



RVGS New Student Meeting

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Welcome to RVGS!

Congratulations on becoming an RVGS 'Lab Rat'!

Today we will discuss what you can expect in your experience at RVGS, discuss the summer math and science assignments, and give some tips for success!



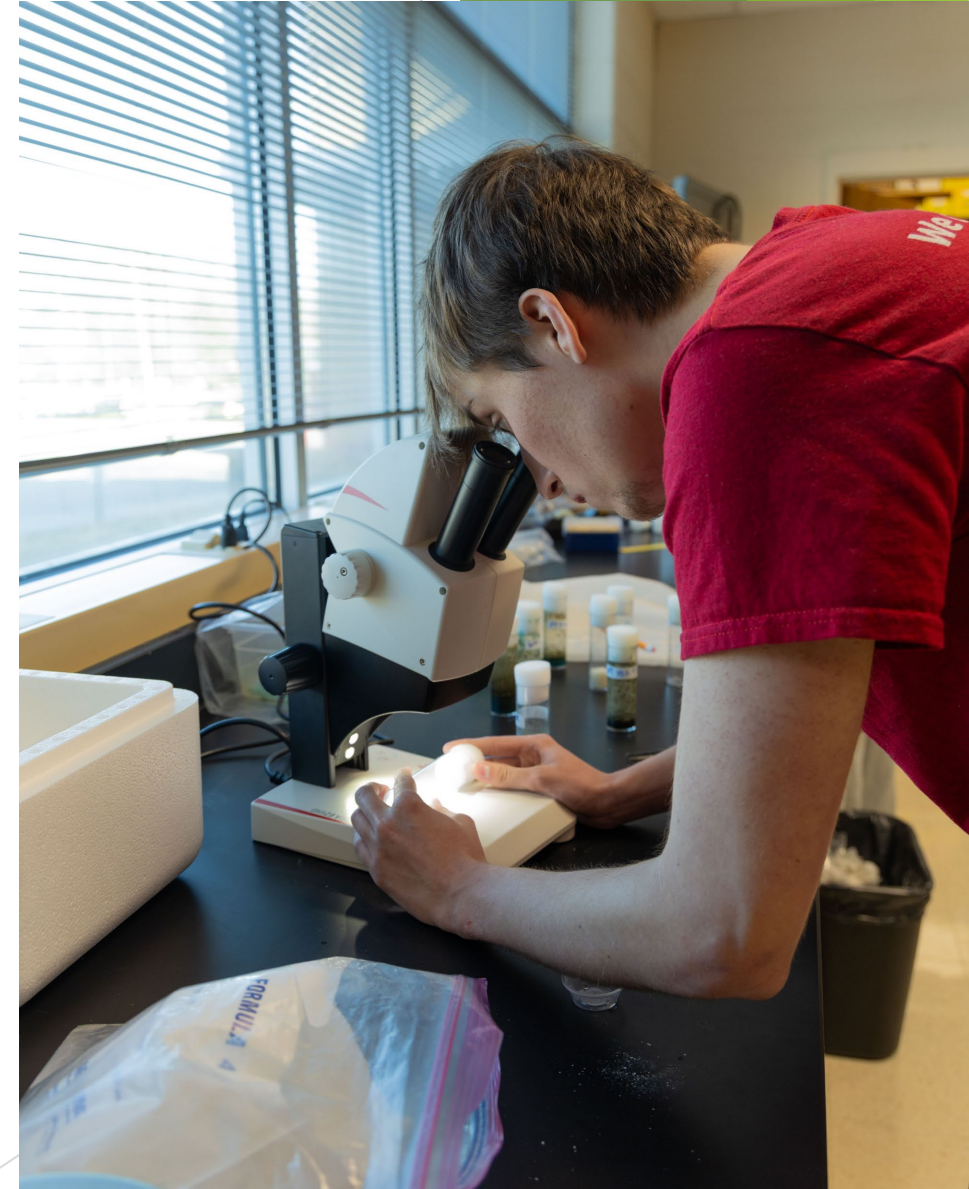
Why RVGS?

