



Burger Junior High School 2025 Newsletter

Important Contact Information

Greg Lane, Principal 359-5308
Peter Nowak, Assistant Principal 359-5309
Allison Stephens, Assistant Principal 359-5314
Attendance Line 359-5302
Main Office 359-5300
Health Office 359-5313
Counseling Center 359-5320
Cafeteria Manager - Roger Glitch rglitch@rhnet.org
District Administration 359-5000

Please leave a message on the attendance line at 359-5302 when your child will be absent, late to school or need an early dismissal.

For daily announcements or activity updates, please visit our Burger community website at burger.rhnet.org.

Upcoming Events

September 2 First Day of Classes
September 8 School Pictures
September 8 Parent Group Meeting (virtual), 6:30 p.m.
September 17 8th Grade Washington, DC Club Interest Meeting (Burger Aud), 6:30-7 p.m.
September 17 Open House, 7-8:30 p.m.
September 29 - October 3 Spirit Week (Themes TBD)

October 10 School closed - Conference Day
October 13 School closed - Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 17 Fall Celebration, 7-9 p.m.
October 21 School Picture Make-up Day



September 22 (2:19 p.m.) -
First Day of Fall

A note from the Principal

Welcome to the New School Year!

We are thrilled to greet you as we embark on another exciting school year! I believe this year will be outstanding for our students. With our dedicated staff and supportive community, we are eager to connect with our students and help them achieve their fullest potential.

This year, we have several new members joining the Burger staff. Please extend a warm welcome to the following professionals who are now part of our Burger family:

- Sarah Whittington - Spanish
- Jennie Peck - Science 7
- Mary Woodfield - AIS Math
- William Lombardi - Special Education
- Alexander Worley - Business
- Carol Davis- School Nurse
- Amanda Mikiciuk - Math 8/9
- Elizabeth Miller - Reading
- Shayne Sudo I- Physical Education
- Lindsey Rybicki - Orchestra
- Mark Broz - German
- Garret Smith - Speech Pathologist

After-School Activities

Our after-school programs are available from 2:35 to 3:30 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Look for information about our diverse range of student clubs in early October. We also offer the Successful Student Workshop (SSW), which provides a quiet space for students to complete their work with support. Transportation is provided for all students participating in after-school activities, with the late bus departing Burger around 3:40 PM.

Stay Connected and Informed

We are committed to ensuring a successful year for both you and your child. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers at any time, with email serving as the most efficient means of communication. You can also contact me, Greg Lane, at glane@rhnet.org or call 359-5308 with any inquiries. We look forward to collaborating with you to help your child thrive.

Mark Your Calendars!

- September 8: School Pictures
- September 8: PTO Meeting (6:30 PM, Virtual)
- September 17: 8th Grade Washington DC Club Interest Meeting (6:30 PM in Burger Auditorium)
- September 17: Open House (7 – 8:30 PM)
- Spirit Week September 29 - October 3 (Themes TBD)

Be Kind, Be Proud, Be Burger



Burger Team of Professionals

<i>Principal</i>	Greg Lane	glane@rhnet.org
<i>Assistant Principal</i>	Peter Nowak, Grade 8 and Grade 9	pnowak@rhnet.org
<i>Assistant Principal</i>	Allison Stephens, Grade 7	astephens@rhnet.org
<i>Counselors</i>	Mike Neary, Grade 7	mneary@rhnet.org
	Lisa Hawkes, Grade 8	lhawkes@rhnet.org
	Chad Weisensel, Grade 9	cweisensel@rhnet.org
<i>School Nurse</i>	Carol Davis	cdavis@rhnet.org
<i>School Psychologist</i>	Julie Sullivan	jsullivan@rhnet.org
<i>Social Workers</i>	Megan Kosachook	mkosachook@rhnet.org
	Sharon Maysick	smaysick@rhnet.org

ELA

Jessica Brady (ELA 7) jbrady@rhnet.org
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Nicole Flores (ELA 7) nflores@rhnet.org
Doug Forken (ELA 9) dforken@rhnet.org
Gina Petschke (ELA 8) gpetschke@rhnet.org
Brittaney Truong (ELA 9) btruong@rhnet.org

MATH

Kathaleen Bitter (Math 8, Algebra) kbitter@rhnet.org
Kevin Coe (Algebra,) kcoe@rhnet.org
Jakob Falci (Algebra) jfalci@rhnet.org
Brigid McGee (Math 7, Math 7/8) bmcgee@rhnet.org
Amanda Mikiciuk (Math 8. Algebra) amikiciuk@rhnet.org
Betsy Spanagel (Math Specialist) bspanagel@rhnet.org
Karyn Stockmaster (Math 7, Math 7/8) kstockmaster@rhnet.org
Gretchen Traugott (Math 8, Geometry) gtraugott@rhnet.org
Mary Woodfield (Math Specialist) mwoodfield@rhnet.org

