



RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ACADEMIC SUCCESS, REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

DISTRICT TIMELINE



2020-2021

Mr. Philip Martell is named Superintendent of Schools.

District reconfiguration: River Valley School District is established.

Implementation of the Canvas Learning Management System.

Expansion of the River Valley Cyber Academy and opening of the Cyber Lab.



2022-2023

RVSD opens the STEAM Academy with programs in Cybersecurity, Electrical Occupations, Esports, Rising Educators, Sports Medicine and Rehabilitative Therapy.

RVSD became the first public school district in the U.S. to offer a CompTIA Apprenticeship.

World of Work Framework & Beable infused into K-12 learning.

RVHS joins the CNX Mentorship Academy, resulting in employment opportunities for graduates.



2023-2024

RVSD recognized as an AASA "Lighthouse" District and named to the League of Innovative Schools by Digital Promise.

RVSD partners with area Chambers of Commerce to open a Career Hub, providing resources for adults and students throughout the region.

RK Mellon Foundation awards a \$250,000 grant to RVSD and South Allegheny School District to create the 2nd Cybersecurity Academy in the state.



2015-2019

Blairsville-Saltsburg School District receives Workforce Investment Board Grant and Career Mini-Grants.

Inaugural College and Career Readiness Expo.

Dual Enrollment and College in the High School classes begin.



2021-2022

Development of a diversity, equity, and inclusion committee led by the Director of Rising Brothers and Sisters at Point Park University, Dr. Mitchel Nickols, creates an inclusive environment for all.

Development of partnerships with Rural Electric Association, CompTIA, CybX Security, and University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.



2023

STEAM Academy launches programs in Biomedical Technology, Pathways to Health Professions, Powerline, and Welding Technology.

Mr. Martell awarded the Saint Francis University STEAM Educator Award.

RVHS adopts Point Park University Dual Enrollment Program for senior students to earn up to 24 college credits in high school.

A partnership with career consultant, Ed Hidalgo, expands RVSD's infusion of the RIASEC language.



2024-2026

STEAM Academy adds Automation Engineering program for 2024-2025 school year.

Begins Development of the Concrete Sciences Program in partnership with the Bricklayers Local 9 PA for the 2025-2026 school year.

- 2015 - 2019:** [Career Readiness Mini-Grant](#) for career-based summer camps; WIB Grant allows RVSD to provide additional career experiences and connect students to industry and technical education partners; Inaugural [College and Career Readiness Expo](#); [Nepri/Pathful](#) is added to provide learners with a network of industry professionals.
- 2020 - 2021:** Mark Perna, founder and CEO of TFS Results, presents "Building Your Dream By Developing A Powerful Competitive Advantage" to district stakeholders; District reconfiguration and development of the STEAM Academy with data driven by the Workforce Investment Board's High-Priority Occupations (HPO) and Pennsylvania In-Demand Occupations (PAIDOL).
- 2021 - 2022:** Inaugural year as [River Valley School District](#); the [opening of Panther's Lair Media Center](#) in the high school, [zSpace](#) for students in elementary, middle, and high schools.
- 2022 - 2023:** [Opening of the River Valley STEAM Academy](#), [SMALLab](#) installed at Saltsburg Elementary; River Valley is the [first public high school in the US to join CompTIA Apprenticeships for Tech](#); Partnering with St. Francis University to develop the Pathways to Health Professions Course; AASA conducts a [Case Study](#) featuring River Valley; Implementation of the [World of Work](#) and [Beable](#); STEAM Academy welcomes [PA Secretary of Labor & Industry](#) for a panel on workforce development; Mr. Martell participates in the [U.S.-Czech Business Forum](#).
- 2023 - 2024:** RVSD named an [AASA National "Lighthouse" School System](#); Recognized at the White House for the [Rural Community of Practice](#); Mr. Martell invited to [White House Cybersecurity Summit](#).