

# The Firebird

Rock University High School Newsletter

February 2023

## RUHS MISSION

The mission at Rock University High School is to inspire and empower all students to reach their full potential by providing them with a college preparatory learning experience. The students' learning experience includes an emphasis on STEM and the humanities so that students acquire the knowledge, skills, and practices to become critical and creative thinkers, problem solvers, innovators, leaders, and collaborators. RUHS ensures that graduates can apply what they have learned in order to compete and succeed in a global economy emerging with innovation.

## RUHS VISION

Rock University High School provides a small, student centered school to move from consumers of information to creators of their own learning. RUHS is a place where creativity, innovation, and flexibility are rewarded. Mistakes are viewed as opportunities and learning is ongoing. RUHS prepares students with the skills, knowledge, and dispositions needed to be successful in college, meaningful careers, and life.



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## UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

### *Birthdays This Month*

**FEBRUARY 4TH** Nikao Milligan

**FEBRUARY 10TH** Annabelle Hundt

**FEBRUARY 5TH** Tyrone Keo

**FEBRUARY 13TH** Dr. Kolleen Onsrud

**FEBRUARY 6TH** Dane Myszewski

**FEBRUARY 27TH** Jameson Punzel

### **RUHS Governing Board Meeting**

**When: Wednesday, February 15, 2023**

**Time: 12:15 PM - 1:00 PM**

### **Calendar / Important Dates**

**CLOSINGS / SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS:** Rock University High School (RUHS) is an instrumentality of the School District of Janesville (SDJ) and adheres to all inclement weather and school closings or delays. RUHS is also located on the campus of Blackhawk Technical College (BTC) which also requires following BTC closings and/or delays. If either the School District of Janesville or Blackhawk Technical College unexpectedly needs to close for any reason, RUHS will be closed. Communications will be delivered through Campus Messenger, email, Facebook, phone messages, and/or text message.

#### January 2023

January 2023	
February 6 - 10	School Counselor Appreciation Week!
Tuesday, February 14	Potluck: Sweets for your Sweets (11:00 am - 1:30 pm) Spirit Day: Dress to Impress Game Night (4:00 - 6:30 pm)
Thursday, February 23 5:30-7:00 pm	RUHS Open House

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## 6.3 Reporting an Absence

Parents or guardians should notify the RUHS secretary of an absence by telephone, email, or written note, prior to 8:30 am on the day of the absence, or in advance of the day of absence if the absence is planned. If you are calling your student in absent, please leave the following information on this confidential voicemail. Student's name and the reason the student will be absent. If your student is absent due to illness, please state the type of illness the student is experiencing or any symptoms keeping the student out of school.

**Stacy Myszewski**

**School Secretary**

[smyszewski@janesville.k12.wi.us](mailto:smyszewski@janesville.k12.wi.us)

**608-743-7426**

## **BULLYING PREVENTION**

The School District of Janesville Board of Education strives to provide an educational environment where every student feels safe, respected and welcomed. (Board Policy 5141) The Board also strives to provide an educational environment where every staff member can serve students in an atmosphere that is free from significant disruptions and obstacles that impede learning and performance. Bullying can have harmful social, physical, psychological and/or academic effects for those who engage in these behaviors, victims of such behaviors, and bystanders who observe acts of bullying. The District prohibits any form of bullying behavior by students towards other students, school employees, volunteers, or any other person(s).

Bullying includes aggressive or hostile behavior that is intentional and involves an imbalance of power between the bully and the bullied. Bullying is a form of victimization and is not necessarily a result of or part of an on-going conflict. Bullying is defined as any conscious, willful, or deliberate acts, or attempted acts, through the use of words, images, gestures or other physical actions, including electronically transmitted acts, that are intended to cause physical injury, emotional distress or property damage. Bullying includes, but is not limited to, behaviors motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic or factor including sex, race, national origin, ancestry, religion, color, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap.

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Bullying may also be motivated by any other distinguishing factor such as gender identity, physical appearance, or social, economic or family status.

Examples of acts of bullying include physical intimidation, force or assault, humiliation, sexual or racist remarks, extortion, verbal or written threats, taunting, put downs, name calling, threatening or menacing looks or gestures, spreading cruel rumors, and social exclusion. This includes acts of cyber-bullying that involve sending or posting inappropriate, insulting or threatening messages or images through electronic communication systems such as the Internet, e-mail, cell phones or other personal devices.

Bullying is prohibited on District grounds, at District-related activities, or on transportation to and from school or District-sponsored activities. Harassing bullying behavior is prohibited in all educational environments, regardless of whether the facility or location is owned, leased, or otherwise used or provided by the District.

Acts of bullying that originate off school premises and outside of the school's control may be subject to the provisions of this policy and related procedures if the conduct is determined to be substantially disruptive to the educational process and the day-to-day operations of a school. This includes, but is not limited to, threats made outside of school hours that communicate intent to be carried out during any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity, or on any vehicles used for transportation to and from school and school-sponsored activities. All complaints about bullying shall be promptly investigated. The District shall respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as practicable and in a manner consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, take appropriate action, and conform to discovery or disclosure requirements. Disclosure of information related to the complaint shall be made only to those with a legitimate need to know. All records generated as a result of the complaint and appeal processes shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

If the investigations find bullying has occurred, school officials shall take prompt and necessary action up to and including behavioral interventions and support, disciplinary action, and/or referral to law enforcement officials or social services. Consequences shall be unique to the nature of the behavior, the developmental level of the student, and the history of problem behaviors. Remedial measures shall be designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent other occurrences, and protect the victim. The District shall also take appropriate action against any

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student or District employee who retaliates against any person who makes a good-faith report of alleged bullying or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing related to such behavior.

Employees found to have facilitated or participated in bullying behavior against students or to have been aware that bullying was taking place and failed to report the behavior are considered to be in violation of the prohibition expressed by this policy and may be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy shall be distributed annually to all students enrolled in the School District, parents/guardians, and all District employees. It shall also be distributed to organizations in the community having cooperative agreements with the schools. The District shall provide a copy of the policy to any person upon request.

Records shall be maintained on the number and types of reports made, and sanctions imposed for violations of this policy in accordance with established procedures.

The School District of Janesville administration works closely with the Janesville Police Department in creating a safe environment for students and families. To learn more about our unique anonymous tip reporting tool, please visit our [Bullying Prevention](#) page.

## **MOVING???**

If you will be moving from your current home address please contact RUHS school office at 608-743-7426 as soon as possible to determine what paperwork you will need to fill out for your child to continue attending his/her current school. Please note: if you are moving to an address outside the School District of Janesville in most cases your child is eligible to continue attending the School District of Janesville as long as you complete the appropriate paperwork within the required timeline. If you have any questions about school placement for a particular address please contact Open Enrollment Specialist Deen Hartley at 743-5152. The New Student Enrollment Office is open year round. If you are the parent of an elementary student and will be moving over the summer months when the elementary schools are closed, please contact Open Enrollment Specialist Deen Hartley at 743-5152 or the New Student Enrollment Office at 743-5072 or 743-5153 to complete the appropriate paperwork.