- ▶ Take a moment to think about what motivated you to apply to attend RVGS...
- ▶ Hopefully that includes:
 - ▶ An opportunity to grow
 - ▶ A place to truly challenge yourself
 - ▶ Deep learning in math, science, and technology
 - ▶ The chance to develop determination and work ethic



What defines a 'gov school student'?

- ▶ Our students are smart, but 'being smart' isn't what defines them.
- ▶ Values that matter here:
 - ▶ Determination
 - ▶ Integrity
 - ▶ Excitement for Learning
 - ▶ Critical thinking
 - ▶ Drive to grow and improve
- ▶ Note that this list DIDN'T include:
 - ▶ Perfection
 - ▶ Straight A's
 - ▶ Never needing help



Student life at RVGS

- ▶ Friendships across the region from different schools
- ▶ Warm, academically-minded student community
- ▶ Student advisory
- ▶ “Govie Gala”
- ▶ Ultimate Frisbee
- ▶ Shelly STEM Challenge
- ▶ Squeak-uinox and World Rat Day



Don't be scared

- ▶ Many people are afraid they “aren't good enough” when they start something new
- ▶ If you have a question, don't be afraid to ask!
- ▶ It is helpful to become comfortable with the idea of being uncomfortable.
- ▶ We want you to thrive and will offer support, but no one can do it for you.



Let's address some misconceptions

- ▶ Struggles are permanent/damaging. (“I’ll never be good at this”)

They aren't - they are learning experiences.

- ▶ The point of high school is to get good grades so you can get into college.

Grades and college are important, but so is your personal growth. Colleges know our standards are high.

- ▶ Asking questions/needing help means you aren't smart enough.

Everyone has things during class they don't understand!

- ▶ Determination is for people who aren't smart enough.

If you never find something difficult, that means you aren't challenging yourself enough.



Student Supports

- ▶ Teachers - during class and before/after
- ▶ Counselor - Mrs. Sebolt
- ▶ Director - Mr. Levy
- ▶ Peers
- ▶ School culture - *RVGS Determined*
- ▶ When struggles continue



Let's Cover Some Basic Information...

- ▶ Yearly calendar - Roanoke City Schools calendar
 - ▶ Orientation: July 28-30 (8:30-11:00) at RVGS
 - ▶ What to expect
 - ▶ Transportation for orientation
 - ▶ First day of school: Tuesday, Aug 11
 - ▶ Project Forum (required day): Saturday, Jan 30, 2027
- ▶ Daily schedule
 - ▶ 8:30 - 11:00 (AM) or 12:55 - 3:25 (PM)
- ▶ Course schedule: Physics, Algebra 2 (most students), Fundamentals of Research (elective)
- ▶ Course supplies: Graphing calculator (see letter for discount ordering, email mbrowning@rvgs.k12.va.us with questions) and 'normal' supplies

How will we get there?

- ▶ The RVGS transition is a challenge, but it isn't a mystery:
 - ▶ We will give you advice - follow it!
 - ▶ We will give you clear expectations - meet them!
 - ▶ We will offer help - accept it!
- ▶ Let's discuss priorities for your student skills, academics, and frame of mind:
- ▶ Focus on student skills (*actually* “doing my best”) :
 - ▶ Follow advice for study skills and time management
 - ▶ Studying and practicing are necessary
 - ▶ You NEED to budget your time...
 - ▶ Meet due dates and expectations. No late work, no retaking quizzes and tests, no extra credit. If you have a problem CONTACT THE TEACHER IN ADVANCE.



How will we get there?