SCIENCE

Keith Butler (Earth Science) kbutler@rhnet.org
Matthew Chapman (Biology) mchapman@rhnet.org
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Michelle Curtin (Biology) mcurtin@rhnet.org
Christian Dietz (Principles Of Bio. Med.) cdietz@rhnet.org
Terri Miron (Science 7) tmiron@rhnet.org
Jennie Peck (Science 7) jpeck@rhnet.org

SOCIAL STUDIES

Dave Baumgartner (Social Studies 8) dbaumgartner@rhnet.org
Suzanne Blue (Social Studies 7) sblue@rhnet.org
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Tara Wilson (Social Studies 7) - twilson@rhnet.org

Encore Teachers

Art

JoLyn Donlon - jkdonlon@rhnet.org

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Business

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Alexander Worley - aworley@rhnet.org

ENL

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Judy Hager - jhager@rhnet.org

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Home & Careers

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Library

Laura Reed - lreed@rhnet.org

Literacy Specialists

Jennifer Bosco - jbosco@rhnet.org

Elizabeth Miller - emiller@rhnet.org

Amy Yacoub - ayacoub@rhnet.org

LOTE

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Colleen Jones-Bingham (ASL) cjones-bingham@rhnet.org

Mark Broz (German) mbroz@rhnet.org

Laura Munoz-Thompson (Spanish) lmunozthompson@rhnet.org

Kate Solano (Spanish) ksolano@rhnet.org

LOTE (cont.)

Elizabeth Snyder (German) esnyder@rhnet.org

Nicole Sprague (French) nsprague@rhnet.org

Sarah Whittington (Spanish) swhittington@rhnet.org

Music

Allison Dains-Smith - Vocal - adainssmith@rhnet.org

Lindsey Rybicki - Instrumental - trybicki@rhnet.org

Sean Joseph - Instrumental - sjoseph@rhnet.org

Emily Klempka - Vocal - eklempka@rhnet.org

Kathryn Rolland - Instrumental - krolland@rhnet.org

Occupational Therapy

Megan Cornman - mcornman@rhnet.org

Physical Education

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Special Education

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Speech

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Technology

Stephen Jones - sjones@rhnet.org

Charlie Meyer - cmeyer@rhnet.org

New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS)



This year, science instruction will align with the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS), which reflect a major shift in how students learn science. These standards emphasize hands-on investigation, problem-solving, and real-world application by engaging students in three integrated dimensions of learning: scientific practices, core disciplinary ideas, and crosscutting concepts.

Rather than memorizing facts, students will explore natural phenomena, ask questions, build models, and communicate evidence-based explanations. This

approach better prepares learners for the demands of a dynamic world and future careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

We recognize that this shift represents a new and more rigorous way of learning science—one that may feel unfamiliar or challenging at times. Students will be asked to think deeply, engage in complex tasks, and explain their reasoning more than they may have in the past. Success will require a strong partnership between teachers, students, and families. With open communication and shared commitment, we can ensure that every student grows into a confident, capable science learner.



Get Ready to Shine with Voce Vita Auditions!

Calling all singers! Do you have what it takes to be part of our elite vocal ensemble, Voce Vita? Auditions are just around the corner from 2:30-3:30 PM on September 22 in the chorus room. *There is only one day for auditions so be sure to email Mrs. Lamica and let her know that you are staying after school.* Late buses will be available to provide transportation home at 3:30 PM following auditions.

What is Voce Vita?

Voce Vita, which means "Voice Life" in Italian, is a select group of talented vocalists who meet every Monday and Tuesday after school in the chorus room. If you're passionate about singing and ready for a challenge, we want to hear from you!

Returning Members: We've Got You Covered

If you were part of Voce Vita last year, you don't need to audition again. We can't wait to hear your voice soar once more!

Our first rehearsal will be from 2:30-3:30 PM Tuesday, September 23!! Late buses will be available to provide transportation home at 3:30 PM following practice.

Newcomers: Come Prepared to Wow Us

If you're new to Voce Vita, come ready to dazzle us with your karaoke version of an appropriate song. Show us your style and talent!

Questions? We're Here to Help

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Lamica at clamica@rhnet.org. I can't wait to hear you shine at auditions!