



Freshman Evening Presentation
“Charting the Course”
October 2025

RHS School Counseling Department

Jennifer Herwick and Garrett Renner, School Counselors
Seth Busching, K-12 Director of School Counseling and Wellness

Andrew Hara, Principal
Dr. Cody Blume, Assistant Principal

Please
scan
and take
poll!





Looking Ahead: Rye High School Programs and Diploma Designations

PROGRAMS	DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS
THE ACADEMY AT RYE HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CTE - BOCES	AP CAPSTONE SEAL OF BILITERACY SEAL OF CIVIC READINESS



Contact Information

<u>The Academy at RHS</u>	Ashley Blanch: blanch.ashley@ryeschools.org
<u>IB Diploma Programme</u>	Anthony Frabrizio: frabrizio.anthony@ryeschools.org
<u>AP Capstone</u>	Contact School Counselor
<u>Southern Westchester BOCES</u>	Contact School Counselor
<u>Seal of Biliteracy</u>	Sheau-Yann Rynne: rynne.sheau-yuann@ryeschools.org
<u>Seal of Civic Readiness</u>	Sean Moughty: moughty.sean@ryeschools.org



School Counseling Department's Philosophy

- School Counselors at Rye High School are concerned with students' total development: intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially.
- School Counselors work to assist students to assume responsibility, develop to their highest potentials, take an active role in the school community, and be prepared for their future roles in society.
- The Counselors advocate for students in a variety of personal, social, and educational roles.



School Counseling Department's Philosophy

- The School Counselors are experienced in assisting students to select courses of study that are best suited to students' interests, abilities, and personal goals.
- The Counselors work closely with students, parents, and faculty members in advising students about the level of difficulty of courses and sequences that will benefit them most.
- Every student is scheduled for an individual counseling session with his/her/their counselor during the course selection window.
- The Counselors also assist students in evaluating and selecting appropriate post-secondary choices.



Keys to High School Transition

Academic

- ◉ Set goals for each quarter. Reflect and evaluate planning and studying habits.
- ◉ Communicate with teachers, take advantage of x-period

Social Emotional

- ◉ Review expectations, do they align with your goals?
- ◉ Lean on your support system, be open with parents/guardians
- ◉ Focus on balancing academics with extracurricular and family commitments

Tips for Success

- ◉ Connect with teachers and peers
- ◉ Utilize available resources
- ◉ Prioritize a routine that works for you
- ◉ Get involved



Student Autonomy & Decision Making

Student ownership through consideration and choice are essential components to student development. School Counselors encourage students to think critically about decisions they make on a daily basis.

- Course selection
- Exploration and engagement in new clubs and activities
- Involvement in Community Service



Self Reflection & Awareness

- ◉ Through self reflection and awareness students review decisions they have made and evaluate their trajectory.
- ◉ The result is better decision making throughout the course request process. Positive image of self, enhancing interpersonal relationships with peers.



New York State Diploma Requirements

Courses	Credits
English	4
Social Studies	4
Math	3
Science	3
Language other than English - LOTE	1
Art/Music/Theatre	1
Health	0.5
Physical Education	2
Electives	3.5
Total	22.0

Rye High School Graduation Requirements

Managing Your Future	0.5
Composition	0.5
Community Service	60 Hours (total over 4yrs)



Regents Exam Requirements

Algebra I Regents Exam

Science Regents Exam

Global History Regents Exam

English Language Arts Exam

United States History Exam

- Passing score = 65% and above
- Special Education students may qualify for slightly modified requirements - “Safety Net”



Meet The Team

- ◉ Mr. Charlie Cipriano - School Counselor
- ◉ Mrs. Honor Fagan - School Counselor
- ◉ Mrs. Jennifer Herwick - School Counselor
- ◉ Mrs. Eileen Houlihan - School Counselor, Leave Replacement
- ◉ Mr. Garrett Renner - School Counselor
- ◉ Mrs. Elizabeth Saporito - School Counselor, Leave Replacement
- ◉ Debra Zapakin - Senior Administrative Assistant
- ◉ Ms. Anne Galletta - Senior Administrative Assistant
- ◉ Mr. Seth Busching - Director of School Counseling & Wellness



Grade 9 Transition Program

The foundation of the 9th grade transition program is designed to assist students with acclimating to RHS. Students are encouraged to recognize their responsibilities as a student and member of the school community.

What to expect

- ◉ Freshman Transition Student/Counselor Meetings - (fall semester)
- ◉ Classroom Lessons: School Climate & Citizenship - Title IX & Dignity for All Students
- ◉ Course Request process
- ◉ Monday, February 2 - Second semester begins
- ◉ Classroom Lessons: Individual Strengths & Weaknesses - Interest Inventory
- ◉ June 2026 Regents and final exams
- ◉ Ongoing support - Academic, post secondary planning, social emotional well being



Freshman Year Timeline

Fall Semester – 9/2/25 to 1/30/26

September	Get off to a positive start in classes
October	Investigate and join different clubs and activities. Take advantage of ways to get involved on campus
November	Transition Meeting with your School Counselor, discuss your interests, activities, goals
December	Continue to do your best in your courses
January	Course presentations by department, teacher recommendations. Finish the first semester strong.

