

# MRS. HAYDEN'S WELCOME BACK #ROYALSRISE

## WHAT'S NEW??

### Welcome to a New School Year!

We are excited to see you all in a few weeks. Our school has been very busy over the past few months with continued work on our capital project, welcoming new staff, updating computer software, and writing curriculum.

CAPITAL PROJECT: New flooring has been installed, construction continues in our beautiful new performing arts suite, and punch-list items are being completed in all areas of construction. The suites will be complete approximately three weeks after school starts. The "red tile" area is being replaced and is currently concrete, but will be completed soon after the start of the school year.



## CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

If you have questions, thoughts, or an issue that you would like addressed and are unsure of who to talk to, please refer to our [Romulus CSD Chain of Communication](#) on the District's website.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for volunteers to assist with classroom activities and special events. If you're interested in helping out, please complete the form attached to the [District's volunteer policy](#) and return it to the main office. Your involvement is greatly appreciated!

## NEW POLICIES AND PRACTICES

### Internet-Enabled Devices Ban

Please take some time to read the newly adopted policies that are being required by NYS, using this link:

[Internet-Enabled Device Ban](#)

A [FAQ document](#) was sent to staff and families in a Parent Square Message regarding the device ban.

### [District Safety Plan](#)

NYS is requiring a Cardiac Event Response Plan to be added to District Safety Plans. This will require that any groups using the school have a person currently certified in CPR/AED at the event.

[Maximum Temperature for School Buildings and Indoor Facilities](#) is a new NYS requirement in affect for the start of this school year. Please review with the link: [Policy 5685](#)

## Important Safety Updates

As we kick off the new school year, we are thrilled to update you on our ongoing capital project work, aimed at enhancing the safety and security of our school environment. One key improvement is the implementation of a new classroom numbering system. This change is designed to streamline safety protocols and improve communication. It will impact phone extensions and phone tree options when you call, as well as the identification of classroom numbers.

In addition to these updates, we've upgraded all connected technology systems to ensure seamless communication with emergency responders. This integration is crucial for maintaining a responsive and secure environment for your children.

We understand these changes may require some adjustment, and we appreciate your cooperation as we transition to these new systems. Our priority remains the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and visitors.

Thank you for your support and partnership in making our school a safer place for everyone.

## Visitors to the Building

All visitors are required to enter through the main office and be prepared to present a Driver's License or a non-driver identification. The ID will be scanned through our Raptor System. Once cleared, visitors will be presented with a badge to wear while they are in the building. Please return the badge to the main office attendant once your visit is complete. An official visitor's badge is required each time someone enters the school building.

## Technology & Systems

We are excited to share several new tools launching this year to make communication and coordination easier for our school community:

- MasterLibrary – Within the next few weeks, Romulus CSD will be moving to MasterLibrary, an electronic system for all facilities requests. This will replace the current paper form process. Community groups and organizations will be able to upload current insurance policies directly into the system and check availability using a district-wide calendar that lists all scheduled events. This will streamline requests, reduce paperwork, and make it easier to plan activities in our school spaces.
- StudentSquare – We will also be using StudentSquare for staff, coaches, and advisors to communicate directly with students. Messages will go through students' school email, and if a student chooses to download the StudentSquare app on their device, they may also receive communications through the app. This will allow coaches, advisors, and teachers to share important updates outside of the instructional day in a safe, school-monitored platform.
- Frontline – The district is also converting to Frontline for absence and substitute management. This system allows substitute teachers to go online, view available jobs, and select assignments that fit their schedule. This change will improve efficiency, reduce delays in classroom coverage, and ensure continuity of instruction when staff are absent.



## Welcome New Staff

We are excited to welcome new members of the Royal Team:

- .5 Music Educator: Mrs. Mariah Schrader
- Agriculture/CTE & Technology Teacher: Ms. Bree Minges
- Building Substitute: Mrs. Maira Aguilera (also covering Grade 7 Spanish)
- Bus Driver: Mr. RJ Mellini (pending approval at Board meeting)
- Director of Facilities: Mr. Matt Buisch
- Elementary Principal: Mrs. Stephanie Moll
- Elementary Teacher – Kindergarten: Ms. Sumer Faiola
- Elementary Teacher – 4th Grade: Ms. Brianna Jones
- English Teacher – Grades 7,8,9: Mr. Sebastian Bushnell (pending approval at Board meeting)
- Food Service Director (Shared through WFL BOCES): Mrs. Jil Swarthout
- Food Service Worker: Ms. Cheyenne Schlegal
- Food Service Worker: Ms. Danielle Casale
- Office Coordinator – Main Office: Mr. Mike Beeching
- Psychologist Intern: Ms. Emma Mincer
- School Nurse: Mrs. Bailey Szymanski
- Secondary Principal: Mrs. Cristi Pesco
- Special Education Teacher: Mrs. Norene Marlowe
- Student Teacher from Keuka College in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and K/1 Special Education: Mr. Domenic Bruni
- Teacher Aide: Ms. Allyea DeChick
- Teacher Aide: Ms. Andrea Teed
- Universal Aide: Ms. McKenzie Loucks

