Raytown High School Families,

Subject: Clear Backpack Implementation at Raytown High School

Due to the serious nature of violations of the RQS Code of Conduct, we have decided to implement the use of clear backpacks at Raytown High School.

Effective Monday, **April 7, 2025**, all students at Raytown High School will be required to use clear backpacks. Clear backpacks will be provided and distributed at school on Thursday, April 3 and Friday, April 4 during seventh period. Students will be instructed that no decorations will be permitted on the clear backpacks.

Students will still be allowed to carry small, non-transparent pouches (not to exceed 8" by 8") for hygiene products, wallets, keys, and phones.

Exceptions to the clear backpack procedure include:

- A small, non-transparent pouch for personal hygiene items
- A school-approved carrying case for athletic equipment
- A school-approved case for band instruments
- A school-approved case for medical equipment

What happens if a student comes to school with a bag that is not clear?

- **First Occurrence:** The student will report to the office, where their bag will be labeled and stored until the end of the school day.

- **Second Occurrence:** The student will report to the office, where their bag will be labeled and stored until a parent or guardian picks it up. The school will contact the parent or guardian to arrange the pickup.

This procedure does not replace existing rules regarding prohibited items on school property. Weapons of any kind, drugs, and alcohol remain strictly forbidden. Additionally, we encourage everyone to continue to report any suspicious behaviors to an adult.

We take threats against our school community and the presence of weapons on school property very seriously, and both carry legal consequences. We encourage all families to maintain open communication with students about their safety and well-being.

We appreciate the understanding and support of RHS families as we implement this change. Your patience and cooperation are truly valued as we work together to create a safer environment for all students, staff, and families.

Please visit our website for answers to frequently asked questions about the updated clear bag procedures.

https://rhs.raytownschools.org/students/clear-backpacks

Reach out to the RHS administration with any questions.

Thank you,

Dr. Andrew McCarthy, Principal