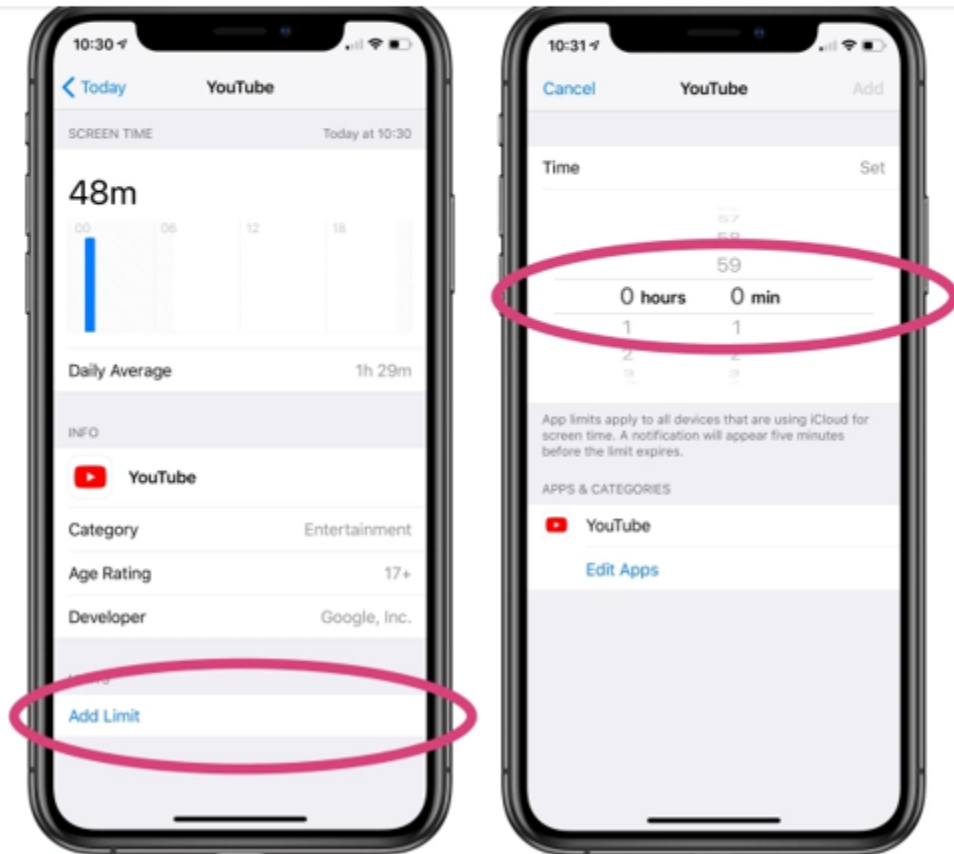
- ▶ Focus on academics:
 - ▶ Summer prep - make good use of your summer assignment
 - ▶ Recognize gaps in your knowledge and attack them
 - ▶ Commit to stretch yourself and think deeply
 - ▶ Deepening prior skills; be an ACTIVE learner
- ▶ Getting/keeping a healthy frame of mind
 - ▶ Reach out for help - become friends with Mrs. Sebolt!
 - ▶ Get enough sleep
 - ▶ Keep prospective -worst damage a math test can do is a paper cut
 - ▶ Control your technology use instead of it controlling you



How will we get there?

