



Sophomore Evening Presentation

“Navigating Next”

Class of 2028

Honor Fagan - School Counselor

Garrett Renner - School Counselor

Ashley Blanch - Teacher, Academy Coordinator

Anthony Frabizzio - Teacher, IB Coordinator

Dr. Cody Blume - Assistant Principal

Seth Busching - Director of School Counseling and Student Wellness K-12

Tonight's Topics

- RHS School Counseling Program
- NYS Diploma Requirements
- Academic Supports
- Academic Programs
- Q&A



Three School Counseling Domains



School Counseling Department's Philosophy

- ❖ School Counselors at Rye High School are committed to the students' total development: intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially.
- ❖ School Counselors work to assist students to assume responsibility, develop to their highest potential, 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.

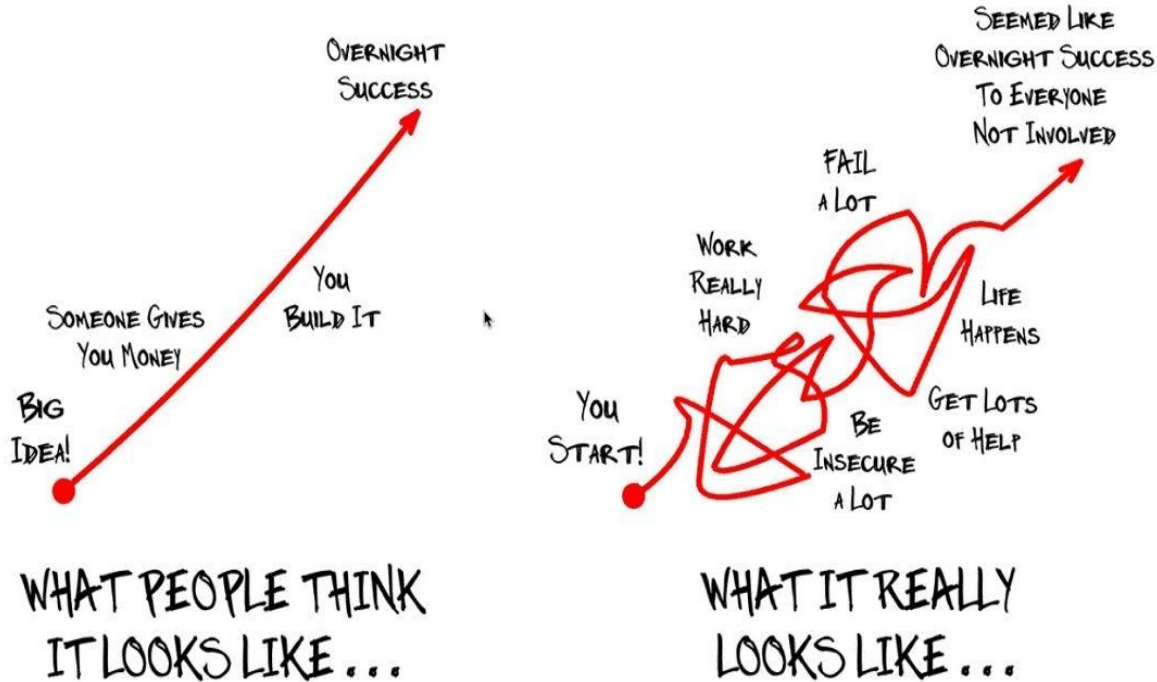


School Counseling Team Members

- ◉ 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 10 Transition Program



What Sophomores Should Be Doing

❖ Focus on **success** in the classroom

- This is an important year when it comes to analyzing and refining study and time management habits.
- These key foundational pieces will be heavily relied upon during junior/senior year and beyond.
- Reflect upon what made them successful in 9th grade
 - How can they improve upon prior success?

❖ Work on their sense of self

- Finding ways to spend more time doing what they enjoy, and exploring ways to connect those interests with career pursuits.

❖ Vision - Charting their path

- What qualities are important to them?
- Who do they want to become in the future?
- What steps do they need to take to get there?



