARE:

- ❖ **Ms. Lustig – Assistant Principal** Slustig2@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Byrd – School Counselor A-K (General Education)** lbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Lockhart – School Counselor L-Z (General Education)** Sllockhart@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Payne– School Counselor A-Z (Students with an IEP)** Mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Orozco – 9th & 10th Grade Dean** Rorozco@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Ms. Lewis - 11th & 12th Grade Dean** kLewis3@schools.nyc.gov
- ❖ **Mr. Edmond– Senior Advisor** Ledmond@schools.nyc.gov



ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES



Arrival Procedures:

- **High School- Independence btwn 236/ 237- “E”**
- Doors open at 8:13am
- Students MAY NOT bring FOOD or OPEN DRINKS to school. All food must be consumed before the start of the day
- PD 1 begins at 8:20 You must be **in your seat** by that time or you are considered late!
- 3 Latenesses will result in lunch detention and parent contact
- Excessive lateness will result in loss of privileges
- Breakfast is available at 7:50 in the cafeteria

◦ Dismissal Procedures:

- Students are dismissed at 2:40 pm
- Leave from the nearest exit to their pd 8 class

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

UPON ENTERING THE BUILDING:

- Hats & Hoodies OFF!
 - Earbuds and headphones OFF!
 - Phones IN POUCHES!
 - Bathroom- ONE PASS - One student at a time leaves the room for the bathroom
 - Students use bathrooms on the floor they are on
- No outside food will be brought up and/or eaten in classrooms!
- Although we are not a uniform school, we have a dress code policy which must be adhered to. Clothing should be “APPROPRIATE” for a school setting

CELL PHONE POLICY





WAYS TO COMMUNICATE:

It is important to utilize different avenues of communication with the school.

The school counselors will communicate with your child via email. It is important and your child's responsibility to read and respond (when necessary).

The remind app will provide you and your child with immediate updates regarding school closures etc.

Grade Level Google classroom will be used to post information about upcoming events and other important items

Students have been advised to communicate with their teachers often.

And to NOT wait until the last minute.



Tools your child can use to help with time management.

- Utilize a planner or actively use your Google Calendar
- Always input important dates, class schedule time, deadlines on your planner/calendar
- Create a To-Do List to figure out what's the most important and due the soonest
- Create and set up a daily schedule that may include; study time, homework time, personal time and break time (Yes, we all need a little break (10-15 minutes) to practice Self-Care)
- Set alarms and reminders (you don't want to be late) for school and/or deadlines.



ATTENDANCE

As per DOE Policy, your child is expected to have at least **90% attendance overall**. Attendance is taken in every class. 1st period is where the daily attendance is taken. You will be notified each day your child is marked absent for the day or from individual classes.

MISSING
(SCHOOL)=
MISSING
OUT

Students are responsible for completing all missed assignments/homework when they return to school.

INSTRUCTION

- × All using @NYCStudents.net for classes, GC,
- × 10th Grade Level GC code – XBAAAX6
- × 11th Grade Level GC code – J52DABD
- × Mix of traditional and computer based schoolwork
- × Need supplies and device– A phone is not a device!
- × Student Help Desk/Device request [Link on RKA website](#)

HIGH SCHOOL PROMOTIONAL STANDARDS

- 8 Credits:
 - Promotion from 9th to 10th Grade
- 20 Credits:
 - Promotion from 10th to 11th Grade but must earn min. **4 credits in English and 4 credits in Social Studies**
- 30 Credits:
 - Promotion from 11th to 12th Grade
- 44 Credits Plus NYS Regents exam requirements
 - Graduate from High School

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

- English 8 credits = 4 years
- Math 6 credits = 3 years
Including 2 credits of Algebra and at least 2 credits of advanced math
(e.g. Geometry or Algebra II)
- Social Studies 8 credits = 4 years
Including Global Studies 1–4, US History 1 & 2, Participation in
Government, & Economics
- Science 6 credits = 3 years Including 4 credits in lab science
- Foreign Lang 2–6 credits (min.2 credits required for graduation)
- Art/Music 2 credits
- Physical Ed. 8 Terms
- Health 1 credit
- Electives 3–7 credits

REGENTS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Pass 5 Regents exams with a 65+ or a waiver (4 + 1)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. English (ELA) | <u>PLUS +1</u> |
| 2. Math | 1 Additional Math Regents |
| 3. 1 Social Studies Regents | <u>OR</u> |
| 4. 1 Science Regents | 1 Additional Science Regents <u>OR</u> |
| | 1 Additional Social Studies Regents |
| | <u>OR</u> LOTE Exam |

In all courses that terminate in a Regents exam, the Regents grade will count as the final exam and 10% of the final semester grade.

ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Must Pass 9 exams with a 65+

1. ELA Common Core
2. Algebra 1
3. US History Regents
4. Global Studies Regents
5. Geometry
6. Algebra II Regents
7. Science Regents
8. 1 additional science Regents
9. Foreign Language (LOTE)


- **In all courses that terminate in a Regents exam, the Regents grade will count as the final exam and 10% of the final grade.**

STUDENTS WHO HAVE AN INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATIONAL PLAN (IEP):

- Students are required to earn the same 44 credits.
- Local Diploma 55+ on one or more of the 5 required Regents exams.
- Regents diploma 65+ on the 5 required Regents exams.
- Students who attend high school for 4 years and meet the goals of their IEP, but do not pass the required exams may be transitioned to Acces-VR (NYSED) for educational / vocational training services OR choose to remain in school.

HOW SHOULD MY CHILD PREPARE FOR COLLEGE?

THEY SHOULD...



Links will
be
provided
at the end!

- Create a professional email for college related information ONLY
- Set goals for the school year. Working toward specific goals helps students stay motivated and focused. This can include solid study skills, note taking skills, time management and organization skills.
- Explore career options to have an idea of what they may want to study in college.
- Make a list of interests, talents and favorite activities and match them with occupations.
- Pass all classes. Colleges look at student's grades from 9th–11th grade.
- Make a plan to check in regularly about schoolwork. They should check grades on a weekly basis and use resources like google classroom, and communicate with their teachers to stay on track!
- Join a school club (this would look amazing on their college application)
- Attend virtual (or in person) college fairs and/or virtual tours. Virtually visiting a college campus or exploring ecampus tours! It's a great way to learn about options and can help begin narrowing down which postsecondary options may be right for them.
- Explore scholarships early to begin narrowing down your options!

Recommended College Timeline from College Board

CollegeBoard

Access



9th Grade
10th Grade

College Planning: 9th/10th Grade

There are some steps you can take as a ninth- and a 10th-grader to make sure you're on the right track for college. This list will help you navigate the college planning process.

9TH GRADE

- ☐ **Create a four-year high school plan.** Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years.
 - Make sure you know which high school courses are required by colleges, and that you're taking the right classes as early as the ninth grade. You can ask your counselor about what those "right" classes are.
 - Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school.
- ☐ **Start thinking about your life after school,** including the types of jobs that might interest you. Of course, these will change — often — but it's good to start thinking about the possibilities.
 - Identify your interests — likes and dislikes — not just in classes but also in every area. This will help you focus on your goals.
 - Talk to other people, such as your school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates who are working, professionals in the community, etc., about careers you might find interesting.
- ☐ **Meet with your high school counselor.** Your counselor knows how to help you get the most out of high school. Be sure to take some time during the school year to discuss post-high-school plans with him or her.

- ☐ **Participate in extracurricular activities.** Academics aren't everything. Explore your interest in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
 - Remember that colleges would rather see real involvement in one activity instead of a loose connection to several.
 - If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- ☐ **Save for college.** It's not too late to put money aside for college. Every little bit helps! Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.
- ☐ **Explore summer opportunities.** Look for a job, internship, or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
- ☐ **Get familiar with the PSAT-related assessments and SAT.** Most four-year colleges consider applicants' scores on college admission test. Download the free Daily Practice for the New SAT app to get a feel for the kinds of questions you might face on test day.
- ☐ **Take the PSAT™ 8/9.** If your school offers it, sign up to take the first of the College Board assessments to set a baseline. This test will help you build up your skills to take the SAT in 11th or 12th grade.

10TH GRADE

- ☐ **Meet with your high school counselor — again.**

Be sure to meet with your school counselor to ensure that your course schedule is challenging enough to prepare you for college.