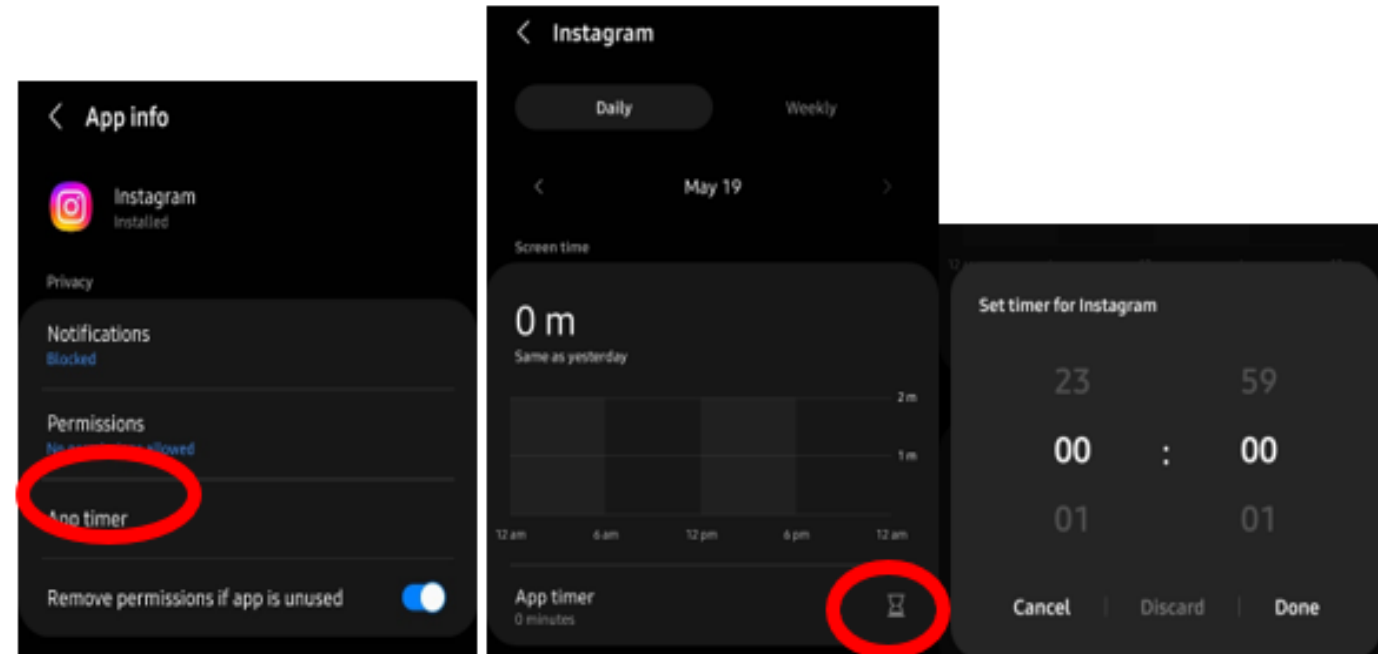
For iPhones

Settings → Screen Time → Tap on the graph → Select the app you need to limit



For Androids

Settings → Apps



Summer Assignments

- ▶ The summer assignments are NOT:
 - ▶ A screening process
 - ▶ Something to prove that you ‘belong’
 - ▶ Us trying to ruin your summer
- ▶ It IS:
 - ▶ A chance to practice important skills
 - ▶ A way to proactively address ‘soft spots’
 - ▶ An opportunity to practice determination and time-management
 - ▶ The easiest grade you’ll get at RVGS

The summer assignments must be completed before new student orientation.



How to access the assignments

- ▶ There are two summer assignments: one for math (usually Algebra 2) and one for science (usually Physics)
- ▶ A link to the assignments can be found on the RVGS website (www.rvgs.k12.va.us) under Announcements. You are encouraged to subdivide the work and commit to completing some work each week.
- ▶ Summer assignments will open on June 5. (Not currently accessible)
- ▶ Practice your time-management skills!
- ▶ The math assignment are completed online to allow quick feedback and physics requires an initial step online to confirm you have started.

How to access the assignment



Roanoke Valley
Governor's School

Quick Links ▾

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SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS



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Directory

Counseling

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RVGS SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

Announcements

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

[Click here to access the summer assignments for each course.](#)

2026-27 Summer Assignments

If you have difficulty opening or accessing your summer assignments, please contact Mr. Levy (mlevy@rvgs.k12.va.us or 540-853-2116).

Complete summer assignments for the classes you will start in the fall (not the class you just finished).

Note: All classes have a summer assignment file below; if the course doesn't have a summer assignment the file will indicate there is no assignment.

NEW RVGS STUDENTS - Complete the assignment for your math and science class in the fall.

[Rising Algebra 2 Summer Assignment](#)

[Rising Precalculus Summer Assignment](#)

[RVGS Physics \(1st year\) summer assignment](#)

How to access the assignment

All students should view the 3 “Factoring” math skills videos

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RVGS SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

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Not using a calculator includes demos; not receiving outside help is while working on questions...students are encouraged to pursue help for topics they are having difficulty with, then attempt the questions again on their own.



**RVGS Summer Assignment
For Rising Algebra II Students**

Introduction: This set of practice problems on Deltamath.com website provides a review of Algebra I topics and mental math skills that will help you be successful in Algebra II. By completing this review during the summer, you will keep your brain mathematically active, and identify concepts and skills that you need to strengthen for your year ahead.