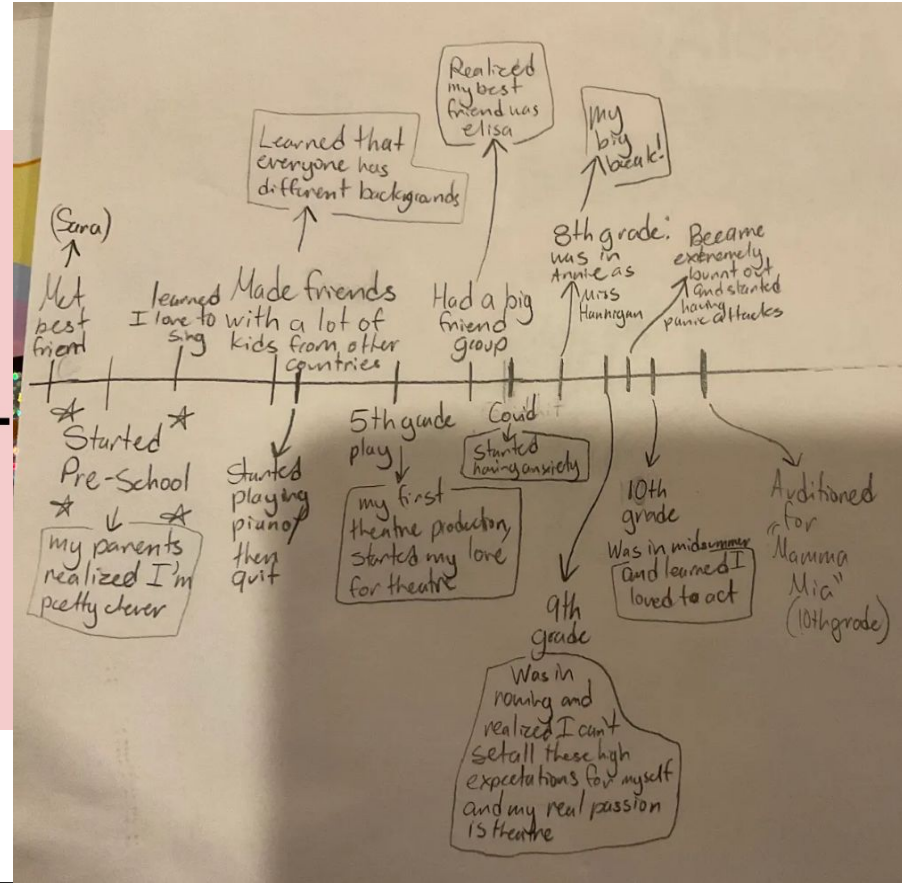
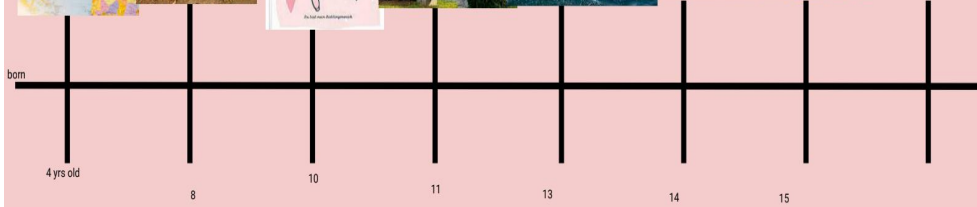
10th Grade Goals

- ◉ Identify & Prioritize Individual Interests
 - ◉ Self Exploration
 - ◉ Goal Setting
 - ◉ Career Exploration
 - ◉ Future Planning
- ◉ School Counseling classroom lessons
 - Timeline Assignment
 - “Our Time, Our Clock”
 - Career Exploration through “Roadtrip Nation” - Students utilize the *Roadmap Tool*



Name:

Instructions: Create your personal timeline using important dates in your life, Date of Birth, Family Milestones, Travel, Friendships, or any other important times in your life. Make sure to include a time when you experienced adversity or something difficult, how did you react to that situation? Use any shapes that you want for your timeline. Use different colors for positive experiences and negative experiences.



Supporting Your Sophomore at Home

- ◉ Ask questions
 - Start simple, what do you enjoy most about your week and why?
 - Ask what they value in life, how they envision their life in the future.
 - Save open ended questions for when they are ready.
- ◉ Make sure they feel heard
 - Your child is doing their best to figure it out - be present and show them that you are there to listen.
 - Your children are capable of great things - empower them to take on challenges, difficult conversations, and handle tasks. They need to feel that you have confidence in them.
- ◉ Remember - they are not too old for hugs!



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: new clubs and activities, industry leader profiles, career pathways, post secondary educational routes
- Involvement in Community Service



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	40 Hours (total over 4yrs)



Regents Exam Requirements

Exam	Typically Taken In:
Algebra I Regents Exam	9th Grade
Science Regents Exam	9th Grade
Global History Regents Exam	10th Grade
English Language Arts Exam	11th Grade
United States History Exam	11th Grade

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



Sophomore 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	Continue to do your best in your courses
December	Counselors push into 10th grade classes for curriculum instruction
January	❖ Course presentations by academic departments, 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.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

83 Athletic Teams



Over 40 Clubs



Music and Theater



COMMUNITY SERVICE



*Students in the Class of 2028 are required to complete at least **40** hours before graduation*

Rye High School Programs and Diploma Designations



PROGRAMS	DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS
<u>The Academy at RHS</u> <u>International Baccalaureate (IB)</u> <u>Diploma Programme</u> <u>Career & Technical Ed. (CTE)</u> <u>BOCES</u>	<u>AP Capstone</u> <u>Seal of Biliteracy</u> <u>Seal of Civic Readiness</u>

The Academy at Rye High School



What is The Academy?