\*Please encourage anyone you know that is certified to teach Spanish or Earth Science to apply for our open positions.\*

[Earth Science Teacher Posting](#)

[Spanish Teacher Posting](#)

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a substitute teacher, please use this application:

[Substitute Teacher Application](#)

## Strategic Action Plan Committee

This summer, we proudly completed our District Strategic Action Plan, an initiative that embodies the collective voice of our entire school community. Over the past several months, a dedicated committee comprising parents, students, instructional and non-instructional staff, administrators, and community members came together regularly to delve into district priorities, analyze data, and shape the visionary future of Romulus CSD.

Through comprehensive surveys, insightful focus groups, and collaborative sessions, the committee fine-tuned our core direction. Their efforts culminated in a visionary plan, which received the approval of the Board of Education at the August 12 meeting. This plan lays down a strategic roadmap for the next five years, emphasizing our commitment to academic excellence, student well-being, and community engagement.

Throughout this process, we reaffirmed our district's identity:

- **Mission:** *Romulus Central School District celebrates each student's uniqueness, empowering them to excel in both learning and life through a forward-thinking environment.*
- **Vision:** *Inspiring learners to make a positive impact in our ever-evolving world.*
- **Hashtag:** *#RoyalsRise — a reflection of our commitment to perseverance, resilience, and supporting one another so that we all rise together.*
- **Motto:** *We continue to be proudly known as "The School with BIG Ideas."*

This plan is not just a document; it is a testament to the aspirations, dedication, and insights of all who contributed. It will serve as a living guide as we rise together to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Stay tuned for more updates on our Strategic Plan!



## **Exciting Program Changes and New Opportunities for Students**

We are delighted to share some thrilling changes and fresh opportunities for our students as the new academic year kicks off. We sincerely appreciate your patience regarding student schedules. Mrs. Pesco and Mrs. Moll have been hard at work to make these new opportunities available, which has caused a slight delay.

### **Schedule Adjustments**

One major update is that band and chorus classes for high school students will now take place during the first period. This strategic change allows students participating in the Career and Tech Education (CTE) program at the Finger Lakes Tech and Career Center (FLTCC) or those enrolled in the Mosaic Program at the Community College of the Finger Lakes to continue developing their musical skills alongside their vocational and academic pursuits.

### **Expanded Arts Education**

High school students will also have the chance to broaden their arts education with a new elective, Calligraphy, in addition to our ongoing offerings of Ceramics, Draw and Paint, and Art History for college credit. Furthermore, art has made a triumphant return to the special areas rotation for 8th-grade students, promising to ignite creativity and provide a well-rounded education. Middle school students in grades 6, 7, and 8 will also have technology incorporated into their schedules, allowing them to participate in the exciting Agriculture Technology (Ag Tech) program.

### **New Agriculture Electives**

Romulus Central School District is in the beginning stages of creating a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Graduation Pathway in Agriculture. To launch this pathway, we are expanding programming by adding Agricultural Technology and a range of agriculture-focused electives. This year, we are especially excited to introduce two new courses—Agriculture Mechanics and Plant Science—that will give students hands-on, real-world learning experiences directly connected to the agricultural industry. As part of New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements, this school year serves as our official “Year of Study” as we prepare to submit our application for state approval of a comprehensive Agriculture CTE program. Students interested in pursuing this pathway toward graduation are encouraged to connect with Mrs. McCusker for more information.

### **Flexible Earth Science Pathways**

For students enrolled in Earth Science, there are now flexible options to meet the three science credits required for graduation. Students can choose to take an Environmental Science class, which will count towards their science credits and prepare them for chemistry or physics the following year. Alternatively, Earth Science can be pursued through the AccelerateU online platform, offering a personalized learning experience. While this mode may not suit everyone, it remains a viable option for those who feel confident in adapting to virtual education.

If you have any questions or need to request a schedule change, please reach out to your child’s school counselor, Mrs. McCusker, who will be more than happy to assist you.

These collective changes aim to enhance the educational experience, accommodating diverse learning styles and future aspirations. We eagerly anticipate a successful and enriching school year ahead!

## Join Us at the Royal Roundtable!

Open Office Hours with Superintendent, Jenn Hayden

We cordially invite families to our Royal Roundtable sessions—an informal and engaging opportunity to ask questions, receive updates, share ideas, to learn more, and engage in meaningful conversation.

### Benefits of Attending:

Stay informed with the latest updates on district developments.


Offer your valuable feedback directly to our leadership team.

Strengthen the home–school connection.

Build community relationships in a welcoming environment.

### Event Details:

 Location: District Office Conference Room

 Time: 6:30–7:30 PM (Feel free to drop in anytime during the hour)

### Scheduled Dates:

August 28

September 11

October 9

November 13

December 18

January 15

February 12

March 26

April 16

May 14

June 9