 - Check into any prerequisites for advanced-level junior- and senior-year courses.
- ☐ **Take the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT™ 10.** Depending on your school, you might have the opportunity to take the PSAT/NMSQT in October or the PSAT 10 in February or March. It provides valuable feedback on your college readiness and a free, personalized plan to help you start getting ready for the SAT — and for college.
- ☐ **Ask if the PSAT/NMSQT is offered to 10th-graders.** Although this test is usually given in the 11th grade, it is also often offered in the 10th grade. That's because it provides valuable feedback through the Student Score Report. You can then work on any of your academic weaknesses while there is still plenty of time to make improvements.
- ☐ **Are you interested in attending a U.S. military academy?** If so, you should request a precandidate questionnaire.
- ☐ **Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid.** Many students use financial aid to cover college costs. Find out what financial aid is, where it comes from, and how you can apply for it. Read the U.S. Department of Education's *Funding Your Education* (about federal aid programs).
- ☐ **Attend college and career fairs.** The fairs often take place in the fall at your school or in your area.
- ☐ **Participate in school activities or volunteer efforts.** Extracurricular activities can help you develop time-management skills and enrich your high school experience.
- ☐ **Talk to your counselor** about your plans for life after high school. He or she can help you plan your schedule, search for colleges, and navigate the financial aid process. The more your counselor knows about you, the more he or she can help you along the way.
- ☐ **Tour college campuses.** If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel time to visit colleges and see what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college.

Recommended College Timeline from College Board:



Access

College Planning: 11th Grade

Junior year marks a turning point. This is because for most students and families, it's when college planning activities kick into high gear. Here are some things you can do this year to stay on track for college.

SPRING

- ☐ **Contact your counselor** before leaving school for the summer if you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- ☐ **Develop a list of 15 or 20 colleges that are of interest to you.** You can find many colleges at which you'll be happy and get a great education. The college search is about exploring who you are and what you want and then finding colleges that will meet your goals.
- ☐ **Stay open to all the possibilities—don't limit your search.** To find the best college for you, you should apply to colleges of varying selectivity. Selective colleges admit a portion of students who apply. Some colleges are highly selective while others are less selective. Make sure to apply to public, private, in-state, and out-of-state schools so that you have plenty of options from which to choose.

- ☐ **Take the SAT.** The test is typically offered in March, May, and June. Make sure you start preparing for the test several months in advance using the tools available at satpractice.org. And remember, if you're not happy with your scores when you get them, you might want to test again in the fall. Many students take the test a second time as seniors, and they usually do better.
- ☐ **Start to gather documents for financial aid:** Be sure to keep a copy of your tax returns handy. You'll use these to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which opens on Oct. 1.

SUMMER

- ☐ **Register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center** if you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college (ncaaclearinghouse.net).
- ☐ **Get your FSA ID:** Before you can fill out your FAFSA, you need to get a username and password (also known as an FSA ID).
- ☐ **Find a full-time or part-time job,** or participate in a summer camp or summer college program.
- ☐ **Visit colleges.** When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. While you're there, talk to as many people as possible. These can include college admission staff, professors, and students. Take campus tours and, at colleges you're serious about, make appointments to have interviews with admission counselors.
- ☐ **Create a résumé**—a record of your academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, and work experiences since you started high school.
- ☐ **Download applications.** Go to the website of each college's admission office and either complete the application online or request a paper application from colleges to which you'll apply. Check application dates—large universities may have early dates or rolling admission.
- ☐ **Visit some local colleges**—large, small, public, and private. A visit to a college campus can help you decide if that college is right for you. Make a plan ahead of time to get the most from your visit. Check out the campus checklist at bigfuture.org. Attend college fairs, too.
- ☐ **Scan local newspapers** to see which civic, cultural, and service organizations in your area award financial aid to graduating seniors. Start a file.



RKA College Fair!

When: Wednesday, October 18th, from 6:30 PM–8 PM

Where: In-Person at RKA

Who: RKA Students and families

PSAL SPORTS

- Girls

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Softball
- Cross Country
- Track

- Boys

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Cross Country
- Track

- Co-Ed

- Wrestling
- Golf
- Lacrosse?