The Academy is a **collaborative learning community** for 11th and 12 graders where students and teachers engage in purposeful, interdisciplinary study that connects learning to the real world. We focus on each student's passions, personal growth, and well-being to help them thrive both in and beyond the classroom.



Who is The Academy For?

The Academy is for students who are curious, motivated, and eager to take an active role in their learning. It's designed for those who thrive in a collaborative, hands-on environment that values academic challenge, personal growth, and meaningful connections with their community.



How is The Academy Program Designed?

- ◉ **Small, Selective Cohort:** Students join through an application process, creating a close-knit learning community.
- ◉ **Interdisciplinary, Co-Taught Courses:** RCSD-developed Humanities and STEM courses focus on real-world issues and hands-on learning.
- ◉ **Project & Research Based:** Students are evaluated through projects, including a year-long action research project, culminating in a 12th-grade symposium presentation.
- ◉ **Student-Centered Learning:** Curriculum is guided by students' interests, passions, and goals.
- ◉ **Whole-Student Focus:** Advisory builds social-emotional and executive skills; PE is embedded to support physical health.
- ◉ **Balanced Schedule:** All Academy classes take place in the morning, leaving afternoons free for other courses (AB/IB) and extracurricular pursuits.



Application Process

- Information sessions will be held for 10th grade students and families in December 2025
- Students will have to submit an application in February 2026
- The Academy will review applications and student acceptance letters will be distributed by the end of February
- Student decisions must be made by the end of February



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program



What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is an internationally designed and recognized high school diploma program that offers a global perspective on learning for 11th and 12th grade students.

Pedagogy and curriculum are built around developing inquiring, caring, confident, and knowledgeable learners who are empowered to take ownership of their own learning goals.



Who is the IB Diploma Programme for?

The IB Diploma Programme is for any student who is interested in thinking on a global scale, doing additional research and writing outside of their courses, and engaging in community service.



How does the IB work at Rye High School?

Non-Diploma Candidates

- ◉ IB courses are available in our course catalog to all students.
- ◉ Students may enroll in IB courses to satisfy departmental requirements or add them as electives.

Diploma Candidates:

- ◉ DP students enroll exclusively in IB courses.
- ◉ IB Core:
 - **Theory of Knowledge:** 2-year course on the history and philosophy of knowledge and research.
 - **Extended Essay:** 18-month independent research project (4000 words)
 - **Creativity, Activity, and Service:** Counterbalance to academic pressure and rigor; students must complete one significant project.

How does the IB work at Rye High School?

All IB courses are weighted.

All IB courses feature a mix of internal and external assessments. These assessments are unique in that they focus on projects, performances, and demonstrating depth of knowledge through writing rather than the ability to answer many questions about a variety of topics.



Our IB Courses

Group 1: Language and Literature HL- 2 years

Group 2:

- ◉ ab initio Spanish SL- 2 years
- ◉ Latin HL- 2 years
- ◉ French HL- 2 years
- ◉ Spanish HL- 2 years

Group 3:

- ◉ History HL- 2 years
- ◉ Digital Society SL- 1 year
- ◉ Business Management HL- 2 years

Group 4:

- ◉ Environmental Systems and Societies SL- 1 year
- ◉ Computer Science HL- 2 years

Group 5:

- ◉ Applications and Interpretations SL- 2 years
- ◉ Analysis and Approaches SL- 2 years

Group 6:

- ◉ Visual Arts SL- 1 year
- ◉ Theatre SL- 1 year

DP Core:

- ◉ Theory of Knowledge- 2 years
- ◉ Extended Essay
- ◉ Creativity, Activity, and Service

Contact Information

<u>The Academy at RHS</u>	Ashley Blanch: blanch.ashley@ryeschools.org
<u>IB Diploma Programme</u>	Anthony Frabizzio: frabizzio.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



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



Thank you for joining us

Q&A

- We will take general questions at this time.
- Should you have specific questions please feel free to contact any of the individuals listed earlier in the presentation. You or your child is also welcome to reach out to their school counselor.



We want your feedback!



We're always aiming to improve! Please let us know your thoughts on tonight's program.

