

New Student Orientation August, 2026



Mr. Murphy
School Counselor
Grades 10-12

School of the Arts

2026-2027

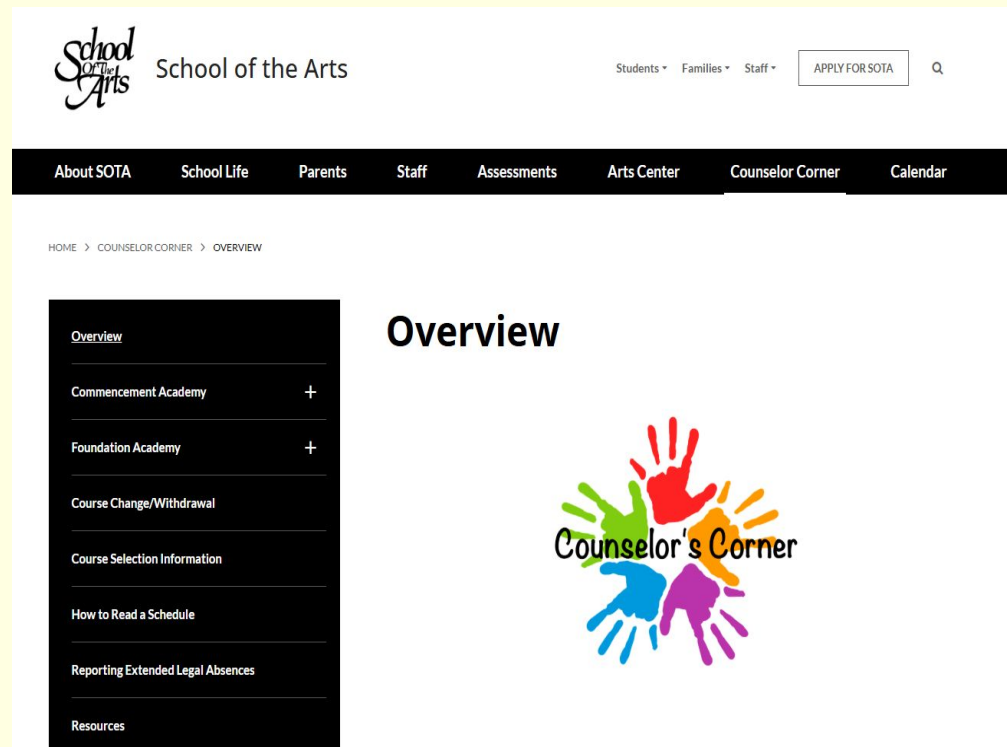
Counselor Contact Information

Name	Grade Assignment	Student Last Name	Phone Number/ Email (585) 242-7682
Mrs. Kelly • Newsletter	Grades 7 - 8	A - L	x4320 heather.kelly@rcsdk12.org
Ms. Kwon (Long-term sub for Ms. Everts) • Newsletter	Grades 7 - 8	M - Z	x4240 mia.kwon@rcsdk12.org
Ms. Adams	Grade 9	All	x2492 nadia.adams@rcsdk12.org
Mrs. Sirianni • Newsletter	Grades 10 - 12	Grade 10 A - G 11 & 12 A - F	x2493 talya.sirianni@rcsdk12.org
Mr. Murphy • AP & SSD Coordinator • NCAA Eligibility Center • Student Council	Grades 10 - 12	Grade 10 H - O 11 & 12 G - N	x1791 michael.murphy@rcsdk12.org
Mrs. Rossette • Restorative/Mosaics Advisor • Gender Sexuality Alliance	Grades 10 - 12	Grade 10 P - Z 11 & 12 O - Z	x3490 julie.rossette@rcsdk12.org

Counseling Fax Number (585) 256-6580

School Counselor Website

- <https://www.rcsdk12.org/sota>
 - Counselor Corner
- Valuable Information
 - Contact Information
 - Counselor Newsletter
 - Important Web links
 - Presentations
 - College and Career Readiness Guide



Credits Required for Graduation

- Student must earn 25.5 credits to receive a SOTA diploma
- For a RCSD diploma student must earn 22 credits
 - must meet same core academic requirements as SOTA diploma
- 4 English
- 4 Social Studies
- 3 Math
- 3 Science
- 8 Arts
- 1 Foreign Language
- 2 Physical Education
- ½ Health

Diploma Types

- All students who started 9th grade in September 2008 and beyond must meet Regents diploma standards
- Regents Diploma Standards: 65+ on the following exams
 - Global Studies, US History, English, 1 Regents Math exam, & 1 Science Regents exam

Advanced Regents Diploma

- Must meet Regents diploma requirements and pass the following exams
 - Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra 2 exams
 - Foreign Language Checkpoint B
 - 5 credit sequence in fine arts exempts students from foreign language requirement
 - 2nd Science Regents exam
 - *1 exam must be Living Environment*



Mastery in Math & Science

- Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes...
 - Mastery in Math
 - Score 85+ on THREE Regents Exams
 - Mastery in Science
 - Score 85+ on THREE Regents Exams

Advanced Regents w/Honors or Regents w/Honors

- Must meet the requirements for the diploma and achieve an average score of 90+ on the required exams



Portrait of a Graduate

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Installation

Fall 2025 - Summer 2027



Portrait of a Graduate

- Release Portrait of a Graduate rubrics with guidance



Learning Expectations

- Release prioritized, reformatted learning standards with guidance
- Require instruction in financial literacy and climate education (effective SY 26-27)
- Release details on new credit requirement (cohort phase-in)



Support Networks

- NYSED will continue workgroups and advisory panels
- Continue communication channels to disseminate and support changes to future diploma requirements



Portrait of a Graduate Continued

Preparing the Whole Graduate



- Development of real-world skills
- Enhanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Flexibility and creativity
- Improved student engagement and motivation
- Increased understanding of how different subjects relate to each other

Make the most of High School

Get involved!

- Art Productions
- Athletics
- Clubs
- Student Council
- National Honor Society
- Urban League Black Scholars
- Community Service
- Black Student Union
- Garden Club

The list goes on...

<https://sota.rcsdk12.org/school-life/clubs-and-extracurricular-activities>



Post – Secondary Planning

- School Counselors work with students to create plans after high school
- Plans include, but are not limited to
 - College
 - Military
 - Employment
 - Skilled Trades
 - Apprenticeships



Social and Emotional Support

- School Counselors help students to succeed academically and reach their goals. Part of this involves helping students to overcome barriers preventing success
- Supports offered to students
 - Short-Term Individual Counseling
 - Group Counseling
 - Referrals to school based resources
 - School Based Mental Health Counseling RRH
 - Referrals to community resources

Social and Emotional Support Continued...

- Counselors have open lines of communication to support students and families
 - Students may request an appointment to see their counselor, they can use email or stop by the office to check availability
 - Phone calls and email will be returned within 24 - 48 hours
 - Conferences can be arranged when needed to support the student

Questions?