ELECTIVES- UPPER CLASS STUDENTS HAVE MORE CHOICES,
OPTIONS VARY YEAR TO YEAR

- **Statistics**
- **Africana Studies**
- **Journalism**
- **Mythology**
- **Business & Finance**
- **Pre College Math**
- **Marketing & Media**
- **Weather and Climate**
- **Bioethics**
- **Business & Finance**
- **Anatomy & Physiology**
- **Ceramics**
- **Painting Through History**
- **Drama**
- **College Writing**
- **Global Conflict & Resolution**
- **Criminal Law/Civil Law**
- **Pre-Calculus**
- **Anthropology**
- **Forensics**


AP COURSES

- Art- 2D, 3D and Drawing
- English Literature
- English Language
- US History
- Calculus
- Biology
- Psychology
- Spanish Language
- Environmental Science
- AP African American Studies

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We have many clubs that will be starting soon. These clubs include: Science Olympiad, Museum Club, Girls Inc., Book Club, Social Justice Club, Write to Roar, Key Club, Debate Club and much more!

Encourage your child to join and get involved!



Links will
be
provided
at the end!

COMMUNITY SERVICE & HONOR SOCIETY:

❖ **Community Service Hours Requirements for Graduation:**

- ❖ Class of 2026= 40 hours
- ❖ Class of 2025= 40 hours
- ❖ If you need a service log to keep track of your hours, you can pick one up outside of room 306

❖ **Honor Society:**

- ❖ Guidelines have changed significantly this year for honor society to incorporate more student-led related activities and meetings
- ❖ 9th grade students must maintain their academics within the 85% or above cumulative GPA for both terms this year, to work towards their invitation to join Honor Society in their Sophomore year
- ❖

If you have any questions email Ms. Payne: mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov



PICTURE DAY IS ALMOST HERE!



**Save
~~T.W.E~~
DATE**

GRADES 9-11 : SEPTEMBER 27TH

GRADES 6-8: SEPTEMBER 29TH

Parents/Guardians Have YOU?

- – Checked our website regularly (www.RKA141.org) for updates?
- – Registered and checked [NYCSA](#)
- – Filled out and submitted your Emergency Contact Card (available in Spanish as well). This is how we can communicate with you. It's very important to have your updated telephone number and email, this can be updated in NYCSA
- – Filled out the Family Income Inquiry form: (even if your child does not eat school lunch, please complete)
- <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict>
- – Received Ms. Prince's emails (Parent Coordinator)?
 - If not, please email her with your child's name and grade jprince4@schools.nyc.gov so you can receive emails with important and updated information. Transitioning over to DOE GAMA (Grades, Attendance, Messaging App soon. Stay tuned!)

Administration/Support Team

Ms. O'Mara - Principal

Email is: lomara@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Lustig - HS Assist. Prin

Email is: slustig2@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Miller MS Assist. Prin

Email is: smiller43@schools.nyc.gov

Mr. Scholz - Assistant Principal

Email is: escholz@schools.nyc.gov

Mr. Sullivan - Assistant Principal

Email is: tsulliv@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Lewis (11th & 12th Grade Dean)

Email is: klewis3@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Orozco (9th & 10th Grade Dean)

Email is: rorozco@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Prince (Parent Coordinator)

Email is: jprince4@schools.nyc.gov

Student Support Team

Ms. Byrd

9th-12th Grades

Last Names A-K, General Education

Email is: jbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Lockhart

9th-12th Grades

Last Names L-Z, General Education

Email is: slockhart@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Payne

9th-12th Grades

Last Names A-Z, Students with

IEPs

Email is: mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov

Ms. Benitez & Mr. Siracusa

Related Service Counselors

Ms. Riverapen and Ms. Gordian

Counseling In Schools

Links & Resources:

(click on each to open to the page)

☐ How to Read my Child's Transcript:

☐ By Semester

☐ By Subject

☐ Graduation Requirements

☐ RKA Website

☐ CollegeBoard College Timeline for Sophmores

☐ CollegeBoard College Timeline for Juniors

☐ NACAC Virtual College Fair Registration

☐ Career Exploration

☐ Big Future Scholarships



*Any
Questions?*