Spring Semester – 2/2/26 to 6/26/26

February	Students carefully select and submit course requests for next school year.
March	Students carefully select and submit course requests for next school year.
April	Consider your plan for the summer, academic plans, athletics, community service, time with family, academic programs
May	Focus on academics. Make use of the Math Lab, Writing Center, Tutoring Center
June	Prepare for final exams
Summer	Enjoy your summer! Spend time with family. READ something that interests you (books not snapchat)



School Counseling: Four Year Overview

9th Grade:

- Transition Student/School Counselor Individual Meetings
- Self-Exploration
- Focus on getting acclimated to high school and doing well in classes
- Explore new clubs and activities

10th Grade:

- Continue to explore clubs and activities - what do you enjoy?
- Decision-making while navigating different options for 11th grade - AP/IB/Academy/BOCES
- Career, Interests, Strengths
- End of 10th grade - Finish strong in classes, plan your summer based on interests and experiences.

11th Grade:

- Standardized testing: PSAT/SAT/ACT
- Managing Your Future Class - Semester 2
- Leadership position in clubs and activities
- Junior College/Post-Secondary Planning Meeting - Individual meeting with counselor - student and parents are encouraged to attend
- Focused interests and strengths and connect with post secondary planning

12 Grade:

- Senior College/Post Secondary Planning Meeting - Individual meeting with student, counselor and parents
- College Process
- May 1st - National Candidate Reply Date



RHS Student Support

Social Emotional

School Psychologists

- Dr. Robert Schechter
- Mrs. Rosie Smith

Social Worker

- Mrs. Sandra Degenhardt

Effective School Solutions – ESS(through referral)

- Mrs. Andrea Diaz

School Nurse

- Ms. Samantha Anfuso

Academic Resources

- Math Lab
- Writing Center
- Tutoring Center
- X-Period

Multi - Tiered System of Supports
(MTSS)



Academic Resources

Tutoring Center

The Tutoring Center offers any RHS student, the opportunity to receive academic support. Open during the morning and afternoon each day of school and x-period on Monday and Wednesday. Students may choose to access the Tutoring Center to review a concept, work on an assignment. Plan their assignments and due dates or organize backpacks or folders. The "TC" provides a welcoming and productive environment where each student can feel comfortable asking questions, navigating difficult concepts, or working independently knowing a teacher is available.

Math Lab

The Math Lab is available to all RHS students who are seeking additional math support. A math teacher will be stationed throughout the day in the Math Lab. Whether it is working on concepts, practicing math problems, or to get support in a specific topic, the Math Lab is welcoming to all!

Writing Center

Available to all RHS students for drop-in help with their writing pieces, homework, and/or other work. Writing mentors from the English and Social Studies Department will assist students with various writing and planning tasks/skills. Through the school year, English and Social Studies teachers will encourage students to make use of this support service.



Math Lab

Located in Room 125

	Teacher	What do they teach?
Course 1	No Teacher Available	
Course 2	No Teacher Available	
Course 3	Mr. Murphy (Days 3,4,7)	Algebra 1 &2 , Geometry, Contemporary Math
Course 4	Mr. Shannon	Algebra 1 & 2, Geo-Trig
 Community Lunch 		
Course 5	Mr. Valinoti	AP Calculus AB/BC, PreCalc
Course 6	Ms. DeVito	Geo-Trig, PreCalc
Course 7	Mrs. Naber	Algebra 1&2, Calculus, AP Stats
Course 8	Mr. Murolo	Algebra 1, AP Calculus

Writing Center Schedule

The Rye High School Writing Center 2025-2026

Available to all RHS students for drop-in help with their writing pieces, homework, and/or other work, the Writing Center is located in room 176. Writing mentors from the English Department will be stationed in the room during each of the eight courses on the daily schedule, as well as lunch, ready and willing to help students. Through the school year, English and Social Studies teachers will be encouraging their students to make use of the room. Students are also welcome to schedule a time with a specific mentor through email. The mentors and the course during which they will occupy the Writing Center are listed below, with lunch on a rotating basis. Welcome!

Course	Semester 1	Semester 2
1.	McGuire	DeVasto
2.	Goldmann	Hartman
3.	-----	Goldmann
4.	Edminster	Albano
5.	Goldstein	Edminster
6.	Albano	McGuire
7.	Sarig	Goldstein
8.	Fall	Laudel





EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



83 Athletic Teams



Over 40 Clubs



Music and Theater





COMMUNITY SERVICE FAIR

Thursday, October 16th



*60 hours completed before graduation
Hours count beginning after 8th grade graduation (summer before 9th grade)*

Important Dates

Marking Periods

- ◉ Quarter 1 - 9/2/25 to 11/7/25
- ◉ Quarter 2 - 11/10/25 to 1/30/26
- ◉ Quarter 3 - 2/2/26 to 4/17/26
- ◉ Quarter 4 - 4/20/26 to 6/26/26

Regents exams - June 9 through June 25

RHS Final Exams - Dates TBD

Access to report cards will be available through the Parent Portal



Q&A

[Q&A LINK](#)



Thank You!

Please let us know how we did!



FEEDBACK FORM