Instructions:

1. Create an account on <https://deltamath.com>.
2. Complete all exercises from all 5 sections without using a calculator.
3. You may email and request to work out problems by entering your answer(s) on Deltamath.com website.
4. You may not get help from another person, such as a tutor, teacher, peer, or family member.
5. Each section has a number of problems to complete (correctly) before the section is finished 100%. If you answer incorrectly, the program will show you the correct steps to complete the problem. Deltamath will provide additional problems to attempt until you have answered correctly the number of problems assigned to that section. If you need help, please use the suggested resources outlined in this document. You may also use other online resources or textbooks.
6. If you are still struggling with concepts or problems please email us at any time with your

Some tips for the summer assignments

- ▶ Take advantage of the chance to fix knowledge gaps now, rather than during the school year!
- ▶ Practice your determination - seek to IMPROVE not just 'get it over with'.
- ▶ Attempt the questions without help so we get a good sense of where you will need help.
- ▶ If there are topics you struggle completing, seek help after completing that section. You SHOULD NOT have a tutor or friend walk you through the questions. **Maintain your integrity.**
- ▶ No calculator, desmos, etc. Remember our conversation from earlier...



Other supports during the summer

- ▶ We will provide skill review videos for Algebra 2 and Precalculus summer assignments. The link and information will be posted to the “New Student Center” by the end of the school year. Email Mr. Levy if you need technical assistance (mlevy@rvgs.k12.va.us).
- ▶ New Student Center <https://www.rvgs.k12.va.us/rvgs-new-student-center>

Students - Sign up for 'Remind'

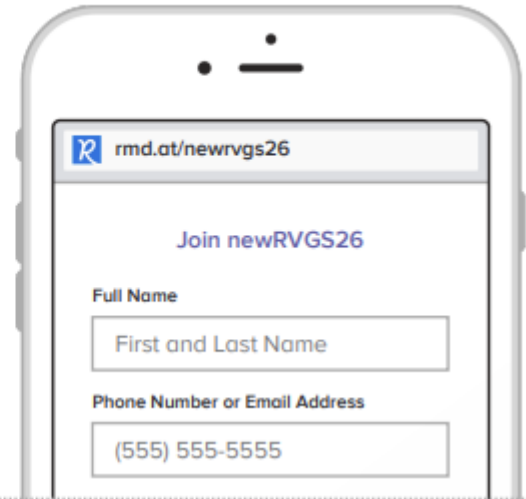
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If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/newrvgs26

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

A smartphone screen displaying the Remind sign-up page. The URL bar shows 'rmd.at/newrvgs26'. The page has a header 'Join newRVGS26'. Below it, there are two input fields: 'Full Name' with a placeholder 'First and Last Name', and 'Phone Number or Email Address' with a placeholder '(555) 555-5555'.

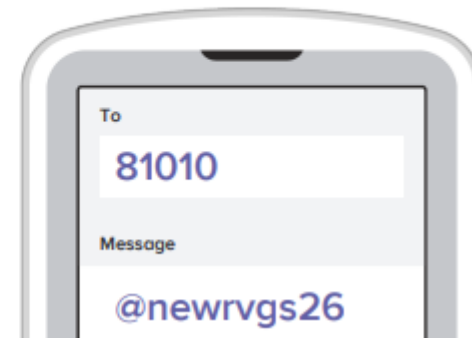
B

If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @newrvgs26 to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @newrvgs26 to (510) 478-9047.

* Standard text message rates apply.

A smartphone screen showing a text message. The 'To' field contains the number '81010'. The 'Message' field contains the text '@newrvgs26'.

- ▶ This is not a substitute for checking the “New Student Center!”
- ▶ What to do if you don't have a cell phone...
- ▶ Parents can sign up if they wish, but the intent is for students to learn to handle communication and responsibilities without parent intervention.
- ▶ Students can use this for two-way communication to reach Mr. Levy
- ▶ Parents should always use email or phone for communication with the school

What questions can we answer for you?

